

Northfield Poetry: August Newsletter

Poet Laureate


Open Mic – 6:30pm, Wed, August 14
 Northfield Public Library Atrium



Open Mic Poetry

Join local poets and poetry lovers for an open mic event.

Second
Wednesday of
the Month
6:30–7:30

Future Dates August 14
 June 12 September 11
 July 10 October 9

210 Washington St • 507-645-6606 • mynpl.org  



Poet Laureate Announcement:

Greetings everyone! August 2024 already! I hope summer is going well for all, and am looking forward to seeing everyone at the August Poetry Open Mic Night (POME) in (of course) the Library Atrium on Wednesday the 14th.

Again, kudos and appreciation to everyone for their support of poetry and the arts in our community. Of course **everyone** knows the NPL staff are mainstays of support and stalwart wardens/gatekeepers of information, but all the same I would like to acknowledge their constant enthusiasm and tireless hard work.

A busy month for all things literary:

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Content welcomes Ellie Palmer for the launch of her new romance novel, *FOUR WEEKENDS AND A FUNERAL*. Join us on Thursday, August 8th at 7 pm for a delightful reading, where Ellie will be in conversation with YA romance author Jenna Miller. And don't forget to pre-order your signed and personalized copy today! A tender, laugh-out-loud debut romance about a woman who ends up in over her head...

Ellie Palmer's *FOUR WEEKENDS AND A FUNERAL*; in conversation with Jenna Miller-- Thursday August 8, 2024 @ 7:00PM - 8:30PM

A tender, laugh-out-loud debut romance about a woman who ends up in over her head after a little white lie . . . The right guy at the dead wrong time.

When thirty-year-old post-double-mastectomy BRCA 1 carrier and reluctant thrill-seeker Alison Mullally arrives at her ex-boyfriend Sam's funeral to find that no one knows he dumped her, she agrees to play the grieving girlfriend for the sake of the family and pack up Sam's apartment with his prickly best friend, Adam Berg. After all, it'll only take four weekends . . .

But Adam doesn't want Alison anywhere near him. Forced to spend long hours with the grump, and his monosyllabic demeanor, Alison decides she must put her people-pleasing abilities to the test. She *will* make him like her. And after awkward family affairs and packing up dilemmas, the two form a tenuous friendship . . . if "friendship" means incredible chemistry and tension between them. Can Alison come clean and finally embrace the life and love she's always wanted? Or will her little white lie get in the way of her new, unexpected romance?

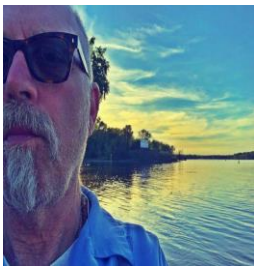
Ellie Palmer is the author of romantic comedy novel *FOUR WEEKENDS AND A FUNERAL*, a carrier of the BRCA1 mutation, and a prototypical Midwesterner who routinely apologizes to inanimate objects when she bumps into them. When she's not writing books featuring delightfully messy characters, Ellie's at home in Minnesota, eating breakfast food, watching too much reality television, and triple texting her husband about their son.

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Jenna Miller (she/her) writes Young Adult books about fat, queer, nerdy girls who deserve to be seen and have their voices heard. When she's not obsessing over words, she can be found making charcuterie boards, befriending people online, or exploring places near and far.



Presented by [ArtReach St. Croix](#) at [Washington County Heritage Center](#)

Part of Valley Reads, artist and poet Dougie Padilla will take the mic and share new and classic poems. Long ago and far away Dougie Padilla was a young poet. He wrote constantly. Then came the VietNam war, protests, San Francisco, psychedelics and communes.

Heart failure came... and ashrams and organic farming. Later, there were kids and houses and marriage and businesses and a long career in the art world. Eventually, after he moved his studio to rural Wisconsin, poetry returned quick and sure, wave after wave of poems. Join Dougie for a performance of selections from his sixth book, *40 Feet Down*.

AND Dougie will read from *40 Feet Down* in town at the Northfield Public Library, 6:30pm, Tuesday, August 13.

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Bookstore Romance Day! Saturday August 17, 2024 @ 9:00AM - 5:30PM

Join us on Saturday, August 17th for a day all about romance! Bookstores all over the country will be celebrating what makes the romance genre so magnificent, and we can't wait to celebrate with you. You'll find your favorite tropes and your newest obsessions, along with lovely recommendations from your neighborhood booksellers of course!

Join us on Facebook ([@ContentBookstore](#)) and Instagram ([@ContentBooks](#)) for a full week of fun, including romance trivia and carefully curated staff picks. For those of you who love a good sticker, you won't want to miss the newest installment in the Content Romance series--coming soon!

This year, join us in-store at 9 am for a special Book Talk on the day itself! Bookseller and romance aficionado Rachel will share some of her favorite romance releases from the past year, and we'll even have some sweet treats. If you join us Saturday morning in-store, you'll be entered into a raffle for a swoon-worthy door prize, and, if you buy one of Rachel's recommendations, you can even enter a second time.

AND special guest and romance author Sam Tschida will be featured at the Book Talk for a signing and meet-and-greet for her latest romance novel *ERRANDS AND ESPIONAGE*, so don't forget to pick up a signed copy!



Bookstore Romance Day is one of our favorite events of the summer, and we can't wait to see you there! For even more recommendations, check out our [Bookstore Romance Day webpage](#).

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Sun Yung Shin visits Buckham Memorial Library in Faribault Tuesday August 20, 2024 @ 6:00PM - 7:00PM

Content is excited to visit Buckham Memorial Library in Faribault for the SELCO MN 2024 Author Tour, where Minnesota poet Sun Yung Shin will be presenting an author talk. Join us on **Tuesday, August 20 from 6 - 7 p.m.** to hear her read and speak on some of her work. More details from Buckham Memorial Library below:

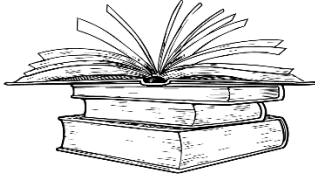
Join us in the library's Great Hall (2nd floor) for a presentation by National Book Critics Circle Award Winner, PEN USA Literary Award Winner, and MN Book Award Winner Sun Yung Shin! This event is free and open to the public. If special accommodations are needed, please notify the Library at least 72 hours in advance. Content Bookstore will be on hand at the event to sell copies of some of Sun Yung Shin's books. Books purchased at the event or those brought from home can be signed by the author at the event. This event is a part of the 2024 Minnesota Author Tour. Organized by SELCO (Southeastern Library Cooperating) and funded through Minnesota's Legacy Amendment Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund, this tour brings Minnesota authors to Southeast Minnesota to inspire readers and writers of all ages. For more information on Legacy funding in SELCO libraries and a complete schedule of Legacy-funded events in the region, visit legacy.selco.info

Sun Yung Shin is a Korean-born poet, writer, collaborative artist, and bodyworker. She/they lives in Minneapolis.

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Back to Book Club Night



August 22, 2024
6:00 - 6:45 pm

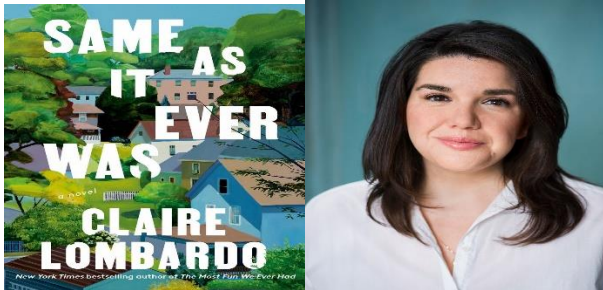
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Back-to-Book Club Night!-- Thursday August 22, 2024 @ 6:00PM - 6:45PM

The kids are heading back to school, but they're not the only ones with excitement on the horizon. The only thing better than the smell of freshly-sharpened pencils is the feel of a new book in your hands – and it's even better when you know you'll get to discuss your latest pick with friends. Join us for an evening of book talk with Penguin Random House rep Jason Gobble as we present new books and undiscovered gems, perfect for book groups or your own next read. It'll be a fun night full of camaraderie with your fellow book lovers. AND book clubs that bring at least 3 members will get an extra discount on the evening's purchases. Don't have a book club? Bring a friend and get inspired – all book lovers are welcome!

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Claire Lombardo's SAME AS IT EVER WAS

Thursday August 22, 2024 @ 7:00PM - 8:30PM

Content welcomes Claire Lombardo for a reading around her new novel SAME AS IT EVER WAS. Join us on Thursday, August 22nd at 7 pm (after Back-to-Book Club Night with the friend of Content Jason Gobble), for a delightful conversation with Claire and KYMN's Paula Granquist.

SAME AS IT EVER WAS traverses the rocky terrain of real life, – exploring new avenues of maternal ambivalence, intergenerational friendship, and the happenstantial cause-and-effect that governs us all. Delving even deeper into the nature of relationships – how they grow, change, and sometimes end – Lombardo proves herself a true and definitive cartographer of the human heart and asserts herself among the finest novelists of her generation. Featuring a memorably messy family and the multifaceted marriage at its heart, Lombardo’s debut was dubbed “the literary love child of Jonathan Franzen and Anne Tyler” (*The Guardian*) and hailed as “ambitious and brilliantly written” (*Washington Post*). In this remarkable follow-up – another elegant and tumultuous story in the tradition of Elizabeth Strout, Ann Patchett, and Celeste Ng – Lombardo introduces us to an unforgettable cast of characters, this time by way of her singularly complicated protagonist.

Julia Ames, after a youth marked by upheaval and emotional turbulence, has found herself on the placid plateau of mid-life. But Julia has never navigated the world with the equanimity of her current privileged class. Having nearly derailed herself several times, making desperate bids for the kind of connection that always felt inaccessible to her, she finally feels, at age fifty seven, that she has a firm handle on things.

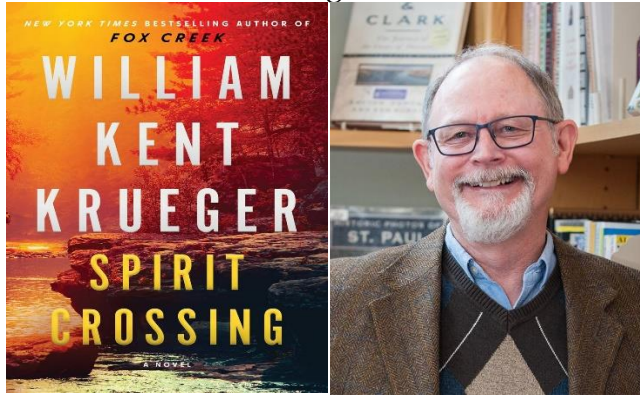
She’s unprepared, though, for what comes next: a surprise announcement from her straight-arrow son, an impending separation from her spikey teenaged daughter, and a seductive resurgence of the past, all of which threaten to draw her back into the patterns that had previously kept her on a razor’s edge.

Claire Lombardo is the author of THE MOST FUN WE EVER HAD. She lives in Iowa

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City, where she has taught at the Iowa Writers' Workshop and works part-time as a bookseller at Prairie Lights Books.



William Kent Krueger's SPIRIT CROSSING-- Monday August 26, 2024 @ 7:00PM - 8:30PM

Content is delighted to welcome bestselling author William Kent Krueger back to Northfield for a reading from his brand new novel, SPIRIT CROSSING. **Join us at the Grand Event Center on Monday, August 26th at 7 pm for a reading and book signing.** Doors will open at 6:00 pm, and seating is first come, first served. ASL interpretation will be provided at this event.

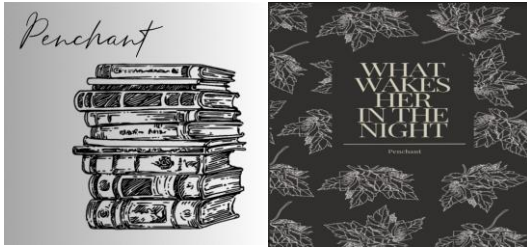
A disappearance and a dead body put Cork O'Connor's family in the crosshairs of a killer in the twentieth book in the *New York Times* bestselling series from William Kent Krueger, "a master storyteller at the top of his game" (Kristin Hannah, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author).

The disappearance of a local politician's teenaged daughter is major news in Minnesota. As a huge manhunt is launched to find her, Cork O'Connor's grandson stumbles across the shallow grave of a young Ojibwe woman – but nobody seems that interested. Nobody, that is, except Cork and the newly formed Iron Lake Ojibwe Tribal Police. As Cork and the tribal officers dig into the circumstances of this mysterious and grim discovery, they uncover a connection to the missing teenager. And soon, it's clear that Cork's grandson is in danger of being the killer's next victim.

William Kent Krueger is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *The River We Remember*, *This Tender Land*, *Ordinary Grace* (winner of the Edgar Award for best novel), and the original audio novella *The Levee*, as well as nineteen acclaimed books in the Cork O'Connor mystery series, including *Lightning Strike* and *Fox Creek*. He lives in the Twin Cities with his family. Learn more at WilliamKentKrueger.com.

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A Reading with the Poets of Penchant--

We welcome you to join us on Thursday, August 29 from 7 - 8:30 p.m. for an evening of fabulous poetry, either in-store or on Facebook Live.

Content Bookstore invites you to celebrate the importance of poetry in our lives this summer by hosting a reading with several members of Penchant (previously known as Northfield Women Poets) from their new collection, *WHAT WAKES HER IN THE NIGHT*. You won't want to miss this one-of-a-kind evening with some of Northfield's greatest poets!

Penchant was founded ca. 1970 by Karen Herseth Wee and Riki Kölbl Nelson as Northfield Women Poets. The group meets weekly during the academic year, and monthly during the summer, to read and critique each other's work.

Penchant/NWP has given numerous readings in Northfield and elsewhere, and has led poetry workshops at the Northfield Arts Guild. Penchant/NWP has published four anthologies of their work.

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**Content Storytime! Friday mornings 11 AM - 11:30 AM**

On Friday mornings, bring your little ones to Kids'Content for a delightful half hour of reading and singing, brought to you by our very own bookseller Rachel. We can't wait to see you there!

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Jazz Jam on Sundays 4:00 PM 5:30 PM/Second Saturdays Open Mic 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM



Ukulele Jam Session Tuesdays 7:30 PM - 8:45 PM



Folk Jam Session third Tuesday of every month! 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Open to all instruments and abilities. Stop on by!

DATE CHANGE: Life Is a Song! (w/ Hezekiah Ben Shirnai)

Monday, August 12, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

In "Songs of My Life", we gather to share our experience through songs, readings and our personal life experience. Doors at 6:30 PM, program starts at 7 PM.

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LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA POETS

The League of Minnesota Poets (LOMP) was established in 1934 “to make Minnesota poetry conscious, and conscious to its own poets” through four objectives: 1.) to encourage the study of Minnesota poetry in the state’s schools; 2.) to create newspaper and magazine outlets for the best work of Minnesota poets; 3.) to publish periodic collections of verse by members, to publish a League magazine called *The Moccasin*, and to assist in providing a permanent record of accomplishments; and 4.) to accumulate historical material for a scrapbook, thereby preserving pertinent information about the organization.

LOMP achieves these goals through sponsorship of various poetry contests and sponsorship and participation in readings, collaborations, retreats, and other events throughout the state. Through publication of *The Moccasin* and other works, both digital and print, LOMP is committed to the highlighting our members’ work. LOMP diligently documents our events, creating a lasting body of historical data. We hold biannual state meetings for our members in the spring and fall and annually send delegates to the National Federation of State Poetry Societies’ June convention. (For more information see *League of Minnesota Poets’ History*.)



About Us

The League of Minnesota Poets (LOMP) was established in 1934 “to make Minnesota poetry conscious, and conscious to its own poets”.