

Pioneers History Project - Celebration of Literary Arts

Written by Marc Dickinson

See <https://www.dmacc.edu/departments/english/Pages/events-detail.aspx> for further information

The **Celebration of Literary Arts** started in 2002, and it originally began due to a grant for the arts given to DMACC to promote literature in the community. Therefore, the first few years, Rick Chrisman (the organizer for the first eight years until he retired in 2010) invited local writers from Iowa and the surrounding Midwest to come to all the DMACC campuses to share and discuss their work. Soon the DMACC Celebration of Literary Arts festival grew to not only serve Midwest artists, but national writers as well.

For the last eight years, I have been organizing the CLA. My chief mission still is to expose DMACC students and the community at large to the literary world of creative prose and poetry. As for how the authors are selected, aside from the quality of their work and their ability to teach and talk to students, our main goal is diversity—not just in terms of culture (race/ethnicity, gender, sexuality) but also artistry. We want different ages, geographical locations, and genre represented, as well as to have a variety of different artistic voice and visions—which includes emerging as well as established writers.

We strive still to have Iowa writers as well as national writers come to all DMACC campuses (as well as local bookstores), but we also want to get many parts of our college involved. We connect the literary festival to DMACC's Creative Writing Contest (the winners are able to conference with the visiting writers) and our literary magazine **Expressions**. We encourage professors to invite the visiting writers to their classes, journalism students from all campus newspapers to cover the event and interview the writers personally, and faculty in all courses to make time for their classes to attend the readings during the week so as to engage all students in celebration of the written word.

Several posters from the events follow:

2011



Events at All DMACC Campuses

All Events Free And Open To The Public

Des Moines Area Community College's

Celebration of the Literary Arts

SCHEDULE
OF EVENTS

Iowa Writers and Poets

Benjamin Percy
Iowa State University

Grant Tracey
University of Northern Iowa

B.J. Love
Iowa Writers Workshop

Yasmina Madden
Drake University

Debra Marquart
Iowa State University

Carol Spaulding-Krause
Drake University

National Writers and Poets

Stephen Schwartz
Colorado State University

Antonya Nelson
University of Houston

Denise Dahamel
Florida International University

Dale Young
Warren Wilson MFA Program

For more information:

www.dmacc.edu
515-964-6221

Monday, April 4th

Tuesday, April 3rd

Wednesday, April 6th

2012



Events at All DMACC Campuses

All Events Free And Open To The Public

Des Moines Area Community College's

Celebration of the Literary Arts

Schedule of Events

All events are free and open to the public.

MONDAY, APRIL 4, 2011

Boone Campus:
Antonya Nelson and Dale Young
10:00 to 12:15
Hosted by Rob Lambert

Newton Campus:
B.J. Love and Debra Marquart
11:30 to 12:15

Recoverdale Books
Steven Schwartz, Antonya Nelson, Denise
Duhamel, C. Dale Young
7:00 p.m. Book signing and Reading

TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 2011

Urban Campus:
Stephen Schwartz and Denise Duhamel
11:00 to 12:30
Hosted by Sam Miller

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

National Writers and Poets

Antonya Nelson
University of Houston

Steven Schwartz
Colorado State University

Denise Duhamel
Florida International University

C. Dale Young
Warren Wilson MFA Program

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www.dmacc.edu
515-964-6221
madickinson@dmacc.edu

Iowa Writers and Poets

Benjamin Percy
Iowa State University

Grant Tracey
University of Northern Iowa

B.J. Love
Iowa Writers' Workshop

Yasmina Madden
Drake University

Debra Marquart
Iowa State University

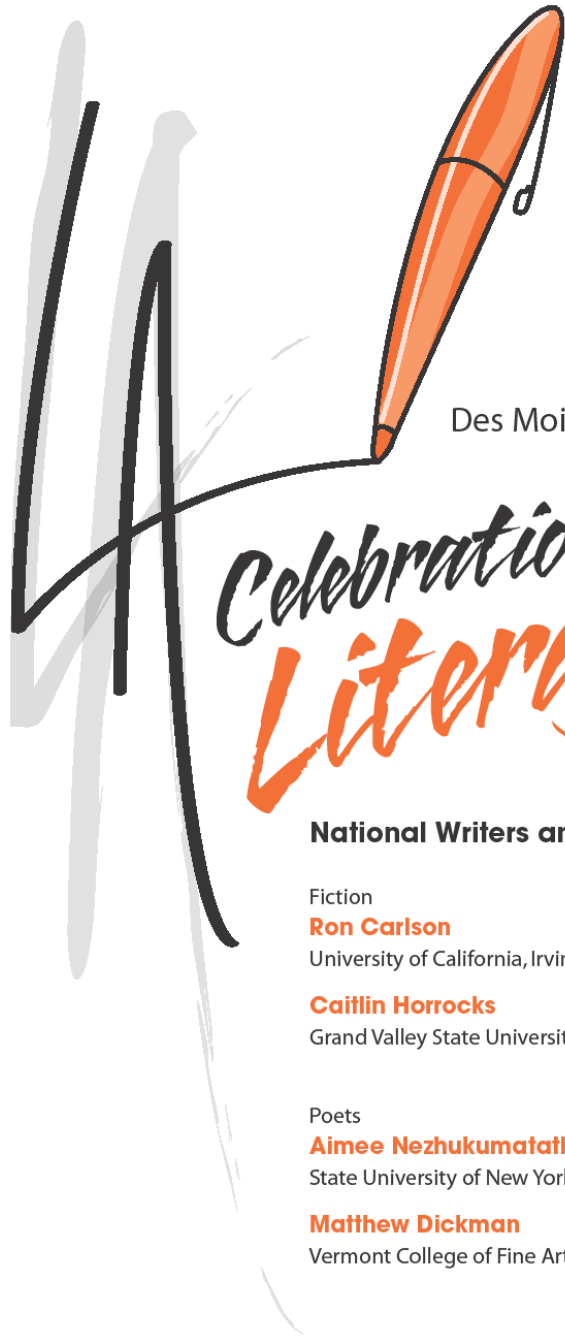
Carol Spaulding-Kruse
Drake University

Monday, April 4th

Tuesday, April 5th

Wednesday, April 6th

2013



Events at All DMACC Campuses

All Events Free And Open To The Public

Des Moines Area Community College's

Celebration of the Literary Arts

National Writers and Poets

Fiction

Ron Carlson

University of California, Irvine

Caitlin Horrocks

Grand Valley State University

Poets

Aimee Nezhukumatathil

State University of New York

Matthew Dickman

Vermont College of Fine Arts

Iowa Writers and Poets

Mary Swander

Iowa State University

Jeremy Schraffenberger

University of Northern Iowa

Heather Derr-Smith

Iowa State University

David Wolf

Simpson College

Deborah Kennedy

Iowa Writers' Workshop

Winifred Moranville

Simpson College

For more information: www.dmacc.edu | 515-964-6221 | madickinson@dmacc.edu | facebook.com/CelebrationOfLiteraryArts

Monday, April 1st

Tuesday, April 2nd

Wednesday, April 3rd

2014



Events at All DMACC Campuses
All Events Free And Open To The Public

Des Moines Area Community College's

Celebration of the Literary Arts

National Writers and Poets

Fiction

Laura van den Berg
Emerson College

Alan Heathcock
Boise State University

Kyle Minor
Indiana University -
Purdue University Indianapolis

Poets

Evie Shockley
Rutgers University

Ross Gay
Indiana University

Iowa Writers and Poets

Jim O'Loughlin
University of Northern Iowa

Hannah Loeb
Iowa Writers' Workshop

K.L. Cook
Iowa State University

Kali Van Baale
Drake University

Larry Baker
Kirkwood Community College

Charissa Menefee
Iowa State University

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Monday, April 7th

Tuesday, April 8th

Wednesday, April 9th

2015



Events at All DMACC Campuses
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Des Moines Area Community College's

Celebration of the Literary Arts

NATIONAL WRITERS AND POETS

FICTION

[Matt Bell](#)
Arizona State University

[Robin Black](#)
Rutgers University-Camden,
MFA Program

POETRY

[Kevin Prufer](#)
University of Houston

[Ada Limón](#)
Queens University of Charlotte
Low Residency M.F.A

IOWA WRITERS AND POETS

[Meg Johnson](#)
Iowa State University

[Ralph James Savarese](#)
Grinnell College

[Jennifer L. Knox](#)
Iowa State University

[Paul Brooke](#)
Grand View University

[Tim Bascom](#)
Waldorf College

[Magogodi Makhene](#)
Iowa Writers' Workshop

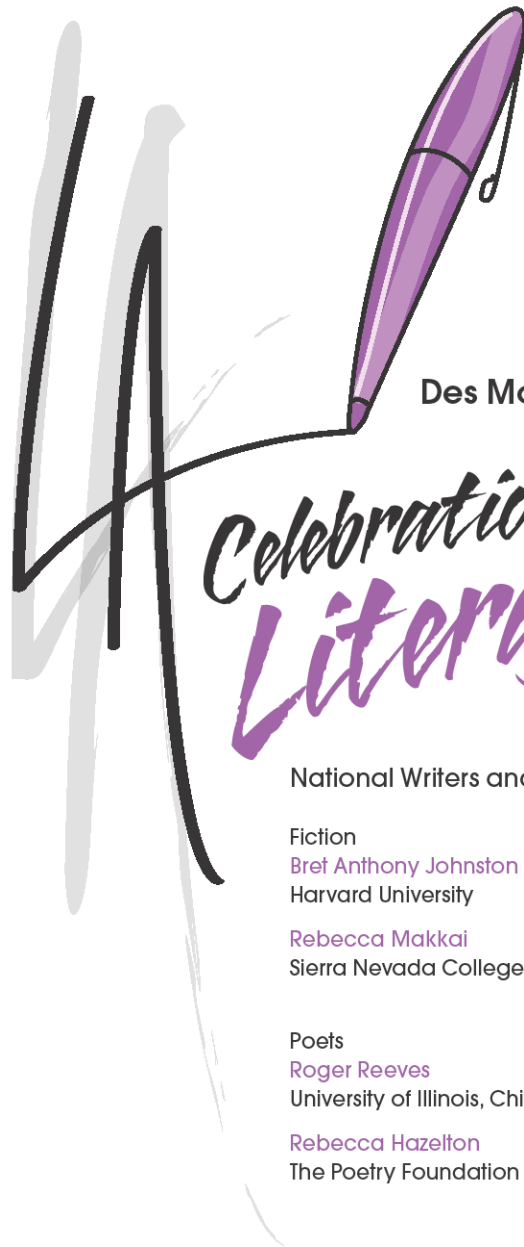
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Monday, April 4th

Tuesday, April 5th

Wednesday, April 6th

2016



Events at All DMACC Campuses
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Des Moines Area Community College's

Celebration of the Literary Arts

National Writers and Poets

Fiction

Bret Anthony Johnston
Harvard University

Rebecca Makkai
Sierra Nevada College

Poets

Roger Reeves
University of Illinois, Chicago

Rebecca Hazelton
The Poetry Foundation

Iowa Writers and Poets

Kyle McCord

Grand View University

Christiana Langenberg

Iowa State University

Brian Spears

Drake University

Sarah Smith

Iowa Writers' Workshop

Grant Tracey

University of Northern Iowa

Barbara Haas

Iowa State University

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Monday, April 6th

Tuesday, April 7th

Wednesday, April 8th



FIFTEENTH ANNUAL

DES MOINES AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

CELEBRATION
of the
LITERARY
ARTS

MONDAY, APRIL 3 | TUESDAY, APRIL 4 | WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5

<i>National Writers</i>	<i>Iowa Writers</i>
Charles Baxter UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA/ WARREN WILSON MFA PROGRAM	Devon Walker-Figueroa IOWA WRITERS' WORKSHOP/ POETRY EDITOR, <i>IOWA REVIEW</i>
Megan Mayhew Bergman BENNINGTON COLLEGE'S MFA PROGRAM	M. Molly Backes IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Oliver de la Paz COLLEGE OF THE HOLY CROSS	Ralph James Savarese GRINNELL COLLEGE
Tarfia Faizullah UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN	Molly McDonald IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Kevin Brockmeier IOWA WRITERS' WORKSHOP	Rick Christman DMACC, PROFESSOR EMERITUS
Charles D'Ambrosio IOWA WRITERS' WORKSHOP	Ned Balbo IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
	Hai-Dang Phan GRINNELL COLLEGE
	Calla Devlin YOUNG ADULT NOVELIST

EVENTS AT ALL DMACC CAMPUSES
ALL EVENTS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

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