

2025 FESTIVAL AT A GLANCE

TUESDAY, OCT. 14

A Celebration of Miriam Toews
Starring Miriam Toews
Hosted by Shelley Youngblut
Patricia A. Whelan Theatre, Central Library
@ 7:30 PM, \$25 [MORE INFO](#)

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 15

What a Pair! Monique Gray Smith & Shelagh Rogers
Memorial Park Library, 2nd Floor
@ 12 PM, \$25 [MORE INFO](#)

Bestseller Power Hour: Clare Leslie Hall
Memorial Park Library, 2nd Floor
@ 5:30 PM, \$25 [MORE INFO](#)

The Kris Demeanor & Deborah Willis Variety Show: Starring Antonio Michael Downing, Ben Ladouceur, Neil Smith & Madeleine Thien
DJ Dance Centre
@ 7:30 PM, \$25 [MORE INFO](#)

An Evening with Brian Thomas Isaac & Tracey Lindberg
Hosted by Shelagh Rogers
Memorial Park Library, 2nd Floor
@ 7:30 PM, \$25 [MORE INFO](#)

THURSDAY, OCT. 16

What a Pair! Antonio Michael Downing & Shelagh Rogers
Memorial Park Library, 2nd Floor
@ 5:30 PM, \$25 [MORE INFO](#)

The Way We... Talk About Monsters
Starring Cherie Dimaline, Tracey Lindberg, Linden MacIntyre, David A. Robertson, Shelagh Rogers, Saeed Teebi & Souvankham Thammavongsa.
Hosted by Pam Rocker
DJ Dance Centre
@ 7:30 PM, \$25 [MORE INFO](#)

Big Queer Poetry Cabaret
Starring Amber Dawn, Billy-Ray Belcourt, Ben Ladouceur & jaye simpson. Featuring Timothoni & Jane Madeleine
Hosted by Paula Turcotte
Memorial Park Library, 2nd Floor
@ 7:30 PM, \$25 [MORE INFO](#)

FRIDAY, OCT. 17

A Morning with Sharon Butala & Marilyn Simonds
Memorial Park Library, 2nd Floor
@ 10 AM, \$25 [MORE INFO](#)

Radishes & Butter
Starring Gabrielle Hamilton
Hosted by Shelley Youngblut
Memorial Park Library, 2nd Floor
@ NOON, \$25 [MORE INFO](#)

Influencer Power Hour
Starring Liann Zhang
Hosted by Joelle Tomlinson
Memorial Park Library, 2nd Floor
@ 5:30 PM, \$25 [MORE INFO](#)

Literary Death Match
Starring Emily Austin, Gabrielle Drolet, Jon Hickey, Wesley King, E. Jean Carroll, Cory Doctorow & Emma Donoghue
Hosted by Adrian Todd Zuniga
DJ Dance Centre
@ 7:30 PM, \$25 [MORE INFO](#)

O Canada!
Starring Elamin Abdelmahmoud, Ann-Marie MacDonald & Paul Myers
Memorial Park Library, 2nd Floor
@ 7:30 PM, \$25 [MORE INFO](#)

Literary Thirst Trap
Starring Amber Dawn & jaye simpson
Memorial Park Library, Salon (1st Floor)
@ 8 PM, FREE [MORE INFO](#)

YOUTH
by wordfest

SPARKING TEEN LITERACY

During the Imaginairium, 4,000 Calgary teens will connect with festival authors through Wordfest's innovative Youth Program. Find out more at wordfest.com/wordfest-youth-program/



SATURDAY, OCT. 18

You Were Made for This Steady Brightness
Starring Billy-Ray Belcourt, Cherie Dimaline, Jon Hickey, David A. Robertson, Stephanie Sinclair & Katherine Vermette
DJD Dance Centre
@ 10 AM, \$25 [MORE INFO](#)

What a Pair! Vinh Nguyen & Andrew Phung
Memorial Park Library, 2nd Floor
@ 10 AM, \$25 [MORE INFO](#)

Quelle Paire!
Jean-Philippe Baril Guérard & Neil Smith (bilingual)
Memorial Park Library, Salon (1st Floor)
@ 10 AM, FREE [MORE INFO](#)

Big Tech's Betrayal—and How to Break Free! Starring Cory Doctorow
Hosted by Zain Velji
Memorial Park Library, 2nd Floor
@ 1 PM, \$25 [MORE INFO](#)

Inside Emma Donoghue's Big Generous Brain. Hosted by Shelley Youngblut
DJD Dance Centre
@ 1 PM, \$25 [MORE INFO](#)

How to... Entice Middle-Grade Readers
Starring Wesley King, Susin Nielsen & David A. Robertson
Memorial Park Library, Salon (1st Floor)
@ 1 PM, FREE [MORE INFO](#)

Leacockians Unite!!!!
Starring Emily Austin, Terry Fallis, Will Ferguson & Natalie Sue
DJD Dance Centre
@ 3 PM, \$25 [MORE INFO](#)

A Celebration of John Candy
Starring Paul Myers
Hosted by Hart Hanson
Memorial Park Library, 2nd Floor
@ 3 PM, \$25 [MORE INFO](#)

How To... Swerve Genres
Starring Souvankham Thammavongsa & Katherine Vermette
Hosted by David A. Robertson
Memorial Park Library, Salon (1st Floor)
@ 3 PM, FREE [MORE INFO](#)

The Sh!t No One Tells You about Publishing: Starring Jennifer Lambert, Bianca Marais & Stephanie Sinclair
Memorial Park Library, 2nd Floor
@ 5:30 PM, \$25 [MORE INFO](#)

The Way We... Talk About Candy
Starring Holly Brickley, Gabrielle Hamilton, Jean-Philippe Baril Guérard, Ann-Marie MacDonald, Paul Myers, Terry O'Reilly, E. Jean Carroll & Andrew Phung. Hosted by Pam Rocker
DJD Dance Centre
@ 7:30 PM, \$25 [MORE INFO](#)

Otherting & Empathy
Starring Marcello Di Cintio, Linden MacIntyre & Saeed Teebi
Hosted by Christina Frangou
Memorial Park Library, 2nd Floor
@ 7:30 PM, \$25 [MORE INFO](#)

SUNDAY, OCT. 19

Daybreak Alberta Live
with Paul Karchut
Memorial Park Library, 2nd Floor
@ 8 AM, FREE [MORE INFO](#)

The Morning Yap
Starring Holly Brickley, Bianca Marais, Susin Nielsen & Liann Zhang
Hosted by Ali Bryan
DJD Dance Centre
@ 10 AM, \$25 [MORE INFO](#)

Revolution of Revolutions
Starring Scott Anderson
Hosted by Marcello Di Cintio
Memorial Park Library, 2nd Floor
@ 10 AM, \$25 [MORE INFO](#)

An Afternoon with Thomas King
Hosted by Terry Fallis
DJD Dance Centre
@ 1 PM, \$25 [MORE INFO](#)

The Sh!t No One Tells You About TV
Starring Tracy Dawson, Hart Hanson, Susin Nielsen & Andrew Phung
Memorial Park Library, 2nd Floor
@ 1 PM, \$25 [MORE INFO](#)

How to... Extend Your Shelf Life
Starring Anne Collins, Linden MacIntyre & Marilyn Simonds
Memorial Park Library, Salon (1st Floor)
@ 1 PM, FREE [MORE INFO](#)

Against the Grain with Terry O'Reilly
Patricia A. Whelan Theatre, Central Library
@ 3 PM, \$25 [MORE INFO](#)

Inside Kate Beaton's Big Generous Brain
Hosted by Gabrielle Drolet
Memorial Park Library, 2nd Floor
@ 3 PM, \$25 [MORE INFO](#)

What a Pair!
Eliana Ramage & Katherine Vermette
Memorial Park Library, Salon (1st Floor)
@ 3 PM, FREE [MORE INFO](#)

The Confabulous E. Jean Carroll
Hosted by Shelley Youngblut
Patricia A. Whelan Theatre, Central Library
@ 7 PM, \$25 [MORE INFO](#)

EXPLORE 30+ SHOWS

We know you're ready to squeeze every bit of joy out of the 2025 Imaginairium: Canada's Liveliest Literary Festival. **Our insider tip?** Treat these six days as a menu of bright ideas in dark times.

Savour your favourite returning authors. Sample breakout stars. Devour the intimate, inspired pairings. Relish the return of The Way We... storytelling show-cases (there are two of them!), The Kris Demeanor & Deborah Willis Variety Show, Literary Death Match, and our Poetry Cabaret. Add your ambitions to the mix with our interactive How To's and insider takes on the publishing and TV biz.

FESTIVAL VENUES

WORDFEST @ MPL
Memorial Park Library, 2nd Floor
1221 2 St SW, Calgary, AB T2R 0W5

ALEXANDER CALHOUN SALON
Memorial Park Library, Main Floor
1221 2 St SW, Calgary, AB T2R 0W5

DJD DANCE CENTRE
111 12 Ave SE
Calgary, AB T2G 0Z9

CENTRAL LIBRARY
800 3 St SE
Calgary, AB T2G 2E7