



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EXPLORE A LITERARY WORLD AT TELLING TALES

Book launches, story readings, author signings and family fun await

HAMILTON, ON – September 12, 2016: Read them here first! The Telling Tales Festival is delighted to launch several brand new Canadian books this fall. Award-winning author **KENNETH OPPEL** launches his latest captivating novel, *Every Hidden Thing*, described as *Romeo and Juliet* meets *Indiana Jones*. **JEREMY TANKARD** explores the dilemma of going on a hike without snacks in *Hungry Bird*, which makes its first appearance at Telling Tales. Christmas comes early as we celebrate friendship with **RUTH OHI** and her brand new picture book *Fox and Squirrel: The Best Christmas Ever*. **ANDREW LARSEN** will present his new picture book *A Squiggly Story* that explores how worlds are opened up when children begin to read and write. **SHANE PEACOCK**'s fast-paced novel *Separated*, a prequel to *Seven* (the Series), explores the terrors of being lost in a foreign city, and **JOEL A. SUTHERLAND** shares more chilling true ghost stories from across the country with *Haunted Canada 6*.

The Telling Tales Festival is a FREE event that takes place on Sunday, September 18th at Westfield Heritage Village in Rockton, Ontario. This year's festival features over 25 award-winning Canadian authors, illustrators, storytellers, and musicians who promise to entertain and delight over 7,000 children and their families. Plan to be entertained by these incredible presenters:

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| Denise Anderson | Hamilton Youth Poets | Barbara Reid |
| Sheila Barry | Jude Johnson | Kevin Sands |
| Robert Blunsdon | Jon-Erik Lappano | Bill Slavin |
| Hélène Boudreau | Andrew Larsen | Chad Solomon |
| Gillian Chan | John Lukasik | Joel A. Sutherland |
| Scott Chantler | Lindsay Mattick | Kevin Sylvester |
| Creative Theatre Company | Mahtab Narsimhan | Jeremy Tankard |
| Hamilton Children's Choir | Ruth Ohi | TURKEY Rhubarb |
| HPL Puppeteers | Kenneth Oppel | Vikki VanSickle |
| HPL Writing Workshops | Shane Peacock | Kari-Lynn Winters |

Visit our website for [presenter bios and schedules](#).

www.tellingtales.org | facebook.com/TellingTalesFestival | twitter.com/tellingtalesffs





This year's theme: *Explore Your World* encourages students to discover new places, experience different emotions and meet fantastic characters – all with the turn of a page. "This year's stellar lineup of presenters all highlight the importance of exploring your world, whether it's your neighbourhood, a different time, place or perspective," explains Susan Jasper, Telling Tales Festival Chair & Founder. "Our goal is to inspire a love of reading in kids of all ages. We are especially excited about the new tween and teen stages and special writing workshops to encourage these future writers and illustrators to continue their own quests in the literary world."

Other attractions include live performances, book signings, readings, costumed characters, a giant Book Swap and Shop, Bryan Prince Bookseller onsite book shop, Children's Activity Centre, contests and prizes – all in a beautiful historic village setting.

Engage with the Telling Tales community to celebrate #TellingTales2016!

- We're sharing stories and giving away books on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)
- Our presenters are showcased on [YouTube](#)
- Download the [Telling Tales Festival App](#) sponsored by Cogeco. Use the Framelt! feature to enter our [photo contest](#) to win great prizes
- Check out the [2016 Telling Tales Reading List](#) for our recommended selection of books by Canadian children's authors

The **8th Annual Telling Tales Festival** takes place on **Sunday, September 18th** from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at **Westfield Heritage Village** in Rockton, Ontario. **Admission is free.** There is free parking at the Rockton Fairgrounds and our free shuttle service will bring guests right to the Festival. Please note: there is no parking at Westfield during the Festival. Visitors are welcome to bring their children in strollers and are reminded to bring lawn chairs, blankets, and umbrellas to join in the fun – rain or shine!

About Telling Tales

Telling Tales celebrates stories. We do this by bringing together Canadian authors, illustrators, musicians and storytellers with their audience – our children. Telling Tales is a yearlong reading campaign dedicated to promoting literacy and inspiring a love of reading. It kicks off in May, peaks at our free, one-day Festival in September, and continues celebrating stories throughout the year. For more information, please review the [Telling Tales Fact Sheet](#) and visit the Telling Tales website at www.tellingtales.org.