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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Powered by Stories Launching 10 years of Telling Tales

HAMILTON, ON – May 2, 2018: Through stories, we learn that anything is possible. It's remarkable how a bold idea for a free children's literary festival has been so strongly embraced. Over the past decade, Telling Tales has evolved into a year-round literacy program – one that links storytelling superheroes with our community.

"Telling Tales has succeeded over the years because we have an extraordinary community with a very real commitment to literacy," says Susan Jasper, Telling Tales Executive Director. "To every child, parent, caregiver, presenter, volunteer, partner, supporter great and small – thank you for caring and helping us to achieve this milestone! You are our heroes!"

Telling Tales all-star line-up

At Telling Tales we believe authors and illustrators have the superpowers to lead us on amazing journeys, transport us to new places, new times and new worlds; in their company anything is possible. This year, Telling Tales celebrates its 10th anniversary with an all-star line-up of programming. This is without a doubt our strongest line-up ever.

Our six superhero headliners have all contributed to Canada's international reputation for children's publishing. Canadian poet **Dennis Lee** returns to delight fans of all ages with his unforgettable rhymes. He will share bedtime poems from *Good Night, Good Night*, the fourth story derived from his best-loved book *Alligator Pie*. One of Canada's leading Indigenous children's authors, **David Bouchard**, will entertain with enchanting flute playing and illuminating stories. Telling Tales has become a very important launching pad for new stories. Internationally renowned young adult author **Eric Walters** launches his 100th book, *Elephant Secret*, with us!

Kevin Sylvester transports teens and tween readers to a planet filled with action, adventure, and warfare in his MINRS series. He will also introduce *The Almost Epic Squad: Mucus Mayhem*, his contribution in a hilarious, new, multiple-author, action-adventure, almost-superhero series. The one and only **Kenneth Oppel** launches his latest middle-grade novel, *Inkling*, a hilarious story about an ink blot that comes to life. **Sarah Mlynowski** is coming from Manhattan to enchant tweens with fairy tale fun from her latest book in the *New York Times* bestselling *Whatever After* series.

Alongside these international stars, Telling Tales is proud to feature the talent of local presenters including: Lana Button, Creative Theatre Company, Sara General, Hamilton Children's Choir,

TellingTales.org



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Hamilton Youth Poets, Jude Johnson, LONE Rhubarbarian and the Hamilton Choir Project, Jennifer Mook-Sang, Mr. Ben, and Steve Newberry.

This year's line-up features over 35 award-winning Canadian authors, illustrators, storytellers, and musicians to engage and delight children, youth and their families. *Embrace the Power of Stories* with these superheroes:

Jean Assamoa	Vicki Grant	Hilary Leung	Kenneth Oppel
David Bouchard	Hamilton Children's Choir	LONE Rhubarbarian &	Itah Sadu
Lana Button	HPL Puppeteers	Friends	Kevin Sands
Heather Camlot	Hamilton Youth Poets	Sarah Mlynowski	Richard Scrimger
Paul Covello	Jude Johnson	Jennifer Mook-Sang	Heather Smith
Creative Theatre	Jess Keating	Mr. Ben	Sydney Smith
Company	Fartumo Kusow	Mr. Chris & the Gassy	Chad Solomon
Melanie Florence	Andrew Larsen	Bubbles	Kevin Sylvester
Sara General	Dennis Lee	Evan Munday	Vikki VanSickle
Joyce Grant	Qin Leng	Steve Newberry	Eric Walters

Telling Tales Festival: a 10th stage, and new program for teens

Mark your calendar for **Sunday, September 16, 2018** for the **10th Annual Telling Tales Festival** and **Sunday, September 23, 2018** for **Teen Tales**. The first day of the festival takes place at the picturesque Westfield Heritage Village in Rockton, Ontario. It's a celebration of stories in all forms – written, illustration, storytelling, drama, music and poetry – for kids of all ages. To celebrate our 10th year we are introducing a **10th stage** featuring visual storytelling. Be sure to take advantage of the convenient, FREE shuttle service operating from neighbourhoods in Hamilton. We have expanded our programming to offer a second afternoon of inspiring presentations and creative writing workshops designed for teens. Don't miss **Teen Tales** on **September 23, 2018** at the Hamilton Public Library.

Celebrating stories in our community and schools

As our year-round programming grows there are many opportunities to help children and youth discover their reading superpowers, including community events, school literacy evenings, author visits and workshops. Visit TellingTales.org for a complete list of events.

Your superhero mission is to connect with us online at **TellingTales.org**! On our website and social media channels we are reaching out to inspire new reading superheroes. Discover the **2018 Telling Tales Reading List**. Kids from 6-16 can join the **Telling Tales Press Club**. Everyone can enter our new **10th Anniversary Video Contest**. Sign up for our **Dragonfly Newsletter** to keep up to date on upcoming events, plus resources and book lists from award winning Canadian authors.



About Telling Tales

Telling Tales is a Canadian, not-for-profit organization committed to delivering outstanding literary programming for children and youth that raises awareness of the importance of literacy in our communities. For more information, please review the [Telling Tales Fact Sheet](#) and visit the Telling Tales website at TellingTales.org.

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