

OMDC NEWSLETTER

We've got it going



ONTARIO MEDIA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION Promoting growth and investment in Ontario's
book and magazine publishing, film and television, music and interactive digital media industries

OCTOBER 2011

Ontario's Entertainment Creative Cluster Partnerships Fund supports *Ontario: Read it Here!*

Project Bookmark Canada is an organization that exists to "mark the places where the real and imagined landscapes meet." This is done by installing a Bookmark, a poster-sized ceramic plaque with text from a story or poem, in the exact physical location where the literary scene takes place. With Open Book: Ontario (an initiative of the Organization of Book Publishers of Ontario) and Humber College Creative Book Publishing Program, **Project Bookmark Canada** created a partnership for the *Ontario: Read It Here* initiative, which received funding support from the OMDC through the Entertainment and Creative Cluster Partnerships Fund. Four new installations of Bookmarks were installed recently, one each in Midland, Port Colborne, Hamilton and Mississauga.

The recently installed Bookmarks are:

"Song for the Field Behind
Mississauga Valley Public School"
from the Trillium Award-winning
Tiny, Frantic, Stronger by Jeff
Latosik, published by Insomniac
Press, bookmarked in Mississauga, in
the public space behind Valleys
Senior Public School;



Poet Jeff Latosik with Project Bookmark Canada
Founder and Executive Director, Miranda Hill



The Queen of Unforgetting by
Sylvia Maultash Warsh, published by
Cormorant Books, bookmarked in
Midland, in Little Lake Park;

Sylvia Maultash Warsh with Miranda Hill

"Giants" from ***Two or Three Guitars*** by John Terpstra, published by Gaspereau Press bookmarked in Hamilton at Sam Lawrence Park; and



John Terpstra



Sheree-Lee Olson with Tim Inkster, publisher of The Porcupine's Quill

Sailor Girl by Sheree-Lee Olson, published by The Porcupine's Quill, was bookmarked in Port Colborne at Lock 8 on the Welland Canal.

If you are not able to visit all of the sites in person, you can at least visit them online at www.openbookontario.com, which highlights and explores the Bookmarks with interviews, articles, videos and contests.

OMDC is pleased to announce that we have surpassed 1,250 followers for our combined Twitter accounts. We're keeping the public informed on Ontario's cultural industries and making valuable connections in various communities.

Follow us on twitter

<http://www.twitter.com/omdctweets!>

You can also follow our francophone Twitter account at http://twitter.com/OMDC_FR



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www.omdc.on.ca

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OMDC Program Deadlines

OMDC Film Fund

- **November 1, 2011 – Deadline For Applications**

OMDC Research Grant Deadline

- **December 5, 2011**

Ongoing | OMDC's Industry Development

Program now incorporates the previous OMDC Trade Organization Support and Domestic Markets and Events programs. The program offers financial and, where appropriate, strategic support to established trade and event organizations that are undertaking initiatives that provide business growth and business development opportunities for Ontario cultural media companies. Guidelines are now posted on our [website](#). For further information contact: programs@omdc.on.ca



Tax Credits Have Gone Green - Get Online!

In an effort to streamline our tax credit administration process, please note that as of April 1, 2011, the OMDC has implemented a mandatory policy that all OMDC tax credit applications must be submitted via our Online Application Portal. All necessary supporting documentation must also be submitted via the online process or the application won't be accepted.

See below or visit our website www.omdc.on.ca for upcoming WebEx training dates for how to use the Online Application Portal.

WebEx Training for OMDC Online Application Portal

WebEx training sessions are still available for OMDC's Online Application Portal (OAP):

- Wednesday, November 16, 2:00-3:00 pm
- Wednesday, December 14, 2:00-3:00 pm

To register for a training session, please visit [our website](#)

OMDC IP Fund Supports 182 Ontario Companies with Rebates Worth Over \$9.3 Million

OMDC is pleased to announce that the final **Intellectual Property Development Fund** (IP Fund) files were processed at the end of September. Through the **IP Fund** we were able to fund 182 film, television and interactive digital media companies, supporting their early-stage development activities on 1,060 screen-based projects with rebates worth just over \$9.3M.

OAP Quick Tip

Are you a Corporate Administrator of a registered company on the Portal? Has the registered company submitted their ***Signing Officer Delegation of Corporate Administrator and Portal User Form***? This form must be completed, signed and submitted for all registered companies. If you have yet to submit the form, be sure to download it [here](#), complete and return via email to applyhelp@omdc.on.ca.

OMDC Industry Profiles

OMDC regularly updates our **Industry Profiles**. We are currently updating the Book Industry Profile, and will be undertaking an update of the Music Industry Profile next. If you have any information or good news stories for the Music profile that would assist us in our update, please contact Jen Brown: jbrown@omdc.on.ca.

Industry Research



A recent report entitled **Computer Games and Canada's Digital Economy: The Role of Universities in Promoting Innovation**, was prepared by a committee of academic and digital media industry researchers associated with the **GRAND** research network. The study looks at the role universities play in fostering creativity and promoting innovation in the Canadian video game industry. This research suggests that the key to Canada's future digital economy is to sustain economic growth while at the same time encouraging cultural innovation, and identifies areas for greater collaboration between universities and video game companies.

Upcoming OMDC-Supported Events

Oct. 19-30 | International Festival of Authors The International Festival of Authors (IFOA) brings together the best writers of contemporary world literature for 12 days of readings, interviews, lectures, round table discussions, and public book signings each October. The IFOA presents a number of special events including readings by Scotiabank Giller Prize, Governor General's Literary Awards, and Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize finalists, as well as the awarding of the Harbourfront Festival Prize. OMDC is providing support for the ***International Visitors Programme*** at IFOA, at which invited international publishers participate in a four-day program of inter-industry dialogue with publishers and other publishing professionals operating in Ontario.

Oct. 24-26 | X-Summit X marks the spot where interactive digital media innovators meet, collaborate, partner and learn. This two-day business intelligence conference focuses on the areas where cross-media converge; enabling content producers to better tell their stories seamlessly across multiple platforms. X-Summit embraces innovation and explores the future of cross-media content through active learning, hands-on workshops, round-table discussions, concise presentations, dynamic panel discussions and cutting-edge demonstrations. A departure from typical formats, this next-generation conference will inspire and challenge, outfitting participants with tangible takeaways, fresh ideas to consider and new opportunities to explore. Summit's thought-provoking and future-oriented content offers insights from outstanding speakers from across the globe who will share their experience, knowledge and strategic foresight, providing valuable insights into the constantly evolving world of cross-media. X-Summit is an unparalleled opportunity for content creators to collaborate with interactive media professionals in a world-class conference setting.

Oct. 26-30 | Digifest is Toronto's international festival celebrating innovation and digital creativity. The festival brings together some of the world's best and brightest to showcase next generation digital art & design. Established and emerging designers, technologists and artists will come together during Digifest for presentations, incredible demos, interactive exhibitions and parties.

Oct. 28 | TIFF Nexus Locative Media Innovation Day @ Digifest 2011, a day-long industry conference held at TIFF Bell Lightbox consisting of **presentations, panels**, demos and other activities focused on locative media. Presented by TIFF Nexus in partnership with Digifest 2011.

Nov. 1 | Registration is now open for the **Ontario Augmented Reality Network (OARN)** Fall Toronto Workshop, which will take place at **Ryerson University on November 1** and will feature Lake Watkins from XMG Studio. Lake is a developer of 2009 Best Augmented Reality App Winner "Pandemica". He will lead the workshop and share his experiences working with Augmented Reality. This workshop will take the form of a quest. Participants will work in groups to identify and overcome some of the challenges of working with Augmented Reality. To register, or for more information, please go to **the website**. Registration is free, however space is limited. **Details on the London (November 17) and St. Catharines (November 22) workshops will be listed soon.**

Nov. 4-6 | The Toronto-based independent record label Six Shooter Records will present the inaugural **Sleepwalk Guitar Festival**. Shauna de Cartier, the label's president, describes the festival as "an education and celebration of all things guitar." The Sleepwalk Guitar Festival will bring together trailblazers and standard-bearers

of excellence from across genres and across North America. Sleepwalk's namesake is the instantly familiar (and Billboard chart topper) instrumental composed by Santo and Johnny Farina. See the original (and still definitive) version, performed by the brothers [here](#).

The first Sleepwalk will welcome **Afie Jurvanen, Amos Garrett, Andrew Dickson, Brent Mason, Christine Bougie, Colin James, Danny Michel, Duke Robillard, Gordon Lewis, Grant Siemens, Ian Blurton, J Mascis, James Robertson, Jay Nowicki, Kurt Swinghammer, Luke Doucet & The White Falcon, Melissa McClelland, Redd Volkaert, Richard Lloyd Trio and The Sadies**, with more to come. The festival will include full concerts, workshops, clinics and interviews. Location: The Great Hall, 1087 Queen St. W. at Dovercourt, Toronto. Cost: \$25.00 (individual sessions) to \$75.00 (weekend pass). Tickets go on sale on Sept. 19 at [Six Shooter Records.com](#). For info go to [Sleepwalk Guitar](#).

Nov. 10 | Interactive Ontario's [iLunch Series 10.0](#) will consist of case studies followed by panel discussions that seek to examine successful business practices and strategies. At an iLunch session delegates will learn about forward-thinking strategies, have the opportunity for Q & A with the panellists and network with potential business contacts in an informal setting. The theme of this year's iLunch 10.0 is "Top 10", in honour of the 10th anniversary of the series. Interactive Ontario will present five instalments that will focus on the idea of ten ways to build your business. The iLunch series will be five three-hour sessions running from November 2011 to March 2012 at the Gladstone Hotel in Toronto. These sessions, from 11:00am to 2:00pm, will include pre- and post-session networking time, as well as programmed content and a catered lunch. Get your season's pass now and save!



Congratulations

Congratulations to Rabindranath Maharaj, recipient of the **2011 Toronto Book Award** for his novel ***The Amazing Absorbing Boy***, which also won the 24th Trillium Book Award. The announcement was made at an awards gala held on October 13 at the Toronto Reference Library. Established by Toronto City Council in 1974, the Toronto Book Awards honour authors of books of literary or artistic merit that are evocative of Toronto.



Winner

The Amazing Absorbing Boy

Rabindranath Maharaj (published by Knopf Canada)

What the judges said:

"***The Amazing Absorbing Boy*** is the journey through Toronto of a seventeen-year-old Trinidadian boy sent to live with his estranged father in Canada following the death of his mother. In the absence of parental supervision – and even interest – this optimistic teen immigrant sets out from his Regent Park home to discover the wonders of the city. The characters he meets along the way, including relatives who visit from Trinidad and Toronto denizens that he encounters around the city – are colourful, often funny and invariably also struggling to cope with life and isolation. With his fourth novel, writer Rabindranath Maharaj creates a complex, witty and hopeful portrait of an imaginative youth determined to forge his own path in multi-cultural Toronto."

Crystal Awards Gala Luncheon

When | Monday December 5, 2011, 11:00am –2:00pm

Where | The Ritz-Carlton, 181 Wellington St. W, Toronto

Tickets | Complete the [Ticket Order Form](#)

[Purchase Foundation Tables & Seats](#)

Enjoy premier seating and other benefits in support of the [Foundation for Women in Film & Television – Toronto](#).

Congratulations to the **2011 Crystal Award Winners**

CREATIVE EXCELLENCE AWARD

Julie Bristow, Executive Director, Studio & Unscripted Programming, CBC Television

Awarded to a woman in recognition of the creative excellence and dynamic quality of her work in screen-based media (film, television and digital media). The recipient's recent work has received national and/or international attention in the previous year and has established a standard for those working in screen-based media.

MENTORSHIP AWARD

Carol Whiteman, President & CEO, Creative Women Workshops Association; Producer, Women in the Director's Chair Workshop

Awarded to a woman or man who has made an outstanding contribution to building women's careers in screen-based media (film, television and digital media). The mentor supports the advancement of women, offers guidance and support, and/or assists female entrepreneurs in growing their own media companies.

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Noreen Halpern, President, Dramatic Programming, Entertainment One Television

Awarded to a woman who has made a major contribution to screen-based media (film, television and digital media) through the consistent quality of her work throughout her career. Through personal example and leadership, she has inspired and set standards for women and men working in the screen-based industry.

Congratulations to **Annick Press** and their author, Christy Jordan-Fenton, whose book, ***Fatty Legs: A True Story***, was the winner of the **First Nations Communities Read prize**.

Winners of the **Children's Book Awards** were recently announced. Congratulations to all finalists and winners, including the following Ontario authors and publishers. For full list of all finalists and winners, visit the **[website](#)**:

- **Marilyn Baillie Picture Book Award - *I Know Here*** by Laurel Croza and Matt Janee – Greenwood Books
- **Norma Fleck Award for Children's Non-Fiction - *Case Closed*** by Susan Hughes and Michael Wandelmaier – Kids Can Press
- **Geoffrey Bilson Award for Historical Fiction - *The Glory Wind*** by Valerie Sherrod – Fitzhenry & Whiteside

Congratulations to the following Ontario authors and publishers who have been shortlisted for the **Scotiabank Giller Prize**, including four titles published by Ontario independent publishers highlighted below. The winner will be announced on November 8, 2011:

- **Lynn Coady** for her novel ***The Antagonist***, published by **House of Anansi Press**
- **Patrick deWitt** for his novel ***The Sisters Brothers***, published by **House of Anansi Press**
- **Esi Edugyan** for her novel ***Half-Blood Blues***, published by **Thomas Allen Publishers**
- **Michael Ondaatje** for his novel ***The Cat's Table***, published by **McClelland & Stewart**
- Congratulations also to Ontario author **David Bezmozgis**, nominated for his novel, ***The Free World***.

On October 11, 2011, The finalists for **The Governor General's Literary Awards** were announced. The winners will be announced on November 15, 2011. Congratulations to the many finalists, including these Ontario authors and publishers highlighted below:

English-Language Finalists

Fiction

- David Bezmozgis, Toronto, **The Free World** (HarperCollins Publishers)
- Patrick deWitt, Portland (Oregon) [originally from Vancouver Island], **The Sisters Brothers** (House of Anansi Press)
- Esi Edugyan, Victoria (British Columbia), **Half-Blood Blues: A Novel** (Thomas Allen Publishers)
- Alexi Zentner, Ithaca (New York) [originally from Kitchener, Ontario], **Touch** (Alfred A. Knopf Canada; distributed by Random House of Canada)

Poetry

- Michael Boughn, Toronto, **Cosmographia: A Post-Lucretian Faux Micro-Epic** (BookThug)
- Kate Eichhorn, New York City and Montreal, **Fieldnotes, A Forensic** (BookThug)
- Phil Hall, Perth (Ontario), **Killdeer** (BookThug)
- Susan Musgrave, Sidney and Masset (British Columbia), **Origami Dove** (McClelland & Stewart)

Drama

- Brendan Gall, Toronto, **Minor Complications: Two Plays** (Coach House Books);
- Jonathan Garfinkel, Toronto, **House of Many Tongues** (Playwrights Canada Press)
- Erin Shields, Toronto, **If We Were Birds** (Playwrights Canada Press)
- Donna-Michelle St. Bernard, Toronto, **Gas Girls** (Playwrights Canada Press)
- Vern Thiessen, Astoria (New York) and Winnipeg (Manitoba), **Lenin's Embalmers** (Playwrights Canada Press)

Non-fiction

- Charles Foran, Peterborough (Ontario), **Mordecai: The Life & Times** (Alfred A. Knopf Canada)
- Nathan M. Greenfield, Ottawa (Ontario), **The Damned: The Canadians at the Battle of Hong Kong and the POW Experience, 1941-45** (HarperCollins Publishers)
- Richard Gwyn, Toronto, **Nation Maker: Sir John A. Macdonald: His Life, Our Times, Volume Two: 1867-1891** (Random House Canada)
- J.J. Lee, New Westminster (British Columbia), **The Measure of a Man: The Story of a Father, a Son, and a Suit** (McClelland & Stewart)

Children's Literature – Text

- Jan L. Coates, Wolfville (Nova Scotia), **A Hare in the Elephant's Trunk** (Red Deer Press)
- Deborah Ellis, Simcoe (Ontario), **No Ordinary Day** (Groundwood Books / House of Anansi Press)
- Christopher Moore, Toronto, **From Then to Now: A Short History of the World** (Tundra Books)
- Kenneth Oppel, Toronto, **This Dark Endeavour** (HarperCollins Publishers)
- Tim Wynne-Jones, Perth (Ontario), **Blink & Caution** (Candlewick Press)

Children's Literature – Illustration

- Isabelle Arsenault, Montreal, **Migrant**, text by Maxine Trottier (Groundwood Books / House of Anansi Press)
- Frank Viva, Toronto, **Along a Long Road**, text by Frank Viva (HarperCollins Publishers)
- Cybèle Young, Toronto, **Ten Birds**, text by Cybèle Young (Kids Can Press)

Translation – French to English

- For translation from French to English, Lazer Lederhendler, Montreal, ***Dirty Feet*** (House of Anansi Press; distributed by HarperCollins Canada) for the English translation of Les pieds sales by Edem Awumey (Les Éditions du Boréal)

French-Language Finalists

Drama

- **Wajdi Mouawad**, **Ottawa (Ontario)**, ***Journée de noces chez les Cromagnons*** (Leméac Éditeur / Actes Sud)

Non-fiction

- Henri Dorion, Quebec, and **Jean-Paul Lacasse**, **Ottawa (Ontario)**, ***Le Québec: territoire incertain*** (Les éditions du Septentrion; distributed by Diffusion Dimedia)

Children's Literature – Illustration

- **Shea Chang** , **Toronto**, ***Tarentelle***, text by Mélanie Tellier (Marchand de feuilles)

Translation – English to French

- Geneviève Letarte, Montreal, ***Le week-end en Bourgogne*** (Les éditions Les Allusifs)
French translation of stories from the collection ***The Cost of Living: early and uncollected stories*** and from ***Going Ashore***, stories by Mavis Gallant (McClelland & Stewart)
- Sophie Voillot, Montreal, ***Le droit chemin*** (Leméac Éditeur/Actes Sud)
French translation of ***Mid Way*** by David Homel (Cormorant Books)

OMDC-supported Trillium Book Award Voices Panel at WOTS-T

OMDC was pleased to provide support to Toronto's Word on the Street (WOTS-T), which took place on September 25, by sponsoring a new venue: the Vibrant Voices of Ontario Tent. We celebrated some of the amazing fiction, non-fiction and poetry being produced by writers and publishers from our province, with 16 different readings, panels and discussions taking place at this tent. One of the events was a lively Trillium Book Award Voices panel, which featured five previous winners of that Award.



Authors (Left to Right): Rabindranath Maharaj; Pasha Malla; Adam Sol; Wayson Choy; Jeff Latosik discussing *The Writing Life in Ontario*, moderated by Amy Logan Holmes, Executive Director for Open Book: Toronto.

OMDC was pleased to be a sponsor of Telefilm's Gala Screening of an Ontario-produced film ***Breakaway*** at the National Arts Centre in Ottawa on October 3, 2011. ***Breakaway*** screened at TIFF 2011 and will be seen on hundreds of screens including over 60 in Canada and an estimated 600 in India.



Canadian Heritage

Michel Roy, Chairman of the Board of Telefilm Canada, Collette Watson, Vice-President of Rogers TV, André Bureau, Chairman of the Board of Astral, Karen Thorne-Stone, President and CEO of the OMDC, Hubert Lacroix, President and CEO of CBC/Radio-Canada, André Rouleau, President of Caramel Films, Ajay Virmani, co-producer, Vinay Virmani, Minister James Moore, Don Carmody, producer, Mark Slone, Senior Vice-President Marketing and Publicity at Alliance Films, and Rupinder "Rup" Magon of JoSH.

Upcoming Industry Deadlines

Ongoing | Unison Benevolent Fund announced that it is well on its way to becoming fully operational. With generous donations of \$250,000 from both Music Canada (formerly CRIA), and Slight Music, Unison is on target

to achieve their \$1M funding goal, which is the benchmark set for the organization to become operational. The Unison Benevolent Fund is an assistance and referral program – created and administered for the music industry, by the music industry. Unison is designed to provide discreet relief to music industry personnel in times of personal hardship and crisis. The first two priorities for Unison are the Emergency Relief Fund and the creation of a counseling service, similar to the Employee Assistance Programs often available to staff of larger organizations. Details on the launch of these services will be announced soon. Those who are interested in: learning more about the Unison Benevolent Fund, making a donation, finding out how to help the cause, or accessing Unison's services are encouraged to visit www.unisonfund.ca and register.

Online Courses for Digital opportunities for Magazines: A brand new series of online courses on how to take more advantage of digital opportunities for your magazine has been created by the Cultural Human Resources Council (CHRC) and Magazines Canada. Presented by experts in the field, the courses offer valuable wisdom on topics ranging from circulation to editorial – all focused on launching a successful online presence for your magazine. **[For more information and to register.](#)**

Nov. 23-24 | [Magazines Canada Circulation School](#) – Magazines Canada is now accepting registrations for this professional development event which takes place at the Courtyard Marriott, in Toronto.

Call For Nominations – Awards For Outstanding Achievement In The Creative Industries

Nominations for the 2012 **Premier's Award for Excellence in the Arts** are open. Now is the time to celebrate the great work of artists and arts organizations that are building Ontario's entertainment and creative cluster.

You can nominate established artists and arts organizations engaged in a variety of disciplines – including (but not limited to) literature, media arts, music, theatre, visual arts or cultural industries, such as book and magazine publishing, digital media, film, television and sound recording. Author Dennis Lee, composer R. Murray Schaffer and media arts organizations Hot Docs and Vtape are a few of the **2011 finalists**.

The award is conferred in two categories: an individual artist award of \$35,000 and an arts organization award of \$50,000. Details about the awards and nomination forms are on the **Ontario Arts Council website**. The Ontario Arts Council administers the selection process for the awards on behalf of the Government of Ontario.

The awards salute Ontario artists and arts organizations for outstanding achievements over a significant period of time – creative achievements that have helped drive innovation, market cultural products and make Ontario one of North America's top entertainment and media economies.

This is your chance to show your support to an artist or arts organization whose creative vision and extraordinary contributions deserve to be in the spotlight. Nominations are due December 1, 2011.

Upcoming Awards, Festivals and Markets

Oct. 19-30	International Festival of Authors (IFOA) Readings at Harbourfront, Toronto, ON. www.readings.org/?q=ifoa
Oct. 23-25	WIFT-T's Women in Digital Media Summit, Stratford, ON. wift.com/digital-summit/
Oct. 24-26	Interactive Ontario's X-Summit, Toronto, ON. www.x-summit.com
Oct. 25	Hilary Weston Writers' Trust Prize for Non-Fiction Winner Announcement, Toronto, ON. www.writerstrust.com/Awards/Hilary-Weston-Writers-Trust-Prize.aspx
Oct. 26-30	Digifest, Toronto, ON. torontodigifest.ca/2011/
Oct. 29	Annual 2011 DGC Awards, Toronto, ON. www.dgc.ca/page.php?id=101
Nov. 1	10th Annual Writers' Trust Awards Winners Announcement, Toronto, ON. www.writerstrust.com
Nov. 4-6	Sleepwalk Guitar Festival, Great Hall, Toronto, ON. www.sleepwalkguitar.com
Nov. 8	Scotiabank Giller Prize Award Winner Announcement, Toronto, ON. www.scotiabankgillerprize.ca/
Nov. 8-13	15th Anniversary of Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival, Toronto, ON. www.reelasian.com/
Nov. 16-17	DIG London (Digital Interactive Gaming), London, ON. diglondon.ca

Nov. 16-27

International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA), Amsterdam, Holland.
www.idfa.nl/industry.aspx

Nov. 18-19

15th Anniversary of Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival, Richmond Hill, ON.
www.reelasian.com/

E-mail your news and events by the third Thursday of each month to
newsletter@omdc.on.ca.

To add or remove yourself from this newsletter list, e-mail **Reception@omdc.on.ca**

The contents of this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of OMDC

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Ontario Media
Development Corporation

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