

June 15, 2009

Contact: Michael Van Rooy  
Audience Development Coordinator  
Tel: (204) 927-7324  
Email: [publicist@thinairwinnipeg.ca](mailto:publicist@thinairwinnipeg.ca)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA WRITER/STORYTELLER IN RESIDENCE FOR  
2009-2010, JAN ANDREWS, TO PARTICIPATE IN THE THIN AIR WINNIPEG 2009  
WRITERS TO THE SCHOOLS PROGRAM**

Program to Run September 21 to 25, 2009

The Winnipeg International Writers Festival is pleased to announce that JAN ANDREWS will be participating in the 2009 Writers to the School Program as part of the THIN AIR festival this fall.

Jan has recently been named as the next Writer/Storyteller in Residence for The Centre for Creative Writing and Oral Culture (CCWOC) at the University of Manitoba. She has toured her stories at festivals and concerts around the world. As well, she recently co-presented a three day master class for as part of the Storytellers of Canada-Conteurs du Canada Annual Conference. She was also the headliner at the First International Storytelling Festival in Tasmania.

This year the School Program runs from September 21 to 25 and involves various writers available for school visits and appearing on the School Stage at the Manitoba Theatre for Young People. Jan will be available for school visits for grades kindergarten to three and ten to twelve.

Other writers available to visit schools this year include Nick DiChario, Lesley Fairfield, Jake MacDonald, Hal Niedzviecki, Gregory Scofield, C.J. Taylor, Rhea Tregebov and Tim Wynne-Jones. Authors on the School Stage at the Manitoba Theatre for Young People include Deborah Ellis (unfortunately her three stages are already sold out!), Tim Wynne-Jones and Hal Niedzviecki.

There is also a French program that brings the renowned Charlotte Gingras to the School Stage and France Adams and Serge Patrice Thibodeau to interested schools. To celebrate the hundredth anniversary of Gabrielle Roy's birth the festival is also offering a special tour of her home with storyteller Natalie Labossiere.

Since 1997 the Winnipeg International Writers Festival has brought more than 200 children's and young adult authors to the province of Manitoba to reach tens of thousands of students of all ages. The many award-winning participants include Christopher Paul Curtis (2006), Kenneth Opper (2000 and 2008) and Tim Wynne-Jones (2000, 2004 and this year).

For details about the THIN AIR School Program, please contact Tavia Palmer at (204) 927-7323 or by email at [info@thinairwinnipeg.ca](mailto:info@thinairwinnipeg.ca) More information and on-line registration are available at the THIN AIR website at <http://www.thinairwinnipeg.ca/>

\*\*\*

If you'd like more information about this topic, or to schedule an interview, please contact Michael Van Rooy at 927-7327 or e-mail Michael at [publicist@thinairwinnipeg.ca](mailto:publicist@thinairwinnipeg.ca)