

THIN AIR School Program: Grades K-3 Writers to the Schools

Invite one of our world-class writers to share their work with your students and you'll ignite a passion for stories and a deep appreciation for the creativity that lives in us all.

Featured Writers: NAN FORLER (avail Tuesday - Thursday)
PATRICK RYAN (available Thursday and Friday)
LARRY VERSTRAETE (avail Monday – Wednesday)

Scheduling a visit: Please indicate a first and second choice of writers, and at least two presentation times that would work for you. We will do our best to accommodate your wishes, and confirm the details early in June.

Fee: \$200/hour; \$100/half hour (group size 50 max)
(info at www.thinairwinnipeg.ca)

Registration: <http://www.surveygizmo.com/s/122436/wts>

NAN FORLER has been a teacher for over twenty years. Her first picture book, *Bird Child*, published by Tundra in 2009, reflects her concern with injustice, both in the schoolyard and in the global community. It is masterfully illustrated by François Thisdale. Her new book, *Winterberries and Apple Blossoms: Reflections and Flavors of a Mennonite Year* (Tundra 2011), takes readers into the Old Order Mennonite community of her childhood home of Elmira ON. Forler lives in nearby Waterloo.

www.nanforler.com / www.tundrabooks.com

New release:

***Winterberries and Apple Blossoms* (Tundra Press, 2011)**

With an evocative poem for every month of the year, young Naomi introduces us to her family and hosts a journey through the seasonal rhythms of her rural Mennonite community. In the winter there's a quilting bee with chattering women to warm the frigid night, visits to a general store with all its treasures, and the awakening of the sap in the sugar bush. Spring months bring the hard work of clearing the fields and the sweet reward of shoofly pies. Under the hot summer sun there's home-made ice cream, baseball to play, and a horse-drawn buggy to drive. Then it's autumn when the shy narrator must help sell produce at the roadside stand, while she thinks of the snows to come. And all year long there are delicious, child-friendly recipes to make and sample.

Other titles by Nan: *Bird Child* (Tundra Books, 2009)

PATRICK RYAN is an internationally-recognized storyteller who has told stories, led storytelling and creative writing workshops, and delivered lectures about the art of storytelling all over the world. From traditional folk and fairy tales from many cultures, to stories in and behind Shakespeare's plays, Ryan captivates audiences of all ages. Currently a research fellow at the University of Glamorgan in Wales, he will be in Winnipeg this fall as the Storyteller-in-Residence at the University of Manitoba's Centre for Creative Writing and Oral Culture.

www.patryanstoryteller.co.uk

For young audiences, Patrick shares stories he loves from countries all over the world. Some of them are familiar, but many will be surprising and fresh. With riddles, word games, and songs, he encourages kids to get involved, and to discover their own talent for shaping stories.

LARRY VERSTRAETE grew up in the French Quarter of Winnipeg, a stone's throw from the Golden Boy. A former teacher, he now spends his time writing, visiting young readers in schools and libraries, and presenting at conferences and festivals. Larry has written many lively informational books for young readers, including books on science, buried treasure, and heroic survivors. He also has two charming alphabet books, also packed with information: *G is for Golden Boy: A Manitoba Alphabet*, and his most recent, *S is for Scientists: A Discovery Alphabet*, which was **named to the list of Outstanding Science Trade Books for Students K-12** by NSTA & Children's Book Council.

www.larryverstraete.com / www.sleepingbearpress.com

New Release:

***S is for Scientists: A Discovery Alphabet* (Sleeping Bear Press, 2010)**

What clutter-busting need was behind the invention of the World Wide Web? Which stain-fighting chemical got its start when a lab assistant dropped a beaker on a lab floor? In *S is for Scientists: A Discovery Alphabet*, budding young scientists will learn what Galileo witnessed in a church that led to his theory of measurement; how biologist Rachel Carson's book, *Silent Spring*, helped to spur the first call to action in the environmental movement; and why Ivan Pavlov's study of a drooling dog laid the foundations for a new branch of psychology. From discoveries that fundamentally changed scientific methods to everyday inventions that are now taken for granted, *S is for Scientists* sheds light on the events and people who have shaped our lives today.

Some other titles by Larry:

G is for Golden Boy: A Manitoba Alphabet (Sleeping Bear Press, 2009)

Lost Treasures: True Stories of Discovery (Scholastic 2006)

Survivors! True Death-Defying Escapes (Scholastic, 2003)

Accidental Discoveries: From Laughing Gas to Dynamite (Scholastic, 1999)

Questions? Contact Tavia Palmer: 927-7323 or info@thinairwinnipeg.ca

S'il vous plait voir programme scolaire pour notre programmation en Français

www.thinairwinnipeg.ca