




HARD TIMES IN AMERICA

Old Dominion UNIVERSITY


33RD ANNUAL LITERARY FESTIVAL



Bonnie Jo Campbell is the author of *Women and Other Animals*, *Q Road*, and *American Salvage*. She is the winner of the AWP Award for Short Fiction and the *Southern Review's* 2008 Eudora Welty Prize. Her stories have appeared in *Southern Review*, *Kenyon Review*, and *Ontario Review*. *American Salvage* was a 2009 finalist for the National Book Award in Fiction.

Bonnie Jo Campbell


Monday, October 4, 2:00 p.m.
Village Bookstore



Rebecca Skloot is a science writer whose work has appeared in the *New York Times Magazine*; *O, The Oprah Magazine*; *Discover*; *Columbia Journalism Review*; and many other publications. Her first book, *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, was published in 2010 to critical and popular acclaim. She is a contributing editor at *Popular Science*, and has worked as a correspondent for NPR's *RadioLab* and PBS's *Nova ScienceNOW*.

Rebecca Skloot


Monday, October 4, 4:00 p.m.
Village Bookstore



The Jupiters have been awarded numerous chamber music honors, including First Prize in the Banff International String Quartet Competition, Grand Prize in the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition, membership in Lincoln Center's Chamber Music Society Two, and Chamber Music America's Cleveland Quartet Award, which "promotes a rising young string quartet whose artistry demonstrates that it is in the process of establishing a major career." Most recently, they received an Avery Fisher Career Grant.

Jupiter String Quartet


Monday, October 4, 8:00 p.m.
Chandler Recital Hall
Diehn Fine and Performing Arts



Writers in Community is a non-profit program dedicated to helping the diverse communities of Hampton Roads by cultivating literacy and creativity. Under the auspices of the Old Dominion University Creative Writing Program, Writers in Community works with local organizations to reach out to children and adults who can benefit from the opportunity to express themselves artistically. By introducing people to the pleasures of reading and writing, Writers in Community promotes literacy, self-esteem, and self-expression.

Writers in Community

Tuesday, October 5, 2:00 p.m.
Village Bookstore



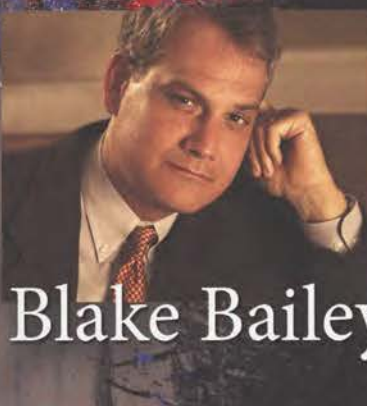
Seni Seneviratne is a writer, singer, photographer, and performer. She was born in Leeds, Yorkshire, to an English mother and a Sri Lankan father. Her poetry and prose are published in the UK, Denmark, Canada and South Africa. *Wild Cinnamon* and *Winter Skin* is her first poetry collection.

Seni Seneviratne

Tuesday, October 5, 4:00 p.m.
Village Bookstore

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Blake Bailey is the biographer of writers Richard Yates and John Cheever and is the editor of the Library of America omnibus editions of Cheever's stories and novels. *A Tragic Honesty: The Life and Work of Richard Yates* was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award. *Cheever: A Life* was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize and the James Tait Black Memorial Prize, and the winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award. Bailey is the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship and an Academy Award in Literature from the American Academy of Arts and Letters.



Blake Bailey

Tuesday, October 5, 7:30 p.m.
Chandler Recital Hall, Diehn Fine and Performing Arts

Brenda Flanagan left school in Trinidad at age 14 to help support her family. In 1967 she came to the USA, where she worked as a domestic servant. Marriage and motherhood further kept her from an education until 1975, when she began her studies at the University of Michigan. She is the author of the prize-winning novel *You Alone Are Dancing*, a collection of stories, *In Praise of Island Women and Other Crimes*, and the forthcoming *Allah in the Islands*.



Brenda Flanagan

Wednesday, October 6, 2:00 p.m.
Village Bookstore

Randall Kenan is the author of novels, stories, and nonfiction, including *A Visitation of Spirits*, *Let the Dead Bury Their Dead*, *Walking on Water: Black American Lives at the Turn of the Twenty-First Century*, and *The Fire This Time*. He is the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship, a Whiting Writers Award, the Sherwood Anderson Award, the John Dos Passos Award, and the Rome Prize from the American Academy of Arts and Letters.



Randall Kenan

Wednesday, October 6, 4:00 p.m.
Village Bookstore

Rodger Kamenetz is an award-winning poet and author. He wrote the international bestseller *The Jew in the Lotus* and the National Jewish Book Award-winning *Stalking Elijah*. His five books of poetry include *The Lowercase Jew*. Kamenetz has been called "the most formidable of the Jewish-American poets." His latest book, *The History of Last Night's Dream*, was featured on Oprah Winfrey's *Soul Series*.



Rodger Kamenetz

Wednesday, October 6, 7:30 p.m.
Kaufman Theater, Chrysler Museum of Art



Anne Waldman is the author of over 40 books and is an active member of the Outrider experimental poetry movement. In 1974, Allen Ginsberg, Waldman and others founded the Jack Kerouac School of Disembodied Poetics at the Naropa Institute, where she remains a Distinguished Professor of Poetics and Director of Naropa's Summer Writing Program. Waldman and her son Ambrose Bye perform together and have created a YouTube channel titled *Fast Speaking Music*, featuring music and poetry videos.

Anne Waldman Thursday, October 7, 12:30 p.m.
Virginia Beach Higher Education Center, Room 244A



Wilbert Rideau was once a death row inmate in Angola Prison in Louisiana. Since his 2005 trial and release after 44 years, former *Angolite* editor Rideau has devoted himself to educating people about the realities of the world behind bars. His autobiography, *In the Place of Justice: A Story of Punishment and Deliverance*, is more than a tale of personal transformation and triumph; it is also the story of how the Louisiana State Penitentiary changed from the bloodiest prison in America to one of the safest.

Wilbert Rideau Thursday, October 7, 4:00 p.m.
Village Bookstore



Buzz Bissinger, a Pulitzer Prize winner for Investigative Journalism, has written for *The New York Times*, *Sports Illustrated*, *The Philadelphia Enquirer*, and *Vanity Fair*. He is perhaps best known for his book *Friday Night Lights*, which became a successful film and television series. Other books include *A Prayer for the City*, which offers insight into the urban political scene of Philadelphia during Mayor Ed Rendell's term in the 1990s, the *New York Times*' bestselling *Three Nights in August*, which chronicles a series between the St. Louis Cardinals and the Chicago Cubs, and *Shooting Stars*, co-authored with basketball superstar LeBron James.

Buzz Bissinger Thursday, October 7, 7:30 p.m.
President's Lecture Series, Mills Godwin Auditorium



Ted Conover is the critically-acclaimed author of *Rolling Nowhere: Riding the Rails with America's Hoboes*; *Whiteout*; *Coyotes: A Journey Across the Border with America's Mexican Migrants*; and *Newjack: Guarding Sing Sing*, which was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize and winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award. His latest work is *The Routes of Man*, which explores the ways roads are changing the world.

Ted Conover Friday, October 8, 2:00 p.m.
Village Bookstore



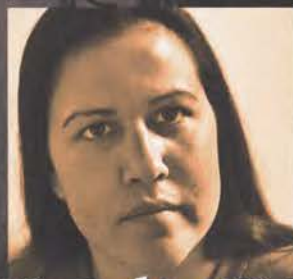
Sarah McCoy graduated from Virginia Tech with a BA in journalism and public relations. She received her MFA in Fiction from Old Dominion University. Sarah's debut novel is titled *The Time It Snowed In Puerto Rico*. She is working on a second novel.

Sarah McCoy Friday, October 8, 4:00 p.m.
Village Bookstore

This year's Literary Festival ponders the issue of how poverty affects the lives of many in our land. For us, this theme implies more than economics.

Hard Times are inevitably entwined with racism, crime, despair, an inequitable legal system, inadequate medical care, and inequalities in education, but they sometimes provide examples of heroism, innovation and achievement. The writers and performers at this year's festival are not here to solve the problem of poverty in America but rather to offer stories that will ask us to think honestly about our own experiences, to reach beyond self in order to enter another person's conflicts, to see with another person's eyes the problems that confront us all.

Festival Directors: **Michael Pearson**
Janet Peery



Natalie Diaz was born and raised on the Fort Mohave Indian Reservation in Needles, California. After playing professional basketball in Europe and Asia for four years, she returned to ODU to complete her MFA. She has been awarded the 2007 Pablo Neruda Prize in Poetry and the 2007 Tobias Wolff Fiction Prize. Her first poetry collection, *When My Brother Was an Aztec*, is forthcoming from Copper Canyon.

Natalie Diaz Friday, October 8, 4:00 p.m.
Village Bookstore

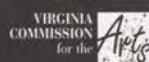


Dennis Lehane is the author of *A Drink Before the War*, *Darkness*, *Take My Hand*, *Sacred*, *Gone Baby Gone*, *Prayers for Rain*, *Mystic River*, *The Given Day*, and *Shutter Island*. *Mystic River* was a finalist for the PEN/Winship Award and won the Anthony Award and the Barry Award for Best Novel, as well as the Massachusetts Book Award in Fiction. Before becoming a full-time writer, Lehane worked as a counselor with abused children, waited tables, parked cars, drove limos, worked in bookstores, and loaded tractor trailers. He has written episodes for the acclaimed series *The Wire*.

Dennis Lehane Friday, October 8, 7:30 p.m.
Chandler Recital Hall, Diehn Fine and Performing Arts

Garage parking is free for festival events.
For more information, please call 757.683.3929.
Or visit www.lib.odu.edu/litfest/33rd.

Special Thanks: Dr. Forrest P. White Endowment
University Village Bookstore



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Village Bookstore

4:00 p.m. **Rebecca Skloot**
Village Bookstore

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Village Bookstore MFA Alumni Reading

7:30 p.m. **Dennis Lehane**
Chandler Recital Hall, Diehn Fine and Performing Arts

September 25 through November 7

Lori Nix: The City and Other Stories

Baron and Ellin Gordon Art Galleries
Reception 3 to 5 p.m. October 3