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North Words Writers Symposium

NEW DATES

August 27-30, 2020 • Skagway, Alaska

The North Words Writers Symposium, originally set for the end of May, has been postponed to the end of August.

Alaska is currently under restrictions for gatherings of people due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and many Skagway businesses have also been affected by various announcements that will delay the start of the summer visitor season.

The North Words directors, after consulting with community partners and members of this year's faculty, decided to postpone the event, rather than cancel it, in the hope that our unique writing community will be able to gather toward the end of summer.

The dates Thursday, August 27 through Sunday, August 30 worked for everyone involved and will better align with the summer ferry schedule.

Registration remains open for the eleventh annual symposium. Interested participants are encouraged to act soon as our limit is 40 participants and accommodations also fill up fast. For more information and to register, please visit our website at <http://nwwriters.com/>

Those currently enrolled have been contacted so they may change travel plans. If they cannot attend in August, then their registration fee will either be fully refunded or they will be given a credit toward next year's registration.

For questions, contact Jeff Brady at northwordsinfo@gmail.com.

MORE ABOUT NORTH WORDS & THE 2020 FACULTY

Whether describing the science of extreme cold, hot, wind, or depth, scientist **Bill Streever** brings the natural world into crystalline focus made even more accessible by tapestries of tales which showcase those few with the courage and vision to go to the brink. The best-selling author of *In Oceans Deep, Cold, Heat, And Soon I Heard a Roaring Wind* lives on a sailboat with his family, researching issues from underwater sound to crayfish evolution to the restoration of the tundra. Currently in South America, the former Alaskan will return to the north this summer as a special guest to discuss this year's special theme: Writing at a time of a threatened natural world.

North Words Writers Symposium is proud to feature award-winner Streever as the keynote speaker at our eleventh annual event to be held August 27-30, 2020 in historic Skagway, Alaska. He will be joined by a stellar faculty of Alaska and regional authors including: Heather Lende, M Jackson, Caroline Van Hemert, Nicole Stellon O'Donnell, Bryan Allen Fierro, and Eva Holland.

Heather Lende is a well-known Alaskan memoirist, author of four books including this year's *Of Bears and Ballots* about her political travails in the Southeast Alaskan community of Haines.

Caroline Van Hemert, a scientist from Haines and Anchorage, is the author of *The Sun is a Compass: A 4,000-Mile Journey into the Alaskan Wilds*, a memoir tracing her epic journeys up the Inside Passage and across the Brooks Range.

Formerly of Skagway, **M Jackson** is a geographer, glaciologist, and author of *The Secret Lives of Glaciers* and *While Glaciers Slept: Being Human in a Time of Climate Change*.

Fairbanks poet **Nicole Stellon O'Donnell's** first collection, *Steam Laundry*, won the WILLA Award in 2013; and her most recent book, *You are Not Alone* was published in March of 2019. Her third book *Everything Never Comes Your Way* is due out in 2020.

Anchorage firefighter and paramedic **Bryan Allen Fierro** is the author of *Dodger Blue Will Fill Your Soul*, an acclaimed short story collection about the Hispanic community of East Los Angeles.

Nerve, published in 2020 by award-winning, long-form journalist **Eva Holland**, offers a lens into debilitating fears and chronicles her daring campaign to confront them. She lives in Whitehorse, Yukon Territory.

The North Words staff is publisher-historian Jeff Brady, bookseller-publisher Katrina Woolford, writer-educator Daniel Henry, and teacher-writer Kent Fielding.

North Words is an intimate gathering that mixes panel discussions about various aspects of writing and publishing with workshops, consultations, readings, and a variety of outdoor activities, culminating with a keynote banquet.

<http://nwwriterss.com/>