



For Immediate Release:

## **If “All the World’s a Stage,” it’s going to be *A World of Fun* at the Upcoming Telling Tales Festival!**

**September 10, 2012** (Hamilton, ON): The world is a stage? More like eight stages! That’s how many are needed for the huge lineup of award-winning authors, illustrators, storytellers, and musicians at this year’s Telling Tales Festival. on Sunday, September 16, at the picturesque and historic Westfield Heritage Village in Rockton, Ontario. Beginning at 10 am and running until 3 pm, more than 20 outstanding writers, illustrators, storytellers, and musicians will be on stage to dazzle and delight. And it’s all absolutely free! From the Bandstand, to the Jerseyville Railway Station, to the Summer Stage, to the Large Meadow, and many stages in between, the Village will be alive with words and music!

From nine months to ninety years, there’s someone for everyone. This year we are especially delighted to have TD Canadian Children’s Literature Award nominees **Shane Peacock** and **Deborah Ellis**. It’s a gigantic buffet of Canada’s richest literary, artistic, and musical talent. Kids are encouraged to meet and chat with authors **Erin Bow, Annika Dunklee, Deborah Ellis, Cary Fagan, Natalie Hyde, Marthe Jocelyn, Lynn Kittredge-Fox, Lesley Livingston, Norah McClintock, Ruth Ohi, Gillian O’Reilly, Richard Scrimger, Marsha Skrypuch, Ted Staunton, Kevin Sylvester, and Vikki VanSickle**; musicians **Rob Blunsdon, Jude Johnson, and TURKEY Rhubarb**; and storytellers **Rita Cox** and **Garry Sault**. There are also plenty of activities for younger children – something for every age. There’s even a puppet show!

And what better surroundings for a memorable family outing than acres of woodland, open green space, and a pioneer village with eight performance areas. The natural beauty of this outdoor event space cannot be beat and yet it’s just a short drive from the Greater Toronto Area, Golden Horseshoe, and Cambridge/Guelph/Kitchener-Waterloo.

Telling Tales and its growing community of supporters’ efforts to support literacy and foster a love of reading start even before the gates open.

Park for free at Rockton Fairgrounds and take the free shuttle, courtesy of Hillfield Strathallan College, to the event.

There will also be free shuttle service from four locations throughout the Hamilton area, courtesy of ArcelorMittal Dofasco and First Student Canada: **Mountain Location: Lime Ridge Mall** – south side of the parking lot closest to the street, across from Suds Car Wash; **East End Location: Eastgate Mall** – west side of the mall next to Kenora Avenue at the Eastgate Bus Pick-up; and our **Downtown Location:** in the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board parking lot, located at the corner of King Street East and Bay Street South, and at **Centre Mall:** beside Shoppers Drug Mart, half-way down as you enter from Barton Street.

The buses will depart Hamilton at 10:00 am and leave Westfield Heritage Village at 3:00 p.m.

The Telling Tales Festival has become a beloved Hamilton tradition that truly celebrates the family. But it's not just about having fun. Our Mission is to build a national festival that promotes children's stories, music and a love of reading, while raising awareness and support for literacy in our community. We are hugely grateful to the many generous sponsors who have jumped on board to help make that dream a reality: our co-hosts **The Hamilton Conservation Authority, The Hamilton Public Library, Rotary** and **Westfield Heritage Village**; our platinum sponsors **TD Bank Group** and a collaborative group of **local Rotary Clubs**; our media partners **CHCH Television, Corus Entertainment (900 CHML, Vinyl 95.3 and Y108), Momstown**, and *The Hamilton Spectator*; plus an ever-growing list of financial sponsors, community partners, and in-kind sponsors that you will find listed at [www.tellingtales.org](http://www.tellingtales.org).

We hope you will join us for a fun-filled, magical day on Sunday, September 16, 2012 – rain or shine. Media and cameras welcome. Check out the Festival website ([www.tellingtales.org](http://www.tellingtales.org)) for details and watch for our posts on Twitter and Facebook.

**Donations to literacy gratefully accepted. Funds will be donated to local literacy projects.**

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