



For Immediate Release:

2012 TD Canadian Children’s Literature Award Nominees Add Star-Wattage to the Telling Tales festival!

Wednesday, August 22, 2012 (Hamilton): On September 16th the sun will be shining, but that doesn’t mean the stars won’t be out too! Telling Tales: A Family Festival of Stories is delighted to announce that four of this year’s featured presenters – **Erin Bow**, **Deborah Ellis**, **Marthe Jocelyn**, and **Shane Peacock** are current nominees (or previous winners) of the **TD Canadian Children’s Literature Award**.

Both nominees for this year’s prestigious award, sponsored by TD Bank since 2004, **Deborah Ellis**, author of *No Ordinary Day* (ages 9 to 12), and **Shane Peacock**, author of *The Dragon Turn* (ages 10 and up) will join previous winners **Erin Bow** (*Plain Kate*, 2011) and **Marthe Jocelyn** (*Mable Riley: A Reliable Record of Humdrum, Peril, and Romance*, 2005), as featured presenters at this year’s Telling Tales Festival.

Here’s what the **TD Canadian Children’s Literature Award jury** had to say about *No Ordinary Day* by Deborah Ellis and *Dragon Turn* by Shane Peacock:

“In this exceptional novel, **Ellis continues to create powerful narratives** of impoverished children in cultures around the globe ... Ellis proves to be a masterful storyteller as she sheds light on the harsh reality of life on the streets...In clear, simple writing Ellis portrays Valli as a character of spirit and courage, and brings the reader to empathy and appreciation of the complex life of India’s marginalized children.”

“With a trail of clues, a cast of shady characters, and even a hint of romance, *The Dragon Turn* has more twists and turns than a carnival ride and will keep readers guessing until its satisfying conclusion. . . . **Peacock is a master storyteller**, and his richly imagined details of murder, revenge, betrayal, theatre, magic and exotic dragons combine to create an absolute page-turner of a book.”

And if you need any more clues as to why Ellis and Peacock are so popular with their fans, consider this: both have also been nominated for the **John Spray Mystery Award** for Ellis’ book *True Blue* (ages 12 and up) and Peacock’s *The Dragon Turn*!

If that wasn’t enough star power, festival presenter **Marthe Jocelyn** has been nominated for the **Norma Fleck Award for Canadian Children’s Non-fiction** for her book *Scribbling Women: True Tales from Astonishing Lives*, while older fans with a taste for “out of this world” adventure

won't want to miss meeting **Lesley Livingston**, the author of *Tempestuous*, a nominee for the **Monica Hughes Award for Science Fiction and Fantasy**.

The fourth annual Telling Tales Festival will take place on Sunday, September 16, 2012, at the picturesque and historic Westfield Heritage Village in Rockton, Ontario. As always, the Telling Tales Festival will feature a gigantic buffet of Canada's richest literary, artistic, and musical talent. Kids are encouraged to meet and chat with authors/illustrators **Erin Bow, Annika Dunklee, Deborah Ellis, Cary Fagan, Natalie Hyde, Marthe Jocelyn, Lynn Kittredge-Fox, Lesley Livingston, Norah McClintock, Ruth Ohi, Gillian O'Reilly, Shane Peacock, Richard Scrimger, Marsha Skrypuch, Ted Staunton, Kevin Sylvester, and Vikki VanSickle;** musicians **Rob Blunsdon and Jude Johnson;** and storytellers **Rita Cox and Gary Sault.**

About Telling Tales: A Family Festival of Stories:

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: **Festival 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.

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