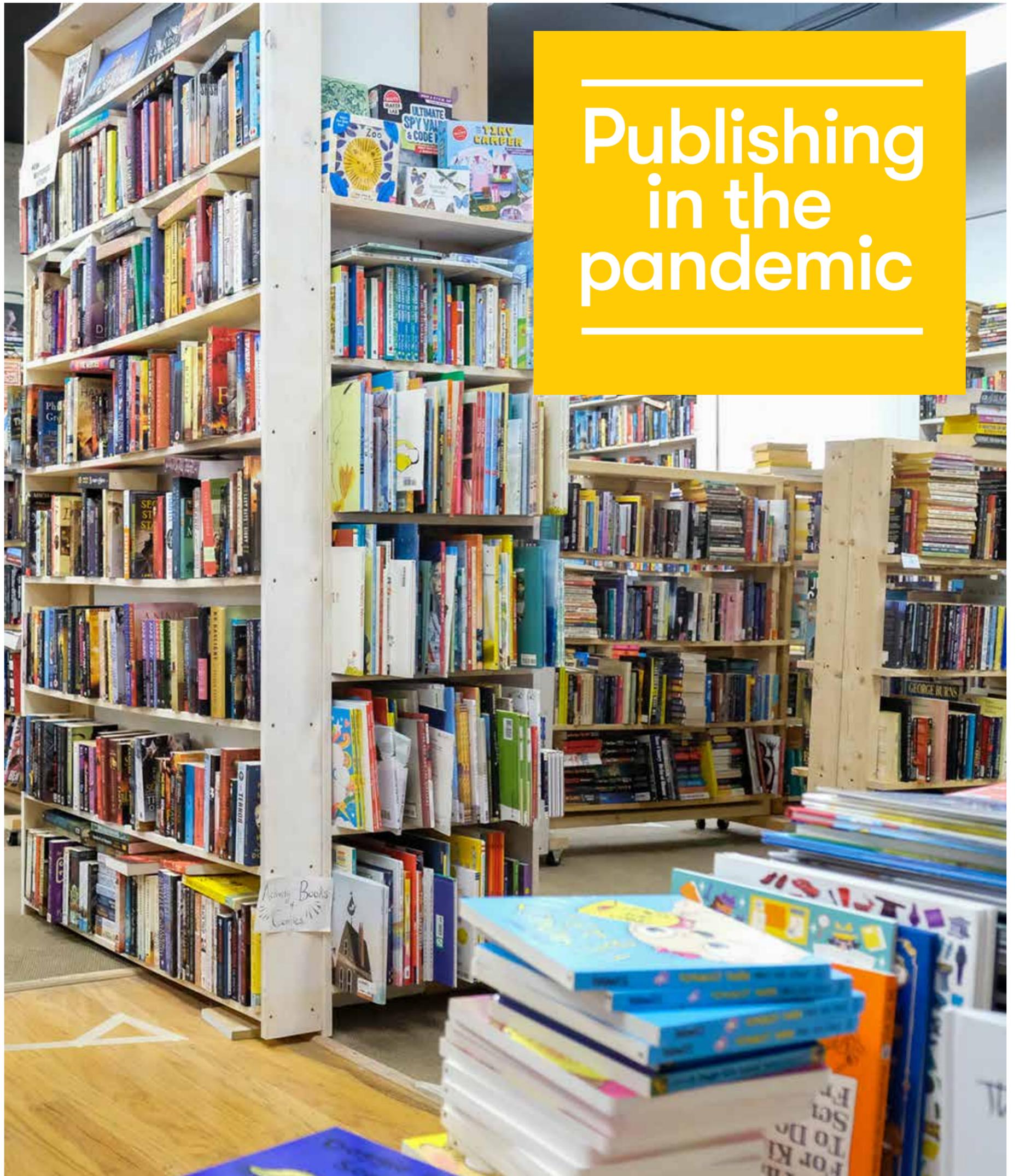


THE **U**NITER

SOCIALLY DISTANT NUIT BLANCHE—P3

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READING IN COLOUR—P12



Publishing
in the
pandemic

ALTHOUGH WRITERS AND PUBLISHERS STRUGGLE, LOCAL BOOKSELLERS THRIVE

ADAPTATION

THOMAS PASHKO
MANAGING EDITOR



One of the most puzzling quandaries of making a newspaper during COVID-19 is trying to figure out how much to actually *talk* about the pandemic. Everyone knows about it. No one needs to be reminded that we're in the midst of a plague exacerbated by neoliberal policy and right-wing science deniers in positions of power.

On the other hand, this pandemic really does affect everything. It's hard to think of an event, story or person who hasn't had to make adjustments just to exist when it's unsafe to be in public. At the time of this writing, there have been 38 new cases in Manitoba this week - and those figures only account for Monday and Tuesday.

However, I think the stories in this week's issue of *The Uniter* illustrate that we, as well as many other Winnipeggers, are starting to find a balance. As arts and culture reporter Hannah Foulger writes in her cover feature, Winnipeg's literary community is finding new ways to engage, from readers to writers to booksellers.

Our other arts and culture writer, Naaman Sturupp, looks at how local film fests and in-person events like Nuit Blanche are adapting to a socially distanced world. City reporter Cierra Bettens asks writer Seth Klein about how Canada's COVID response can inform climate action, while also seeing how Osborne Village businesses are coping. Campus reporter Callum Goulet-Kilgour examines data science's role in addressing the pandemic, as well as how Indigenous communities' health has been impacted.

And, I promise, none of these articles will hit you over the head with COVID! They're fun, they're informative, they're about the people, places and events they're covering. But, like everyone and everything else, we've had to make some small adjustments.

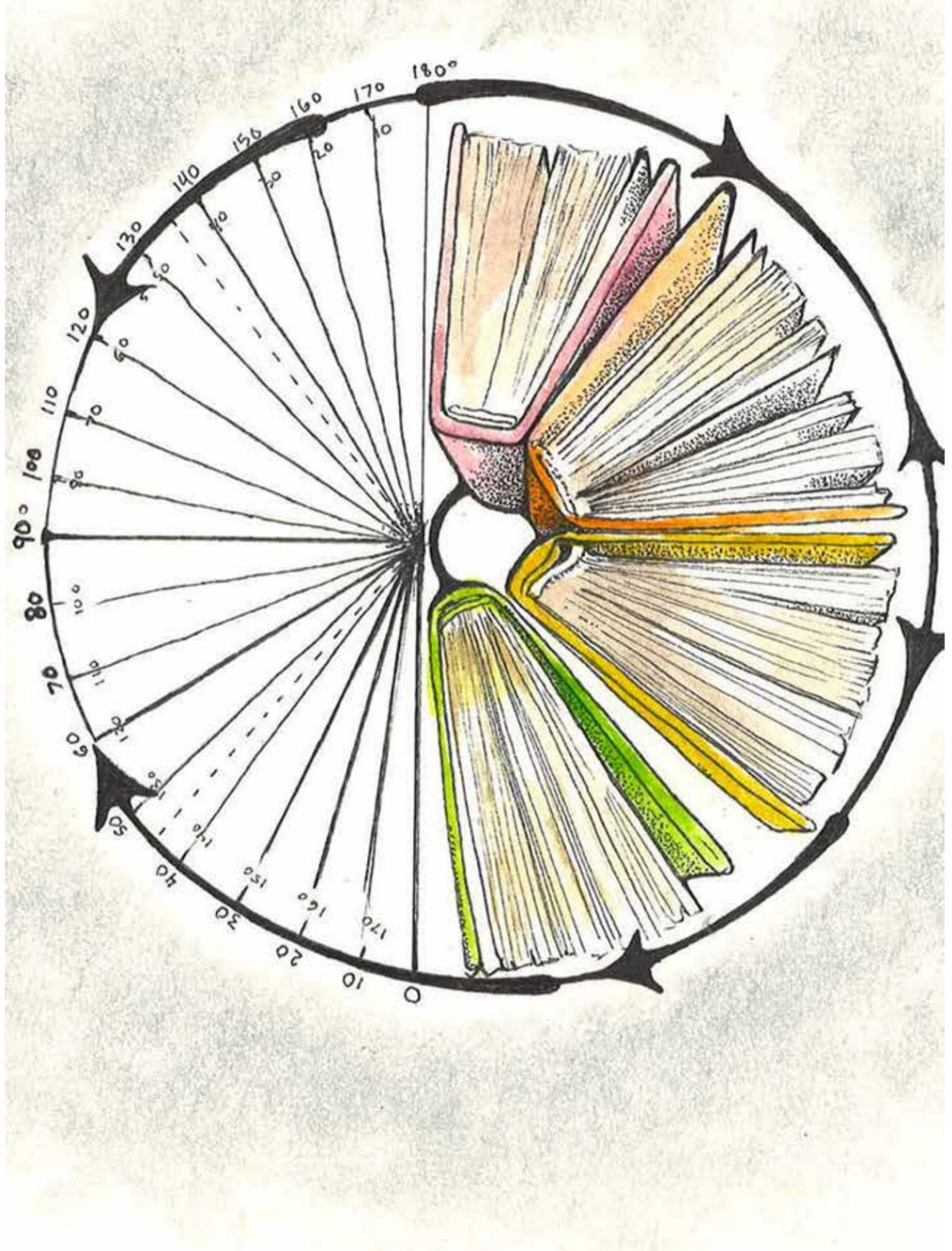


ILLUSTRATION BY GABRIELLE FUNK

In the first edition of *Reading in Colour*, a new recurring column, writer Valerie Chelangat explores the importance of reading books by Writers of Colour. Read more on page 12.

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SUBMISSIONS

Submissions of articles, letters, graphics and photos are encouraged, however, all new contributors (with the exception of letters to the editor) must attend a 45-minute volunteer orientation workshop to ensure that the volunteer understands all of the publication's basic guidelines.

In-person volunteer orientations are currently suspended due to COVID-19, but over-the-phone and remote orientations can be arranged. Please email volunteer@uniter.ca for more details.

Deadline for advertisements is noon Friday, six days prior to publication. The Uniter reserves the right to refuse to print material submitted by volunteers. The Uniter will not print submissions that are homophobic, misogynistic, transphobic, ableist, racist or libellous. We also reserve the right to edit for length/style.

CORRECTION

The Sept. 10 article "Strong father, Strong Son" stated that filmmaker Ian Bawa "has had a number of shorts in the (Toronto International Film Festival) before." Bawa has only had one previous film shown at TIFF. *The Uniter* regrets the error.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

A still from *Le bleu blanc rouge de mes cheveux*, one of several films playing at the African Movie Festival in Manitoba

BRINGING AFRICAN CINEMA TO WINNIPEG SCREENS

Film festival aims to educate and unite

NAAMAN STURRUP | ARTS AND CULTURE REPORTER | [@NAAMANSTURRUP](#)

Despite its name, the African Movie Festival in Manitoba (AMFM) offers much more than film screenings.

AMFM founder Dr. Ben Akoh says “the film festival was created so that we can have a platform for dialogue.”

“We feel that a good understanding of Africans is not significantly maintained in Manitoba, and the organization is trying to create a platform where Canadians, Africans and other nationalities can sit in the same room, discuss social issues and be able to come up with solu-

tions for better understanding,” he says.

Started in 2017, the annual festival is creating this platform in three distinct ways.

“The (film screenings) offer a way to display African talent, abilities and skills in using the camera to tell their story,” he says.

The second component is a symposium, and this year’s title is “Racism in Cinema: Representation of Blackness in Film.” Featuring several panellists, including University of Winnipeg professor Chigbo Anyaduba, the symposium will have academics and scholars who have conducted studies about racism in

cinema and discuss their findings.

The third component aims to act as a kickstart for young Africans and African-Canadians in Winnipeg, and is geared toward teenagers and those in their early 20s who are looking to acquire the skills needed to pursue filmmaking.

“We created a master class for filmmaking and would run them through the whole process for a day with the hopes of them one day telling their own stories, going into a profession in the film industry or just trying to shift focus from whatever societal challenges they may be currently facing to something more productive, such as filming or writing,” Akoh says.

Considering the stark events in the United States this year that led to the Justice 4 Black Lives Winnipeg rallies, there needs to be safe, productive events that can both educate and encourage people to push toward equality and mutual understanding between races and cultures.

However, this battle is far from a new one, and, in Canada, it is one that Akoh says is different than what is typically portrayed in US media.

“This is something that has always been here. We (BIPOC communities) have always had to face discrimination and systemic racism,” he says.

“Most of what we see down south (in the US) is a focus in the media on policing, but here in Canada, though there are cases of discrimination in public spaces, part of the things that we want to address is the systemic racism, and we see a lot of that in films, news media, employment, pretty much everything you can think of.”

Though different BIPOC communities face different challenges and severities with systemic racism, Akoh is hopeful that this event will bring these problems to the surface and everyone, from all communities, can play a part in pushing for equality.

“What we are trying to do here is to highlight some of these challenges and say ‘hey, you can do something about this, you can speak up about this, and you can make a change in your little corner by recognizing that there are people who are different than you, and that they should have equal opportunities to whatever opportunities are out there.’”

Tickets can be purchased at am-fm.ca/buy-tickets.

NUIT BLANCHE SHINES THROUGH

‘We did this for the artists’

NAAMAN STURRUP | ARTS AND CULTURE REPORTER | [@NAAMANSTURRUP](#)

The Culture Days festival, particularly Nuit Blanche, may look different this year, but their essential intentions remain the same.

Culture Days general manager Jennifer Cheslock says “The number 1 reason we chose to continue Nuit Blanche this year was to provide support to artists who were really struggling in this time with limited opportunities to work and showcase their art.”

“This is an opportunity to (highlight) the Illuminate the Night program that offers small honorariums to artists to create art pieces and present them at Nuit Blanche, which is generously supported by the Manitoba Arts Council,” she says.

Culture Days is a national celebration of arts and culture that has been going on since 2010, and every year as a kickoff in Manitoba, Culture Days Manitoba produces Nuit Blanche Winnipeg.

Cheslock says that in their eleventh year, Culture Days and Nuit Blanche will look different in more ways than one.

“Normally, we hold Culture Days during the last three days of September, but this year, it is expanding to offer more opportunities for people to participate, and it will run from Sept. 25 to Oct. 25 with in-person, self-guided events and pre-recorded live stream (programming) available online,” she says.

Nuit Blanche, normally an event that illuminates the Exchange District, downtown

Winnipeg, St. Boniface and the West End with contemporary art will be held only on Sept. 26, running from 6 to 11 p.m.

“In past years, we have had 90 or more activities and (25,000) to 30,000 people who attended on the night,” she says.

“This year, we are looking at 15 to 20 events, (and) we expect to see much smaller crowds.”

With reduced events, size and locations, Cheslock says the organization is taking various things into consideration to keep Nuit Blanche as safe as possible for participants given the risks posed by COVID-19.

“Most of the events will take place in the Exchange District, which will make it easier for people to come down and walk around to the events,” she says.

“Almost all of the events are outdoors, so people can feel safe and comfortable being outside, and we will have physical distancing measures in place and hand sanitizer (stations) available. We encourage people to wear masks if they feel comfortable doing so, and we will have volunteers wearing white sashes who can help folks, answering questions and making sure everyone is maintaining that appropriate distance for people to feel safe for the evening.”

With Nuit Blanche continuing this year, fans have spoken up about how they feel, and three-year attendee Laura Friesen shares her thoughts and approach for this year’s Nuit Blanche.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Rail Against: Dance Film by choreographer Cameron Fraser-Monroe and director Phillippe Larouche will screen Sept. 26 at 8 p.m. as part of Nuit Blanche.

“It was definitely a conversation I had with my friends, as to whether or not we are going,” she says.

“Ultimately, we decided to attend, but we are definitely going to be more cautious, looking for places that seem safe and with clear health protocols being followed, wearing our masks and only going to places where there are no enclosed spaces.

“We probably would not be as intense (about Nuit Blanche) as in past years, but that is okay.”

More information on events and locations can be found at nuitblanchewinnipeg.ca/events/.



BIPOC GALLERY LAUNCHING IN ARTSPACE

Studio 622 set to open in October

ABBY PLANTINGA-BYLE

VOLUNTEER

@ABBYINITIO

In October, an artist-run studio and gallery space dedicated to supporting BIPOC artists will open in Artspace (100 Arthur St.). This new initiative, called Studio 622, aims to create a safe and welcoming community for artists who are currently underrepresented.

Chroma Collective, a local BIPOC art collective, is co-ordinating a fundraiser for the studio in collaboration with CARFAC (Canadian Artists' Representation/Le Front des artistes canadiens) Manitoba, an organization that advocates for visual artists and provides studio space within Artspace.

Alison Davis, treasurer of CARFAC Manitoba, shares that "Studio 622 had been used as an individual artist studio up until recently. We knew the space would be vacant shortly, and one of the members said it would be really great if that space could be used by BIPOC artists."

That initial suggestion of dedicating the newly vacant studio to BIPOC art and artists quickly took shape.

"We were approached by Divya Mehra, who is a CARFAC Manitoba member and has her own studio space and art space," Davis says. "Following that, we talked about it at the board level, and we approached Chroma Collective."

CARFAC collaborated with Chroma Collective to organize, plan and prepare the studio, because they wanted it to be an

artist-centred space. Davis says CARFAC hopes to create a welcoming and supportive environment for BIPOC artists, and that "having a space that is self-defined is a main goal." The artists of Chroma Collective are still finalizing the plans for the studio, a 1,000-square-foot space.

The size of the space allows it to continue being used as a studio, while also serving as a gallery that features BIPOC art. Local artists are very happy about the project, and Chloe Chafe, co-founder of Synonym Art Consultation, says that the artists of Synonym "are very excited about the new space." Their excitement is understandable, given the need for more BIPOC galleries in Winnipeg and in Canada, and for more artists to have their stories and cultures shared.

Studio 622 is also hiring an administrative assistant and plans to ensure that, in addition to the artists, the employees are also BIPOC. As Davis notes, the art community that is already established sometimes faces "challenges inviting BIPOC artists in" and are not always welcoming. Having the studio be a BIPOC artist-run space will likely be the key to its success. As Annie Beach, one of the artists from Chroma Collective, said in an interview with *The Manitoban*, "as a whole, BIPOC art is underexposed and underrepresented."

Studio 622 will be an important space for

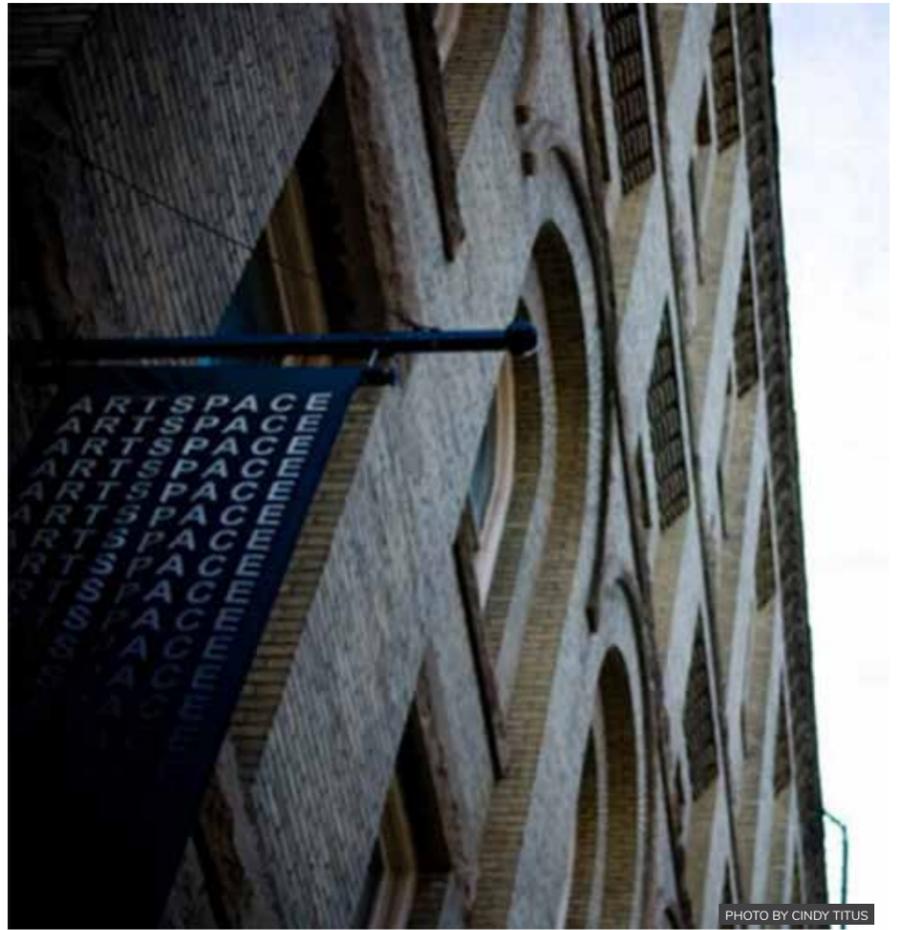


PHOTO BY CINDY TITUS

The Artspace building (100 Arthur St.) will serve as the home of Studio 622, a new gallery by and for BIPOC artists, starting in October.

BIPOC artists in Winnipeg, and Davis says their hope is that the studio will be "whatever the artists want it to be."

One of their goals is to create a welcoming and supportive community for artists from marginalized and underrepresented communities. The gallery's home in Artspace, a well-established part of Winnipeg's creative community, will contribute to that.

The organizers are raising funds for rental and renovation costs, furniture, equipment and programming, with the goal of raising \$15,000 and opening the space on Oct. 1.

To find out more about Studio 622 and to contribute to the fundraiser, visit CARFAC MB at carfacmb.ca/studio-622/.



THE UNITER IS SEEKING ILLUSTRATORS

The Uniter is looking for local emerging artists to create illustrations on a volunteer basis.

See your work in newsprint, online and distributed around the city while you enhance skills.

Contact creative@uniter.ca for more information!



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KUESSIPAN

Plays at Cinematheque on Sept. 30



KEESHA HAREWOOD | FEATURES REPORTER | @KEESHAHAREWOOD

Adapted from a novel by Naomi Fontaine, the French-Canadian film *Kuessipan* (directed by Myriam Verreault) follows the lifelong friendship between two Innu women in Uashat-Maliotenam, whose relationship is put to the test when one of them falls in love with a white man and plans to leave the reserve.

There is a great deal to celebrate about this film. With the severe lack of Indigenous stories being put to the screen, this film meets a much-needed demand for Indigenous representation in film. This,

added to the fact that the film's protagonist is a plus-sized woman, is incredibly progressive.

Representation aside, the film ambitiously integrates a number of relevant topics (land rights, interracial dating, systemic racism) into a heartwarming yet tragic narrative about friendship, love, family and community.

One of the most impressive aspects of the narrative is the way it balances the protagonist Mikuan's (Sharon Ishpatao Fontaine) relationship with her best friend

Shaniss (Yamie Grégoire) and her relationship with her partner, Francis (Étienne Galloy). Make no mistake, this is in no way a story about star-crossed lovers.

While Mikuan and Francis' relationship is well-developed and significant to the plot, it is not the central focus of the story as a whole. Their relationship serves as a point of tension and an opportunity to explore the complications of a white/Indigenous interracial relationship.

The complications are not explored by Mikuan and Francis, but by Mikuan and Shaniss. It is in those scenes where the raw, complicated emotionality of the issue really come through. Since more focus is placed on Mikuan and Shaniss (rather than Mikuan and Francis), the full emotional range of their friendship plays out through the many ups and downs brought about by Mikuan's romantic relationship. The effectiveness of these scenes are the result of the writing and the fantastic performances of Ishpatao Fontaine and Grégoire.

Alongside the interpersonal conflicts, the film tackles an important inner conflict of Mikuan's. Mikuan has to grapple

with leaving behind her community to go to university in Quebec City. This is another strong point of the film.

The way the film portrays the importance of honouring culture and community is stunning. One such way this is done is through the motif of the handcrafted beaded jewelry. As a result, the weight of Mikuan's struggle to figure out a way to maintain a connection to her people from abroad is palpable. At no point does the film shy away from lingering in moments of silence or stillness to convey the gravity of the matter. It's a challenge to watch, but in the best way possible.

It's necessary to note that throughout the many trials and tribulations expressed in the meaningfully dense narrative, the impact of colonialism surfaced as a consistent undertone in every scene.

Despite how the characters endure the effects of colonialism with strength and dignity, the problem is not given a free pass. It's as prevalent in the film as it is in reality. Above all else, this is why this film needs to be watched.

CKUW TOP 30

September 8, 2020



TW = This Week // LW = Last Week // ! = Local content // * = Canadian Content

TW	LW	C	Artist	Album	Label
1	!		Silver Clouds	Silver Clouds	Disintegration
2	!		Slow Leaves	Shelf Life	Birthday Cake
3			Matmos	The Consuming Flame: Open Exercises In Group Form	Thrill Jockey
4	*		Tough Age	Which Way Am I?	Mint
5	!		Sean Burns	It Takes Luck To Get The Best Of Me	Self-Released
6			Built To Spill	Plays The Songs Of Daniel Johnston	Ernest Jenning
7	*		Zoon	Bleached Wavves	Paper Bag
8			Various Artists	Metal Postcard 2020 Lockdown Samples	Metal Postcard
9			Black Marble	I Must Be Living Twice	Sacred Bones
10	*		Laurence-Anne	Accident	Bonsound
11			Godcaster	Long Haired Locusts	Ramp Local
12			Trevor Powers	Capricorn	Fat Possum
13			Jobs	Endless Birthdays	Ramp Local
14	*		Pharis And Jason Romero	Bet On Love	Lula
15	*		Freak Heat Waves	Zap The Planet	Telephone Explosion
16	*		Braids	Shadow Offering	Secret City
17			Narrow Head	12th House Rock	Run For Cover
18	*		Tommy And The Commies	Hurtin' 4 Certain Ep	Slovenly
19			Protomartyr	Ultimate Success Today	Domino
20			Wicca Phase Springs Eternal	This Moment I Miss	Run For Cover
21	*		New Fries	The Idea Of Us	Telephone Explosion
22	*		Wares	Survival	Miint
23			Woods	Strange To Explain	Woodsist
24	!		Billy Simard	Secret	Ki-Keek
25	!		Pip Skid & Rob Crooks	It's Ok	Marathon Of Dope
26			Washed Out	Purple Noon	Partisan
27			Video Age	Pleasure Line	Winspear
28	!		Mouthfeel	Mouthfeel	Self-Released
29			Vinyl Williams	Azure	Requiem Pour Un Twister
30			Baseball Game	Baseball Game	House Arrest

ARTS BRIEFS

BETH SCHELLENBERG | ARTS AND CULTURE EDITOR | @BETHGAZELLENBERG

Pop Up Sandwich Shop

On Saturday, Sept. 19, X-Cues Cafe and Lounge (551 Sargent Ave.) is hosting a sandwich pop-up from 2 to 6 p.m. to fundraise for the Sunshine House community resource centre. Tables will be arranged to ensure social distancing is possible, masks are encouraged, and JD and The Sunshine Band will provide the tunes.

Art in the Park

NDP MLA Uzoma Asagwara and Artbeat Studio are hosting an afternoon of art and community in Central Park (400 Cumberland Ave.) on Saturday, Sept. 19. The event will run from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and you can RSVP by calling 204-306-8581 or emailing uzoma.asagwara@yourmanitoba.ca.

Norval Morrisseau at Urban Shaman

An exhibition of Norval Morrisseau's work is showing at Urban Shaman (203-290 McDermot Ave.), and there will be a tea gathering on Saturday, Sept. 19 in lieu of an opening reception. The gathering will run from 2 to 4 p.m. and has a limited capacity. RSVP via the Urban Shaman website to reserve your spot.

Over the Top

This year, MAWA's (Mentoring Artists for Women's Arts) Over the Top Art Auction will be held online. In-person viewings of the works that are for sale can be scheduled from noon to 4 p.m., Wednesday to Saturday until Sept. 26 at MAWA (611 Main St.). This is a great opportunity to support a local arts organization and get your hands on some original art! More information is available at mawa.ca.

Joy is more than just a feeling

Wall-to-Wall Mural and Culture Festival and window winnipeg have teamed up to bring you an exhibition featuring Winnipeg-based filmmaker and artist plutoe. *Joy is more than just a feeling* can be viewed at Synonym Art Consultation (211 Pacific Ave.) until Friday, Sept. 18. Check Synonym's website for gallery hours, accessibility information and COVID-19 restrictions.

Architecture + Design Film Festival

Winnipeg's Architecture + Design Film Festival (A+DFF) kicks off on this week. Screenings of critically acclaimed films that explore the impact of design (from architectural to graphic to product design) on our everyday lives will take place from Sept. 16 to 27. Visit adff.ca for tickets and screening times.

FEATURE

Words by Hannah Foulger

Arts and Culture Reporter

 @foulgerscovfefe

Photos by Daniel Crump

Photo Editor

 @dannyboycrump

Publishing in the pandemic

Although writers and publishers struggle, local booksellers thrive



Whodunit Mystery Bookstore, located at 165 Lilac St.

The closure of bookstores earlier this year cancelled many book launches and changed how readers bought and how publishers marketed books. While local presses struggled to market new releases, Whodunit Mystery Bookstore, despite being closed for most of March and April, actually saw a spike in orders.

“People are looking for education, escape and entertainment,” Michael Bumsted, a bookseller at Whodunit, says.

Whodunit has always offered city-wide delivery and in-store pickup, but demand was low before the pandemic.

“When we first started with the closure, there was a big demand for things to help children fill the gap in the school year, but going along with that was the real push in larger society to read more about social justice,” Bumsted says.

According to Canadian publishing think tank More Canada, book sales went up for both Amazon and independent bookstores in Canada, while retail chains saw a loss of \$185 million.

“People are buying more books, or at least they are buying more books from independent bookstores like

ours. I think that our experience is not atypical. They want something that takes their mind off of the things that are going on,” Bumstead says.

This push to support local bookstores did not translate into sales for smaller publishers.

“We lost our spring sales completely,” Mel Marginet, publisher at Great Plains Publications, says. “A physical event is really important for a new book, because it gives it that initial buzz and that initial bump in sales, (and) chances are (the book) is going to be on the bestseller list the next week.”

Feature continues on next page.

Book launches go virtual

Great Plains launched young adult author Anita Daher's *You Don't Have to Die in the End* in April, but there was no corresponding bump in sales. Since stores have reopened, the book has been on the McNally Robinson Booksellers bestseller list three weeks in a row.

"A launch really helps with that discoverability for a new book and for lesser-known authors, to put it on people's radar. Universally, across the industry, online launches are a really great way to reach folks from coast to coast," Marginet says.

Online launches had a great reach, but this did not translate into high book sales.

"When you're not in the store, you're out of the atmosphere, you're not going up to the author to get them to sign the book after," Marginet says.

"Digital events have been weird for a lot of bookstores, because, especially initially, there was a lot of interest in attending them, (but the reason) bookstores do events is to sell books," Bumsted says.

Authors also feel the loss of in-person book launches.

"Connecting in person with readers and hearing what (readers) think of the book is part of the reward for all the work," poet Angeline Schellenberg says. Her book *Fields of Light and Stone* was supposed to launch on April 16 at McNally Robinson.

Through funding from the National Arts Centre (NAC), Schellenberg and a number of other authors were able to organize their own digital launches. Schellenberg planned her online launch for April 16.

"I knew otherwise I would be under the covers, crying about my cancelled launch," Schellenberg says.

At her online launch, Schellenberg was interviewed by friend and fellow poet Joanne Epp and was able to show gifts and pictures of her grandparents, as her book explores their emigration and her grief at their death, something she would not have done at an in-person launch.

As many audiences are suffering from Zoom fatigue, authors are having to change up their regular reading format.

"People are getting tired of the Zoom things. We're all tired of the pandemic, period," author Anita Daher says.

The launch of *You Don't Have to Die in the End*, was also funded by the NAC #CanadaPerforms series. Because Daher was concerned about losing her audience's interest, her husband James played guitar at the launch as she read from the book.

Thin Air Winnipeg International Writers Festival

The Thin Air Winnipeg International Writers Festival also had to shift their entire event to an online format. The festival, which launches on Sept. 20 and runs to Oct. 8, will be entirely online.

"We opted to not try to replicate our expected schedule conventions, because I attended a lot of launches in the spring, and I already was feeling like I (was) flagging," Charlene Diehl, the festival director, says.

"A lot of these writers are doing a lot of other virtual events. The other thing that I was concerned about was if a lot of festivals were featuring the same people, and the writers themselves get tired of saying the same thing."

As such, each reading at Thin Air will be accompanied by something special. There will be tours of the writers' neighbourhoods, slideshows, a cooking demonstration and a professionally produced short-film adaptation of Daher's novel, starring Darcy Fehr and Robyn Delaney.

Most of the content will be available for free from the festival website, with the exception of the writing workshops. The festival will also feature Q-and-As and a celebration of the Manitoba Book Award winners, as there was no award ceremony this year.

Speaking Crow

Thin Air also runs the Speaking Crow poetry open mic, hosted by Angeline Schellenberg. The festival edition will be live on Oct. 6 over Zoom. Sharanpal Ruprai will be their featured reader.

Each Speaking Crow: Virtual Edition has a 15-minute reading by a featured Manitoba poet and an open mic portion, for which participants are given the option to sign up when they register through Eventbrite. Since going virtual, the crowd has expanded from their usual Winnipeg group to a global experience.

Poets from the Philippines, Pakistan, Australia and the United Kingdom have found Speaking Crow by searching for poetry events on Eventbrite. Even though attendees come from all over the world, the local group is quite small, comprising return participants and a few new locals. What these participants look forward to the most is the opportunity to connect with other writers, Schellenberg says.



Mel Marginet includes co-founder of Theatre by the River and publisher at Great Plains Publications among her many professional titles.



Charlene Diehl is a writer, editor, performer and director of the Thin Air Winnipeg International Writers Festival.



Michael Bumsted, bookseller at Whodunit Mystery Bookstore

FEATURE | Publishing in the pandemic

"Poetry connects people. I've been in churches and community groups, but I don't know if I've ever been part of a community (like Speaking Crow), where it felt like such a diverse group of people were so supportive of one another," Schellenberg says.

This worldwide format of the festival has its pros and cons.

"I have spent the last few years figuring out how we can minimize our environmental footprint. We have writers flying in sometimes for a 24-hour period," Diehl says.

This year, they don't have that problem. Writers' festivals are a key part of the marketing of new books for publishers, and this year, the festival is able to support more writers and publishers.

"I just didn't have the heart to maintain narrow edges, because there are so many incredible books and less visibility, fewer opportunities for readers to discover new books, and because we were saving some costs like venue fees and hotel fees," Diehl says.

Just like with book launches, authors and readers are missing out on that in-person connection.

"They happen every year, those moments I can't anticipate. It's that feeling of awe when you are in the presence of someone who is working at a really high level in their craft with all the heart imaginable," Diehl says.

Meeting a highly skilled writer can be meaningful to writers, readers and anyone who engages with the arts.

"It is inspiring to us as humans, and not just within the literary zone. It is ultimately about the power of being invited into someone else's stories and understanding that also you are a carrier of stories yourself," Diehl says.

Without the opportunity to have that moment and the book signed by the author, festival goers can instead reach out to local bookstores to purchase or order books.

Supporting independent bookstores

Marginet expresses concern when it comes to readers choosing to buy their books from chains, like Indigo, as they are closing 19 Coles stores across the country, and the Coles in Cityplace shut down this summer.

Indigo "has driven indie bookstores out of business in cities. Instead of having an independent bookstore in your neighbourhood, you have a chain. If that chain goes under, the industry is in peril," Marginet says.

Schellenberg did an unboxing video when she received her author's copies. Nevertheless, she encouraged her readers to support local bookstores with their purchasing power.

"I told people to go buy it from independent bookstores instead of me. I still have most of my books, but if there is no independent bookstore, then authors are in trouble," she says.

Bumsted echoes this sentiment.

"It would be lovely to think that everyone is going to continue to buy from bookstores like ours," he says.

Between virtual events and free local delivery, readers and writers alike can find community in these locally owned bookstores. The experience readers have with their local bookstores during the pandemic will likely influence where they choose to shop in the future.

"We can cross our fingers and hope," Bumsted says.

The Thin Air Winnipeg International Writers Festival runs from Sept. 20 to Oct. 10. Festival content can be accessed through thinairfestival.ca, where you can find more information about Speaking Crow. Register for Speaking Crow on Eventbrite.

Whodunit Mystery Bookstore offers free delivery within Winnipeg and is located at 163 Lilac St. or at whodunitbookstore.com.

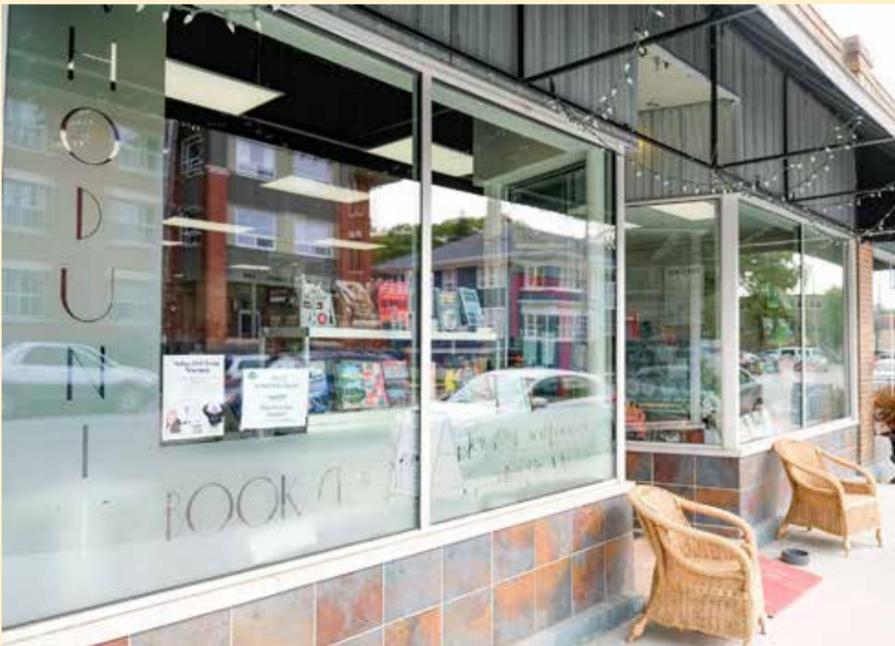


Winnipeg author Angeline Schellenberg at her St. Vital home



"I told people to go buy (my new book) from independent bookstores instead of (from my website). I still have most of my books, but if there is no independent bookstore, then authors are in trouble."

- Angeline Schellenberg



"When we first started with the closure, there was a big demand for things to help children fill the gap in the school year, but going along with that was the real push in larger society to read more about social justice." - Michael Bumsted, Whodunit Mystery Bookstore



Winnipeg author Anita Daher with her latest book, *You Don't Have to Die in the End*

VILLAGE CHECKUP

On resilience in Osborne Village

CIERRA BETTENS | CITY REPORTER | [@FICTIONALCIERRA](#) [@CIERRABETTENS](#)

Though once deemed Canada's greatest neighbourhood by the Canadian Institute of Planners (CIP), the Osborne Village narrative in the media has become dismal. High rent costs, a slew of vacancies and decreasing foot traffic are often cited as the culprit of its demise. But has the Village really lost its unique flair?

Brian Timmerman, the executive director of the Osborne Village BIZ, remains optimistic about the state of the Village.

"We did have a few closures, but with these closures, we've had quite a few businesses come into the Osborne Village," Timmerman says. He cites a new nightclub, a Mary Brown's Chicken and the reopening of the Toad in the Hole as some of the new developments in the works.

One business to open in the area is Saikel Studios. Formerly located in Linden Woods, co-owner Dustin Marks says the cycle studio has been met with a warm welcome at its new location in the Stradbrook Avenue strip.

"We're running between seven and nine classes a day, and they're almost always sold out," Marks says. "We're being well received."

While Saikel Studios chose to close their doors entirely until it was deemed safe to host in-person classes, other businesses

in the area, including the boutique Silver Lotus, offered online services and curbside pickup. As businesses reopen, Marks has been connecting to other establishments in the area to form partnerships.

"We've developed a nice cross-promotion with Green Carrot," Marks says.

The densely populated geography of the Osborne Village strip makes it a natural door-to-door trek for visitors and frequenters of the district. For this reason, Marks emphasizes the importance of collaboration between businesses within the area. For Saikel Studios, that includes offering discounts to those who work in the Village.

At the same time, the strip's high pedestrian, bike and vehicle traffic makes it a tremendously visible, and therefore attractive, district for hip, small businesses. Though foot traffic has not yet returned to the level it was in pre-pandemic times, Timmerman is hopeful that the buzz will return even stronger than before.

"For us (at the Osborne Village BIZ), the main focus is that we didn't go away. We're still here," Timmerman says.

Marks also says the visibility and central location have been a great support in garnering a local clientele and building new connections.

"The amount of people that have con-

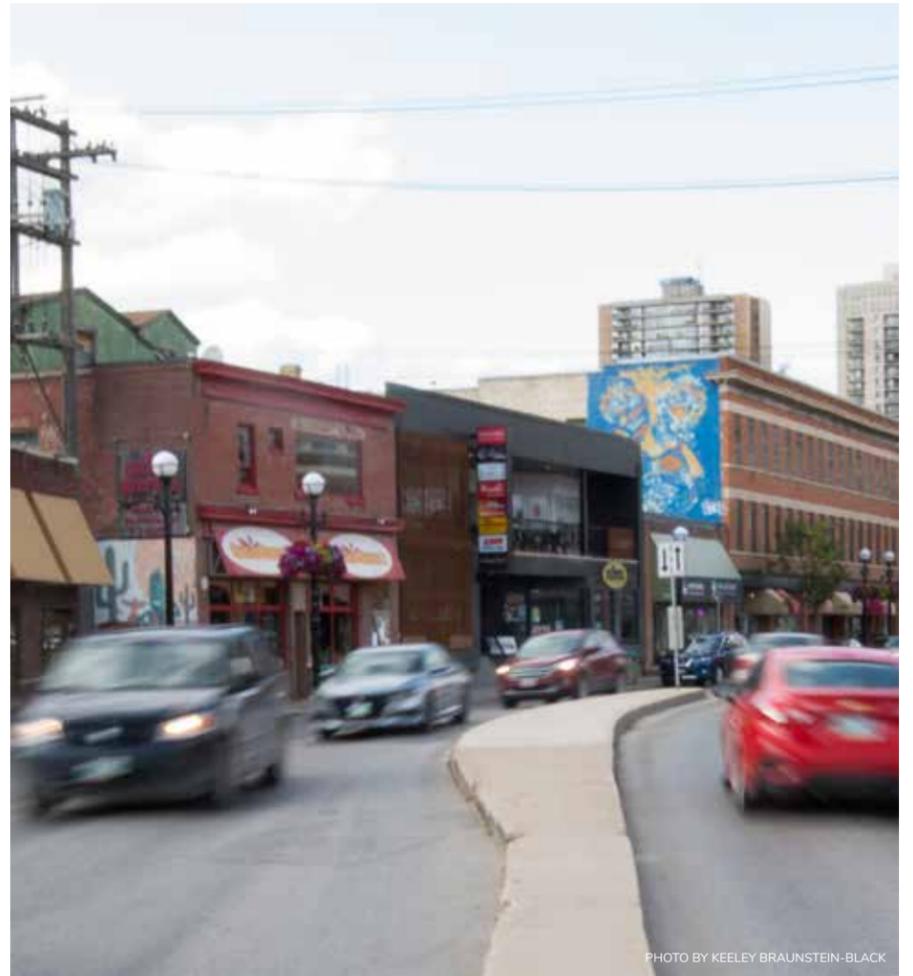


PHOTO BY KEELEY BRAUNSTEIN-BLACK

Osborne Village was once named "Canada's greatest neighbourhood," a title that's been challenged by a rash of vacancies.

tacted me saying 'hey, I saw your new location, it's great!' is awesome," Marks says. "Our neighbours are proud we've opened up and are super excited that our customers are coming to their businesses in the Village, too."

The Village has had a tough go in recent years. Yet, in the face of hardship, its unique history, geography and, most importantly, community have proven to be a staple of resilience.

FIGHTING THE GREEN FIGHT

Klein's book mobilizes a war metaphor for the climate crisis

CIERRA BETTENS | CITY REPORTER | [@FICTIONALCIERRA](#) [@CIERRABETTENS](#)

On Sept. 29, a virtual book tour for Seth Klein's *A Good War: Mobilizing Canada for the Climate Emergency* will make a stop in Winnipeg, along with musical guests Decades After Paris.

In the book, Klein, puts forth an argument that leaders and citizens must treat the ongoing climate crisis with the urgency of war. Drawing from public policy and mobilization tactics, he notes parallels between the Second World War and the climate crisis, urging Canadians and policy leaders to treat the latter as the emergency it truly is.

"If something is an emergency, it has to look, sound and feel like an emergency," Klein says. "The climate crisis doesn't look or sound like an emergency from our leaders; it looks a bit lackadaisical."

As the executive director of the Climate Action Network Canada (CAN Canada), Catherine Abreu attests to the need for emboldened leadership in order to fight climate change but says Canadian leaders have consistently fallen short.

"The way that governments communicate about climate change needs to fundamentally change in order to feel like it's the 'whole of society' project that it needs to be," she says. This would include leaders regularly "coming to the mic" to discuss and give updates on the climate emergency response, similar to the style of Canadian leadership during the Second World War.

Solutions to the climate crisis are often placed in the hands of the individual, urging people to recycle, go vegan or even reconsider having children for the good of the future. However, building national solidarity, whether it be to mobilize troops or aid in the climate emergency, is a collective effort.

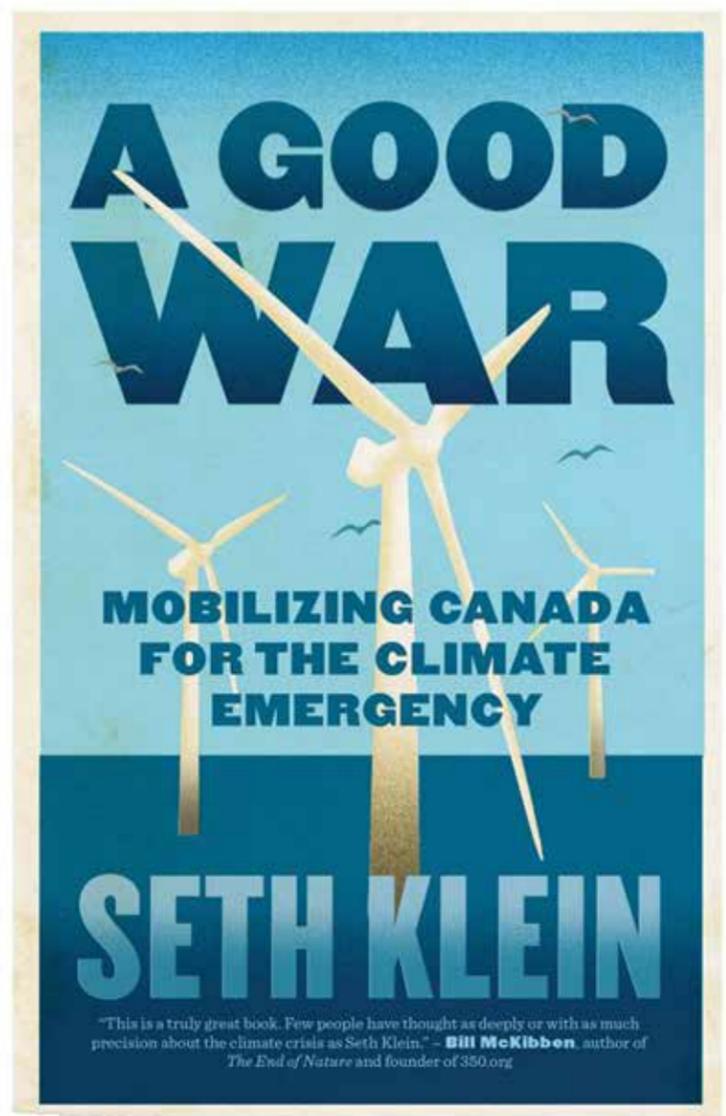
Through Klein's war metaphor, one can imagine the garnering of public support through leadership as jointly applicable to the climate crisis. On the other hand, Klein says the "top-down" approach leaders took during the Second World War left out many crucial voices and experiences, especially those of Indigenous communities.

"It's going to have to be collaborative this time," Klein says. "For people to mobilize, they need to feel like everyone is in, regardless of income, gender or race."

The COVID-19 pandemic has given insight into governmental ability to rapidly mobilize funds and other supports through programs like the CERB, something both Klein and Abreu say justifies the argument that the same could be applied to the climate emergency response.

"We've seen the mobilization of huge amounts of investments that were previously kind of unimaginable in order to save lives," Abreu says. "That's what we need in the climate crisis."

"The premise of the book was that we needed a historic reminder of how quick-



SUPPLIED PHOTO

ly we can change," Klein says. "Here we all are living that in real time."

Register for Klein's virtual book launch on Sept. 29 at 7 p.m. at [sethklein.ca](#).



SUPPLIED PHOTO

SARA MURPHY

Assistant professor, Department of Business and Administration, U of W

KEESHA HAREWOOD | FEATURES REPORTER | @KEESHAHAREWOOD

Sara Murphy's journey to becoming an assistant professor for the University of Winnipeg's Department of Business and Administration began with undergraduate work in psychology.

"I really, really liked the psychology of work," Murphy says.

As a result of developing an interest in psychology during her undergraduate studies, Murphy attended a college pro-

gram in human resources.

She then attended grad school at Wilfrid Laurier University for a master's in organizational behaviour in human resources.

Currently, Murphy's main area of focus is interviews. In particular, she examines e-recruitment and social media.

While conducting this research, Murphy pays attention to "both sides of the coin." She examines both the perspective

of the organization hiring new employees and the job-seekers themselves.

"When they have, for example, a Facebook profile and a LinkedIn profile, what kinds of things do they do to try and make themselves appear a bit more appealing to recruiters or to avoid certain impressions made?" Murphy says.

In the classroom, Murphy finds that students respond particularly well to lessons on job interviews.

"It's relatable. A lot of them have been through an interview or at the very least seen one (in) a movie or on TV or something like that. I find a lot of students really react well to that topic, and they like talking about it," she says.

Relatability aside, Murphy takes the time to go in depth about the many aspects (such as cognitive biases, for example) of organizational behaviour and human

resources with her students, putting her energy and knowledge to very good use.

If you could have any superpower, what would it be?

"I think it would be to be in two places at once."

What do you like to do in your free time?

"I love being outdoors."

What was your worst grade in university?

"My worst grade, I think, was a 65."

What's the best thing about your work?

"How rewarding it is."

What is your best tip for someone who's going into a job interview?

"In general, just try to treat it like a conversation."

CITY BRIEFS

ALEXANDRA NEUFELDT | CITY EDITOR

Measuring SEED growth

On Sept. 16, SEED (Supporting Employment and Economic Development) Winnipeg presented their Annual Report to the Community via a Zoom event. SEED provides financial empowerment programs and services in Winnipeg's inner city. The report included the second Community Builder Award, which went to the Canadian Muslim Women's Institute.

Campus climate status updates

There is a new weather station on top of Lockhart Hall at the University of Winnipeg, constructed by Dr. Danny Blair, Brad Russell and Dr. Doug Goltz. The new station has improved internet connection and wireless readings, and can be accessed by those studying climate or those missing studying on campus at wunderground.com/dashboard/pws/IWINNI70.

Making archives accessible

In addition to the UWinnipeg Library's online offerings, the University of Winnipeg Archives are now more accessible for researchers working from home. In addition to the digital archives, researchers looking to safely access physical resources can contact the archive staff, who will consult sources and reproduce components of sources. For help accessing the archives, contact archives@uwinnipeg.ca.

BUStxt going the way of the ghost

BUStxt, an initiative of Winnipeg Transit that allowed transit riders to receive bus schedule information and updates by text message, has been discontinued. Passengers who relied on the service are encouraged to use TeleBUS or Navigo for updates to bus schedules and to use Winnipeg Transit Tools for planning bus trips in the future.

Pallister's Chicken Chef conference

Brian Pallister announced the continuation of the Back to Work Wage Subsidy program from the Nairn Avenue Chicken Chef restaurant on Sept. 14. In a question period in front of the Chicken Chef soda machine, he told a reporter inquiring about the safety of the Province's back-to-school plan that provincial health experts' decisions should not be questioned.

Report on homelessness and home insecurity as information

The City of Winnipeg's Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks will review multiple reports, primarily from End Homelessness Winnipeg, to establish an understanding of the current state of residents living in encampments in the city. The reports will be received as information with no policy recommendations included.



U OF W HOSTS WEWENI DIALOGUE EVENT

Webinar will look at Indigenous health and COVID-19

CALLUM GOULET-KILGOUR | CAMPUS REPORTER | [@CGOULETKILGOUR](#)

On Sept. 23 at 12:30 p.m., the University of Winnipeg (U of W) will host Weweni Dialogue: Indigenous Health and Wellbeing in Times of Pandemic. This online event “will generate discussion across disciplines and time periods to explore the experience of Indigenous peoples during pandemics,” according to its website.

Part of the recurring Weweni Indigenous Speaker Series, this event will feature two panellists, Dr. Carrie Bourassa and Dr. Winona Wheeler from the University of Saskatchewan, with Dr. Jaime Cidro, a U of W professor of anthropology, serving as the moderator.

Past Weweni speakers have included Dr. Pam Palmater, Dr. John Borrows, Dr. Mary Jane McCallum and Dr. Melissa Arcand, covering topics from mathematics to climate change.

Cidro, who also serves on the Weweni Indigenous Speaker Series planning committee, explains how COVID-19 influenced the upcoming event.

“When we were looking at the different topics that are relevant to communities and scholars, COVID-19 seemed to be the obvious topic,” she says.

“We know that pandemics have been happening across the world forever, and certainly in Indigenous communities, so we’re wanting Dr. Wheeler to talk to us about (what) the historical context of pandemics have been,” she says. Wheeler is a historian and an associ-

ate professor of Indigenous studies.

Bourassa, the other panellist, has a “good contemporary perspective on what’s happening in Indigenous communities across Canada in terms of how they are responding” to COVID-19, Cidro says.

“She also has a lot of expertise in cultural-based approaches to health,” she says. Bourassa is a professor of community health and epidemiology and scientific director of the Canadian Institutes of Indigenous Peoples’ Health.

“We’re hoping she’ll talk about what’s happening right now in Indigenous communities across Canada,” Cidro says.

She believes these events are critical – and must continue, albeit virtually – because highlighting scholarship is paramount to universities’ existence.

Other university groups are also adapting their events due to COVID-19. Sheena Starecki, president of the U of W Anthropology Student Association (UWASA), believes the sense of community created by university groups and activities needs to continue this year.

“We’ve been focusing on making sure we have similar kinds of events and just adapting them either to properly social distance or converting some of our things virtually,” she says. For example, the UWASA is holding a beginning-of-the-year picnic in a park (weather permitting), requiring masks and



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Dr. Jaime Cidro will moderate the upcoming panel Weweni Dialogue: Indigenous Health and Wellbeing in Times of Pandemic.

social distancing.

University students, staff and community members interested in university or university-affiliated events should regularly consult the U of W website, the U of W Students’ Association website and *The Uniter*.

To register for Weweni Dialogue: Indigenous Health and Wellbeing in Times of Pandemic, visit bit.ly/33h4ljl. This webinar is free, open to the public and will take place on Zoom.

U OF W LAUNCHES DATA SCIENCE PROGRAM

Stream will prepare students for the ‘sexiest job of the 21st century’

CALLUM GOULET-KILGOUR | CAMPUS REPORTER | [@CGOULETKILGOUR](#)

This fall, the University of Winnipeg (U of W) is launching an undergraduate data science program, where “students will acquire enough skills and knowledge to work in different sectors as a data scientist or data analyst.” The university’s Department of Mathematics and Statistics is the first to offer such a program in Manitoba.

Dr. Anna Stokke, professor and chair of the department, says one of the main reasons this program was created is that “data scientists (are) in really high demand.”

“We thought it would be really good for our students and our program if we could prepare students for careers in that area,” she says.

Many recent reports have shown the job market to be very favourable for data scientists. A 2012 article in the *Harvard Business Review* even called it the “sexiest job of the 21st century.”

“Data science is in high demand in both government and industry,” Stokke says, adding that graduates could expect careers in a wide range of sectors, such as medicine, business, advertising, finance and insurance.

With the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, data science has emerged as a crucial field in government, company and institutional public health responses. A recent article by data scientist Dr. Sarah Cal-

laghan mentioned three important facets of the field that are useful for flattening the curve: data collection and interpretation, data modelling and prediction and data visualization and communication.

At the U of W, students can take data science as a stream of a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science in Statistics. This program involves a unique combination of courses that must be taken in applied computer science, mathematics and statistics.

Though exact enrollment numbers are unavailable, Stokke believes this program has already been well-received by students.

“Our core courses for that program have at least doubled in enrollment this year, so we think there is a lot of interest so far,” she says.

Dr. Zeinab Mashreghi, an associate professor in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, says she is looking forward to teaching data science students.

“We are delighted to offer this undergraduate program for the first time in Manitoba,” she says.

Mashreghi is teaching Statistical Analysis I and Survey Sampling I this Fall, both required courses for the program.

“The main idea is working with big data sets,” she says, adding that compared



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Dr. Zeinab Mashreghi, associate professor in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at the University of Winnipeg

to mathematics and statistics degrees, students of this program will gain more computer programming skills.

U of W’s Professional, Applied and Continuing Education division will also launch

programs in the field of data science: the Predictive Analytics Diploma in May 2021 and the Artificial Intelligence Diploma in September 2021.



READING IN COLOUR

Why we should diversify our reading habits

VALERIE CHELANGAT

COLUMNIST

@VALERIECHELA

Movies and TV shows such as *Bookmarks*, *Catching Feelings*, *The Princess Weiyong*, *Tune in for Love* and *Queen Sono* are just a drop in the ocean that is Netflix's diversification.

One of the merits of the many months of sheltering-in-place and social distancing was the availability of time to binge-watch Netflix. Netflix seems to be positioning itself as an inclusive streaming platform, which is something to be celebrated.

Netflix, however, is not alone in its steps toward diversification. Following the brutal murder of George Floyd, many individuals, celebrities and organizations have come forward to take a stand against racism and acknowledge their failures, systemic or otherwise. Over the past three months, there has been a much louder rebuke of racism and bolder demand for social change.

It is a shame that something so tragic, so horrifying, had to happen for people to begin to open their eyes. But even before Floyd's murder, more conversations about diversity were beginning to happen. Floyd's brutal killing amplified the importance of the Black Lives Matter movement. The resulting cry for inclusive representation is most urgent and desperately needed now.

A study carried out by BookNet Canada called Demand for Diversity: A Survey of Canadian Readers quoted one of

their interviewees, who likened reading diversely to a menu in a restaurant. When publishers present a wider array of books to bookstores who in turn present them to customers, they give readers an opportunity to try out new items on the menu. Increased selections mean increased visibility for underrepresented groups, including visible minorities, LGBTQ+ folks and people with disabilities or those who are differently abled.

Another interviewee was quoted in the BookNet Canada survey, arguing that an author's ethnicity should not matter, and so they read according to their interest and not where the writer is from. Selecting books should indeed be based on subject matter and not the author's race or ability.

It is, however, a well-known fact that some groups are underrepresented in books and as authors. We have a responsibility to right this wrong, to give voice to those who have always been left out. If we make efforts to read books that portray our world as it truly is, then, hopefully, someday, our society will get to a place where we can simply focus on subject matter.

Jael Richardson, the founder and artistic director of the Festival of Literary Diversity, uses a similar metaphor in an article about diversity in publishing. She writes, "if someone came to you and said, 'I only want to eat grapes for the rest of my life,' wouldn't you suggest they try pizza or

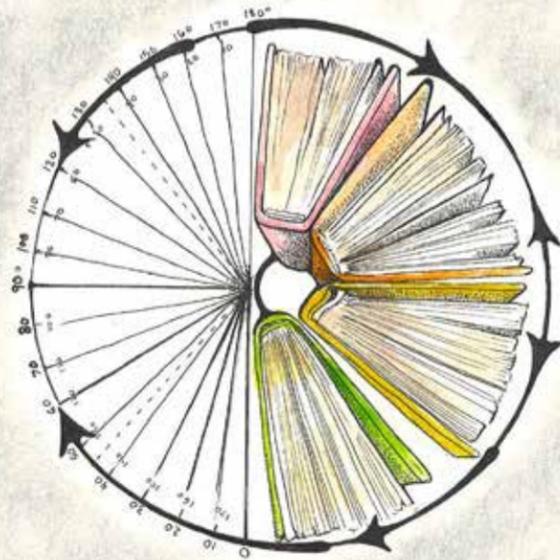


ILLUSTRATION BY GABRIELLE FUNK

a samosa or sushi?" That is the idea behind Reading in Colour. It is a call, a beckoning, urging readers to be more intentional when selecting books.

Reading literature from various groups and on diverse subjects enables readers to broaden their understanding of themselves. Seeing other cultures and worldviews in books familiarizes readers to different ways of being. It normalizes the idea of being different and gradually enables people to better connect. Reading in Colour is about seeing others and seeing our-

selves in others. It is about learning other cultures, other belief systems and of other places through literature. Reading in Colour is an act of love and an opportunity for each of us to make a small contribution in an effort to establish more acceptance.

Valerie Chelangat is a Kenyan-Canadian writer. She loves Winnipeg but struggles with the winter. She gets through the season by reading any books she gets her hands on and drinking too much tea.



THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

Student Services

ACADEMIC & CAREER SERVICES

Study Skills Workshops

Study Skills Workshops are designed to improve your learning skills and help you achieve your academic goals.

Organized by Academic & Career Advising, these six workshops will be held via Zoom. Workshops are FREE. Registration in advance is required.

Workshops will run **Sept. 21 – Oct. 7**, Mondays and Wednesdays, 12:30 to 1:20 pm.

For details, see uwinnipeg.ca/studyskills

myVisit App

Need to drop in to see someone at Academic & Career Services via Zoom? You can add yourself to the line virtually!

Download the myVisit app today. The myVisit app allows students to add themselves to a line, or book an appointment with an academic or career advisor. Appointments with advisors can be booked through www.myvisit.com as well.

Coming soon: Drop-ins at Student Central through myVisit.

ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

Volunteer Notetakers

Are you interested in doing

volunteer work while you are attending online classes this fall?

Accessibility Services may have the ideal opportunity for you: volunteer notetaker

There may be students in your class who need access to quality notes for reasons related to a disability or medical condition.

If your instructor makes a request for a volunteer notetaker in one of your classes, please don't hesitate to sign up! Contact vnt@uwinnipeg.ca for more information.

AWARDS & FINANCIAL AID

Applications for 2020-21 awards and financial aid are open! Visit our website: uwinnipeg.ca/awards

Current Award Opportunities

- Fall/Winter 2020-21 Awards, Bursaries and Scholarships online application is open until Oct. 1. Select "How to Apply" on our homepage for the link to the application and instructions.

- Louis Riel Bursaries are available to Métis students attending participating universities in Manitoba. For consideration, UWinnipeg students are required to submit an online application for Fall/Winter 2020-21 Awards,

Bursaries and Scholarships and indicate they are Métis. Fall term deadline: Oct. 1

- A \$78 UWSA Transit Subsidy is available to students who purchase a semester bus pass for the 2020 fall term. Applications are available through our online award application system and will remain open until Oct. 31. For information on the subsidy, see: theuwsa.ca

- 2020-21 Work-Study Program is accepting student applications. Deadline: Dec. 4. The first position listing will be sent to eligible applicants between late September and mid-October. More positions will be available to those that apply early (by end of September). To obtain the application form, select "Work Study Program" on the awards homepage.

Student Aid

The Canada Student Aid program is offering more loans and non-repayable forms of aid (grants) this year. If you have ever thought about applying, this would be the year to do so. For more information, check out "Government Student Aid" at uwinnipeg.ca/awards.

STUDENT CENTRAL

Undergraduate Add/Drop Period

Course changes (adds and drops) can be made **Sept. 8-21**.

The final day to drop a regularly-scheduled U2020F or U2020FW course for full refund is **Sept. 21**.

Undergraduate Tuition Fees

Fall (U2020F) and Fall/Winter Term (U2020FW) fees are due **Sept. 24**. Note that this is NOT the same date as the last day to be eligible for refund (see above).

Paying Tuition Fees

Pay tuition the easy way... pay through your bank!

Students can pay for Fall and Fall/Winter Term undergraduate courses either:

- as a bill payment through their financial institution (online, telephone, in-person at a branch)
- using your seven-digit student number as the account number, or
- via Flywire.com (international payments)

Deadline: **Sept 24**

UWSA's Health Plan and U-Pass

The deadline to opt out of the Greenshield health plan is **Sept. 21**.

The UWSA suspended the U-Pass program for Fall Term.

Post-secondary Peggo cards, however, are available for pickup/purchase at the Info Booth on **Sept. 18** from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm. Go to the Quad entrance of Graham Hall.

For details, please see: theuwsa.ca/healthplan theuwsa.ca/u-pass

Waitlists After the Term Has Started

After classes have started, if you are still on a waitlist for your preferred course section, you should continue to check your webmail account daily for permission to register off of the waitlist.

Professors will not be giving out permission forms. Instead, if a space becomes available for you during the Course Add/Drop Period, you will receive an email letting you know that you can register through WebAdvisor. The Drop Waitlist Button will have changed to a Register button as well. Register immediately!

For Fall Term, the waitlist will run for the last time on **Sept. 21** which is the last day to register for a Fall or Fall/Winter Term course.

NOTE: Consider whether it is advisable to register in the course for which you have received permission. How far into the course is it? Do you have the time and ability to catch up? Did you miss any potential marks already?



IS THE 'LEFT' ALWAYS RIGHT?

Newspapers aren't just black and white

DANIELLE DOIRON | COPY AND STYLE EDITOR | @DANIELLEDOIRON

It's almost impossible to scroll through Twitter or even strike up a conversation without some mention of politics. This is especially true now that the United States presidential election is less than two months away.

The world seems to exist in a binary: either you subscribe to left-wing or right-wing ideologies. You vote Democrat or Republican. You're with us or against us.

In reality, many people's political views exist on a spectrum, and even the opinions of Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden and vice-presidential nominee Kamala Harris differ on some issues. The same goes for media outlets, even though they're often simply labelled as supporting the "left" or "right."

Perhaps unsurprisingly, this is typically done to discredit a publication. President Donald Trump has a habit of labelling any outlet who dares disagree with him as "fake news." This is a dangerous practice, especially coming from a major world leader, but it's also harmful when people extend it to their everyday lives.

Last year, Amber A'Lee Frost explained in a *Columbia Journalism Review* article that, on most mornings, she picks up *The New York Times* and the *Financial Times* but throws away the former almost immediately.

A self-described "big S' Socialist," she

knows her reading habits confuse some liberals. But in her words, "the *Financial Times* is just a better paper. It covers the world as it is — a global battle not of ideas or values, but of economic and political interests."

I disagree with just about everything Frost writes in her CJR piece, but I understand her desire for a "just the facts, ma'am" approach to journalism.

However, all aspects of our world have become so politicized that it's impossible to truly separate those facts from opinions. As I wrote in this semester's first issue of *The Uniter*, "all media outlets have agendas, and all reporters, editors and producers are human, and therefore, inherently biased."

Even attempts at neutrality still take a stance. Earlier this year, the *Winnipeg Free Press* came under fire for (among many problematic journalistic practices) juxtaposing local organizer Jayda Hope's words about the Black Lives Matter movement with "copaganda" photos casting police officers in a startlingly positive light.

Budding journalists are often taught to explore and report the multiple sides that exist to every story, but there comes a point when doing so is just irresponsible — and sometimes harmful.

Longtime *Philadelphia Inquirer* editor Stan Wischnowski resigned in June after, as *The New York Times* put it, "an article



ILLUSTRATION BY GABRIELLE FUNK

with the headline 'Buildings Matter, Too,' on the effects of civil unrest on the city's buildings, led to a walkout by dozens of staff members." The headline was clearly a riff on the Black Lives Matter movement, and both it and the article in question discredited protestors and minimized the importance of antiracist work.

It wasn't long ago that news outlets around the world highlighted Stanford rapist Brock Turner's competitive swimming times when reporting his 2015 assault on Chanel Miller. Doing so minimizes Miller's trauma and reinforces the harmful narrative that Turner, the perpetrator, was also somehow a victim. It's part of the reason that Miller, known through-

out the trial as "Emily Doe," chose to publish a book about her experience.

All this isn't to say that people shouldn't trust the media — but they should be critical of what they consume. Projects like PolitiFact can help separate truth from fiction, so readers don't always have to take a reporter at their word. And when all else fails, any article Trump accuses of spreading fake news is usually worth reading.

Danielle Doiron is a writer, editor and marketer based in Winnipeg. She's spending the pandemic reading, practicing yoga and stubbornly refusing to clean the apartment.

NYGARD ACCUSATIONS FORCE EXAMINATION OF SOCIAL VALUES

Systems continue to fail to fully address sexual abuse

KARLA ATANACIO | VOLUNTEER | @0KAYKARLA

More than 50 women from Canada, the United States and the Bahamas have filed an international lawsuit against Canadian fashion mogul Peter Nygard.

Now 79, Nygard is accused of using sexual violence, intimidation and bribery to lure and silence his victims. The allegations date as far back as 1977, and some women claim that they were minors when Nygard sexually violated them. He has since denied all allegations. In August, the Southern District Court of New York put the case on hold until further notice.

Coming forward with allegations of sexual violence, especially against a powerful man, is not easy. Doing so places a person in a precarious situation: if they speak up, they are at risk of damaging their reputation. According to a 2019 survey by the charity *Young Women's Trust*, 24 per cent of young women would be reluctant to report sexual harassment at work for fear of getting fired.

CBC's *The Current* tells the story of a former Nygard employee who claims Nygard raped her during a business trip in the 1980s. Because she was a new immigrant and a single mother, she endured working for the company until her unexpected firing.

She says two Nygard employees later came to her home and gave her a reference letter and \$8,000. At the time of her assault, Nygard allegedly told her that going to the police would not do anything. As a result of her trauma, she fled Canada and returned to her home country. Since then, many others have shared similar stories of being sexually assaulted by Nygard.

So many of these women held their silence for years in fear for their lives and reputations. After all, few crimes are as confounding and punitive as rape. Rape comes with a built-in alibi that can instantly exonerate the criminal and place blame on the victim.

There is nothing more dehumanizing than rape. As writer Elizabeth Schambelan puts it: "There is, as yet, nothing and no one to make us know (rape's injustice), nothing to make it public knowledge, knowledge that we all share and that we all acknowledge that we share."

There is nothing that can be used to explain robbery or murder the way that sex can be used to explain rape. A person who has suffered sexual abuse not only has to process the trauma of the abuse itself, but also the trauma that comes from public scrutiny.

As much as we want to believe that we



ILLUSTRATION BY GABRIELLE FUNK

live in a progressive society, acts of sexual abuse continue. We must stop perpetuating victim-blaming. And for as long as powerful men can buy freedom with their seemingly unlimited resources and savvy lawyers, the path to justice remains a harrowing one.

Karla Atanacio is an International Development Studies major at the University of Winnipeg. She enjoys learning about the world through books, podcasts and her own personal observations.



HOROSCOPES

There's a new moon in Virgo this week.

On Thursday, Sept. 17, the new moon will deliver a much-needed dose of practicality and focus, allowing us to see what we need to change about our everyday routines in order to feel more grounded.

SOURCE: ASTROLOGY.COM

ARIES

On September 14, when the confident sun in your sixth house of daily routine forms a harmonizing trine to transformative Pluto in your tenth house of career, you could be inspired to dive deeper into a research project or game plan for advancing your professional path. Either way, you'll feel empowered to find time in your day to take steps that could lead to real evolution, change, and fulfillment.

Around September 17, the new moon in your sixth house of wellness is a beautiful time to key into a self-care goal. Creating a step-by-step action plan can pave the way for concrete results. And on September 19, when the emotional moon in your seventh house of partnership opposes action-oriented Mars in your sign, patience and diplomacy can preempt conflict with a partner.

LEO

You might want to strike out on your own—and against the wishes of higher-ups or colleagues—on September 15, social Venus in your sign forms a tense square to game-changer Uranus in your tenth house of career. Just make sure you think about the consequences before diving in.

Around September 17, when the new moon is in your second house of income, it's a brilliant, beautiful time to get clear on your long-term financial goals and come up with a step-by-step action plan that will support your professional path and help you bring home well-deserved rewards.

SAGITTARIUS

On September 14, when the confident sun in your tenth house of career forms a positive trine to transformative Pluto in your second house of income, you'll be fired up to make moves on the job (think calling a meeting with higher-ups or researching a new position)—not just for short-term aims but with your biggest picture goals in mind. Though you may be more enthusiastic and self-assured than usual right now, taking it one step at a time can keep you grounded and set for steady achievement.

And around September 17, the new moon falls in your tenth house of career, urging you to get clear on what you truly want to accomplish professionally in the long run. Don't shy away from doing an honest gut check, which can serve to inform your actions moving forward.

TAURUS

If you've been craving sweet, joyful, spontaneous fun with loved ones and opportunities for self-expression, you'll get a green light to put work on the back burner in pursuit of pleasure and creativity around September 17 when the new moon is in your fifth house of romance. Because it forms harmonizing trines to taskmaster Saturn and transformative Pluto in your ninth house of higher education and adventure, finding ways to shake up your routine and broaden your horizons could actually bring you a sense of accomplishment and personal growth.

On September 19, the emotional moon in your sixth house of wellness opposes action-oriented Mars in your twelfth house of spirituality, and you might be stressed out if you feel like you've been repressing deep-rooted desires for too long. It could be time to speak your truth.

VIRGO

Around September 17, when the new moon falls in your sign, you'll enjoy your annual opportunity to get clear on personal intentions and get the ball rolling on making them real. Because your new moon forms harmonizing trines to taskmaster Saturn and powerful Pluto, both in your fifth house of romance and self-expression, finding your voice and owning your right to pleasure, fun, and joy will be integral to seeing results.

The same day, when communicator Mercury in your second house of income squares off against expansive Jupiter in your fifth house of self-expression, you might be inclined to think you can take on more work—be it professional or personal—than what's truly realistic. Make sure to take a step back to assess before saying yes.

CAPRICORN

You'll be itching to break free of your usual routine and have an experience that different, unique, and supportive of your personal growth around September 17 when the new moon falls in your ninth house of higher education and adventure. Consider new ways to soak up knowledge, be that through an online class, meditation app, or road trip. Whatever feels right is sure to be the best, most fulfilling way forward.

And on the same day, communicator Mercury in your tenth house of career forms a square to expansive Jupiter in your sign, which could boost feelings of optimism—so much so that you could commit to taking on more responsibility than is realistic. Leading with a pragmatic view now preempts stress.

GEMINI

You could find yourself craving a deep, meaningful experience with loved ones on September 14 when the confident sun in your fourth house of home life forms a positive trine to powerful Pluto in your eighth house of emotional bonds. Doing some soul searching and opening up about what's really on your mind and in your heart can help you connect with your nearest and dearest on a whole new level. It could feel transformative personally and for your bonds.

On September 17, communicator Mercury in your fifth house of romance and self-expression forms a square to expansive Jupiter in your eighth house of emotional bonds, boosting your optimism about the future of your relationship with a significant other or potential partner. Just be sure to take a look at the facts as much as you are your feelings.

LIBRA

Taking a time-out from the daily grind to tune into your heart and pay attention to your dreams might feel like a must around September 17 when the new moon falls in your twelfth house of spirituality. Journaling or talking through what you find with a therapist or dear friend could prove enlightening and help you lay the groundwork for more emotional fulfillment down the road. This is a sweet time for planting seeds!

And on September 19, the intuitive moon in your sign opposes go-getter Mars in your seventh house of partnership, setting a moody tone that could make you more likely to snap at your significant other, dear friend, or a colleague. This could stem from feeling more interested in plowing ahead than working through a tough emotional issue, but taking a step back to care for your relationship could help you be even more productive in the long-run.

AQUARIUS

Connecting on a deeper level within your closest relationship can feel especially appealing and exciting on September 14 when the confident sun in your eighth house of emotional bonds and sexual intimacy forms a harmonizing trine to powerful Pluto in your twelfth house of spirituality. Take time to think about what you really want out of this bond, then feel free to speak from the heart. This could bring you even closer.

Around September 17, when the new moon falls in your eighth house of emotional bonds, you'll be getting clear on the reciprocity that exists and that you want out of your nearest and dearest relationships. If it feels like you're giving more than you take or vice-versa, it might be time to rethink your approach and have a heart-to-heart that sets a healing, emotionally satisfying tone.

CANCER

Your to-do list might feel extra long but also enlivening around September 17 when the new moon falls in your third house of communication. This can be an exciting time to make new connections, strike up interesting conversations, or brainstorm thrilling big picture proposals with colleagues. Lean into the frenetic, cerebral vibe of the moment, and you'll thrive, setting the stage for intellectual gratification down the road.

And on September 19, the emotional moon falls in your fourth house of home life and opposes aggressive Mars in your tenth house of career. You might feel torn between your work and professional responsibilities, and this could set up feelings of aggravation or even anger. See if you can parlay these fiery feelings into your work or favorite fitness routine, and you'll feel more centered STAT.

SCORPIO

You might feel like rebelling against your current situation on the job or in a close one-on-one relationship on September 15 when social Venus in your tenth house of career forms a tense square to game-changer Uranus in your seventh house of partnership. Just be sure you've thought it through before making a potentially gasp-worthy plunge.

And around September 17, it's a fruitful time to initiate a team effort, thanks to the new moon falls in your eleventh house of networking. Working with others not only feels fulfilling but is supported by harmonizing trines to taskmaster Saturn and powerful Pluto in your third house of communication. So, send out those emails, set up those meetings and brainstorm, and plan Zoom meet-ups galore. Your hard work could lead to an exciting group win.

PISCES

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IT'S VIRGO SEASON



Smart, sophisticated and kind, Virgo gets the job done without complaining. Virgos are amazing friends, always there to lend a hand and also lend advice. Practical Virgos are incredibly adept at big-picture thinking, and planning out their lives, their vacations and what they're going to do today isn't a drag. It makes them feel in control and secure.

Virgo's desire to have everything be perfect can manifest in frustration when things don't live up to those (sometimes unrealistic) expectations. Besides occasionally leading to fights with friends and partners, Virgo's focus on perfection can cause everything – even uploading an Instagram photo – to take forever. Learning to go with the flow and accept good enough is a struggle.

STRENGTHS

- Dedicated
- Observant
- Kind
- Reliable
- Responsible

WEAKNESSES

- Judgemental
- Anxious
- Obsessive
- Stubborn
- Picky



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