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Media contact: Sara Meeks, Marketing Co-Chair
Chippewa Valley Book Festival
chippewavalleybookfestival@gmail.com

Chippewa Valley Book Festival Bringing Audiences Fresh and Exciting Content

In its 22nd year, the Chippewa Valley Book Festival is proud to bring audiences fresh and exciting content. This year's author events will be held October 25–October 29, 2021. All festival events have a virtual option and three include an in-person presentation. Events are FREE and open to the public. Pre-registration is required.

The festival features authors across genres and diverse backgrounds. There are so many ways to be inspired by these authors and their unique stories. These are just some of the highlights for each author.

Lila Quintero Weaver – Monday, October 25, 7:00 p.m. Featured at the Festival: *Darkroom: A Memoir in Black & White*.

- Go behind the scenes of a graphic memoir, 50 years in the making, and get a glimpse of an alternate interpretation of the Jim Crow era. Weaver's story is primarily about childhood, race, and identity in the American South, but also about a shy girl who arrives in America knowing no English. She grows up in a house where Argentine culture is kept alive through food, music, and letters from the home country. Don't miss your chance to hear directly from the author that *Publishers Weekly* called, "vivid, insightful, and moving."

Kao Kalia Yang – Tuesday, October 26, 7:00 p.m. Featured at the Festival: *Somewhere in the Unknown World*.

- Join award-winning author Kao Kalia Yang for a reading and discussion of her newest memoir, *Somewhere in the Unknown World*, a Kirkus Reviews Best Book of 2020. The book is a collective refugee memoir and speaks to the powerful stories that many refugees carry in their search for peace and their quest to build homes for those they love, for the ideas and ideals of belonging. Dive into the incredible refugee experience and explore the beauty and eloquence of their collective and communal yearning to be understood.

Dasha Kelly Hamilton – Wednesday, October 27, 4:00 p.m. Featured at the Festival: *Almost Crimson*

- Dasha Kelly Hamilton uniquely engages communities in a forward dialogue on race, class, and equity. Hamilton will be the sole presenter for our annual Nadine St. Louis Memorial Poetry Conversation. Hamilton is a national Rubinger Fellow and, concurrently, Poet Laureate for the City of Milwaukee and the State of Wisconsin.

Brian Freeman – Wednesday, October 27, 7:00 p.m. Featured at the Festival: *The Deep, Deep Snow*

- Great stories can lift you out of the real world and transport you somewhere completely different. In this fun, funny look at his 15+ years in the publishing business, thriller writer Brian Freeman talks about the creative process, changes in the book world for writers and readers, and the challenges of taking over an iconic hero like Jason Bourne. Freeman is a *New York Times* bestselling author of psychological thrillers sold in 46 countries and 23 languages. He is widely acclaimed for his "you are there" settings and his complex, engaging characters and twist-filled plots. Freeman's novel *The Deep, Deep Snow* was a finalist for the

Edgar Award for Best Paperback Original. He was selected by Robert Ludlum's estate as the author to continue Ludlum's Jason Bourne series. His first Bourne novel *The Bourne Evolution*, was named one of the Best Mysteries and Thrillers of 2020 by Kirkus Reviews. His next Bourne novel, *The Bourne Treachery*, was just published July 27 to rave reviews: "He has essentially lifted Ludlum's original character from 'The Bourne Identity' and transplanted him into the 2020s."

Kate Moore – Thursday, October 28, 7:00 p.m. Featured at the Festival: *The Woman They Could Not Silence*

- Kate Moore will join us live from England to discuss her new book, which charts the incredible true story of Elizabeth Packard, a nineteenth-century housewife from Illinois who was committed to an insane asylum for daring to defy her husband and whose courageous fight for justice changed the world. Moore will share with us her research journey and the inspiration behind the book, as well as stun listeners with shocking facts about this piece of little-known history—facts that, powerfully, still resonate today.

Madeline Miller – Friday, October 29, 7:00 p.m. Featured at the Festival: *Circe*

- Madeline Miller's first novel and *New York Times* bestseller, *The Song of Achilles*, was awarded the 2012 Orange Prize for Fiction. Her second novel, *Circe*, also a *New York Times* bestseller, won the Indies Choice Best Adult Fiction of the Year Award as well as being shortlisted for the 2019 Women's Prize for Fiction. With unforgettably vivid characters, mesmerizing language, and page-turning suspense, *Circe* is a triumph of storytelling, an intoxicating epic of family rivalry, palace intrigue, love and loss, as well as a celebration of indomitable female strength in a man's world. *Circe* is currently being adapted for television series by HBO Max.

For full festival details and complete list of authors, visit <https://www.cvbookfest.org/2021-festival-events>. Author photos and book jackets can be sent upon request. Please reach out to chippewavalleybookfestival@gmail.com for all graphic inquiries.

The Chippewa Valley Book Festival partners with the Pablo Center at the Confluence, and the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Foundation to provide literary programming for all Chippewa Valley residents.

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