



**AS OF JUNE 7, 2017**

Union Plaza at N 21st St, Lincoln, NE

**7:00 – 9:00 a.m.** Vendor set up

**9:00 a.m.** Festival open to public

**6:00 p.m.** Festival closes

### **JAYNE SNYDER TRAILS CENTER**

**10:00 a.m. – noon**

**WearTec Activity with Nebraska 4-H,  
sponsored by Concierge Marketing**

What is your favorite book? How would you design the cover for that book? What's your favorite scene from the book? For this activity you will have the opportunity to design your very own book cover or scene from your favorite book using LED lights, a battery and copper tape so that your cover or scene lights up! You will be using your creativity and artistic ability combined with circuitry to make a book cover or create a scene from your favorite book that you can take home with you. Ages 8 and up.

**1:00 – 2:00 p.m.**

**“Beyond Names, Dates, and Places” with Faith A. Colburn, sponsored by Nebraska Writers Guild**

Sixth generation Nebraskan and author, Faith A. Colburn has lived her entire life on the Great Plains. She earned a Master of Arts from the University of Nebraska-Kearney, winning the Outstanding Thesis Award in the College of Fine Arts and Humanities for her first memoir in 2012 and the Outstanding Work of Fiction Award in 2009. Colburn will suggest sources of expanded information for family histories and memoirs. She will discuss interviewing family members and organizing those interviews, as well as how the results can provide a base for further investigation. Her memoir, *Threshold*, serves as an example of what family historians can do with what they find.

**2:15 – 3:15 p.m.**

**“My Adventures as a Nonfiction Book Author, Freelance Journalist and Compulsive Blogger” with Leo Adam Biga, sponsored by Nebraska Writers Guild**

Veteran Omaha writer Leo Adam Biga has done a little of everything in his career. He started in public relations in the arts and athletics fields, then became a freelance journalist for business and health publications. His work today as a contributing writer for newspapers, magazines and online sites ranges across many topics – from boxing to books and movies to food to social justice issues. His extensive work on Oscar-winning filmmaker Alexander Payne is the basis of his book *Alexander Payne: His Journey in Film*, one of a handful of books that Biga has written. He will share insights into what the life of a full-time writer entails, including its challenges, rewards and opportunities.

**3:30 – 4:30 p.m.**

**“Plotting a Successful Publishing Course – A discussion of publishing preparations and options”, sponsored by Redbrush**

Preparing to publish takes more than writing a book. Are you prepared for the journey? There are several publishing options available to every writer. Do you know the right method for you?



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## **GRAF AMPHITHEATER**

**10:00 – 10:45 a.m.**

**Mesner Puppet Theater of Kansas City**

**Presented by Lincoln City Libraries**

“The True Story of the Three Little Pigs” by A. Wolf

So you think you know the real story behind the huffing and puffing? Think again. There’s only one individual who knows the true story about one wolf, three houses and three little pigs: Alexander T. Wolf. In this revealing no-squealing adaptation of Jon Scieszka’s popular book, A. Wolf has a chance to tell his side of the story. He only wanted a cup of sugar and he did have a cold. For years we have only known this story from the pigs’ point of view. Mr. A. Wolf tells all about what really happened to those three little houses made of straw, sticks, and bricks and the three pigs who lived in them.

Featured in the production is Mesner Puppet Theater Founder Paul Mesner. His lively performances present classic stories recast in contemporary terms. Audiences across the United States have delighted in the precise craftsmanship, dynamic presentation and joyful blending of humor and education in all his productions.

**12:30 – 1:15 p.m.**

**Mesner Puppet Theater of Kansas City**

**Presented by Lincoln City Libraries**

Additional performance of “The True Story of the Three Little Pigs” by A. Wolf, featuring Mesner Puppet Theater Founder Paul Mesner.

**1:30 – 2:15 p.m.**

**“The History of Books – Thoughtful facts about books; from papyrus to publishing”**

**Sponsored by Redbrush**

Arriving from the future, William Shakespeare, shares the history of books from our present, distant past, and future present to come.



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## GRAF AMPHITHEATER

**2:30 – 3:15 p.m.**

### **Good Books Fast – Four-minute author presentations**

Regional authors will introduce themselves and their books followed by a book signing with Indigo Bridge Books.

- **Dr. Kathryn Benzel:** *Carl Sandburg: Poetry for Kids* [Poetry, Children's]

Benzel is Professor Emerita from University of Nebraska-Kearney. Her current scholarship focuses on Carl Sandburg's writing: his children's literature and his unpublished personal notebooks. In addition Benzel produced *Prayers for the People: Carl Sandburg's Poetry and Songs*, an interdisciplinary production including Sandburg's poetry and song from his *The American Songbag*, which won a Heartland Emmy for NET's film production.

- **Sharon Rues:** *Harold* [Children's]

Rues is a lover of teddy bears, and as a mother, knows the precious friendships young children develop with their teddy bears and other comforting creatures. Her writing style is classic, bringing heart-felt stories to young readers that capture the curiosity and simplicity of childhood experiences. Rues is an exceptionally talented writer and speaker who engages and entertains children and adults through storytelling, humor, and animation.

- **Brooke Williams:** *The Leftover* and other books [Romantic Comedy]

Williams is a stay-at-home mom/freelance writer/author. With a background in radio production and TV news, she now enjoys creating romantic comedy novels and blogs for her freelance clients. Brooke has been married to her husband, Sean, since 2001 and they have two daughters, Kaelyn and Sadie.

- **Gladys Starkey:** *Pesos to Pennies: A Filipino Immigrant's Memoir* [Memoir]

Starkey is an immigrant from the Philippines. She came over to the U.S. in 2009 with a spousal visa. She became a U.S. citizen in 2015. Gladys loves cooking, reading and writing. She published her immigration memoir, *Pesos to Pennies*, last March 2016. She lives in North Bend with her husband, Tim, and daughters, Marie and Olivia.

- **John Mabry:** *Heart Felt: The Jenna Cooper Story* [Nonfiction, Local History]

Marby, now the development director for the Food Bank of Lincoln, was the Lincoln Journal Star's sports editor from 1997 to 2007. He was the beat writer for the Husker women's soccer team for most of that decade, and that is how he got to know Jenna Cooper and the story that inspired *Heart Felt*.

- **Doreen Pfof:** *This River Beneath the Sky* [Nonfiction, Environmental]

Pfof is a nature writer and communications consultant. In 2011 she received the national Frederick Manfred Award for Creative Writing from the Western Literature Association.

- **Jan Chism Wright:** *The Barada Hills of Nebraska* [Nonfiction, Local History]

Wright moved to a farm north of Barada, Nebraska from Houston, Texas in 1997 and has been writing about the area ever since. After earning a BBA degree from the University of Houston, she took courses in creative writing there and at Rice University, St. Thomas University and Peru State College.



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### **Featured author speakers in the Graf Amphitheater**

**3:30 – 4:15 p.m.**

#### **Timothy Schaffert**

Timothy Schaffert discusses research and the role of historical documents in inventing a fictional past -- from his novel *The Swan Gondola*, set in turn-of-the-century Omaha, to his current projects: one set in silent-era Hollywood and the other in Nazi-Occupied Paris.

Schaffert is the author of five novels, most recently *The Swan Gondola*, an Oprah.com Book of the Week. His fiction has been cited as a New York Times Book Review Editors' Choice, a Barnes and Noble Discover Great New Writers pick, and an Amazon.com and iTunes book of the month. His novels have been reviewed and featured in the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *People* magazine, *Entertainment Weekly*, *Good Housekeeping*, and *Publishers Weekly*, among others. His first novel, *The Phantom Limbs of the Rollow Sisters*, was a winner of the Nebraska Book Award, and is in development as a film. He lives in Omaha, and teaches in the English Department of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

**4:30 – 5:15 p.m.**

#### **Tim Anderson, "The 'Soul-Change' of John Neihardt"**

Tim Anderson met John Neihardt in 1972 when Neihardt was autographing copies of his memoir *All Is But a Beginning*. More than 20 years later, after re-reading Neihardt's *Black Elk Speaks*, Anderson was left with so many questions about the book and the author that he began researching Neihardt's life. *Lonesome Dreamer: The Life of John G. Neihardt* (Bison Books, 2016) represents the answers that he found.

Anderson grew up in Oakland, Neb., where he started his newspaper career at age 16 at the *Oakland Independent*. After graduating from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1974, Anderson worked for newspapers in Florida, Nebraska and New York for the next 30 years, including *New York Newsday* and the *New York Times*. In 2005 he left the newspaper business and became an associate professor of journalism at UNL, retiring at the end of 2015.