A FREE FESTIVAL OF THE WRITTEN AND SPOKEN WORD

FREE FLOW
FOR SCHOOLS

29TH NOVEMBER

WARWICK
THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK
To celebrate the University’s new partnership with The Sunday Times/Peters Fraser + Dunlop Young Writer of the Year Award we couldn’t resist the temptation to create a day of events and workshops exploring a mini kaleidoscope of written and spoken word (or at least as much as we could fit into a day).

All events are entirely FREE, and we are keen to involve as many young students as possible. We have targeted Year 10 students in the first instance but realise you may wish to bring along talented Year 9 pupils, or older learners (the events for adults are also open to schools).

Our events have been programmed by Jane Furze, Director of The Times and The Sunday Times Cheltenham Literature Festival 2012 - 2015.

This is an opportunity to bring together inspirational thinkers, skilled speakers, readers and writers, to discuss what’s fresh, controversial and relevant today about the business of reading and writing. There’ll be debates, presentations and workshops looking at writing in its many forms, as well as the business of producing it. Our aim is to refresh and provoke: in short, to celebrate the vibrancy of language at work within and beyond the curriculum.
WORKSHOP:
NEWS ACADEMY:
‘BEHIND THE NEWS’

12.15-1.45pm Or 2.15-3.45pm

0C1.03 The Oculus

A hands on introduction to journalism and the tools of the trade run by the team from News UK’s prestigious News Academy. Pupils will learn how to spot a story, pen a headline, and write in a way which will capture the reader’s interest.

**Hosts for the day will be:**
The Sunday Times apprentice journalist *Shingi Maraike*. Shingi attended the Young Journalists’ Academy before gaining a place on the News Academy summer school. This year, Shingi graduated from The University of Warwick, where he was editor-in-chief of the student newspaper, the Boar. He is now the first ever apprentice at The Sunday Times, and studying for his NCTJ as part of the apprenticeship.

*Viv Regan* runs the News Academy at News UK, is director of the Young Journalists’ Academy and managing editor at the online current-affairs magazine, Spiked. She previously was the co-director of online citizen-TV channel WORLDbytes.

The News Academy is an initiative of News UK and works in partnership with the highly regarded Young Journalists’ Academy (YJA). It has a clear mission to invest in the future of journalism, and to help and inspire the next generation of those who might one day work in the industry.
WORKSHOP: VIDEO GAMES AND DIGITAL NARRATIVE

12.15-1.45pm Or 2.15-3.45pm
0C1.09 The Oculus

The video games industry is really popular with young writers. Their stories are getting increasingly complex, to the point that some studios now hire full-time writers to cope with the demand for this complexity.

In this hands-on workshop, pupils will work with a computer application called Twine to create storyboards for a video game. And the great thing is that once they are done, they can publish their story online, for others to ‘play’.

It’s not only fun, but also has real-world use. These story board apps are what major games studios like TellTale Games and Bioware use when planning their stories and they can also be used to plan literary narratives. It’s a great exercise on cause-consequence chains and action-driven narrative as something always has to happen.

The day will be hosted by:
Gonzalo C. Garcia, a novelist and avid gamer who uses video games and their stories in his own writing.

Tim Leach, a novelist, specialising in historical fiction. His first novel, *The Last King of Lydia*, was published in 2013 and shortlisted for the Dylan Thomas Prize that year. A sequel, *The King and the Slave* was published in 2014.

Jack McGowan, a poet and performer interested in new media in contemporary poetry, 20th century UK poetry and poetics, digital literature, video game narratives, and new creative writing pedagogies.

SHAKESPEARE ON TOAST WITH BEN CRYSTAL

4.00-5.00pm
0C0.03 The Oculus

Who’s afraid of William Shakespeare? Just about everyone. He wrote too much and what he did write is inaccessible and elitist. Right? Wrong. Ben Crystal knocks the stuffing from the staid old myth of Shakespeare, revealing the man and his plays for what they really are: modern, thrilling and uplifting drama.

Ben Crystal is an actor, author and producer who has led Shakespeare workshops and masterclasses around the world and worked extensively with Shakespeare’s Globe, the British Library, and the British Council.
MEET THE AUTHOR:
PATRICE LAWRENCE

5.15-6.15pm
0C0.03 The Oculus

Pupils will join author Patrice Lawrence as she discusses the award winning Orangeboy and her new book Indigo Donut; a powerful account of a young adult’s search for belonging. Hear her talk about finding an agent, getting published, writing about tough ‘real world’ themes and the power of music. Questions will most definitely be welcomed!

Patrice was born in Brighton and brought up in an Italian-Trinidadian household in Mid Sussex. She has been writing for as long as she has been reading. Her first novel, Orangeboy, won the 2016 Waterstones Children’s Book Prize for Older Fiction and the Bookseller’s 2017 YA Book Prize and was shortlisted for the Costa Book Award.

“The Oculus” has actually been a lifelong dream of mine. I have been in love with it since I was a little child. When I was a small girl, I used to visit my grandmother in the family home, which is now The Oculus. It was always a special place for me. I can still vividly remember sitting on the steps of the house, looking out at the beautiful view of the river. It was always such a peaceful place to be.

Robert Macfarlane winner 2004

THE SUNDAY TIMES YOUNG WRITER OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Sunday Times/Peters Fraser & Dunlop Young Writer of the Year Award, in association with The University of Warwick, is awarded for a full-length published or self-published (in book or ebook formats) work of fiction, non-fiction or poetry, by an author of 35 years or under.

Since it began in 1991, the award has had a striking impact, boasting a stellar list of alumni that have gone on to become leading lights of contemporary literature. The 2016 Award was presented to Max Porter for his extraordinary debut, Grief Is The Thing With Feathers. Other past winners include: Naomi Alderman, Disobedience (2007); William Fiennes, The Snow Geese (2003); Zadie Smith, White Teeth (2001); Sarah Waters, Affinity (2000); Patrick French, Liberty or Death: India’s Journey to Independence and Division (1998); William Dalrymple, City of Djinns: A Year in Delhi (1994); Simon Armitage, Kid (1993)

The 2017 shortlist will be announced on 29th October 2017 www.youngwriteraward.com

“For young writers, a prize makes all the difference: not just the publicity flare, or the tag-line on the paperback jacket, but the jag of confidence it brings. Someone believes in your prose, someone has prized those sentences you spent all those years laying end to end... Nothing crushes the wish to write quite like apathy; nothing boosts it quite like being read and responded to carefully. [After winning the award in 2004] I started to think I might be able to write another book - that became The Wild Places (2007), and here I am in 2015, six books down and another underway, thinking back more than a decade to the Prize, and the huge boost it gave me.”

Robert Macfarlane winner 2004
PLANNING YOUR VISIT

EVENTS ON THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK CAMPUS

Information on getting to campus can be found at: www.warwick.ac.uk/visit

The Oculus location on campus can be found at: www.warwick.ac.uk/map

There is a good range of eating and drinking facilities on campus which can be found at: www.warwick.ac.uk/retail

HOW TO BOOK

Booking is required for all events

To make your booking please e mail the following details to events@warwick.ac.uk:

• Lead contact name and position
• School name
• List of events you would like to book and number of pupils and staff attending each event. Please separate out pupil and staff numbers.

We will try to accommodate as many bookings as we can but numbers are limited and places will be given on a first come first served basis in the order in which we receive e mail bookings.

We are delighted to be able to offer all events free of charge. All we ask in return for this commitment and as a courtesy to our speakers, is that you use all tickets you book. If you are genuinely unable to use tickets then please let us know in advance.

BOOK SALES

After a number of the sessions, speakers and authors will be happy to meet pupils and sign books. Books will be on sale at the venue.