



AfterWords
Literary Festival

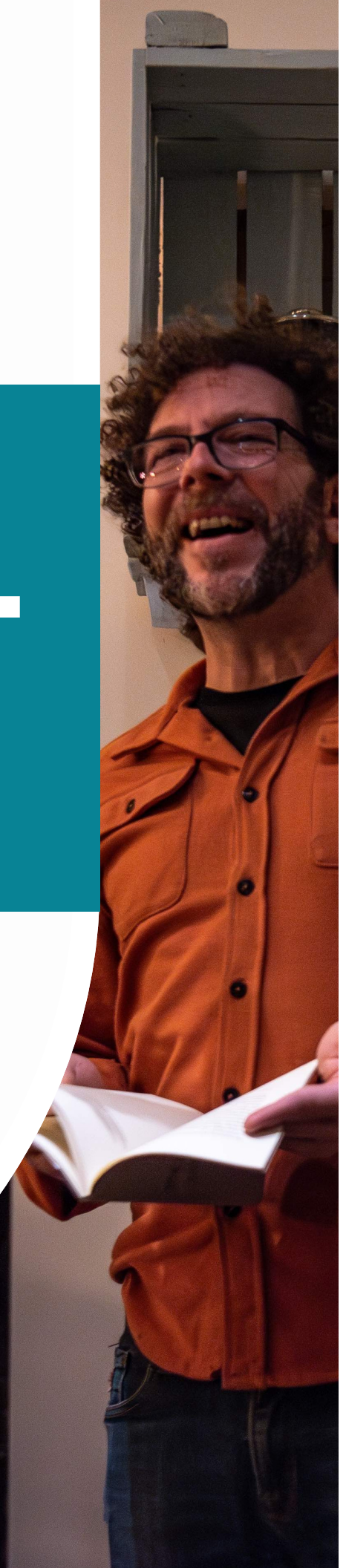
IMPACT REPORT

2024

Where
readers and writers
meet

January 2025

www.afterwords.org





OUR FESTIVAL PROGRAMMING

From Kids' Day/Journée jeunesse on Saturday, November 2 right through to co-executive director Stephanie Domet's closing night interview with Lisa Moore on Sunday, November 10, the sixth annual AfterWords Literary festival brought writers and readers together across **eight days, eleven venues, twenty-nine events, fifty-eight authors and hosts, sixty volunteers, and more than 1,500 combined audience.**

NEW IN 2024

YOUTH MENTORSHIP

Our inaugural Youth Writing Mentorship paired two young Nova Scotians—Kiahna Brennan and Atharv Mahajan—with two professional writers—Tom Ryan and Andre Fenton. After a six-week mentorship, all four presented work at the MacPhee Centre in Dartmouth in May, and Kiahna and Atharv appeared at the 2024 festival.

A MODERN MI'KMA'KI

Featuring shalan joudry, Trina Roache, Rebecca Thomas, and Sue Goyette, the four-episode first season of our podcast, A Modern Mi'kma'ki, launched.

SPRING FOREWORD

Our four-day spring festival, in co-operation with the Frye Festival in Moncton, featured visiting writers Brandon Taylor, Lisa Moore, Sharon Bala, and Pamela Mulloy, and local writers Leo McKay and Tara Thorne.





IN OUR COMMUNITY

We're rooted in our community—as readers, and writers, and as neighbours looking out for each other and for the land. In 2023, we gave back by building and installing a Little Free Library alongside the Halifax Community Fridge, and making it a regular part of our practice to deliver contributions to both each month. That practice continues, and in 2024 we had the beautiful opportunity to bring to life *Walking Trees*, by Marie-Louise Gay, and to contribute seven new native-species saplings to be planted in the Public Gardens. We celebrated with a *Walking Trees* Tree Parade, featuring Marie-Louise herself, and six families who carefully helped transport the little saplings from the Halifax Central Library to the Public Gardens, where we all joined in planting them in the ground for all to enjoy.



OUR MISSION AND VISION

AfterWords Literary Festival envisions an equitable society where citizens are equipped with the tools and the passion to read, write, and tell stories, are empowered to consider other points of view, and where the work of artists is respected as a necessary pillar of democracy.

Our sustainable festival offers accessible year-round programming and opportunities in order to foster a love of words, books, and stories; to develop aspiring writers of all ages and communities, especially those historically underserved; and to inspire people of all communities to read, learn, and create.

THANK YOU

Everything we do, we do lifted by our community, and that's you. Our donors, sponsors, funders, supporters, fans, audiences, authors, hosts, volunteers, board of directors, venues, partners, and collaborators—you mean so much to us. We never take your support lightly. Thank you for being part of our story.

CONTACT US:



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Photos throughout by Stoo Metz

