



A Festival of Reading and Writing
for Young Adults

19-20
November
2020
Waterford
City

← Ireland's **ONLY** Literature Festival
For Young People By Young People →



Check out www.thelit.eu for our full programme and online booking

Festival of events, workshops and masterclasses dedicated
to young people aged 14-19 yrs passionate about literature and the world of words

A FESTIVAL OF READING AND
WRITING FOR YOUNG ADULTS

WRITERS

Tia Weldon



Áine Ní Ghlinn



Beau Williams



Justin Cullen



Isobel Tiernan



Dave Rudden



Com Keegan



Hannah Kelly



Megan Nolan



Ciara Ní E



Adam Finn



Amy Beashal



Leah Sheridan



Robert Power



Kassie O'Mahony



E.R. Murray



Tara Kennedy



Kieran Power



Bankrupt



GUEST ARTISTS

THURSDAY 19 NOVEMBER

SCHEDULE

ONLINE LIT FESTIVAL LAUNCH

7pm

With Isobel Tiernan (chairperson of Lit Committee) featuring poems from The Lit Committee

Also launch of some online talks / chats / interviews with writers Dave Rudden, Amy Beashal and musician Justin Cullen.

DAVE RUDDEN

7.30pm

HOW TO WRITE REALISTIC FANTASY



Dave Rudden's first novel, *Knights of the Borrowed Dark*, was the 2016 Children's Book of the Year at the Irish Book Awards and the UNESCO Dublin City of Literature Citywide Read in 2017. He has been shortlisted for the Hennessey New Writing Prize, the Northern Irish Book Award and was the 2011 winner of the Fantasy Book Review Short Story Prize. His first Doctor Who anthology, *Twelve Angels Weeping*, was released in October 2018.

In the last two years, he has performed in over five hundred schools, libraries, workshops, conferences, literary death matches and one pumpkin festival. Dave enjoys cats, adventure and being cruel to fictional children.



AMY BEASHEL

7.45pm

Amy Beashal, who swore she'd never have pets or live north of London, lives in Shropshire with her family and their two dogs and a cat. *The Sky Is Mine*, an exploration of domestic abuse and rape culture, is her first novel.

When she's not writing, she's probably thinking (or crying) about writing. A Guinness-World-Record holder for space hopping a mile in just over 17 minutes, Amy is obsessed with books, podcasts and Nutella.

JUSTIN CULLEN

8pm



Justin Cullen is the songwriter with Wexford Independent band Frankenstein Bolts who have released two albums, an EP and multiple singles to date. Justins music focuses on dreamy arrangements, melodies and thought provoking lyrics. The band over the years has played main stage slots at most major Irish festivals including Electric picnic, Castlepalooza and Other Voices. He also works with young people in schools

introducing them to the process of songwriting through lyric writing, music production and performance. He runs a private songwriting Facebook group for local songwriters to create, share and perform songs at a virtual open mic night once a month. He is currently writing the third Frankenstein Bolts album and delivering online creative digital media workshops around the country.

Justin's talk will be on songwriting and finding your own voice, he will also talk on the techniques that he uses in workshops and how important being creative is for your mental health

**ALL EVENTS
ARE FREE**
Bookings via
[eventbrite.ie](https://www.eventbrite.ie)

www.lit.eu

ONLINE WORKSHOP

11am

E.R. MURRAY**HOLY GUACAMOLE! FOOD IN FICTION**

Workshop presented to students at Waterpark

Food is such an important part of human existence. We think about, discuss, buy, prepare, and cook food every single day – but it's not just about fuel. Food is linked to mood, memory, communication, and relationships. Too much or too little can be dangerous; witches in gingerbread houses have terrified young children for generations, kings and queens traditionally appointed tasters to stay alive, while hunger strikes have been used to try and change the world. Join award-winning author E.R. Murray for this writing-focused workshop and explore how you can use food to bring your fiction to life! All you need is something to write with and write on, and an open mind. Elizabeth Rose Murray lives in West Cork where she fishes, grows her own vegetables and enjoys plenty of outdoor adventures.



Elizabeth writes novels for children and young adults as well as short fiction and personal essays. Her books include *The Book of Learning – Nine Lives Trilogy 1* (2016 Dublin UNESCO Citywide Read for Children.), *The Book of Shadows – Nine Lives Trilogy 2* (shortlisted 2016 Irish Book Awards and 2016 Irish Literacy Association Award), *The Book of Revenge – Nine Lives Trilogy 3* (Feb 2018) and *Caramel Hearts* (May 2016).

Keen to encourage new and emerging writers, Elizabeth regularly facilitates workshops for both adults and children. She also provides manuscript reports and online workshops for Big Smoke Writing Factory and Inkwell Group, and is the social media machine for writing.ie.

ONLINE WORKSHOP

am

ÁINE NÍ GHLINN**GAELSCOIL PHORT LÁIRGE**

For the second year the Lit is partnering with Laureate na nÓg to bring a new twist on writing workshops and poetry. The new Laureate, Áine Ní Ghlinn will facilitate an online workshop with a Gaelscoil primary school as part of The Lit Festival 2020. Áine will use her own works to inspire writing as Gaeilge. This bilingual aspect to the festival is one that The Lit is very excited to facilitate!



Áine is a children's writer and poet. She has written twenty-six books for children, including stories and novels for all ages, as well as poetry and drama. Her ambition as Laureate is to lift the cloak of invisibility from Irish language authors and books, and to encourage children and young people to read for pleasure as Gaeilge.

Originally from County Tipperary, Áine worked for a number of years in RTÉ and Raidió na Gaeltachta as a journalist, and now divides her time between writing, delivering creative writing workshops in schools, and part-time lecturing in Dublin City University.

Her books have won the Gradam Reics Carló Book of the Year Award three times, most recently in 2019 for her novel *Boscadán*. In 2015, her YA novel *Daideo* won the Honour Award for Fiction at the Children's Books Ireland Book of the Year Awards, as well as the Literacy Association of Ireland Book of the Year.

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ONLINE READING AND INTERVIEW

7.30pm

MEGAN NOLAN

INTERVIEW BY ISOBEL TIERNAN



Megan Nolan is an Irish writer and journalist based in London. Publications include *The New York Times*, *The Guardian*, and the anthology of Irish writing, *Winter Papers*. She has a fortnightly column in the *New Statesman* and is represented by David Higham and Associates.

Her debut novel *Acts of Desperation* will be published by Jonathan Cape in the UK and Little, Brown in the USA in 2021.

ONLINE WORKSHOP

11am

MEGAN NOLAN

Megan Nolan will lead a workshop exploring the genre of first person writing including personal essays, columns, and fiction. The workshop will look at finding the confidence to write personally and how to take that writing beyond the diary and into the public forum, how to negotiate the balance of privacy and honest disclosure, and pitching to editors and getting published. Participants are encouraged to come with excerpts of work they wish to discuss, and Nolan will highlight examples of her own work both successful and unsuccessful, as well as reviewing the work of other authors

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ONLINE SONGWRITING WORKSHOP

11am

ROBERT POWER

SONGS & OTHER NONSENSE

A workshop for those who've always felt a little "isolated". We are all artists. Everyone on the planet. Everyone. It is not exclusive. That is a myth.

What is exclusive, however, is our own voice. That, and how we choose to express ourselves with that voice.

Although I have many years of writing and performing experience, I probably cannot "teach" you more than you will teach me in this workshop. What we WILL do, is have fun writing new music, and I will show you the most important thing I have learned in life, as an artist.

How To Feel Special (In A World Of Apathy).



Robert Power (RP) is an independent artist from the town of Carrick-On-Suir in County Tipperary, Ireland, who has worked in various mediums. His music and songwriting has been described by Hot Press Magazine as "powerful, heartfelt and thought-provoking". He has previously been selected for industry magazine *Record Of The Day* and performed at music, arts and theatre festivals including Imagine, *LightColourSound*

and Dublin's Fringe Festival, supporting artists such as Jack L, Jinx Lennon and Murray A. Lightburn.

POP UP POETRY INSTA LIVE

1.30pm

Leah Sheridan and friends perform some poetry on Instagram.

ONLINE WORKSHOP

2pm

COLM KEEGAN

AMAZING PHRASES

- BREAKING AND MAKING THEM

Slang terms and slogans, insults, mottos, and memes. Great phrases are everywhere. The right infectious sentences can enter the zeitgeist, even become eternal, but what makes them stick? Join Colm Keegan to explore that question and learn how to use their power in your own writing.



Colm Keegan is a writer and poet from Dublin, Ireland. He has been shortlisted four times for the Hennessy New Irish Writing Award, for both poetry and fiction and won the All Ireland Poetry Slam for his spoken word. His first book *Don't Go There* was released in 2012 to critical acclaim. His latest collection *Randomer* is out now and available from Salmon poetry.

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ONLINE WORKSHOP

3pm

CIARA NÍ É

BI-LINGUAL ZOOM WORKSHOP

CEARDLANN FILÍOCHTA AR ZOOM LE CIARA NÍ É

Is file, gníomhaí, craoltóir, blagálaí, agus YouTube-aí í Ciara Ní É. Is e bhunaigh an oíche mic oscailte REIC. Tá an cheardlann dhátheangach seo dírithe ar dhéagóirí idir 13-18 mbliana d'aois a bhfuil spéis acu Gaeilge a úsáid. Labhróidh Ciara faoin bpróiseas scríbhneoireachta, cur i láthair, agus crógacht. Ceardlann uair a chloig ar Zoom le líon teoranta spásanna, cláraigh anois!



Ciara Ní É is a poet, activist, broadcast, blogger, and YouTuber, and the founder of the bilingual spoken word event REIC. This bilingual workshop is open to teenagers between 13-18 years who are interested in writing in Irish, or using Irish in their writing. Ciara will share tips on best practices for writing, performance, and confidence. This one hour long Zoom workshop has limited space, sign up now!

ONLINE MUSIC GIG

6pm

SUPPORT FROM TARA KENNEDY

BANKRUPT

6.15pm



Following the release of their new single *Dreamers*, The Lit is delighted to announce that the Waterford-born band Bankrupt will be playing at our festival in November!

Bankrupt take influence from grungy, hard rocks bands such as Highly Suspect, cleopatrck, Royal Blood, Foals and Nirvana to name a few.

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The Lit
Festival Committee
2020



ONLINE PHOTOGRAPHY

5.30pm

KIERAN POWER



A young waterford photographer and graphic artist who specializes in film, candid and documentary photography.

Using an eclectic contemporary style to photograph the everyday mundane and putting a colourful yet documentary feel to the bulk of work, with some undertakings into the abstract and surreal.

With works ranging from exposure to the underground music scene and the people behind it to more intimate and personal relationships expressed through a photo.

With the vast majority of works being taken in Waterford and the surrounding area.



OPEN MIC ONLINE

7.30pm

OPEN MIC

WITH MC BEAU WILLIAMS



Beau Williams is a performance poet, writer, organizer & facilitator from the United States who is currently based in Dublin, Ireland.

In January of 2017, Williams was an Artist in Residence at Burren College of Art in Ballyvaughan, Ireland. He also is the Head Organizer of the Glasshouse Poetry Open Mic in Galway and held the title of All-Ireland Poetry Grand Slam Champion of 2018. In 2019 he won the Poetry Ireland

Versify Award. In February 2020, he graduated with an MA in Creative Writing from University College of Cork.

In 2020, in response to the COVID crisis, Williams initiated the Virtual Poetry Marketplace Project and the 2 Meter Review Anthology in order to promote poetry and generate income for poets who were financially affected by the lockdown

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It couldn't be easier to get involved this year
in The LIT wherever in the world you are!

All you need is to register with the LIT and access
events over a stable internet connection.

Leaf through our flip book programme at thelit.eu

Register for events at
thelityoungwritersfestival.eventbrite.ie

Join us on [Instagram.com/thelitfestival](https://www.instagram.com/thelitfestival)

[#theLitRevolution](https://twitter.com/thelitrevolution)

[#thelitywf](https://twitter.com/thelitywf)

[#RTEsupportingthearts](https://twitter.com/RTEsupportingthearts)



Resourced and Funded by



The Lit Committee Acknowledgements

Isobel Tierney (Chair)
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Adam Finn
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LIT Team Support

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Photography

Hayley Stuart