



For Immediate Release

Read. Share Stories. Build Lifelong Literacy at Telling Tales.

HAMILTON, ON – August 14, 2025 – Hamilton Public Library (HPL) joins Telling Tales (TT) at its annual children’s literary festival on October 4 and 5 to celebrate the magic of storytelling.

Over two days and on five stages, more than 100 presenters converge at Royal Botanical Gardens' Hendrie Park, including children’s authors, illustrators, dancers, artists and musicians. Main Stage headliners include authors Tanya Tagaq on Saturday at 12:15pm and Matthew Forsyth on Sunday at 12:15pm. The Festival also features a book swap and shop, vendors, interactive walks and creative activities.

Hamilton Public Library staff will also be there each day, with 10-minute storytime presentations for all ages at 10:50, 1:10, 2:25 and 3:40. Featured books include Telling Tales Reading List highlights such as: *The Bear Out There* by Jess Hannigan; *The Crayon Stub* by Marcus Cutler; *Hug* by Charlene Chua and *When the Air Sang* by Laura Bontje.

Make the most of your literary adventure and plan your day using the [full Festival schedule](#). Be sure to [register to attend this free weekend event](#).

While you wait for the Festival, check out [Telling Tales’ Reading List](#), or download the [Book Bingo card](#) and borrow the books from HPL. Book Bingo features fresh new Canadian releases and all Book Bingo books will be available for purchase at the Telling Tales Festival. As a bonus, readers can redeem their book bingo card for 10% off at local bookstores Epic Books and A Different Drummer Books. Visit HPL’s 23 branches and Bookmobiles any time of year for storytimes, crafts, science, author events and more. Details at hpl.ca/events.

“With books for babies to teens, our literary programming this year focuses on building foundational literacy skills while including more panels, workshops and activities that help develop critical thinking and dialogue skills,” says Executive Director Heather Kanabe. “This ensures we are with young people throughout their literacy journey.”

“Hamilton Public Library shares Telling Tales’ mission to encourage a love of reading, share the joy of stories and grow literacy skills throughout the year—every year—to reach important milestones,” says Katelyn Granger, Manager of Youth Services at HPL. “The benefits of getting a free library card at a young age are endless.”

To make it easier to get to the Festival, hop on a shuttle bus supported by [First Student](#), in front of Central Library at 55 York Blvd, 10am-4:30pm. A bus departs every 15 minutes.

About Hamilton Public Library

The Hamilton Public Library is a vibrant hub for information and culture, providing our diverse community the Freedom to Belong and Discover. As one of the largest library systems in Canada, Hamiltonians discover something new at our 23 locations, Bookmobile, or through our extensive digital collections. Visit us online at hpl.ca. Connect with us on X, Instagram [@hamiltonlibrary](#), and Facebook at [HamiltonPublicLibrary](#).

About Telling Tales

Telling Tales is a Canadian Registered Charity committed to delivering outstanding literary programming for children and youth that raises awareness of the importance of literacy in our communities. Telling Tales season is co-hosted by Hamilton Public Library and Rotary Clubs of Burlington and Hamilton. This event is financially assisted by the Ontario Cultural Attractions Fund, a program of the Government of Ontario through the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Gaming, administered by the Ontario Cultural Attractions Fund Corporation. [Full list of supporters](#). Visit us online at tellingtales.org. Connect with us on X, Instagram [@tellingtalesorg](#), and Facebook at [TellingTales.Org](#).

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