## Fox Cities Book Festival goes virtual

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## **FULL TEXT**

This year the Fox Cities Book Festival made the decision to go fully virtual. While it certainly changes the traditional format of the fall festival, it does make the program format more inclusive. Zoom author events will require registration, but if registration is full, the events will also be streaming live on Facebook. All presentations between Oct. 11-18 will be available on the Fox Cities Book Festival Facebook page for 24 hours after the presentation to view.

Kicking off the schedule this year is the National Endowment for the Arts Big Read author Kao Kalia Yang, who has been rescheduled from her April Fox Cities Reads events. Yang is the author of "The Latehomecomer: A Hmong Family Memoir." Yang will be presenting at 6 p.m. Oct. 11 and again at 1:30 p.m. Oct. 12. As the Fox Cities Reads selection, your local public library will be stocked with Yang's work for you to check out. The audiobook of "The Latehomecomer" is read by the author and comes highly recommended by the festival.

Participants in the festival can also see: debut-young adult author of "Cinderella is Dead," Kaylnn Bayron and Wisconsin favorite, Jerry Apps, who has released a new book, "When the White Pine was King: A History of Lumberjacks, Log Drives, and Sawdust in Wisconsin." Romantics will enjoy a presentation with Sonali Dev, author of "Recipe for Persuasion." Dev is well known for her Bollywood-style love stories. If science fiction and fantasy are more your style, check out Cadwell Turnbull, debut author of "The Lesson."

Those looking for a darker thrill will enjoy the work of Stephan Graham Jones, author of "The Only Good Indians." Horror fans are well versed with Jones' work, which made Bloody Disgusting's Top 10 Horror Novels. If historical fiction is more your pace, check out Weina Dai Randel, author of "The Moon in the Palace" and "The Empress of Bright Moon," novels about China's only female emperor.

A Coretta-Scott King Award-winning author, Tiffany Jackson, will be presenting to the public and to area high school students about her newest book "Grown," a riveting mystery that exposes horrific secrets and embraces a young woman's voice. Other mystery and thriller authors include Hank Phillipi Ryan, author of "The First Lie," E.A. Aymar author of "The Unrepentant," and Jennifer Hillier, author of "Jar of Hearts."

Local favorites include: Baptiste Paul, author of the picture book "The Field;" Gavin Schmitt, author of mafia and local history titles; Bram Stoker award winner, Sarah Read; naturalist Stephanie Feuerstein; poet Abayomi Animashaun; mystery writer Kathy Beson Buchen; short story night talent Richie Zaborowske; poet Cathryn Coffell and young adult author Lori M. Lee.

This year the festival is dedicated to late board member and writer Christopher "Tuffer" Kunz. Tuffer was the author of "Letting Go, Doing Time" and "Struggling Readers," as well as a collection of essays "Missing Pieces." Two presentations have been dedicated to the celebration of his life and work.

For more information on the schedule, visit: foxcitiesbookfestival.org or facebook.com/FoxCitiesBookFestival. Find books at your local library or visit bookshop.org/shop/fcbf!.

Ashley Thiem-Menning is the director of the Kaukauna Public Library.

## **DETAILS**



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