



way **WORD** 2021 Festival

A festival led by students and young people,
celebrating unconventional forms of artistic expression



Leila Aboulela, **Graeme Armstrong**, Harry Josephine Giles, **Kirstin Innes**,
A.L. Kennedy, **Val McDermid**, Zakiya McKenzie, **Ely Percy**, Karine Polwart,
Dan Schreiber, Alan Warner, **Irvine Welsh**, Alex Wheatle



ALBA | CHRUTHACHAIL



Whether online or in-person, our events are free (booking required). Captions and BSL interpretation will be available throughout the festival.

Sunday 19th	3pm	'The Love Wall' Launch
	7.30 - 8.30 pm	Faridah Àbíké-Íyímídé
Monday 20th	3 - 4 pm	Listen.. Outdoor Sound Art Workshop with Pete Stollery
	5.30 - 6.30 pm	<i>Verbal Remedies</i> Launch: Creative Writing by Medics
	7.30 - 8.30 pm	Wirds an Soonds: Doric & Cello and 'We Need to Talk' Showcase
Tuesday 21st	3.30 - 4.30 pm	'Speaking of Sound': Online Sound Art Workshop with Nathan Wolek
	5.30 - 7 pm	<i>Elliptical Reading</i> with British Art Show 9 & Aberdeen Central Library
	7.30 - 8.30 pm	Aberdeen Women's Alliance Virtual Witches Walking Tour
Wednesday 22nd	10 - 11 am	Creative Writing and Mental Health with Jane Hughes
	11.30 - 12.30 pm	Leila Aboulela: Decolonising the Imagination
	1 - 2 pm	New Scottish Writing - Rachelle Atalla, Gillian Shearer, Hannah Nicholson, & Jen Cooper
	4.30 - 5.30 pm	Irvine Welsh in conversation with Alan Warner
	6 - 7 pm	Heal & Harrow: Rachel Newton and Lauren MacColl
	8 - 10.30 pm	North-East Voices at the The Blue Lamp: Shane Strachan, Sheena Blackhall, Noon Salah Eldin, Affa Bass, SC&T Youth and Iona Fyfe
Thursday 23rd	10 - 11 am	Life Writing Workshop: Elizabeth Anderson & Timothy C. Baker
	11.30 - 12.30 pm	Resistance Zines Workshop with Dead Women Poets Society
	1 - 2 pm	Writing Life & Death: Nomi Eve & Emily Utter
	2.30 - 4 pm	<i>Abomination: A DUP Opera</i> Screening and Q&A with director Nicky Larkin
	4 - 5.30 pm	<i>Hysteria</i> Writing & Performing Spoken Word Poetry Workshop 1: Writing
	5.30 - 7 pm	Sea Shanty Workshop with Chris McShane
	7.30 - 9 pm	Writers Showcase with <i>Pushing Out the Boat</i> & <i>Leopard Arts</i>
Friday 24th	10 - 11am	British Sign Language (BSL) Workshop with Mags McNulty
	11.30 - 12.30 pm	Climate Change with STEM Poets: John Bolland, Mandy Haggith & Eveline Pye.

Friday 24th	1-2pm	World-building Through a Poetry Lens with Natalie Linh Bolderston
	2.30 - 3.30 pm	Cultural Translation: Avni Doshi, Raman Mundair & Preti Taneja
	4 - 5.30 pm	Hysteria Writing & Performing Spoken Word Poetry Workshop 2: Performing Technique
	5.30 pm	Storytelling & Place 2: Dunnottar with Grace Banks
	6 - 7 pm	Karine Polwart
	7.30 - 8.30 pm	Writing Comedy with QI's Dan Schreiber
Saturday 25th	10 - 11 am	Animation Workshop with Finn Nichol
	11.30 - 12.30 pm	Nan Shepherd Event: Writer Zakiya McKenzie & Composer Colin Riley
	1 - 2 pm	Writing and Class: Graeme Armstrong & Ely Percy
	2 - 4 pm	Visions of Beauty: Uncovering Art
	2.30 - 3.30 pm	Writing & Nature: Alice Tarbuck and Jessica J. Lee
	4 - 5 pm	Alex Wheatle
	5.30 pm	Storytelling & Place 3: Kincardine O'Neil with Jackie Ross
	6.30 - 7.30 pm	Val McDermid
	7.30 - 9 pm	Hysteria: Women/Non-Binary Performance Night featuring Harry Josephine Giles
Sunday 26th	10 - 11.30 am	Bothy Ballads Workshop with Ellie Beaton
	10 - 11.30 am	Gaelic Song Workshop with Norrie MacIver
	11.30 - 12.30 pm	Nature Writing Workshop with Zakiya McKenzie
	1 - 2 pm	Dràma na Gàidhlig le Michelle NicLeòid
	2.30 - 3.30 pm	Neurodiversity, Disability & Creativity with Jill Boyd, Claire Cunningham & Nuala Watt
	4 - 5 pm	A.L. Kennedy
	5.30 pm	Storytelling & Place 4: Boddam with Pauline Cordiner
	6 - 7 pm	Centre for the Novel invites Kirstin Innes & Outi Smith: Songs for a Scabby Queen
	7.30 - 9 pm	Dead Women Poets Séance

Launching 3pm BST **online/in-person**

The Love Wall

An interactive online and offline art installation, the Love Wall showcases and celebrates the multifaceted forms love can take. Visit waywordfestival.com/love-wall to leave a virtual contribution or Sunnybank Park to make your mark on the physical love wall installation.

7.30 - 8.30 pm BST **online**

Faridah Àbíké-Íyímídé



New York Times Bestselling author (and Aberdeen graduate), Faridah Àbíké-Íyímídé discusses her debut novel, the young adult thriller, *Ace of Spades*.

Monday / 20th September

3.00 - 4.00 pm BST **in-person**

Listen... Outdoor Sound Art Workshop with Pete Stollery in Cruikshank Garden

Join Professor of Electro-Acoustic Music, Pete Stollery, in Cruikshank Botanical Garden for an outdoor workshop in soundscape listening, recording and editing sounds for a virtual sound map. Event has limited numbers.

5.30 - 6.30 pm **online**

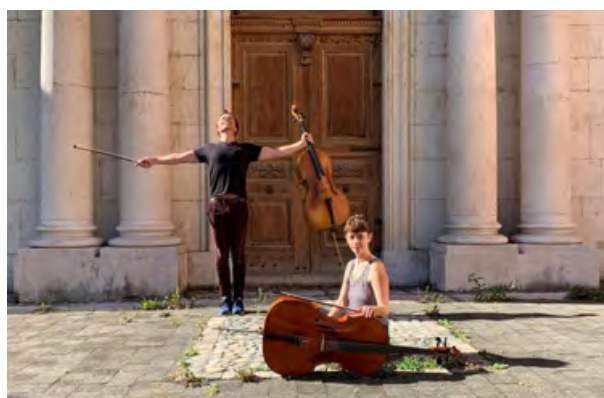
Verbal Remedies Launch: Creative Writing by Medical Students

Students from the University of Aberdeen's Creative Writing for Medics course launch *Verbal Remedies IV*, a chapbook of their latest writing, with readings and discussion.

7.30 - 8.30 pm BST **online**

Wirds an Soonds: Doric & Cello and 'We Need to Talk' Showcase

Join cellists, composers and writers involved in Wirds an Soonds and 'We Need to Talk': Noémi Boutin, Matthew Sharp, Shane Strachan, Aileen Sweeney and Emily De Simone, in discussion with Sound Festival's Fiona Robertson and WORD Centre's Helen Lynch. Includes screening of short film about *We Need to Talk/Il Faut Q'on Parle* and new work by Aileen, Emily and Shane.



Tuesday / 21st September

3.30 - 4.30 pm BST **online**

Speaking of Sound: Online Sound Art Workshop with Nathan Wolek.

Many people are good at listening but lack vocabularies to describe what they hear, others need help to distinguish between sounds in the world around them. Join this interactive online workshop with Professor Nathan Wolek of Stetson University, Florida, to learn about layers or specific features of the soundscape around you, and how you might speak about and take forward these impressions. Suitable for people who are visually impaired as well as those who are not.

5.30pm - 7pm BST

online

***Elliptical Reading* with British Art Show 9 & Aberdeen Central Library**



A screening of British Art Show 9's *Elliptical Reading* by artist Abigail Reynolds, with in conversation event, followed by an audience Q&A

What exactly is an 'elliptical reading' and how is it a work of art? There's only one way to find out...

7.30 - 8.30 pm BST

online

Aberdeen Women's Alliance Virtual Witches Walking Tour

Alison McCall of AWA delves not only into Aberdeen's dramatic witch trials and executions, but the real people behind the stories. Screening of pre-recorded walk with live online Q&A.

Wednesday / 22nd September

10 - 11 am BST

online

Creative Writing & Mental Health with Jane Hughes

Can notions around mental health assist us with our writing? Therapist and Creative Writer Jane Hughes explores this through workshop exercises aimed at getting you thinking and writing in a new way. (Workshop has limited places).

11.30 am - 12.30 pm BST

online

Leila Aboulela: Decolonising the Imagination

Decolonising the Imagination: freeing reading and writing from the legacy of Empire is a

masterclass by Leila Aboulela, and welcomes anyone interested in anti-racism, Black Lives Matter and diversity, as well as writers, readers and educators who are looking for ways to enrich their practice.



1 - 2 pm BST

online

New Scottish Writing

Rachelle Atalla, Gillian Shearer, Hannah Nicholson, & Jen Cooper share their work in a round table discussion with Wayne Price.



4.30 - 5.30 pm BST

online

Irvine Welsh in conversation with Alan Warner

Eavesdrop as collaborators on recent book *The Seal Club*, Alan Warner and Irvine Welsh talk life and writing (with Q&A).



6 - 7 pm BST

online

Heal & Harrow: Rachel Newton and Lauren MacColl

Singer and harpist Rachel Newton and fiddle player Lauren MacColl discuss and share some of their new multi-disciplinary work, *Heal & Harrow*, a humanising tribute to those persecuted during the Scottish Witch Trials.

8 - 10.30 pm BST

in-person

(with interval) doors open 7.30 pm

North East Voices at The Blue Lamp

An evening of varied North-East voices in story, song, poetry and comedy with Shane Strachan, Sheena Blackhall, Noon Salah Eldin, Affa Bass, SC&T Youth and Iona Fyfe; includes screening of 'Storytelling & Place 1: Tulloch'.

Thursday / 23rd September

10 - 11 am BST

online

Life Writing Workshop: Elizabeth Anderson & Timothy C. Baker

A Life-writing Workshop, drawing on the work and writing habits of two great 20th Century writers, Naomi Mitchison and Sylvia Townsend Warner.



11.30 - 12.30 pm BST

online

Resistance Zines Workshop with Dead Women Poets Society

Gather together to resurrect the words of women and non-binary poets through the creation of some funky little zines with poet Jasmine Simms and artist Lily Arnold.



1 - 2 pm BST

online

Writing Life and Death: Nomi Eve & Emily Utter

Philadelphia author and creator of *Story Medicine*, Nomi Eve, and Canadian Writer-in-residence at Aberdeen's specialist palliative care hospital, Emily Utter, discuss their own novels and stories, and their experiences with writing in a healthcare setting. How do they write with and for people facing illness or even the end of life?



2.30 - 4pm BST

online

Abomination: A DUP Opera Screening and Q&A with director Nicky Larkin

Nicky Larkin's documentary *Abomination* follows the creation of The Belfast Ensemble's radical DUP Opera, which takes verbatim political statements and puts them to music.

4 - 5.30 pm BST

online

***Hysteria* Writing & Performing Spoken Word Poetry Workshop 1: Writing**

A writing-focussed workshop led by Mae Diansangu and Hanna Louise of Aberdeen-based women & non-binary arts platform, *Hysteria*. Open to writers of all experience levels. The first of two workshops - participants should attend both. Workshop has limited places.

5.30 - 7 pm BST

online

Sea Shanty Workshop with Chris McShane

There's life beyond 'The Wellerman': learn some new sea shanties and write one of your own (hosted by SC&T Youth)

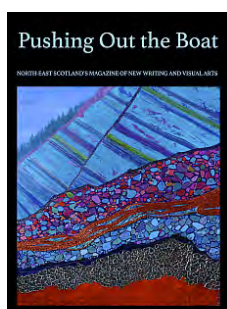


7.30 - 9pm BST

online

Writers Showcase with *Pushing Out The Boat* & *Leopard Arts*

Join us for an evening of performances from veteran and emerging writers published on two highly-regarded Aberdeen-based literary and arts platforms, *Pushing Out the Boat* and *Leopard Arts* feat. *Elsewhere to Be* Polish Scots writing



Friday / 24th September

10 - 11 am BST

online

British Sign Language (BSL) Workshop

Join British Sign Language (BSL) teacher Mags McNulty in a 1 hour BSL workshop for beginners. You will learn basic greetings, colours, and other phrases. Limited places.

11.30 - 12.30 pm BST

online

Climate Change with STEM poets

Members of the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) Poets group and the Scottish Writers Centre, John Bolland, Mandy Haggith & Eveline Pye make climate realities clear and present with poems that draw on biophysics, engineering, ecology, mathematics and more...



1 - 2 pm BST

online

World-building Through a Poetry Lens with Natalie Linh Bolderston

Join award-winning poet Natalie Linh Bolderston as she discusses world-building, the art of constructing an imaginary world, through a poetry lens. Bolderston will use her work as a "world-building case study" and will take time to read some of her poetry. There will be time for Q&A at the end of the event.

2.30 - 3.30 pm BST

online

Cultural Translation



Avni Doshi, Booker-shortlisted author of *Burnt Sugar*, activist poet and dramatist Raman Mundair, and writer, researcher and activist Preti Taneja discuss writing across cultures and languages and share their work.

4 - 5.30 pm BST

online

Hysteria Writing & Performing Spoken Word Poetry Workshop 2: Performance Technique

A workshop focussing on performance technique led by Mae Diansangu and Hanna Louise of Aberdeen-based women & non-binary arts platform, *Hysteria*. Open to all experience levels. Participants should also attend Workshop 1, and may perform at Saturday's *Hysteria* open-mic night, featuring headliner Harry Josephine Giles.



5.15 - 5.45 pm BST

online

Storytelling & Place 2: Dunnottar with Grace Banks

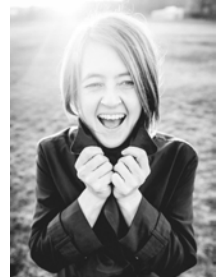
Young French film-maker Anais Fourrier follows North-East storytellers Grace Banks, Sheena Blackhall, Pauline Cordiner and Jackie Ross around Aberdeenshire as they tell their lively tales in situ.

6 - 7 pm BST

online

Karine Polwart

Karine Polwart, multi-award-winning songwriter, folk singer, composer, theatre-maker and author, shares her work.



7.30 - 8.30 pm BST

online

Writing Comedy with QI's Dan Schreiber

Dan Schreiber, QI Elf, co-host of the UK's most listened to podcast *No Such Thing As A Fish* and producer on award-winning comedy shows, shares his insights into writing and producing comedy for screen and radio.

Saturday / 25th September

10 - 11 am BST

in-person
(UoA Campus)

Animation Workshop

A beginners workshop in animation led by recent graduate of Limerick School of Art and Design Finn Nichol. His practice is a multi-disciplinary inquiry into storytelling. Finn will conduct a workshop exploring the process of creation and storytelling for animation. Workshop has limited places.



11.30 - 12.30 pm BST

online

Nan Shepherd Event: Writer Zakiya McKenzie & Composer Colin Riley

Writer Zakiya McKenzie and composer Colin Riley discuss words, music and the natural world, and the influence of Nan Shepherd.



1 - 2 pm BST

online

Writing & Class: Graeme Armstrong & Ely Percy

Graeme Armstrong, author of *The Young Team*, and Ely Percy, author of *Duck Feet*, discuss the importance of language, place and class in their writing.

2 - 4 pm BST

online

Visions of Beauty: Uncovering Art

Join Aberdeen Art Gallery's Amy Thomson and face and body painter Ulianka Maksymiuk for a collaborative event looking at paintings in Aberdeen Art Gallery to explore ideas of beauty with a panel led discussion; includes live face art demonstration and Q&A.



2.30 - 3.30 pm BST

online

Writing & Nature: Alice Tarbuck and Jessica J. Lee

Authors Jessica J. Lee and Alice Tarbuck discuss the purpose of nature writing in our changing climate, exploring issues from wellbeing and witchcraft to identity and environmental crisis.

4 - 5 pm BST

online

Alex Wheatle

Alex Wheatle, Brixton Bard and acclaimed young-adult fiction writer, introduces his latest novel, *Cane Warriors*.



5.15- 5.45 pm BST

online

Storytelling & Place 3: Kincardine O'Neil with Jackie Ross

Young French film-maker Anais Fourrier follows North-East storytellers Grace Banks, Sheena Blackhall, Pauline Cordiner and Jackie Ross around Aberdeenshire as they tell their lively tales in situ.

6.30 - 7.30 pm BST

online/in-person
(UoA Campus)

Val McDermid

An author event with multi-award-winning crime writer Val McDermid introducing her latest work, *1979*, the first in a brand-new series of novels featuring Allie Burns.



7.30 - 9 pm BST

online

***Hysteria*: Women/Non-Binary Performance Night featuring Harry Josephine Giles**

Hysteria women and non-binary performance night with headliner Harry Josephine Giles, Orcadian writer and performer.



1 - 2 pm BST

online

Dràma na Gàidhlig le Michelle NicLeòid

The an sgrìobhadair Michelle NicLeòid agus stiùiriche aig Theatre gu Leòr Muireann Kelly a' còmhraidh mu dhràma Gàidhlig agus mar a dh'fhaodadh e sgairidhean cànan agus cultar a bhriseadh.



Sunday / 26th September

10 - 11.30 am BST

online

Bothy Ballads Workshop with Ellie Beaton

Learn some stirring North-East farming songs with BBC Young Trad Finalist Ellie Beaton (hosted by SC&T Youth)

10 - 11.30 am BST

online

Gaelic Song Workshop with Norrie MacIver

Learn some Gaelic songs with an accomplished Gaelic singer (hosted by SC&T Youth). Beginners welcome.

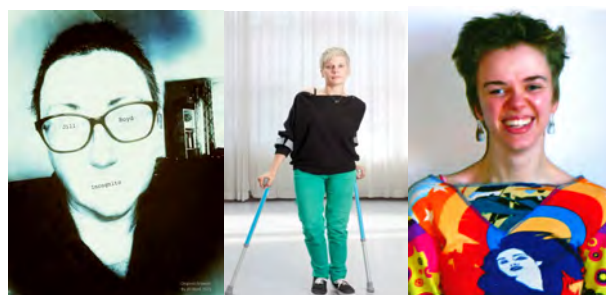


2.30 - 3.30 pm BST

online

Neurodiversity, Disability & Creativity

Featuring creatives in dance, visual art and poetry, this panel explores the intersections between creative work, and neurodiversity and disability with Jill Boyd, Claire Cunningham and Nuala Watt.



4 - 5 pm BST

online

A.L. Kennedy

Writer and Performer A.L. Kennedy has written 9 novels, 6 short story collections, 3 books of non-fiction and 3 books for children. Her most recent book of short fiction is *We Are Attempting to Survive Our Time*, 2020. Join her to hear about stuff she wants to talk about. It'll be great.



11.30 - 12.30 pm BST

online

Nature Writing Workshop with Zakiya McKenzie

Poet, non-fiction writer and storyteller Zakiya McKenzie leads a workshop to celebrate and explore nature in new ways through writing.

5.15 - 5.45 pm BST

online

Storytelling & Place 4: Boddam with Pauline Cordiner

Young French film-maker Anais Fourrier follows North-East storytellers Grace Banks, Sheena Blackhall, Pauline Cordiner and Jackie Ross around Aberdeenshire as they tell their lively tales in situ.

6 - 7 pm BST

online

Centre for the Novel invites Kirstin Innes & Outi Smith: Songs for a Scabby Queen

Writer and journalist Kirstin Innes celebrates her acclaimed recent novel, *Scabby Queen*, joining forces with singer-musician Outi Smith. A Centre for the Novel 'Lecture' like no other.

7.30 - 9 pm BST

online

Dead Women Poets Séance

A live online event resurrecting some of the women poets of the past and highlighting an astonishing but often forgotten literary heritage with poets Jasmine Simms and Helen Bowell of Dead Women Poets Society and any open-mic presences they can conjure...



To book your free tickets go to
www.waywordfestival.com



WELCOME to WayWORD! We're delighted to announce a fantastic programme of literary and cross-arts events, brought to you by University of Aberdeen. Together with a dedicated group of students and young people, the WORD Centre for Creative Writing has devised an exciting line-up of poets, novelists, artists and other creatives for readings, performances, workshops and discussion panels. The festival is mostly taking place live online, with BSL interpretation throughout. Now in its second year, events for 2021 feature Leila Aboulela, Graeme Armstrong, Claire Cunningham, Harry Josephine Giles, Kirstin Innes, A.L. Kennedy, Val McDermid, Zakiya McKenzie, Ely Percy, Karine Polwart, Dan Schreiber, Alan Warner, Irvine Welsh, Alex Wheatle, and many more! There is plenty to entice audiences of all ages and interests and all tickets are free.

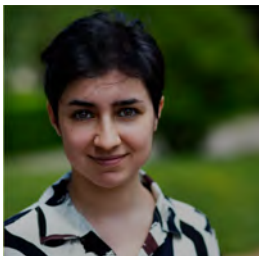


Besides established authors and new talent, the festival focusses on more unconventional forms of artistic expression: whether your thing is face and body art, comedy, novels, film, songwriting, poetry, dance or live performance, there is something here for everyone. WayWORD is here - spread the WORD.

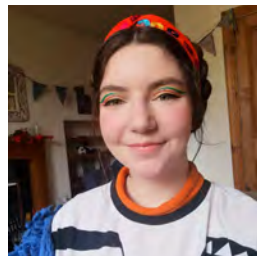
- Dr Helen Lynch (Creative Director)

Legacy members and mentors

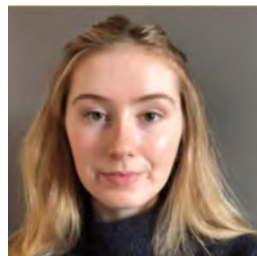
WayWORD Festival Committee



Anaïs Fourrier



Annie Nichol



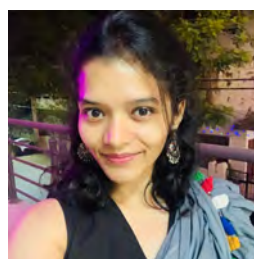
Hannah Jennison



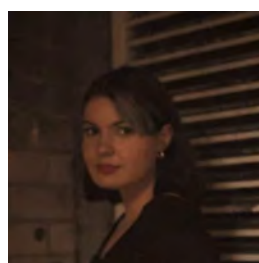
Leonie Staartjes



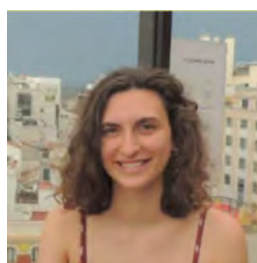
Mabel Chambers



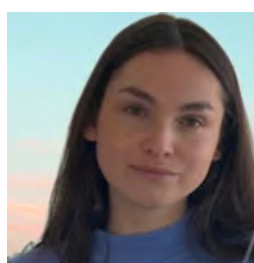
Sakshi Arya



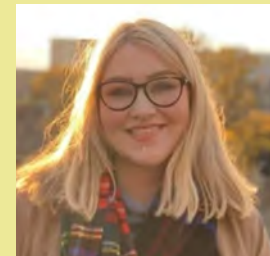
Sara Young



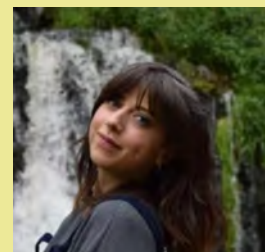
Katerina Gort



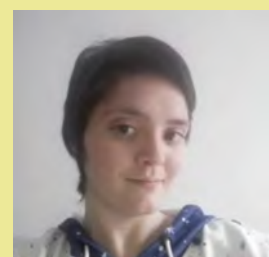
Samira Rauner



Kirsty Lawie (WORD
Centre Intern)



Naomi Christie (student
& Chair Mentor)



Beatrix Livesey-Stephens
(Accessibility, Equalities,
Diversity & Inclusion Co-
ordinator)