

# SATURDAY September 9, 2023 Wheeling Reads Finale Festival!

11:00 am-11:50 am Wheeling Writes - Readings from Wheeling authors.

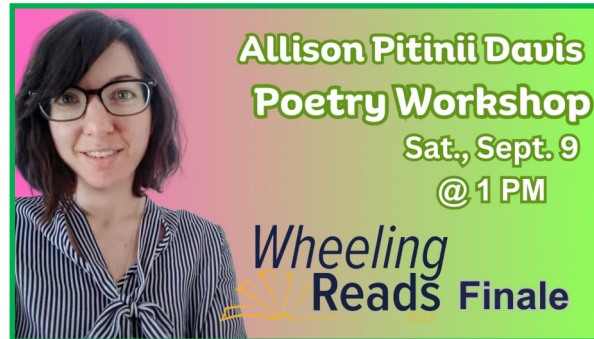


## 12:00 pm-12:50 pm - Ekphrastic Art Workshop with Cheryl Ryan Harshman

Using the novel *Heat and Light* this workshop will explore ways in which different art forms feed from each other to lend deeper meanings. From the Greek, Ekphrasis means description. An ekphrastic poem is a vivid description of a scene or a work of art. Through the imaginative act of narrating and reflecting on the scene in a painting or sculpture, a writer might expand its meaning. However, in this workshop we will turn the Ekphrasis around to create visual creative responses to various words, phrases, and ideas from this book. We will use art made by our hands in the workshop to reflect and amplify the meanings we each discover while reading this book.

Cheryl Ryan Harshman began her art making with a needle and thread, first as a seamstress and then as an art quilter. A workshop on clay monoprinting with Mitch Lyons changed her life. Her clay mono-prints have won berths in numerous regional juried exhibitions including Cross Currents at Oglebay Institute, and Tamarack's Best of West Virginia exhibits. Her paintings have been shown at the Westmoreland Art Museum, Greensburg, PA in as well as the Zanesville Art Museum, Zanesville, OH. She exhibited with the Women of Appalachia Project at WVU and Ohio University. Cheryl was a

librarian for many years, and her work as a children's librarian and storyteller enabled her to write three children's picture books and influences the whimsy often seen in her art. **RSVP requested for this workshop.**



## 1:00 pm-1:50 pm Poetry Workshop with Allison Pitinii Davis

Join Allison Pitinii Davis for a poetry workshop centered on issues of regionalism and the environment. We'll read poems that examine Appalachia, the Rust Belt, industry, and nature. Then, we'll use prompts to compose our own poems (or prose poems) and share them as a group. Writers of all levels and genres welcome! Please bring a device or paper for writing.

Allison Pitinii Davis is the author of *Line Study of a Motel Clerk* (Baobab Press, 2017), a finalist for the National Jewish Book Award and the Ohioana Book Award. The collection focuses on a trucking motel, a laundry, and diasporic culture in northeast Ohio. Her collection *Poppy Seeds* (Kent State University Press, 2013) won the Wick Poetry Chapbook Prize. Her work has appeared in *Best American Poetry*, the Academy of American Poets Poem-A-Day Series, *The New Republic*, and elsewhere, and is forthcoming from *The Oxford American*, *The Arkansas International*, and *The Laurel Review*. Her Charles Reznikoff scholarship appeared in *Studies in American Jewish Literature* in 2023. She received fellowships from Stanford University's Wallace Stegner program, the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, and the Severinghaus Beck Fund for Study at Vilnius Yiddish Institute. She holds a PhD in Literature and Creative Writing.

**RSVP requested for this workshop.**



## 2:00 pm-2:50 pm Writing Environmental Justice for Young Adults Workshop with Nora Shalaway Carpenter

Join author Nora Shalaway Carpenter for a Writing Environmental Justice for Young Adults workshop. In this engaging, interactive session, you'll explore 1) what exactly is Young Adult fiction?; 2) internal vs external tensions as stakes; and 3) how to determine if you're writing a short story, novella, or novel. Nora will also provide exercises and prompts to help generate new story ideas and revise existing stories. Suitable for all writing experience levels. Please come with paper, pencil, and an open mind.

Marshall County native Nora Shalaway Carpenter's novels and anthologies have been named "Best of the Year" by NPR, Kirkus Reviews, *Bank Street Books*, and *A Mighty Girl*, and have won accolades including the Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection, the Whippoorwill Award for authentic rural fiction, and the Nautilus Award championing "better books for a better world." Her next novel, *FAULT LINES*, forthcoming September 12, is set in rural West Virginia. Nora holds an MFA from Vermont College of Fine Arts and serves as faculty for the Highlights Foundation's Whole Novel Workshop and Intro to Short Fiction class.

**RSVP requested for this workshop.**

## 3:00 pm-3:50 pm Community Book discussion of *Heat and Light*





**4 pm: Wheeling Reads Festival Finale with Jennifer Haigh in the Ohio County Public Library Auditorium**

Jennifer's talk will serve as the finale for Wheeling Reads, 2023, One Book, One Community. Her book *Heat and Light*, the Wheeling Reads 2023 selection, was named a Best Book of 2016 by the *New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, the *Wall Street Journal* and NPR. Acclaimed New York Times bestselling author Jennifer Haigh returns to the Pennsylvania town at the center of her iconic novel *Baker Towers* in this ambitious, achingly human story of modern America and the conflicting forces at its heart—a bold, moving drama of hope and desperation, greed and power, big business and small-town families.



**JENNIFER HAIGH** is the author of the short-story collection *News from Heaven* and six bestselling and critically acclaimed novels, including the Wheeling Reads 2023 selection, *Heat and Light*, which

was named a Best Book of 2016 by the *New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, the *Wall Street Journal* and NPR. Her books have won the PEN/Hemingway Award, the Massachusetts Book Award and the PEN New England Award in Fiction, and have been translated widely. She lives in New England.



**WHAT IS WHEELING READS?**

Wheeling Reads: One Book, One Community, in partnership with the Writers Association of Northern Appalachia (WANA) and West Virginia Writers, Inc., partially funded by the City of Wheeling Arts & Cultural Commission, is designed to bring our city closer together through the shared experience of reading and discussing the same book: Jennifer Haigh's *Heat & Light*, which tells the story of a western Pennsylvania coal town that finds new life and hardship when a fracking company begins operations. Over the summer, the library will host events, lectures and discussions on issues surrounding the book, including climate change, environmental justice and hope for the future. The season's programming will culminate at the Wheeling Reads Festival on September 9, at which Haigh will be the guest speaker.



[www.facebook.com/wheelingreads/](http://www.facebook.com/wheelingreads/)

