

POETS AND STORYTELLERS

Our M.C. host, Kyle Jones



With the last 20 years , Kyle has covered the map in the entertainment industry . From film and television, Morning show radio host and touring stand up comic ... I guess you could say the guy likes to entertain. After time in Vancouver , Toronto and Los Angeles , Kyle has now called Pender Island “Home” for the last 5 years.

MARYANNE PARE

S'DAYES/PENDER ISLAND



Caring for the planet is the natural extension of a career working with children and families. And spoken word is a great vehicle to get a message out there.

NIA WILLIAMS

S'DAYES/PENDER ISLAND



Nia Williams grew up on the West Coast and is grateful that her family could live and learn on the traditional territory of the Tsawout and Tseycum First Nations. She loves wilderness, quiet moments, creativity (and chocolate). She is a high school counsellor and feels inspired when sharing conversations with youth. Nia deeply appreciates living in such a vibrant, encouraging and caring community.

LESLIE MCBAIN

POET/ACTIVIST

S'DAYES/PENDER ISLAND



Leslie is a co-founder with Moms Stop the Harm and lives on Pender Island. Moms Stop the Harm is a network of Canadian families impacted by substance-use-related harms and deaths. She is an Advocate/activist for evidence based, compassionate drug policies.

DAN MACISAAC

www.danmacisaac.com

METCHOSIN



Dan MacIsaac writes from Metchosin. His poetry, fiction and verse translations appeared in literary magazines such as The Malahat Review, Event, Stand, Prism, and Canadian Literature. Brick Books published his poetry collection, Cries from the Ark. His poetry has received awards including the Foley Prize from America Magazine. Dan MacIsaac's work was short-listed for the Walrus Poetry Prize, The Nick Blatchford Occasional Verse Contest, and the CBC Short Story Prize.



For the past 30 years, Faye has been weaving tales full of mystery, humour and passion. Her first book, "Ancient Stories for Modern Times: 50 Short Wisdom Tales for All Ages" was released by Skinner House Press in the summer of 2016.

Faye has a Masters of Education, with a focus on storytelling as a tool for environmental change. She loves sharing folktales and myths that explore our relationships with ourselves, with one another and with nature. She also has a large repertoire of personal tales, inspired especially by travel, experiences in nature, and times gone by. Some of her stories inspire hope and generosity- others are purely for fun.

Faye tells in schools, elder centres, libraries, museums, parks, shelters and churches, especially the First Unitarian Church of Victoria where she formerly ran the spiritual exploration program for children, youth, and families. Now and then, Faye happily accepts opportunities to share stories in Danish, instead of her usual English.



Joy Thierry Llewellyn chose a nomadic life, which had her swatting mosquitoes in northern Canada, dodging snakes on an Australian sheep station, growing to love goats and hate fleas in an intentional community in the French Pyrenees, getting sick with Dengue Fever in southern India, hiking 1600 km across France and Spain in 72 days, and living in a Tibetan Buddhist Monastery in Nepal. Her narrative non-fiction travel and memoir essays have been published in magazines and newspapers, a memoir story about growing up in an isolated fishing camp was shortlisted for the Commonwealth Competition, and she's story edited 1500 film and TV scripts. Combining her three loves of writing, travelling, and teaching, she's facilitated workshops and taught screenwriting in Canada, India, and China. She's written three travel adventure novels and is working on a memoir about journeys to international intentional communities.

EMILY OLSEN www.emilyolsenpresents.com W̱SÁNEĆ territory



I come from a background in leadership, working to inspire others to realize and reach their full potential both personally and professionally. Though my work has transitioned from traditional management roles into ones focused on personal transformation and development, I'm still delivering similar teachings. I endeavour to uplift any idea, person, or project that shares knowledge inspires growth and contributes to meaningful community connection.

I am married to a fantastic human being, my lover and friend, Adam. We are raising two beautiful children, Silas and Ella in W̱SÁNEĆ territory and share in the beauty and wonder of a large extended family. Our puppy Tui is a healer by nature and gets me out daily to walk and meditate in the forest. I mainly eat healthy, sometimes practice yoga, often meditate, and always pray. I am blessed to have the ability to think positively and am increasingly grateful to have healed my past. To write and speak from my heart, host events, retreats, workshops, healing circles, and a podcast are all gifts I cherish. I aspire to always be creating and hope the ideas and inspirations from life never cease.

ADAM OLSEN <https://adamolsen.ca> W̱SÁNEĆ territory

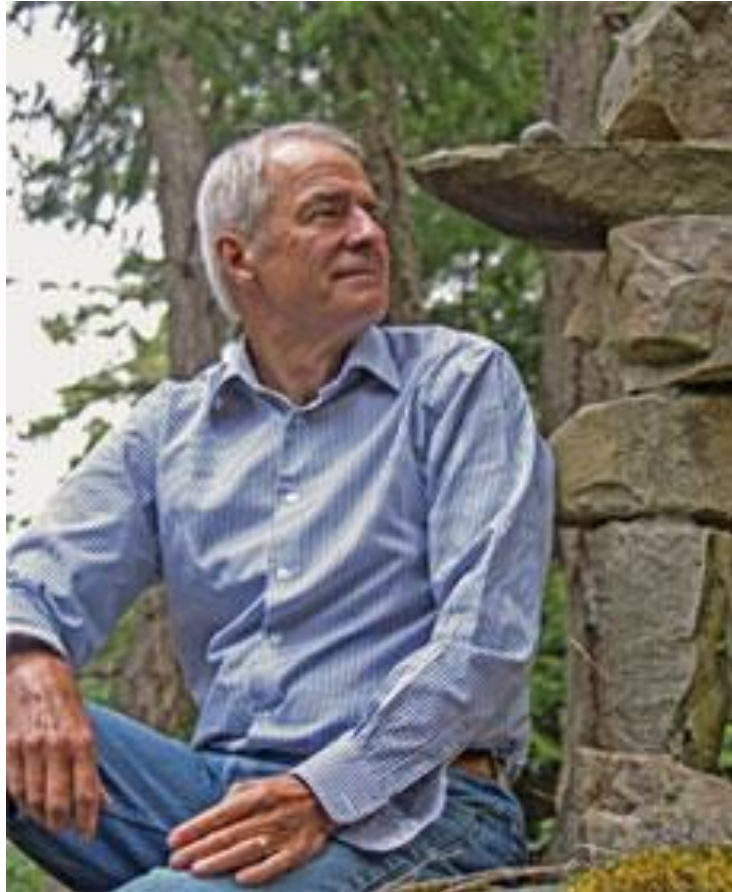


Born in Victoria, Adam was raised on Tsartlip First Nation in Brentwood Bay, BC. The Olsen family has always been small business owners. Whether it was on the guide fishing boat in the Saanich Inlet, pushing a lawnmower for Mt. Newton Gardening or buying and selling wool for Mt. Newton Indian Sweaters and Salish Fusion Knitwear, Adam has always worked alongside his parents and siblings (Joaquim, Joni and Heather).

Adam was elected to Central Saanich Council in 2008 and re-elected in 2011. On January 21, 2013 Adam resigned his seat on Council to run provincially for the B.C. Green Party in Saanich North and the Islands. Finishing third, in the closest three-way race in the province, Adam was less than 400 votes away from being elected.

In August 2013, Adam was appointed Interim-Leader of the B.C. Green Party. In December 2015, MLA Andrew Weaver was elected leader and appointed Adam as Deputy-Leader. MLA Weaver appointed Adam as Campaign Chair in November 2016. Adam was elected as the Member for Saanich North and the Islands in 2017, and then re-elected in 2020. He currently serves as the Caucus Chair.

Adam is an entrepreneur, a networker, and a community builder. He tackles challenges straight on and he is a tireless in his efforts. For the past decade, Adam's work has been primarily focused on politics. He is a work-from-home dad/politician. First with his son Silas, and now with his daughter Ella,



For two decades Hans has been tapping on a keyboard and dabbling in photography while travelling near and afar. His writing is eclectic with a focus on travel, environment, Indigenous culture, science, and anything quirky or unusual. He's penned ten books including one national best seller, and written hundreds of articles for magazines, newspapers, and websites. As a member of the Society of Environmental Journalists and former consultant and adjunct professor in environmental sciences at Brock and Victoria Universities, he has a strong affinity for nature and the environment around us.

Indigenous culture, rich and full of myths, fascinates Hans and he writes about it frequently.

He enjoys sharing his experiences through public speaking.

BARBARA STOWE AND JOE MONTAGUE

S'DAYES/PENDER ISLAND



Barbara Stowe and Joe Montague are partners in life and have been partners in environmental activism too, via the Amchitka CD project, which they will use as a springboard to talk about environmentalism at The Crisp. The Amchitka CD (now a collector's item) was released as a fundraiser for Greenpeace in 2009. It's a recording of a concert with Joni Mitchell, James Taylor, Phil Ochs and Chilliwack, that Barbara's father Irving Stowe organized in 1970, to underwrite Greenpeace's first campaign. Barbara wrote the early history of Greenpeace as liner notes for the CD. Joe and Barbara can share backstage stories of producing this CD with Greenpeace Canada, and on where Greenpeace is today, having recently celebrated its 50th anniversary.

<https://theprovince.com/opinion/barbara-stowe-benefit-concert-launched-an-international-movement-50-years-ago>

WREN WILDE

S'DAYES/PENDER ISLAND



Wren grew up on Pender Island, being raised in an artistic and environmentally conscious household, both have always been important to her. She started performing at a young age with violin and kids choir, over the years adding dance, other instruments and acting. She attended high school on Salt Spring Island and was very involved in theatre, both on stage and backstage. Her love of acting got her involved with teaching various camps and programs for children. After graduating with honours, she started full time at Talisman Books and Gallery and teaching theatre programs at Pender Island Elementary and Middle School. In early 2021 she started work as a marketing assistant for Read & co. Books.

Wren has been involved with environmental causes since before she could walk. She believes that to help the climate disaster and our numerous societal problems, we must view it all with intersectionality. To solve one problem, we must solve them all. She also believes that we must follow Indigenous peoples to survive in the world we have created, and move forward in a positive way. Over the summer she has made it up to Fairy Creek a couple times and found a community unlike any other.

This fall she will move to Victoria where she hopes to continue her activism and pursue work in the arts.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2hKMXqr0jhh>

ZOE LANDALE www.zoelandale.com PENDER ISLAND



Zoë Landale has published eight books, edited two books, and her work appears in over fifty anthologies. Her writing has won significant awards in three genres, including first in the Stony Brook University Short Fiction competition, National Magazine Gold for memoir, and first in the CBC Literary Competition for poetry. A former President of the Federation of BC Writers, she has a Master's degree in Fine Arts from the University of British Columbia.

Landale taught for fifteen years as a faculty member in the Creative Writing Department at Kwantlen Polytechnic University in Vancouver, British Columbia. She now lives on Pender Island. After retiring from teaching she crewed for three years on the

Marine Search and Rescue boat. Now she is writing speculative fiction for all ages with an emphasis on Norse mythology and interesting magic and is educating herself in indie publishing. Oh yes, and there's the daily walks with a bouncy Golden Doodle and looking after a large garden.