

Authors

John Bemrose

A native of Paris, Ontario, his first novel, **The Island Walkers** was nominated for the Giller Prize in 2003. He has written numerous articles for different publications, including **Maclean's Magazine** where he is a contributing editor, and has published two books of poetry.

June Callwood

After moving to Brantford as a teenager in 1940 she attended the Brantford Collegiate Institute where she was editor of the school newspaper. She started her journalism career at the **Brantford Expositor** before writing for the **Globe and Mail**. She has written more than thirty books and hosted a number of television shows. As a social activist, she has helped to start over 50 organizations including: Nellie's Hostel for Women and the Casey House Hospice for AIDS patients. She was made a Companion of the Order of Canada in 2000 and was inducted into Brantford's Walk of Fame in 2005.

- [June Callwood: Canada's Conscience](#)
- [Celebrating Women's Achievements \(Library and Archives Canada\)](#)

Thomas Bertram Costain

Starting as a reporter with the **Brantford Expositor** he became an editor of **Maclean's Magazine** in 1910 and later moved to the United States where he was an associate editor of **The Saturday Evening Post**. He wrote 25 books (13 novels, 2 biographies, 5 histories, and 5 anthologies) including **For My Great Folly**, **The Chord of Steel**, about the invention of the telephone, and **Son of a Hundred Kings**, about a boy growing up in Brantford. He had a local public school named after him and was inducted into Brantford's Walk of Fame in 2002.

- [BPL Biography](#)

Norman McLean Duncan

Born on July 2, 1871 in Brantford, he was the author of many articles and books that concentrated mainly on the Labrador and Newfoundland areas. His books included **Dr. Luke of the Labrador**, **The Adventures of Billy Topsail**, and **Dr. Grenfell's Parish**. He was also a professor of rhetoric at the Washington and Jefferson College, 1902-1906, and a professor of English literature at the University of Kansas from 1907 until his death in October 1916.

- [Expositor Semi-Centennial 1877-1927 \(p. 49 of PDF\)](#)
- [BPL Biography](#)



Sara Jeannette Duncan

Born in Brantford on December 22, 1861, she contributed articles to various newspapers including **The Brantford Expositor**, **The Toronto Globe**, and **The Montreal Star**. She spent many years living in India and England and her novels included **A Social Departure**, **An American Girl in London**, **The Story of Sonny Sahib**, and **The Imperialist**.

[Expositor Semi-Centennial 1877-1927 \(p. 49 of PDF\)](#)
[BPL Biography](#)
[Literary Encyclopedia](#)

Deborah Ellis

After growing up in Paris, Ontario she worked in Toronto as a mental-health counsellor. Her novel **Looking for X** won the Governor General's Award for Children's Literature in 2000. She has also won the Vicky Metcalf Award for children's literature. Royalties from her trilogy: **The Breadwinner**, **Parvana's Journey**, and **Mud City** are donated to the women and children of Afghanistan. She was awarded an honorary doctorate by Laurier Brantford University in 2005.

Alma Greene

Born on the Six Nations Reserve in 1896, Gawohnnosdoh or Forbidden Voice was the clan mother of the Mohawk from 1912 to 1978. She was the author of 4 books of Indian folklore and tales, including: **Forbidden Voice: reflections of a Mohawk Indian** and **Tales of the Mohawk**.

- [Alma Greene](#)

John Spencer Hill

He was born on October 22, 1943 in Brantford and attended Pauline Johnson Collegiate. He wrote two mystery novels, **The Last Castrato** and **Ghirlandaio's Daughter** as well as several academic books. He was an English professor at the University of Ottawa until his death in 1998.



Emily Pauline Johnson

Born at Chiefswood in 1861, she traveled across Canada many times performing her poetry on stage. **Flint and Feather**, **The Moccasin Maker**, and **The Legends of Vancouver** are compilations of her poetry and prose. She died in Vancouver in 1913 and was buried in Stanley Park. In 1961 she was the first author and the first aboriginal person to have her picture on a Canadian postage stamp. She was inducted into the Brantford Walk of Fame in 1998.

[Expositor Semi-Centennial 1877-1927 \(p. 49 of PDF\)](#)
[Chiefswood Museum National Historic Site](#)
[Pauline Johnson Home Page](#)
[Selected Poetry of E. Pauline Johnson](#)

John B. Lee

He is the only two-time winner of the Milton Acorn Memorial People's Poetry Award and has also been honoured with the Tilden Award, the first Eric Hill Award of Literary Excellence, and the Open Window Award. He has published thirty books of poetry so far including **Tongues of the Children**, **Variations on Herb**, **Totally Unused Heart**, and **Stella's Journey**. He was named Brantford's poet laureate in March 2005.

- [John B. Lee \(League of Canadian Poets\)](#)
- [John B. Lee \(Writers' Union of Canada\)](#)
- [John B. Lee](#)

Robin Baird Lewis

Born in Brantford in 1951, this self-taught artist started her career by contributing illustrations to **Potlach's Canadian Children's Annual** from 1980 to 1982. The books that she has illustrated include: **Red is Best** (1982), and **Big or Little** (1983) by Kathy Stinson as well as **To the Pool with Others** (2000) by Sue Farrell. She wrote and illustrated **Aunt Armadillo** in 1985. After teaching art in high school for over ten years she is now a full-time freelance illustrator and designer.

- [Canadian Encyclopedia](#)
- [Robin Baird Lewis](#)

Brian Maracle

After leaving Six Nations with his family when he was five years old, he has recently returned to live on the reserve. He wrote **Crazywater: Native Voices on Addiction and Recovery** and **Back on the Rez** which was shortlisted for the Gordon Montador Award.

Daniel David Moses

A Delaware Indian who grew up on the Six Nations Reserve, he has a bachelor of arts degree in fine arts from York University and a master of arts from the University of British Columbia. He has written several books of poetry and fourteen plays including **Coyote City**. He won the 1996 James Buller Award for excellence in aboriginal theatre, the 2001 Harbourfront Festival Prize, was nominated for The Governor General's Award for Drama in 1991, and the Elinore and Lou Siminovitch Prize in Theatre in 2002.

- Daniel David Moses
- Daniel David Moses (League of Canadian Poets)

Marsha Skrypuch

She has written **Hope's War** and **The Hunger** for young adults and **Enough, The Best Gifts**, and **Silver Threads** for children. **Silver Threads** was chosen as a Best Bet for 1996 by the Ontario Library Association Canadian Materials Committee and was also nominated for the Amelia Frances Howard-Gibbon Illustrator's Medal. In 2008 she was chosen to receive the Order of Princess Olha, Class III, the highest honour that the country of Ukraine can give foreign citizens, for her works about the 1932-1933 Ukrainian famine.

- Marsha Skrypuch (Canadian Review of Materials)

Patti Stren

A graduate of Brantford Collegiate Institute, this author has written and illustrated children's books including **Hug me, There's a rainbow in my closet**, and **For sale: one brother**. She graduated from the University of Toronto and the New York School of Visual Arts.