



Festival for Working Class Writers seeks co-sponsors

Lucy Nathan

News - Festivals Wednesday, 9th December 2020

The festival takes place in October 2021



The Festival for Working Class Writers is seeking match funding for its inaugural event, to join Hachette UK as co-sponsors. It runs from 21-24 October 2021 in Bristol in association with the Festival of Ideas, and will work alongside the Booksellers Association, aiming to get books by working class writers into independent bookshops across the country.

The festival also aims to give exposure to working class writers, showcasing 'authentic stories reflective of and relatable to the experiences of working class communities'. It will be physically and financially available to 'audiences with different financial pressures', taking place in both physical and digital spaces. The festival will include panel discussions, speaker events and workshops, with writers including Stella Duffy, Val McDermid, Paul Mendez, Tracy King, Graham Caveney, Mahsuda Snaith, Kerry Hudson, Sam Friedman, Lorraine Brown, Juno Roche, Justin Myers, Patrice Lawrence, Tony Walsh, Cash Carraway, Courttia Newland, Mona Arshi, Simon Kvosi, Mary O'Hara, Joelle Taylor, Amer Anwar, Jessica Andrews, Sarah Franklin and Cole Moreton.

Artistic director Natasha Carthew said: "Commissioning and showcasing writers of all styles and disciplines is at the heart of this festival, providing a platform for both established and debut writers to get involved with both live and online events. The Working Class Writers Festival will not only provide a platform for Working Class Writers, but will set precedence among festivals that will make attendance more affordable and accessible to all."

Publishers who wish to find out more can contact Carthew at workingclasswritersfestival@gmail.com. Her fellow board members are Sam Missingham, Sadie Hassler and Juliet Pickering.

Source article: <https://www.bookbrunch.co.uk/page/article-detail/festival-for-working-class-writers-seeks-co-sponsors>