

WELCOME TO THE NINTH ANNUAL
CENTRAL WISCONSIN BOOK FESTIVAL!

Hosted by the **Marathon County Public Library**, **Portage County Public Library**, and **McMillan Memorial Library**, the Central Wisconsin Book Festival is back with more authors, stories, and inspiration, taking place **Sept. 25–27, 2025**, with a bonus event on **Oct. 4, 2025**.

This festival is a labor of love, and our festival committee has spent the past year planning more than a dozen events. As in years past, we strive to offer events to suit a wide range of literary tastes, with authors from around the country making their way to Central Wisconsin to share their work with you!

Kick off the festival with beloved Wisconsin author **Michael Perry**, who brings his signature mix of humor and insight to the stage.

Celebrate local food with a panel discussion by **Lori Fredrich**, author of “Wisconsin Field to Fork,” Chef **Nate Bychinski** of Red Eye Brewing Co., and **Tenzin & Stacey Botsford** of Red Door Family Farm, followed by one-night-only menu items at Red Eye.

Experience thrilling sessions with mystery authors **Allen Eskens** and **Rebecca Kanner**, and learn stress-free financial tips from money expert **Dana Miranda**.

Kids can join workshops with author **EC Quinn** and illustrator **Duachaka Her**, while teens/adults can join a fantasy/sci-fi workshop with author **Rebecca M. Zornow**.

Don't miss the **Local Author Fair** where a wide range of Wisconsin writers will share their work!

Enjoy thought-provoking conversations with authors **Nickolas Butler**, **Jon Hickey**, **Brian Reisinger**, **Tim Seeley**, **Laurie Schneider**, and **Brian V. Xiong**, and explore Wisconsin history with **Dean Robbins** and **James Card**.

Join us for a festival finale with **Tim Seeley** as he shares the journey of adapting his “Revival” graphic novel series into a television series.

Find the full list of events and up-to-date details on our website, www.mcpl.us/cwbf, and follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/cwbookfest.

We're thrilled to bring readers and writers together once again. See you at the festival!

2025 BOOK FESTIVAL SUPPORTERS:

Support for the 2025 Central Wisconsin Book Festival was provided through the Marathon County Public Library, Portage County Public Library, and McMillan Memorial Library, and the Community Arts Grant Program of the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin and the B.A. & Esther Greenheck Foundation.

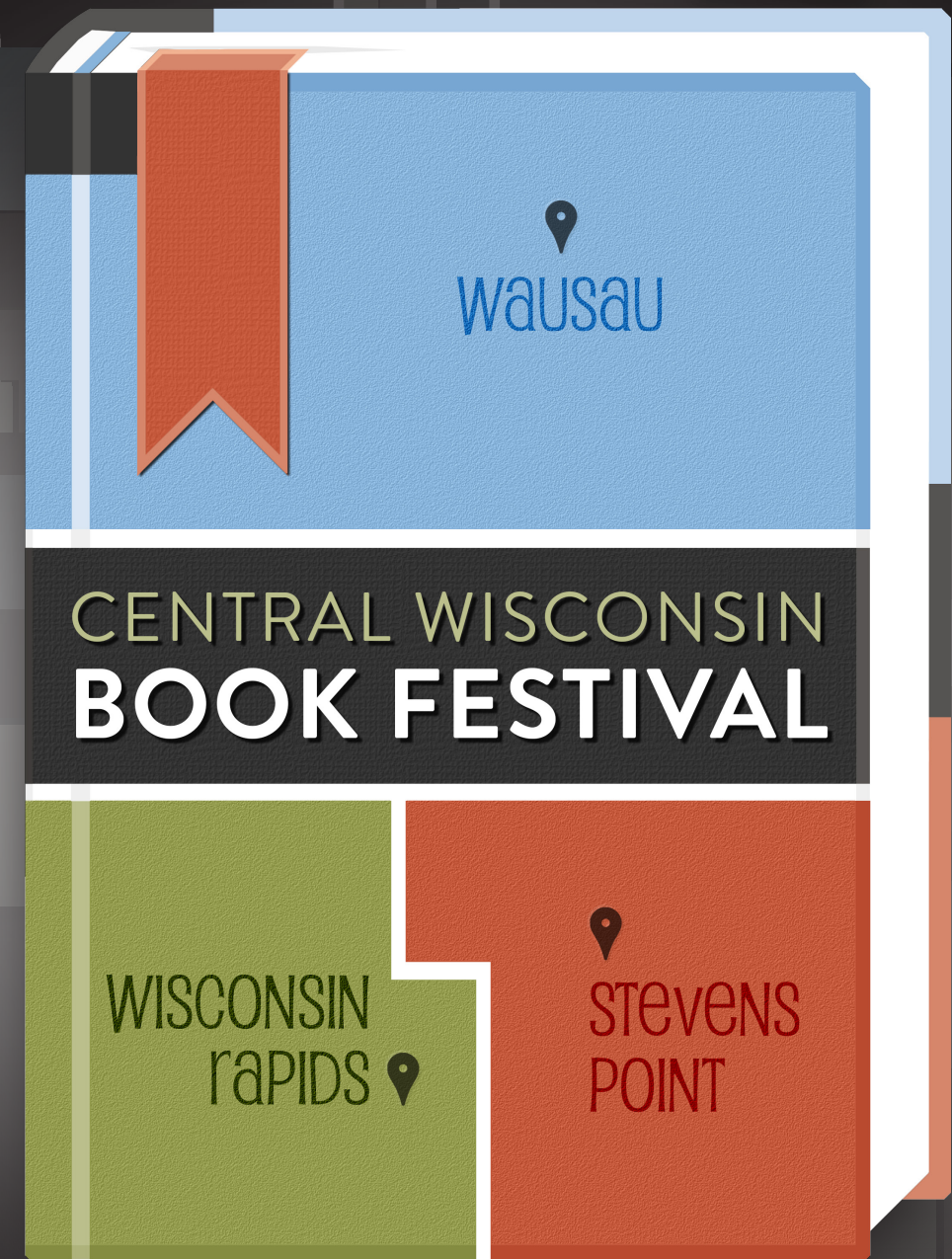
Additional support was provided by the MURCO Foundation, Ruder Ware Law Firm, the Marathon County Public Library Foundation, and the Portage County Public Library Foundation, as well as Bound to Happen Books, Janke Book Store, Sojourn Booksellers, Red Eye Brewing Company, the Hmong American Center, the Marathon County Historical Society, and the UW Center for Civic Engagement.

2025 BOOK FESTIVAL COMMITTEE:

Sonja Ackerman, Julie Bunczak, Chad Dally, Eddie Glade, Jane Janke Johnson, Colin McGinnis, Margaret Pieczynski, Cheryl Posner, Katie Rosenberg, and Jill Stuckenberg. Additional help from Katelyn Killian, Ben Krombolz, and Stephanie Martell.

CELEBRATE *the* WRITTEN WORD!

20+ authors in three cities



SEPTEMBER 25–27, 2025*

* Also: Oct. 4

MORE INFO: 715-261-7200



ONLINE: MCPL.US/CWBF





MICHAEL
PERRY



REBECCA
KANNER



JON
HICKEY



NICKOLAS
BUTLER

CENTRAL WISCONSIN BOOK FESTIVAL 2025 SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2025

MICHAEL PERRY

ADULTS (19+) This bestselling author and humorist will share heartfelt, funny reflections on rural life!

7:00–8:00 p.m. @ McMillan Memorial Library, Wisconsin Rapids ■

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2025

Creative Short Story Workshop with author **EC QUINN**

CHILDREN (6–11) YOUNG ADULTS (12–18)

Create your own story with the help of this Wisconsin children’s author! **REGISTER: 715-261-7230**

10:00–11:00 a.m. @ [MCPL Wausau](#) ●

Narrative Illustration Workshop with illustrator **DUACHAKA HER**

CHILDREN (6–11) YOUNG ADULTS (12–18)

Bring a story to life and create illustrations with guidance from this published cartoonist! **REGISTER: 715-261-7230**

11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. @ [MCPL Wausau](#) ●

“Gittel” with author **LAURIE SCHNEIDER**

ALL AGES This author will share her powerful historical fiction novel, “Gittel.”

2:00–3:00 p.m. @ [Janke Book Store, Wausau](#) □

“Land Rich, Cash Poor” with author **BRIAN REISINGER**

ADULTS (19+) YOUNG ADULTS (12–18)

Hear personal stories with insight into challenges faced by U.S. farmers.

5:15–6:15 p.m. @ [Timekeeper Distillery, Wausau](#) ⚡

“Wisconsin Idols” with author **DEAN ROBBINS**

ADULTS (19+) Learn more about Wisconsin heroes, and discover new ones you might not know about!

5:30–6:30 p.m. @ [Marathon County Historical Society, Wausau](#) ♦

NICKOLAS BUTLER presents “A Forty Year Kiss”

ADULTS (19+) This bestselling author will discuss his latest novel, take questions and sign books!

7:00–8:00 p.m. @ [Portage County Public Library, Stevens Point](#) ▲

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2025

LOCAL AUTHOR FAIR

ALL AGES Meet with local published authors from our community!

8:00–9:30 a.m. @ [Portage County Public Library, Stevens Point](#) ▲

OPEN MIC POETRY

ALL AGES Step into the spotlight and share a poem at our open mic event!

1:00–2:00 p.m. @ [Portage County Public Library, Stevens Point](#) ▲

“An Introduction to Hmong History 101” with author **BRIAN V. XIONG**

CHILDREN (6–11) YOUNG CHILDREN (0–5)

Explore Hmong history and culture with this author!

9:30–10:30 a.m. @ [MCPL Wausau](#) ●

“Last One Seen” with author **REBECCA KANNER**

ADULTS (19+) Thriller fans are invited for a behind-the-scenes look at this author’s upcoming novel!

1:30–2:30 p.m. @ [MCPL Wausau](#) ●

Fantasy & Science Fiction Editing with author **REBECCA M. ZORNOW**

ADULTS (19+) YOUNG ADULTS (12–18)

Writers are invited to learn best practices for editing fantasy and science fiction writing!

1:30–2:30 p.m. @ [UW Center for Civic Engagement, Wausau](#) ♡

“A Clan of Our Own” with author **BRIAN V. XIONG**

ADULTS (19+) YOUNG ADULTS (12–18)

This author will share stories from his book on the often unheard experiences of gay Hmong men.

2:00–3:00 p.m. @ [Hmong American Center, Wausau](#) ⚡

“Wisconsin Field to Fork” **LOCAL FOOD PANEL**

ALL AGES Celebrate local food and community during this inspiring panel discussion!

Afterward, we’ll head to Red Eye to enjoy exclusive menu items (612 Washington).

3:00–4:00 p.m. @ [MCPL Wausau](#) ●

Tribal Politics with **JON HICKEY**, author of “Big Chief”

ADULTS (19+) YOUNG ADULTS (12–18)

Hear personal insight into tribal politics and how they are intertwined with the American experience.

7:00–8:00 p.m. @ [UW Center for Civic Engagement, Wausau](#) ♡

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2025

Q&A with **TIM SEELEY**, author of “Revival”

ADULTS (19+) This comic book artist/writer will share

his experience adapting his acclaimed graphic novel “Revival” for television, followed by a Q&A.

11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. @ [MCPL Wausau](#) ●

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE!

No registration unless otherwise specified.



- © MCPL Wausau / Marathon County Public Library—300 N. 1st St., Wausau, WI
▲ Portage County Public Library—1001 Main St., Stevens Point, WI
■ McMillan Memorial Library—490 E. Grand Ave., Wisconsin Rapids, WI
□ Janke Book Store—505 N. 3rd St., Wausau, WI
♦ Marathon County Historical Society—410 McIndoe St., Wausau, WI
♡ UW Center for Civic Engagement—625 Stewart Ave., Wausau, WI
⚡ Hmong American Center—1109 N. 6th St., Wausau, WI
⚡ Timekeeper Distillery—720 Grant St., Wausau, WI