

White Pine Festival: Tentative Schedule as of April 29, 2007

	Wednesday 6/20	Thursday 6/21	Friday 6/22	Saturday 6/23
Morning	<p>9:00 Poetry and Pastries with Roger Bonair-Agard (Arcola Mills)</p> <p>10:30 Tales of Arcola (Arcola Mills)</p>	<p>9:00 Poetry and Pastries with Roger Bonair-Agard (Stillwater Library)</p> <p>10:30 "Stillwater's Ravines & Stairs" (Stillwater Library)</p>	<p>9:00 Poetry and Pastries with Cynthia Gustavson (Lakefront Park, Hudson)</p> <p>10:30 Nature/History Event TBD (Hudson)</p>	<p>9:00 Poetry and Pastries with Cynthia Gustavson (Arcola Mills)</p> <p>10:30 Tales of Arcola (Arcola Mills)</p>
Afternoon	<p>1:00 String Quartet Master Class: St. Petersburg Quartet and four local student quartets (Trinity)</p> <p>4:30 Reading and Open Mic Poetry with Cynthia Gustavson (TBD)</p>	<p>11:00 Poetry workshop for adults with Roger Bonair-Agard (Stillwater Library)</p> <p>1:00 St. Petersburg String Quartet (Boutwells)</p> <p>2:15 Poetry Reading with Roger Bonair-Agard (Boutwells)</p> <p>4:30 Goldberg Variations lecture with Skip James (Ascension)</p>	<p>12:00 Music on the River with the River Falls Brass (Hudson Bandshell)</p> <p>1:00 Writing workshop for seniors with Cynthia Gustavson (Boutwells)</p> <p>1:00 Writing workshop for teens with Roger Bonair-Agard (Stillwater Library)</p>	<p>12:00 Open mic poetry hosted by Roger Bonair-Agard (Boutwells Landing)</p> <p>1:00 Tony Hoagland Lecture: "The Oompah and the Ingenue" (Arcola Mills)</p> <p>3:00 Hudson Schools Poetry Contest Winners (Arcola Mills)</p>
Evening	<p>8:00 Opening Night: St. Petersburg String Quartet (Trinity)</p>	<p>8:00 Skip James "Harpichord Extraordinaire: Bach's Goldberg Variations" (Ascension)</p>	<p>8:00 "What Narcissism Means to Me": An Evening with Tony Hoagland (Phipps Center)</p>	<p>8:00 Festival Finale with Tony Hoagland, Roger Bonair-Agard, and the St. Petersburg String Quartet (Trinity)</p>
Late Night	<p>10:00 Reception (Stillwater Library Terrace)</p>	<p>10:30 to 12:00 Poetry Slam with Roger Bonair-Agard (Twisted-Hudson)</p>		



PRESS RELEASE
Tuesday, May 1, 2007

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FESTIVAL SCHEDULE & EVENT DESCRIPTIONS

WEDNESDAY – June 20

POETRY & PASTRIES

9 a.m., Arcola Mills

Free, registration required

Join Roger Bonair-Agard for pleasant conversation and a relaxing poetry reading by the side of the St. Croix River. With its unspoiled natural setting and breathtaking river views, Arcola Mills is equally well suited for deep philosophical discussions or easygoing coffeetime chitchats. Either way, the conversation's course will be set by its participants. Breakfast pastries and beverages will be provided. The event is free, but pre-registration is required. To register, visit whitepinefestival.org or call 1-800-838-3006.

WALKING TOUR: TALES OF ARCOLA

10:30 p.m., Arcola Mills

Free, registration required

Experience the present-day beauty of Arcola Mills' St. Croix riverfront setting while hearing tales of its richly storied past. All ages are welcome on this guided walking tour on Arcola's woodland trails. Comfortable walking shoes are recommended. Our route will be tailored to accommodate the abilities and interests of those present, beginning with a riverside stroll on level terrain and (for those who so desire) an extended loop exploring the steeper terrain of Arcola's ravines. As we walk, we'll explore 10,000 years of the site's natural and cultural history, from a roaring post-glacial St. Croix, to a 19th century lumbering hub, to a lively gathering place for literary notables, artists, and other creative souls that began in the 1940s during the era of the Van Meier family. The event is free, but pre-registration is required. To register, visit whitepinefestival.org or call 1-800-838-3006. [Program hosted by Arcola Mills.]

STRING QUARTET MASTER CLASS

1 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church
Free and open to the public

Get a better sense for how professional musicians approach their craft and see some of the region's most promising student musicians when the St. Petersburg String Quartet instructs student quartets from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls, Minnesota Youth Symphonies, Stillwater Area High School and Hudson Middle School in the art of ensemble playing.

CYNTHIA GUSTAVSON / OPEN MIC READING

4:30 p.m., Location TBD
Free and open to the public

Former St. Croix Valley resident Cynthia Gustavson returns home to share some of her favorite poems and the stories behind them before turning the microphone over to others who would like to read their work. Natural themes run throughout Gustavson's writing, which also explores poetry's role in personal healing and self expression.

OPENING CONCERT: ST. PETERSBURG STRING QUARTET

8 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church
\$20 adults, \$12 students

Formed at the Leningrad Conservatory, the St. Petersburg String Quartet is best known for its definitive interpretations of Russian string quartet masterworks. In 2006, the Grammy-nominated group commemorated the 100th anniversary of Dmitri Shostakovich's birth by touring Europe to perform 10 of his 15 quartets. This amazing concert will feature Sergey Prokofiev's "Quartet No. 2", Alexander Glazunov's "Three Novellets", and Franz Schubert's "Death and the Maiden".

OPENING CONCERT RECEPTION

10 p.m., Stillwater Public Library
Free and open to the public

After the concert, head next door to enjoy a late-night drink and the spectacular view of downtown Stillwater from the terrace of the recently renovated Stillwater Public Library while mingling with festival artists and fellow audience members.

THURSDAY – June 21

POETRY & PASTRIES

9 a.m., Stillwater Public Library

Free and open to the public

Join Roger Bonair-Agard for pleasant conversation and a relaxing poetry reading while overlooking downtown Stillwater from the new terrace of the Stillwater Public Library. The only thing certain about the conversation is that its course will be set by its participants. Breakfast pastries and beverages will be provided.

WALKING TOUR: STILLWATER'S HISTORIC RAVINES AND STAIRS

10:30 a.m., Stillwater Public Library

Free and open to the public

POETRY WRITING WORKSHOP (ADULTS)

11 a.m., Stillwater Public Library

\$10

Adult poets of all skill levels are invited to learn from Roger Bonair-Agard in this workshop. A gifted teacher, Bonair-Agard has made it a priority to help other poets develop and improve their writing. He has coached some of the nation's best slam poetry teams and facilitated writing workshops at colleges, universities, and high schools around the world. He regularly works with several writing centers in New York City, where he has lived and taught for the last 17 years.

ST. PETERSBURG STRING QUARTET ENCORE CONCERT

1 p.m., Boutwells Landing

\$10

Those unable to attend Wednesday night's opening concert or who simply want to hear more of the St. Petersburg String Quartet can catch this encore performance at Boutwells Landing. Get your tickets early, since space will be limited at this intimate performance. For an added treat, stay after the concert to hear the poetry of Roger Bonair-Agard.

ROGER BONAIR-AGARD READING

2:15 p.m., Boutwells Landing

\$10

Though he is a talented poet in any context, the dynamic and charismatic Roger Bonair-Agard truly comes to life before an audience, and numerous national

awards attest to his skill as a performer. At this reading, the native of Trinidad & Tobago will not only recite his own work -- much of which revolves around politics and the notion of home -- but he will also read and discuss some of his favorite poems from other writers.

GOLDBERG VARIATIONS LECTURE WITH SKIP JAMES

4:30 p.m., Ascension Episcopal Church
Free and open to the public

For a musical primer that goes well beyond the standard program notes, join Skip James for this enlightening lecture on one of the most significant keyboard works of all time. A trained musicologist, James has taught at numerous universities, and his experience as a harpsichord maker gives him special insight into the instrument for which they were written. After the lecture, take a stroll and enjoy dinner in one of downtown Stillwater's many restaurants before returning to Ascension for the evening concert.

SKIP JAMES PERFORMS BACH'S GOLDBERG VARIATIONS

8 p.m., Ascension Episcopal Church
\$20 adults, \$12 students

Audience members will be in for a rare treat when the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra's Skip James not only plays several of Johann Sebastian Bach's well-known but seldom-performed Goldberg Variations, but does so on a harpsichord, the instrument for which they were originally composed. Though a standard of the keyboard repertoire, the variations' technical difficulty means few are willing to perform them live. For a more thorough understanding of the piece, be sure to check out James' free lecture earlier in the day.

POETRY SLAM: ROGER BONAIR-AGARD TAKES ON THE TWIN CITIES

10:30 p.m., Twisted
Free and open to the public

Twin Cities slam poets will go head to head with national slam poetry champion Roger Bonair-Agard in this spoken-word competition where the audience determines the winner. Regardless of whether you're a longtime fan of slam poetry or first-time audience member, you'll love the intensity of this late-night performance that bridges the gap between hip-hop and heroic couplets.

FRIDAY – June 22

POETRY & PASTRIES

9 a.m., Lakeside Park
Free and open to the public

Join Cynthia Gustavson for pleasant conversation and a relaxing poetry reading in Hudson's charming and historic downtown. The only thing certain about the conversation is that its course will be set by its participants. Breakfast pastries and beverages will be provided.

MUSIC IN THE PARK WITH THE RIVER FALLS BRASS

noon, Hudson Bandshell
Free and open to the public

You don't have to play hooky to hear great music in the middle of the workday, just grab some grub and head to the Hudson Bandshell for a free lunchtime performance of the River Falls Brass, the renowned brass quintet composed of faculty from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls.

POETRY WRITING WORKSHOP (TEENS)

1 p.m., Stillwater Public Library
\$10

Teen poets of all experience levels are invited to learn from Roger Bonair-Agard in this one-session workshop. A gifted teacher, Bonair-Agard has made it a priority to help young poets develop their art. When not writing or performing his own poetry, Bonair-Agard works with several writing centers in New York City, including Urban Word NYC, a writing and performance resource center for teens, where he is a writing instructor and teacher trainer.

POETRY WRITING WORKSHOP (SENIORS)

1 p.m., Boutwells Landing
\$10

Senior writers of all experience levels are invited to learn from Cynthia Gustavson in this workshop. Nature and personal reflection are central themes in Gustavson's poetry, which is informed both by her childhood in Afton and by her extensive work with caregivers of the chronically ill and developmentally disabled. Gustavson has taught poetry at universities in Louisiana and Oklahoma, where she now lives, and has lectured throughout the country.

WHAT NARCISSISM MEANS TO ME: AN EVENING WITH TONY HOAGLAND

8 p.m., The Phipps Center for the Arts
\$20 adults, \$12 students

Tony Hoagland's poems are smart and funny, combining classic lyricism and modern imagery to offer a uniquely beautiful, insightful, and incisive look at contemporary America. He tackles the great themes of poetry -- nature, love, and suffering -- in a modern context and with ample irony, wit, and intelligence. You won't want to miss this memorable evening of poetry and philosophy with one of the nation's most exciting and bestselling poets.

SATURDAY – June 23

POETRY & PASTRIES

9 a.m., Arcola Mills
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OPEN MIC POETRY READING WITH ROGER BONAIR-AGARD

12 p.m., Boutwells Landing
Free and open to the public

Whether you want to share your poetry with others or simply hear poems performed by several writers, this open-mic reading is your opportunity to celebrate and support the local literary scene. Visiting poet Roger Bonair-Agard will host the reading at Boutwells Landing.

THE OOMPAH AND THE INGÉNUË: TWO KINDS OF MUSIC IN AMERICAN POETRY

1 p.m., Arcola Mills
\$10

Like different kinds of personality, different kinds of poems seduce, entertain, or overwhelm. In this engaging talk delivered amid the stunning natural beauty of Arcola Mills, Tony Hoagland will use a handful of poems to psychoanalyze some of the personality structures in American poetry now.

STUDENT POETRY READING

3 p.m., Arcola Mills
Free, registration required

Selected students from Hudson area schools will be invited to share their writing at a special reading and reception on the Arcola Mills grounds. Come to see the kids perform, then grab a snack and stay to peruse student work on display in the center's gallery, check out Arcola Mills' other exhibits, or simply sit back and enjoy the magnificent river view from the deck of the former lumber settlement's restored manor house. The event is free, but pre-registration is required. To register, visit whitepinefestival.org or call 1-800-838-3006.

COLLABORATION & CULMINATION: THE FESTIVAL FINALE

8 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church
\$20 adults, \$12 students

You won't want to miss the festival's interdisciplinary closing event, which brings together the St. Petersburg String Quartet, award-winning poet Tony Hoagland, and former national champion slam poet Roger Bonair-Agard. The artists will design the program while in residence at the festival, drawing on each other's work and their White Pine experiences for inspiration. This unique performance will be the culmination of the inaugural festival, embodying its collaborative spirit and setting the stage for the years to come.

For more information visit www.whitepinefestival.org.

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