

Stories on the Stoops in the West Bottoms

Novel meet and greet KC area authors at First Festival Weekend May 4-6

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, May 2, 2018 – The popular ***Books in the Bottoms*** event in the West Bottoms has returned for a third year. Local authors will be located next to the historic building entry stoops around the West Bottoms to greet First Festival Weekend shoppers and share their stories. The author and visitor mixer will permit enjoying margaritas, sangria and various beverage offerings throughout the streets in the six-block area.

Participating authors will represent a range of fiction and non-fiction genre, including science fiction, fantasy and the supernatural, children's books, thrillers, and history-based fiction. Non-fiction genres include historical, cooking and crime writing. Some of the Kansas City-area featured authors include: Duane Porter, Aaron Hollingsworth, J.R. Frontera, Kristen Helling, Darlene Deluca, Travis Perret, Joyce Ann Brown and Dennis Young.

The free, three-day West Bottoms First Festival Weekend averages around 20,000 visitors looking for vintage, antique and one-of-a-kind statement pieces and fun finds. The first weekend adds options beyond the cafés to include the Food Truck Wine and Dine outdoor options. The area's six-blocks of multistory buildings makes it the largest indoor, year-round antique and vintage district in the country.

"The creativity in Kansas City is over-flowing, so it is no surprise we are able to gather so many talented authors," said Amber Arnett-Bequeaith, VP of the West Bottoms Business District. "People are looking for unique experiences that are worth writing about and sharing with others. The West Bottoms' First Festival offers a fun place to shop and the rare chance to actually meet and interact with authors."

West Bottom's First Festival Weekend

Opens Friday through Saturday - Shops Open around 9 A.M. and Sunday opens at noon

Food Truck Wine & Dine

Available Friday, Saturday and Sunday, off the 12th St. Bridge

About the West Bottoms Historic Entertainment District:

The West Bottoms Historic Entertainment District has more than thirty-five stores in a six-block area. Many of the large, multi-story buildings off the 12th Street Bridge offer several floors of vintage and antique finds. The District is the destination for interior decorators and designers, collectors and consumers seeking stylish décor and gift options that have a history and patina that cannot be duplicated. westbottoms.com

###

FEATURED AUTHORS:

Duane Porter is an award-winning children's author with eight published works currently available. His tastes are wide-ranging fantasy/adventure themes, having most recently released "Werewolf for Hire" adult novel and the brand-new picture book "The Vampire Who Had No Fangs". Mr. Porter lives in Blue Springs, Missouri and has been creating actual books since 2007. His books and an extensive selection of custom chess boards may be seen at chessdoodle.com.



Aaron Hollingsworth writes science fantasy and weird fiction and develops Pathfinder-related game supplements for publishers such as Purple Duck Games and Total Party Kill Games. His fiction works include the Four Winds-One Storm series, as well as The Apothecary of Mantua novella, and other collections of short stories. Writing influences include the works of Garth Ennis, Kazuo Koike, Clark Ashton Smith, Jim Butcher, and H.P. Lovecraft. Aaron lives in Kansas City with his wife, Stephanie, and their two sons. He invites readers to visit: aaronhollingsworth.com



J. R. Frontera's love of science fiction and fantasy originated with her early exposure to the worlds of Star Wars, Star Trek, Lord of the Rings, and Dune. Exploring the potential and pitfalls of future or fantastical worlds is a temptation she's just never been able to resist. She lives in rural Missouri with her husband, son, and a random assortment of four-legged and feathered friends. She co-founded the Kansas City writing group known as The Wordwraiths and is co-owner of their publishing imprint Wordwraith Books. You can get a free copy of her collection of Twilight Zone style science fiction short stories, END OF LINE, by visiting her website at www.jrfrontera.com.



Dennis Young comments about his 11 years of writing, "I decided it was time to write the tales of Ardwel. You want blood and guts, we got it. You want romance and hot sex, we got it. You want moral dilemmas and hard choices, we got those, too. But mostly we have great adventures, flawed heroes, and bad guys you just love to hate." He has a book series starting with the Secret Fire: The Ardwelian Chronicles, Book One.



Kristin Helling enjoys stories with a journey- whether it's a journey across the globe, a journey through space, or a journey of finding one's self. She writes Adult fiction thrillers, as well as children stories. On the side, she also has a love for Creative Nonfiction shorts and travel narratives. She received her BA in English-Writing from Park University (Parkville, MO) with an 18-hour minor in Psychology.



Darlene Deluca has seven published novels focused on contemporary romance and women's fiction. She likes to explore relationships – what brings people together or keeps them apart. She brings life's interesting characters that readers can relate to in real-life situations that combine a little fun, plenty of drama, tears, and big helpings of friendship, love and self-discovery. Her stories leave you either cheering or sighing with a satisfied smile as you turn the final page. Darlene has been a reader and writer since childhood. With a degree in Journalism, she started her career as a newspaper reporter. She writes day or night, whenever the words/mood/deadlines strike, and almost always has a cup of tea and a bit of dark chocolate nearby!



Travis Perret is a speaker, corrective exercise expert, and Best Selling Author of: "Pain Free Life: Eliminate Chronic Pain and Get Back to a Younger More Active You!" Travis owns and operates Exercise Therapy of Kansas City. He is passionate about motivating people on how they can decrease chronic pain so they can live their life to the fullest without pain pills and unnecessary surgeries. Helping them remain active as they age and doing the things they love to do. He currently lives in Overland Park, KS with his wife and two daughters.



Joyce Ann Brown was a librarian, a landlady, and a Realtor before becoming a short story, blog, and novel writer. Author of the Psycho Cat and the Landlady cozy mystery series, Ms. Brown spends her days writing (with a few breaks for tennis, walking, and book clubs) so Beth, the landlady in the series, and Sylvester, aka Psycho Cat, can solve who-done-its connected with rental properties and condos in the quaint Brookside neighborhood of Kansas City. Ms. Brown lives in the Kansas City area with her husband and two mischievous cats. They travel the country in an RV to visit family and gather snippets for her stories. When not working on a new book for the series, the author creates award-winning short stories for magazines and anthologies.



Schedule of times and places on page 3.



WestBottoms.com

BOOKS IN THE BOTTOMS — MEET THE AUTHORS

MAY FIRST FESTIVAL WEEKEND 2018

AUTHOR	PLACE
FRIDAY 10:30AM-2:30PM	
Kristin Helling	GOOD JU JU 1420 W 13th Terrace, Kansas City, MO 64101 opens 9AM
Travis Perret	UGLY GLASS 1285 Hickory St, Kansas City, MO 64102 opens 10AM
Darlene Deluca	SASSY'S 1300 W 13th St, Kansas City, MO 64102 opens 10AM
Joyce Ann Brown	SERENDIPITY 1402 Hickory Street, Kansas City, MO 64102 opens 9AM
Jennifer J.R. Frontera	BOTTOMS UP 1300 W 13th St, Kansas City, MO 64102 opens 10AM
SATURDAY 10AM-2:30PM	
Duane Porter	BELLA PATINA 1320 W 12th St, Kansas City, MO 64101 opens 9AM
Dennis Young	SINCERELY ELLIS 1409 W 11th St, Kansas City, MO 64101 opens 11AM
SUNDAY 12PM-3PM	
Aaron Hollingsworth	SERENDIPITY 1402 Hickory Street, Kansas City, MO 64102 opens 9AM