

More info on our presenters

JerriAnne Boggis is the executive director of the Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire and she will have a special presentation for us about Harriet Wilson from Milford NH, the first African American woman in the world to be published.

Kristen Ringman is a deaf writer and poet who shows us that listening goes way beyond the ears. She will read from her new book *I Stole you, Stories From the Fae* that gives a fresh, beautiful and sometimes deadly look at encounters with the likes of ghosts, wolves, fairies and shapeshifters.

Scott Plante is a musician and songwriter who uses his songs to tell the story of his amazing journey through addiction and recovery and his time in prison. He also has a remarkable ability to write songs for other people and the harrowing circumstances of their experience as well.

Amanda Whitworth is the director of Dance at Plymouth State University and founder of Tributary Dance. She will be joining Scott Plante for a dance that she's choreographed for a video featuring his song New Beginnings.

Catherine Stewart uses theatre and film to ignite social and political change by challenging how audiences interact with live and recorded performance. Individually and collaboratively she tells stories of real people using text, multimedia and physical performance – making work that is accessible, engaging and above all entertaining. She will present a piece dealing with women's empowerment

Alicia Fisher is a poet, freelance writer and visual artist from Portland Maine with her own unique style of performance. She will be presenting a piece of her own then joining Jonathan Stoker for a piece they wrote together.

Jonathan Stoker is a Beat Night regular and the only one who has his own annual feature spot. He has a gift for humor and entertainment as he brings some the unusual stories of his past to life on stage with the Beat Night Band. Jon will be doing a piece by the late Jim Carroll with harmonica great Mike Z and doing an original written with Alicia Fisher

Alice Fogel is the Poet Laureate of New Hampshire currently teaching at Landmark College working one-on-one with learning disabled students. Her list of teaching, writing and publishing credentials is extensive and her seasoned experience shows in everything she presents. She and Laila Ruffin will be doing a piece together

Laila Ruffin is the State Youth Poet Laureate and has been writing since she was in third grade. She is currently working with kids and being an all-around inspiration wherever she goes. She will be doing a joint piece with Alice Fogel

Angela Whiting is the Program and Volunteer Coordinator at Safe Harbor Recovery Center in Portsmouth. She is also a regular participant in Mike's poetry class at the center. She will give some information about what Safe Harbor does and read one of her poems written in class.

Rebecca Allsop just wandered into Beat Night one cold December and did something amazing with the band. What she did deserves a bigger audience and I've asked her to repeat her performance for us at the Festival.

Jason Johnson is a visual artist who does work dealing with his own process of addiction and recovery