22nd Annual Carl Sandburg Festival  
March & April 2017  
GALESBURG, ILLINOIS  

Big Read activities March & April – The Poetry of Emily Dickinson  
Carl Sandburg Days Festival April 27-29

THURSDAY, April 27
12:15 p.m., Talk by Poet Christina Lovin & Book Signing  
Carl Sandburg College, Crist Student Center, Building B, 2400 Tom L. Wilson Blvd.  
A native Mid-Westerner, Christina Lovin was born in Galesburg, Illinois, but has lived and worked in states as varied as Indiana, Maine, Ohio, North Carolina, and now makes her home in Central Kentucky. Her education is just as varied, beginning her schooling at Anderson University (then College), attending a community college (Illinois Central College) and Ivy League school (Harvard Summer Programs), and culminating in a Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing degree from New England College.  
Having had several careers ranging from minister’s wife, to retail store owner, to real estate agent, to VISTA volunteer, Lovin now finds herself teaching writing courses at the college level, her favorite job ever.  
Lovin’s writing has appeared in over one hundred different literary journals and anthologies. She is the recipient of numerous poetry awards, writing residencies, fellowships, and grants, most notably the 2007 Al Smith Fellowship from the Kentucky Arts Council and the Elizabeth George Foundation Grant.

1:30 p.m., Talk by Poet Christina Lovin Talk & Book Signing  
Galesburg High School Library, 1135 W. Fremont St.

5 5:00 p.m., Cyclists of Galesburg 6-mile Bike Ride  
Meet behind Ride and Run, 235 E. Main St.  
Cyclists will meet in the back parking lot behind Ride and Run, 235 E. Main St., on Wednesday at 5 p.m. The bike ride, led by Ron Peck, will be six miles and the route that is mapped out will visit the Sandburg sites. Historic information will be given at the various stops. Historic Site Superintendent will give a short presentation to cyclists at the Historic Site stop. The ride will end at the Galesburg Public Library. For more information contact Annette Q McAllister, Qscafe@hotmail.com or 309-341-4525 or check the Cyclists of Galesburg Facebook Page!

5:30 p.m., Galesburg Public Art’s Commission Trivia Night, Knights of Columbus Hall, 1556 E. Fremont Street  
The Galesburg Public Art Commission is looking for teams of 4-8 people to participate in a fun trivia night. The cost is $10.00 per person. There is team registration with a max of 8 people per team. Doors open at 5:30, food and drink is available. Proceeds benefit the Galesburg Public Art Commission.
6:30 p.m., 28th Annual Carl Sandburg College Poetry Awards Ceremony
Carl Sandburg College, Crist Student Center, Building B, 2400 Tom L. Wilson Blvd.
Carl Sandburg College will honor the winners of the 28th annual Carl Sandburg Poetry Contest. Entries of original poems are judged by Sandburg English professors in three levels of competition: elementary (grades 1-5), intermediate (grades 6-12) and adult. Category winners are invited to the awards ceremony to read their winning poems and accept their certificates and prizes donated by Carl Sandburg College. All winning poems will be published in a booklet that will be distributed at the ceremony. Entries are due March 15. For more information contact Associate Dean of Humanities & Performing Arts Carol Petersen at 309.341.5416.

FRIDAY, April 28

SATURDAY, April 29
9 a.m., 3- & 5-mile Sandburg Hike
Sandburg Historic Site & Visitor’s Center, 313 E. Third St.
This hike begins and ends at Carl Sandburg Historic Site, includes lunch, patch, snack and fun! Girl Scouts will offer 2 separate historic and informative hikes open to the public. Non-registered Scout children must be accompanied by an adult. A 3-mile hike will include boyhood homes of Carl Sandburg and a 5-mile hike from the Historic Site, around to various sites downtown and back will be offered. Both will start together after meeting at the Birthplace for a tour, activities and Swedish dancing, then proceed with the hikes, including a stop at historic Coney Island for lunch. There will again be a Girl Scout patch and a reading component. Before attending, children should read a book about or by Carl Sandburg. There will be a Sandburg talk at 9 a.m., followed by Bishop Hill volunteers demonstrating Swedish dancing before we tour the Historic Site and depart for the hikes. Boy Scouts can complete their 5-mile hike for rank. We recommend children under the age of 10 choose the 3-mile hike.

10 a.m. & 1:30 p.m., Carl Sandburg’s Galesburg Tram Tour
Sandburg Historic Site & Visitor’s Center, 313 E. Third St.
Enjoy a one-hour narrated tram tour presented by The Galesburg Historical Society. Tickets are free but are required for the trip. Seating is limited and tickets are first come, first served. Tickets may be picked up at the Sandburg Historic Site and Visitor’s Center, 313 E. Third St.

10 a.m. to NOON, Writers Workshop by Christina Lovin
Sandburg Historic Site Barn, 313 E. Third St.
Cost for the workshop is $10/person. To make reservations please email marketing@sandburg.edu or call 309-341-5328 by Tuesday, April 19.
7 p.m., Special Songbag Performance by Ada and the Shubies
Historic Site Barn, 313 E. Third St.

9:00 p.m., 11th Annual Rootabaga Poetry Slam by Marc K. Smith
156 East, 156 E. Main St.
Doors open at 8:30 p.m. Slam begins at 9 p.m. 11th Annual Rootabaga Poetry Slam, hosted by Mark K. (Slampapi) Smith, founder/creator of the International Poetry Slam movement. The Rootabaga Poetry Slam is a unique form of performance poetry competition open to all ages. Smith brings a regional slam competition to Galesburg and the Festival. Top “slammers” from across the Midwest are expected to come and compete for cash prizes totaling $350. First place $200, second place $100, third place $50. There is no entry fee to compete. Admission is free. However, a freewill offering will be accepted, with refreshments provided. An all-ages event, but a cash bar is available. This event is sponsored by The Big Read, Carl Sandburg Historic Site Association and Carl Sandburg College.