

Carolyn McBride



Pumpkin Spice & Cozy Bookish Nights

As the days get shorter, Brigid enjoys the zoomies in the cooler weather. And as more leaves fall, we enjoy getting glimpses of the Occoquan River again. I look forward to evenings in front of the fire, wrapped up in a blanket with my reading *and* my writing, now that I'm three chapters into the third book in the Potomac Shores series!

This year most of my reading has been for classwork, and I've hit the **halfway mark on my master's degree in Fiction Writing** from Lindenwood University. In the past few months, two of my short stories have been accepted for **publication in global (even universal) venues**, and both *The Cicada Spring* and *Santa Overboard* have received a lot of love from readers and **awards and recognition in the industry**.

My schedule is packed with events this fall and winter, and I welcome you to join me as I celebrate the realization of a lifetime of writing dreams coming true.

Don't miss this weekend's book talk!



Literary lunch at Elaine's

Join me *Saturday, November 2*, in Old Town Alexandria for delicious Mediterranean food and to celebrate the release of *Santa Overboard!* Remember the Bilbo Baggins restaurant? The new owners host local authors upstairs in a dining room lined with bookshelves.

Save your seat now!



A Little Literary Love

The Cicada Spring is receiving recognition in nationwide competitions, including:

- “Distinguished Favorite” in **Women’s Fiction** and **Audiobook Fiction** in the [2024 NYC Big Book Award](#)
- Short list for **Best Cover** in “The Best of Indie” [2024 Kindle Book Awards](#).
(Winners will be announced November 1st.)



Getting My Ducks in a Row...Literally



We kicked off September with a much-needed vacation, a cruise from New York City to the maritime provinces of Canada: New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island. To celebrate the then-pending release of *Santa Overboard*, my husband and I had a lot of fun hiding Christmas-themed ducks with bookmarks all over the ship!

Women Writers, Women's Books

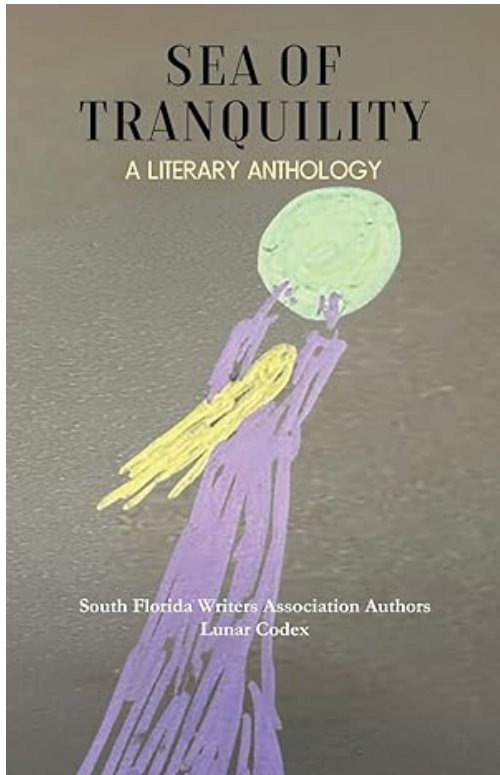
In October, a global blog for women writers published my piece, "A Midlife Writer's Journey: From Crisis to Clarity."

[Read about writing to heal](#)

**Sea of Tranquility:
A Literary Anthology**

Shooting for the Moon

My short story, "Moonlight and Roses," was just published in an [anthology from the South Florida Writers Association](#). Even more amazing, *Sea of Tranquility* will be included in the **Lunar Codex blasting off from Cape Canaveral next year!** The curated archive of cultural works from across the globe will be stored in perpetuity like "a set of time capsules, a message-in-a-bottle to future generations." I'm honored to have been accepted into this timeless project.



Learn more about the
Lunar Codex

Upcoming Events


Occoquan Bay
National Wildlife Refuge

Wild Reads: Books That Inspire Nature Lovers

Take in the autumn colors on a walk in the refuge before or after the event, where I will read from both books and talk about the natural scenery described in the Potomac Shores series.

Wild Reads:
Books That Inspire Nature Lovers

A talk with the author of
The Potomac Shores
Series



Friday, November 8, 2024 - 1 pm
Occoquan Bay National Wildlife Refuge
14050 Dawson Beach Rd., Woodbridge, VA

Local novelist Carolyn McBride reads from and shares the inspiration behind her books with stories and photos.

Friday, Nov. 8: 1 pm

The Cicada Spring: A Potomac Shores Novel

Order Now



Occoquan Holiday Sip & Shop

Three shops in Occoquan are staying open for an evening of sips, snacks, and holiday specials. Stroll our small town under the gaslights and stop in for books, games, and more at [Puzzle Palooza](#), tasty treats at [Mill Street Sweets](#), and festive decor at [Glory Be](#).

Fun Times This Fall...



Fall Festivals

*Occoquan &
Fredericksburg*

**SEPT. & OCT.
2024**

Santa Overboard: A Potomac Shores Holiday

Order Now

Making Memories

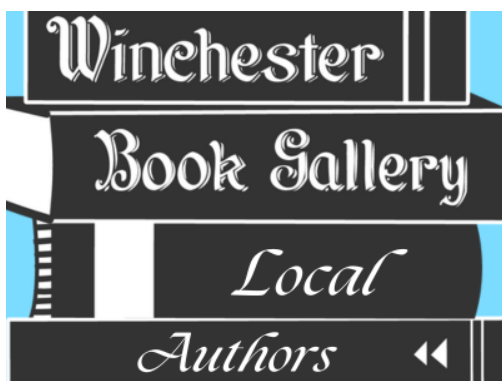
My first Barnes & Noble book signing (top left).

Meeting readers - and writers - at the Woodbridge Woman's Club (bottom left).

My 40th high school reunion included a tour of the school, where my books made the alumni display case (middle right)!



More Events!



Winchester Book Gallery



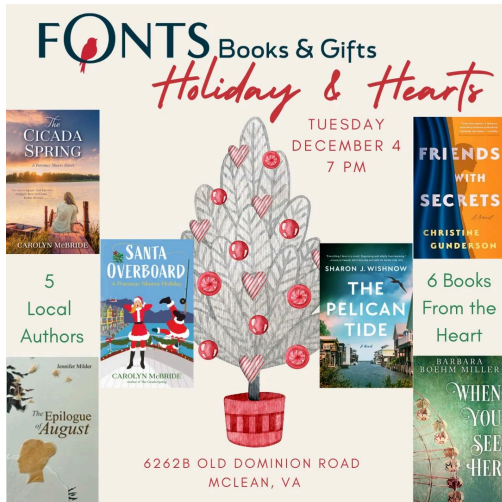
Miami Book Fair

Head to the mountains for fall colors and books!

Sunday, Nov. 3: 12-2 pm

Head south for warmer weather and more books!

Friday, Nov. 22



Holiday & Hearts

Fonts Books in McLean will feature 5 local authors from the Northern Virginia Writers Club and our 6 heartwarming books.

Wednesday, Dec. 4: 7 pm



Belmont Bay Holiday Market

Enjoy signature drinks and holiday recipes from *Santa Overboard*, sponsored by The Spot at Belmont Bay.

Saturday, Dec. 7



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