

**For Immediate Release**  
August 15, 2019

## **Literacy for Those Incarcerated is Focus of Gala Dinner**

Winnipeg author and graphic novelist **David Robertson** will speak at a fundraising gala in support of the Literacy Department at the John Howard Society of Manitoba on Thursday October 3, 2019, at the Canad Inns Destination Centre Club Regent Casino Hotel. Cocktails are at 5:30 p.m. with a dinner and keynote presentation to follow at 6:30 p.m.

Robertson's books include *When We Were Alone* (Governor General's Literary Award winner, McNally Robinson Best Book for Young People winner), *Will I See?* (Manuela Dias Book Design and Illustration Award, Graphic Novel Category), and the YA novel *Strangers* (Michael Van Rooy Award for Genre Fiction, Best Indigenous Writer at the High Plains Book Awards).

"This is more than a fundraising gala dinner," said Amanda Fyfe, literacy coordinator at the John Howard Society of Manitoba. "This event invites community support for those on the inside who want to improve their situations and return to families and workplaces and lead fulfilling and free lives."

**Jordan Wheeler**, screenwriter, author and recent artist-in-residence at Winnipeg Public Library, will be the featured poet at the gala. **Terry MacLeod**, radio journalist and veteran host of CBC Radio's Weekend Morning show, will be the emcee for the evening.

Local band, **McGiver**, will provide musical entertainment. An award will be given to an outstanding literacy learner and a literacy advocate.

All proceeds go directly towards the literacy program at the John Howard Society of Manitoba.

Tickets are \$100, with a majority of the ticket price eligible for a charitable tax receipt. Supporters have an option to purchase \$200 tickets or become Table Hosts for \$1,000 (includes 8 tickets). For tickets see **diningforliteracy2019.eventbrite.ca** or call the office at 204-775-1514.

END

### **Contact**

Amanda Fyfe, *Literacy Coordinator*  
The John Howard Society of Manitoba  
583 Ellice Avenue  
Winnipeg MB R3B 1Z7  
204-775-1514 ext. 112  
afyfe@johnhoward.mb.ca

