

LITERATURE FESTIVAL 2026

Authors from Minority-Language Communities in the Arctic and Nordic Regions

11-12 September 2026 · Community Centre, Kárášjohka/Karasjok

Two days of literature, conversations, lectures, joik and artistic encounters bringing together authors and literary communities from minority-language regions across the Arctic and the Nordic countries.

FRIDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER

09:00-09:45 | Visit to the Sámi Parliament

Visit to the Sámi Parliament with Anders Henriksen.

09:45-10:00 | Transport

Bus from the Sámi Parliament to the Community Centre.

10:00-10:30 | Opening with representatives of Sámi Parliament and Kárášjohka Municipality

Artistic performance: joik by joikers/authors

Sámi Girječálliid Searvi (SGS) welcomes participants and provides practical information

Greetings from the Arts Council Norway (Kulturrådet), the Barents Secretariat and Finnmark County Municipality

Moderator: Inga Ravna Eira

LITERATURE IN MINORITY-LANGUAGE COMMUNITIES IN THE ARCTIC AND NORDIC REGIONS

Lectures, conversations and artistic performances featuring authors and other participants from different minority-language communities.

10:30-11:30 | Sápmi

Original Literature in Sámi. Lecture by Lill Tove Fredriksen, Associate Professor at UiT The Arctic University of Norway and author.

Author conversation: Conversation with author Sigbjørn Skåden.

Moderator: Synnøve Solbakken-Härkönen

11:30-12:30 | Sámi Literature for Children and Young Adults

Original Sámi Literature for Children and Young Adults. Lecture by author Karen Anne Buljo.

Author conversation: Conversation with children's and young adult author Inga Elin Marakatt.

Moderator: University Lecturer Lisa Monica Aslaksen

12:30-13:00 | Artistic Work and Joik

Author Niillas Holmberg talks about his artistic work and joik.

13:00-14:00 | Lunch

14:00-15:30 | Kalaallit Nunaat/Greenland

Greenlandic literature. Lecture by Juaaka Lyberth, Chair of Kalaallit Atuakkiortut (KA), the Greenland Writers' Association.

Sámi and Greenlandic Young adult literature. Lecture by Saia Marilena Stueng, University College Lecturer.

Author conversation: Conversation with authors Juaaka Lyberth and Kelly Berthelsen.

Moderator: Saia Marilena Stueng

15:30-16:30 | Føroyar/Faroe Islands

Faroese literature. Lecture by [to be confirmed]

Author conversation: Conversation with Silja Aldudottir.

Moderator: [to be confirmed]

16:30-17:00 | Coffee Break

17:00-17:10 | Artistic Performance, Joik by joiker/author

17:30-18:30 | LITERARY CONCERT, Open to the public

19:30 | Dinner, Scandic Karasjok Hotel

SATURDAY, 12 SEPTEMBER

09:30-09:45 | Introduction and Artistic Performance

09:45-10:45 | Language Revitalisation Through Literature

Language Revitalisation Through Literature in Minority-Language Communities

Lectures by authors Sara Kelemen, Inari, and Ksenia Bolshakova [affiliation/location to be confirmed].

10:45-11:00 | Literature for Children and Young Adults

Children's and young adult authors from minority-language communities in the Arctic and Nordic regions.

Participants:

11:00-12:00 | Panel Discussion

Sámi-Language Authors and Strengthening Original Literature in Sámi

Introduction and panel discussion with representatives of cultural authorities, authors, writers' associations and other organisations.

Participants: Moderator:

12:00-13:00 | Lunch

13:00-13:30 | Stories and Joik Texts

Artistic performance featuring stories and joik texts from the Sámi oral tradition.

13:30-14:00 | Author Conversation with Mari Boine

Conversation with artist and songwriter Mari Boine.

Moderator: Karen Anne Buljo

14:00-15:00 | Author Education and Literacy Training

Presentation of two projects from Sápmi:

Čális fal! – Sámi-language author education programme

Čálamáhttu – education and literacy training for adults who have not had access to basic reading and writing education.

Participants: Karen Anne Buljo, Gudrun Eliissá Eriksen Lindi, participants from Čálamáhttu and a representative from Sámi allaskuvla/Sámi University of Applied Sciences.

Panel Discussion: Author education in other minority-language communities in the Arctic and Nordic regions – practices and experiences.

Moderator: Inga Ravna Eira

15:00-15:30 | Coffee Break

15:30-16:30 | The Future of the Literature Festival

The Future of the Literature Festival for Authors from Minority-Language Communities in the Arctic and Nordic Regions

A discussion on the future development of the festival. A working group will be appointed to continue the work. Questions and open discussion.

Moderator:

16:30-16:45 | Closing

16:45-17:15 | Artistic Performances

Featuring authors from minority-language communities in the Arctic and Nordic regions.

18:00-19:00 | CONCERT WITH MARI BOINE

Open to the public – tickets on sale

20:00 | Dinner, Scandic Karasjok Hotel

ORGANISER

Sámi Girječálliid Searvi (SGS)

WITH SUPPORT FROM

Kulturrådet / Arts Council Norway · The Sámi Parliament · The Barents Secretariat · Finnmark County Municipality

Programme subject to change.