





I am so happy to announce that <u>Colleen Nelson</u> will be the special guest at the launch of my new novel *Sixties Girl* at McNally Robinson Booksellers on April 28<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. It will both in person and online.

Colleen is the author of sixteen books for children and her seventeenth *The Umbrella House* will be out in June.

Her titles have won literally dozens of awards and her novel *Harvey Holds His Own* was a finalist for the Governor General's Award.

You can read more about Colleen here.



## My Author Copies Have Arrived!

It was pretty exciting to open the box and hold the published copies of *Sixties Girl* in my hands for the first time. Although an author sees many drafts of their manuscript there are always some surprises in the final copy.

Copies are on the shelf at all three McNally Robinsons Booksellers now.

## **Thank You Winnipeg Writers!**

How fortunate I am to be part of such a supportive Winnipeg writing community.

Four Winnipeg children's authors, Gabriele Goldstone whose latest book is <u>Crow</u> <u>Stone</u>, Jodi Carmichael whose latest book is <u>The U-nique Lou Fox</u>, Larry Verstraete whose latest book is <u>Coop the Great</u> and Harriet Zaidman whose latest book is <u>Second Chances</u> all contributed reviews to the first pages of <u>Sixties Girl</u>.

I hold these authors in such high regard and can't thank them enough for writing recommendations for *Sixties Girl*. Here's what they had to say about my novel.

"An empowering book about sharing stories. It is sure to stimulate conversation between generations."

- Gabriele Goldstone

"Sixties Girl is a captivating page turner that I did not want to end."

Jodi Carmichael

"Heartfelt, warm, rich in details, meticulously researched and complete with historical notes MaryLou Driedger's Sixties Girl adeptly brings the era to life."

- Larry Verstraete

"Stories from the Swinging Sixties help friends overcome their divisions and a family bridge the generation gap in this uplifting contemporary tale."

- Harriet Zaidman



Gabriele Goldstone



Jodi Carmichael



Larry Verstraete



Harriet Zaidman



## **Out and About!**

I've been busy giving author talks! This month I've been to Clearspring Middle School in Steinbach, Holland Elementary School in Holland Manitoba, and St. Avila School and Munroe School in Winnipeg. I also did a presentation for sixty women at Steinbach Mennonite Church. It's always delightful to share stories about my books with an audience. I get to field such interesting questions! You can read more about my school visits <a href="here">here</a>.

## **Taking Off!**

My marketing manager at Heritage House Monica Miller is brilliant! She's already set up an interview with a well-known book blogger about *Sixties Girl*, arranged for me to read a chapter of my book for a promotional website, and snagged me an assignment to write a piece about books like mine that feature grandparents. She's organizing my launch with McNally Robinson Booksellers, has found reviewers for my book, and will be publishing my novel study guide on the Heritage House website.

This week I have my first newspaper interview about *Sixties Girl*.

My book launch won't be till the end of April but I've already taken off on the book promotion journey.



Thanks for your interest in my writing! maryloudriedger@gmail.com

MaryLou

