

# The Big Read Door County 2010

## Willa Cather's "My Ántonia"



### Schedule of Events

**Mon, Jan 11, 6:30 – 8:00pm.** The Big Read Door County 2010 Kickoff. Door Community Auditorium, Fish Creek. Highlights include Miss Door County Katie Sawyer speaking on literacy, Dr. Estella Lauter discussing several compelling themes and unique aspects of the book, an opportunity to learn an authentic American Folk Dance presented by Door County Folk Alliance and Big Read Producer Alan Kopischke previewing events.

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**Thu, Jan 14, 3:00 – 4:30pm.** Film about the Life of Willa Cather. Door County Library, 107 South 4th Ave., Sturgeon Bay & **Tue, Jan 19, 3:00 – 4:30pm,** Sister Bay-Liberty Grove Library, 2323 Mill Road, Sister Bay. The film biography "Willa Cather: The Road is All," part of the acclaimed PBS American Masters series will be presented at the Door County Library.

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**Sat, Jan 16– Tue, Mar 2.** Barbara's Farm, Miller Art Museum, Sturgeon Bay. Color photographs of childhood memories by Daniel Anderson. These photos of rural farm life are evocative of the scenes described in Willa Cather's "My Ántonia." Opening reception Jan. 16, 3-4:30pm.

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**Sun, Jan 17, 1:00 – 3:00pm.** Sugar on the Floor Family Dance, Sturgeon Bay YMCA, Sturgeon Bay. Relive the summer nights Ántonia, Jim and Lena spent at the dancing pavilion. Bring the whole family to the Y for American folk dancing in the gym! Presented by the Door County Folk Alliance and Family Centers of Door County.

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**Mon, Jan 18, 7:00 – 8:30pm.** "My Ántonia" by Stephen J. Miller. Birch Creek's Juniper Hall, 3821 Cty Rd E, Egg Harbor. Peninsula Players company members present a creatively staged reading of Stephen J. Miller's stage adaptation of "My Ántonia," directed by Joe Foust, with set and props by Sarah Ross, and performed by Sean and Linda Fortunato.

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**Fri, Jan 22, 7:00 – 9:00pm.** Landscape as Home Place in Willa Cather's "My Ántonia." Crossroads at Big Creek, 2041 Michigan St, Sturgeon Bay. University of Nebraska English Professor and Willa Cather scholar Susan Maher offers The Big Read's keynote address. Maher will discuss the powerful connection people have to the lands that surround them, particularly as reflected in "My Ántonia." Professor Maher currently serves as vice president on the executive board of the Willa Cather Foundation. A commissioned artwork depicting the woman Ántonia was based upon will be unveiled. Sponsored by the Door County Land Trust.

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**Sat, Jan 23, 2:00 – 4:00pm, 7:00 – 9:00pm.** Film Screening: "My Ántonia." Third Avenue Playhouse, Sturgeon Bay. Screening of the 1995 USA Network film starring Neil Patrick Harris, Jason Robards, Eva Marie Saint, and the effervescent Elina Löwensohn as Ántonia.

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**Thu, Jan 28, 2:00 – 3:30pm.** Plants of the Plains; Posies of the Prairies. Crossroads at Big Creek, 2041 Michigan St, Sturgeon Bay. This PowerPoint presentation will discuss the ecological significance of prairie plants including images of some of the characteristic flowers of Nebraska.

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**Thu, Jan 28, 6:30 – 8:30pm.** Door County Library / Peninsula Genealogical Society - Trace Your Pioneer Ancestors. Door County Library, 107 South 4th Ave., Sturgeon Bay. The characters of Ántonia and her family are based on real people. The Sadilek family traveled from Bohemia to settle on the plains of Nebraska in 1880. The Peninsula Genealogical Society will hold a workshop in the Door County Library on tracing your pioneer ancestors. Members will illustrate the paths their own families traveled, and there will be a chance to learn about the many resources available in the library for both beginning and experienced genealogy researchers.

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**Sat, Jan 30, 7:00 – 9:30pm.** Sugar on the Floor Barn Dance. Ephraim Village Hall, Ephraim. Relive the summer nights *Ántonia*, Jim and Lena spent at the dancing pavilion. Join the Folk Alliance for traditional American folk dancing.

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**Thu, Feb 4, 7:00 – 8:30pm.** From the Door Peninsula to the Nebraskan Plains: Passages that Honor our Sense of Place. Door County Land Trust Northern Door Office, 10547 Koessl Lane, Sister Bay. Readings by Local Door County Authors interspersed with passages from the Works of Willa Cather.

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**Fri, Feb 5, 11:30am – 4:30pm.** "*Ántonia's True Heart*" Blood Drive. Northern Door YMCA, Fish Creek. Show your "true heart" (as in Jim's description of *Ántonia*) and donate blood at Northern Door YMCA.

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**Mon, Feb 8, 7:00 – 9:00pm** (or Feb 9). Public Reading of Scott Schwartz' "*My Ántonia*." Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Door County, Ephraim. A public reading of Scott Schwartz' stage adaptation of "*My Ántonia*" performed by Clearing class members under the direction of Alan Kopischke.

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**Wed, Feb 10, 7:00 – 9:00pm.** Peninsula Music Festival Concert. Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church, Ellison Bay. Music of Bohemian composers performed by members of the Peninsula Music Festival. In addition to *Ántonia's* father being a Bohemian violinist, music plays a prominent role in almost all of the books written by Willa Cather. Through music and narration, learn of the influence of music on Willa Cather's writings and her life as well as discover the wonderful music of the Bohemian composers of her time: Dvořák, Suk, Martinu and Kalliwoda.

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### **Book Discussions**

**Tue, Jan 12, 6:30 – 7:30pm.** Readers Rampant Book Discussion, Sister Bay/Liberty Grove Library, 2323 Mill Road, Sister Bay.

**Wed, Jan 20, 12:00 – 2:00pm.** The Outpost Book Discussion 4690 Rainbow Ridge Court, Egg Harbor.

**Thu, Jan 21, 2:00 – 3:00pm.** Crossroads Log Cabin Book Discussion, Crossroads at Big Creek, 2041 Michigan St, Sturgeon Bay.

**Fri, Jan 22, 11:00am – 12:00pm.** Fiddler's Green Book Discussion, Fiddler's Green, 1699 Jackson Harbor Road, Washington Island.

**Mon, Jan 25, 6:00 – 7:30pm.** Teen Book Discussion at Sonny's Pizzeria 43 S Madison Ave, Sturgeon Bay.

**Tue, Jan 26, 1:00 – 2:00pm.** Noble House Book Discussion, Noble House Museum, 4167 Highway 42, Fish Creek.

**Tue, Jan 26, 2:00 – 3:00pm.** Novel Ideas Book Discussion, Novel Ideas, 8085 State Highway 57, Baileys Harbor.

**Wed, Jan 27, 3:00 – 4:00pm.** Booktalker for Kids and Grownups, Door County Library, 107 South 4th Ave., Sturgeon Bay.

**Thu, Jan 28, 2:00 – 3:00pm.** Scandia Village Book Discussion, Scandia Village, 10560 Applewood Rd., Sister Bay.

**Mon, Feb 1, 7:00 – 8:00pm.** East Maplewood Homemakers / Maplewood Community Club Book Discussion Forestville Town Hall, 7705 County H, Forestville.

**Tue, Feb 2, 6:30 – 8:00pm.** Book Discussion led by Gary Jones, Sister Bay/Liberty Grove Library, 2323 Mill Road, Sister Bay.

**Wed, Feb 3, 11:00am – 12:30pm.** Ephraim Historical Foundation Book Discussion, Ephraim Historical Foundation, 3060 Anderson Lane, Ephraim.

**Fri, Feb 5, 1:00 – 3:00pm.** Learning In Retirement Book Discussion, Door County Library, 107 South 4th Ave., Sturgeon Bay.

**Classes** – Call 920-854-4088 to register

**Wed, Jan 13, 9:00am – 12:00pm.** The Big Read Gallery Talk with Kärin Kopischke, The Clearing, Ellison Bay.

**Mon, Jan 18, 25, Feb 1, 8, 2010 9:00am – 12:00pm.** The Big Read Onstage: Cather's "*My Ántonia*" with Alan Kopischke, The Clearing, Ellison Bay.

### **Family Events**

**Wed, Jan 13, 3:00 – 5:00pm.** Crossroads Pioneer Crafts for Kids, Crossroads at Big Creek, 2041 Michigan St., Sturgeon Bay.

**Wed, Jan 20, 3:00 – 5:00pm** Pioneer Films for Families, Door County Library, 107 South 4th Ave., Sturgeon Bay.

**Wed, Feb 3, 3:00 – 5:00pm.** Crossroads Pioneer Games for Kids, Crossroads at Big Creek, 2041 Michigan St., Sturgeon Bay.

*Please note – All Book Discussions and Family Events are done in conjunction with the Door County Library. All events are free except Clearing classes and the Peninsula Music Festival Concert. The Big Read is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and Arts Midwest. For more information about The Big Read visit [www.neabigread.org](http://www.neabigread.org). Listings of events will be updated regularly at [www.peninsulaplayers.com](http://www.peninsulaplayers.com) and [www.doorcountylibrary.org](http://www.doorcountylibrary.org).*



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THE BIG READ