

Growing Room: A Feminist Literary Festival returns to Vancouver next March!
Room magazine will host the festival for a second year from March 1-4, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

VANCOUVER, BC (August 8, 2018): *Room* magazine will bring back **Growing Room: A Feminist Literary Festival** in 2018, under the leadership of *Room*'s managing editor, **Chelene Knight** (author of *Braided Skin*, *Mother Tongue*, 2015, and *Dear Current Occupant*, BookThug, 2018).

"The Growing Room Festival is a necessity," says Knight. "We want to continue being a platform for voices from every possible intersection, and I am making this my top priority. This year's festival promises to elevate underrepresented writers—whether established or emerging. Growing Room 2018 will change the game."

The inaugural festival attracted more than 500 unique attendees from March 8-12, 2017, and included 50 authors in 24 events over five days. Authors at the 2017 festival included **Jen Sookfong Lee, Rachel Hartman, Hiromi Goto, Betsy Warland, Juliane Okot Bitek, Amber Dawn, Audrey Thomas, Evelyn Lau, Jane Eaton Hamilton, Carrie Mac, and Lorna Crozier**. Growing Room is a unique festival in Canada's literary landscape: grassroots, community-based, and with a focus on showcasing and celebrating underrepresented Canadian literary voices and curating events that feature a mix of established and emerging writers.

The second annual festival will take place from **March 1-4, 2018**, at multiple venues in **Mount Pleasant, Vancouver**, and will feature **30+ authors in 16+ events** over four days. The line-up will be announced in early January, and registration will open by February 1, 2018. While the majority of events at Growing Room 2017 were free, *Room* will switch to a pay-what-you-can or by-donation model in 2018, in order to make the festival more sustainable while preserving financial accessibility. Returning sponsors include the **City of Vancouver** and **School Creative**. Organizations and individuals who are interested in supporting the festival, or would otherwise like to get involved, may email **Meghan Bell** at publisher@roommagazine.com.

About *Room* Magazine:

The Growing Room Festival is operated by the West Coast Feminist Literary Magazine Society, a not-for-profit organization and the publisher of *Room*, a quarterly feminist literary journal. *Room* has published fiction, poetry, reviews, artwork, and interviews by writers and artists who identify as women or genderqueer for forty years.

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