



Block Your Calendars! Your Favourite Literary Festival is back!

(Colombo, Sri Lanka) September 1, 2016 - *Fairway Galle Literary Festival offers first reveal for 2017.*

- Colm Toibin – author of *Brooklyn*, adapted onto the big screen and in turn nominated for three Academy Awards, including Best Picture
- Dame Margaret Drabble – author of *The Pure Gold Baby* and 17 other novels. Holder of the distinguished *Golden PEN Award*
- Lesley Hazleton - author of *The First Muslim: The Story of Muhammed*, New York Times Editors Choice and an avid TedTalk speaker.
- Amish Tripathi - author of the fastest selling book trilogy in Indian history - *The Shiva Trilogy*

The Festival looks to showcase participants who inspire, and are inspired!

10 years on since its initial start date, the Festival has grown organically in size, content and feeling. Festival organizers are looking to ride on the success of the 2016 Festival, by delivering an even more exceptional 2017. The Festival dates for 2017 are the 11th - 15th of January 2017.

New additions for 2017 will be the introduction of one day of Sinhala programming on the 14th of January 2017. This innovative programme will be free and will highlight the diversity of the Sinhala Literary Arts through discussions, poetry readings, short films and writings in translations amongst others.

Another addition to 2017 is the Outreach Children's Programme held in Jaffna on the 17th & 18th of January 2017. The programme's aim is to develop the literary arts in English in the North and bring the world to the children of Jaffna, through some wonderful international children's authors.

Much credit must be given to our Festival's partners, as without them this 8th edition of the Festival would not be possible. The Fairway Galle Literary Festival is substantially supported by Fairway Holdings, in its second year as title sponsor. Hemaka de Alwis, Chairman, [Fairway Holdings](#), stated "*The Fairway Galle Literary Festival has become one of the principal cultural events in the world, bringing together people of many nationalities who love literature and affording them the opportunity of friendly interaction with world renowned authors. The blending in of architectural, musical and culinary events and the charming, old world atmosphere of Galle Fort contribute to the continuing success of the Festival. We believe that*

excellence in creative writing is an essential hallmark of modern cultural life in a nation. Accordingly, the annual Fairway National Literary Awards for the best novels in English, Sinhala and Tamil will be awarded during the Festival. Our continued zest to take forward the yearly Fairway Galle Literary Festival stems from the encouragement we receive from our audiences. The Fairway Galle Literary Festival acts as a catalyst to make national literary aspirations blossom forth.”

The Festival is glad to welcome back both [Jetwing Hotels](#) and [Sri Lankan Airlines](#), as Official Hospitality Partner and Official Travel Partner, respectively.

Returning Silver partners are: [Amangalla](#), [Anim8](#), [The British Council](#), [The Fort Printers](#) and the [Owl and the Pussycat](#), as well as Electronic Media Partner, The TNL Group and Print/Online Media Partner, The Wijeya Group.

Check out the Festival’s revamped website, www.galleliteraryfestival.com, where festival-goers will find an informed, consistent and active source for all vital information regarding the Festival. Follow the website and sign up for email updates on the festival programme highlights as they are announced.

This is the first taste of what is to come in 2017. Our full participant release will be in October 2016.