

"Canada is a complex and diverse country, with complex and diverse population and equally varied histories. In our education systems, cultural expressions, political engagements and private and public sectors, we will thrive much better and we will thrive together if we address and reflect that diversity in all of our initiatives. -- Lawrence Hill"



Lawrence Hill is the author of ten books, including *The Illegal* and *The Book of Negroes*, winner of various awards including The Commonwealth Writers' Prize, the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize, and CBC Radio's Canada Reads. Hill delivered the 2013 Massey Lectures, based on his non-fiction book *Blood: The Stuff of Life*. He co-wrote the adaptation for the six-part television miniseries *The Book of Negroes*, which attracted millions of viewers in the United States and Canada. He is currently writing a new novel and a children's book, and co-writing a television miniseries adaptation of *The Illegal* for Conquering Lion Pictures. He holds honorary doctorates from five Canadian universities and in 2015 was appointed a Member of the Order of Canada, received the Governor General's History Award and was inducted into Canada's Walk of Fame. In 2016, his novel *The Illegal* was shortlisted for Canada Reads. Also in 2016, Hill (along with co-writer Clement Virgo) won the best writing award from the Canadian

Screen Awards for the TV miniseries adaptation of *The Book of Negroes*, which won CSA awards in a total of eleven categories including best TV movie/miniseries, director, actress, actor and supporting actress. Hill volunteers with Crossroads International, the Black Loyalist Heritage Society and Project Bookmark Canada, and lives with his family in Hamilton, ON and in Woody Point, NL. In July 2016, Lawrence Hill will become a professor of creative writing at the University of Guelph.

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