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## Milton Public Library Presents: An Evening with Heather O’Neil, 2025 OBOM Author

MILTON, ON – March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025 – Milton Public Library has selected acclaimed Canadian author **Heather O’Neill** and her latest novel “*The Capital of Dreams*” for the **2025 One Book, One Milton program**. “*The Capital of Dreams*” is a breathtaking dark fairytale about a young girl navigating war, survival, and loyalty in a land where myths and reality intertwine.

Now in its twelfth year, One Book, One Milton is Milton Public Library’s signature literary program that brings the community together through a shared reading experience. The program has featured some of Canada’s most celebrated authors including Waubgeshig Rice, Sarah Polley, Mark Critch, Kelley Armstrong, Jagmeet Singh, Samra Habib, Margaret Atwood, Chris Hadfield, Yann Martel, Neil Pasricha and Don Gillmor, encouraging meaningful conversations and engagement with literature that resonates with Milton’s diverse readership.

Heather O’Neill is a celebrated novelist, short-story writer, and essayist known for her lyrical prose and unique storytelling. Her previous works include *When We Lost Our Heads*, *The Lonely Hearts Hotel*, and *Lullabies for Little Criminals*, which was shortlisted for the Governor General’s Literary Award and won Canada Reads. Born and raised in Montreal, O’Neill has gained recognition for crafting narratives that explore survival, resilience, and imagination.

“*The Capital of Dreams*” follows 14-year-old Sofia Bottom as she embarks on an epic journey through a war-ravaged land, torn between safety and loyalty. The daughter of a celebrated writer, Sofia must navigate a world of peril, survival, and lost myths in her quest to reclaim what was taken from her. In this novel, O’Neill once again demonstrates her gift for language that is both poetic and powerful.

Copies of “*The Capital of Dreams*” will be available for sale at all Milton Public Library branches for \$28 starting **March 26, 2025**. Ticket and book bundles will also be available through the FirstOntario Arts Centre Box Office.

Leading up to the main event, Milton Public Library will offer a range of programs exploring the themes of “*The Capital of Dreams*”. These will include book discussions, writing workshops, and events that delve into the novel’s themes of mythology, resilience, and coming-of-age journeys. The library invites readers of all ages to participate in these engaging activities before the featured author event.

“*One Book, One Milton* is a cherished tradition that brings our community together to explore powerful stories and themes,” says Sarah Douglas-Murray, CEO of Milton Public Library. “We are honoured to welcome Heather O’Neill, a masterful storyteller, whose works continue to captivate and inspire readers. We look forward to an engaging and unforgettable evening.”

*An Evening with Heather O'Neill* will take place on **Wednesday, October 8, 2025**, at the **FirstOntario Arts Centre, Milton**, Mattamy Theatre, located at 1010 Main Street East, Milton. beginning at **7:00 PM EST**. A book signing will follow the discussion, allowing attendees to meet the author and have their copies of "*The Capital of Dreams*" signed. Tickets will be available in two phases, with an exclusive pre-sale for library members from **March 26 to March 30, 2025**. Library members will receive an email on **March 26** with their promo codes.

Public on-sale begins **March 31, 2025**. Tickets can be purchased at the FirstOntario Arts Centre Box Office or online at [www.firstontarioartscentremilton.ca](http://www.firstontarioartscentremilton.ca) and [beinspired.ca/one-book-one-milton/](http://beinspired.ca/one-book-one-milton/).

Ticket prices are \$20 for library members, \$25 for the general public, \$43 for a ticket and book package for library members, and \$48 for a ticket and book package for the general public.

For more information, visit: [beinspired.ca/one-book-one-milton/](http://beinspired.ca/one-book-one-milton/)

### **About MPL:**

Serving one of the fastest-growing municipalities in North America, Milton Public Library (MPL) is a multi-award winning public library focused on innovation and service excellence. Patrons can visit MPL through three physical branches, Main, Beaty and Sherwood as well as online through [www.beinspired.ca](http://www.beinspired.ca). MPL empowers the community to Read. Learn. Innovate. Connect.

FB: @MiltonPublicLibrary X (formerly known as Twitter): @Milton\_Library IG: @miltonpubliclibrary  
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