

## Murder in the Mountains: *Mini Noir Festival*

### **FRI FEB 22 & SAT FEB 23 *Murder in the Mountains Mini Noir Festival***

A thrilling weekend celebrating all things murder and mystery, including author conversations, a live panel exchange with Scottish crime writers, mystery writing workshop, youth forensic workshop, “Noir in the Bar” event, Murder Mystery Dinner, and more! A full schedule and details can be found at [www.crestedbuttearts.org/literaryarts](http://www.crestedbuttearts.org/literaryarts). Prices & times vary.

### **Friday, Feb 22**

#### **FEB 22 Noir in the Bar**

Meet 'n' mingle with literary lions (and a lioness) reading their work live: bestselling authors Barbara Nickless and Kevin J. Anderson, along with local writers Harry Woods and more. Scintillating cocktail specials, extended happy hour, and book giveaways. At the Eldo **8:00 p.m. Free**

### **Saturday, Feb 23**

#### **SAT FEB 23 Murder in the Mountains Panel**

Crested Butte’s Murder in the Mountains Festival has teamed up with Aberdeen Scotland’s crime fiction festival, Granite Noir for a special event connecting the Valley with Scotland. Authors on both sides of the Atlantic join forces to debate the influence and importance of place in crime fiction and crime fictions festivals.

Bestselling, Colorado-based authors provide insights into the influence of classic North American landscapes in their work. Powerhouse mystery writer, Kevin J. Anderson is the author of 56 international best sellers featuring the West in genres that include mystery, thriller and science fiction. Barbara Nickless’ latest novel *Dead Stop* follows the search for a missing child that leads a courageous railway cop down a twisted trail of murder set in a Denver beset by a series of monsoon-like thunderstorms that threaten to flood the city.

In Aberdeen the writers focus on “the North” and joining the panel is bestselling Norwegian author Jørn Lier Horst. A former senior investigating officer, and recent winner of the Glass Key Award for Best Nordic Crime Novel, Jørn will discuss *The Katharina Code* the latest is his detective William Wisting series. And half American, half Norwegian, Alex Dahl whose latest book *The Boy at the Door* asks what happens when your perfect life is threatened by the arrival of a friendless eight-year-old boy.

Chaired by Lesley Anne Rose in Aberdeen and Brooke MacMillan in Crested Butte. Kelly Hall room 151, Western Colorado University. Note, to accommodate the time difference between Colorado and Scotland, this event will take place in the morning, **10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. \$15, or \$5 with student ID.**

***LUNCH 11:45 – 1:00 P.M. On your own***

**SAT FEB 23 Murder & Mystery in the Gunnison Valley**

Join us for a lively and absorbing discussion of murder, mystery and intrigue in the Gunnison Valley with County Coroner, Michael Barnes, Gunnison County Sheriff, John Gallowich, and local historian, Duane Vandenbusche. Learn about the gunfights, disappearances, mysteries and gruesome bloodshed — from first settlers, up to contemporary criminal cases. Chaired by Director of Western's MFA program in Creative Writing, Mark Todd. At the Gunnison Arts Center. **1:00 p.m. \$10, or \$5 with student ID.**

**SAT FEB 23 Junior Forensic Workshop.**

Dust for fingerprints, case footprints and solve the crime scene mystery in this wonderful introduction to forensic science. Suitable for late elementary and middle school students. *In partnership with the Crested Butte Marshal's Office and Crested Butte Old Rock Library.* **2:30 p.m. At the Crested Butte Marshal's Office. \$15 to cover top secret detective supplies.**

**SAT FEB 23 Pinot & Noir - Mystery Writing Workshop**

Get the inside scoop on mystery writing from award-winning and bestselling crime novelist, Barbara Nickless. Learn structure, create compelling characters, plant clues and red herrings, bury the bodies, and handle that essential requirement of the modern thriller - the twist. **Crested Butte, location TBA. 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. \$65 includes wine tasting.**

**SAT FEB 23 Murder Mystery Dinner**

Join us for a dangerously fun evening of murder & mystery in a 1920s speakeasy. See if you have what it takes to be the night's top detective, or the shadiest suspect around. This thrilling and immersive evening is space limited, book ahead to avoid disappointment. **At the Slogar. 7:00 p.m. \$45 includes dinner, and murder...**

*Full Festival pass (includes entry to all events including Pinot & Noir writing workshop and Murder Mystery Dinner; books signed by visiting writers; discounts at select local businesses) \$100, \$200 value*