

*The Library Company of Philadelphia's Will Fenton to join LancasterHistory for discuss on the creation of the book and its content*

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# LancasterHistory

## For Immediate Release

*All events are camera friendly, and principals will be available for interviews.*

**Contact:** Emily Miller  
Marketing & Development Officer  
717-392-4633 ext. 133  
[emily.miller@lancasterhistory.org](mailto:emily.miller@lancasterhistory.org)

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## Lecture on *Ghost River* graphic novel, highlighting the history of the Conestoga people, to take place on March 12

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*Lancaster, PA (March 3, 2020)* – On Thursday, March 12, join LancasterHistory and The Library Company of Philadelphia for the Lancaster launch of the graphic novel *Ghost River: The Rise and Fall of the Conestoga*. Written by Lee Francis 4, illustrated by the incomparable Weshoyot Alvitre and edited by Will Fenton, this new graphic novel from Red Planet Books and Comics chronicles the last days of the Conestoga People and brings their story to light; a story of despair and hope, loss and love, ancestors and the ghosts of history that are always with us. LancasterHistory curators will juxtapose artifacts and documents from the Conestoga People with this extraordinary re-telling of their story.

*Ghost River* is the Library Company of Philadelphia's first graphic novel developed in close collaboration with Indigenous partners. This volume was written by Dr. Lee Francis IV (Laguna Pueblo), illustrated by Weshoyot Alvitre (Tongva), published by Red Planet Books & Comics, and printed by Tribal Print Source. The Library Company's director of scholarly innovation, Will Fenton, served as the creative director of the project, editor of the volume, and curator of the exhibition. *Ghost River* features 60 pages of art and 60 pages of interpretative materials,

including historical context from some of the finest colonial-era scholars and teacher lesson plans developed by experts at the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History.

**Dr. William D. Fenton** is the Director of Scholarly Innovation at the Library Company of Philadelphia and Creative Director of [\*Redrawing History: Indigenous Perspectives on Colonial America, funded by The Pew Center for Arts and Heritage\*](#). Fenton earned his Ph.D. at Fordham University, where he specialized in early American literature and the digital humanities. He is the recipient of prestigious fellowships from the American Philosophical Society; Haverford College Quaker and Special Collections; the Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Alliance and Collaboratory; the Library Company of Philadelphia; the Modern Language Association; the New York Public Library; and the Omohundro Institute of Early American History & Culture.

**Tickets:** The event *Ghost River* will take place on Thursday, March 12, 2020 in Ryder Hall at LancasterHistory, 230 N. President Avenue in Lancaster. A speaker's reception takes place at 4pm, followed by the main presentation at 4:30pm. The event is free and open to the public. **Due to overwhelming demand, this event is sold out.** Please check back closer to the event date in the event of cancellations.

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