Atlanta Writers Club - founded 1914, we are a social and educational club where local writers meet to discuss the craft and business of writing. We also sponsor contests for our members and host expert speakers from the worlds of writing, publishing, and entertainment.

- Monthly meeting Feb 17th
- Two new AWC quarterly webinar series
- ASPC super update
- Letter Review prizes now open for submission
- One Page Poetry contest
FEBRUARY 2024

In this Issue

Click on the title to go to the page

4 A Message from the President
5 January Meeting Photos
6 February 17 AWC In-person Meeting
8 Two New AWC Quarterly Webinar Series
9 Atlanta Self-Publishing Conference Update
11 Develop Your Marketing Plan—AWC March 23 Workshop
13 May 3-4, 2024 Atlanta Writers Conference—Register Now
15 AWC Merchandise Store
16 2024 AWC Annual Writing Contest
17 Member Book Launches & Accolades
19 Georgia Writers Museum 3rd Annual Writers Retreat
20 Blacklisted Banned Books Fair
21 Your Story Matters!—Feb. 10 workshop
22 ThrillerFest 2024
23 February GCPL Author Events
24 February - A Novel Idea Event
25 A Novel Idea Help Wanted
26 Roswell Reads Rewind
27 AFF Screenwriting Competition
28 Letter Review Prizes Now Open for Submission
29 One Page Poetry Contest
30 Outrageous Voices Spring Writers Retreat
31 Roswell Reads Charles Frazier Event 4/7/24
32 Carrollton Book Festival April 5-6
33 AWC Members Editor Directory
35 Share Your Knowledge of Writing With Other Members
36 Bren McClain Offers Writers Master Class
37 We Want to See You & Hear You
38 Free Promotion
39 AWC Critique Groups
41 Membership Renewal
42 Membership Benefits
43 Membership Form
This gentleman was born in 1914, died 1994. He won eminence with his first novel (and the only one published during his lifetime). The novel won praise for its stylistic innovations in infusing classic literary motifs with modern Black speech and culture, while providing a thoroughly unique take on the construction of contemporary African American identity.

You’ll find his name hidden in plain sight—two places—in this newsletter. Neither the authors on the cover nor their books are intended as an endorsement by the AWC, its officers, or its members.

Gene Bowen, eQuill Publisher
A Message from the President

“Looks like I’m going to have to try my hand penning some lyrics. That’s terrifying. And exciting.”

Shake it Up

Many a new year’s resolution is centered around creating a new habit, turning new or lapsed activities into a sustainable routine. We crave routine. Routine is comforting. Goals become to do lists. Items are checked off, projects completed, and deadlines met.

And the 2024 resolution is usually for “more.” More writing time, more output and more inspiration centered in your wheelhouse. Absolutely nothing wrong with that.

We know we need to, want to, love to write. We craft epic fantasy novels, literary short stories, or nonfiction essays. We write for a few hours in the morning or put in a nice block of time on Saturdays. For education, we come to the AWC meetings if the speaker is in our genre. Maybe add a craft book or listen to a longtime favorite podcast. But why not shake things up?

One of the things the AWC prides itself in is the diversity in our education offerings. If you write a certain thing, we’ll have a speaker for you. But if you’re cherry picking which meetings to come to based on topic and genre, you’re missing out. Ask anyone who came to the January meeting and heard Emily Matheis talk about villains. We don’t all write thrillers or mysteries, but she sure gave us great advice on injecting humanity into all our characters.

I have a secret I’ll share with you here. But only if you promise to scold me next time you see me. I’ve never been in a book club. What?! I read like crazy but have not been in an organized group. Well, this is the year. I’m reading books I’m not picking and discussing them with a great group of ladies with wonderful diverse perspectives. How could that not make me a better reader and writer?

Last year I went crazy writing contemporary short stories when I thought historical novels were going to be my one true love. What a blast. I also ordered up some good old-fashioned composition notebooks and hand wrote ideas. The mind works differently with pen and paper.

For a contemporary romance I’m working on, one of the characters wants to be a songwriter. Looks like I’m going to have to try my hand penning some lyrics. That’s terrifying. And exciting.

Lots of people have bucket list items they hope to check off by the end of the year. Skydiving, exotic travel, etc. Why not throw a wrench into your writing this year, do something completely different and see what happens?

AWC President Jill Evans is a computer nerd by trade, website designer, photographer and writer. Her work in progress is a novel that combines her love of art, intrigue and history. You can follow her on Instagram at @jillevanswriter and find out more at www.jillevans.com.
The author with the most book-to-movie adaptations is William Shakespeare.
Do you know who is number two?
Is it Agatha Christie or Stephen King or Ian Fleming?
February 17th Atlanta Writers Club Meeting for AWC Members and First-Time Visitors

February 17, 12:45 p.m.-4:15 p.m. at Georgia State University: Perimeter College - Dunwoody Campus, 2101 Womack Rd, Dunwoody, GA 30338, Building N-C auditorium and café. (If you're not on our mailing list, use the form [here](#) to add yourself so you will get any updates about this meeting.)

This meeting may be recorded; if so, the recording link will be shared in the following month's eQuill newsletter.

**AGENDA**

12:45-1:30 p.m. Nosh and Networking Mixer for members and first-time visitors in the café
- Please arrive for our February meeting by 12:45 so you can register, then join everyone for an **Icebreaker Meet-and-Greet activity from 1:00 to 1:30 in the cafeteria.** You’ll partner with several people you don’t know over the half hour to share briefly about yourselves and your writing plans for 2024. Please join us and make some new contacts!

1:30-1:45 p.m. AWC announcements and upcoming events with AWC President Jill Evans
1:45 p.m.-2:45 p.m. Speaker #1 - Adrienne Brodeur: Developing Character
2:45 p.m.-3:00 p.m. Book signing for Adrienne Brodeur
3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Speaker #2 - Melissa Bourbon: Importance of Story Structure in Mystery Writing
4:15-5:00 p.m. Book signing for Melissa Bourbon

**ADRIENNE BRODEUR IS THE AUTHOR** of the novel *Little Monsters* and the memoir, *Wild Game: My Mother, Her Lover and Me*, which was described by *The New York Times Book Review* as: “Exquisite and harrowing. . . . The book is so gorgeously written and deeply insightful, and with a line of narrative tension that never slacks, from the first page to the last, that it’s one you’ll likely read in a single, delicious sitting.” Published in October 2019 by HMH Books, *Wild Game's* film rights were bought by Chernin Entertainment with Nick Hornby attached to adapt and Deniz Gamze Ergüven, the director of *Mustang*, attached to direct.

Adrienne has spent the past two decades of her professional life in the literary world, discovering voices, cultivating talent, and working to amplify underrepresented writers. Her publishing career began with founding the fiction magazine, *Zoetrope: All-Story*, with filmmaker Francis Ford Coppola, where she served as editor-in-chief from 1996-2002. The magazine has won the prestigious National Magazine Award for best fiction four times. In 2005, she became an editor at Harcourt (later, HMH Books), where she acquired and edited literary fiction and memoir. Adrienne left publishing in 2013 to become Creative Director — and later Executive Director — of *Aspen Words*, a literary arts nonprofit and program of the Aspen Institute. In 2017, she launched the *Aspen Words Literary Prize*, a $35,000 annual award for an influential work of fiction that illuminates a vital contemporary issue and demonstrates the transformative power of literature on thought and culture.
On February 17, Adrienne will discuss "Developing Character": “In order for the drama to deepen, you must show the loneliness of the monster and the cunning of the innocent,” or so says Vivian Gornick in The Situation and the Story. In this craft talk, I’ll discuss how to write believable and nuanced characters – characters who, like each of us, don’t necessarily always act in their own best interest. Topics will include where to begin, research versus imagination, and writing into character.

MELISSA BOURBON IS THE AUTHOR of multiple mystery series including the Pippin Lane Hawthorne Book Magic books, the Harlow Cassidy Magical Dressmaking series, the Bread Shop Mysteries, written as Winnie Archer, the PI Caper Lola Cruz series, and several stand-alone mystery suspense novels. Her five kids live and travel all over while she lives in beautiful North Carolina with her educator husband and her dogs, Bean, the pug, Dobby, the chug, and Pippin, the super breed.

On February 17, Melissa will discuss mystery story structure and the hero’s journey.
In 2024, we are offering two separate quarterly webinar series to AWC members. Each series is $50 total and will grant you live online access via Zoom on the date of each quarterly webinar as well as a link to the recording for each one, in case you're unable to attend the live presentation or want to watch it again. Each recording will be retained online, so if you register after one or more of the webinars are held, you will still be able to view the ones you missed. You will also receive any handout(s) created for each webinar in the series.

The $50 cost for each series will help to pay for the speaker's honorarium as well as contribute to the Atlanta Writers Club's reserve for scholarships, support of literary activities, and our building fund.

If you are not yet an Atlanta Writers Club member but want to register for one or both webinar series, you will have the option to add AWC membership to your total. You will then also be able to attend our monthly in-person meetings at no charge, participate in our critique groups, enter our contests, and register for periodic standalone online workshops offered free to members.

Quarterly Webinar Series with Lorin Oberweger ($50)

LORIN OBERWEGEGER is a highly sought-after independent book editor and ghostwriter with almost thirty years' experience in publishing. Her company, Free Expressions, offers intensive, deep craft workshops nationwide. She’s also known for her one-on-one story mastermind session for writers of all genres of fiction and creative nonfiction. In 2023, Lorin’s webinars for the AWC were consistently the most popular online educational experiences we offered. Note that she will not be doing critiques this year.

Lorin's 2024 Webinars: (each one at 7 pm Eastern)
1. February 21, 2024: What the Heck Is Agency?
2. May 22, 2024: Emotional Storytelling and Deep Point of View
3. August 21, 2024: Keeping the Wind in Your Sails: How to Give, Get, and Work with Feedback
4. November 20, 2024: Reimagining Revision

Quarterly Webinar Series with Diane Callahan ($50)

DIANE CALLAHAN is the Fiction Editor for Consequence, an international literary journal that addresses the realities of war and geopolitical violence through literature and visual art. She is also the managing editor at Story Garden Publishing, a collaborative writing venture with fellow authors Jordan Riley Swan and Hero Bowen. Together, they plot, write, and edit novels in various genres, from comedies and romances to fantasy novels and fairy-tale retellings. She has been a full-time developmental editor for over six years, critiquing fantasy, science fiction, literary, middle grade, thriller, and romance novels. Prior to Story Garden, she worked for three years as a developmental editor and plot outline for a best-selling indie publisher under an NDA, overseeing the production of thirty novels across four series. She also wrote and edited interactive fiction games for Talented, an e-learning platform for universities and business leadership.

Diane's 2024 Webinars: (each one at 7 pm Eastern)
1. March 28, 2024: Crafting a Compelling Short Story
2. June 27, 2024: Finding Your Narrative Voice
3. September 26, 2024: Sharpening Your Prose on a Sentence Level
4. December 12, 2024: Blending Genres to Create Fresh Stories

For a complete description of each webinar and to register for either or both quarterly webinar series, click HERE
Be part of the Atlanta Self-Publishing Conference (ASPC) on Saturday, April 27, 2024! For $99 (early bird pricing), you get 5 in-person presentations, 3 virtual presentations, LUNCH, and more!

ASPC 2024 is for indie authors who want to grow their business, network with other authors, and talk with the experts. At ASPC 2024, you don’t have to choose between presentations—you get to attend them all!

Attendees will receive all of these benefits:

- **HOT LUNCH!** This will not be a box lunch, and we’re including options for dietary needs.

- **8 presentations that you don't have to choose between.**

**AUTHOR HORROR STORIES: WHAT NOT TO DO AS AN INDIE AUTHOR**
Editors, scammers, and marketing disasters, oh my! If you type “self-publishing” into your browser, you’ll be inundated with information. All the free content, or businesses geared toward helping you, for a fee, will leave you exhausted and overwhelmed with options, marketing, ads, spreadsheets, and more. Too many of us in the industry have had to learn the hard way what to avoid. Hear Ben Meeks tell the true horror stories of indie authors and learn from their mistakes, so that you can save your time, money, and energy.

**DIVERSIFYING YOUR CREATIVITY & INCOME**
As creatives we often express our art in more aspects than the written word. What if you could use your other creative forms and diversify your income? Milton J. Davis, an award-winning self-published author, will share how he uses his passion for graphic novels and videos to express his art and maximize his profits. He'll also teach us how to expand our own creativity into other markets and expand our publishing businesses.
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT AI AS AN AUTHOR

AI brings as many possibilities as it does questions. So how do we, as authors, navigate what AI is, when it can be used, and the ethics around it? Bob McGough will break down the confusing mystery of Artificial Intelligence, explain the up-to-date ethics around it, and share where AI can best support authors.

BUSINESS BASICS

As aspiring indie authors, we’ve heard a lot about where to click “publish.” But how do you start your own business? What is an FEIN? Why do you need a business plan? AWC treasurer Jerry Weiner will answer your questions about business basics and guide you through the steps necessary to get started. Jerry has decades of experience helping others in this area and will provide the critical information you need to form your own small business—and keep it going.

FINDING SUCCESS: WHERE NETWORKING & VOLUNTEERING MEET

Building a strong and supportive network is key to finding success as an indie author, but where do we start? How do we connect with industry professionals, including other authors, in a meaningful way? Join Brittany Dowdle and Linda Ruggeri, authors of the IBPA award-winning book Networking for Freelance Editors, to discover how to build the connections and network you need. In this session you’ll learn to redefine networking, position yourself for success, and discover how volunteering can supercharge your network.

USING TROPES TO ENHANCE YOUR READER’S JOURNEY (VIRTUAL OFFERING)

Do you want to hear from your fans that they couldn’t put your book down? That they had to stay up late into the night because they had to keep reading one more chapter? Tropes have been used by indie authors as a key tool to build a fan following, but they can also be tweaked to keep your readers gripped within your story. Join Danielle Kiowski to learn how to keep your readers captivated within your genre’s tropes.

BUILDING YOUR SOCIAL MEDIA TOOLKIT (VIRTUAL OFFERING)

Social media looks easy when you’re scrolling through Instagram or the TikTok videos playing one after another. But when it comes to building your own personal brand, you can find yourself staring at your phone with a big question mark over your head. And what is a personal brand, anyway? J. M. Tompkins will help to demystify the intimidating social media world, help you build your own personal brand, and guide you through drawing a line between your personal and professional image.

- The pre-conference virtual networking event Networking Webinar & Genre Breakouts so you can meet others in your genre before you even show up.
- Coffee & Conversations, the first event of the in-person conference on April 27th, to get you pumped & ready to learn.
- The Editor Connection for a free sample edit of your current WIP.
- Perk Packs filled with information to help you build your publishing business.
- Early bird pricing ends with January, so grab your ticket today [LINK](#)

![Building Your Social Media Toolkit with J. M. Tompkins](image1)
March 13th at 6:30pm EST

![Using Tropes to Enhance your Reader’s Journey with Danielle Kiowski](image2)
Online Webinar April 9th, 7pm EST

Network Webinar & Genre Breakouts with Brittany Dowdle & Linda Ruggeri
Online Workshop April 24th at 6:30pm EST
Don't just learn about book marketing—develop your own marketing plan
Authors Kim Conrey and Roger Johns have more than a decade of combined experience marketing and selling their fiction and nonfiction books. They want to help you to create your own marketing plan to give your book sales a jump-start or, if you're still working on your first book, getting ahead of the game so you can build your platform, and you can set in motion, as early as possible, the processes that will give you greater access to opportunities important to the success of your books.

Rather than just providing you with hours of lecture on various aspects of online marketing and in-person sales, Kim and Roger will guide you through the creation of your own plan with a template you'll complete as the workshop progresses. By the end, you'll have a path-forward for everything from platform building with newsletter and social media to online advertising, to writing a script for contacting bookstores and conducting your signings to maximize sales.

Kim and Roger will cover the following topics during their 3.5-hour workshop:
- Why email newsletters are more effective than social media posts.
- How to grow an actively engaged mailing list
- How to make the best use of your website.
- Bookbub, BookFunnel, and numerous other free marketing tools at your disposal.
- Tips about using Amazon and Facebook ads.
- Making the perfect pitch to get signings at bookstores and speaking gigs at book festivals.
- Conducting yourself at book signings and public speaking events.

Speaker Profiles

KIM CONREY is the Georgia Author of the Year recipient in the romance category for Stealing Ares, traditionally published by Black Rose Writing and Losing Ares, the follow up. Her urban fantasy Nicholas Eternal was published in June 2023, and her memoir You’re Not a Murderer: You Just Have Harm OCD, which she co-wrote with her adult child, was released in October of 2023. Her work has also been published by numerous magazines and literary journals and received awards. She serves as VP of Operations for the Atlanta Writers Club and podcasts about writing with the Wild Women Who Write. She gives book marketing talks and speaks on various topics relating to writing at local and regional writing conferences and literary festivals. She is the co-author, with Roger Johns, of the quarterly column “If You Only Have an Hour: Time-Saving Tips & Tricks for Managing Your Writing Career,” which appears in Page Turner, the
ROGER JOHNS is the author of Dark River Rising and River of Secrets, from St. Martin’s Press, as well as numerous short stories published by, among others, Saturday Evening Post, Alfred Hitchcock’s Mystery Magazine, Mystery Weekly Magazine, and Black Beacon Books. He is the 2018 Georgia Author of the Year for mystery, and a two-time finalist for the Killer Nashville Silver Falchion Award. Since 2016, Roger has made over 140 live appearances across the country, at conferences, conventions, bookstores, libraries, book clubs, corporate events, writing clubs, continuing education classes and other writing-oriented venues, as well as on podcasts, web radio, and broadcast radio. He has also made, and continues to make, frequent invited presentations on writing and career management for new authors, and his articles and essays on these topics have appeared in, among other publications, Southern Writers Magazine, Career Authors, and Southern Literary Review. He is the co-author, with Kim Conrey, of the quarterly column “If You Only Have an Hour: Time-Saving Tips & Tricks for Managing Your Writing Career”, which appears in Page Turner, the magazine of the Georgia Writers Museum and the Atlanta Writers Club.

Register Today for “Develop Your Marketing Plan” Workshop

Pricing for AWC Members ($50.00)
You must be an Atlanta Writers Club member through March 23, 2024 to receive this pricing.

Nonmember Pricing ($110.00)
This price includes 365-day membership in the Atlanta Writers Club, enabling you to participate in this workshop and upcoming online workshops and meetings at no charge for an entire year.

To register, click HERE

Refund Policy
If you cancel by March 9, 2024, you will receive a $40 refund; no refund will be given after that date. The purchase of an AWC membership is nonrefundable; you will continue to receive membership benefits for the remainder of the 365 days.

Questions? Contact AWC Executive Director George Weinstein.
Our 30th Atlanta Writers Conference will be held in-person (with an option to participate virtually for agent/editor meetings only) at the Westin Atlanta Airport Hotel on May 3-4, 2024 with agent/editor critique and pitch meetings, a two-hour workshop on building your author platform, two Q&A panels, emailed pre-conference edits, a Friday night mixer with music, two days of educational talks, and our book fair!

Location:
WESTIN ATLANTA AIRPORT HOTEL 4736 Best Road, Atlanta, GA 30337

Whether you are...
- In search of an agent or a publisher
- Working on a manuscript and in need of feedback
- Seeking to learn more about the writing craft and/or publishing business
- Building your network of industry professionals and writing colleagues
...this is your opportunity to take the next big step toward your writing goals.

Want to get published?

- The May 3-4, 2024 Atlanta Writers Conference offers you meetings with literary agents and publishing acquisitions editors—with an option to participate virtually if you are unable to travel to Atlanta—along with a host of other in-person activities:
- Access to 18 acquisitions editors and literary agents seeking every major fiction genre and nonfiction topic, as well as graphic novels, picture books, and short story collections.
- Critiques of manuscript samples by the editors and agents, with work submitted a month in advance.
- Pitches to the editors and agents with query letters you will bring for their review.
- Query letter critique by a pair of editors/agents to improve your pitch (at past conferences, nearly 50% of Best Pitch awards by an agent or publisher went to those who participated in the Query Letter Critique).
- Pre-conference edit of your manuscript submission via email months before the conference by a freelance editor of your choice (at past conferences, nearly 50% of all awards—for Best Manuscript Sample and Best Pitch—went to writers who participated in the Pre-Conference Edit).
• Two-hour workshop with bestselling author, speaker, and coach Tama Kieves on “The Unstoppable Writer: The Infallible Way to Build Your Writing Power, Practice and Platform” and two free bonus talks by Tama beforehand.

• A publisher Q&A panel with all participating acquisitions editors and a separate Q&A panel with all participating literary agents to address your questions about the business of writing.

• Free bonus educational talks by award-winning and bestselling crime novelist and memoirist Jeff Shaw, Southern women’s fiction author Love Hudson, and Jennifer Moorman, bestselling author of the magical realism *Mystic Water* series.

• Friday-night mixer with musical entertainment by pianist/singer and AWC member Mike Shaw and his accompanist.

• Award ceremony, where each of the agents and editors will select participants for Best Manuscript Sample and Best Pitches, with certificates to be given to the awardees—or sent after the conference for those not in attendance.

• And our book fair offers opportunities to participants who want to sign and sell their traditionally and self-published books on Friday, May 3.

More than 50 of our members have signed with agents or editors they met at our Conferences, and a number of those have scored major book deals (and one, so far, has hit the big-time with a movie and TV deal). You could be next!

We’re now accepting registrations. As past Conference participants will tell you, the spots fill up fast, so don’t delay!

The Atlanta Writers Conference is presented exclusively for members of the Atlanta Writers Club. If you are not a current member through May 4, 2024, you can join/renew as part of your Conference registration—you do not need to do this as a two-step process.

To read all the details for the May 3-4, 2024 Atlanta Writers Conference, click link to start:

[LINK](#)
THE AWC MERCH STORE IS NOW OPEN ON CAFÉ PRESS

Cups, caps, hoodies, shirts, and more items with AWC logos are now available for sale on CafePress.com. All purchases help us add more in-person and online content and offer even more through our conferences.

Start shopping here: LINK
Our annual writing contest—with awards for fiction, nonfiction, and poetry—is now open for submissions.

ELIGIBILITY:
The AWC 2024 Writing Contest is open to all current (through May 31, 2024), paid club members. Please check your membership status before submitting your entry. To join the AWC or renew your membership, please use this link. If you have a question about when your AWC membership expires, please contact the Membership VP, Yvonne Green.

Submissions must be original, unpublished, and previously un-awarded work.

Entrants may submit only one piece to only one category per contest year.

DEADLINE:
Midnight, March 20, 2024. Submissions received after this date will automatically be ineligible.

AWARDS:
Winners will be announced at our club meeting on May 18, 2024. Each award carries a $300 cash prize and a plaque as well as—new for 2024—dinner with the other award winners and finalists after the May 18th meeting.

CONTEST CATEGORIES:
Terry Kay Prize for Fiction (Maximum, 3000 words) - can be a short story or book chapter(s)

Rick Bragg Prize for Nonfiction (Maximum, 3000 words) - can be a short piece or book chapter(s)

Natasha Trethewey Prize for Poetry (Maximum, 90 lines)

For complete submission instructions, please click HERE.
AWC MEMBER ROSANNE LYNN BARNETT’s article "Rosalynn Carter’s Impact on Caregivers" was published on the KevinMD website on December 25, 2023. To read the article, click HERE.

Rosanne’s book include (written under the name R. Lynn Barnett), What Patients Want: Anecdotes and Advice and My Mother Has Alzheimer’s and My Dog Has Tapeworms: A Caregiver's Tale.

AWC MEMBER PERRY BINDE just published his fourth non-fiction book, Innovative College Teaching: Tips & Insights from 14 Master Teachers, which debuted in January as an Amazon #1 New Release in Teacher & Student Mentoring. The book is intended for new or seasoned professors, as well as curious high school teachers. In Part I, Innovative Teaching Techniques, Perry reveals easy-to-replicate teaching tips on how to make classes memorable and meaningful for students. In Part II, Innovative Master Teachers, Perry interviewed over a dozen accomplished colleagues including a star adjunct professor for readers who teach part-time. Their passion for teaching is contagious. Students gravitate to them—and you will be inspired by their insights on teaching.

Perry Binder is an award-winning author and professor at Georgia State University. In addition, he conducts interactive, fun, and practical teaching workshops for college instructors. Perry’s last book, Classroom LIGHTBULBS for College Professors, debuted as a #1 Amazon New Release in Pedagogy (January 2023) and received the 2023 Gold Medal e-Lit Award in Education/Academic/Teaching. Each year from 2016-2022, his book, 99 Motivators for College Success, was sent to hundreds of rising high school seniors nationwide, as part of the Book Award Program at Randolph College in Virginia. Perry volunteers his time speaking with at-risk middle school students about the value of college through the Atlanta AfterSchool AllStars program. His wife, Bridget, and he are Johns Creek residents. They have two teenagers and three toddlers: Clyde (cat boss) and Ellie and Norman (junkyard dogs).

Join AWC MEMBER PARUL KAPUR for an evening with the Georgia Center for the Book celebrating her debut novel, INSIDE THE MIRROR, which won the AWP Prize for the Novel, and will be published by the University of Nebraska Press on March 1st. On Tuesday, March 5, at 7:00 pm, Parul will be in conversation with author Jessica Handler at the...
Georgia Center for the Book (Decatur Library, 215 Sycamore Street, Decatur, Georgia 30030). Charis Books and More will have books available for purchase at the event. Books can also be pre-ordered [here](#). This event is free and open to the public, but registration is requested. **You may register here.** Please join Parul for a reception and book signing after the talk.

INSIDE THE MIRROR received a starred review from Publisher's Weekly, which called it a “stunning debut novel.” Set in 1950s Bombay, India, the story centers on twin sisters who aspire to become artists—a painter and a classical Indian dancer—and discover the cost of their dreams is shattering every expectation of a tight-knit, loving family and reckoning with a society that is inclined to destroy young women who dare to pursue their ambitions and power. As the nation remakes its identity in the devastating aftermath of British rule, the twins struggle to forge their identities as creators. At the heart of INSIDE THE MIRROR is the wrenching conflict between female independence and familial devotion.

**PURCHASE LINK**

Parul Kapur was born in Assam, India, and raised in the United States. Her fiction has appeared in Ploughshares, Pleiades, Midway Journal, and more. Her articles and reviews have been appeared in The New Yorker, The Wall Street Journal Europe, Esquire, Art in America, Slate, Los Angeles Review of Books, and The Paris Review. She holds an MFA from Columbia University and has worked as a journalist in India, Germany, and France. She founded the Books page at ArtsATL, Atlanta’s leading online arts review, and lives in Sandy Springs.

Jessica Handler is the author of The Magnetic Girl, winner of the 2020 Southern Book Prize, an Indie Next selection, Wall Street Journal Spring ’19 pick, Bitter Southerner Summer ’19 pick and SIBA Okra pick. She is the author of the nonfiction books Braving the Fire: A Guide to Writing About Grief and Invisible Sisters: A Memoir, which was named one of the “Books All Georgians Should Read” and Atlanta Magazine’s “Best Memoir of 2009.” She lives in Atlanta with her husband, novelist Mickey Dubrow.

**AWC MEMBER STEPHANIE SIEGELʼS** new cowritten book is Activate Your Life: 25 Transformational Exercises from Coaches Around the World, Volume IV. A single great exercise can transform your life. Activate Your Life brings you 25 exercises from some of the world’s top coaches, healers, and spiritual teachers. It’s like having a team of master teachers on demand. You will find exercises grouped into five different themes: Personal Healing, Spirituality, and Creativity, Quantum and Energetic Modalities, Personal Growth and Business Empowerment, Inner Goals and Outer Environment.

Siegel learned this exercise when she began her meditation studies in 1997. The “grounding cord” is a visualization technique for connecting to the earth from anywhere, indoors or out, with no equipment. Getting grounded can help tremendously when events and energies are changing all around you.

**Purchase Link**

Siegel reported for the Marietta Daily Journal and Neighbor Newspapers for 10 years and wrote for other publications including CNN.com. She has edited for The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, the CDC, and self-published authors.
Keynote Speakers

Melinda Farris
How to Create Suspense

Rona Simmons
Marketing: Step-One Your Website

Nury Crawford
Rewriting the Narrative: Mastering the Art of Revision

Chip Bell
Turning Your Literary Masterpiece into a National Best-Seller

Samantha SoRelle
Tools for Success in Self-Publishing

Beverly Armento
Writing About Sensitive Topics

Bill Walsh
How to Land an Agent

Mickey Dubrow
Jessica Handler
Two Artists, One Household Building an at Home Writer’s Retreat

Roger Johns, Kim Conrey
George Weinstein
Fundamentals of Writing Speculative Fiction Novels and Short Stories & Where to Submit Them

Kim Conrey, George Weinstein, Kathy Nichols
Mastering Minor Characters & Story Pacing

Kristine Anderson, Moderator
Rona Simmons, J Shaw, Chris Swann, and T.M. Brown
Things I Wish I’d Known Before Publishing My First Book

For more information or to register
georgiawritersmuseum.org/2024-writers-retreat/
Blacklisted! Banned Books Fair
Saturday & Sunday, February 24th & 25th
Atlanta, GA

February 2024, the NBAF Black History Month Program celebrates the African American authors creating work that challenges the status quo and speaks truth to power with a mini book fair and conference: Blacklisted! Banned Books Fair
Since as far back as Reconstruction, Black writing in the United States has been widely treated as obscene, seditious, and even dangerous. The repression of Black authors has never really stopped; however, this campaign has roared back into life with a relentless recent effort to remove Black-authored books from our collective history.

More than 1,600 books were banned in 138 school districts across 32 states between 2021 and 2022, according to a report by PEN America. The vast majority of challenged and banned books feature BIPOC or LGBTQ+ characters, discuss gender, sexuality, and race in America, or are written by Black and POC authors. By celebrating and sharing these authors' works, we push back on the erasure of Black voices, histories, and perspectives in the formation of our national identity.

This interactive experience features:
• Moderated panel discussions with Black Authors & Intellectuals
• Indie Black Book Market featuring African American booksellers and authors
• Youth Book Fair with interactive children’s activities
• Community Book Drive to benefit youth-centered non-profits
• Interactive exhibitions about banned African-American literature and authors
• Lit Cafe - evening adult literary cafe with live performances, music, and cocktails
• Social Photo booths, food vendors & more!

For sponsorship info, please [click here](#).

For author vendor applications, [click here](#).
Your Story Matters!

Writers and Illustrators workshop
Hosted by the Authors, Illustrators and Artists Group

February 10th, 2024
9am-1pm
Carrollton Cultural Arts Center

Lectures hosted by
Rosalind & Maggie Bund and Seth Fitts

Refreshments, swag bags and raffle prizes!

Registration $35 - use QR code to sign up on Eventbrite below

Contact Anita Buice
anitawbuice@gmail.com
for questions and additional information!
THE PREMIER CONFERENCE FOR THRILLER ENTHUSIASTS

THRILLERFEST XIX

TESS GERRITSEN
2024 THRILLERMASHER

DENNIS LEHANE
2024 THRILLERMASHER

TESS GERRITSEN
2024 THRILLERMASHER

DENNIS LEHANE
2024 THRILLERMASHER

STEPH CHA
2024 SPOTLIGHT GUEST

RUTH WARE
2024 SPOTLIGHT GUEST

LOUISE PENNY
2024 SILVER BULLET AWARD RECIPIENT

AYO ONATADE
2024 THRILLER FAN

MAY 28 - JUNE 1, 2024 • THRILLERFEST.COM

SHERATON TIMES SQUARE
February GCPL Author Events

Adult Services
Author Talks & Adult Programs

Author Karen Eber
February 3 | 11 am | Lawrenceville Branch
Learn about the science of storytelling as author and professional storyteller, Karen Eber provides a sneak peek into her book, *The Perfect Story*. Books will be available for sale and signing.

Author Hank Phillippi Ryan
February 8 | 7 pm | Lilburn Branch
Meet USA Today bestselling author Hank Phillippi Ryan as she discusses her new heart-racing psychological thriller, *One Wrong Word*. Books will be available for sale and signing.

Author Dianne M. Stewart
February 22 | 7 pm | Snellville Branch
*Obeah, Orisa, and Religious Identity in Trinidad* by Dianne M. Stewart is an expansive two-volume examination of social imaginaries concerning Obeah and Yoruba-Orisa from colonialism to the present. Books will be available for sale and signing.

Author Wanda M. Morris
February 24 | 7 pm | Duluth Branch
Wanda M. Morris will be in conversation with author Tayari Jones about her book *Anywhere You Run*, a book about two sisters on the run - one from the law, the other from social shame. Books will be available for sale and signing.

DISCOVER MORE & REGISTER FOR ONLINE ACCESS:
WWW.GWINNETTPL.ORG/ADULTSERVICES
“The minute I heard my first love story, I started looking for you.”
THE ILLUSTRATED Jalaluddin Rumi

VERA BELL

VERA BELL is an award-winning author of the trilogy, Always & Forever, set in sixteenth-century Ireland and present-day United States. Book One, Through the Veneer of Time, is her debut novel.

ALICE TAKAWIRA

ALICE TAKAWIRA received a bachelor’s degree in physiotherapy from the University of Zimbabwe. In 2004, she attended Emory University and graduated with a master’s in public health.

Vera and Alice will be more than happy to sign books purchased at the Valentine’s Day celebration event.

Tuesday, February 20, 2024
7:00-8:30 p.m.
Brimstone Restaurant & Tavern
10595 Old Alabama Rd Con
Alpharetta, GA 20022
A NOVEL IDEA
Help Wanted – Author Coordinator

The Author Coordinator controls the Master List of Authors and conducts all correspondence with authors. The Author Coordinator also provides recommendations for authors at all levels. The rest of the authors on the ANI team will also be available to assist when you might need them.

We categorize the authors into 3 groups: Celebrity Authors, Established Authors and Emerging Authors, which includes Launch Authors through the AWC. At its core, the role is very administrative.

We use four venues:
- Alpharetta Library with a seating capacity of 150
- Milton Library seats 95
- Vintage Pizzeria seats 50, and
- Brimstone Tavern seats 200

We book the celebrities at Alpharetta and Milton Libraries and everyone else at Vintage or Brimstone. The difference, besides the number of seats, is that Brimstone and Vintage serve food & beverages and are less formal.

Bookmiser, the event bookseller, is connected with author agents, publishers, and their publicity personnel. Bookmiser serves as the main resource for celebrity authors.

Once each quarter, the author coordinator meets (Zoom or in person) with Jeremy and Annell to consider author candidates for the events dated beyond the upcoming three months. Together, this trio develops the schedule of bookings.

For Launch Events:
- Keep track of applications and determine who is eligible and when they can appear
- Maintain the master calendar of author appearances (preferably on Google Drive)
- Email authors upon receipt of application and advise if their application is complete or if items are still needed (utilizing Excel tracking sheet)
- If complete, email to determine author availability based on ANI event dates and provide event details
- Follow-up with reminder email 1 week out from event
- Answer any author questions as they arise

For Non-Launch Authors who approach us:
- Determine eligibility (Recent book, edited, formatted--not stapled pages from the UPS Store)
- Email to determine author availability based on ANI event dates w/ event details
- Follow-up with reminder email 1 week out from event
- Answer any author questions as they arise

For Non-Launch Authors who we approach:
- Email to determine author availability based on ANI event dates w/ event details
- Follow-up with reminder email 1 week out from event
- Answer any author questions as they arise

For Celebrity Authors:
- Annell Gerson at Bookmiser makes the initial contact with celebrities authors including dates we have available. If the author accepts, she sends an email introducing author to the Author Coordinator. Author Coordinator takes over correspondence from there.
Rewind

featuring

William Kent Krueger & Geraldine Brooks

Laura Morelli, Ann Patchett, Delia Owens & Rick Bragg

From Friday, Feb. 9 @ 5 p.m. through Sunday, Feb. 11 @ 9 p.m.
free online programs featuring
six past Roswell Reads authors

Roswell Reads is pleased to bring readers and writers a wonderful weekend with replays of prior conversations and writing workshops with these award-winning authors.

Registrants can view any or all of the 10 virtual events from 5 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 9 through 9 p.m. (EST) on Sunday, Feb. 11.

These Roswell Reads programs are FREE thanks to the sponsorship of Friends of the Roswell Library, and support of Friends of the East Roswell Library, the Fulton County Library System and Roswell Rotary. RSVP required.

facebook.com/roswellreads/ RoswellReads.com

RSVP: roswellreadsrewind2024.eventbrite.com
For thirty years, Austin Film Festival has been catapulting writers into life-changing careers. At the core of AFF’s mission, AFF’S ANNUAL SCRIPT COMPETITIONS recognize emerging, new voices of unparalleled talent each year. Second-rounders, semi-finalists, finalists, and of course, winners at AFF utilize their accolades to advance their careers and embark on the next creative journey. Known for its reputation as the premiere script competition in the world, studios, agents, and executives trust AFF to identify the storytellers of tomorrow.

At Austin Film Festival, story comes first and foremost above all else. We fully acknowledge the hard work and passion you put into your script, and rest assured, your story is in good hands. By submitting to our script competitions, you’re joining a community of story lovers who want to help you succeed; a community that was found at Austin Film Festival’s inception in 1994, which is incredibly generous and committed to helping fellow storytellers get their foot in the door. We find that same spirit of generosity among our readers, panelists, and partners, and it is what allows us to offer opportunities to those who place in our competition.

We’d love to offer members of Atlanta Writers Club a discount on the price of submission to this year’s Screenwriting Competitions. Use the code AFFWG24 during checkout, to receive a special discounted price on submission. Whether your dream is to sign a contract, land an agent, learn from an industry icon, or take home the coveted Bronze Typewriter Award, it’s simple: you can’t win if you don’t enter. So invest in your career and submit today! Submit Here

Cynthia Cano, Screenplay Assistant

Austin Film Festival
1801 Salina Street | Austin, Texas 78702
O: 512.478.4795 | F: 512.478.6205

www.austinfilmfestival.com

31st Annual Austin Film Festival
October 24 — October 31, 2024
On Story | Listen. Watch. Read | onstory.tv
Letter Review Prizes Now Open for Submission

**Letter Review Prize for Short Fiction**
Prizes: Three Winners are announced who are published and share in the $1000 USD total prize pool. Twenty writers are Shortlisted. All entries considered for publication, and for submission to the Pushcart Prize and other anthologies. Feedback available.
Entry Fee: $20 USD.
Dates: Open now, closing 29th Feb 11:59 pm ET.
Word Length: 0 - 5000 words.
Details: Open to anyone in the world. There are no genre or theme restrictions.
Enter Here: [LINK](#)

**Name: Letter Review Prize for Nonfiction**
Prizes: Three Winners are announced who are published and share in the $1000 USD total prize pool. Twenty writers are Shortlisted. All entries considered for publication, and for submission to the Pushcart Prize and other anthologies.
Entry Fee: Free.
Dates: Open now, closing 29th Feb 11:59 pm ET.
Words: 0 - 5000 words.
Details: Open to anyone in the world. We welcome all forms of nonfiction including: Memoir, journalism, essay (including personal essay), fictocriticism, creative nonfiction, travel, nature, opinion, and many other permutations. Feedback available.
Enter Here: [LINK](#)

**Name: Letter Review Prize for Poetry**
Prizes: Three Winners are announced who are published and share in the $1000 USD total prize pool. Twenty writers are Shortlisted. All entries considered for publication, and for submission to the Pushcart Prize and other anthologies. Feedback available.
Entry Fee: $15.
Dates: Open now, closing 29th Feb 11:59 pm ET.
Lines: 70 lines max per poem.
Details: Open to anyone in the world. There are no style or subject restrictions.
Enter Here: [LINK](#)

**Name: Letter Review Prize for Unpublished Books**
Prizes: Three Winners are announced who share in the $1000 USD total prize pool. Winners may choose to have an extract published, and receive a letter of recommendation from our Judges. Twenty writers are Shortlisted. Feedback available.
Entry Fee: $20.
Dates: Open now, closing 29th Feb 11:59 pm ET.
Words: Please submit the first 5000 words of your prose manuscript, or 15 pages of poetry.
Details: Open to anyone in the world. The entry must not have been traditionally published. We are seeking all varieties of novels, short story collections, nonfiction, and poetry collections. We will accept manuscripts which are unpublished, self published, and some which are indie published. Review full entry guidelines for further details.
Enter Here: [LINK](#)
ONE PAGE POETRY is dedicated to the art of expressing a poetic theme on a single page, whether your poem is four lines or forty, whether yours is a love poem, inspirational poem, philosophical poem, or just one that is fun or whimsical. We welcome any and all poetic forms, as long as they fit on a single page.

Cash Prizes
First Prize: $2,000.00
Second Prize: $1,000.00
Third Prize: $500.00

Publication
All entries are considered for publication on OnePagePoetry.com.

Winner Features
The first, second, and third place winners will be featured in our winner’s circle and exclusively on the sponsors’ websites.

One-on-One Interview
The winners will also be eligible for exclusive one-on-one interviews with our judges, and the interviews will be published on our website and distributed on all major social media platforms.

Top 100 Entries
The top 100 entries will be featured in a yearly compilation published and distributed by the sponsors (with the consent of the poet). All proceeds donated to the World Wildlife Fund and Oceana, dedicated to protection of endangered species and the preservation of their natural habitats. Please see our 2023 One Page Poetry Anthology here.

Press Releases
Press releases celebrating our winners and our poetry compilation will be distributed to multiple media outlets, including ABC, NBC, FOX, and CBS, as well as hundreds of publications and social media influencers worldwide.

Submit Your Poem Today!
Only unpublished work will be considered. Entries must fit on a standard 8” x 11” Word document or PDF. Multiple entries are welcome. No refunds will be issued in case you choose to publish a poem elsewhere.

To read a full description of the contest and submit your work, click HERE
Spring Writers’ Retreat
Thursday, May 16–Sunday, May 19, 2024
Location: Near Atlanta, GA

An inclusive lesbian writers' retreat welcoming self-identified lesbians, bisexual women, trans, and nonbinary folks. To learn more, visit outrageousvoices.com or email outrageousvoices@yahoo.com.
Roswell Reads, a program of Friends of the Roswell Library, in partnership with the City of Roswell and Bookmiser, presents a Special Edition featuring

the National Book Award-winning author of Cold Mountain

Charles Frazier

speaking about his latest novel, The Trackers

Sunday, April 7, 2024, at 4 p.m.
Roswell Cultural Arts Center
950 Forrest Street, Roswell, GA

A portrait of life in the Great Depression, The Trackers conjures up the lives of everyday people during an extraordinary period of history.

Frazier’s discussion will be moderated by Dr. Gina Caison, an author and Georgia State University associate professor specializing in Southern and Native American literature.

Tickets are $20 for the presentation or $40 for an autographed large paperback copy plus reserved seating in the first six rows for the event. To order, go to roswellcac.showare.com/RoswellReadsprentsCharlesFrazier, call 770-594-6232, or go to the Roswell Cultural Arts Center’s box office.

Roswell Reads is sponsored by Friends of the Roswell Library and supported by the City of Roswell, Friends of the East Roswell Library, Fulton County Library System and Roswell Rotary Club.
Join us for writers workshops all day Friday including Master Class Workshop by acclaimed author Bren McClain.

Saturday hosts presentations by national bestselling authors Rick Bragg, Hank Phillippi Ryan and Deborah Goodrich Royce along with Georgia Author of the Year Robert Gwaltney, celebrated chef, Johnathon Barrett, members of Sisters in Crime Atlanta and Wild Women Who Writer, and Atlanta Writers Club including George Weinstein and Kim Conrey. (Tickets required)

Browse the books and meet the authors during the Book Fair 9-4 Saturday. Free and open to the public

Readers and Writers alike will have a great day on Saturday.

For more information and registration, visit Carrolltonbookfest.com

Rick Bragg will speak Saturday evening at 6:30 Tickets through the Carrollton Center for the Arts. Admission $25

carrolltonbookfest.com
carrolltonbookfest@gmail.com
The AWC maintains this directory in an effort to assist AWC members with editor options for consideration; however, the AWC does not endorse the individuals in this directory and is not liable for any member's experiences with these editors.

For the editors listed below, please consider selecting a few and getting a quote for how much some of them would charge to edit a sample (e.g., 20-50 pages)--some charge by the page (e.g., $3-$5/page), others by the word (e.g., $.01-$0.05/word)--and define what kind of edit you want (developmental versus line-editing, or both). Then make your selection (consider picking two, for comparison purposes) and see if you like the job either editor did on that small portion of your manuscript before committing to having your whole book edited by that person.

C O V E R W R I T E R R A L P H E L L I S O N

MJ BIGGS

Email  Website

Content editing, line editing, copy editing, proofreading, and book coaching for all fiction genres.

I've worked as a copywriter and editor in corporate settings for over 10 years and have won numerous regional and national awards for my marketing content. In 2022, shortly after publishing my literary fiction novel, A Wonderful Place to Die, I started my own book editing business, Night Owl Fiction. I'm open to all fiction genres and do not shy away from heavy or difficult topics. Email me for more details on services and pricing.

BOBBIE CHRISTMAS

Zebra Communications: Excellent editing for maximum marketability

Email  Website

Fiction: Mainstream, science fiction, paranormal, romance, action adventure, fantasy, suspense/thriller, mystery, young adult, biographical novel, historical fiction, and more. Nonfiction: Memoir, biography, autobiography, self-help, travelogue, essays, and more.

When you hire me, you hire a professional with more than 50 years of experience. After 27 years of editing and writing newspapers, magazines, and corporate communications, I founded Zebra Communications in 1992 to specialize in editing fiction and nonfiction. You and your manuscript will be treated with kindness yet honesty. I've edited books for seven publishing houses, so I know what publishers and readers want. My services and pricing are listed on my website.

KAY HUNT

Email  Website

Available for editing: Adventure, women's fiction, fantasy, historical fiction

I have over 20 years in print production and graphics, proofreading annual reports, business brochures and related materials, catalogs, and advertising copy. I have six years of freelance experience proofreading/copy editing website pages and blogs for service industry businesses. Additionally, as a freelancer, I have copy-edited two novels as well as made some structural edits.

JUDITH KOLBERG

Email  Website

404-226-1381

Nonfiction Genres: lifestyle, health, business, personal growth, self-help, memoir, spiritual, inspiration, and narrative non-fiction.

I am an experienced developmental editor with fifteen years of experience bringing multiple authors to publication. I specialize in content editing which includes structure, clarity, interest, flow, segue, overall readability and other writing elements that make for a fantastic reader's experience. Perfect for writers in need of a rigorous, honest, and compassionate first-reader or for authors at any level seeking a collaborative, effective editing process designed to fit their schedule and budget. Confidential ghost-writing services available.
JANIE MILLS
Email
Website
Available for editing: query letters, science fiction, memoir, Southern fiction, YA fantasy, sports fiction, apocalyptic, detective/crime fiction, soft erotica

I have a master’s degree in English (Creative Writing) and have been a full-time editor for three years. I believe in understanding an author’s voice and putting in the work to get it right. I am blessed with my editing talent and am pleased to offer affordable, yet professional, editing services.

CHRIS NEGRON
Email
Website
Available for query letter consults, developmental editing

Author of the middle grade novels Dan Unmasked (July 2020) and The Last Super Chef (July 2021), both from HarperCollins, available for editing novels of all genres, but with a particular focus on middle grade and contemporary fiction for adults and teens as well. Novel editing price proposed after review of sample chapter(s). Single-page query letter feedback available for $50 / query.

STEPHANIE SIEGEL
Email
Website

Final editing available for nonfiction (especially health for general audiences).

I read literature and am trying to write it. But most of my career was spent writing newspaper articles (12 years) or editing them (12 years). My eagle eye for details such as unanswered questions, unsupported statements, and inconsistencies made me a valued copy editor at CNN.com, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, WebMD, and the CDC.

MARI ANN STEFANELLI
The Writer’s High, LLC: Take your writing to a higher level with experienced, professional editing.
Email
Website
Specialty areas: memoir and narrative nonfiction; mystery, thriller, romance, fantasy, women’s fiction, and commercial fiction; book proposals and query letters.

A former public relations professional, I’ve specialized in developmental and line editing since 2014. Editorial assessments honor your voice and vision; all communication is shared in a respectful, encouraging manner. I’m a coordinator for the Georgia chapter, Editorial Freelancers Association, and founded the Writer’s High Retreat, an inspiring weekend retreat featuring literary luminaries such as Winston Groom, Cassandra King, and Patti Callahan Henry. Read more about me and my services HERE.

DAVE SWAN
Email
Linkedin

Nonfiction topics: Politics, defense, foreign affairs, crime and legal issues, education, taxes, music, film, humor, relationships, and writing about writing.

My experience: As a journalist and all-around communicator, I've edited news and information on a wide range of issues for audiences all over the world. One of my specialties is presenting complex subjects in plain, hard-hitting language. I can help you shape your story from the beginning or proofread your final draft. My goal is to make YOUR voice as powerful and compelling as it can be.

A.E. WILLIAMS
EMAIL
WEBSITE
Genres I edit: fantasy, sci-fi, horror, thriller, screenplays, comic book scripts, memoir, and various nonfiction topics

Bio: My name is A.E. Williams. I run an editorial firm, A.E. Williams Editorial. My clients are oftentimes independent authors for which I perform copyediting, developmental editing, and line editing. I am also a freelance copyeditor with Hachette Book Group. If interested in working with me, please email a 1,000-word sample and I will complete it for free. In my response I will provide your edited sample, testimonials, rates, resume, and a list of recent projects.

If you are an AWC member, offer editing services, and want to add your information to this directory, please send an email to AWC Executive Director and Acting President George Weinstein with the following information: Your name, Your email address, Your website (if available), The fiction genres and/or nonfiction topics you have experience editing, & a brief statement detailing your editing experience of 75 words or less.
WHAT MAKES THE AWC SUCH A SUCCESSFUL NETWORKING RESOURCE for our members is our willingness to assist others. Many of our members have stories and lessons to share from their writing journeys. Put those experiences in an article and submit them for consideration in an upcoming issue of the eQuill. Not only will you be helping your fellow members learn from your triumphs and mistakes, but you also will get a publishing credit.

A caution: this is NOT a chance to tout your book(s) and say, "Buy this!" We’re not offering billboard space here. Rather, this is an opportunity for you to help other writers avoid pitfalls and apply successful strategies that pertain to the craft and business of writing. Naturally, you will cite examples from your work. That’s a fine way to let people know you have books for sale; we’ll also include a brief bio with links, a head-shot and book cover(s) at the end of your article. The point is to be respectful of your readers, who want knowledge—not product placement.

If you submit, expect to get a reply with edits and comments and be willing to rewrite accordingly. Abide by the word counts given below; one reason publishers and contests reject work is that the writer can’t/won’t follow the rules. While we want to publish articles by as many of our members as possible, we also need these pieces to be uniformly high-quality and beneficial so the 6,200+ recipients will look forward to reading them month after month.

Can you submit multiple articles over time? Absolutely! We’d love to have regular contributors.

If you want to submit an article for consideration, please email the following to AWC Executive Director George Weinstein.

- Your article, with a catchy/provocative/thought-provoking title, that addresses your personal lessons about aspects of the craft and/or business of writing, in 300 words or less (can be in a Word doc attachment or in the body of your email)
- A profile of you and your book(s) in 50 words or less, as well as your website and social media links (can be in the same Word doc attachment or in the body of your email)
- Your head-shot and book cover image(s) in JPG or PNG format, the higher the resolution, the better

Get a Publishing Credit
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED AUTHOR BREN MCCLAIN OFFERS WRITERS MASTER CLASS, “WHAT IS WORKING? DO MORE OF THAT!” AT THE CARROLLTON BOOKFEST, APRIL 5, 2024.

Join critically acclaimed author of One Good Mama Bone at Bren McClain's highly interactive Master Class designed to take your novel, short story or memoir to the next level. Twelve writers will join her in this day-long session in which writers will receive critique and guidance to improve their work. Selection is competitive and open to writers of prose: fiction or nonfiction (no poetry).

To be considered, prepare a piece of 1,000 words (preferably from the beginning of your manuscript). Do not put your name in or on your file (a numbering system will be applied). Submit to EMAIL. Include your name and contact information in the email.

There is a non-refundable fee of $25 which is payable through Eventbrite. If selected, instructions for payment of the remaining fee of $75 will be sent by email. Total for the workshop is $100.

Submission deadline for consideration is February 17, 2024. Selected authors will be notified March 2nd and must submit a piece of work up to 2,500 words by March 16th. All work will be distributed to the group and specific questions will guide the critique. The morning will include feedback and the afternoon will be spent revising or writing additional material.

Don’t miss this unique opportunity to work with this warm, exciting and creative author.

All events are at the Carrollton Center for the Arts, 251 Alabama St., Carrollton, GA For more information, visit WEBSITE or EMAIL.
MAKE A READ-YOUR-BOOK CLIP

- Make a video (SIXTY SECONDS MAX!) of you reading a sample of your work. Videos can be created with a phone, tablet, or computer.
- Upload your video to AWC VIDEO This may take a few minutes.
- Once uploaded, send an email to awc.member.services@gmail.com with "AWC VIDEO" in the subject line. Let him know you have uploaded your video and include info about where your book can be purchased. Include the title and author name.

PHOTOGRAPH YOUR WORKPLACE

- Take a picture of where you write. Don't clean it up, show us the natural environment where you make the magic. You can be in the shot, or not.
- Send the picture to awc.member.services@gmail.com with "My Creative Space" in the subject line.
- Keep watching the Atlanta Writers Club Facebook page and Instagram page and when you are featured, share it with the world.
The Atlanta Writers Club website offers Free Promotion. We're now featuring a page where AWC members can promote their latest publication: [SEE IT HERE](#).

Current Atlanta Writers Club members are invited to add/update their listing: please email your head-shot, book (or other publication) cover, and website URL to AWC Executive Director [George Weinstein](mailto:george.weinstein@atlantawritersclub.org).
GREEN groups are OPEN; RED groups are FULL

**Online #1** WAIT LIST  
Fiction: Short Stories & Novels  
Meets on 2nd & 4th Friday of the month via Zoom, 1pm.  
Kelley Cody-Grimm EMAIL

**Online #2** OPEN  
Fiction only Ongoing. Please submit 100 pages for vetting. Linh Pham EMAIL

**Online #3** OPEN  
Meetson2nd & 4th Friday of the month via Zoom, 1pm.  
Kelley Cody-Grimm EMAIL

**Online #4** WAIT LIST  
All Genres 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month, at 7:00pm  
Gail Lash EMAIL

**Online #5** WAIT LIST  
Short Stories Every 2nd Thursday at 1pm Pat Bowen EMAIL

**Online #6** WAIT LIST  
Young Adult & Middle Grade Fiction Work shared by email  
Brad Scott EMAIL

**Online #7** WAIT LIST  
Screenwriting (email for details)  
1st & 3rd Friday of every month at 7pm via ZOOM Liz Irland EMAIL

**Online #8** OPEN  
Advanced Writers in Thriller/Mystery/Suspense Meet on the 2nd-4th Thursday each month at 7:00 pm online (or in-person if participants are interested)  
Bill Robbins EMAIL

**Online #9** WAIT LIST  
Romance 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 7-8pm using Google Meets Olga Jackson EMAIL

**Online #10** WAIT LIST  
Non-Fiction: Creative, Narrative, & Memoir Meeting online,  
Tuesdays, 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm  
Quinn Eastman EMAIL

**Online #11** WAIT LIST  
All Genres Meeting online every other Tuesday  
Nancy Fletcher EMAIL

**Online #12** OPEN  
Meetings are virtual via Zoom every other Monday at 7-9 pm  
Diane Thompson EMAIL

**Online #13** WAIT LIST  
Meetings are on Sunday, 9-11 a.m. every other week, with work sent to Nathaniell ahead of time.  
Nathaniel Chaney EMAIL

**Online #14** WAIT LIST  
Adult Fiction Online, every other Thursday, 7-9 pm  
Susanne Fincher EMAIL

**Online #15** WAIT LIST  
Fiction 1st Saturday of each month at 9:30AM  
Perry Powell EMAIL

**Online #16** OPEN  
All genres Meetings are virtual via Zoom every other Monday at 10:30am. Members exchange drafts twice monthly for critiquing.  
Toni Bellon EMAIL

**Online #17** WAIT LIST  
Sci-Fi and Fantasy Online using Google Meet, 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month at 7pm Abigail Biles EMAIL

**Online #18** WAIT LIST  
Fantasy and Science Fiction Meetings are on Sunday, 9-11 a.m. every other week, with work sent to Nathaniel ahead of time.  
Nathaniel Chaney EMAIL

**Online #19** OPEN  
Memoir. Meets on 2nd & 4th Thursdays at 7 p.m. Contact Chetan Sanker at EMAIL
Membership in the Atlanta Writers Club entitles members to participate in or start their own AWC-sponsored writing and critique groups, where you and your colleagues can help each other improve your writing craft.

Above is the current list of active AWC writing/critique groups. If you have any questions about any of these groups, or if you would like to start your own group, please contact Officer Emeritus George Weinstein.

---

**Online #20 WAIT LIST**
Poetry group for seven experienced poets, published-seeking publication. Meets bi-weekly via Zoom on Tuesdays from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Poems to be shared on Google Drive & reviewed before each session. Send 3 poems to Jennifer Kahnweiler. Group facilitation is shared.

**Online #21 WAIT LIST**
Horror of any style. Virtual meetings are every other Tuesday, 7-8 pm. Contact Daniel Cozart’s EMAIL

**Online #22 WAIT LIST**
Study/Critique Group open to all levels of writers and all genres. The Storywrighters group meets online every other Thursday at 5 PM ET to explore well-regarded writing craft books and support each other as we apply what we learn to our work. Our current study is The Emotional Craft of Fiction: How to Write the Story Beneath the Surface by Donald Maass. Contact: Mary Thornton

**Online #23 WAIT LIST**
Science Fiction and Fantasy Meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 8 p.m. Eastern Contact: Xander Jon Dijk

**Online #24 OPEN**
Nonfiction (except memoirs/biographies). Twice monthly Zoom meetings, dates and times TBD. Participants will share files in advance via Google Drive (10 pages per person). Contact Vic Darling

**Atlanta/South Brookhaven OPEN**
Literary fiction. Meets in person at pre-selected location, 7-9pm every other Tues. We’ll discuss pre-shared excerpts and pre-meeting critiques. Jim Trueblood, EMAIL (LIMITED TO 10)

**Atlanta/Virginia Highlands OPEN**
Fiction writers with a creative writing degree or history of publication. Meets once a month usually from 1 to 3 pm at a coffee shop. Dawn Abeita

**Decatur/Emory OPEN**
Fantasy, Sci-Fi, Horror. Meet every two weeks, time and location TBD. To discuss pre-shared excerpts of around 5000 words, for constructive feedback. Contact: Eric Reinders

**Dunwoody/Sandy Springs WAIT LIST**
Speculative fiction (novels and short stories) Meets every other Wednesday, 6:30pm. Usually at a restaurant. Zoom used if necessary. Calvin Clark EMAIL

**Atlanta/Westside OPEN**
Fiction-All Genres Thursday evening once a month, 6-8 p.m. In a restaurant/coffee shop. Emilee McWilliams

**Online/In-person Dunwoody, Duluth OPEN**
Science Fiction, Space Opera, & Fantasy. Online file sharing. In-Person before/after AWC meeting. Podcasts LINK Lisa Cooper EMAIL

**Online/In-person Alpharetta OPEN**
Screenplays Online filesharing for 30 days (one Act and then in-person meeting near North Point Mall on first Saturday of month. 10-12:30pm Joe Redace EMAIL

**Lilburn WAIT LIST**
All Genres. Meets on 4th Monday of every month at Mountain Park Library, 1210 Pounds Rd., Lilburn, from 6pm to 7pm. Laura Sellers EMAIL

**Marietta WAIT LIST**
Focus on fantasy, but all genres are welcome. Meetings held on the 2nd Saturday of each month - 10am to 12pm at Cool Beans Roasters in Marietta Square. Contact Alyssa Hall

**Marietta OPEN**
All genres. Meets at member’s house 1st & 3rd Tues. 6:30 - 8:00PM Linda Sullivan EMAIL

**Marietta/East Cobb OPEN**
All genres. 2nd Thursday of every month at 2:00PM in the East Cobb Library community room (4880 Lower Roswell Rd.) Margaret Richlin EMAIL

**Roswell WAIT LIST**
All genres. Every Tuesday 6-8pm at Scooters in West Roswell. George Weinstein EMAIL

**Sandy Springs WAIT LIST**
Fiction & N/F (Please indicate what you are writing, any published work, and expectations.) Saturdays except when AWC meets, 2:00-4:00 PM in member’s home or virtual. Bill Ottinger EMAIL
The AWC has an automated system for tracking memberships and alerting members when it's time to renew. Without your continued support of the Atlanta Writers Club we would not be able to bring fabulous speakers to our meetings nor provide generous cash awards for our annual writing contest.

IF YOU ARE CURRENTLY A MEMBER...

• You will receive an e-mail from the system (showing Executive Director George Weinstein’s (e-mail address ) one month before your membership expiration date.

• If you haven't renewed within a week, you will receive another e-mail every seven days, with a final e-mail one week from expiration.

• If the expiration date for your membership passes without renewal, the system will mark your membership as expired.

• It is a good e-mail practice to check your spam/junk folder to see if any legitimate e-mail has been misfiled there, possibly including the email you'll receive from George prior to the expiration of your membership.
Membership Benefits

- Monthly Meetings.
- Periodic Workshops.
- Twice-Yearly Atlanta Writers Conference.
- Critique Groups.
- Writing Contest With Cash Prizes And Publication.
- Opportunities To Sell Your Books.
- Free Tickets To Author Events.
- Free Monthly Newsletter
- Free Book Promotions

WE ARE ONE OF THE BEST literary bargains in town. The Atlanta Writers Club is simply a group of writers that work together to help each other improve their skills and attain their writing goals. Anyone can join, with no prior publication requirements. Potential members are invited to attend a first meeting as our guest. After that, we’re sure you will want to become a member and take advantage of all the benefits that come with it.

You may join The Atlanta Writers Club at any of our events or meetings, or pay on line at our website using PayPal at OUR WEBSITE.

Regular membership dues are $60 per year per person. Students can join for $10 per year. Family members of active AWC members can join for $30 per year. Our Membership Form is on the last page of this newsletter.

If you have additional questions, contact AWC Executive Director George Weinstein.
# Membership Form

**Name**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Email Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Street Address</th>
<th>City, State, ZIP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**AWC MEMBERSHIP DUES**

- **One-Year Membership** $60.00
- **One-Year Student** $10.00
- **Five-Year Membership** $250.00
- **Lifetime Membership** $499.00

**FAMILY MEMBERS (Enter names below)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family Members - One Year $30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Members - One-Year Student $10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Members - Five Year $125.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Members - Lifetime $250.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATION**

- **AWC General Fund** $
- **AWC Scholarship Fund** $

**TOTAL**

*Make checks payable to Atlanta Writers Club*

**Mail your check and this form to:**

Atlanta Writers Club  
c/o Jerry Weiner, Treasurer  
8080 Jett Ferry Road  
Atlanta, GA 30350

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

Yes! I would like to become an AWC Volunteer

- [ ] Monthly Meetings  
- [ ] Conferences  
- [ ] Book Festivals  
- [ ] Other

**Family Members**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Email Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Email Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>