

PNWA PRESIDENT WELCOME LETTER



Welcome to Pacific Northwest Writer's Sixty-second annual conference. It is because of you, the PNWA board, volunteers, staff, and the talented writers throughout the history of our organization, that this conference continues to grow.

Our organization's founder, Zola Helen Ross, envisioned a community of authors who would help nurture a writer's career from pen to publication. The PNWA board members, volunteers, staff, and sponsors have not only continued Zola's legacy but have expanded her theme. PNWA is a now a writer's resource and our goal is to help our members through education and support: key ingredients for an author's success.

Helping one another succeed can be as simple as joining a critique group, listening to a fellow author's pitch, or discussing character or plot issues over a cup of coffee or tea. (For those who have taken my classes, you know that chocolate plays a major role in any discussion).

PAM BINDER

This year we have added a new feature. (We received feedback from last year's survey that our attendees would like to connect with authors who write in their genre). The Cascade rooms are dedicated for that purpose. Friday afternoon is informal. You are welcome to stop by, meet authors, sign up for critique groups, or ask questions of our guest authors. On Saturday there will be workshops and panels that concentrate on these areas. If you write in more than one, feel free to sample all that is offered. Below is the breakdown and their locations.

Cascade 1: Nonfiction/Memoir
Cascade 2: Children's Picture/Chapter
Cascade 3 & 4: Historical Fiction
Cascade 5 & 6: Literary Fiction
Cascade 7 & 8: Romance/Women's
Cascade 9: Mystery/Thriller Fiction
Cascade 10: Science Fiction
Cascade 11: Fantasy Fiction
Cascade 12: YA/Middle Grade

Thank you for attending our conference! We look forward to meeting with old friends and welcoming new. We are a community and when one of us succeeds, we all succeed.

Have a wonderful conference.

Pam Binder is the President of PNWA and a *seanchai*. (If you find out what that word means, come find her).

"If there's a book that you want to read, but it hasn't been written yet, then you must write it." Toni Morrison, a Nobel Prize, and Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE - THURSDAY

7:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Registration Desk Open

MASTER CLASS With Donald Maass
\$125.00 for conference registrants.
\$200.00 without registration.

Topic: Learn how to adapt and apply elements from the classics to your contemporary fiction
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Grand Ballroom 3

9:00 a.m. – NOON

Northwest 1
MASTER CLASS:
CRAFT OF WRITING TRACK
Master Class included in registration.
\$50.00 without registration.

Topic: A Novel in Four Drafts

Presented by: Lindsay Schopfer

Description: Every draft of a novel can be more than just another version of the manuscript. It can be an ongoing evolution that keeps improving with each stage until the work is finally the best version of itself. Writers in all stages of production will benefit from this detailed and engaging look at the writing and revision process. Participants in this workshop will learn what they should focus on for each draft, techniques for effective editing, and how to complete that book that never seems to be good enough.

Northwest 2

MASTER CLASS:
MARKETING TRACK
Master Class included in registration.
\$50.00 without registration.

Topic: Press Kit: An Essential Tool in the Author's Tool Kit

Presented by: Kathryn Jane

Description: One magical file for when opportunity knocks. Learn how to put together a comprehensive file filled with all the "stuff" you need to have at your fingertips—the little things we never think of until someone asks. Be prepared to guest blog at a moment's notice, take advantage of last-minute opportunities. Take the headache out of posts for Facebook parties or takeovers. Be Twitter-ready.

Northwest 3

MASTER CLASS:
BUSINESS TRACK
Master Class included in registration.
\$50.00 without registration.

Topic: Authors and the IRS

Presented by: Peggy Doviak

Description: A Certified Financial Planner (TM), practitioner and professor of financial planning for fifteen years, Peggy Doviak demystifies income tax planning for authors. Peggy will explain the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act and summarize what every author needs to know about both the new laws as well as the rules that don't change, what's deductible and what isn't.

NOON – 1:00 p.m.

Lunch Break

Writer's Café & Registration Area
(Lunch concessions available for purchase)

Noon – 1:00 p.m.

Northwest 3
Conference Preparation

Topic: Conference Prep: How to Get the Most Out of the Conference

Presented by: Jim Harris & Maria Philips

Description: For a first-time conference attendee, a conference can seem overwhelming. How do you choose which workshop or panel to attend? How do you meet fellow authors? How do you develop a pitch? Bring these questions and more to this interactive session.

1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Northwest 1
MASTER CLASS
CRAFT OF WRITING TRACK
Master Class included in registration.
\$50.00 without registration.

Topic: Left Brain Plotting for Right Brainers

Presented by: Cherry Adair

Description: Cherry Adair delivers a fast-moving, informative Master Class on plotting and the essential elements of plot. This workshop will bring participants to the next level of plotting. Yes, this class is also for those of you who write by the seat of your pants! You will learn the essential structure and vital elements of plotting so that you write faster and smarter.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE THURSDAY - FRIDAY

1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**Northwest 2
MASTER CLASS
MARKETING TRACK**
Master Class included in
registration.
\$50.00 without registration.

Topic: Get Rich or Die Trying: Using
a Flagship Series to Accelerate Your
Career

Presented by: Chris Fox

Description: This three hour masterclass
will teach you to research, write, and
market a novel that will sell, without
sacrificing your creativity. If you want
to make a living writing fiction, then this
class can be your first step to five figure
months. Whether you're writing your
first novel, or have a sizable backlist,
this masterclass will provide you with
the tools to elevate your author career.

**NORTHWEST 3
Writer's Tool Box Track**
Master Class included in
registration.
\$50.00 without registration.

Topic: Best Practices for Indie Authors
Presented by Deborah Schneider and
Saralynn Hoyt

Description: Have you considered
becoming an Indie Published author,
but didn't know how to begin?
This workshop will provide some
background on what Indie Publishing
is, reasons you might want to consider
it and a step-by-step process for
uploading your books to KDP (Kindle
Direct Publishing). From formatting
to distribution, you'll discover simple
ways to become your own publisher.
Deborah and SaraLynn have Indie
published over a dozen books and
stories, so that you can learn from their
experiences.

4:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Dinner Break

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

NORTHWEST 1, 2 & 3

Topic: Pitch Fest

Presented by: Gerri Russell

Description: Before you can write a
great pitch, you must know your story,
inside and out. Answer these questions
in preparation for writing your pitch
and you're off to a great start. Join
New York Times Bestselling author Gerri
Russell and her author-coaches as she
helps demystify the art of pitching your
story to agents, publishers, and friends.

7:30 p.m.

**Grand Ballroom 2 & 3
KEYNOTE DESSERT
RECEPTION FOLLOWED
BY AUTOGRAPH PARTY**

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
R.L. STINE**

FRIDAY

7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

**Writers' Café & Registration Area
Continental Breakfast**

7:00 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Registration Desk Open

8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

**Grand Ballroom 2 & 3
PNWA Annual Meeting**

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

**Grand Ballroom 2 & 3
Editor Forum**

Description: The editors give an
overview of the kinds of projects they
are acquiring and the best way to
submit your project. A question and
answer period is included.

9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Morning Break

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

**Grand Ballroom 2 & 3
Agent Forum**

Description: The agents give an
overview of the kinds of projects they
are acquiring and the best way to
submit your project. A question and
answer period is included.

**11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Lunch Break**

Writers' Café & Registration Area
(Lunch concessions available
for purchase)

2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Afternoon Sessions

Grand Ballroom 2

CRAFT OF WRITING TRACK

Topic: Writing Characters with
Disabilities

Presented by: Laurie Dennis, Paula
Blazer, and E.L. Roux

Description: Authors with disabilities
will discuss the specific challenges
and details writers must consider in
order to write authentic characters.
Topics include physical and emotional
challenges, stereotypes to avoid, and

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE FRIDAY

types of assistive devices. Examples include, but are not limited to, world-building, historical research methods and resources, military and law enforcement practices and cultures, mythology, genre norms and cliches

Grand Ballroom 3

SCREENWRITING TRACK

Topic: I've Been Offered an Option, Now What?

Presented by: JD DeWitt and Robin McLain

Description: JD DeWitt and Robin McLain specialize in literary management and development of books to film. JD and Robin will discuss the decisions that go into optioning material and the step by step process it takes to get to the screen.

Evergreen 1

CRAFT OF WRITING TRACK

Topic: The Magic of Plotting

Presented by: Kay Kenyon

Description: How do you develop a novel's plot? Is it luck, or trial and error, or are there classic approaches you can use to bring out your best story? Learn to bring forth the magic within your creativity—and give it form in the world: your story! Kay Kenyon is the author of 14 science fiction and fantasy novels, including a new fantasy trilogy from Simon & Schuster/Saga. She will focus on initial inspiration, and the deep tools of mystery, surprise, originality, conflict, momentum, and transformation.

Evergreen 2

MARKETING TRACK

Topic: Build a Writer Platform in 12 Months

Presented by: Jason Brick

Description: This one is a step-by-step, month-by-month guide to build a platform using blogs, YouTube, social media, social engagements, and writing. The class begins with a quick definition of the components of a platform and why you need one, then dives in starting with Month One. We end with general advice about basic goal-setting and how it interacts with building a platform.

Evergreen 3

WRITER'S TOOL BOX TRACK

Topic: Scrivener Unraveled! Capture and Organize your Ideas, Anywhere, Anytime

Presented by: Brian Mercer

Description: If you've been intimidated by this powerful writing software, then learn how to document research, organize world building, storyboard, outline, and craft your prose using a single, streamlined interface. Scrivener's iPad and iPhone options capture and sync your ideas.

Evergreen 4

WRITER'S RIGHTS TRACK

Topic: Maximizing your Subsidiary, Audio, and Translation Rights

Presented by: Crista McHugh

Description: If you've self-published and haven't considered subsidiary rights, you could be leaving money on the table. A New York Times Bestselling self-published author talks about how she doubled her income by investing in translations and audio formats of her books.

CASCADE ROOMS

Meet authors of your genre, practice your pitch, and/or form critique groups.

Cascade 1 & 2: Nonfiction/Memoir

Cascade 3 & 4: All Children's Books

Cascade 5 & 6: Historical

Cascade 7 & 8: Literary/Mainstream

Cascade 9 & 10: Romance/Woman's Fiction

Cascade 11: Mystery/Thriller/Horror

Cascade 12: Middle Grade and Young Adult

Cascade 13: Science Fiction/Fantasy/ Paranormal

3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Afternoon Break

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Afternoon Sessions

Grand Ballroom 2

CRAFT OF WRITING TRACK

Topic: Queer Lands: LGBTQ+ Representation in Fiction

Presented by: Lindsay Pierce

Description: Queer Lands will focus on creating a safe space to have open conversations about the representation of LGBTQ+ characters within fiction and how we, as writers, can improve our understanding and portrayal of this community. The presentation will focus on how to empower writers and authors to be part of positive social change through their words. The workshop will discuss, research and understanding this diverse community, language, powerful words and how to use them effectively, developing complex LGBTQ+ characters, and shedding stereotypes.

Grand Ballroom 3

SCREENWRITING TRACK

Topic: Book to Script: How to Painlessly Adapt Your 300+ page book to a 100+ page Screenplay That's Mostly Dialogue.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE FRIDAY - SATURDAY

Presented by: Kim Hornsby

Description: Have you ever wondered if you could turn your book into a movie screenplay? It's fun, and the process will only make you a better writer in the end. You'll learn how to write an effective log line that boils the essence of your story down to 40 words and the process of isolating the key scenes to support the story. Kim Hornsby will show you a painless way to turn your book into a speculative screenplay.

FRIDAY

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Afternoon Sessions

Evergreen 1

PROFESSIONAL WRITER TRACK

Topic: Working With an Agent and Editor

Presented by: Agent Paige Wheeler, editor Amy Cloud and authors Sheila Roberts and Mark Maciejewski

Evergreen 2

EDITING TRACK

Fifty Things to Check in Your Manuscript Before Submitting to an Agent

Presented by Elizabeth Kracht

Description: From Elizabeth's "Author's Checklist: Fifty Things to Check Before Submitting to an Agent," this workshop will provide the necessary guidelines to help authors revise their work more effectively by seen through the eyes of an agent. Born from thousands of hours of editing manuscripts, Elizabeth will provide both simple and subtle tips for approaching the revision process that will bridge the gap between what an

agent thinks is publication ready" and what an author does.

Evergreen 3

WRITER'S RIGHTS TRACK

Topic: Legal Issues for Writers

Presented by: Jason Cruz

Description: This presentation covers the basics of copyright and trademark law related to issues that authors might face and what to look for in a basic publishing agreement.

Evergreen 4

PROFESSIONAL WRITER TRACK

Topic: Lifelong Writing Habit: The Secret to Writing Every Day.

Presented by Chris Fox and Sabrina York

Description: Are you tired of writing intermittently? Would you like to install a lifelong writing habit, one that gets your butt in the chair every single day? Then this is the workshop for you.

CASCADE ROOMS

Meet authors of your genre, practice your pitch, and/or form critique groups.

Cascade 1 & 2: Nonfiction/Memoir

Cascade 3 & 4: All Children's Books

Cascade 5 & 6: Historical

Cascade 7 & 8: Literary/Mainstream

Cascade 9 & 10: Romance/Woman's Fiction

Cascade 11: Mystery/Thriller/Horror

Cascade 12: Middle Grade and Young Adult

Cascade 13: Science Fiction/Fantasy/Paranormal

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Grand Ballroom 2 & 3 FEATURED SPEAKER DINNER

Dori Hillestad Butler, Chris Fox, Nancy Pearl, Donald Maass, Julia Quinn, Cat Rambo, and Christopher Vogler
Moderator: Robert Dugoni

8:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Grand Ballroom 1

Autograph Party & Dessert

Over sixty award winning and New York Times Bestselling authors will attend the autograph party that will follow the dinner.

SATURDAY

7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Continental Breakfast

Writer's Café & Registration Area

7:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Registration Desk Open

8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Morning Sessions

CASCADE GENRE TRACK

Cascade 1 & 2: Nonfiction/Memoir

Cascade 3 & 4: All Children's Books

Cascade 5 & 6: Historical

Cascade 7 & 8: Literary/Mainstream

Cascade 9 & 10: Romance/Woman's Fiction

Cascade 11: Mystery/Thriller/Horror

Cascade 12: Middle Grade and Young Adult

Cascade 13: Science Fiction/Fantasy/Paranormal

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE SATURDAY

Topic: Define What You Write

Description: This track is designed to help the author identify the type of book they are writing, the rules, the audience, the pitfalls, and the advantages. If you are unsure of what you are writing, your work could be classified as an outlier. A book is an outlier if it doesn't fit the industry's understanding of how a book should be categorized. Agents and editors, as well as readers, want to categorize books. Readers are looking for a certain books based on what they like to read, and so if your book resists being "typed," it's less likely to be discovered. The goal of PNWA's Cascade Genre Track is to help you understand what you are writing.

Cascade 1 & 2

NONFICTION & MEMOIR TRACK

Topic: The Art of the Personal Essay

Presented by: William Kenower

Description: The personal essay is a unique blend of storytelling, perspective, and poetry. Not quite memoir, not quite self-help, it is a form that lends itself to blogs, essays for magazines, or opinions for newspapers. In this workshop William Kenower will examine the structural foundation of the personal essay and help authors use their life experiences as limitless source material.

Cascade 3 & 4

CHILDREN'S PICTURE & CHAPTER BOOK TRACK

Topic: How to Write a Picture Book

Presented by: Wendy Wahman

Description: A picture book is a marriage between words and art. Is your story ready to take the plunge? Does it have the 3 P's: Pacing, page turns and pictures? Get a bird's eye view from the illustrator's chair with Wendy Wahman, author & illustrator of

"Don't Lick the Dog," "Nanny Paws," "Pony in the City," and more. In this hands on workshop, you'll make a dummy from one of your picture book manuscripts. Bring a few print outs of a manuscript to cut up (if you don't have one, one will be provided).

Cascade 5 & 6

HISTORICAL FICTION TRACK

Topic: Power Research

Presented by: Jeff Ayers

Description: Whether writing non-fiction or fiction, the importance of accuracy remains the same. Information Specialist Jeff Ayers will show you how to move past Google searches to find the information you need for authenticity in your writing.

Cascade 7 & 8

LITERARY and MAINSTREAM TRACK

Topic: Where To Start Your Story

Presented by: Lindsay Schopfer

Description: A great story must start strong to get the reader's attention. Each novel's beginning must be a balancing act of description, backstory, and action. Participants in this workshop will learn how much backstory to include in their novel, how to identify essential establishing information, and how to effectively drop their readers into the action.

Cascade 9 & 10

ROMANCE/WOMAN'S FICTION TRACK

Topic: Romance Isn't Just For The

Young: The Ageless Allure of Romance

Presented by: Melinda Rucker Haynes

Description: Romance publishing has long been open to all subgenres, and the growing subgenre of Boomer or "mature" romance is no exception. Readers of every age want thrilling, inspiring stories of romance and adventure

about all kinds of people, including those of their own age group. Join award winning and bestselling author Melinda Rucker Haynes as she explores how the author can reach more readers with timeless stories of compelling, ageless characters who grow together to the romance requisite happy ending that satisfies readers at any time of life.

Cascade 11

MYSTERY, THRILLER & HORROR TRACK

Topic: Writing the Contemporary Cozy Mystery

Presented by: Wendy Kendall

Description: The popularity of Cozy mysteries is fast growing. Learn specifics that successfully design today's intelligent and fun mystery puzzlers, and that shape the dynamic amateur sleuths for contemporary readers. Discover pitfalls to avoid, and leave with an extensive resource list.

Cascade 12

MIDDLE GRADE & YOUNG ADULT TRACK

Topic: Flash Fiction

Presented by: Donna Conrad

Description: Flash Fiction is the art and craft of parsing words to convey the most meaning in the fewest words possible. Ernest Hemingway's, "For sale: baby shoes, never worn," is touted as the first flash fiction and reigns supreme in showing how six words can convey the emotional depth of an entire novel. Flash Fiction is a fantastic tool to jump-start creativity, and brings the satisfaction of completing a story quickly. Using in-workshop writing exercises of five minutes each, we will focus on Young Adult sub-genre prompts, and share our flashes of creativity. The workshop is organized so that everyone can leave with several completed stories and an

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE SATURDAY

understanding of how flash fiction is created.

Cascade 13

SCIENCE FICTION, FANTASY & PARANORMAL TRACK

Topic: Writing Urban Fantasy: The Alchemy of the Ordinary

Presented by: Craig English

Description: What if we were to find that magic exists in our work-a-day world? This proposition lies at the heart of the urban fantasy genre. In this workshop we'll consider the joys and perils inherent in writing urban fantasy. The genre invites the ordinary and the extraordinary to co-exist, reverberating and amplifying our themes. We'll explore how such a remarkable juxtaposition affects the sensibilities of contemporary characters, and the varieties of plot structure that are available to us. Ultimately, the boundaries of the urban fantasy genre provide for a vast freedom, transforming grit into myth, the mundane into the magical.

9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Morning Break

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Morning Sessions

Evergreen 1 & 2

BUSINESS TRACK

Working with Wild Rose Press

Presented by: Editors Ally Robertson and Melanie Billings with authors Pam Binder and Melinda Rucker Haynes.

Description: The Wild Rose Press publishes electronic, audio, and print titles of fiction. Their titles span the sub-genre spectrum from sweet to sensually erotic romance in all lengths to mainstream and women's fiction.

The Wild Rose Press, Inc. is a royalty paying publisher and accepts queries from genres other than romance, including but not limited to women's fiction, mystery or thriller, historical fiction, and young adult fiction.

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Morning Sessions

Evergreen 3 & 4

CRAFT OF WRITING TRACK

Topic: Writing Diversity in Popular Fiction: How Authors Create Realistic Multicultural Characters.

Presented by: Eliana West

Description: This workshop focuses on how authors can create realistic multicultural characters. Author Eliana West will explain the basic tools needed to write characters from different racial backgrounds without falling into many of the common pitfalls that create characters who are stereotypes instead of real people. Tap into this growing new market and reach new readers by adding diversity to your story.

Cascade 1 & 2

NONFICTION & MEMOIR TRACK

Topic: What is Nonfiction and Memoir?

Presented by: Lynn Price, Jaime Coyne, Regina Ryan,

Description: TBA

Cascade 3 & 4

CHILDREN'S PICTURE & CHAPTER BOOK TRACK

Topic: Current Picture Book Trends

Presented by: Adria Goetz

Description: This workshop will highlight and examine the current trends in the general trade picture book market, and where those trends might be

heading. Hear straight from an agent's perspective what is selling and what isn't, which trends are over-saturated, and how to tap into trends in our own unique way.

Cascade 5 & 6

HISTORICAL FICTION TRACK

Topic: Validity and Credibility Found in Rabbit Holes

Presented by: SJ McCormack, Claire Gebben, Carrie Kwiatowski, and DL Fowler

Description: Time spent in the rabbit hole of research can be rewarding in ways you never imagined. Certainly the knowledge gained serves to imbue rich historical content in your book. But have you considered using that information also to give presentations, share stories, network with others in your field, blog, and write magazine articles? This panel will explore the world of possibilities that can add to the validity and credibility of your platform as an author of historical fiction.

Cascade 7 & 8

LITERARY FICTION TRACK

Topic: How to Create an Unforgettable Character

Presented by: Marjorie Reynolds

Description: Through centuries of literature, certain characters stand out, among them, Hamlet, Captain Ahab, Scarlett O'Hara, Jay Gatsby, Sherlock Holmes, and almost any character out of Charles Dickens. More contemporary novels, such as *The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo*, *Harry Potter*, *Life of Pi*, and Lee Child's Jack Reacher series have similar unforgettable characters. All of these richly drawn fictional characters have

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE SATURDAY

one significant trait in common. They are extreme. Award-winning author Marjorie Reynolds will teach a class that analyzes the traits that make these characters unforgettable and how authors can incorporate them into their novels.

Cascade 9 & 10

ROMANCE & WOMEN'S FICTION TRACK

Topic: Creating Character Emotion

Presented by: Gerri Russell

Description: Emotion is the most important tool writers have in their writer's tool box. Emotion affects every other element of fiction, writing dialogue, action, character development, plot, theme, the list goes on. Join bestselling author Gerri Russell in this workshop designed to help you step inside your characters and make your writing richer and more memorable.

Cascade 11

MYSTERY, THRILLER & HORROR TRACK

Topic: Get to Know the Mystery Genre:

An overview of Clues, Red Herrings, Heroes, Villains and Subgenres

Presented by: Robert Dugoni, Thomas Hopp, Kat Richardson, Brian Thornton.

Description: You know a mystery when you see one, right? Now go deeper and learn about the components of a mystery story. What's the difference between clues and red herrings? How do mystery heroes, heroines, and villains further the story? What are the differences between the many subgenres? Get to know the mystery genre from a panel of experts - The Northwest Chapter of Mystery Writers of America.

Cascade 12

MIDDLE GRAND AND YOUNG ADULT

TRACK

Topic: Part of the Solution – Writing for Diverse Populations

Presented by: Diana J Noble

Diana J Noble's debut novel is a young adult historical fiction about a sensitive and observant 13-year old and her tight-knit family as they flee the Mexican Revolution and settle in Texas where they face the indignities of racism and discrimination. Literature should reflect the broad array of diversity around us. In this session, attendees will hear Diana's experience in writing a rich story from a diverse perspective and leave with inspiration for their own writing journeys..

Cascade 13

SCIENCE FICTION/FANTASY & PARANORMAL TRACK

Topic: Creating a Magic System That Won't Break Your Plot

Presented by: Oren Ashkenazi, Wesley Matlock, Chris Winkle

Description: Magic is the backbone of many fantasy stories, but it's difficult to have a magic system that's entertaining but doesn't create plot holes. This plane is specifically for speculative fiction authors, but it's one we're uniquely qualified for.

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Lunch Break

Writers' Café & Registration Area
(Lunch concessions available for purchase)

2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Afternoon Sessions

Evergreen 1 & 2

EDITING TRACK

Topic: 21 Edits Publishers Expect but

Never Mention

Presented by: Christine M. Fairchild

Description: Whether you're writing your first novel, ready to submit a manuscript to agents or editors, or just learning to be a better critique partner, this editing class will help you take your storytelling skills to the next level. You'll learn tips and tricks to start and stop at the right place in your story, make scenes have more tension and energy, strengthen character development, improve pacing, clarify voice and style, clean up clutter, create stronger dialogue and subtext, and produce page-turning chapters.

Evergreen 3 & 4

MARKETING TRACK

Topic: Tactical Social Media for Writers

Presented by: Jason Brick

Description: Drawing from work with some scary smart social media gurus, Jason Brick will discuss a life-as-we-now-know-it snapshot of how social media works for writers, which writers should use which platforms, the rules of engagement across each, and a prescription for putting it all together.

CASCADE ROOMS

Cascade 1 & 2: Nonfiction/Memoir

Cascade 3 & 4: All Children's Books

Cascade 5 & 6: Historical

Cascade 7 & 8: Literary/Mainstream

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Cascade 13: Science Fiction/Fantasy/Paranormal

Topic: Define What You Write

Description: This track is designed

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE SATURDAY

to help the author identify the type of book they are writing, the rules, the audience, the pitfalls, and the advantages. If you are unsure of what you are writing, your work could be classified as an outlier. A book is an outlier if it doesn't fit the industry's understanding of how a book should be categorized. Agents and editors, as well as readers, want to categorize books. Readers are looking for a certain books based on what they like to read, and so if your book resists being "typed," it's less likely to be discovered. The goal of PNWA's Cascade Genre Track is to help you understand what you are writing.

Cascade 1 & 2

NONFICTION & MEMOIR TRACK

Topic: The Magic of Memoir: Inspiration for the Writing Journey

Presented by: Ruthie Stender and Carol Anderson

Description: Do you have a story to tell? Or a memoir in progress that needs a little help to the finish line? If so, come join memoirists Ruthie Stender and Carol Anderson, contributors to the anthology, *The Magic of Memoir: Inspiration for The Writing Journey*. You will learn how to outline your story, tame the inner critic, the importance of universal truth/reflection/take-away, truth-telling, and how to keep writing.

Cascade 3 & 4

CHILDREN'S PICTURE & CHAPTER BOOK TRACK

Topic: What are the Subgenres and Perimeters of Children's Literature?

Presented by: Amy Cloud and Adria Goetz

Cascade 5 & 6

HISTORICAL FICTION TRACK

Topic: Putting the History in Mystery

Presented by: Anna Castle, M. Louisa Locke, Janet Oakley

Description: Mystery has long been one of the most popular genres. Increasingly, mysteries set in the historic past are gaining fans worldwide. Mystery readers love facts, which means writers of historical mysteries have a double duty to perform. They must know how to write a good mystery, with clues and herrings properly laid across the trail, but they must also know how to make characters move and act in that bygone era without overwhelming readers with too much information. Award-winning authors Janet Oakley, Anna Castle, and M. Louisa Locke will talk about writing historical mysteries and thrillers, with tips about doing research that builds a compelling setting along with an historically accurate crime-solving tale.

Cascade 7 & 8

LITERARY FICTION TRACK

Topic: Words Matter. Writing the Break Out Literary Novel

Presented by: Robert Dugoni

Description: Just as the best genre novels are populated by well-crafted characters, so the best literary novels have page-turning plots. (True, literary plots are not very likely to consist of car chases and explosions but things still "happen.") It's really just a difference of emphasis. If writing a gripping plot is important in genre fiction, in literary fiction the plot can be less momentous, more subtle, less frenetically-paced, more beneath the surface. Join bestselling author, Robert Dugoni as he explains how to add that important layer of emphasis to your novel.

Cascade 9 & 10

ROMANCE & WOMEN'S FICTION TRACK

Topic: How to Write a Series

Presented by: Pam Binder

Description: The word 'series' coonjures up a varitety of emotions in writers from joy to fear. One book is tough, but six? Learn the advantages and disadvantages of writing a series. Learn if your plot and characters are suitable for a series and if your story concept can stretch across multiple books,

Cascade 11

MYSTERY, THRILLER & HORROR TRACK

Topic: What is the Difference Between a Mystery, A Thriller and A Horror Novel?

Presented by: Jenny Chen, Margaret Bail, Paige Sisley, Sylvan Creekmore.

Cascade 12

MIDDLE GRADE & YOUNG ADULT TRACK

Topic: Sharpen Your Wit: Develop Your Comedic Timing

Presented by: Tiffany Pitts

Description: Humor is an important and often underused tool in storytelling. It can create bad guys out of heroes. It gives the reader respite, hope, and, if done right, a lasting memory tied to your writing. And contrary to popular belief, it is something you can develop. This class will look at different ways humor can be used to deepen storytelling. We'll break down comedic timing and see how it is used to build/relieve tension within scenes creating interest that will grip the reader. We'll look at ways it can be used to develop characters from one-dimensional into complex heroes and villains. We'll also find ways comedy can be created out

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE SATURDAY

of perspective and conflict. We will put these ideas into practice with a writing/sharing exercise designed to help improve improvisational thinking skills. Attendees will also learn every-day exercises to keep their thinking sharp and their writing humorously concise.

Cascade 13

SCIENCE FICTION, FANTASY & PARANORMAL TRACK

Topic: How to Write Steampunk and Weird Westerns

Presented by: Cat Rambo

Description: This workshop will cover gathering and using historical details, ethical implications, basic mechanical concepts, economic underpinnings, and creating texture and dialogue. This will be a combination of lecture, discussion, and in-class writing exercises that will help authors apply new techniques and insights into their own work.

3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Afternoon Break

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Afternoon Sessions

Evergreen 1 & 2

EDITING TRACK

Topic: How to Save Money on Editing

Presented by: Ariel Anderson, Oren Ashkenazi, Wesley Matlock, Chris Winkle

Description: Editing isn't cheap, and most writers aren't overflowing with cash. This panel will discuss what the author can do to get the most bang for their editing buck. The panel will focus on craft and business. The craft side will be about common issues they

see in manuscripts they edit. Things like lacking a through line, or spending time on characters that don't matter to the story. Writers can fix these problems themselves if they know to look for them. For the business side, the panel will discuss the best way to find editors, how much writers should expect to pay, and how to use beta readers and other options so they won't need as many editing passes.

Evergreen 3 & 4

CRAFT OF WRITING TRACK

Topic: Get your Facts Straight Before You Write About Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)

Presented by: Katheryn Jane

Description: This workshop will discuss the tools needed to respectfully portray characters dealing with post-traumatic stress disorder. This is a broad layman's overview of, who, where, what, when, why, and how PTSD effects individuals, families, acquaintances, interpersonal relationships, careers, and other situations.

Cascade 1 & 2

NONFICTION & MEMOIR TRACK

Topic: Discovering Your Story: The Joy of Mindful Writing

Presented by: Peter Gibb

Description: This workshop incorporates writing exercises designed to take the writer closer to the heart of the story. The author will learn how memoir has changed in recent years.

Cascade 3 & 4

CHILDREN'S PICTURE & CHAPTER BOOK TRACK

Topic: From Character Development to Storyboarding: A Guide to Writing Picture Books

Presented by: Dana Sullivan

Description: Dona Sullivan will take you step-by-step from character development and storyboarding, right up to your own ready-to-submit picture book dummy! Join Dana for this intensive boot camp focusing on playful doodling, storyboarding, inside stories of the publishing world, and having fun. A perfect class for illustrators AND writers looking for a new perspective on their work. Plus, that kick-in-the-back cover you may have been needing.

Cascade 5 & 6

HISTORICAL FICTION TRACK

Topic: What Classifies a Novel as Historical?

Presented by: Madelyn Burt, Carrie Howard, Grace Menary-Winefield

Description: Subgenres, trends and troupes.

Cascade 7 & 8

LITERARY FICTION TRACK

Topic: What is Literary Fiction?

Presented by: Adam Eaglin, Rachel Crawford, Monika Woods, and Caroline Eisenmann

Description: Subgenres, trends and troupes.

Cascade 9 & 10

ROMANCE & WOMEN'S FICTION TRACK

Topic: The Business side of Romance and Women's Fiction

Presented by: Gerri Russell, Sabring York and Pam Binder

Description: TBA

Cascade 11

MYSTERY, THRILLER, & HORROR TRACK

Topic: The Road to Hell: the Horror Genre from Dante to King

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE SUNDAY

Presented by: Scotti Andrews

Description: Scared to look? The horror genre of literature has a long, creepy, and intriguing history. This discussion will cover the timeline of horror fiction, the tropes of the genre, and how to go beyond the scare to the deeper themes of loss, grief, redemption, and survival. To conclude, we'll look at the horror genre today, which is enjoying an enthusiastic revival.

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Afternoon Sessions

Cascade 12

MIDDLE GRADE & YOUNG ADULT TRACK

Topic: What are the rules of Middle Grade and Young Adult Novels?

Presented by: Rachel Letofsky, Carlisle Webber, Alicia Clancy

Description: Subgenres, trends and troupes.

Cascade 13

SCIENCE FICTION, FANTASY & PARANORMAL TRACK

Topic: What is the Difference Between Science Fiction Fantasy and Paranormal Novels?

Presented by: Shannon Orso, Cat Rambo, Ethan Reid,

Description: Subgenres, trends and tropes.

7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Grand Ballroom 2 & 3

DINNER AND AWARDS CELEBRATION!

Literary Contest and Nancy Pearl Book Awards

SUNDAY

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

MASTER CLASS WITH CHRISTOPHER VOGLER
TICKET REQUIRED
\$125.00 with conference registration.
\$200.00 without registration

Grand Ballroom 2 & 3

Topic: The Story Lives in You: Tapping into Your Deepest Creative Sources.

Presented by: Christopher Vogler

Description: With his landmark book "The Writer's Journey", Chris Vogler rolled out the map of storytelling and revealed its deep sources in psychology and mythology. In his decades of working in Hollywood story departments he has continued to explore how writers can tap their own minds and bodies for inspiration and fresh solutions to story problems. In this special day-long workshop, you can join this master of story and character construction as he unfolds both the

classic, timeless patterns of myths and new techniques for opening your own limitless sources of creativity. The workshop focuses on the role of the body – that of the writer and of the reader or viewer – in creating scenes that people will remember and enjoy for their emotional power. His passion for story will recharge your batteries and give you access to your own deep resources of creativity and emotional truth.

CLASSES INCLUDED IN REGISTRATION

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Evergreen 1 & 2 First Place Winners' Reading

Hosted by Darcy Carson & Sandy McCormack

10:30 a.m. – Noon.

Northwest 1

CRAFT OF WRITING TRACK

Topic: Look out! He's Behind You.

Presented by: Kim Hornsby and Christine Fairchild

Description: Suspenseful aspects in any story- whether thriller, mystery, or romance - keep a reader engaged to the very last page. All readers love suspense, whether it's a light touch or the nail-biting aspects on each page. Suspense is necessary in any story whether its' Contemporary Romance (will they finally find love?) or Thriller (can she stay alive?) and drives the story forward. In this workshop, Christine Fairchild and Kim Hornsby, two Amazon Bestselling Authors of

Suspense (romance and Paranormal) will outline the key ingredients to keep your reader on the edge of their seat and staying up way past their bedtime.

Northwest 2

CRAFT OF WRITING TRACK

Topic: How to Strengthen Your Novel Plot by Implementing Movie Structure

Presented by: Mia Thompson

Description: Most writers are aware of the famous three-act structure that dates back to ancient Greece. Readers and viewers of plays and movies are so familiar with the story format that they feel lost without it. Same goes for the structure of a Hollywood movie. The format not only gives the story a natural way to unfold, it also allows the writer easy control over both pace and the main storyline. In this workshop, you'll first learn how to structure a Hollywood screenplay using plot points and then, how to convert those plot points and apply them to your manuscript. The result: a page turner that has the intimate description of a novel and the fast-paced plot of a movie.