

**TOPICS
COMING
IN FUTURE
ISSUES**

- What Writers Say about Writing
- Best Web Sites to Sign up for

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The WAG Digest

VOLUME 6 ISSUE 1

JANUARY—FEBRUARY 2015

WAG Speaker Series

Writer Ron Cunningham

March 15, 2015

"Targeting Your Pitch"

Pattie Glenn, published author, screenplay writer, and Broker/Manager-Member of GreenSmart Financial LLC, will speak at our WAG March meeting.

Glenn combines her creative and analytical talents to serve today's entertainment markets, as she seeks to empower audiences through stories for the heart and soul in her work writing screenplays, novels, short stories, transmedia storytelling, and instructional materials for a variety of media.



She graduated Valedictorian from Full Sail University's 2013 Creative Writing for Entertainment Bachelor's of Fine Arts program.

Visit her website: <http://journeyofvirtues.com>

Unless otherwise noted, WAG meetings are held the second Sunday of each month at 2:30 p.m. at the Alachua County Library (Millhopper), 3145 NW 43rd Street in Gainesville. The WAG Speaker series is Free and open to the public. Remember: **PARKING** at the Millhopper Library is sometimes tight, especially on Sundays.

Consider carpooling or ride a bike or park one block south at the Florida Credit Union.

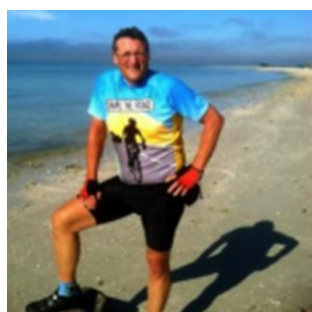
Arrive early to visit with other writers, learn about volunteer activities, sign up for a pod and get a good seat.

**Sunday, February 8, 2:30 p.m.
– Millhopper Library**

Life, the Universe and Everything in 500 Words or Less:

On The Virtues of Brevity.

Ron Cunningham, retired journalist and former editorial



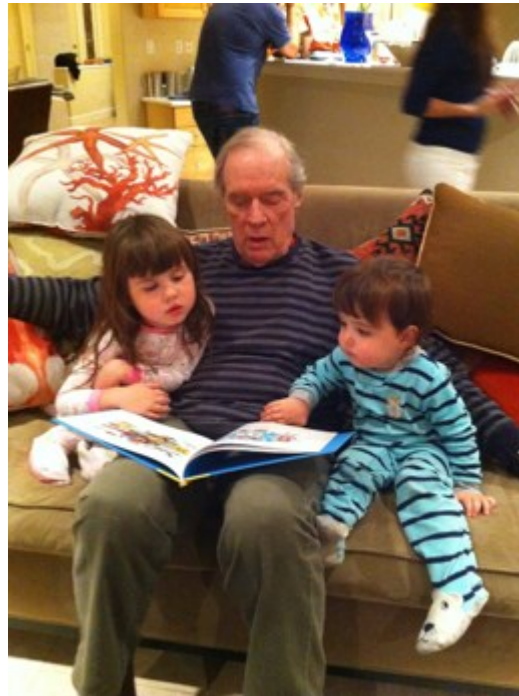
page editor for the Gainesville Sun for nearly 30 years, will speak at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, February 8 at Millhopper Branch Library, 3145 NW 43rd

St. Sponsored by the Writers Alliance of Gainesville, the meeting is free and open to all who are interested in the written word. Cunningham worked for the Gainesville Sun for 36 years following work at the Ft. Lauderdale Sun Sentinel as a beat reporter. He is a 1975 graduate of the University of Florida, and served as Editor In Chief at the Independent Florida Alligator in his senior year. Cunningham is now Executive Director of Bike Florida, a non-profit organization formed to promote bicycle tourism as well as bike safety and education. He continues to write a regular Sunday column for The Sun and is also The Sun's theater critic.

WAG Brags

Goodbye to Poet Gil Murray

WAG Members were sorry to say goodbye to one of our talented poets and a WAG pod leader, Gil Murray. Gil died peacefully on January 9th, 2015, in Gainesville. He was born in Boston, Massachusetts, on November 23rd, 1930. He was a graduate of Shady Hill School, Phillips Andover Academy, and Harvard University, where he was a member of Hasty Pudding and President of The Delphic Club. He had a career as a graphic and industrial designer, poet, cartoonist, and painter. He enjoyed teaching, biking, camping, Paris and the Aran Islands. He was beloved for his humor, creative spirit, and gentle soul. If you would like to make a donation in Gil's name, please donate to: The Repurpose Project, 1920 NE 23rd Ave., Gainesville, FL 32609, and/or Sequential Artist Workshop, P.O. Box 13077, Gainesville, FL 32604.



Kaye Linden has created great handouts for those who are writing short fiction. She has made those available to WAG newsletter subscribers for free:

<http://www.everydayfiction.com/flashfictionblog/basic-elements-of-flash-fiction-a-short-fiction-workshop-handout/>

Thank you for the helpful handouts, Kaye!



WAG Brags

And WAG member **Nick Vellis** is also offering a helpful new book for all you mystery writers. Nick, who had a thirty-year law enforcement career, serving as an investigator, crime scene analyst and crime prevention officer until he retired as a Captain, writes:

FYI I released a new Amazon ebook this week. It's a dictionary of crime fiction slang. Here's the Amazon link <http://www.amazon.com/Hard-Boiled-Jargon-Classic-Mystery-Fiction-ebook/dp/B00R6MG0Y0>

I kept looking up slang words for my PI novel so I decided to make my own list. It got so long it seem natural to do an ebook. It was a fun project. I did the cover myself in PowerPoint. A real down and dirty project.

We mystery writers look forward to exploring the book, Nick!



Nick will also have a reading from his book, http://www.amazon.com/Dig-Two-Graves-Revenge-Honor-ebook/dp/B00HOUD2Y0/ref=asap_bc?ie=UTF8, at the Main Library, 401 E. University Avenue, on February 21 at 1 p.m in Meeting Room B. The book is available on Amazon at: http://www.amazon.com/Dig-Two-Graves-Revenge-Honor-ebook/dp/B00HOUD2Y0/ref=asap_bc?ie=UTF8

Nick is an excellent reader and this should be an entertaining presentation.



WAG Member **Leo Hines** writes: Christian Woman's magazine will be publishing my story "Wonderful Possibilities" in January 2015.

Well done, Leo!



And congratulations again to Kaye Linden who writes:

My third publication "Ten Thousand Miles from Home" is now available in all formats. It features ten tiny stories about one woman's fading relationship with her father due to time, distance and dementia. It is inspired by true events and is essentially, creative non-fiction. The current Bacopa piece "Forgotten" is included and Bacopa is cited. <http://booklocker.com/books/7727.html>



"The Writers Alliance of Gainesville (WAG) promotes, encourages and supports aspiring and experienced regional writers. This goal is accomplished via WAG monthly meetings, public readings, ongoing small critique groups, a literary journal, writers' contests, and collaborations with schools and civic organizations to foster creative expression through the written word."

WAG Brags

Wendy Thornton's humorous essay, *Out in the Country*, will be published soon on *Wraparound South*, *The Rogue Literary Journal of Georgia Southern University* (<http://wraparoundsouth.org/>).

Wendy's poem, *Crickets*, will be out in February in the journal *Blue Heron Review* (<http://blueheronreview.com/>).



The WAG Digest will now come out on the following dates:

Feb 1	April 1
June 1	Aug 1
Oct 1	Dec 1

If you'd like to send notices about writer related events or share your publications, please send an e-mail to the WAG Digest editor, Wendy Thornton at floridawendy@cox.net. Please submit at least 10 days in advance of each deadline. Thank you.



Former Writers Alliance President Art Crummer turns over the magic pen to new President Susie Baxter at the January WAG Meeting. Thank you for your great service, Art, and welcome to our new Prez..



Top Reasons to Query Literary Agents Before Moving On To “Plan B”

by [Writer's Relief Staff](#)

There are many paths to publishing these days—through online E-presses, [self-publishing](#), print on demand, and independent or university-affiliated publishing houses. But most of the writers who come to [Writer's Relief](#) dream of being among the small percentage of authors who publish their book with traditional publishing houses, like Penguin, Random House, or Hachette. We are often asked “**Why does Writer's Relief query literary agents before publishing houses?**”

To get the answer, we first have to offer a quick overview of agent-editor relationships.

Agents and Editors: Let's Do Lunch

The roles of agents and editors are mutually beneficial. First, [literary agents](#) are the front line in the submission process. They “weed out” the projects that they don't feel will be a good fit for publishers and try to save publishers' valuable time. Also, agents get to know the editors they submit to; they become familiar with their tastes and preferences. When an editor receives a manuscript recommendation from an agent she or he trusts, it's not much different than if you were to receive a book recommendation from a good friend.

So, What Are The Benefits Of Querying Agents First?

Here are just a few reasons we advocate getting a [literary agent](#) for book-length projects.

Foot in the Door. The facts are plain: the vast majority of traditional “big-time” publishing houses like those listed above will not take you seriously—they won't even look at your work—unless you have an agent. If you're considering publishing with a smaller, independent publishing house, you may have a chance to see your manuscript reviewed without getting an agent (but you'll be on your own with the contracts and negotiations).

If you're shooting for that pie-in-the-sky contract, an agent is the first, best step in getting you there.

From effectively targeting markets, writing dynamic query letters, building authors' online platforms, and much more—find out how Writer's Relief can boost your exposure and maximize your acceptance rate.

Effectiveness. Pitching your book to an agent is like pitching your book to dozens of editors. When an agent gets your submission, he reads it with an eye toward the editors who might like to buy it. A good agent will be running through his mental Rolodex while reading your submission.

Tradition. Querying an agent first demonstrates professionalism and a knowledge of the workings of the industry. Some publishing houses will not require agented submissions. But most traditional houses will insist on it.

Author's protection. Sending your manuscript with an agent means that someone is in your corner. Agents will negotiate contracts and will tactfully

Top Reasons to Query Literary Agents (Continued)

intervene if the art department puts a naked centaur on your story about 19th-century Harlem. Having an agent means you might have more control over your work.

More money. If you are able to get a book deal, your agent will be able to negotiate your advance, your percentages on royalties, and more. It's been reported that some publishing houses are known to pay out smaller advances to writers who don't have agents to go to bat for them.

Subtext. If you approach a publishing house through an agency, your work will be taken more seriously. Having your name on an agent's letterhead goes a long way toward ensuring a good read.

But what about all the people who get book deals without an agent?

As with most endeavors, there are always nontraditional ways of achieving a certain goal. And, certainly, the publishing climate is changing. You will most likely have heard stories of self-published authors who land a book deal after hand-selling their novel one book at a time. You also may have heard stories of writers who land a big publisher through their [blog](#).

But the reason you've heard those stories is they are exceptions, not the norm. A far greater number of authors get book contracts the traditional way—by gaining agency representation before seeking a publisher. There are dozens of agent-editor deals on www.PublishersMarketplace.com every day.

This article has been reprinted with the permission of [Writer's Relief](#), an author's submission service that has been helping creative writers make submissions since 1994. Their work is highly recommended in the writing community, and there are TONS of freebies, publishing leads, and writers resources on their website. Check it out! (<http://writersrelief.com/>)

If you're planning to get an agent, check out this article from Writers Relief that was published on the Huffington Post Website: Literary Agents You Should Avoid: 3 Major Red Flags

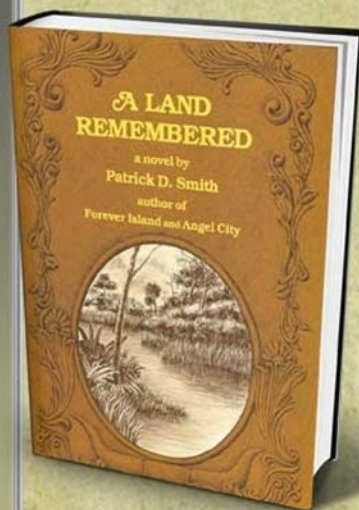
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/09/05/literary-agent-advice-_n_1855541.html



Cumberland Falls—Photo by Ken Booth

Patrick Smith's Florida Is

A Land Remembered



Few if any books have captured the spirit and colorful history of Florida as has Patrick Smith's beloved novel, *A Land Remembered*. It has been said many times that people should be issued a copy of *A Land Remembered* when they cross the Florida state line.

March 1 at 3:00 PM

Unitarian Universalist
Fellowship of Gainesville
4225 NW 34th St.
Gainesville

For more information:
ALandRemembered.com/gainesville

Patrick Smith's son Rick takes the stage to delight you with a multimedia show about his father and the extraordinary experiences that enabled him to write timeless stories of Florida pioneers, the Seminoles, migrant workers, "river rats" of Mississippi, cowboys, the Merchant Marine in World War II and more.

Brought to you by
the Writer's Alliance
of Gainesville.

**Advance Tickets \$10
\$12 At The Door**

Tickets at
Writersalliance.org/#A_Land_Remembered

Doors open at 2:30 PM. Arrive early
for best seating.



Calls for Submission



Deadline: 2/1/2015
Submit to: Diverse Voices Quarterly. Artwork/photographs may be submitted as well. See guidelines on website.
Theme: Submissions welcome from everyone: every age, race, gender, sexual orientation, and religious background.
Type: Poetry (5 poems), short stories, and personal essays (3,000 words MAX)
URL: Diverse Voices Quarterly - <http://www.diversevoicesquarterly.com/>



Deadline: 3/9/2015
Submit to: In Fact Books, c/o Creative Nonfiction Foundation, Attn: Becoming a Teacher; 5501 Walnut Street, Suite 202; Pittsburgh, PA 15232. Or pay \$3 and send online.
Theme: True stories exploring and reflecting on the process of becoming a teacher.
Type: Essays (4,500 words MAX)
[Becoming a Teacher](https://www.creativenonfiction.org/submissions/becoming-teacher) - <https://www.creativenonfiction.org/submissions/becoming-teacher>



damselfly press

damselfly press seeks submissions by women writers - Email submissions accepted year-round. *damselfly press* seeks to promote exceptional writing by women. We welcome work from female writers of all experiences. If you'd like to submit, please first visit our guidelines section before emailing your submission. damselflypress.net/submissions/



The Drunken Odyssey

Needs Personal Essays on **Beloved Books** - Submissions accepted year-round. The Drunken Odyssey, an amazing writing podcast, needs personal essays for its "Book that Changed my Life" segments. Send pitches for essay ideas to . For approved pitches, essays should be between 500 and 800 words. The format is to discuss what was going on in your life when you encountered the book, what about the book affected you so much, and close retrospectively with your life now, after having had the book become a part of you. Accepted essays will be read by the authors (when possible) and paired with music. For examples, check out the podcast at thedrunkenodyssey.com.



Calls for Submission

CECILE'S WRITERS MAGAZINE:

is a digital publication focused on intercultural writers. Writers with a mixed heritage or who have lived abroad or write in English as a second language are all welcome. Whether previously unpublished or veterans, we work with writers closely and offer them a home on our platform. We currently have open submissions. We accept flash fiction, short stories, novel excerpts and personal essays. Please see our submissions page for more information: <http://www.cecileswriters.com/mag/submission->



THE SONDER REVIEW:

is open to submissions for our Winter Issue. We believe in prose that strikes and sparks. Words raw and shuddering and unabashed. Language that drips thick and pierces deeply. We believe in storytelling that is innovative and daring, precise and oddly angled. Fiction which shows us the bizarre and magical and profound; which shows us a self we have never seen and truth we have never known. Deadline for this issue – April 30, 2014 Visit us at www.sonderreview.com



MOTHER'S ALWAYS WRITE:

is a new online literary magazine, offering essays and poetry that are intended to honor parenting as life's greatest calling. We are seeking essays about the parenting experience (Dad writers are welcome too). We love deep, emotional writing that offers new insight. Please see our writers' guidelines for specific requirements at www.mothersalwayswrite.com (coming soon) and <http://mothersalwayswrite.submittable.com/submit>



Silver Springs—Photo by Ken Booth

Calls for Submission



<http://www.shocktotem.com/guidelines/>

Submissions open MARCH 1

WHAT WE WANT:

FICTION: WE CONSIDER ORIGINAL, UNPUBLISHED STORIES WITHIN THE CONFINES OF DARK FANTASY AND HORROR—MYSTERY, SUSPENSE, SUPERNATURAL, MORBID HUMOR, FANTASY, ETC. UP TO 12,000 WORDS (FIRM).

Flash and Microfiction: We are interested in tightly woven flash fiction, 1,000 words or less, and microfiction, 200 words or less.

Poetry: We are interested in dark poetry on a limited basis. Submit no more than three poems at a time.

Creative Nonfiction: We are looking for creative nonfiction, which is, essentially, nonfiction written to read as if it is fiction.

You can read more about this style of nonfiction [here](#). Word limit is 5,000 words (firm).

Artwork: We typically solicit artwork. But if you think your work fits our style, please submit it.

Calls for Submission

WHAT WE DO NOT WANT:

WE'RE NOT INTERESTED IN HARD SCIENCE FICTION, EPIC FANTASY (SWORDS AND SORCERY), SPLATTERPORN (BLOOD AND GUTS AND LITTLE MORE), OR CLICHÉD PLOTS. CLICHÉD THEMES ARE OKAY. WE DON'T MIND STORIES ABOUT ZOMBIES OR SERIAL KILLERS OR VAMPIRES, BUT PLEASE MAKE THE OVERALL PIECE UNIQUE. IF THE PLOT HAS BEEN WORKED TO DEATH WE WILL LIKELY NOT CONSIDER IT, NO MATTER HOW WELL IT IS WRITTEN. NO FAN FICTION.



Escape Pod Reopens Reading Period for Sci-Fi Stories - Pays 6 cents/word image Weekly sci-fi podcast and ezine Escape Pod has reopened for submissions and is now accepting short science fiction stories. Stories chosen for publication are narrated by professional performers and turned into podcasts for listeners. Norm Sherman, serving as Editor, is reviewing speculative fiction stories, ideally entertaining and humorous. He is open to all subgenres of speculative fiction, including space opera, cyberpunk, supernatural, and alternate history. Writers have creative freedom to choose their own story themes. High energy, constructive stories are recommended, along with purposeful pacing, clear-cut characters, immersing dialogue, and unobstructed action. Word length: 2K-6K words/story. Payment: Escape Pod now pays 6 cents/word (considered pro-rates for this genre). Escape Pod also pays 3 cents/word for reprints. Buys exclusive Electronic Rights. Read updated submission guidelines here:

<http://escapepod.org/guidelines/>

(Note: Escape Pod does not accept horror or fantasy. Submit horror stories to its sister podcast Pseudopod and fantasy stories to PodCastle.)



Calls for Submission

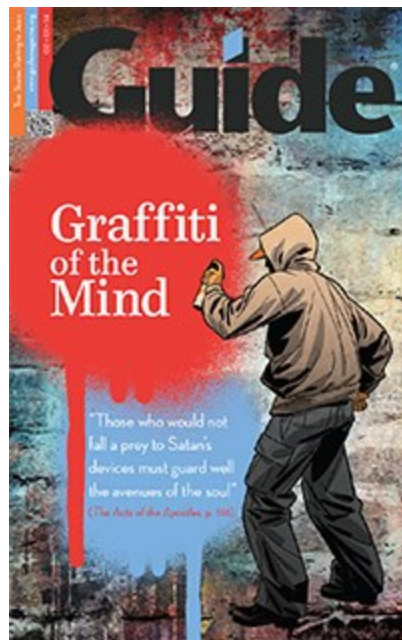
Strange Constellations

What we're looking for:

- Short fiction between 3000-7500 words. This length is flexible.
- Speculative fiction. We especially like science fiction and fantasy but will read anything that grips us.
- Submit completed manuscripts to submissions AT asterismpress DOT com. Rich text format (.rtf) preferred, but we're not here to tell you which word processor to use. Use the subject line 'SUBMISSION: (Your title)' for best results.

We purchase nonexclusive electronic and anthology rights, and the right to distribute the material under a Creative Commons license ([CC-BY-NC 4.0](#)). We accept reprints (though please indicate where it has appeared previously, if feasible), but would rather avoid simultaneous submissions (it just sounds like a headache for everyone involved). If we accept your story, we'll pay you a flat rate of \$30. Please bear in mind that most publishers will not buy reprints, so don't send us anything you'd like to sell later.

Strange Constellations is open to submissions from July 1 to August 31, and again from January 1 to February 28. We try to respond to all submissions within 30 days. <http://www.strangeconstellations.com/>



Guide magazine Needs Non-Fiction Christian Stories for 2015 - Pays \$125/story [Guide magazine Needs Non-Fiction Christian Stories] Review and Herald Publishing Association has released its 2015 list of themes for Guide magazine, a weekly Christian story-illustration publication aimed at youths, between the ages of 10 and 14. Each 30+ page issue contains 3-4 real stories about Christian beliefs, walking with God, and overcoming obstacles to build character. Several departments are open to freelance writers to submit stories of adventure, personal growth, inspiration, spirituality, and humor—all from a Christian perspective. Guide accepts only non-fiction narratives, and all stories must be factual. Do not submit poetry, fiction, or how-to articles. Editor Randy Fishell prefers to receive full manuscripts, not queries. Recommended word length is 450 to 1200 words. Guide pays \$45 to \$120/story on acceptance

<http://www.guidemagazine.org/index.php/good-humor-guy/2312-writers-guidelines>



Calls for Submission

Verse's 2015 Reading Period Now Open

Deadline: March 15, 2015

Verse's 2015 reading period for the print edition will end March 15, 2015.

Verse is considering submissions of 20-40 pages in any genre (including hybrid and cross-genre work, collage, erasures, and visual art). Contributors receive \$10/page, \$250 minimum. To submit, go to verse.submittable.com/submit.



JAB:

is open to poetry, visual art, and staff applications for our inaugural Spring issue. We want work that jabs. We want work without moral boundaries.

Work that makes us feel something. We'll take a look at anything, but boring work will probably not find a home here. Send us your best. Try something new. We might love it. Deadline for Spring issue submissions: March 15th.

Visit us: jabmag.wordpress.com/submissions



Contests

Willow Springs Fiction Prize

Deadline: 3/15/2015
Submit to: Willow Springs Fiction Prize. Online Form
Entry Fee: \$15
First Prize: \$2,000 plus publication
Type: Fiction
URL: Willow Springs Fiction Prize - <http://willowsprings.ewu.edu/contests.php>



Literal Latte Food Verse Contest

Deadline: 3/16/2015
Submit to: Literal Latte Food Verse Contest, 200 East 10th Street, Suite 240, New York, New York 10003
Entry Fee: \$10
First Prize: \$500
Type: Poetry (6 poems MAX). MUST HAVE poetry with food as an ingredient.
URL: Literal Latte Food Verse Contest - <http://www.literal-latte.com/contests/food-verse-contest/>



Creative Nonfiction

Deadline: 4/13/2015
Submit to: Creative Nonfiction; Attn: Weather; 5501 Walnut Street, Suite 202; Pittsburgh, PA 15232. Or send online. Online Form
Entry Fee: \$20
First Prize: \$1,000 plus publication
Type: Essays (4,000 words MAX) on the topic of "The Weather"
URL: Creative Nonfiction - - <https://www.creativenonfiction.org/submissions/weather>



Deadline: 4/26/2015
Submit to: The Fountainhead Essay Contest, The Ayn Rand Institute, P.O. Box 57044, Irvine, CA 92619-7044. Or send online. Submission Link

First Prize: \$10,000
Type: Essay responding to 1 of 3 prompts about The Fountainhead (800 to 1,600 words). Writers MUST BE in 11th or 12th grade.
URL: The Fountainhead Essay Contest - <http://essaycontest.aynrandonovels.com/TheFountainhead.aspx?theme=blue>



Contests

The New Michigan Press/DIAGRAM Chapbook Contest

Deadline: 4/27/2015
Submit to: The New Michigan Press/DIAGRAM Chapbook Contest. Submission Link
First Prize: \$1000 plus publication; finalist chapbooks also considered for publication
Type: Poetry and/or prose chapbook (18 pages MIN - 44 pages MAX)
URL: The New Michigan Press/DIAGRAM Chapbook Contest - <http://thediagram.com/contest.html>



Gulf Coast Prize

<http://gulfcoastmag.org/contests/gulf-coast-prize/>

Gulf Coast Prize

Deadline: March 22nd, 2015

Awarding \$6,000 in prizes to poets, essayists, and fiction writers, this year's judges are Sarah Shun-lien Bynum (Fiction), Maggie Nelson (Nonfiction), and Carl Phillips (Poetry)!

The contest awards publication and \$1,500 each to the best poem, essay, and short story, as well as \$250 to two honorable mentions in each genre. The winners will appear in Gulf Coast 28.1, due out in Fall 2015, and all entries will be considered for paid publication on our website as Online Exclusives.

We will accept submissions both via our online submissions manager and via postal mail.

Contest Guidelines: Online Submissions

- Submissions accepted via Gulf Coast's online submissions manager.
- Poetry: Submit up to five poems (twenty-five pages max) in a single .doc, .docx, .rtf, or .pdf file.
- Prose: Submit one story or essay (twenty-five pages max) in a single .doc, .docx, .rtf, or .pdf file.
- Only previously unpublished work will be considered.
- The contest will be judged blindly, so please do not include your cover letter, your name, or any contact information in the uploaded document. This information should only be pasted in the "Comments" field.

Contest Guidelines: Postal Mail Submissions

- Only previously unpublished work will be considered.
- Please address postal mail entries to:

Gulf Coast

ATTN: Gulf Coast Prize in [Genre]

Department of English

University of Houston

Houston, TX 77204-3013

- The contest will be judged blindly, so your contact information should appear only on your cover letter.

Please include your \$23 reading fee, payable in U.S. dollars to "Gulf Coast."



Contests

ACCLAIM FILM AND TV SCRIPT CONTESTS

Acclaim Scripts
300 Central Ave
Suite 501
St. Petersburg FL 33701

E-mail: info@acclaimscripts.com

Website: www.acclaimscripts.com

Annual contest for TV and film scripts. Open to all writers worldwide. Work must be original material of the author(s). Must not be sold or optioned at time of submission. Multiple entries may be submitted (include separate entry form for each submission). Two categories for TV: comedy and drama.

Prize: Prize: TV: Winner of each category receives \$500. Film: 1st Place: \$1,000. All winners and finalists may receive consideration by established production companies and agencies.

Costs: \$40 by February 7, \$45 by March 7, \$50 by April 11, student discount: \$25 by April 11

Freelance Facts

- Deadline: February 7 (early), March 7 (regular), April 11 (late). Contests are ongoing and deadlines change, visit website to check for updated deadlines.



Contests

How to enter Scriptapalooza

Here are the deadlines for the competition:

Early bird deadline postmarked by January 6, 2015 - \$45

First deadline postmarked by February 3, 2015 - \$50

Regular deadline postmarked by March 10, 2015 - \$55

Late deadline postmarked by April 15, 2015 - \$60

FINAL deadline postmarked by April 29, 2015 - \$65

Please read all the Rules & Script Guidelines.

You can order Feedback when you enter the competition.

Your Feedback will include a logline, a synopsis and your Feedback totaling 4-5 pages.

Your Feedback will have detailed notes covering these categories:

- Premise
- First Twenty Pages
- Structure
- Character
- Dialogue
- Setting
- Pacing
- Tone
- Transitions
- General Notes

This only costs \$100 (\$110 after March 11)

When applying online we only accept scripts in PDF, Microsoft Word or Text format.

We only accept scripts by email. We DO NOT accept scripts by regular mail.

Once you complete your application and press SUBMIT that is considered your electronic signature. If you are doing everything online, you do not need to mail anything in.

After filling out the application, the last step is you can pay thru PayPal or you can call the office and pay over the phone.

If you have more questions...please visit our Questions and Answers page.

Ready to enter? [CLICK HERE](#)

Conferences

Sleuthfest

February 26-March 1, 2015, Deerfield Beach, Florida

Hosted by the Florida chapter of Mystery Writers of America, this year's conference includes Keynote Speaker **James Patterson**, Florida Guest of Honor **James W. Hall**, and Special Sunday Guest of Honor **Dave Barry**. In addition to author panels and book signings, there will be agent appointments and critique, workshops on writing and marketing and publishing, plus a forensic track for in-depth researchers. The Forensic Guest of Honor is Ric Gillespie, an aviation accident investigator who's led numerous expeditions to the South Pacific as part of the Earhart Project. <http://sleuthfest.com/>



SAVANNAH BOOK FESTIVAL

Lose Yourself in Books!

Authors Evanovich, O'Rourke and Rice to Headline 2015 Savannah Book Festival

(SAVANNAH, GA) Three blockbuster authors will kick off, keynote and close the 2015 Savannah Book Festival, Feb. 12-15, 2015.

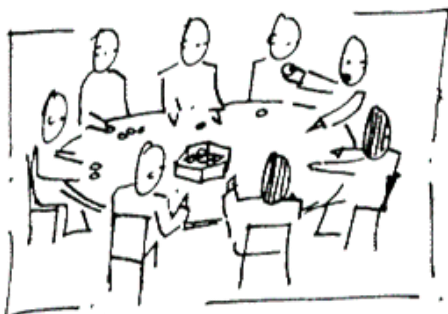
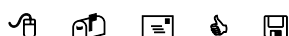
Janet Evanovich, *New York Times* best-selling author of 21 Stephanie Plum mystery novels, will open the Festival with a presentation at SCAD Trustees Theater at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 12, 2015. This will be both Evanovich's first appearance at the Festival and the first time in the Festival's eight years that a woman author will be the opening speaker. The following night, National Public Radio commentator and *New York Times* best-seller P.J. O'Rourke will offer the Festival keynote presentation, also at 6 p.m. at Trustees Theater. Closing out the Festival at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 15, again at Trustees, will be author Anne Rice, who popularized vampires and werewolves starting with her *Interview with a Vampire* nearly 40 years ago. She will be joined by her son, Christopher, a best-selling thriller novelist in his own right. Books by each author will be on sale at their respective events, and each author will sign their books following their presenta-

Conferences

tions.

Individual tickets for each of the three appearances are \$15 and are available only through Savannah Box Office. Tickets for all three presentations go on sale to Savannah Book Festival LITERATI members beginning Jan. 2, 2015, by calling the Savannah Box Office at 912.525.5050. Ticket sales for the general public begin Jan. 10, by calling Savannah Box Office, in person at the box office or online at www.SavannahBoxOffice.com. Tickets are non-refundable but transferable.

The Savannah Book Festival Inc. (SBF), presented by Georgia Power and Bob and Jean Faircloth, is an independent, nonprofit corporation led by a volunteer board of directors. SBF presents best-selling and emerging authors in special events throughout the year, including a four-day Presidents Day weekend event that features talks by dozens of authors. The 2015 Savannah Book Festival will be held Feb. 12-15, 2015, in locations in and around Telfair, Wright and Chippewa Squares in Savannah's Historic District. For more information, please contact Executive Director Robin Gold at 912.598.4040, info@savannahbookfestival.org or visit www.savannahbookfestival.org.



ROUNDTABLE REDUX!

at Writer's Atelier, Winter Park, Florida - <http://writersatelier.com/>

On Monday, February 23rd, from 6:45-9 p.m., Racquel Henry and Jamie Morris will reprise their free Q+A session for Writer's Atelier.

Bring your questions about writing, publishing, and marketing, and let Racquel and Jamie share from their years of experience in

the literary field!

There is no charge for this presentation. Contact Racquel@RacquelHenry.com to register.



Writer's Alliance of Gainesville
A not-for-profit Florida corporation
p.o.box 358396
gainesville/florida/32635-8396
352-336-8062/wagmail@cox.net
<http://writersallianceofgainesville.org>

The Writers Alliance of Gainesville (WAG) promotes, encourages and supports aspiring and experienced regional writers. This goal is accomplished via WAG monthly meetings, public readings, ongoing small critique groups, a literary journal, writers' contests, and collaborations with schools and civic organizations to foster creative expression through the written word.

WAG Volunteers*

Executive Committee

President – Susie Baxter
Vice President – Sharon Ketts
Secretary – Bonnie Ogle
Treasurer – Connie Morrison
Immediate Past President – Art Crummer
WAG Digest Editor – Wendy Thornton
Bacopa Representative – Jani Sherrard

Coordinators and Committee Chairmen

Critique Pod Coordinator – Skipper Hammond
Facebook – Sharon Ketts, with Stephanie Seguin assisting
Membership Coordinator – Elaine Beem Robinson
Program Coordinator – Carol Ray Skipper
Publicity Coordinator - Joan Carter
Social Events Coordinator – Ann-Marie Magné
WAG Digest Editor - Wendy Thornton
Website Webmaster, Art Crummer

Bacopa Editorial Board

Editor in Chief - Gen Aris
Associate Editor - Jani Sherrard
Managing Editor – Pranada Comtois
Creative Nonfiction Editor - Dorothy Staley
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If you are interested in volunteering for a job in WAG, contact President Susie Baxter, susiebaxter@aol.com or speak with one of the board members at a WAG meeting.