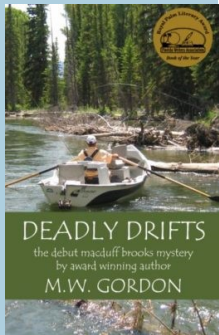


WAG Digest

Volume 9, Issue 5 SEPTEMBER—OCTOBER 2017

WAG Speaker Series



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That's the topic of mystery writer [M.W. Gordon's](#) presentation at the Millhopper Library on October 8. Gordon's [Deadly Drifts](#), won the prestigious 2014 Royal Palm Literary Award for "Published Book of the Year" awarded by the Florida Writers Association.

After forty-two years as a distinguished University of Florida law professor, Gordon didn't begin writing fiction until the age of seventy-two. Surprisingly, he says "my fiction writing was not helped by my 40-plus years of teaching and writing law." In retirement, it was his profound dislike for golf and a decades-long love of reading and fly-fishing (he caught his first trout at age nine) that enabled him to come up with the concept of writing cliff-hanging river mysteries.

He has now "cast and hooked" eight McDuff Brooks river guides and novels set in Montana, where he enjoys spending summers practicing

M.W. Gordon – Ask Not for Whom the Pen Writes ...

October 8, 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM

"Ask not for whom the pen writes, it writes for me."

"catch and release" with barb-less hooks. What he wants to hook now are more readers to his [McDuff Brooks mystery series](#).

In his October 8 talk, Gordon will explain how to take the mystery out of mystery writing — no matter your age.

2017 Bacopa Literary Review Readings

November 5, 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM, Millhopper Library

The Bacopa Literary Review has been in existence since the first year the Writers Alliance of Gainesville was created, in 2010. WAG has supported the journal throughout their existence, building Bacopa into a world-class literary journal thanks to the amazing volunteers who have put the magazine together over the years. Bacopa editors have worked with writers from all over the world to create one of the best literary magazines available today. Please come out and listen to the amazing sto-

ries that were selected as 2017 winners.

WAG members and local authors with works in the 2017 journal will read, and *Bacopa* editors will read excerpts from winning entries:

•**FLASH STORY** "Excerpts From The Trakl Diaries" by Stephanie Emily Dickinson;

•**CREATIVE NONFICTION** "Caregiver's Journal: How to Survive, or Not" by Raphael Helena Kosek;

•**FICTION** "Ignis Fatuus, and More, at Eleven" by Chad W. Lutz;

•**POETRY** "A Mote of Dust" by Claire Scott. Program coordinated by Mary Bast, Editor in Chief.

NOTE: The WAG Speaker Series is held at the Millhopper Library, 3145 NW 43rd Street, Gainesville at 2:30 pm. The regular WAG monthly meetings are free and open to the public. Parking is a problem, so come early. You are welcome to park one block south at the Florida Credit Union.

WAG Brags



Connie Morrison

We are proud to welcome **Connie Morrison** as WAG's new Facebook Administrator! Connie is also WAG's illustrious treasurer, a role she has served with stellar accuracy and detail. We look forward to seeing her posts. As our webmaster (www.writersalliance.org), Susie Baxter explains:

[WAG's Facebook page](#) includes news about WAG and links to enlightening articles about writing that benefit writers far and wide. Over the years, under [Sharon Ketts](#)'s skillful management and

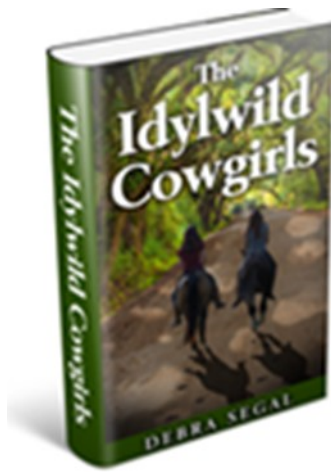
her funny and fabulous posts, the number of followers has grown exponentially. If you are not a follower, you're missing out.

Now, [Connie Morrison](#), WAG's treasurer, has stepped up to serve as Administrator. When WAG's webmaster first typed this up, she inadvertently wrote "WAG's treasure" and that is also true! What would WAG do without Connie? She also updates several pages of WAG's website, including the [membership page](#), [members' books](#), [members' websites](#), [critique pods](#), and the [WAG Digest](#) Archives.

If you know of articles that would benefit other writers or news you wish to see posted on WAG's facebook page, send an email to Connie at facebook@writersalliance.org.

Our sincere thanks to [Sharon Ketts](#) for her skillful management of WAG's facebook page for the past few years and to [Stephanie Seguin](#), who had the foresight to set up the page for WAG many years ago.

WAG Brags



Girls and Horses – A Gainesville Adventure Story

Debra Segal's new Young Adult novel, *The Idylwild Cowgirls*, portrays the adventures of a group of cowgirls as they gallop their horses through the summer of 1973. The story is set in rural south Gainesville when this college community was quieter, less developed, and easily navigable by young teens on horseback. Segal, together with the other cowgirls, will feature the story of *The Idylwild Cowgirls* in a book presentation at the Matheson Museum in Gainesville on Thursday, November 16th at 6:00 pm. Books can be purchased at the presentation, as well as from the website (<http://IdylwildCowgirls.com>) and on Amazon.



Thank you to **Joan Carter** and **Penny Church-Pupke** for pulling together a great Writers Alliance display at the Gainesville Sun's 55+ Expo, Saturday, September 23, 2017 in UF's Holloway Touchdown Terrace at Ben Hill Griffin Stadium. Joan received this invitation for WAG to participate at the very last minute, and somehow managed to create a great table showing off the fruits of labor for local authors.

Thank you, ladies, for your service!



Congratulations to WAG Board member, **Bonnie T. Ogle**, recipient of the 2017 James Pope Cheney Volunteer of the Year Award, named in honor of Cheney, a Florida Museum docent for 14 years who died in 2004.

As the Florida Museum Web site says, "The award is presented each year to distinguished museum volunteers who show outstanding interest in museum collections and enthusiastic support for the museum and volunteer communities, according to a release from the Florida Museum.

"In her 19 years of serving as docent, Ogle has volunteered more than 2,100 hours. She leads school tours, mentors new docents, participates in school outreach programs and serves as an interpreter in the "Butterfly Rainforest." She continues teaching through writing and has written several educational children's books. She is also secretary of the Writers Alliance of Gainesville and blogs about natural history." Thank you for your service, Bonnie!



WAG Brags

Some of AMERICA TRAVERSED



Poetry

MICHAEL LEE CORREIA

Congratulations to WAG member, **Michael Lee Correia**, whose full-length book of poetry, *Portrait of A County-Florida City, New Century*, is now being published by Cawing Crow Press, Editor, Craig Grossman, Dunlo, PA. The book will be printed and sold, as a paperback edition, sometime in 2018. He currently teaches Creative Writing at Santa Fe College, N. Campus, Gainesville, FL. He now has another full-length “epic” book of poetry about American History, on Amazon.com., *Some of America Traversed*. (https://www.amazon.com/Some-America-Traversed-Michael-Correia-ebook/dp/B005LVICOE/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1506803170&sr=8-1&keywords=some+of+america+traversed)



Sharon Buck is helping writers (and others) relate to each other – As she explains:

Our mission is to change the world with kindness one card at a time.

Did you know it takes less than the blink of your eye to make a decision to be kind to someone? Whether it's a smile at a stranger, holding open the door for someone, letting someone else go ahead of you in a checkout, there are many ways to be kind to someone.

As writers, we are often introverts and Be Kind Cards are a great way to encourage someone else without being pushy or right up in someone's face.

If you'd like to purchase some Be Kind cards, check out her website here: www.BeKindCards.com



WAG Brags



The **Writers Alliance of Gainesville (WAG)** will participate in the two-day **Thornebrook Village Art festival**, Saturday and Sunday, October 21 and 22, 2017. WAG members will dispense WAG literature and talk with festival goers about our organization and sell books by fellow authors.

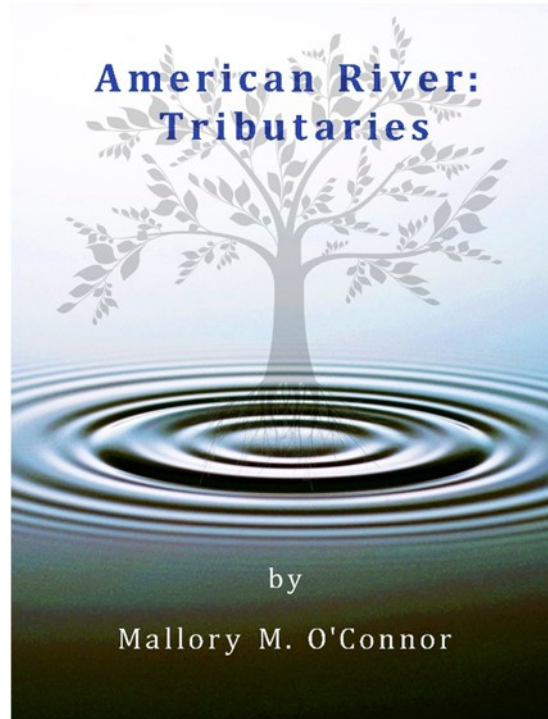
If you'd like to sell your books at the Thornebrook Art Festival, please check out our Website for instructions: <https://writersalliance.org/event/wag-authors-will-sell-books-thornebrooks-33rd-annual-art-festival/> And if you can, please come out and support your local authors!



I hate it when people
don't know the
difference between
"your" and "you're".

There so stupid.

WAG Brags



The Marketing Coalition is a group of WAG members who meet monthly to discuss and share successful marketing ideas and strategies for their books.

Marketing Coalition – Website Program October 7, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Cone Park Library Branch
2801 E. University Ave.

Mallory O'Connor will speak on Web Sites.

[Mallory O'Connor](#) will discuss websites at the October 7 meeting of the Marketing Coalition. This meeting will be held at the Cone Park library.

The Marketing Coalition is a group of WAG members who meet monthly to discuss and share successful marketing ideas and strategies for their books. If you are interested in joining the Marketing Coalition, contact Pod Coordinator [Skipper Hammond](#).



Celebrate Stetson Kennedy's Life

October 4, 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM



The Civic Media Center is honoring the life of Stetson Kennedy, famous Florida folklorist, human rights organizer, and environmentalist, on Wednesday, October 4, the day before he would have turned 101. Join the celebration, which will feature a birthday cake, and other refreshments provided by the Writers Alliance of Gainesville.

The evening's program, "[Living a Life of Purpose](#)," covers 80 years of Kennedy's activism, from organizing against anti-Semitism as a 14-year-old to marching with the Coalition of Immokalee Workers in their fight for higher

wages as a 94-year old. Between those years, Stetson infiltrated the KKK, and he engaged in other organizing and journalistic endeavors in support of the Black Freedom Movement, a series of protests that began with the Montgomery bus boycott of 1955-56. He wrote and published seven books and innumerable articles. He cultivated friendships with Woody Guthrie, Studs Terkel, Jean Paul Sartre, and countless others.

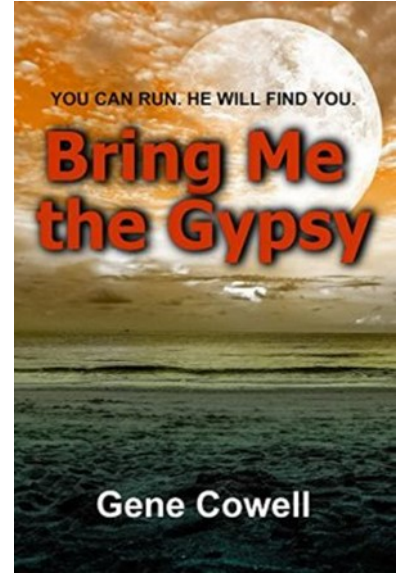
Musical entertainment for the evening will be provided by Kennedy's long-time friend, singer-songwriter, and co-founder of the University of Florida Arts in Medicine program, Cathy DeWitt.

Parking is available along SE 5th Ave., across the street on S.Main St, or up at the Courthouse. The event is free. Donations are appreciated.



Stetson infiltrated
the KKK, and he
engaged in other
organizing and
journalistic
endeavors

WAG Brags



The Alachua County Library Local Author series will continue in October 2017 with WAG member **Gene Cowell**. On Sunday, October 22, Gene will discuss the evolution of popular crime fiction from its Nineteenth-Century roots through classic British “cozy” mysteries of the early Twentieth-Century, and the enduring *noir* novels of famous American authors from Raymond Chandler and James M. Cain to Elmore Leonard and Dennis Lehane.

He will also read from his second recently-published novel, [Bring Me the Gypsy](#), inspired by true events; it follows American Gypsy Dix Arcos as he struggles to escape the lethal wrath of his gangster boss.

An Alachua resident, Cowell will touch on lessons learned over a 45-year career as an advertising copywriter, ad agency owner and subscription newsletter publisher that he claims helped him in his fiction writing. He will pay homage to Elmore Leonard’s immortal “Ten Rules for Good Writing,” including the one rule he broke.

The program will be held in Meeting Room A, Fourth Floor of the Headquarters Library, 401 E. University Ave., Gainesville FL.

The [Local Author Series](#) features a new author each month.



Continued Next Page

WAG Brags

Next up in the Local Author Series: Our Webmaster, **Susie Baxter** reads from her newest book, *Pumping Sunshine*, as part of the Local Author Series at Library Headquarters Sunday November 19, 2017 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Susie's book, about growing up in Florida pre-air-conditioning, is a funny, sweet, read. Please join us and encourage the library to continue supporting local authors.



Richard Gartee will present *Finding The Grail After Camelot Has Fallen* at Library Headquarters Sunday October 15, 2017 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. in the Foundation Room. The program will discuss Lancelot's quest for the Holy Grail in context of Sir Thomas Mallo-ry's *Le Morte D'Arthur*, and will feature slides of sites related to King Arthur photographed during Richard's research trip to Britain.



Wendy Thornton has had a number of new works accepted for publication recently: [She had two poems published in the All for One issue \(#18\) of The Wild Word online journal. Never Underestimate the Ring of Fire, and Fire Tower, <http://thewildword.com/poetry-wendy-thornton/>](#)

Her essay, *Physics as a Cure for Grief*, was accepted for Publication in the *Concho River Review*, Department of English and Modern Languages at Angelo State University, for November, 2017.

And another essay, *Rambling Man*, will be published in the upcoming issue of *BioStories*, in October, 2017 <http://biostories.com/>



Retreats, Conferences, and Week-Long Workshops: Which One is Right for You?

Written by Caitlin Jans | July 24, 2017

For a long time I wrote in the solitude of my room, alone and without a community. Slowly over time I started to branch out. I attended classes, workshops, and then retreats and conferences. I also earned a Masters of Fine Arts. I think it is fair to say I have experienced a lot of the variety the writing community at large has to offer. All of these options have their advantages and their disadvantages.

One of the things that I want to mention before delving into the details, is that while the most important factor in publication is the quality of your work and the fit with a publisher, connections are also a factor. Knowing fellow writers, publishers, editors, agents, etc., can make a big difference in your publishing options. Every single retreat, conference, and workshop I have attended in the past has ultimately led to one kind of publication or another.

This article focuses on breaking down the different aspects of Retreats, Conferences and Week-long Workshops with a focus on what they really give you if you attend. I will focus on the pros, the cons, and also the affordability. Just know that all three can really benefit your career as a writer in surprising ways.

Writing Retreats/Short Term Residencies

Writing Retreats are a wonderful opportunity to write, often in a beautiful natural setting, but there are other options as well. Some places are full time artist retreats, dedicated just to writers and artists. There are famous writer retreats like Yaddo and Hedgebrook, and less established ones like The Mineral School. National parks, famous artist homes, and other places often have retreat opportunities. There are a lot of variables involved here but most retreats cover your meals so that you can focus mostly on writing.

Often at the retreats there will be a group of writers and artists there at the same time, so there are opportunities to build community, but you can also focus on solitude and your writing if you choose to do so. Retreats at places other than retreat centers tend to be more focused on having one writer and artist at a time. Retreats can be as short as a week or as long as a year. Most are between two weeks and one month in length. You can always just try to arrange your own writing retreat if you find a cheap place to stay.

Pros:

Writer's retreats often have an application fee, but most are free once you get in. Some have an additional cost attached, but most are subsidized in one way or another. The retreat experience can be inspiring and can give you lots of time to write and think. If you are at a more established center it can also really help you build your community and network with other writers.

Continued Next Page

Retreats, Conferences. . . (Con't)

Cons:

It can be expensive to apply to some of the retreats. It can also be time consuming. It can be tricky to find the right one for you; many have geographical, economical, or other criteria that you have to match. Depending on the retreat you apply for it can be very competitive to get in.

Conferences

There are so many conferences. Some are huge events such as the AWP conference. Others are much smaller. If you have never attended a conference for writers before, I encourage you to research local options first. Even if they don't seem like the perfect fit they are a good way to get your foot in the door. Also at small conferences it can be a lot easier to meet people, and the experience itself can be less exhausting.

Librarians tend to know about local conferences, but Googling the name of your town plus the words "authors conference" can also work. If your town is particularly small, try doing this with name of a nearby city or the name of the county. If you are a specific kind of writer, such as a children's book author or a Christian author, there are conferences that focus on those things.

I have attended local conferences and traveled for large conferences and have found both worthwhile. At conferences there are panels, presentations, and sometimes other opportunities (such as agent meetings) that can be very educational and engaging. You can learn about writing and publishing from conferences, although I never do any writing at conferences outside of personal notes; too much is going on for that.

Pros:

Timely information about how publishing really works. Lots of opportunities to meet other writers as well as publishers and agents. A great place to learn ways to improve your writing and increase your chances of being published.

Cons:

The experience itself can be exhausting. Conferences can also be expensive, particularly if you have to travel there. Although many have early bird discounts and/or volunteer opportunities.

Retreats, Conferences. . . (Con't)

Week-long Workshop

A week-long workshop is usually taught by a famous author. But when you sign up for that workshop you don't just work with the author, you get lectures by the other writers who are teaching there, visiting lectures, and other things, usually including an evening reading series, and sometimes meetings with agents and editors. It is good to do lots of research to find the right one for you. Many colleges host them, such as Sarah Lawrence, and some literary journals have them as well. Tin House has one of the more established ones.

You often get to know fellow students and instructors rather well. Sometimes time to write is built in. Sometimes it is not.

Pros:

All the benefits you usually get from a workshop, which include peer feedback and instructor feedback. Plus, you often get timely writing and publishing advice and meet great people.

Cons:

You generally have to travel to attend these workshops. The experience can also be very expensive, although there are sometimes scholarships available.

Bio:

Caitlin Jans is a poet, a novelist, and the editor of *Authors Publish Magazine*. Her writing can be found in *The Conium Review*, *The Moth*, *Labletter*, *Literary Mama*, and elsewhere. You can follow her on Facebook.

You can sign up for *Authors Publish Magazine* here: <https://www.authorspublish.com/>

Contests

[Kore Press](#) – Publishing women since 1993

Memoir Award Guidelines –

<http://korepress.wpengine.com/memoir-award-guidelines/>

The winner will receive a prize of \$1000 and publication by Kore Press for a full-length memoir, or memoir-in-essays. Submission process includes a \$27.50 reading and processing fee. **Contest deadline has been extended to 11:59 pm (MST) October 31st, 2017.**

This competition is an annual award from Kore Press and will be open each year to a woman writer writing in English. Relatives and recent students (who have studied with the judge for one semester or more within the year) of the judge are not eligible.

Comment box should include:

- Daytime and evening telephone numbers

Where you heard about the contest

Manuscripts must be:

- Submitted as an RTF, Word DOC or PDF.
- Anonymous (do not include your name anywhere on the manuscript). Do not include cover letter.
- A minimum of 80 pages and a maximum of 400 pages.
- Original memoir or memoir-in-essays written by applicant (translations are not eligible)
- Unpublished at the time of submission (if the memoir is accepted elsewhere during our deliberation process, please notify us immediately)
- Acknowledgments unnecessary.



Baltimore Review Winter Contest: Food

Deadline: November 30, 2017

The theme for *The Baltimore Review's* winter contest is "Food." We eat to survive. We eat for pleasure. We steal it. We crave it. We eat with strangers and with people we love. We eat alone. We dine in fancy restaurants and all-night diners. We have too much. We don't have enough. Submit your poems, short stories, and creative nonfiction to our Submittable Contest category. Three winners will be selected from among all entries. All submissions considered for publication. Prizes are \$500, \$200, and \$100. Entry fee is \$10. Deadline: November 30, 2017. For more information, visit our website: www.baltimorereview.org.



Contests

James Hearst Poetry Prize

Deadline: October 31, 2017

The 18th Annual James Hearst Poetry Prize is currently accepting entries. First Prize receives \$1,000 plus publication in *North American Review*. Deadline: October 31, 2017. This year's judge is Eduardo C. Corral. Enter online at northeramericanreview.org. For more information email: nar@uni.edu.



Reed Magazine

Gabriele Rico Challenge in Creative Nonfiction

Deadline: November 1, 2017

Entry Fee: \$15

Cash Prize: \$1,333

E-mail address: mail@reedmag.org

Website: <http://www.reedmag.org>

A prize of \$1,333 and publication in *Reed Magazine* is given annually for an essay. Using the online submission system, submit an essay of up to 5,000 words with a \$15 entry fee, which includes a copy of the prize issue, by November 1. All entries are considered for publication. Visit the website for complete guidelines.



Cutthroat Writing Awards

Deadline: October 20, 2017

Entry Fee: \$20

Cash Prize: \$1,300

E-mail address: cutthroatmag@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.cutthroatmag.com>

Three prizes of \$1,300 each and publication in *Cutthroat* are given annually for a group of poems, a short story, and an essay. Cornelius Eady will judge the Joy Harjo Poetry Award; Lidia Yuknavitch will judge the Rick DeMarinis Short Fiction Award; and Brenda Peterson will judge the Barry Lopez Creative Nonfiction Award. Submit three poems of up to 100 lines each or a short story or essay of up to 5,000 words with a \$20 entry fee by October 20. Visit the website for complete guidelines.

Cutthroat, Writing Awards, P.O. Box 2414, Durango, CO 81302. (970) 903-7914. Pamela Uschuk, Editor in Chief.



Calls for Submission

SOUTH 85
an online literary journal

We Want to See Your Work!

South 85 Journal is currently accepting poetry, fiction, non-fiction, and visual art submissions through **November 1, 2016** for our Fall / Winter 2017 issue, which will come out December 15.

For more information, check out our [submission guidelines](#). Or visit our [Submittable page](#) to submit now!

<http://south85journal.com/submission-guidelines/>



PRAIRIE SCHOONER

One of the best literary magazines in the world
(says the editor of the WAG Digest).

As of September 1, **we're currently open** to general submissions of poetry, short fiction, and creative essays. As always, our submissions remain fee-free. Please consider supporting us by ordering a copy or subscription when you submit! We'll continue reading until May 1, 2018.

Prairie Schooner's intention is to publish the best writing available, both from beginning and established writers. We publish short stories, poems, interviews, imaginative essays of general interest, and reviews of current books of poetry and fiction. Scholarly articles requiring footnote references should be submitted to journals of literary scholarship. We do **not** read simultaneous submissions, except in the case of contest submissions, and submissions must be received between September 1 and May 1. We do not consider work that has been previously published anywhere, including online publications. We read as quickly as we can, but please allow 3-4 months for a reply. (We know, we're a little behind, and we're grateful for your patience!)

In principle, *Prairie Schooner* has no objections to the use of pseudonyms, but we require disclosure of their use to the editor before publication.

We encourage you to read *Prairie Schooner* before you submit. Sample copies are available below for just \$6.00, or order in our [store](#). There's never a fee to submit to our general reading period, and we're grateful for the support we receive through donations and orders.

<https://prairieschooner.submittable.com/submit>

Calls for Submission

Fourth Genre Call for Submissions Open Reading Period

Deadline: November 30, 2017

Fourth Genre: Explorations in Nonfiction is now accepting submissions for the open reading period. Go to fourthgenre.submittable.com between August 30 and November 30. Detailed submission guidelines available at fourth-genre.msu.edu.



Short Shorts

Deadline: November 15, 2017

Spider (for ages 6-9) is looking for short fiction and nonfiction for the theme Short Shorts. We want short pieces of 200 to 500 words on any topic, in any format, and in any tone. We're looking for silly, funny, and wacky stories, serious, earnest, and sweet stories, and stories in non-traditional formats like a letter from kids or animals, a funny "How To" guide, or a silly quiz for kids to take. Works by and about people of color, LGBTQAI+ people, and other marginalized peoples are especially welcome. cricketmag.submittable.com/submit/17817/spider-magazine-for-ages-6-9



The Chaos

Seeking Nonfiction about Work

Extended Deadline: October 10, 2017

The Chaos is seeking narrative personal essays about "Work" for our fall issue. Send us writing about your first day at a job, quitting a job, getting fired, a unique job, working with a challenging boss, job hunting, attempts at work/life balance, work romance, hard work, work politics, competition at work, etcetera. 1,500-7,500 words. www.thechaos.life



Literally billions of
people use social
media sites these
days



GRANT SNIDER

Conferences, Classes and Training Programs



A nonprofit independent publisher based in Orlando, FL

Getting ready to do your first reading? Check out Burrow Press, an Orlando organization, that has posted readings by various authors. <http://burrowpress.com/category/functionally-literate-reading-series/> Lots of local authors reading their works, including fiction, memoir and poetry. Binge watch to get ready for your own event!



Florida Writers Association

Writers Helping Writers

"What A Character"

October 19 – 22 in Altamonte Springs, Florida –

<https://floridawriters.net/conferences/florida-writers-conference-2017/>

Whether you're just getting started, or midway through a 400-page opus, or have published multiple books, the Florida Writers Conference is the one writers conference for you.

This year there are even more reasons why you should attend, ranging from the lineup of agents and editors from leading literary agencies and publishing houses, to our National Guest of Honor David Morrell, and Steve Berry, the Florida Writer of the Year.

Continued Next Page

Conferences, Classes and Training Programs

1. Pitch to literary agents from noted agencies like Folio Literary Management and Trident Media Group
2. Pitch to acquisition editors from St. Martins Press, Harlequin Romance, Tor Books, and more
3. Meet David Morrell, the National Guest of Honor and Celebrity Workshop presenter
4. Meet Florida Writer of the Year Steve Berry, keynoter and faculty member
5. More than 70 workshops and panels
6. Read your first page to agents and editors and get critiqued
7. All conference meals included in registration fee
8. Sell your book at the conference bookstore and hold a book signing
9. Celebrate the winners (and maybe you're one of them) at the RPLA Banquet

One-on-one meetings with conference faculty



Lake Yale Conference Center,
Leesburg, FL

February 21 - 25, 2018

**If you have a book inside of you,
if you have the dream to publish
that book,** and you don't know

where to begin, come be encouraged
and trained at the Florida Christian
Writers Conference February 21-25.

<http://www.floridacwc.net/>





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](mailto:wagmail@cox.net)

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.

