

WAG Digest

Inside this issue:

Events	1
W Brags	3
What to say to Bad	10
Writing	
Free Your Mind	12
Calls for Sub-	14
Contests	19
BOOK FEST	20

WAG Meeting (online)

2020 Bacopa Readings

Join in to hear WAG's Lit Review Readings

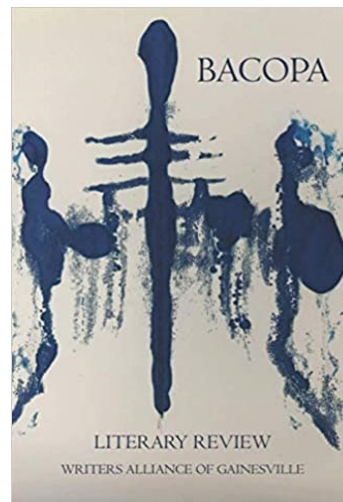
Oct. 4, 2020— 2, 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm

Join us for the next Zoom meeting on Sunday, Oct. 4th to find out how to get your Bacopa Literary Journal and hear authors read.

Come hear readings from *Bacopa Literary Review 2020*, the print journal published by the Writers Alliance of Gainesville.

Poetry Editor and host J. N. Fishhawk will introduce Senior Editor Mary Bast who will read her Letter From the Editor. Then, authors with Gainesville connections will read from and talk about their contributions to the 2020 journal.

Pages will be read in the order shown here. If you'd like to follow along with the readers, check out this website:



<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VK1ReIFv7FyviqotUGEl6y7toVOOeH8Z/view>

Starting off will be our editor:

Mary Bast: "Letter from the Editor"

- Brent Crosson: "No Sanctuary (Seminole Canyon, Texas)"
- Jennifer Grant: "Off-Kilter Haibun On May 14, 2020"
- Lisa Patterson: "Speeding"
- Renee Agatep: "The Dead of Winter"
- Justin Blair: "Excerpts from the Classified Ads Section of Esoteric Creatures Monthly"

Bacopa Readings (cont.)

- Jenna Nishida: "(Poem on the 8th anniversary of his stillbirth.)"
- David Maas: "Getting Ready for Bed"

For Zoom Information, please see the WAG Website at www.writersalliance.org

NOTE TO WAG MEMBERS: You may pick up your free copy of *Bacopa* on Sunday, Oct. 11, from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. in the parking lot of the Millhopper Library. Look for a white Outback Subaru SUV with the back open, parked near NW 43rd Street. Copies may also be purchased for \$10, but change will not be available.

W*R*I*T*E

JOURNALIST NATHAN CRABBE SPEAKS



And join us November 8, 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM by Zoom when we hear from Nathan Crabbe, the opinion and engagement editor for the *Gainesville Sun* on **Opinion Writing and the Future of Journalism.**

Crabbe will give us an inside look at the submission process—what works and what doesn't—and share his thoughts on the state of print newspapers. He'll discuss what the "opinion and engagement editor" actually does, the number of submissions the *Sun* typically receives, how he selects what to print, and how he deals with complaints about his editorial decisions, among other issues.

WAG Brags



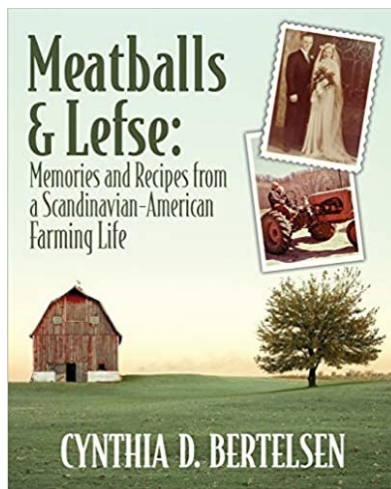
Thanks to 100,000 Poets for Change for a great evening of poetry. WAG Member **Wendy Thornton** contributed 3 new poems to the event, which focused on trying to find the positive in the midst of a pandemic. If you'd like to read the poetry from North Florida poets, check out this site:

<https://www.100tpcmedia.org/100TPC2012/2020/08/ruth-van-alstine-north-florida-poetry-hub-100tpc-zoom-2020/>

Or, if you prefer to listen to the poets read their work, try this site:

<https://archive.org/details/100-kp-4a-c-9-9-2020>

*W*R*I*T*E*



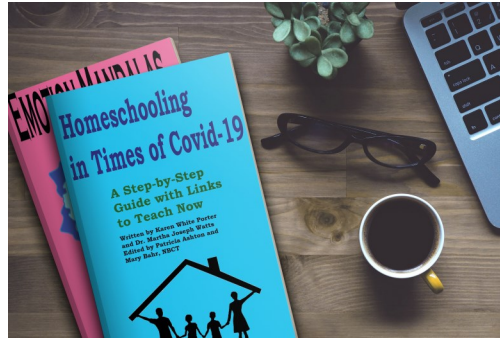
When Cynthia D. Bertelsen married Mike Bertelsen, she had a lot to learn from her Norwegian-American mother-in-law Ethel, both about farming and life in general.

Ethel came from a family of Norwegian immigrants who settled in western Wisconsin in the 1850s and farmed for decades. With her Danish husband Knute, Ethel raised six children on a small family farm amid the challenges of the twentieth century: the Great Depression, World War II, the Cold War, polio epidemics, the social upheavals of the 1960s, and the fluctuating economic fortunes of dairy farming. The day-in-day-out routine of milking, tending to livestock, preparing immense meals for threshing crews, and dealing with poor harvests meant a lot of hard work and often heartbreak.

Through recipes, anecdotes, photographs, and historical musings, *Meatballs & Lefse* tells the story of the relationship between a young bride and her mother-in-law, each coming from different worlds, yet united by love of family, the kitchen, the land, and each other. *Meatballs & Lefse* also shines a light on Scandinavian-American immigrant culture and cuisine.

Award-winning author Bertelsen lives in Gainesville, Florida where she writes, cooks, and all ice stays in the freezer. She is the author of numerous articles, book reviews, and four other books in addition to *Meatballs & Lefse*: *Mushroom: A Global History* (2013), *A Hastiness of Cooks: A Handbook for Deciphering Historic Recipes and Cookbooks* (2019), *In the Shadow of Ravens: A Novel* (2019), and *Wisdom Soaked in Palm Oil: Journeying Through the Food and Flavors of Africa* (2020). *A Hastiness of Cooks* won the international Gourmand World Cookbooks Awards in 2020 for the Best in Culinary History category for both the U.S. and the world.

WAG Brags



Thanks to WAG Member Karen Porter for the timely book,

Homeschooling in Times of COVID-19. Per Karen, the book will cover the following:

Parents who do not feel safe putting children in local schools during times of uncertainty will choose to homeschool. They may not ordinarily choose to homeschool, but they are being forced to because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Whether it is because of health or safety reasons or for quality concerns, they should be given the needed information to choose options for their child's education. With my advice, parents have been able to keep up with the State Standards, and maintain a home education that enables them to return to the public school when they feel confident that it will be in their best interests to do so.

The response by government and school boards to the 2020 pandemic has been a hodgepodge of policies that are confusing and even dangerous in some instances and have many parents genuinely concerned. For this reason, I have prepared a step by step process to homeschool until you feel safe to return. In the meantime, remember there is so much the public-school system has to offer families. We should honor the efforts school boards, teachers, and principals are taking at this time to help children in these difficult times. They are true heroes.

WAG Brags

As part of the Institute For Learning in Retirement at Oak Hammock, a number of WAG Authors have been invited to participate and share their books. Here's the upcoming lineup.

ILR FALL SEMESTER 2020 COURSE AND PRESENTERS

IN OUR OWN BACKYARD – ACCLAIMED LOCAL AUTHORS

Facilitator – Ellen A. Efros / Course --Thursdays at 1:30 pm

1. Mallory M. O'Connor: For 250 years North Central Florida has been a home and inspiration for generations of writers. Mallory, a well-known author in her own right, has lived here for 51 years and will discuss the many regional authors and their works and the rich literary history of the area as well as her own well-received books which, in addition to the American River Trilogy, now includes the "Epiphany" series. Mallory has successfully transitioned between writing fiction and non-fiction. **October 1**
2. Susie Baxter: Calling all memoir writers, Susie will discuss the importance of life experience, especially in writing memoirs. She will share how she developed, wrote, and published 3 books, including *Pumping Sunshine*, winner of the 2018 Royal Palm Literary Award. Susie is a fifth generation Floridian and began recording her memories of growing up on a tobacco farm near the winding Suwannee River. Each spring she teaches a memoir-writing course at Santa Fe College. **October 8**
3. Richard Gartee: Flappers are an iconic image of the Roaring Twenties, and new women in the twentieth century. Richard has written two books on Flappers and the Roaring Twenties and their enduring symbols as a reaction to the massive losses in World War I and the 1918 pandemic. Richard is an award-winning novelist who has authored, among other literary works, five novels. Both of his "Ragtime Dudes" series have won Royal Palm Literary Awards. **October 15**
4. Shelley Mickle: Shelley is a nationally recognized, critically acclaimed writer with her own page describing her many books on Amazon. She successfully made the transition to non-fiction writing and will discuss how and why she made the transition. Her new non-fiction book, *Borrowing Life*, has received excellent reviews and she now is working on a book about Teddy Roosevelt. She has been a resident of Gainesville for 40 years. *The Queen Of October* was a N.Y. Times Notable Book and a Library Journal top 10 book of 1989. Her second novel, *Replacing Dad*, won a Friends of American Writers Award and was made into a CBS/Hallmark Channel movie starring Mary McDonnell. **October 22.**

WAG Brags

ILR FALL SEMESTER 2020 COURSE AND PRESENTERS (cont.)

5. Lola Haskins: Lola is a national recognized and acclaimed local poet. Her presentation will focus on two of her thirteen books, published 20 years apart: *Forty-Four Ambitions for the Piano* and *Asylum, Improvisations on John Clare*. She will play some of Paul Richards's settings for soprano and piano of *Forty-Four Ambitions*. Lola Haskins has published thirteen books of poetry and three of prose. Her poetry has been broadcast on BBC and NPR, and has appeared in print in LRB, London Magazine, Stand, The Atlantic, The Christian Science Monitor, Rattle, and the Georgia Review. She has received many honors and awards and currently serves as Honorary Chancellor of the Florida State Poets Association. **October 29.**

6. Julie Robitaille: No reader who lives in this area cannot have heard of Julie's Cory Marin Series. The series features a strong female detective, with a complicated love life and a diverse group of friends who are her "family." Julie will describe her background as a writer and the inspiration for her current best-selling and well received mystery series. She will describe her writing and creation process, including how she comes up with ideas for novels, how she develops a plot, does research, organizes scenes, how she writes the first draft, solicits feedback, and revises a novel. Julie lives in Gainesville and works it into each of her Marin novels. She also writes short stories, screenplays, and is getting ready to launch a Young Adult dystopian series. **November 5.**

W*R*I*T*E

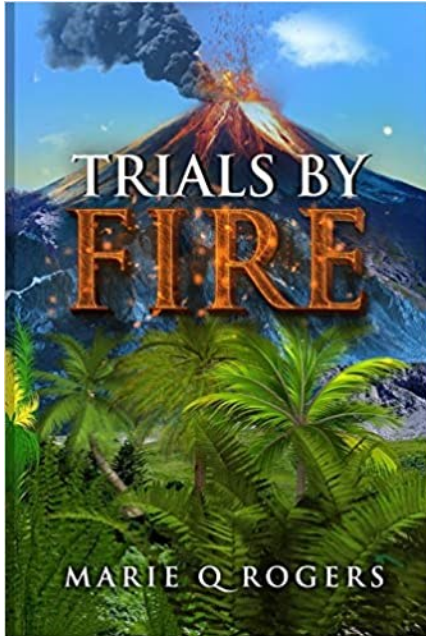
Congratulations to WAG member Ann-Marie Magné on her article in the local magazine, *Our Town*, about her excellent memoir *Almost Ticked Off*. Writing the story of her husband's battle with a strange illness, Ann-Marie describes the ordeal in a truly relatable way. As she explains, "To me, it was a story that had to be written, and I wanted to write it. I felt that, for a lot of reasons, people should hear it. They should know about the experience itself, be more aware of tick bites in general, the fact that he came so close to dying, and how he was saved needs to be told."



WAG Brags



Florida Writers Association
Writers Helping Writers



Congratulations to WAG President Pat Caren, writing under the name Marie Q. Rogers, for being a finalist in the Royal Palm Literary Awards by the Florida Writers Association. Marie's Fantasy Coming of Age novel, *Trials by Fire*, is available on Amazon (<https://www.amazon.com/Trials-Fire-Marie-Q-Rogers/dp/1734241314/>) where it is described by the following:

She was alive. She was safe. But where? And at what cost? Trapped in a house fire, Fern's only means of escape is by a paranormal gift she never knew existed. Transported instantly from all she knew—family, home, friends—to a distant world from which she's unable to return. There, her highly psychic rescuers lead a primitive lifestyle, hiding from an alien race that had once enslaved them. While dealing with homesickness and grief, Fern struggles with a new language, unusual customs, and unrequited love. Her efforts to fit in often fall short. Despite this, she becomes a contributing member of the community. In the end, it is her vigilance that saves the lives of her new people.

W*R*I*T*E

Congratulations to WAG Member **Joan H. Carter** for her publication of her editorial:

In Florida, we still live in the Old South

In the Gainesville Sun on August 24. You can read the editorial here:

<https://www.gainesville.com/story/opinion/2020/08/24/florida-we-still-live-old-south/3412255001/?fbclid=IwAR0lJUttlUcrp8yHdmUJflhukZ5Bq7guAPn6vv9pSoEISRAGWVRriRN0M84>

As Joan explains:

“The disruptions of our society in 2020 caused by COVID-19 and racial protests brought home to this white Yankee the connection between the Confederate flag and Florida's no-income-tax law embedded in the state's Constitution.”

WAG Brags

WAG Member Richard Gartee has had two of his poems published in the prestigious literary journal, *Ann Arbor Review*. You can read the poems at this site: https://annarborreview.net/aArborReview_XXIV/AARPg06.htm

As Richard explains: "Both poems feature dandelions -- kind of a summer theme. They were written specifically for the issue after I received a request for submission from the editor."

The first poem, "On a Shady Lane," imagines how the pandemic quarantine might puzzle children. It's concluding lines led me to think about dandelions in a more humorous way for the prose-poem "Purty Yellow Daisies."

Excellent poems, especially for those of us who grew up playing with dandelions!

*W*R*I*T*E*



Congratulations to Ronnie Lovler for the article in the *Gainesville Sun*, *Keeping Memories of the Rosewood Massacre Alive*. The article, published on August 27, covers the brutal murder of multiple people in 1923, and the attempts by historian Lizzie Jenkins to keep

those memories alive. As Ronnie explains, "Jenkins hadn't been born yet when the Rosewood massacre occurred, leaving at least eight people dead, six blacks and two whites. It began over allegations of a black man's sexual assault of a white woman."

Ronnie is a journalist, writer and former correspondent for CNN in Latin America. She is an adjunct professor at both the University of Florida and Santa Fe College and is on the boards of several local organizations including the Matheson History Museum and the Civic Media Center.

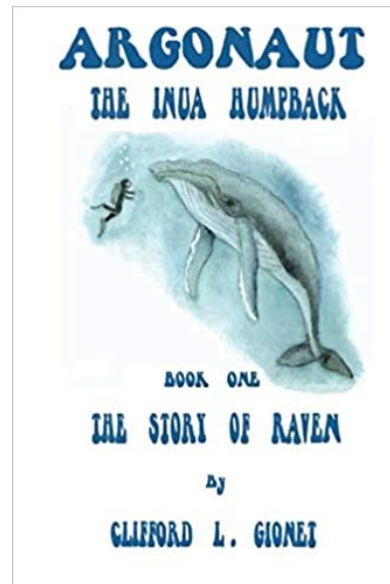
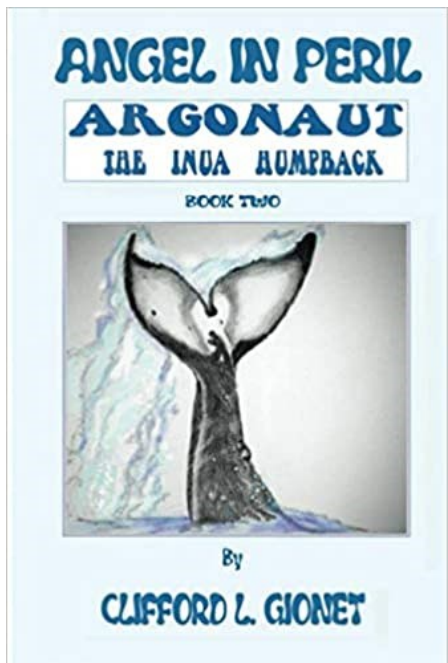
You can read her article here: <https://www.gainesville.com/story/opinion/2020/08/27/keeping-memories-rosewood-massacre-alive/3412610001/>

Wag Brags

Congratulations to WAG Member, Clifford L. Gioent, on the publication of his new novel ANGEL IN PERIL. As Cliff explains:

100% of all royalties from both the first and second book are being donated to the Marine Education Research Society (MERS) which is a non-profit on Vancouver Island dedicated to saving the marine life of the area.

Book One in the series, ARGONAUT details a lot of the biology of the various marine life in the Vancouver land marine sanctuary. Orca, humpbacks, Spirit Bears, eagles, raven and pacific white sided dolphins are all central to the story. Argonaut the Inua learns first to speak with his human friend Jason using a WET PC Underwater computer. As Argonaut matures his Inua skills develop and he can communicate telepathically with all creatures.



Is-

In Book 2, ANGEL in PERIL, Angel, Argonaut's mate, is kidnapped and she is taken from the marine sanctuary. It is up to Argonaut, his marine and human friends to save Angel. There is an illegal hunt of the Great Spirit Bear. Coronavirus hits the area and the wildlife under Argonaut's leadership help feed the humans.

Lots of adventure. A group of young first nation students from a group called Help Our Planet Exist (HOPE). Issues of global warming and pollution are central in both books and Project Hope is a major theme.

These books are a result of my wife and I traveling 3 times to the Vancouver Island area. Argonaut the Inua Humpback is named after my late son Jason. The whale was renamed by a marine biologist who volunteers with

MERS after she heard the story of Jason's death. The Greek legend of Jason and the Argonauts is the genesis of the name given to the whale. My primary target audience was young adult readers but it seems as if these books appeal to readers of all ages.

Argonaut The Inua Humpback is available here: <https://www.amazon.com/Argonaut-Inua-Humpback-STORY-RAVEN/dp/1734738715/>

Angel in Peril is available here: <https://www.amazon.com/Angel-Peril-Argonaut-Inua-Humpback/dp/173473874X/>

What to Say to Bad Writing

Authors Publish

by Janice R. Torres

From *Authors Publish*,
(<https://www.authorspublish.com/what-to-say-to-bad-writing/>)

I was recently asked by a good friend of mine to take a look at their writing and let them know what I thought. I had never read any of their work before, having met them through a freelancer's meet and greet, but I wanted to be supportive. So, I agreed to read through a few pages.

As I began reading, I felt my heart sink lower and lower into my stomach. It was terrible. I was left with a conundrum: how do you tell the person their work isn't good without coming off as a jerk? And how do you create a balance between being honest and being kind?

Every writer experiences this event at least once in their writing career. If it hasn't yet, it will.

And it can be a struggle.

Luckily, there are ways to ensure you're not only giving them the critique they need, but that you are also learning how to be a good sounding board for the future.

Allow Yourself to Feel Your Feelings.

Don't feel guilty about not enjoying what you're reading.

It is perfectly okay to read something and think it's terrible. Feeling that initial gut reaction to what you're reading is crucial to working through the pitfalls of bad writing. It informs you of your ability to distinguish between what works and what doesn't.

What's *not* okay is telling the person who wrote it your first impression.

Expressing your initial reaction to the person doesn't allow you any headspace to see past the first read. And it doesn't give the writer any space to feel anything other than defensive.

Look for Opportunities, Not Mistakes.

Reread the writing. What made it bad for you? Was it the syntax? The topic? Structure? All the above?

By looking at the specifics of what made you react this way, you glean the information needed to give the proper feedback and not just tell the person it 'sucks'.

While working at a restaurant years ago, I had a manager who refused to tell people they made mistakes. 'They are not mistakes,' he would say, 'just opportunities to improve.' Shifting the mindset to being there to help *improve* the writing allows you to pinpoint and address specific things they can work on to get their writing to the next level.

Discuss the Positives *First*.

Think of all the times you've been critiqued or criticized right off the bat for something. Were you able to openly hear and be receptive to what they were saying? And being complimented on anything afterwards didn't really feel genuine, did it?

Find something positive, even if it's one phrase that seemed to spark an interest for you and say that first. Use words like 'try' and 'suggest'.

Examples: 'This sentence works great! How about trying it over here?' Or 'I get what you want to say here, but I suggest rephrasing it.'

Be Appreciative.

This person came to you for advice and critique. They value your opinion of their work. It is an honor that someone has placed their trust in you with something that can be so personal. Remember: you are not the end-all and be-all of writing. Not every article, blog, or short story will tickle your fancy.

And that's okay too.

If you keep that in mind, following these steps is easy.

Because not only have you given the person something constructive towards their writing life and experience, but you've learned to see your own writing in a new way. And it can develop some self-kindness towards your own writing journey.

Janice R. Torres is a full-time writer, storyteller, and former music maker. She has contributed to several online health & fitness publications and blogs, mainly focusing on ways to maintain a healthy mindset. When not working on freelance content, you can find her, red pen in hand, editing her first novel.

Continued Next Page

It is an
honor that
someone
has placed
their trust
in you.....

<https://writersrelief.com/2015/08/19/freewriting-tips/>

Posted on August 19, 2015 by [Writer's Relief Staff](#)



It happens to the best of us: writer's block. Whether your writing efforts are coming up empty or your thoughts are just too jumbled to make sense, [freewriting \(or stream-of-consciousness writing\)](#) is a great creative writing technique for generating new ideas or developing a vague idea into something concrete—like an essay, short story, or poem. Some authors even use freewriting to flesh out or organize their novels. Other writers simply enjoy the freedom of letting their thoughts flow, with the editorial/critical side of their brains turned off. Amazing things can result when you let your mind run free!

9 Freewriting Tips: How To Begin A Stream-Of-Consciousness Writing Session

1. Find a quiet spot with no distractions, and grab a pen and paper (or open a blank document).
2. Briefly clarify your goal. Are you searching for general inspiration or trying to work out a character's backstory?
3. If you're freewriting to hone your craft or refill your mental gas tank, try one of our writing prompts to get you started.
4. Set a timer for five to ten minutes—twenty or thirty if you're a more experienced writer.

Free Your Mind: Make the Most of Freewriting (cont.)

5. Now, turn off your brain. The key to freewriting is NOT to think too much. Set pen to paper and start writing whatever comes to mind. Let the words flow out of your head and onto the paper.
6. If you're completely drawing a blank, write whatever nonsense comes to mind—even "My brain is mush. My brain is mush."
7. Throw all grammar and punctuation rules out the window, and feel free to ignore conventional spelling. (Doesn't that feel great?) You can edit later when you're translating your freewriting into a finished, polished piece.
8. Keep the momentum going by *not* reading what you've written until the freewriting session is over. Again, the key is to not think too much.
9. A technique called "mapping" can be helpful if you're wrestling with a specific idea. Write your main idea in the middle of a page, with branches extending outward for words, phrases, or ideas associated with it. More branches can extend from each main branch for subtopics or related ideas.

How To Interpret And Use Your Own Freewriting

Once you're finished...what do you do with your freewriting? You may find nothing usable comes from one session; it may take several to produce anything worthwhile. Or you might find inspiration from just one word or phrase that leads to a longer piece, like a poem or even the beginnings of a book.

The key to effective freewriting is practice. Consider making it a part of your [prewriting ritual](#) every time you sit down to write. With freewriting, you can escape [your inner critic](#)—and free the writer within!

This article has been reprinted with the permission of [Writer's Relief](#), a highly recommended author's submission service. We assist writers with preparing their submissions and researching the best markets. We have a service for every budget, as well as a free e-publication for writers, [Submit Write Now!](#) Visit our site today to learn more. <https://writersrelief.com/>

Calls for Submission



Tribute to Neurodiversity

Ends on October 16, 2020

Our Spring 2021 issue will feature a tribute to neurodiversity. Neurodiversity is a concept that respects neurological differences as variations of the human brain and seeks to redefine these variations in a positive way, rather than stigmatizing them. ADHD, Dyslexia, Autistic Spectrum, and Tourette Syndrome fall under the umbrella of neurodiversity, to name a few. For the purpose of this issue, we encourage submissions from people with neurological differences who support, and/or identify with, the idea of neurodiversity. Poems may be written on any subject, in any style or length, but the poet must be a person with neurological differences. Our intention is to highlight a diverse and powerful community of writers that is often marginalized and mischaracterized.

Please submit up to four previously unpublished poems (or pages of short poems) at the same time, but **these must be sent as a single submission in ONE document file (preferred)**, or paste/type the poem(s) into the box provided on the next page. Do not include your name or contact information within the file. Do not submit more work in this category until we've replied.

If you have any questions, see our [full guidelines](http://www.rattle.com/submissions/guidelines/). (<http://www.rattle.com/submissions/guidelines/>)

We're also seeking cover art for this issue, and would like to use cover art by an artist who also identifies as neurodiverse. Use our [art category](#) to submit art.

Calls for Submission

Bella Books: Accepting Submissions

<https://www.bellabooks.com/>

Written by Emily Harstone

Bella Books is a press focused on publishing stories about women-loving-women, and they are interested in acquiring manuscripts that involve these stories across all genres, including romance, mystery, thriller, paranormal, etc.

They are based in Tallahassee, Florida. They have around 300 books in print, and publish between 24-30 new books a year. More than a hundred of their titles have won Lambda Literary Awards or Golden Crown Literary Society awards.

They focus on publishing books that reflect and celebrate the diversity of the lesbian, queer, bisexual, and gender non-conforming community.

It is easy to get a feeling for what they publish by viewing their [catalogue here](https://www.bellabooks.com/books-ebooks/) (<https://www.bellabooks.com/books-ebooks/>)

They have detailed submission guidelines that are available here — <https://www.bellabooks.com/submission-guidelines/> Please be careful to follow all of their requirements while submitting. They ask for a synopsis, a cover letter, and your full manuscript.

W*R*I*T*E

Rattle Young Poets Anthology

There's not a bad poet in first grade. None of them are anything but fresh and original ... they don't know how to avoid being original. —Sharon Olds, from [Rattle #17](#)

Poetry is never more fun than when you're young, and young poets should be encouraged as much as possible. Way back in 1998, *Rattle* published [an issue featuring poems written by children](#). Unfortunately it is now out of print. Starting in 2013, we've extended that idea, and began publishing an annual anthology of young poets. The books are available in print, and all of the poems appear as daily content on this website on Saturdays throughout the year. Every poet contributing receives two free print copies.



Anthologies from previous years are available for sale, and a new chapbook-length anthology will release along with every Summer issue in June.

<https://www.rattle.com/children/guidelines/>

Calls for Submission



We're pleased to announce that submissions are now OPEN for our Fall/Winter 2020 issue. Submissions will close on November 15, 2020 at 12AM EST. We are looking for fiction, essays, poetry, and art: work that astounds us and makes us pause.

During this submissions period, we are offering everyone who sends us work a free digital subscription to *Epiphany*. If you submit work to us, the code for a free digital subscription will be included in our initial response letter.

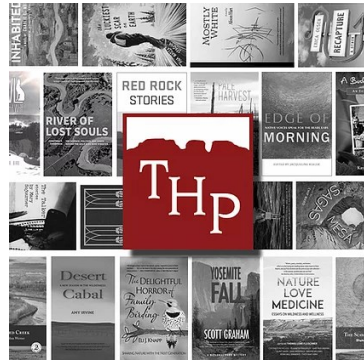
We hope that when you read *Epiphany*, you'll get a sense of the great variety of stories, poems, essays, and genre-bending work that we like, and the recurring themes to which we keep returning. We hope that you'll enjoy and connect with the work of your fellow writers, and that you'll feel you're a valued part of our community, rather than just another lonely writer sending your beloved work out into some unsympathetic void. We hope you'll see what makes us different. We hope you'll feel you have a stake in our endeavor.

Deadline: November 15

W*R*I*T*E

ANTHOLOGY OF WRITING on domestic verbal, emotional, and physical abuse. We are seeking work by survivors of domestic abuse. Creative nonfiction, memoir, flash nonfiction. Please note that at this time we are not accepting poetry. Deadline: October 15. The book will be published by McFarland & Company; contributors will receive a complimentary copy. Please send your submission in Word, with a brief cover letter and 50-word bio to Judith Skillman, jskillman54@gmail.com, and Linera Lucas, lineralucas@alumni.reed.edu. This text is dedicated to all those who dared to break the silence.

Calls for Submission



DOES YOUR WRITING ENGAGE DEEPLY WITH PLACE? Nonprofit Torrey House Press seeks book-length literary fiction and nonfiction by new and diverse voices that inform, expand, and reshape the dialogue on environmental justice and stewardship for the human and more-than-human world. Full submission guidelines at torreyhouse.org/submissions

W*R*I*T*E

FOR POETRY/PROSE ANTHOLOGY, *A 21st Century Plague: Poetry and Prose of a Pandemic*, writer/editor seeks submissions. 36 lines of poetry, counting spaces. Short prose: 1,000 words max, double spaced. Include all contact information. Deadline: November 30. Please submit via e-mail with work embedded. E-mail: elcift@vermontel.net.

W*R*I*T*E



JADED IBIS PRESS CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS: the Black Voices Prose series, the Black Voices Poetry series, and the Latinx Voices series. See submission guidelines for manuscripts as well as guidelines for the submission of short pieces to *Scarlet*, a literary blog, which pays \$80 for selected work. Website: <https://jadedibispress.com/contact>.

Calls for Submission

2018 NOMINEE: ONE OF THE TOP 10 LITERARY BLOGS ON THE WEB. *The RavensPerch Literary Magazine* seeks submissions of well-groomed poetry, fiction, nonfiction, and visual art. For submission guidelines, visit us at theravensperch.com.

W*R*I*T*E

AJI MAGAZINE is calling for poetry, short fiction, literary nonfiction, reviews, photography, and graphic art from emerging and established writers and artists. Submissions open on May 1 and November 1 and close once the upcoming issue is filled. Back issues are available at www.ajimagazine.com; e-mail queries can be sent to ajimagazine@gmail.com.

W*R*I*T*E

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS. *Creosote*: a journal of poetry and prose. Please submit hard copies of 3–5 poems, or prose up to 5,000 words. Submission deadline: March 1, 2021. Simultaneous submissions OK with notice. Mail to: **Creosote, Ken Raines, Editor, Eastern Arizona College, 615 N. Stadium Ave., Thatcher, AZ 85552.**

W*R*I*T*E

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS TO *SPANK the CARP*. We're looking for flash fiction, short stories, CNF, and poetry, including shape poetry. If your work is thought-provoking, sophisticated, yet not pretentious or obscure, we're interested. For submission guidelines and more information, visit www.spankthecarp.com.

W*R*I*T*E

CHANGES IN LIFE monthly online newsletter is seeking personal essays from women of all ages. New writers are encouraged to submit their work. For further details and submission guidelines, please visit the website at: www.changesinlife.com.

Contests

https://www.driftwoodpress.net/contests?utm_campaign=25041ecd-ad25-47cd-a88e-4d47a84a4784&utm_source=so&utm_medium=mail&cid=482c4263-cabd-473d-a7a0-3b281ed0bc46

Driftwood Press

Last up, our In-House Contests are both now live!

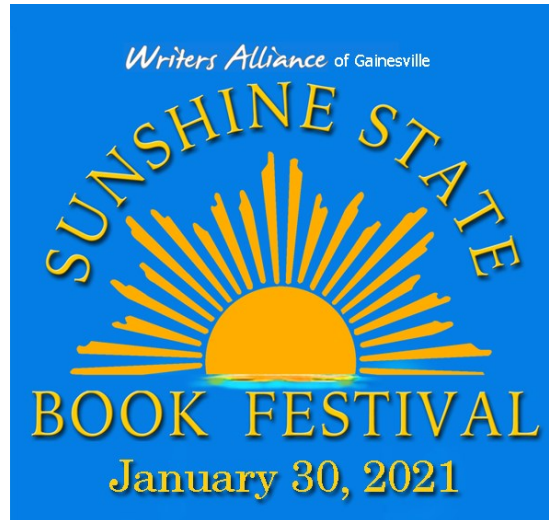
For poetry, we've got the [In-House Poem Contest](#), which features an award of \$400, publication, contributor copies, and a featured interview. Think contests are too competitive? Think again. Our contests consider *every submission* for publication. Those selected who don't win the grand prize will be called runner-ups, and they'll receive \$50 per poem, publication, a contributor copy, and an interview!

For fictioneers out there, we've got a similar [In-House Short Story Contest](#), which also features an award of \$400, publication, contributor copies, and a featured interview. Every story in this contest, too, is considered for publication, with the runner-ups receiving \$100, publication, a contributor copy, and an interview!



BLUE LIGHT PRESS BOOK AWARD—Imagistic, inventive, honest poems that push the edge. Send 50- to 80-page manuscript, SASE, \$20 reading fee to **Blue Light Press, P.O. Box 150300, San Rafael, CA 94915** by January 30, 2021. For guidelines, e-mail bluelightpress@aol.com. Website: www.bluelightpress.com.

Contests, Classes, Festivals



Bringing Readers and Writers Together – Digitally

<http://www.sunshinestatebookfestival.com/>

Be sure to sign up to participate in the second annual Sunshine State Book Festival. Instructions are available on the home page listed above. ago, and today Gainesville is a leading center of literary culture and home to hundreds of writers, novelists, playwrights, and poets.

Last January, the 2020 Sunshine State Book Festival brought 75 authors and 3,000 readers together. To maintain the festival's momentum, while being mindful of everyone's safety, the **2021 Sunshine State Book Festival** will be an online digital event. The festival will open January 30, 2021, and remain accessible to visitors through June 30, 2021.

Popular aspects of our previous festival will continue. Prominent guest speakers intended to draw visitors will give featured talks—all free and open to the public. Festival visitors will be able to virtually “stroll” aisles of authors’ booths and “meet” the author via a video supplied by the author. Interested readers can browse books in a booth by clicking on a cover image, then using Amazon’s “Look inside” feature, they can see the back cover blurb and read a few pages. Afterwards, visitors will be exactly positioned to click the “Buy Now” button, garnering the author a sale.



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.

Something new on the horizon—Do you have a Comic or RPG you'd like to get published? Check out this YouTube video for a brand new opportunity: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yVt8eg_3j3M&t=55s

Comics & RPGs in Kindle

