

WAG Digest - Sept.-Oct. 2021

Volume 11 — Issue 5

WAG Meeting (via Zoom)

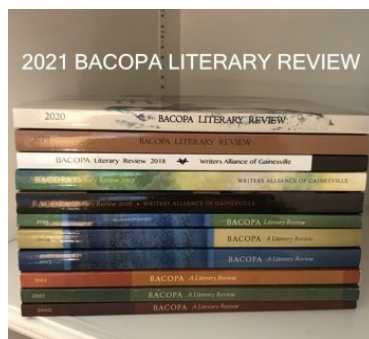
October 10, 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Events	1
WAG	5
BRAGS	
Posting on Social Media—Good Idea or Bad?	11
Calls for Submission	15
Contests	21

Bacopa Literary Review and
the Writers Alliance of
Gainesville Present:

The 2021 Bacopa
Readings: Poetry & Prose
by Prizewinners and Local
Authors



On Sunday, October 10th
from 2:30 to 4 p.m., live
online via a public Zoom
meeting.

Join us online for live readings of poetry, prose poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction featured in *Bacopa Literary Review*, the print journal published by the Writers Alliance of

Gainesville.

The first prize winners in each category of the journal's annual writing contest will join local authors in reading from and discussing their 2021 contributions. The event will be hosted by *Bacopa 2021* Poetry Editor J.N. Fishhawk. Featured readers will include Tomas Baiza, Gerald Ryan, Jennifer

Grant, Alec Kissoondyal, and Nicole Farmer. [The journal will sell for \\$10 and will be available on Amazon.](#)

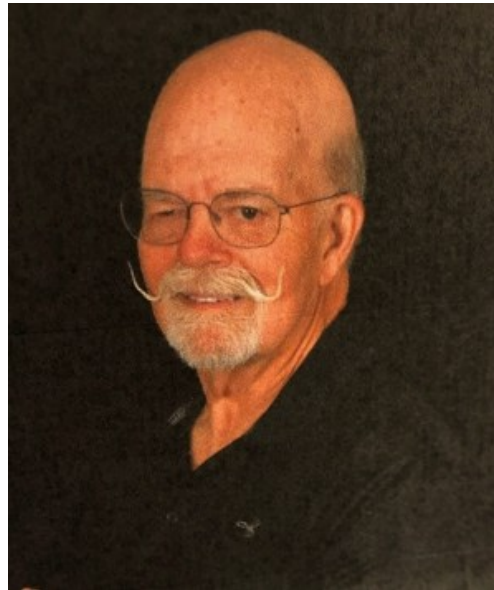
Meeting ID: 899 7313 1287
Password: 316819



Bacopa monnieri has been used by Ayurvedic medical practitioners for centuries for a variety of purposes, including improving memory, reducing anxiety, and treating epilepsy. In fact, research shows that it may boost brain function and alleviate anxiety and stress, among other benefits.

Upcoming WAG Meetings—Via Zoom

Dan Sharp: 12 Tips to Help You Beat the Public Speaking Jitters



November 14, 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM

Ever get the heebie-jeebies when you have to speak to a large group? Join us on November 14 at 2:30 p.m. when Dan Sharp, PhD, will share how you can conquer your fear of public speaking. Sharp will show you why and how fear is manageable. He will provide tips derived from four decades of speaking that make it easier to deal with the pre-talk jitters. One fact to remember is that nobody knows more about what you have to say, than you!

Sharp will discuss the fear mechanism, why and how we fear, because understanding fear is a key to managing it. He will give tips he has learned that helped him give scientific presentations over the years. Emeritus Professor of Physiology with the Department of Animal Sciences at the University of Florida, Sharp has learned how to be comfortable speaking to large audiences. He has studied the mechanisms of fear and shares these tips to help others who suffer minor anxieties or absolute fear.

Use this link:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89973131287?
pwd=UWc4WXRaaDI0OWVQWmgwbTBiNHdVQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89973131287?pwd=UWc4WXRaaDI0OWVQWmgwbTBiNHdVQT09)

MEETING ID: 899 7313 1287

PASSWORD: 316819

Reminder:
Upcoming
meetings will be
held on Zoom—
you can find the
login information
on the Writers
Alliance Web site.

www.writersalliance.org

We hope to be
able to have in-
person meetings
again soon, but in
the meantime,
please join us
digitally if you can.





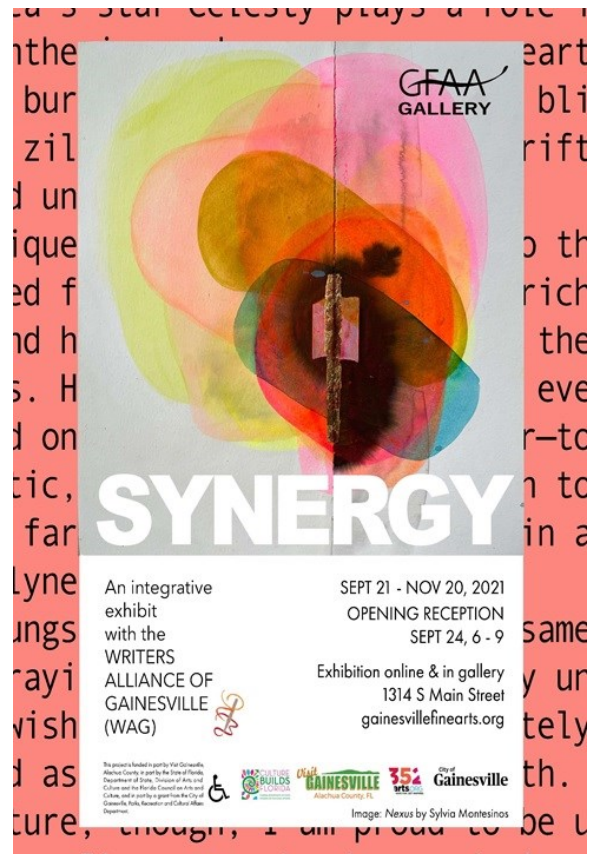
SYNERGY was GREAT!

Thank you to all the writers who contributed to this event. It went so well, and lots of people have commented about the quality of the writing in response to the art that we received. We hope to have another event like this sometime next year.

The exhibit will be up until November 20, 2021. A link is available online here:

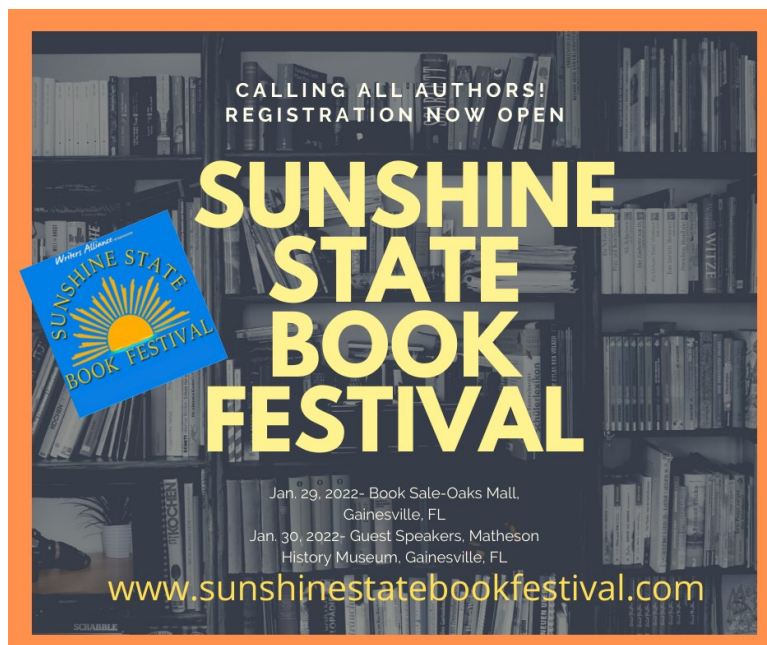
<https://www.gainesvillefinearts.org/synergy>

Just click on the artwork and you'll be able to see the writing that was written in conjunction with the painting. Or head out to 1314 S. Main Street, Gainesville, FL, to see the art in person.



W*R*I*T*E

Remember, sign up now for the upcoming 2022 Sunshine State Book Festival at the Oaks Mall:



WAG BRAGS

October 13, 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM

Mentoring Group to Start Up



A new WAG mentoring group is being formed for novice writers who are in the early stages of their writing careers. This is not a critique pod, although we may exchange writing feedback at times. The main focus will be both practical and emotional support.

The learning curve is steep, not just for writing craft, but for things like types of edits available, pros and cons of self-publishing, finding an agent, etc. It can be quite overwhelming. Also, we'll provide support and guidance for issues such as maintaining motivation, what to do when you're sure your words are garbage, etc.

We need a few experienced authors as well—those who would like to help “pass the torch” to the next generation of writers. Initially, we will meet monthly. The first meeting will be Wednesday, October 13, 2021, 7:30-9:00 p.m. on Zoom.

Have questions or want to sign up? Email Cassandra Lamb at

mentoring@writersalliance.org with **WAG Mentor Group** in the subject line.

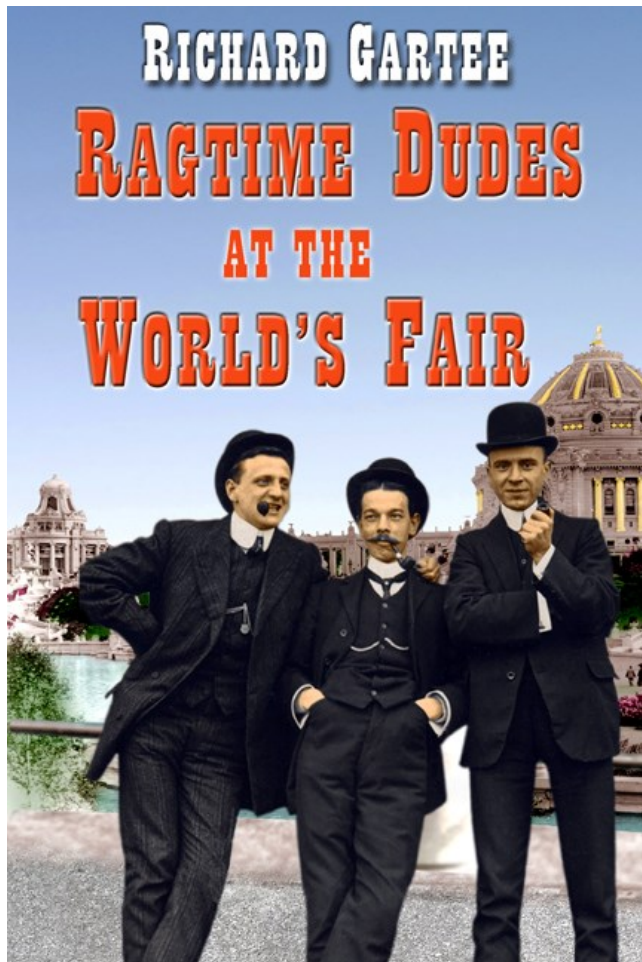
This group is limited to WAG members. If you are not a WAG member and wish to join, go to <https://writersalliance.org/membership/>.



COME OUT FOR A LIVE READING FROM RICHARD GARTEE:

MEET ME IN THE MILLHOPPER

In 1904, St. Louis hosted a must-see World's Fair that is the setting of Richard Garte's latest novel and the subject of a presentation and reading by the author **Sunday, October 3, 2021**, from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Millhopper Branch Library, 3145 NW 43rd Street, Gainesville, FL. Face masks are required and chairs will be separated at a recommended distance.

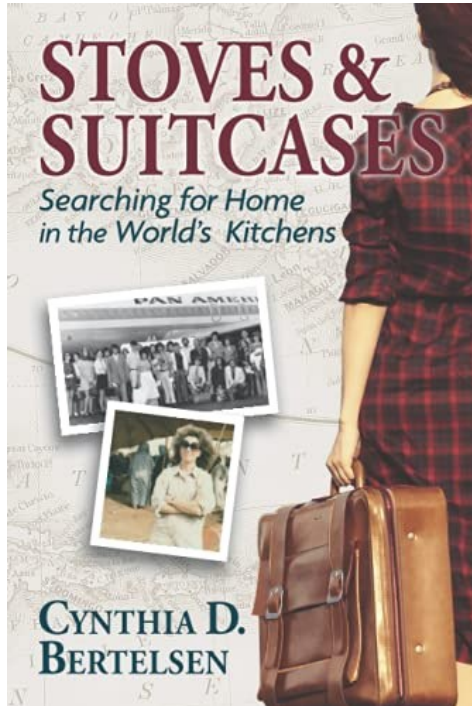




WAG BRAGS

From WAG Member [Cynthia Bertelsen](#):

I am happy to announce that my newest book - "Stoves & Suitcases: Searching for Home in the World's Kitchens" - is now available on Amazon in both Kindle and paperback. (It will also be available on Ingram soon.) <https://www.amazon.com/Stoves-Suitcases-Searching-Worlds-Kitchens/dp/17>



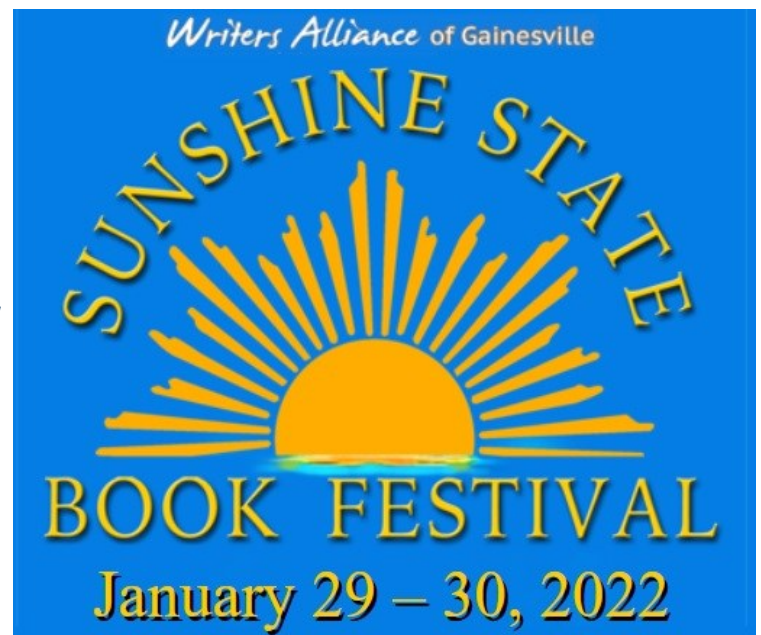
Stoves and Suitcases addresses the rootlessness of travel, the solitude but also the ecstasy, the freedom of reinvention, discovery of self and of others. Timeless themes. I thought of a female Odysseus. Ghosts of the old explorers live in Cynthia D. Bertelsen, adventurers who left the familiar behind to see what they could see. For the author, home isn't a place: it's a feeling, a new culture, a newly discovered food, another stamp on her passport. She is a citizen of the world. She is also one helluva terrific writer, and this is one helluva terrific book."

~ Leo Racicot, author

W*R*I*T*E

REGISTER NOW!

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



WAG BRAGS

36th Annual Thornebrook Art Festival

October 16, 10:00 AM - October 17, 5:00 PM



Books by WAG members will be sold at the **36th** Annual Art Festival at Thornebrook, 2441 NW 43rd Street, **October 16-17**. The festival features music, food, and the works of about 130 artists, including writers. Mark your calendar now so you won't miss this fun event!

WAG members interested in participating should contact the coordinator, David DeKay, at Festival@writersalliance.org.

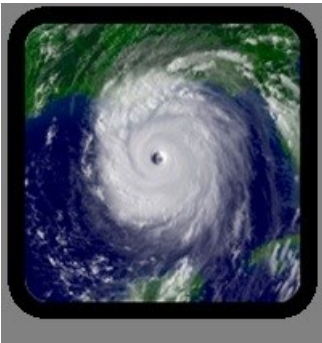
WAG authors wishing to have their books displayed and sold in the booth must agree to work at least one shift, and if needed, be willing to assist with set up or take down. The **deadline for signup is October 5**.

We hope to see you there!

WAG Brags

Congratulations to Marie Q. Rogers on multiple publications!

Former WAG President Pat Caren, who writes under the name Marie Q. Rogers, has published a multi-episode story on Kindle Vella. Per Marie:



Tell readers they can read the first 3 episodes for free and ask them to "like" each episode. (Provided they do like it, which I hope they will.) They can't read Vella books on their Kindle (go figure!) but they can on their phone or PC.

Now this story sounds exciting:

In 2023, the US has fallen apart socially, economically, and politically. The oligarchs rule. Time for pitchforks and torches... Rob is a Prince of Industry, until his father catches him committing a charitable act. Rosa is a working class teacher. Friends in college, due to class differences, there is no possibility of romance. Until a category 6 hurricane strikes... Rosa and Rob struggle through tragedy, poverty, and revolution, solve a decades-old mystery, and begin to rebuild their world.

You can read it here—<https://www.amazon.com/kindle-vella/story/B09GLLR87>

W*R*I*T*E

Marie Q. Rogers also adds this:

My unpublished short story "The Family Plot" is a finalist for the Royal Palm Literary Award.

My short story "Canebrake," which was published in the 2015 Bacopa, was accepted by Indie Florida, a collection of books and stories from local indie authors available exclusively on the BiblioBoard Library mobile and web platform. This collection is available to patrons of participating libraries.

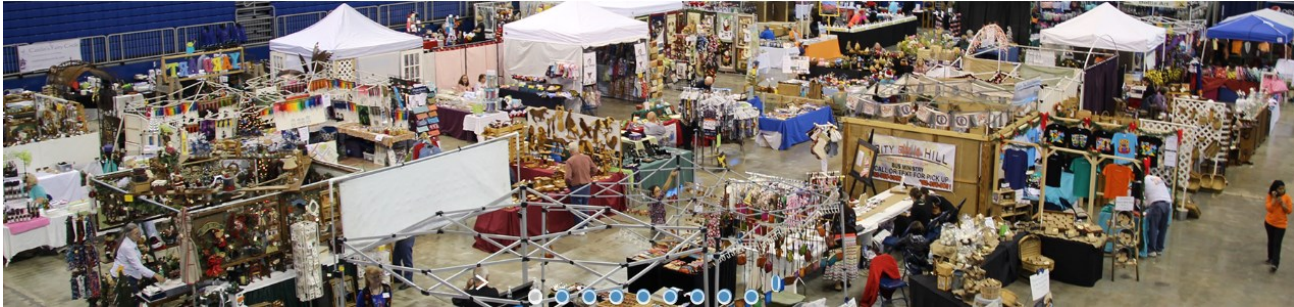
WAG Brags

Just a reminder—mark your schedule:

2021 CRAFT FESTIVAL At the University of Florida Stephen C. O'Connell Center—

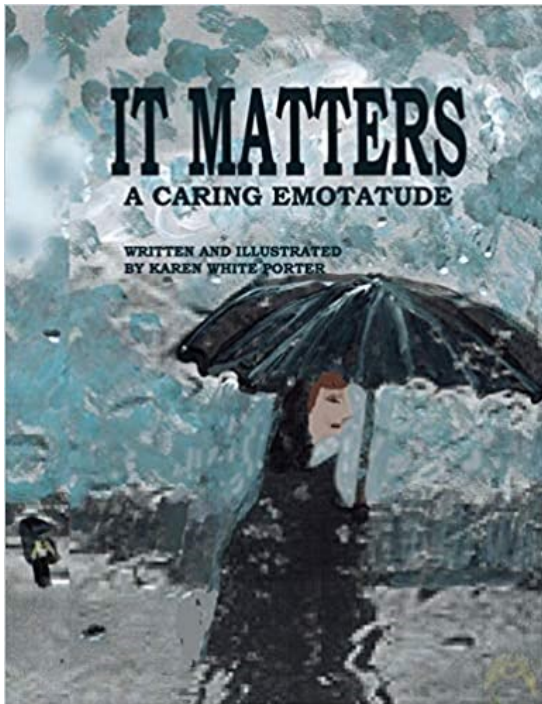
DECEMBER 4 – 5

WAG Will Participate—more details to come.



W*R*I*T*E

Congratulations to Karen Porter on publication of her new book, “It Matters: A Caring Emotatude.”



“It Matters, a Caring Emotatude” is a story of a young boy who was affected by climate change. As you explore what really matters in life, you will be taken on a journey through changed surroundings, resilience, kindness, and meaning. See beautifully rendered images of an historic flood where many survived by being saved by those who loved them.

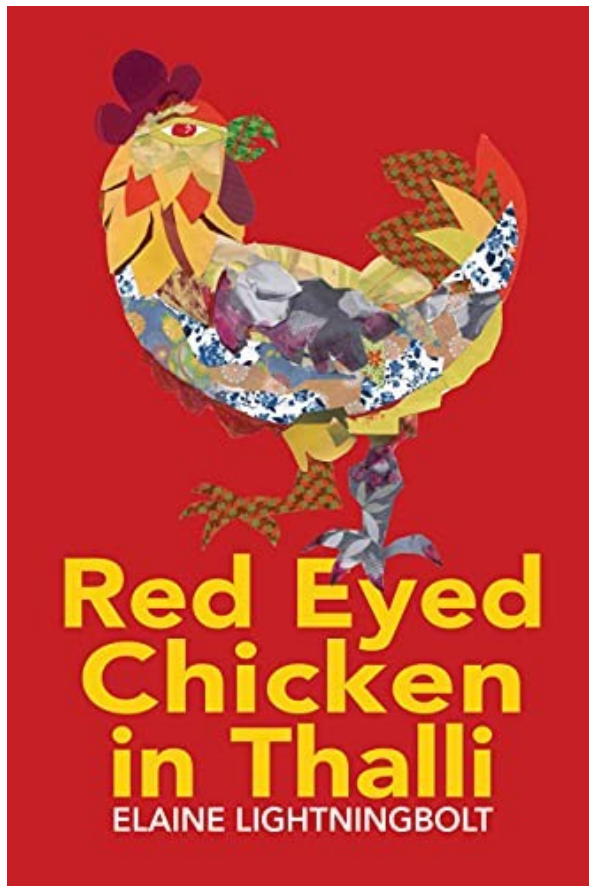
The book is available on Amazon:

<https://www.amazon.com/Matters-Emotatude-Karen-White-Porter/dp/1946785318/>

WAG Brags

CONGRATULATIONS TO ELAINE LIGHTNINGBOLT

ON HER NEW AMAZON WEBSITE, INCLUDING HER
LATEST NOVEL, RED EYED CHICKEN IN
THALLI



SEE ALL HER BOOKS HERE:

[HTTPS://WWW.AMAZON.COM/ELAINE-LIGHTNINGBOLT/
E/B09BMDFYRJ](https://www.amazon.com/elaine-lightningbolt/e/B09BMDFYRJ)

5 Dangers Of Sharing Your Creative Writing Using Social Media

by [Blog Editor](#) | May 18, 2017 | [Social Networking For Writers](#) | <https://webdesignrelief.com/2017/05/5-dangers-sharing-creative-writing-using-social-media/>



Sharing your writing on social media may seem like a great idea, especially when you're getting lots of Likes and retweets to lift your spirits. But wait—the experts here at Web Design Relief want to warn you about a few possible dangers of [posting your creative writing on social networking websites](#).

Submitting your short story to literary journals is the tried-and-true method of getting your work published and in front of your audience. But with the Internet providing so many other options, you may wonder—why wait for that elusive acceptance from a lit mag editor? What about posting your short stories on social media or on websites to connect with your readers *now*?

Before you eagerly press “post”—stop! Posting your short story and inviting people to read your work on your blog may seem like a good idea, but it could be an invitation to disaster.

Be sure you know the risks before you put your materials out there. It could cost you a publication in the long run.

Posting on Social Media

The Dangers Of Sharing Your Poems, Stories, Essays, Or Book Excerpts On Social Networking Websites

Even if you restrict the audience for your creative writing post, others may still read it. Some social media websites let you choose who sees what. But the mechanisms aren't foolproof, and there are always ways around them. If you post online, be prepared—your audience might be bigger than you expected.

There are no take-backs. After your writing has been posted on social media, you might decide to delete your post. Perhaps you don't like the way readers (or trolls) are reacting. In hindsight, maybe the material feels too personal for social media. Unfortunately, social sharing means it's not always possible to erase all occurrences of a given work. You should always assume that once you've shared something on social media, it may be on the Internet forever.

Often a post on social media is considered previously published writing. It's important to understand what constitutes "previously published writing" (<https://webdesignrelief.com/2017/04/one-thing-author-website-kill-shot-publication/>) to various publishing industry professionals.

For poets, story authors, and essayists, most literary journal and magazine editors will automatically decline any writing that's been published—anywhere—in print or on the Internet. There may be some gray areas regarding whether sharing your work on social media is the same thing as publishing it. Each editor has his or her own opinions, so be sure to carefully read each journal's submission guidelines.

Book authors, however, don't face the same potential limitations when they share part or even ALL of a book using social media or any other platform. If lots of people have read and loved a book via social media, that book could be considered self-published. Literary agents and editors will no doubt want to scoop it up (and snag their share of profits).

You risk plagiarism. Because social media makes it so incredibly easy to share things that catch people's attention, there is a danger that the originator of a piece and the material could be irrevocably separated. For an example, consider how many images you see on social media that don't have attributions. You'll have to decide if losing control over your writing is worth sharing it on social media.

Posting on Social Media

The #1 Reason To Never Post Your Complete Short Story Anywhere On The Web:

If you post your complete short story online, most literary journal editors will consider it published—and will no longer be interested. And, yes, that includes your blog, any other blog, and social media platforms such as Facebook, Pinterest, Tumblr, Google+, etc. Are there exceptions to this rule? Yes, there are literary journals that will accept submissions that have already appeared online. But which online venues are considered acceptable differ from journal to journal, so it's very important to check each individual magazine's submission guidelines. Your best choice—and the one that will provide you with the largest selection of publishing markets—is to make sure your work does not appear anywhere that would be considered [previously published](#).

How To Safely Share Your Short Story Online

Publish a mini-excerpt! While we don't recommend publishing your complete short story online, an enticing first paragraph, some captivating [dialogue](#) filled with subtext, or a pivotal scene from your story will all work wonderfully as mini-excerpts. And by posting an excerpt instead of the whole story, you'll build interest without running the risk of the piece be considered "previously published" by editors. Just be sure that your excerpt is less than 10% of the total piece.

Stick to private workshops. If an online workshop or writing group is private and cannot be accessed by the general public, it should be a [safe place to post your work](#).

Post a short story that's already been published. If a work has already been published in a literary journal and you now hold the rights, you can post that short story on your website or blog. Another option: Link directly to the online literary journal that your short story appears in.

Write a short story specifically to be posted. You can create a short story with the intention of publishing it on your own website. Since it's not a piece that you will later send out to literary magazines, you don't have to worry about the fact that it's been previously published.

Posting on Social Media

You may lose your audience's attention. Keep in mind that Web-browsing readers tend to have a shorter attention span than people who sit down with the intention of blocking off time for dedicated reading. Web readers want a payoff for reading—fast. To make a big impact, consider keeping the writing that you share on social media on the short side.

The Best Way To Share Your Writing Via Social Media

Instead of posting your entire poem, story, or essay on social media, consider posting a teaser (a little bit of text) that links to your author website. There, readers can read the full piece.

Directing people to your author website gives you the opportunity to turn a happenstance reader into a fan who keeps coming back—especially if you require visitors to sign up for your author mailing list in order to read more.

Having visitors come to your author website might lessen the possibility of online thievery, but keep in mind that no controls are foolproof on the Internet. Even if you block “cutting and pasting” on your website, users could find a way to share your writing without proper author attribution.

Weigh the pros and cons, make your decision, and then commit to enjoying the process—wherever it may lead!

EST.
AUTHOR'S SUBMISSION SERVICE 1994

<https://writersrelief.com/>

Helping authors reach their publishing goals since 1994

We thoroughly understand the unique needs and goals of writers. Writer's Relief, Self-Publishing Relief, and Web Design Relief offer a complete array of services to facilitate every step of an author's path to publishing, from making targeted submissions to traditional publishing markets; to offering self-publishing guidance and marketing support; to building author websites.

Submit a
family-
friendly
screenplay
to Stage 32
contest

Calls for Submissions

Stage 32 is excited to launch the 1st Annual Family-Friendly Screenwriting Contest!

THE WINNER WILL BE PERSONALLY MENTORED BY DGA-AWARD NOMINATED NETFLIX DIRECTOR VINCE MARCELLO OF "THE KISSING BOOTH" FRANCHISE WITH JOEY KING!

Now more than ever we could all use some wholesome, feel-good, entertainment that brings the whole family together. And that is just what audiences are looking for! Inspiring, fun, engaging feature films that are for the whole family - not just for kids!

Thanks to classic films that leave a lasting impression such as **BIG, HOME ALONE, PRETTY WOMAN, BACK TO THE FUTURE, THE GOONIES**, and new hits such as **THE CHRISTMAS CHRONICLES, A DOG'S JOURNEY, SPY KIDS**, and more Family Friendly films offer something for everyone.

And as Miguel says in the Pixar smash hit COCO, *"We may have our differences, but nothing's more important than family."*

At Stage 32 we want to make sure you are able to meet the market where it is! We recognize that producers, studios, actors, streamers and audiences are clamoring for Family-Friendly films, so we're going to bring your best scripts right to them!

WEDNESDAY, OCT 27 - 11:59 PM PDT

Submission fee: **\$79.50**

Final Deadline

More details here: <https://www.stage32.com/happy-writers/contests/1st-Annual-Family-Friendly-Screenwriting-Contest>

Calls for Submission

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*Chapbook
Open*
for Emerging Writers

submit
NOW
DEADLINE:

12.31.21

www.mastersreview.com

\$3000

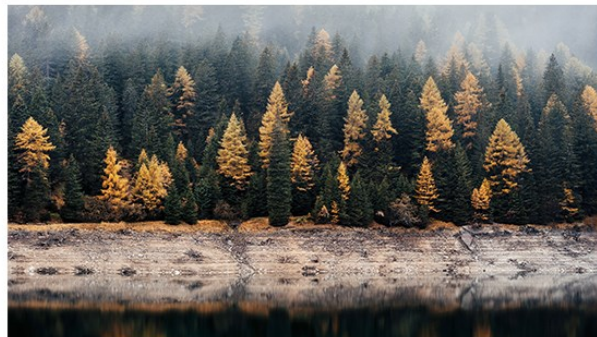
+ print & digital
publication

+ 50 contributor
copies

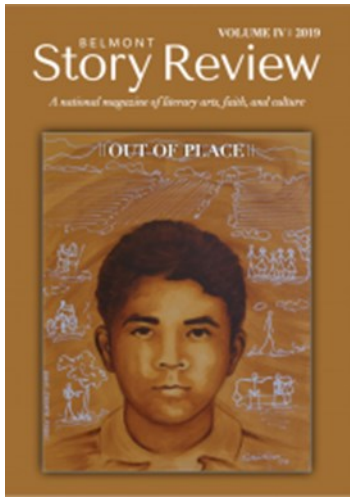
fiction or
non-fiction

PROSE

25-40 pages



Calls for Submission



Website: <https://belmontstoryreview.wixsite.com/website>

Genres Published: Poetry, Fiction, Creative Nonfiction

Formats: Web, Print

Submission Guidelines: <https://belmontstoryreview.wixsite.com/website/sub...>

Reading Period: Nov 1 to Feb 1

Charges Reading Fee: No

Editorial Focus

Belmont Story Review is a national magazine of literary arts, faith and culture. The magazine aims to surprise and delight readers through an eclectic mix of storytelling which includes fiction, personal essay, poetry, and more. We seek to publish new and established writers pas-

sionate about their craft, fearlessly encountering difficult ideas, seeking to explore human experience in all its broken blessedness.

Contact Information

Belmont Story Review Editor

Belmont University

1900 Belmont Boulevard

Nashville TN 37212

belmontstoryreview@gmail.com

W*R*I*T*E

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

Genres Published: Poetry, Fiction, Creative Nonfiction

Submission Guidelines: <http://gulfcoastmag.org/submit/>

Reading Period: Sep 1 to Mar 1

Gulf Coast publishes fiction, poetry, nonfiction, and critical art writing as well as reviews and interviews by both emerging and established writers. Each issue features two full-color art sections.

Tips from the Editor:

Please include SASE and note we are unable to read entire manuscripts, novellas, of submissions of more than one story (roughly 7,000 words) at a time.



Calls for Submission

CHESTNUT REVIEW (“for stubborn artists”) Invites Submissions Year Round

CHESTNUT REVIEW (“for stubborn artists”) invites submissions year round of poetry, fiction, nonfiction, art, and photography. We offer free submissions for poetry (3 poems), flash fiction (<1000 words), and art/photography (20 images); \$5 submissions for fiction/nonfiction (<5k words), or 4-6 poems. Published artists receive \$120. Notification in <30 days or submission fee refunded. We appreciate stories in every genre we publish. All issues free online which illustrates what we have **liked**, but we are always ready to be surprised by the **new!** chestnutreview.com

W*R*T*J*E

- Storm Cellar Call for Submissions
- **Deadline:** Rolling

Storm Cellar, a print-and-ebook journal of safety and danger since 2011, seeks amazing new work for volume 10! Send emotionally, aesthetically, technically, and linguistically ambitious writing, photos, and art. We're especially listening for Indigenous, Black, POC, LGBTQIA+, enby, fat, disabled, neuroatypical, poor, border-straddling, and other marginalized voices. Our roots are in the American Midwest. Surprise us! Full guidelines at stormcellar.org/submit and submission portal at stormcellar.org

*Looking for
places to
submit?*

Check out

New Pages—

www.newpages.com

Continued Next Page



Calls for Submissions

- Planisphere Q Seeks Flash Fiction, Vignettes, Character Sketches, and Poetry
- **Deadline:** November 15, 2021

Planisphere Q is seeking submissions for its third issue. "Dark Forest" is the theme. Any interpretation of the word is acceptable. All genres are accepted. The 500-word limit is firm. Flash fiction, vignettes, character sketches, and poetry accepted. See submission guidelines. www.planisphereq.com

Best time to
submit your
writing—anytime!

Come on—
you knew
that was
coming :)



- Call for Submissions: What Now?: The Future We Make
- **Deadline:** November 1, 2021

University of Tulsa, Kendall College of Arts and Sciences

Nimrod International Journal invites submissions of poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction for our spring 2022 thematic issue, *What Now?: The Future We Make*. In this time of change, the question that keeps arising is: "What now?" We now have a rare opportunity to pause and question our often unexamined assumptions about the world as it is and as it could be. We would love to read your work about what comes next in our futures on an individual, relationship, or family level and our social, national, and worldwide future. For complete guidelines and to submit, [please visit our website](https://artsandsciences.utulsa.edu/nimrod/call-for-manuscript-submissions/?utm_source=newpages&utm_medium=classified&utm_campaign=spring-2022-what-now-cfs&utm_content=nimrod).

https://artsandsciences.utulsa.edu/nimrod/call-for-manuscript-submissions/?utm_source=newpages&utm_medium=classified&utm_campaign=spring-2022-what-now-cfs&utm_content=nimrod

Calls for Submission

Call for Submissions: Speckled Trout Review

Deadline: November 1, 2021

We often have a penchant to wax nostalgic about our childhood memories or a desire to idealize them. However, the reality is more measured. We know that we may carry these formative recollections, visceral and vivid, with us throughout our lives, even as we perceive them to be warm and nourishing or perhaps frightening. We want poems that leave the front porch and go beyond the trees for Fall 2021 (print issue). Poets can paste up to 4 poems in the body of an e-mail, followed by a 50-word writer's biography and mailing address, and send to . Specific submission guidelines can be found at speckledtroutreview.com/2019/08/04/welcome-to-my-blog/.



GRANT SNIDER

Writing Contests

NOW ACCEPTING ENTRIES

EDITOR'S CHOICE AWARD

ENTER YOUR LYRIC ESSAYS,
PROSE POEMS, SHORT-SHORTS,
COLLAGES, MICRO-MEMOIRS,
OR ANYTHING THAT DEFIES
EASY CATEGORIZATION.

\$1,000 + PUBLICATION

DEADLINE: OCTOBER 18, 2021

New Letters Editor's Choice Award

\$1,000 + Publication

- **Deadline:** October 18, 2021

New Letters invites you to submit work that experiments and that crosses the traditional boundaries of genre and form to our Editor's Choice Award. Enter your hybrid work—your lyric essays, prose poems, short-shorts, collages, micro-memoirs . . . whatever you're doing that's experimental, we want to see it. The winner will receive \$1,000 plus publication in an issue of *New Letters*.

www.newletters.org/editors-choice-award/

Writing Contests

Tupelo Press

Sunken Garden Chapbook Poetry Prize

Deadline: October 31, 2021

Entry Fee: \$25

Cash Prize: \$1,000

Website: <http://tupelopress.org/sunken-garden-poetry-prize>

A prize of \$1,000, publication by Tupelo Press, and 25 author copies is given annually for a poetry chapbook. Submit a manuscript of 20 to 36 pages with a \$25 entry fee by October 31. Visit the website for complete guidelines.

Tupelo Press, Sunken Garden Chapbook Poetry Prize, P.O. Box 1767, North Adams, MA 01247. (413) 664-9611.

W*R*I*T*E

PEN/Faulkner Foundation

Award for Fiction

Deadline: October 31, 2021

Cash Prize: \$15,000

E-mail address: awards@penfaulkner.org

Website: <http://penfaulkner.org>

A prize of \$15,000 is given annually for a book of fiction published during the current year. Four finalists will each receive \$5,000. The winner and finalists will also be invited to read in Washington, D.C., in May 2022. E-mail a PDF of a short story collection, novella, or novel published in 2021 by October 31. There is no entry fee. Visit the website for complete guidelines.

PEN/Faulkner Foundation, Award for Fiction, 6218 Georgia Avenue NW, Unit #1062, Washington, D.C. 20011. Shahenda Helmy, Director of Literary Programs.



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

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.

