

WAG Digest

Volume 13—Issue 3

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Superhero Workshop, Michael Tomaino—Millhopper Library June Monthly Meeting

Have you ever been the hero of your own story?



Come join us on Sunday, June 11, 2023 from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. for Michael Tomaino's Superhero Workshop. **PLEASE BRING SOMETHING TO WRITE ON.**

You will learn how to find your real-life superpowers and discuss creating your own stories. Tomaino is the author of [How To Be A Superhero: The TOP SECRET Official Guide](#), which is heavily inspired by his time teaching in Gainesville. The book is being used by Guardian ad Litem, Shand's Children's Hospital, and Partnership For Stronger Families, and the book was featured as a giveaway by Santa Fe College at the 2023 Spring Arts Festival. Tomaino is also a multiple award-winning game developer. You can learn more about him by watching his [TEDx Talk on "The Power Of Being A Superhero"](#) (currently titled "How To Be A Real Life Superhero").

Want to meet Michael before June 11? Join him for his free frisbee events where he teaches kids and adults to play frisbee: [GainesvilleFrisbee.com](#). Tomaino's Author Website is [SuperheroHill.com](#) and his Portfolio Website is [MichaelTomaino.com](#).

Michael would be happy to autograph copies of his book after the presentation.

Meeting Sunday, July 9, 2023

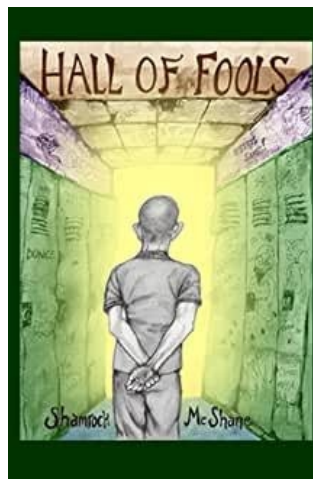
Richard Gartee and Shamrock McShane: 50 Years of Hippodrome History and How to Write Historical Books

**Sunday, July 9th, 2023
from 2:30 pm to 4 pm.**

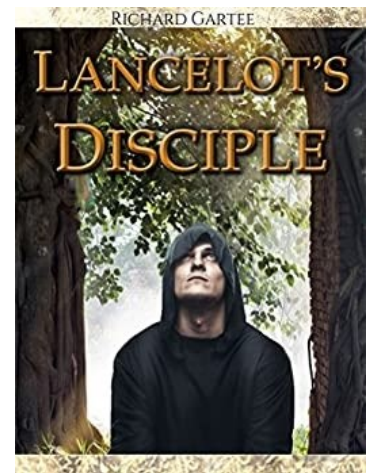
Millhopper Branch, Alachua County Libraries
3145 NW 43rd St.
Gainesville, FL 32606



Shamrock McShane



Book by Shamrock McShane

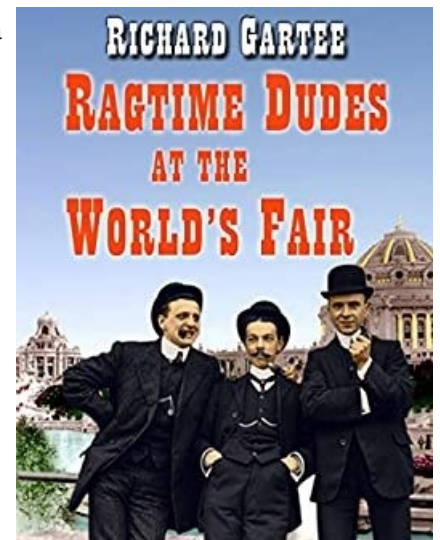


Book by Richard Gartee

Two of Gainesville's local writers and experienced historians will talk about how to write about local history. Richard Gartee and Shamrock McShane will discuss how they research a topic, what are some useful resources, and how to get historical participants and readers interested.

Richard Gartee's most recent book is a history of the Gainesville Hippodrome theater, *The Hippodrome Theatre First Fifty Years* (See page 5 for more info about his new book). Gartee is a poet, author and award winning novelist. His poems have been published in literary magazines, chap books and five collections of his poetry. He is a full-time author and has written six novels, a biography, and seven college textbooks (with multiple editions.)

Shamrock McShane was a teacher for over thirty years and is a graduate of the University of Florida Creative Writing program, where he studied with Donald Justice, Harry Crews, and Padgett Powell. He is the author of the novel *Rock Beauty*, and *Hall of Fools*, a nonfiction novel about American public education. As a screenwriter, collaborating with his son, the director Mike McShane, his films include *The Seven Sides of Shakespeare*, *The Votive Pit*, *You Are Not Frank Sinatra*, and *It's All Good*.



COMMUNICATION

An integrative exhibition with the
Writers Alliance of Gainesville

For this collaboration, Artists were given a piece of writing to create from.
The artwork is one individual's visual response to the writing itself.
The Artists were not in contact with the Writers during the process.

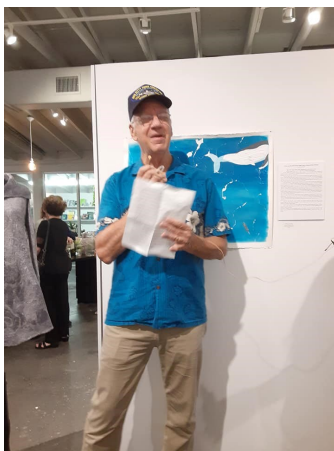
WAG and the Gainesville Fine Arts Association worked together again!

Communication...

WAG members were asked to write 500 words or less, prose or poetry, on the theme of Communications for GFAA artists to interpret as a work of visual art. The written pieces and the visual art were on display in the GFAA Gallery through May 20, 2023. This exhibit is open to the public.

At the opening reception during Artwalk on April 28, several writers read their written words and met the artists who had interpreted their words. Thank you to all the writers and artists who came together to create beautiful pieces of artwork based on words and visuals.

You can see the exhibit at this Website: <https://www.gainesvillefinearts.org/communication> (Click on the artwork and you will be able to see the writing. Artists and writers did not know who was submitting what in advance.)

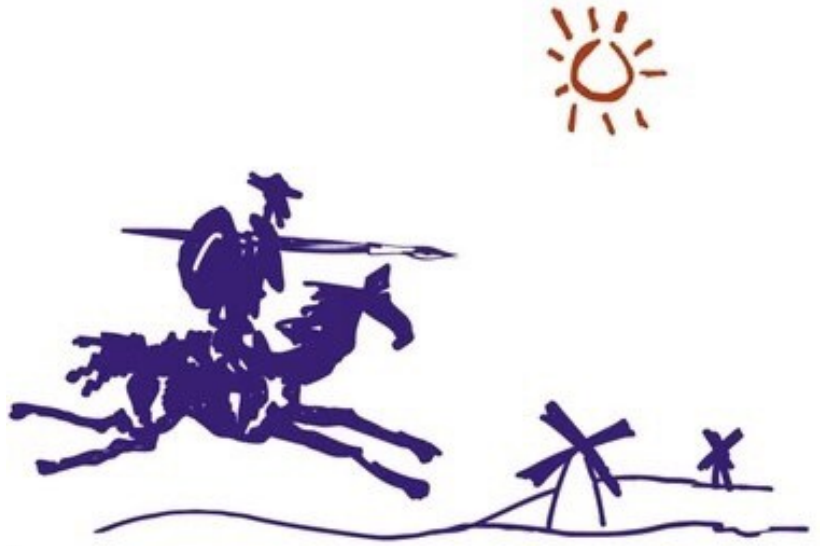


LOCAL WRITERS PRESENTING MAY 28, 7 to 9 pm Heartwood Soundstage

TILTING at WINDMILLS—Tickers \$10 per person, \$12 at door

Come support your local writers!

Heartwood Soundstage proudly presents, “Tilting at Windmills” an exciting evening of music and spoken word entertainment with five local bards. On Sunday, May 28th we will be reuniting Jazz Guitarist and poet Dr. Eric Diamond with Alachua County Poet Laureate E. Stanley Richardson, Eddie Suggs, J.N. Fishhawk and special guest, Jenna Nishida inside the Bob McPeck Listening Room at The Heartwood Soundstage (619 South Main St. Gainesville, FL 32601.) The show will be from 7-9pm. As always beer and wine will be available at the bar. Doors open at 6:30pm. Tickets are \$10 in advance. \$12 at the door.



Dr. Eric Diamond heard his father reading “Ozymandias” and “The Raven” as a youth, then stumbled into Allen Ginsberg as a teen. Poems and songs started visiting him in mid-life— these are presented in three books: *Strange Frontier*, *Hold This Goblet*, and *Always Take Door Number Three*, and recently a record album created in conjunction with son Hunter Diamond titled, *Fifteen Songs*.

E. Stanley Richardson is an American Poet, Actor, Playwright and Producer. The Founder and Director of ARTSPEAKSgny Inc., the North Central Florida Youth Poet Laureate Program, and the Bard & Broadside: North Central Florida Poetry Festival. He is also the author of the 2017 award-winning book of poetry, “Hip Hop is Dead – Long Live Hip Hop. The Birth, Death and Resurrection of Hip Hop Activism”. Mr. Richardson is the Inaugural Poet Laureate of Alachua County, Florida (2020 – present).

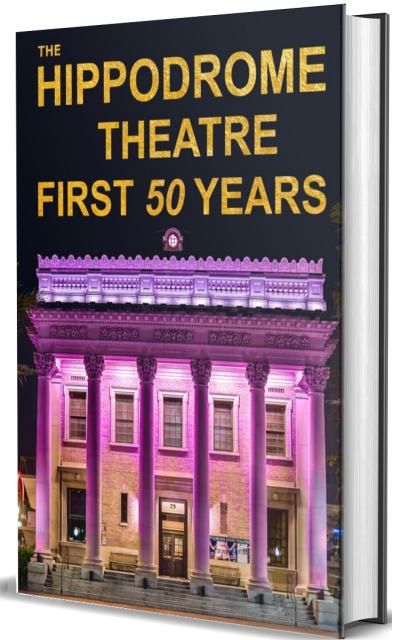
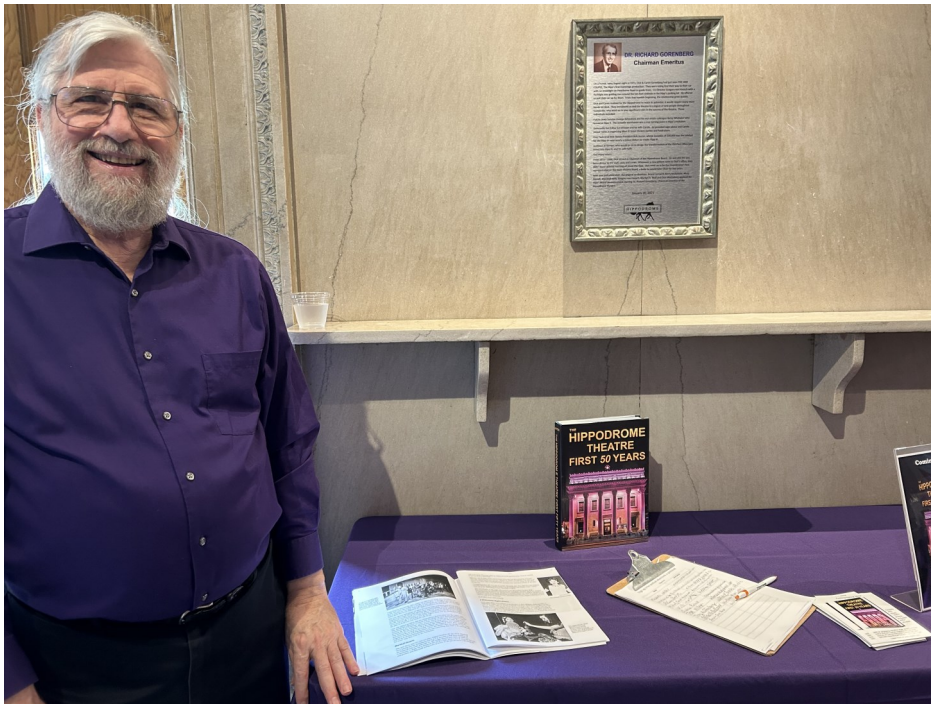
Author, poet, and lyricist Hugh Edward (Eddie) Suggs returns to the Heartwood stage armed once again with a strong sense of injustice and a pocket-full of mumbles from his freshly published poetry collection, “Back on this Side/ A Second Chance at Enlightenment,” and his work of award-winning, creative Nonfiction, “Rind and All.”

J.N. Fishhawk is a poet, freelance writer, and editor of the Writers Alliance of Gainesville’s annual *Bacopa Literary Review*. He is the author of three chapbooks of poetry and Postcards from the Darklands, ekphrastic poems accompanying artwork by artist Jorge Ibanez. The second book in his and illustrator Johnny Rocket Ibanez’s ongoing *World of Whim Sea* children’s series is forthcoming in 2023. More info, including a link to purchase copies of the first book in the series, *Billy & Tugboat SallyForth*, is available at fishhawkandrocket.com (http://fishhawkandrocket.com/%20n%20_blank). For the event Fishhawk will be reading selections from his most recent chapbook of poetry, *Beast of the Wood: Swamp Idylls & Cinder Songs 2020-2022*, as well as other poems.

Teacher, writer, and editor Jenna Nishida is an oft co-host of the Thursday Night Poetry Jam at the Civic Media Center. She has been an editor of the Writers Alliance of Gainesville’s *Bacopa Literary Review*, as well as being published within. She assisted Poet Laureate E. Stanley Richardson in organizing North Central Florida’s first community poetry festival, Bard & Broadside.

WAG BRAGS

Congratulations to Richard Garteer for the publication of his book on the Hippodrome: *The Hippodrome Theater: First 50 Years*. Richard will be giving a talk in July about his book and the book will be available to purchase at the July WAG Meeting at the Millhopper Library. Below is an interview with Richard about his creation of the historical story of this amazing theater.



Preserving the History of a Cultural Icon

Say “Hippodrome” and those even vaguely familiar with Gainesville will think of the magnificent beaux arts building that anchors the downtown business district and serves as the city’s cultural icon. This year the theatre celebrates its fiftieth anniversary, and WAG member Richard Garteer has just completed a four-year project documenting the theatre’s history in a newly published book, *The Hippodrome Theatre First Fifty Years*.

Writing with an engaging narrative style, Richard explores the trials and triumphs of fifty years and 440 theatrical productions. The book includes the story of each play, cast members of most, and recollections and anecdotes from Hippodrome founders, actors, directors, and production staff. These are illustrated with over 420 black and white photos.

Actor, director, and theatre critic Shamrock McShane, after reviewing an advance copy, called it “The ultimate Gainesville coffee-table book, a massive undertaking, meticulously researched, winding its way, chronologically, through all 50 years of plays and players, keeping in historical perspective both the sociological and theatrical concerns and their connection, a fitting tribute to Gainesville’s cultural icon.”

Recently, Richard answered a few questions for the *WAG Digest* about the project.

Q: Four years? That’s quite a commitment. How did it come about?

A: At the end of 2018, I had a conversation with the Hippodrome’s Artistic Director at that time, Lauren Warhol Caldwell. Some of the early members had already died, and others had serious health conditions. I said, “The story of this theatre needs to be written before it is forever lost.”

WAG BRAGS—Richard Gartee on his book: *The Hippodrome Theatre: First Fifty Years*

Q: Shamrock calls it a “massive undertaking.” Where did you start?

A: He’s right. The Hippodrome averaged eight plays a year. Multiply that times fifty years and it’s four-hundred plays! The actual number turned out to be 440. I started by making a list of plays and players. Legendary Hippodrome actor Rusty Salling had already passed away, but he left behind a list he had compiled of Hipp productions from 1973 to 2015. That was a big help. The Hipp also allowed me to access their archives, and the playbills from each show contained the cast list, playwright(s) and director.

Q: But this book is much more than just a bibliography of performances. Can you talk about that?

A: Right. I’m telling a story here. Fifty years ago, a daring band of players began something that quickly evolved into one of the most highly respected regional theatres in the U.S. The book is definitely about the people who made that happen. I interviewed four of the surviving founders, all three subsequent artistic directors, and over two-dozen key players from the earliest days to the present. I wanted to bring out the story of every play and the people who brought it to life by including their memories and anecdotes.

Q: Your book has over 420 photos. Was that a challenge?

A: It certainly was. All the older photos were in poor condition. Allison Durham and I spent weeks meticulously restoring them with PhotoShop. Others were missing entirely. Former *Gainesville Sun* photographers Gary Wolfson, Brian Grigsby, and John Moran supplied lost photos from their personal archives. Randy Batista had photographed many plays, and I scanned his negatives. Photographer Michael Eaddy lent me his entire collection, which spanned from 2006 to today.

My intent wasn’t to create a “coffee-table book.” But there have been so many great performances at the Hippodrome, I thought people who had attended them would want to remember the scenes and readers who missed plays might be curious about what the characters looked like. The pictures added a hundred pages to the book, but I think readers will appreciate them.

Local television host Ilene Silverman, who also read an advance copy, said it was “Enthralling. I felt like I was there for every performance.”

Q: Didn’t you say on her TV show that this was a passion-project for you?

A: Yes. As writers and artists, we should be in awe of what the Hippodrome accomplished. From the get-go, this fledgling company of thespians produced shows of such excellence that they soon drew playwrights, actors, and directors from the New York and London theatre world to Gainesville, Florida. That continues today. The Hippodrome is a phenomenon in the realm of professional theatre.

Before the Hippodrome moved to its present location, today’s vibrant downtown Gainesville was a ghost town of abandoned stores. This book is the chronicle of how the spirit of great theatre saved a dying downtown business district, became a city’s cultural icon, and the centerpiece of its artistic community.

The Hippodrome Theatre: First Fifty Years is on sale now at the Hippodrome before select matinees, at the Matheson History Museum, at the Harn Museum gift shop, and of course, from Amazon. Learn more at www.hipp50.com

WAG BRAGS

New Teen Poet Laureate

Gainesville has a new Teen Poet Laureate, thanks to E. Stanley Richardson (Gainesville's first Poet Laureate), and Jenna Nishida who organized the event as part of their Bard and Broadside poetry festival. Here are the judges (All photos courtesy of Jenna Nishida):



The Youth Poet Laureate Judges: (front row, left to right) Kimberly Williams, Terri Cook Bailey, Patricia Beard-Exainvil, Linda Cue, and Amira Sims; (back row, left to right) Alejandro Aguirre and Reinfred Addo



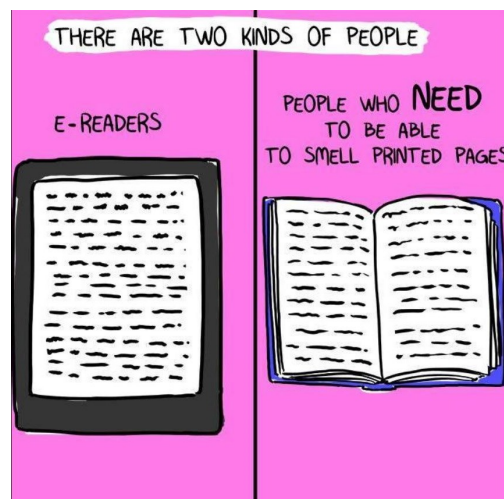
The finalists (from left to right) Rachel Xu of Eastside High school, Malia Wilson of Howard Bishop Middle School, Harper Jose of P.K. Yonge, Bridget Gullledge of Howard Bishop Middle School, and Annika Gamad, also of Howard Bishop, as well as Vicki Lin and Sandra Lin of Bell High School (not pictured).

New Teen Poet Laureate



Your North Central Florida Youth Poet Laureate runner-up, Annika Gamad (to the left) and the winner, Rachel Xu (to the right). Stanley Richardson, Alachua County Poet Laureate. Thank you to all those whose hard work made this possible. Photo courtesy of [Jenna Nishida](#).

W*R*I*T*E



WAG Brags



Thank you to all the writers who came out to support the Writers Alliance by manning the table at the Hippodrome 50th Anniversary Celebration. We were able to interest new members, sell some books, and participate in an amazing downtown event that shows the connection between all the local artists! We appreciate your hard work, local writers!

WAG Brags



More pictures from the WAG Hippodrome 50th Anniversary Celebration. We were happy to be able to engage some young people in writing. (Photos courtesy of Jenny and Ron Dearing)



What is in a Book Proposal?

The 7 Key Elements for Pitching a Book to Publishers

<https://blog.reedsy.com/>

May 01, 2023 – Understanding Publishing

A book proposal is a document sent by nonfiction authors to pitch their book idea. Commonly 15-50 pages long, a book proposal includes an overview of the book, an author bio, comparable titles, potential marketing strategies, a chapter outline, as well as some sample chapters. It's not a complete manuscript, but instead a chance to gain a publisher's interest in your book.

While some publishers will have different specifications for their preferred format, most book proposals follow a similar structure, so let's dive deeper and look at the 7 most common elements of a book proposal.

Essential parts of a book proposal:

Overview of the book

Market analysis

Author bio and platform

Marketing plan

Chapter outline

Sample chapters

Conclusion

Overview of the book

Proposals start with an overview of the book — a short “elevator pitch” with the unenviable job of hooking an agent in and getting them interested in the project. It will usually be less than two pages long and should hit the key facts about a book: its topic, themes, and intended audience. The overview will also provide insight into the significance and reach of the book, explaining why the subject matter is important and how this book is unique or will fill a gap in the market.

The overview will also include some insight into the author, comparable titles, and how the book will fit into the current market, but this will be only in passing. These elements will be expanded upon in later sections of the proposal.

Market analysis

This section (also under two pages) will analyze the book's target market. As well as identifying who is going to be interested (e.g., “single parents,” “burnt-out young professionals,” “educators”), the market analysis should also attempt to quantify this market to show how many people could be interested in the book. Any evidence of demand for the book — such as reviews or endorsements from experts validating the book's idea — would also go here.

After analyzing the target audience, the next stage is to examine how the market currently caters to that readership and outline how this book differs from those existing works. This will usually involve an analysis of four-to-eight comparative titles within the market, explaining for each how the proposed book would challenge, improve on, or update the contents provided.

Author bio and platform

This page-long section will provide an overview of the author's qualifications and expertise in the field to demonstrate that they're the right person to write this book. The author bio will usually include:

- Educational and professional background
- Any awards or accolades
- Author platform (social media presence, etc.)
- Previous publications
- Speaking engagements
- Any previous press
- Personal endorsements from industry leaders
- An author photo

As well as bolstering the author's credibility, the bio will also come in handy in the next section.

Marketing plan

This section isn't a fully fleshed-out marketing strategy; instead, authors should use this 1-2 page section to lay out actionable steps they intend to take in the marketing of their book. This might include speaking engagements they could secure, interview or podcast appearances, or media connections they could use to generate buzz.

The marketing plan will explain how the writer plans to leverage their pre-existing audience (as established in their author bio) into a successful launch. Authors will sometimes consult a marketer to help with the section of the proposal.

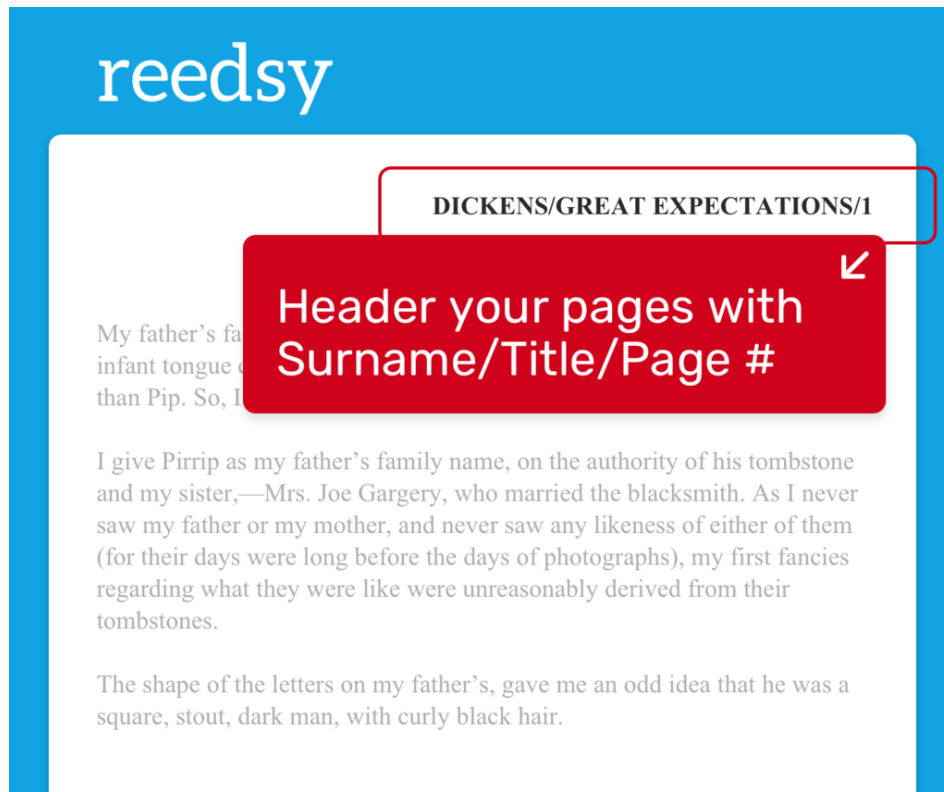
Chapter outline

This section provides a detailed outline of the book and its structure, including a chapter-by-chapter breakdown. These breakdowns should include the chapter title, a summary, an estimated word count, and a breakdown of the topics covered in that chapter. These breakdowns shouldn't be longer than a couple of paragraphs per chapter. They should be specific enough that the publisher understands what the book will contain and, more importantly, feels assured that the author has properly developed and fleshed out their "big picture."

Next, the author should provide one or two complete chapters that give a sense of the book's tone and quality. These shouldn't be drafts, but instead should be as close as possible to a polished final product. Many authors will work with a professional editor or ghostwriter to deliver these chapters.

Note that these chapters aren't necessarily the book's first chapters but a taster that captures the essence of the book in terms of content and style.

What is in a Book Proposal? Cont.



Conclusion

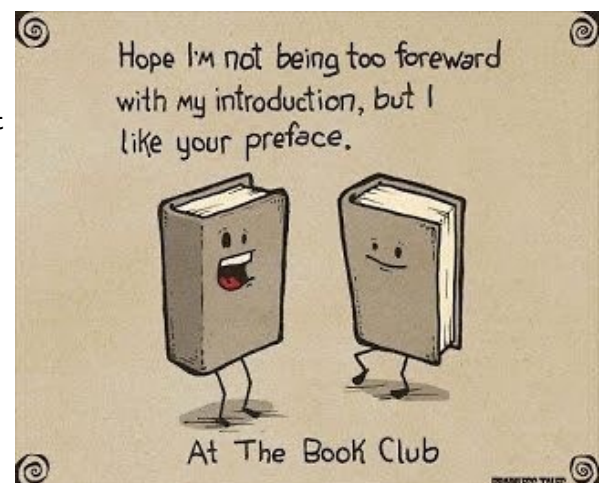
This brief final section should provide insight into the project's timeline of the book and where it currently is in the writing process (x chapters written, a complete first manuscript, or only at the early stages of drafting). There should be an estimate for the final word count and an indication of how much is already written.

The conclusion should also outline any special assistance the author needs to complete the book. For example, if they require an illustrator, photographer, or other professional to create assets for the book. If the author is already working with these collaborators, it should be mentioned here.

It's also common practice to thank the publisher for their consideration in the conclusion and to include some insight into why the publisher in question has been contacted — for example, if the book fits in well with their previous offerings, or if a respected author in the field works with them.

Check out the REEDSY WEBSITE: <https://reedsy.com/>

Reedsy can help at every stage of your publishing journey. Whether you start writing with the [Reedsy Book Editor](#), or polish your prose with assistance from the [marketplace](#), we can provide the support you need to publish your story. For all writers, our [blog](#) offers insights into publishing and the writing craft. If you prefer video, you can watch a different publishing professional answer your questions via our [Reedsy Live](#) events, which we present every two weeks. And our [Reedsy Learning](#) courses are here to help any author through the learning curves in the publishing industry. We provide all these tools for free so that authors can learn and then concentrate on what they do best: writing.



Getting Motivated to Write

By Wendy Thornton



Most writers seem conflicted about their work, and this is obviously perfectly normal (even though it may not seem like it :)). Finding motivation to write can be challenging, but there are several strategies you can try to get yourself inspired and motivated. You've probably heard all these before, but if you try them, you may find yourself surprised at the results. Can't hurt, right?

1. Set clear goals: Define what you want to achieve with your writing. It could be a certain number of pages or chapters, finishing a specific project, or even reaching a particular word count. Having clear goals gives you something concrete to work toward and can increase your motivation.
2. Break it down: Writing can sometimes feel overwhelming, especially if you're facing a large project. Break it down into smaller, manageable tasks. Set aside dedicated time each day or week for writing, and focus on completing one task at a time. This approach makes the process more achievable and less intimidating.
3. Create a writing routine: Establishing a consistent writing routine can help train your brain to be ready for writing at specific times. Set aside dedicated blocks of time, whether it's every day or a few times a week, and make writing a habit. By making it a regular part of your schedule, you'll be more likely to stay motivated and productive.
4. Find your ideal writing environment: Experiment with different writing environments to find the one that works best for you. Some people thrive in a quiet space, while others prefer background noise or music. Discover what conditions help you focus and feel inspired, and create a writing environment that suits your needs.
5. Eliminate distractions: Identify and minimize distractions that can derail your writing efforts. Turn off notifications on your phone, close unnecessary tabs on your computer, and find ways to create a dedicated, focused writing time. Distractions can sap your motivation and hinder your progress, so creating a distraction-free environment is crucial.
6. Seek inspiration: Surround yourself with inspiration that sparks your creativity. Read books, articles, or blogs in your genre or field. Explore different forms of media, such as movies, documentaries, or podcasts, that relate to your writing topics. Engage with other writers or join writing communities to share ideas and gain motivation from fellow writers.
7. Practice self-care: Taking care of your physical and mental well-being is essential for maintaining motivation. Ensure you get enough rest, eat well, exercise regularly, and find time for activities you enjoy. When you're in a good state of mind and feel healthy, it's easier to find the motivation to write.
8. Start small and build momentum: If you're struggling to get started, set a small goal for yourself, such as writing for just 10 minutes a day. Once you establish the habit and build momentum, it becomes easier to extend your writing sessions. The key is to overcome the initial resistance and get into the flow of writing.
9. Embrace imperfection: Remember that first drafts are rarely perfect. Don't let the pursuit of perfection hinder your progress or demotivate you. Give yourself permission to write poorly or make mistakes. The important thing is to get your ideas on paper, and you can always revise and improve later.
10. Celebrate milestones: Celebrate your achievements along the way. When you reach a significant milestone or complete a writing goal, reward yourself. It could be something simple like a favorite snack or taking a short break to do something enjoyable. Celebrating your progress helps reinforce positive habits and keeps you motivated.

Remember that motivation can fluctuate. Sure, there will be days when it's harder to find the drive to write. However, by implementing these strategies and maintaining discipline, you can overcome those obstacles and maintain a consistent writing practice..



Classes and Conferences

Join local author **Gary Gordon** for a popular course:

Santa Fe College

INTRO TO SCREENWRITING

This class is an introduction to the basics of writing a feature-length screenplay. You'll learn to think about your protagonist and antagonist, screenplay format, and plot your script (structure), and to avoid some of the classic mistakes made by beginning screenplay writers. You may even achieve writing your first ten or fifteen pages or the first act. Writing and participation will be encouraged as discussions and evaluation of submitted material is part of this class.

ENG0053.ID6

Number of Weeks: 5

Days: Mo

Starts: 6/5/2023, 6:30 PM - 8:45 PM

Instructor: Gary Gordon

Location: SF - NW CAMPUS S-328

3000 NW 83rd St

Gainesville

Course Fee: \$69.00

Lab Fee: \$0.00

Notes: Bring a laptop or tablet, a paragraph to a page about your favorite movie: what it is and why, and any screenplay writing you've done or have started. No class on 6/19, will be made up on 7/10.

Register here: <https://ss2.sfcollege.edu/ar/communityEd/AR3000StuCrslistingFE.jsp#/?termYr=2023&termCd=S&sessionCd=B>



Classes and Conferences

WRITERS' WORKSHOP

PROGRAM:

January 7-11, 2024



Key West Literary Seminar

Our **Writers' Workshop Program** provides writers at all stages of development with opportunities to explore the craft of writing. Every year we run 8-10 workshops; each has its own focus and application requirements and meets in-class once a day for three hours. Enrollment is typically limited to twelve participants per workshop to ensure individual attention.

"Advanced" workshops require a writing sample as part of the application; "All Levels" workshops are open to writers of *all levels*, and require only a cover letter for consideration. The registration fee for all workshops is \$675.

On Sunday, January 7, students may attend an optional late afternoon registration to pick up their workshop packets and name tags. In-class workshops begin the next morning, and run for four days from 9 am to 12 pm (in various locations in Old Town), finishing on Thursday, January 11. Students and faculty attend a Welcome Dinner on the evening of the first workshop day (Monday).

Note that the Workshop Program is separate and distinct from the Seminar. This year the workshops end at noon on Thursday, January 11. That same day, the Seminar kicks off with an evening Keynote address. You can therefore participate in a workshop and still attend the full Seminar if you wish. Alternately, to cap off the workshop experience, students may purchase a separate ticket for the Seminar Keynote, at a reduced rate.

Spaces are reserved in each workshop for fellowship recipients, who receive full fee waivers (\$675 value) to the workshop of their choice, as well as financial assistance to offset lodging costs, as needed. If you would like to apply for a fellowship and your preferred workshop is listed as full, please do not be deterred. : <https://www.kwls.org/awards/wfa/>

More information here:

<https://www.kwls.org/>



Classes and Conferences



Ready for a trip out west? From Jess Tzitzicas:

I'm writing to invite your members to Readers Take Denver 2024, hosted by *New York Times* bestselling author Lisa Renee Jones. Readers Take Denver launched in 2023 at the Grand Hyatt in downtown Denver and included panels, social events, and meet & greets. It was a magnificent success and we are proud of how happy we sent home our attendees. Even happier that they are eager to return in 2024!

It's also important to note that the creation of Readers Take Denver was motivated by Lisa and her husband's desire to support their charity Julie's Friends. Julie was their cat, but also their furry daughter, who survived cancer for three and a half years. In her honor, they are helping as many families as possible care for their sick animals.

For 2024, we are excited to announce that we are moving to the stunning Gaylord Rockies, and expanding our program to include a full range of author-focused workshops and panels while still maintaining a strong reader-focused program as well. We aspire to become the next RT/RWA style convention, but also to offer an all-genre event for authors, industry professionals, and readers.

Dates: April 18-21, 2024

Location: Gaylord Rockies, N. Gaylord Rockies Boulevard, Aurora, CO 80019

Reserve a room in our room block here: [https://book.passkey.com/go/](https://book.passkey.com/go/ReadersTakeDenver)

[ReadersTakeDenver](https://book.passkey.com/go/ReadersTakeDenver)

Our website: <https://www.readerstakedenver.com/>

List of attending authors here: <https://www.readerstakedenver.com/attending-authors.html>

We hope we will see you and your membership in Denver! Please let me know if you have questions! I am happy to answer any and all!

Jess Tzitzicas
Direction of Relations
Readers Take Denver

Calls for Submissions



Submit Now to **Able Muse (Poetry,** **Fiction, Essays &** **More)**

Deadline: July 15, 2023

Able Muse is now accepting submissions for our forthcoming issue, Winter 2023/2024. Submit poetry, fiction, essays, book reviews, art, and photography. Submission opens yearly January 1 and closes July 15. Read our guidelines and submit at www.ablemuse.com/submit/.

*W*R*I*T*E*

About Place Journal: **The More-Than-Human World**

Deadline: August 1, 2023

Each issue of *About Place Journal*, the arts publication of the Black Earth Institute, focuses on a specific theme. From June 1st to August 1st we'll be accepting submissions for our Fall 2023 issue *The More-Than-Human World*. Our mission: to have art address the causes of spirit, earth, and society; to protect the earth; and to build a more just and interconnected world. We publish prose, poetry, visual art, photography, video, and music which fit the current theme. More about this issue's theme and our submission guidelines:

<https://aboutplacejournal.org/submissions/>



Calls for Submissions

Jokes Literary Review

Deadline: Rolling

Jokes Review is a literary journal based in Northern California. Submit your most fun fiction, poetry, creative nonfiction, and art for our next issue. We want writing that overflows with personality and doesn't skimp on the entertainment value. Things we like: humor, urban legends, rogue journalism, outsider art, rants, dangerous ideas, jokes.

www.jokesliteraryreview.com/submit



*W*R*I*T*E*



Call for Book Submissions:

The Codhill Press Guest Editor Series

Deadline: June 30, 2023

Poets are invited to submit full-length collections focused on a theme between May 1–June 30 for The Codhill Press Guest Editor Series. For the 2023 submission period, that theme is: *Dreams and the Subconscious*. This is a reading period, not a contest—with your submission, please tell us a little about yourself, and share how your manuscript connects with the theme. The press is particularly interested in reading work by writers who have been historically underrepresented in, and/or marginalized, by traditional literary institutions. More details on the theme, and specifics on the submission requirements can be found at: www.codhill.com/codhill-press-guest-editor-series/.

Calls for Submissions



Call for Submissions

MER - Mom Egg Review
Theme Issue



AGES /STAGES

<https://merliterary.com/submit>

MER

Call for Submissions **for MER Theme Issue** **on** **AGES/STAGES**

Deadline: July 15, 2023

MER – Mom Egg Review is open from April 23, 2023 to July 15, 2023 for submissions of art, poetry (up to 4 poems), fiction, creative prose/nonfiction, and hybrids (up to 1000 words) whose lens or focus is motherhood. Theme Issue – AGES/STAGES Please

give us your most original creative takes: think locally and globally, metaphorically and literally. We can't wait to read your work! Early Bird Submissions (Free) 4/23-30/23, or until we reach our Submittable limit. One per person. Regular Submissions (\$3 fee) 4/23-7/15/23. All submissions through Submittable. Full guidelines at merliterary.com/submit

W*R*I*T*E

Alternate Route



Website: <https://www.alternateroute.org>

Genres Published: Poetry, Fiction, Creative Nonfiction, Translation

Formats: Online, Digital, Audio, Video

Submission Guidelines: <https://www.alternateroute.org>

Reading Period: Jan 1 to Dec 31

Response Time: Less than 3 months

Charges Reading Fee: No

Accepts Unsolicited Submissions: Yes

Accepts Simultaneous Submissions: Yes

Payment: No payment / Issues per Year: 2

Circulation: Less than 1,000 / Editorial Focus [*Alternate Route*] is a place for those who wander the path less beaten, for the modern beatnik.

Tips From the Editor

We accept poetry, creative fiction, creative nonfiction, art, photography, and almost anything else under the sun. Usually open to submissions; check us out!

Calls for Submissions

Hanging Loose



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

Genres Published: Poetry, Fiction, Creative Nonfiction, Translation

Subgenres: Autobiography/Memoir

Representative Authors: The editors are proud of having published many first books, including the first full collections by Sherman Alexie, Eula Biss, Kimiko Hahn, D. Nurkse, Jack Agueros, Joanna Fuhrman, Cathy Park Hong, Michael Cirelli, Maggie Nelson, Indran Amirthanayagam, Yolanda Wisher, and Beth Bosworth, among others. Formats: Print

Submission Guidelines: <http://www.hangingloosepress.com/submissions.html>

Reading Period: Jan 1 to Dec 31

Response Time: 3 to 6 months / Charges Reading Fee: No

Accepts Unsolicited Submissions: Yes / Accepts Simultaneous Submissions: No

Number of Debut Authors per Issue: 4-5 / Payment: Cash

Issues per Year: 2 / Issue Price: \$18

Subscription Price: See website. Circulation: Less than 1,000

Editorial Focus

For more than half a century, Hanging Loose Press has championed and the work of groundbreaking poets and writers whose work has been marginalized by mainstream publishing-work frequently less visible, whether because of gender, race, age, class or socioeconomic status. We look onward towards another half century of our commitment to making the tent as big as we can make it.

Tips From the Editor

Please send up to six poems or one story at a time. We rarely publish nonfiction, but there are exceptions. We do not publish reviews. For more information, please see the submissions information on our website. Please note that we do not accept simultaneous submissions and we thank you in advance for your understanding.

Jiwon Choi, Co-editor / PO Box 150608 / Brooklyn NY 11215 info@hangingloosepress.com

Contests

Barrow Street Press

"If focus is the key to success, Barrow Street is throwing straight bullseyes." - New Pages

Book Prize

Deadline: June 30, 2023

Entry Fee: \$25

Cash Prize: \$1,500

E-mail address: skruse.barrowstreet@gmail.com

Website: <http://barrowstreet.org/press>

A prize of \$1,500 and publication by Barrow Street Press is given annually for a poetry collection. Nathalie Handal will judge. Submit a manuscript of 50 to 80 pages with a \$25 entry fee (\$28 for electronic submissions) by June 30. Visit the website for complete guidelines.

Barrow Street Press, Book Prize, P.O. Box 1558, Kingston, RI 02881. Sarah Kruse, Associate Editor.

W*R*I*T*E

Omnidawn Publishing

Announcing the 2023 Omnidawn Poetry Chapbook Contest

Judge: [Brody Parrish Craig](#)

Prize: \$1000 and publication with 20 printed copies

Dates: May 7 – June 13, 2023 at 11:00 pm Pacific

Fee: \$30

The winner of each of Omnidawn's poetry book and chapbook contests wins a cash prize (\$3,000 for the 1st/2nd Book and Open Contest, \$1,000 for the Chapbook Contest), publication of the book by Omnidawn with a full color cover (unless the author prefers black and white), 20 free copies of the winning book, and extensive publicity through our newsletters and social media channels. Our winning books are highly regarded in the book publishing and academic worlds.

See Complete Guidelines here: <https://www.omnidawn.com/contests/omnidawn-poetry-contests/>

Contests

WE ARE NOW ACCEPTING SUBMISSIONS TO THE 2023

HOUSATONIC * BOOK * AWARDS



DEADLINE: TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 2023

ENTER NOW!

Three prizes of \$1,000 each are given annually for books of poetry, fiction, and nonfiction published in the previous year. The winners also receive \$500 in travel expenses to give a reading and teach a master class at Western Connecticut State University's low-residency MFA program.

Using only the online submission system, submit a book published in 2022 with a \$25 entry fee by June 13. Visit the website for complete guidelines.

<http://housatonicbookawards.wordpress.com>

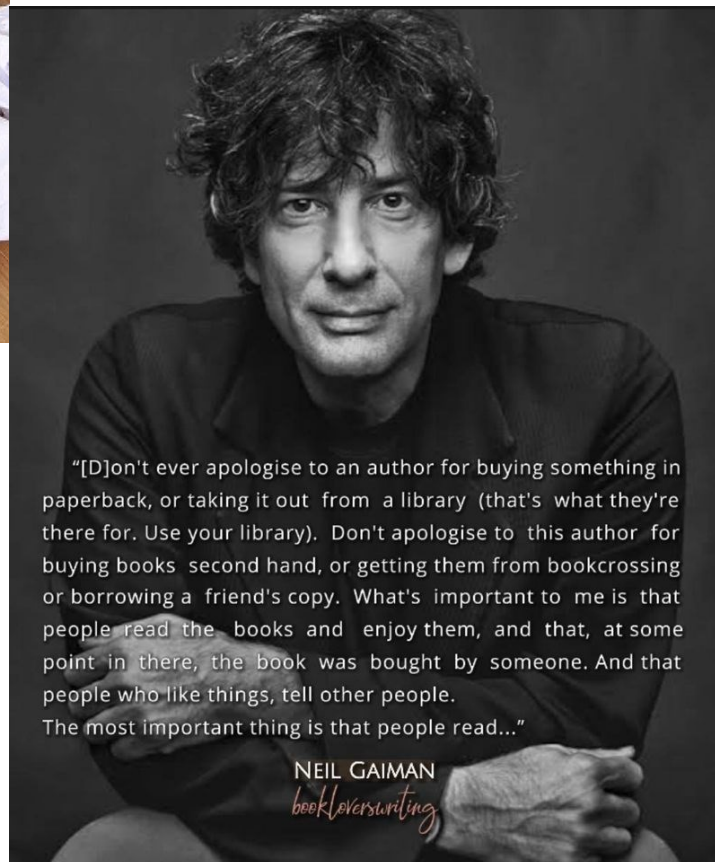


Writer's Alliance of Gainesville
A not-for-profit Florida corporation

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.



"[D]on't ever apologise to an author for buying something in paperback, or taking it out from a library (that's what they're there for. Use your library). Don't apologise to this author for buying books second hand, or getting them from bookcrossing or borrowing a friend's copy. What's important to me is that people read the books and enjoy them, and that, at some point in there, the book was bought by someone. And that people who like things, tell other people. The most important thing is that people read..."

NEIL GAIMAN
bookloverswriting