



Authors Among Us

Prose Poetry & Flash Fiction: Complement or Contrast

Schenectady County Public Library - Central Swanker Room, 99 Clinton Street
Register online at www.scpl.org or call 518-388-4511

MONDAYS, JULY 10, 17, & 24 6 - 7:30 PM
Facilitated by Brian Phillip Whalen

In these sessions for novice or experienced writers, we'll learn how prose poetry and flash fiction can be juxtaposed to understand these forms. Explore the characteristics and techniques of these genres by reading sample pieces and writing exercises when we meet and at home. For those age 18 and up

A lecturer at the University at Albany, Brian enjoys teaching about the writing techniques of fiction and poetry using an informal approach. His work is influenced by the short prose form and the musical quality of language.

Firefly Writing Workshop

Middleburgh Library
323 Main Street. Call to register 518-827-5142

WEDNESDAYS, AUGUST 2 & 9 1 - 3 PM
Facilitated by Coleen Paratore

Follow Coleen Paratore, as she leads you on a search for your innermost feelings to spark your imagination. It's just like catching fireflies on a summer night! After writing "one powerful page", you will share your work with the group. For Grade 6 and up

Full-time author and teacher of writing since 2004, Coleen Murtagh Paratore, has published 21 books. She is best known for her debut novel, The Wedding Planner's Daughter.

They Used To Call Me a Liar, Now They Call Me a Writer*

Schenectady County Public Library, Phyllis Bornt Branch Library & Literacy Center, 948 State Street
Register online at www.scpl.org or call 518-372-4393

SATURDAYS, AUGUST 5, 12, & 19 1 - 3 PM
Facilitated by Susannah Risley

Explore the elements of creating a short fictional story. Topics will include developing a setting, the nuts and bolts of writing a scene, creating active characters and how to devise a plot. Examples will be shared and hands-on writing exercises will be offered. Writers 18 and up of all abilities are welcome to this fun, supportive and non-judgmental class. *Apologies to Isaac Bashevis Singer

Susannah Risley has developed many original approaches to writing programs and has worked with a variety of people. She has received several awards for fiction and poetry and has been published in a number of national magazines.

Rattle the Soul: Writing Memorable Fiction

Johnstown Public Library, 38 South Market Street
Call to Register 518-762 - 8317

SATURDAYS, OCTOBER 7, 14, 21, 28
10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Facilitated by Brian Phillip Whalen

In these sessions for the novice or experienced writer, we will write original fiction and share it for feedback. We'll read and analyze sample stories by published authors to better understand good fiction writing. Short writing exercises will be developed into longer stories as the weeks progress. For those age 18 and up.

A lecturer at the University at Albany, Brian enjoys teaching about the writing techniques of fiction and poetry using an informal approach. His work is influenced by the short prose form and the musical quality of language.

Meeting Mrs. Marshall

Schenectady County Public Library - Central Swanker Room, 99 Clinton Street
Register online at www.scpl.org or call 518-388-4511

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11 5:30 PM
Facilitated by Linda Elovitz Marshall

Linda Elovitz Marshall will read her picture book, The Rainbow Weaver, which tells the story of a young but determined Ixchel, who learns to weave from the women in her Mayan family and uses a unique method to make beautiful woven pieces. Hear how she came to tell this story and create your own woven craft. Grade 2 and up.

Growing up near Boston and settling in Selkirk, NY, Linda Elovitz Marshall raised 4 children and a flock of sheep. She is the author of several books for young readers and was inspired to write this story by her dear friends, the founders of Mayan Hands, an organization of weavers in Guatemala.

Playing Tennis With a Net: Fixed Forms in Poetry

SCHENECTADY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY - Central Swanker Room, 99 Clinton Street
Register online at www.scpl.org or call 518-388-4511

THURSDAYS, OCTOBER 19, 26, & NOVEMBER 2 2 - 4 PM
Facilitated by Paul Lamar

Robert Frost said, "Writing free verse is like playing tennis with the net down." In this workshop the net will be up! Fixed forms are poems that are written in a prescribed fashion. We're familiar with sonnets and Haiku. But have you heard of ghazals, triolets, villanelles, limericks, pantoums, and pleiades? We'll explore some of these forms and compose our own pieces. Novice to seasoned writers are welcome. For those age 18 and up.

A theater reviewer for The Daily Gazette for the past 21 years, Paul's experience spans the history of music, poetry, memoir, and fiction, as well as theater. He has taught high school and college and has been published in a variety of literary magazines and The New York Times.



This program series is made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

Sponsored by the Mohawk Valley Library System and participating member libraries.

Participating libraries are accessible for people with disabilities. Complete schedule available at www.mvls.info/current-projects.