

## **Book Proposal Boot Camp**

A Seminar with Mark Chimsky

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Saturday, April 21

1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Glickman Family Library, USM Portland

**Fee:** \$65 MWPA Members | \$115 Non-Members

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### **THE WORKSHOP**

Book Proposal Boot Camp is a three-hour seminar that focuses on strategies to help writers develop effective nonfiction book proposals. Instructor Mark Chimsky is a distinguished editor with over twenty-five years experience in corporate and independent publishing. In addition, during his eight years as an editorial consultant, he helped authors to create marketable and salable proposals for such books as the bestselling *Working with You Is Killing Me* by Katherine Crowley and Kathi Elster.

In this information-packed and illuminating seminar, Chimsky will provide the strategic essentials authors need to know before they submit a proposal to an agent or publisher. Drawing on his years as a publishing executive acquiring notable and bestselling projects for Harper San Francisco, Little, Brown, and Macmillan, Chimsky will share insights and guidance about what publishers are looking for in a book proposal. Topics will include: the fundamental components of a marketable proposal; how to position a project more effectively; what not to include in a proposal; the “extras” that can make the difference in selling a project; and what to look for in a literary agent.

Book Proposal Boot Camp is designed to help give your proposal the best chance for success. Come join this lively, intensive seminar and bring along your questions, too!

*(Please Note: Individual proposals will not be reviewed at this seminar.)*

### **THE INSTRUCTOR**

Mark Chimsky has over twenty-five years of experience in the field of publishing and currently serves as the Editor-in-Chief of Sellers Publishing in Portland, Maine. He was Executive Editor at Quality Paperback Book Club, the largest subsidiary of Book-of-the-Month Club, Editor-in-Chief of Collier Books at Macmillan, Director of Trade Paperbacks at Little, Brown, and Editorial Director at HarperSanFrancisco. In addition, Chimsky served on the faculty of New York University’s Center for Publishing, and for three years he was Director of New York University’s prestigious Summer Publishing Institute.

Chimsky has edited a number of bestselling books, including Johnny Cash's memoir *Cash*, and he has worked with such notable authors as Melody Beattie, Arthur Hertzberg, Susie Bright, Beryl Bender Birch, and Robert Coles. He conceived of the long-running series, *The Best American Erotica*, and he was the first editor to reissue the works of celebrated novelist Dawn Powell. For Sellers Publishing, he has developed and compiled *Creating a Business You'll Love*, *Creating a Marriage You'll Love*, *Creating a Meal You'll Love*, and *Creating a Life You'll Love*, which won the silver in *ForeWord's* 2009 Book of the Year Awards (self-help category). In the December 25, 2000 issue of *The Nation*, he was cited in a list of "esteemed and gifted editors." Chimsky's editorial achievements have also been noted in *Vanity Fair*, *Publishers Weekly*, and *USA Today*, as well as on "Newsweek On Air" and "NBC Nightly News."