

MAINE WRITERS & PUBLISHERS ALLIANCE: Summer Workshop Series

Writing Novels for Children

This class is intended for those who have a young adult or middle-grade novel in mind or already started. Focus will be on the student's creative work. We will explore the techniques and strategies of writing and producing books for children at the middle-grade and young adult level and learn to find voices and forms for their writing, and to express their ideas in styles appropriate for children's interests.

The class sessions will consist of writing exercises, critiques, and active discussion of student's manuscripts. We will also examine the literature and history of the field. Craft elements such as characterization, theme, plot and voice will be addressed.

Date

First three Thursdays in August
(August 6, 13, 20)

Time

3 three-hour sessions, 6-9 PM.

Location

Glickman Family Library, *Portland*

Cost

\$300 MWPA members, \$325 others
Minimum: 6 students, Maximum: 12

Bio

Lisa Jahn-Clough is the author of young adult novels and the author/illustrator of picture books. She has taught writing for children at Emerson College and was the interim chair of Illustration at the Maine College of Art. Currently she teaches in the Writing for Children MFA program at Hamline University. Many of her students have gone on to have successful careers in the field of writing for children. She lives in Portland.

Book Reviewing

Book reviewing is a marketable niche for freelance writers, providing fun, steady work, and income to those who know and understand its simple rules. It is also a great place to start for novice writers who want to break into freelance writing. This two-session, six hour workshop will provide the beginning reviewer with the fundamentals for effective review writing, the business of reviewing, the markets, rights and copyright, as well as tips on how to find review work in magazines, newspapers, and the Internet. After the first session students will prepare two book reviews for submission to a publication, and the reviews will be critiqued during the second session.

Date

Saturday, September 26
Saturday, October 24

Time

1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Location

Glickman Family Library, Portland

Cost

\$75 MWPA members, \$85 others
Minimum: 4 students, Maximum: 8

Bio

William Bushnell is a professional book reviewer with more than 1700 book reviews published in 35 magazines and newspapers, including *Maine Times*, *Civil War News*, and the *Sun* newspapers. He currently writes regular book review columns for the *Kennebec Journal*, *Brunswick Times Record*, *Publishers Weekly*, and *Military Officer Magazine*.

Pen2Page: Fiction Workshop

Are you ready to write? This day long writing intensive is for you! This high-energy workshop is a great way to jump start your writing or dive into that elusive what happens next in your work. We will begin by listening and reading published work aloud. Then, we will launch into word games, impromptu tellings, imagining a story place with characters and objects and telling the story with coaching from the instructor. Everyone writes and what's written in class is read aloud for class feedback. Point of view, present moment storytelling, gesture, audience, the writing process, and elements of scene will be emphasized.

Date (choose one)

Saturday, September 26 (Portland)
Saturday, October 17 (Bath)

Time

10:30 AM - 5:30 PM

Location

Glickman Family Library, *Portland*
Patten Free Library, *Bath*

Cost

\$75 MWPA members, \$85 others
Minimum: 7 students, Maximum: 14

Bio

Josephina Gasca hails from Chicago where she graduated from Columbia College with an MFA in creative writing. She taught fiction, poetry and screenwriting workshops at Columbia, the Chicago Academy for the Arts, Mayor Daley's Gallery 37 Program & the Write Now! Conference at Park University. Her work has appeared in numerous publications.

So Your Life Should Be A Book?

Have all your friends said that your life story should be a book, but you do not know where to start? If so, plan to attend this daylong intensive workshop. Participants will leave the class with a general appreciation for the prose workshop format, to include specific models for giving and receiving feedback. Participants will also gain an understanding of memoir craft and technique, the differences between memoir and other nonfiction, as well as specific publishing advice for nonfiction writing. Much of the writing will be done in class, and all levels are welcome! Bring a pen and a positive attitude!

Date

Saturday, August 29

Time

9 AM - 4 PM

Location

University of Southern Maine Library,
Gorham

Cost

\$75 MWPA members, \$85 others
Minimum: 7 students, Maximum: 12

Bio

Shonna Milliken Humphrey is the Executive Director of Maine Writers & Publishers Alliance. She holds an MFA in Nonfiction Writing and Literature from Bennington College, and she has taught many writing workshops throughout the state. She provides coaching services to writers, and her own creative work has appeared in both national anthologies and local publications.

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone _____ **Email** _____

____ Writing Novels for Children

____ Book Reviewing

____ Pen2Page: Fiction Workshop

____ So your life should be a book?

Upon registration receipt, participants will be emailed a confirmation letter. Please make sure your email address is printed legibly.

Payment Information

Total Cost \$ _____

My check is enclosed.

Please charge my VISA or MASTERCARD.

Card Number _____ / _____ / _____ / _____

Expiration Date _____ / _____

Signature _____

Please mail completed registration and payment to:

Maine Writers & Publishers Alliance

PO Box 9301

Glickman Family Library, Room 318

Portland, ME 04104

Alternatively, you may FAX forms to (207)228-8150 or register by telephone at (207)228-8263.