

Sample Workshop Tracks

Having trouble deciding which classes to take? Wondering what classes would be good for a new writer or which courses will help you to deepen and improve your writing? Following are suggested workshop tracks based on your area of interest and expertise.

For the New or Beginning Writer

- Session 1: **The Train-of-Thought Writing Method – Kathi Macias**
- Session 2: **Starting and Completing that Book You Want to Write – Gene Perret**
- Session 3: **What to Do When Your Muse Ain't Moving You – Katharine Sands or Your Writing Isn't Art—It's a Job: Building Your Toolbox – Christian Moerk**
- Session 4: **Life Treasures: Introduction to Memoir – Susan Browne or Add Humor to Your Writing – Gene Perret or Creating Complex Characters – Leslie Lehr**

Writing for Children and Teens (Also see workshops for beginning writer, to improve your writing, and writing fiction)

- Session 1: **Kid Lit – Laurie McClean**
- Session 2: **Working with Dialog – Kirsten Menger-Anderson or Synopses: Who, What, Where, and Why Should I Care – Amy Burkhardt**
- Session 3: **Picture Books: More than Fuzzy Chicks – Sherry Shahan or Word Play and the Self-Editing Process – Thalia Chaltas**
- Session 4: **The Emotional Heart of Young Adult Novels – Sherry Shahan or Add Humor to Your Writing – Gene Perret or Creating Complex Characters – Leslie Lehr**

Getting Published/Getting an Agent

- Session 1: **Querial Killers: How *Not* to Get an Agent Even If You Are a Brilliant Writer – Katharine Sands or An Acquisition Editor Polishes Your First Pages – Charlotte Cook or Kid Lit – Laurie McClean**
- Session 2: **Publishing Options – Kathi Macias or Synopses: Who, What, Where, and Why Should I Care – Amy Burkhardt or Genre! The Other Fiction – Laurie McLean**
- Session 3: **The High Concept: Distilling Your Book into a Pitch that Pops – Amy Burkhardt**
- Session 4: **Riveting Writing: How to Pitch, Publish and Platform – Katharine Sands or Packaging Your Baby for Hollywood – Thomas B. Sawyer**

Writing a Novel (See also Writing for Children and Teens)

- Session 1: **The Seven Steps: Story Structure Made Simple – Leslie Lehr or An Acquisition Editor Polishes Your First Pages – Charlotte Cook or**
- Session 2: **Starting and Completing that Book You Want to Write – Gene Perret or Working with Dialog – Kirsten Menger-Anderson or Genre! The Other Fiction – Laurie McLean or Synopses: Who, What, Where, and Why Should I Care – Amy Burkhardt**
- Session 3: **Point of Narration (PON) vs. Point of View (POV) – Charlotte Cook or Word Play and the Self-Editing Process – Thalia Chaltas or Your Writing Isn't Art—It's a Job: Building Your Toolbox – Christian Moerk**
- Session 4: **Creating an Authentic Time and Place – Christian Moerk or Creating Complex Characters – Leslie Lehr or Screen & TV Writing: Thinking in Pictures – Thomas B. Sawyer Add Humor to Your Writing – Gene Perret**

Writing Short Stories

- Session 1: **The Train-of-Thought Writing Method – Kathi Macias**
- Session 2: **Working with Dialog – Kirsten Menger-Anderson**
- Session 3: **Word Play and the Self-Editing Process – Thalia Chaltas or Point of Narration (PON) vs. Point of View (POV) – Charlotte Cook**
- Session 4: **Publishing Short Fiction – Kirsten Menger-Anderson**

Writing Screenplays

- Session 1: **Packaging Your Baby for Hollywood – Thomas B. Sawyer**
- Session 2: **Starting and Completing that Book You Want to Write – Gene Perret or Working with Dialog – Kirsten Menger-Anderson or Genre! The Other Fiction – Laurie McLean**
- Session 3: **Your Writing Isn't Art—It's a Job: Building Your Toolbox – Christian Moerk or What to Do When Your Muse Ain't Moving You – Katharine Sands**
- Session 4: **Screen & TV Writing: Thinking in Pictures – Thomas B. Sawyer**

Writing and Selling Non-fiction

- Session 1: **Querial Killers: How *Not* to Get an Agent Even If You Are a Brilliant Writer – Katharine Sands** or
An Acquisition Editor Polishes Your First Pages – Charlotte Cook
- Session 2: **Online Marketing for Authors: Build a Platform and Sell More Books – Stephanie Chandler** or
Starting and Completing that Book You Want to Write – Gene Perret
or **Publishing options – Kathi Macias**
- Session 3: **Make Money with Books, eBooks and Other Information Products – Stephanie Chandler** or
Your Writing Isn't Art—It's a Job: Building Your Toolbox – Christian Moerk
- Session 4: **Life Treasures: Introduction to Memoir – Susan Browne** or
Add Humor to Your Writing – Gene Perret or
Riveting Writing: How to Pitch, Publish and Platform – Katharine Sands

Poetry

- Session 1: **Poem as Map – Lisa Coffman**
- Session 2: **Making It Beautiful, No Matter What – Susan Browne**
- Session 3: **Elemental Odes and a Love Poem or Two – Lisa Coffman**
- Session 4: **The Emotional Heart of Young Adult Novels – Sherry Shahan** or
Add Humor to Your Writing – Gene Perret

To Improve Your Writing

- Session 1: **An Acquisition Editor Polishes Your First Pages – Charlotte Cook** or
The Seven Steps: Story Structure Made Simple – Leslie Lehr or
The Train-of-Thought Writing Method – Kathi Macias
- Session 2: **Working with Dialog – Kirsten Menger-Anderson** or
Making It Beautiful, No Matter What – Susan Browne
- Session 3: **Your Writing Isn't Art—It's a Job: Building Your Toolbox – Christian Moerk** or
Word Play and the Self-Editing Process – Thalia Chaltas or
Point of Narration (PON) vs. Point of View (POV) – Charlotte Cook
- Session 4: **Creating Complex Characters – Leslie Lehr** or
Creating an Authentic Time and Place – Christian Moerk or
Add Humor to Your Writing – Gene Perret or
Screen & TV Writing: Thinking in Pictures – Thomas B. Sawyer

For Published Authors

- Session 2: **Online Marketing for Authors: Build a Platform and Sell More Books – Stephanie Chandler**
- Session 3: **Make Money with Books, eBooks and Other Information Products – Stephanie Chandler**

Teen Writers (First two classes are teen specific. For Session 3 and 4, teens are free to choose any workshop session—not just those listed below.)

- Session 1: **Writers' Workout—Sherry Shahan**
- Session 2: **Poetry's Nefarious Plot to Rule the World—Thalia Chaltas**
- Session 3: **Word Play and the Self-Editing Process – Thalia Chaltas or Your Writing Isn't Art—It's a Job: Building Your Toolbox – Christian Moerk or What to Do When Your Muse Ain't Moving You – Katharine Sands or Point of Narration (PON) vs. Point of View (POV) – Charlotte Cook**
- Session 4: **Add Humor to Your Writing – Gene Perret or Screen & TV Writing: Thinking in Pictures – Thomas B. Sawyer or Creating Complex Characters – Leslie Lehr or Publishing Short Fiction – Kirsten Menger-Anderson**