



# 17<sup>TH</sup> Annual Women Writing the West Conference

## “West by Northwest”

### Embassy Suites, Lynnwood, WA

### October 14–16, 2011

Washington State motto “Alki” is Native American (Chinook) meaning “Hope for the Future.”

**Venue:** Just north of Seattle, Embassy Suites in Lynnwood offers spacious rooms with high speed Internet, wireless, fitness center, business center, pool, hot tub, sauna, and onsite dining. Amenities include complimentary cooked-to-order breakfasts and evening receptions with refreshments and light snacks. A spacious atrium offers a lovely place to relax and catch up with old and new friends.

**Program:** Women Writing the West draws writers from across the United States and Canada whose work includes all genres with a western theme. This year’s conference is intended to provide writers with inspiration, insights and valuable information on writing. Most of all, we celebrate gathering with our fellow writers. The Conference begins on Friday afternoon.

#### **Program highlights (subject to change) include:**

- Pre-conference tour *A Friday morning ferry ride across Puget Sound and short bus ride to the historic seafaring town of Port Gamble on the Kitsap Peninsula. We'll have a guided tour of the town and browse the Port Gamble Store and Museum. Lunch on your own with three choices of nearby restaurants.*
- Prepare with Flare (Lee Emory) *Learn what impresses publishers by knowing your software tools, how to use them and what to absolutely avoid.*
- Writing the High Concept Novel (Sheila Roberts) *Learn to recognize a high concept idea when you see one and turn it into a novel that will gain attention.*
- Screen Writing Workshop (Colleen Patrick) *Writer, director, and producer will discuss elements of screenwriting, the seven steps of a full length story, characters, dialogue and premise.*
- Marketing Workshop (Diane Goeres-Gardner) *Learn how to sell yourself and your books inexpensively, professionally and efficiently. (Kate Williams) Social media, social networking and Internet marketing for writers.*
- The Craft of Pre-Publication Marketing (Alice Acheson) *Agents and publishers demand a pre-pub platform. What is it, why is it important, and how do you create one?*
- Submission Game: Pick Me! Pick Me! (Randall Platt) *A fun and enlightening game. A panel of agents and editors will assess anonymously entered two-page submissions.*
- Private Appointments with Agents and Publishers *Come prepared to pitch your work, or to just chat --your choice.*
- Panel discussions *Three different panel discussions with Agents, Publishers, and Alternative Publishing Specialists.*
- Bookstore Members and WILLA winners showcase their work in the bookstore on Friday and Saturday.
- WILLA Finalists Luncheon (Keynote Speaker Nancy Pearl) *NPR Radio Book Commentator. The Pleasures and Perils of a Life of Reading.*
- WILLA Winner Banquet (Keynote Speaker Ellen Waterston) *Writer, Poet, Speaker. Finding Home: Explore practical considerations of finding a genre home and how each genre inflects the subject. Learn the role of the writer as she leads the reader home.*