

26th Annual Women Writing the West Virtual Conference Schedule

CLIMBING HIGHER:

Endless Vistas, Unlimited Vision



A Virtual Event
October 15- October 17, 2020
All times are MDT

Please see website conference page for *Conference Overview* or *Conference Details* for descriptions of sessions, guests, and events!

Thursday, October 15, 2020

Intensive afternoon sessions are for-fee add-ons. Recordings of the day may be purchased if attending Add-on sessions. Evening events open to all attendees with conference registration. Links to Add-on sessions will be emailed to registrants prior to conference. Evening event links will be in virtual program to be emailed to all conference registrants.

12:00-2:00 **WWW Board Meeting** (Virtual Room: Pikes Peak)

2:00-5:00 **Self-Publishing Step by Step** *Polly Letofsky* (Virtual Room: Garden of the Gods)

Query Letter Boot Camp *Angie Hodapp* (Virtual Room: Wind Cave)

Roundtable Advance Critique

Deni Dietz (Virtual Room: Manitou Springs),

Becky LeJuene (Virtual Room: Palmer Divide)

5:00-6:30 **Come & Go Open Social Hour Rooms** (Virtual Rooms: Pikes Peak, Garden of the Gods, Wind Cave, Manitou Springs, Palmer Divide)

6:30-9:00 **President's Welcome & Contest/Competition Readings** (Virtual Room: Pikes Peak)

Friday, October 16, 2020

Friday and Saturday sessions and events included in conference registration. Attendees may purchase a recordings package.

All sessions open 15 minutes prior to start-time to gather, get ready, and socialize together. Conference attendees may flow between rooms via links provided in conference program sent to registrants approximately 2 weeks prior to conference.

7:00-8:00 **Come & Go Open Breakfast-time Social Rooms** (Virtual Rooms: Pikes Peak, Garden of the Gods, Wind Cave, Manitou Springs, Palmer Divide)

8:00-9:00 **Visual Plotting: How to Craft Better Stories in Less Time with Plottr** *Troy Lambert*
Virtual Room: Pikes Peak)

Soft Marketing Tips *Anne Schroeder* (Virtual Room: Garden of the Gods)

Pitch Perfect *Robin F. Gainey* (Virtual Room: Wind Cave)

True Grit: Creating Realistic Wilderness Characters and Settings *Susanne Sener* (Virtual Room: Manitou Springs)

9:15-10:15 **A Virtual Tour of Early Colorado Springs** *Joyce Lohse* (Virtual Room: Pikes Peak)

Social Media for Authors *Linda Ulleseit* (Virtual Room: Garden of the Gods)

Submission Netiquette: Syns and Queries and Formatting, Oh, My! *Deni Dietz* (Virtual Room: Wind Cave)

Make Your Writing Soar – Advanced Craft Tips *Laura Drake* (Virtual Room: Manitou Springs)

10:30-11:30 **Publishing Trends in a Post-COVID World** *Panel of Publishers, Editors, Agents, & Booksellers* (Virtual Room: Pikes Peak)

The Dotted Line: Contracts Demystified *Angie Hodapp* (Virtual Room: Garden of the Gods)

Historical Research & Craft *Randi Samuelson-Brown* (Virtual Room: Wind Cave)

Bleeding on the Page – Writing Emotion *Laura Drake* (Virtual Room: Manitou Springs)

- 11:30-12:30** **LUNCH BREAK and Come & Go Open Social Time** (Virtual Rooms: Pikes Peak, Garden of the Gods, Wind Cave, Manitou Springs, Palmer Divide)
- 12:30-1:30** **FEATURE SESSION: Inspiration from the True West** *Bob Boze Bell* (publisher of *True West Magazine*)
Crazy but true stories from the author and illustrator of a dozen so-so sellers (Virtual Room: Pikes Peak)
- 1:45-2:45** **FEATURE SESSION: Radio Instamacy With Ryan Warner** *Ryan Warner* (*Colorado Public Radio*)
How to give a meaningful interview and how to conduct one. (Virtual Room: Pikes Peak)
- 3:00-4:00** **Getting the Most from WWW** *Jane Kirkpatrick, Betsy Randolph, Corinne J. Brown*
(Virtual Room: Pikes Peak)
- Author Marketing Collectives** *Linda Ulleseit* (Virtual Room: Garden of the Gods)
- Journal & Magazine Panel** *Bob Boze Bell and Mona Neeley* (Virtual Room: Wind Cave)
- Mosaic: Piecing Things Together in Life and Writing** *Ellen Waterston* (Virtual Room: Manitou Springs)
- 4:15-6:30** **Mealtime and Come & Go Open Social Hour Rooms** (Virtual Rooms: Garden of the Gods, Wind Cave, Manitou Springs, Palmer Divide, Penrose)
- 6:30-8:30** **LAURA Short Story Award & DOWNING Journalism Award Ceremony** *Special guest Bob Boze Bell and Michael & Kathleen O'Neal Gear, keynotes* (Virtual Room: Pikes Peak)
- Post ceremony** **ENTERTAINMENT: Here's to the Women** *A film by Linda Allen* (Virtual Room: Pikes Peak)
- 8:30-10:30** **Come & Go Open Social Hour Rooms** (Virtual Rooms: Garden of the Gods, Wind Cave, Manitou Springs, Palmer Divide)

Saturday, October 17, 2020

- 7:00-8:00** **Come & Go Open Breakfast-time Social Rooms** (Virtual Rooms: Garden of the Gods, Wind Cave, Manitou Springs, Palmer Divide, Penrose)
- 8:00-9:00** **Braiding the Essay: A Working Session on Excavating Deep Vistas** *Kathryn Winograd*
(Virtual Room: Pikes Peak)
- Peak Your Publicity--Set yourself high on the Mainstream Media Mountain** *Krista Rolfzen Soukup* (Virtual Room: Garden of the Gods)
- First Page Perfect** *Robin F. Gainey* (Virtual Room: Wind Cave)

Poetic Techniques to Power Up Your Fiction and Narrative Nonfiction *C.M. Mayo*
(Virtual Room: Manitou Springs)

9:15-10:15 **Helen Hunt Jackson - Lessons from Writing and Life** *Doris McCraw* (Virtual Room: Pikes Peak)

Goodreads for Authors *Linda Ulleseit* (Virtual Room: Garden of the Gods)

Set the Scene *Randi Samuelson-Brown* (Virtual Room: Wind Cave)

Agent Acquisition Panel *Guest agents* (Virtual Room: Manitou Springs)

10:30-11:30 **Planning your Book with the Plotting Circle** *Becky Martinez* (Virtual Room: Pikes Peak)

Looking for Love in All the Right Places: How to Get Book Reviews That Count *Patti Thorn*
(Virtual Room: Garden of the Gods)

Editor Acquisition Panel *Guest editors* (Virtual Room: Wind Cave)

Secondary Characters: The Ties that Bridge Fiction *Elizabeth Boyle* (Virtual Room: Manitou Springs)

11:30-12:30 **LUNCH BREAK and Come & Go Open Social Time** (Virtual Rooms: Garden of the Gods, Wind Cave, Manitou Springs, Palmer Divide, Penrose)

12:30-1:30 **WILLA Literary Award Finalist Ceremony** (Virtual Room: Pikes Peak)

1:45-2:45 **WWW General Membership Meeting (MANDATORY FOR MEMBERS)** (Virtual Room: Pikes Peak)

3:00-4:00 **Climbing Past the Fear: Don't Let it Hold You Back** *Laura Drake* (Virtual Room: Pikes Peak)

Homesteading the Wild Wild Web *Doris Eraldi* (Virtual Room: Garden of the Gods)

The Transcendent Memoir-Vistas and Vision *Page Lambert* (Virtual Room: Wind Cave)

Elbow Grease for Novelists: Turning Premise into Plot *Angie Hodapp* (Virtual Room: Manitou Springs)

4:15-5:15 **Colorado Views Guided Writing** *Carolee Laughton* (Virtual Room: Pikes Peak)

No-Host Open Mic Readings (Virtual Rooms: Garden of the Gods, Wind Cave)

Come & Go Open Social Hour Room (Virtual Room: Manitou Springs)

5:15-6:30 **Mealtime and Come & Go Open Social Hour Rooms** (Virtual Rooms: Garden of the Gods, Wind Cave, Manitou Springs, Palmer Divide, Penrose)

6:30-8:30 **WILLA Literary Awards Ceremony** *Margaret Coel, keynote* (Virtual Room: Pikes Peak)

Post ceremony **ENTERTAINMENT: Music from *White Man Red Road*** *Wes & Victoria Hamil* (Virtual Room: Pikes Peak)

8:30-10:30 **Come & Go Open Social Hour Rooms** (Virtual Rooms: Garden of the Gods, Wind Cave, Manitou Springs, Palmer Divide, Penrose)

Our social rooms will close at 10:30 pm but attendees are welcome to arrange their own virtual socializing on their own.

Special Information

*Please see website conference page for **Conference Overview** or **Conference Details** for further information.*

PITCH APPOINTMENTS: A pitch appointment is a ten-minute, one-on-one appointment to pitch your book to an editor or agent or to ask questions of them. Confirmed editors/agents include Lauren Bridges (Wolfpack Publishing), Shannon Hasson (Marsal Lyon Literary Agency), Angie Hodapp (Nelson Literary Agency), Becky LeJeune (Bond Literary Agency), and Erin Turner (Two Dot Press). Artie Crisp (History Press) will not be taking pitches. Five Star Frontier Fiction is temporarily closed to submissions due to Covid so Deni Dietz is not able to take pitches.

Those who request appointments will be contacted prior to conference to schedule a time slot with your preferred editor or agent. Please spend time researching bios and website so you can identify best matches for your genre. We will honor requests in the order of registration dates. If you have not responded with your preferred editor/agent by September 30, you will lose your place in line. Extra slots will be awarded after September 30. Pitch appointments close on October 10.

ROUNDTABLE ADVANCE CRITIQUES: Up to eight attendees per session allowed. Sessions will close on September 8 or as filled. Attendees will each submit their first 10 pages of a manuscript and a one-page synopsis. Participants will each receive the others' pages, as will the editor/agent and will be asked to critique the pages prior to conference. The session will be guided by the editor/agent. Please begin polishing your pages when you register. Pages will need to be submitted by September 12.

SPECIAL GUEST JOURNAL PUBLISHERS: Bob Boze Bell (True West Magazine) and Mona Neeley (Colorado Country Life).

THURSDAYEVENING READINGS: Enjoy readings from our competition/contest finalists and winners on Thursday evening. Grab a favorite beverage and settle in to listen to some excellent examples of writing. These evenings are always a treat and you'll walk away with new admiration for these writers!

OPEN MIC READINGS: On Saturday afternoon, before the WILLA Literary Award Ceremony, we've blocked out some time for others to share excerpts from their work. There is no advance registration for this...just step up and take the mic! No formal agenda. Introduce yourself and read! Don't want to read? Come listen to some terrific writers. Kick back and relax! Readers should limit themselves to excerpts of three minutes plus a self-introduction.

POST DOWNING JOURNALISM AWARD AND LAURA SHORT FICTION AWARD ENTERTAINMENT: We are delighted to present Linda Allen's film "Here's to the Women," a musical celebration of the women involved in the fight for the 20th amendment. The song and story presentation will be followed by a live Q&A discussion for those interested in exploring more with Linda.

"Linda Allen breathes life in to the 19th Amendment story through song and story that is totally charming as well as instructive. Goose bumps and joy were the response of the day."

— Muffy Francke, Co-Chair, *The 19th Amendment Centennial Committee of the Renaissance Society*

POST WILLA LITERARY AWARDS ENTERTAINMENT: Wes and Victoria Hamil will perform original music from their CD *White Man Red Road*. Wes Hamil is an author, entrepreneur, teacher, and musician. He and his wife Victoria have performed with numerous musicians. Victoria's music appeared in movie soundtracks with Johnny Cash and Roy Rogers. Wes has worked with Oscar-winning composer Paul Williams and has won three Emmy Awards. In 2009, the duo released the critically acclaimed CD *The Ballad of Billy Saigon*. *White Man Red Road* is Native American infused music based on Wes's thirty years' experience with Native ceremonies and Elders' teachings, which reflects his journey from apprentice to Sundancer. The CD was honored as Record of the Year by syndicated talk show *The Colorado Wave*. They will perform for us after the WILLA Literary Awards ceremony and keynote.

COME & GO OPEN SOCIAL HOURS: Since we can't gather in person for meals and socializing, you are invited to grab your meal or favorite beverage and meet virtually. Each room will handle up to 40 participants on-screen at the same time. Plan ahead with friends to meet in the same room or just join the "meeting" and see who you meet! Or, you can arrange your own virtual social hours on personal Zoom accounts.

TOURS: Of course our in-person tours are not available but we will have virtual sessions about Colorado Springs instead. Check Conference Details for full descriptions of our tribute to Helen Hunt Jackson, our session on Colorado Springs History, and our Rocky Mountain scenery inspired guided-writing tour.

NEW TO ZOOM? No worries! Watch the website for information on pre-conference training on how to use the platform. We'll also have Zoom-Buddies—dedicated volunteers who will virtually meet with you one-on-one before the conference to talk you through any concerns.

You will be able to flow between rooms using links in the program.

We have 15 minute breaks scheduled between sessions for attendees' convenience but all "rooms" will remain open during breaks so you can gather before the session start-times to chat and get comfortable. Presenters will start at times indicated.

CONFERENCE RECORDINGS: We will be recording our sessions via Zoom so you can catch up on sessions you miss, either because of your schedule or because there are just too many great concurrent sessions. Recordings will be available after the conference via a special link, available at an add-on fee. Add on fee for Friday and Saturday sessions (\$50 members/\$75 nonmembers). This add-on essentially triples the content. Add-on fee for Thursday Intensive sessions (excluding roundtable critiques) is \$10, available only to those registered for that day.

NOTICE: Schedule is subject to change at any time.