

# Women Writing the West 2023 Conference Agents



## **Anjanette Barr**

Anjanette Barr is an Associate Agent at Dunham Literary, Inc. She lives in Juneau, Alaska, with her family of six and a myriad of indoor and outdoor pets. She has been working in publishing in various roles for over a decade, and when she's not reading or writing she's either hiking or homeschooling. You can learn more about her at [www.dunhamlit.com](http://www.dunhamlit.com).

Anjanette represents authors of fiction and nonfiction for all age categories of adult and children's books. She enjoys accessible prose that introduces big ideas, and she is especially looking to grow her creative nonfiction list. She is not a good fit for erotica, politics, or sports.



## **Nicole Cunningham**

Nicole joined The Book Group in 2016. Prior to joining the agency, she worked as the Manager of Author Relations at a book discovery website and as an assistant in the publishing department of ICM Partners. She studied English and American Literature at New York University, with a minor in Gender and Sexuality studies.

Nicole represents a range of fiction, nonfiction, and illustrators. She works with writers and artists who share a sense of wonder, curiosity, and tenderness about the world.

Nicole is looking to acquire adult literary and upmarket fiction, historical fiction, and novels with a magical or speculative bent. She's drawn to fiction that's gorgeously written, immersive,

smart, and sensitive to the complexities of being a human. She believes great fiction makes readers feel seen, so she wants to read about complicated relationships, identity and belonging, grief and regret, home and community. Nicole gravitates toward work with a strong sense of place and vivid natural settings.

In the nonfiction space, Nicole wants to read fresh, surprising essay collections, and well-researched, entertaining narrative nonfiction that has the binge-able quality of her favorite podcasts. She particularly enjoys work that explores topics like reproductive health, motherhood, environmentalism, gender and sexuality, linguistics, and the natural world.

When she's not reading, Nicole can be found social dancing, hiking the Catskills high peaks with her husband and dog, and renovating her old home in the Finger Lakes. She splits her time between Brooklyn and Upstate NY.



### **Dara Kaye**

Dara Kaye has been at WME since its 2023 acquisition of the Ross Yoon Agency. She represents adult nonfiction that tells great stories—from serious history and memoir to pop science and parenting—along with select speculative fiction. Her clients include NYT bestsellers and winners of awards from the Locus to PEN America, Fulbright, and NEH fellowships.

Across genres, she is drawn to projects with potential for international success and books that make the familiar world feel new and surprising. In nonfiction, she especially loves working with academics, journalists, and other experts with a knack for

communicating original research to mainstream audiences, and with memoirists whose unique perspective stays with readers long after the last page.

Before joining WME, Dara was an agent and foreign rights director at the Ross Yoon Agency and spent two years in South Korea on a Fulbright fellowship. A graduate of Smith College (BA) and University College London (MA), she lives in Washington, DC, with her husband and children.

The beating heart of my list is narrative nonfiction. I represent history, biography, pop science, current events, and more—the specific topic matters less than beautiful writing, an instinct for narrative momentum that keeps me turning pages, and a sense of revelation. I'm drawn to authors whose curiosity drives them to make discoveries that transform how they see the world, and whose skill in storytelling makes that transformation infectious.



### **Sophia M. Ramos**

Hailing from South Florida, Sophia has always had a passion for books, earning a Master of Science in Publishing from NYU. Prior to joining New Leaf Literary, Sophia worked as a literary scout sourcing projects for international clients, and later moved into foreign rights and international sales where she rounded out her understanding of publishing as a global industry. Sophia now works as a Literary Associate on various top author brands and has a wide-open list she's ready to fill. She is a Diet Coke enthusiast and champion ax thrower.

Sophia is looking for middle-grade, young adult, and adult projects in genre fiction and will sit up for all things speculative—fantasy, horror, thriller, soft sci-fi, and contemporaries or romances with supernatural

elements. She loves novels that explore complex family relationships, whether they be biological or chosen. She is interested in books that follow characters grappling with the consequences of their ancestor's actions and family inheritances, be they literal, metaphorical, psychological, or metaphysical. She's a big fan of reluctant heroes, descents into madness, and magic systems rooted in a specific historical touchpoint, cultural practice, or magical conduit. She is starved for stories that use a western setting to unearth these themes!



### **Katie Reed**

Katie Reed began her career in publishing with Andrea Hurst and Associates while pursuing her Bachelor of Arts in English at Sacramento State and has worked in the publishing field for over a decade. Boo Walker (*The Singing Trees*), Suzanne Kelman (*A View Across the Rooftops*), and international bestselling author Dr. Bernie Siegel, are among the many clients and works the agency represents. Katie loves discovering new talent, building lasting connections with her authors, and working diligently to represent books readers will love. Katie lives in Lewiston, Idaho with her husband, three children, a Bichon Frise, and two obstinate cats.

In the summer you can find her on the beach upriver in Hells Canyon, preferably with a good book.

Katie is actively building her client list and looking for standout projects to champion. She would love to hear pitches for commercial or upmarket women's fiction or historical fiction, particularly with a strong romantic subplot and plenty of suspense to keep her hooked in the story. She is looking for stories that hit that sweet spot between commercial and literary, where strong, poignant prose and twisty, high stakes plot intersect. Katie is especially drawn to books with universal human themes that resonate with readers and seep through the pages. She has

roots in both California and the Pacific Northwest and a special place in her heart for stories set in either place.

Learn more about Katie and the agency at [www.andreahurst.com](http://www.andreahurst.com).