RECHARGE YOUR SPARK

THE 2022 “ALMOST” AUGUST OCCASION WEEKEND RETREAT FOR WRITERS

THE YMCA’S DOWNTOWN WRITERS CENTER
340 Montgomery St., Syracuse, NY 13202
(315) 474-6851 x380 • (315) 474-6857 fax • ymca-cny.org/dwc
dwcworkshops@ymca-cny.org
July 15-17
Christ the King Retreat House

The 2022 edition of our writers’ weekend will feature two days of small-group workshops in fiction, poetry, and creative non-fiction; readings by faculty and students; and plenty of food, drink, and comradery. We will be at a new location this year: the Christ the King Retreat House, right here in Syracuse, NY. Join us to recharge your creative spark, build connections with your fellow students and writers, and have a terrific time! Please note: this is an in-person event only, with no virtual option.

About Our Venue

Christ the King Retreat House is located at 500 Brookford Rd. in Syracuse. For more information, click here.

Accommodations

We recommend retreat participants stay overnight on site, for convenience and for the social aspect of the retreat. One of the benefits of this year’s location is that all guests will receive their own room! Bathrooms are shared. A “Day Rate” is available for guests who can’t stay overnight.

Meals

Meals included in the retreat are dinner Friday, breakfast, lunch and dinner on Saturday, and breakfast and lunch on Sunday. Breakfast is Continental-style. Vegetarian options will be available for all meals; we cannot, however, accommodate any other specific dietary requirements.

August Occasion 2022 Faculty

Sarah Freligh (Fiction, Poetry, Nonfiction)
Antoinette Brim-Bell (Poetry)
Jaimee Wriston Colbert (Fiction)
Dan Roche (Nonfiction)

Retreat Schedule

(subject to change)

Friday, July 15
3:00-5:30 • Check-In
4:30-5:45 • Opening Reception & Introductions
6:00-7:00 • Dinner
7:15-8:15 • Faculty Reading #1
8:15-9:00

Saturday, July 16
8:00-9:00 • Breakfast
9:15-11:45 • Workshop I
12-12:45 • Lunch
1:00-3:30 • Workshop II
3:30-4:15 • Free time
4:15-5:45 • Wine & Cheese & Student Open Mic
6:00-7:00 • Dinner
7:15-8:15 • Faculty Reading #2
8:15-9:00 • Dessert & Frivolity

Sunday, July 17
8:00-9:00 • Breakfast
9:15-11:45 • Workshop III
12-12:45 • Lunch
1:00-1:45 • Faculty Reading #3
Antoinette Brim-Bell (poetry) is the author of the poetry collections These Women You Gave Me, Icarus in Love, and Psalm of the Sunflower. Her poems, memoirs, and critical works have appeared in many journals, magazines, and in such anthologies as Villanelles, Critical Insights: Alice Walker, 44 on 44: Forty-Four African American Writers on the 44th President of the United States, Not A Muse, and Just Like A Girl: A Manifesta, She is a Cave Canem Foundation Fellow, and is Professor of English at Capital Community College in Hartford, CT.

Sarah Freligh (all genres) is the author of four books, including Sad Math, winner of the 2014 Moon City Press Poetry Prize and the 2015 Whirling Prize from the University of Indianapolis, and We, published by Harbor Editions in early 2021. Recent work has appeared in the Cincinnati Review miCro series, SmokeLong Quarterly, Fractured Lit, and in the anthologies New Micro: Exceptionally Short Fiction (Norton 2018) and Best Microfiction (2019-22). Among her awards are fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Saltonstall Foundation.

Jaimee Wriston’s (fiction) most recent novel, How Not to Drown, won the 2021 International Book Award in General Fiction and the 2021 NYC Big Book Award for General Fiction. Her previous six books written under her full name, Jaimee Wriston Colbert, include two novels, Vanishing Acts and Shark Girls, three linked story collections, Wild Things, Dream Lives of Butterflies, and Climbing the God Tree, and a story collection, Sex, Salvation, and the Automobile. She is Distinguished Professor of English and Creative Writing at SUNY Binghamton University.

Dan Roche (nonfiction) is the author of the memoirs Great Expectation: A Father’s Diary (Iowa, 2008) and Love’s Labors (Riverhead, 1999), and his essays have appeared in Fourth Genre, River Teeth, The North American Review, Under the Sun, Passages North, Chautauqua, and other places. He was a 2005 Fellow in Nonfiction Literature with the New York Foundation for the Arts. He is an Associate Professor of Creative Writing at LeMoyne College.
Tuition & Registration

YMCA OF CNY MEMBERS: Register online through Daxko!

ALL OTHERS: Please call our Workshops Coordinator, Georgia Popoff, at 315-474-6851 x380 to register by phone, or complete this form and mail it with a check to
YMCA: Arts Branch, 340 Montgomery St., Syracuse, NY 13202.

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Please mark the line next to the August Occasion arrangement of your choice, and enter the total in the space provided in the form at the bottom of this page.

Tuition for DWC and/or YMCA Members:

- _______ Full retreat weekend, including accommodations and all meals: $450
- _______ Full retreat weekend, with premium air conditioned room (*limited availability*): $515
- _______ Full retreat weekend, *without* overnight accommodations (*includes meals*): $350

Non-Member Tuition:

- _______ Full retreat weekend, including overnight accommodations and all meals: $485
- _______ Full retreat weekend, with premium air conditioned room (*limited availability*): $550
- _______ Full retreat weekend, *without* overnight accommodations (*includes meals*): $385

One-year DWC Membership _______ $45 (if you are not currently a member, but purchase a membership with this form, you pay only the Member rate for the retreat).

TOTAL FEES: __________________ Name: ________________________________________________________

Address: ________________________________________________________________________________

City/State/Zip: ____________________________________________________________________________

Phone: __________________________ E-mail: ______________________________________________________

YMCA of Central New York Member? YES / NO      DWC Member? YES / NO

Member of any other YMCA nationwide? YES / NO

REGISTRATION DEADLINES • Please register no later than July 5th. Spaces are filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

REFUNDS • Due to the special nature of this program, refunds will not be given after July 11th, 2022, unless the event is canceled by the YMCA. Refunds requested before that date are subject to a $10 processing fee.