



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

THE YMCA'S DOWNTOWN WRITERS CENTER EVENTS & WORKSHOPS – SUMMER 2022

Announcing the Return of In-Person Workshops and Our Retreat Weekend!

While we've been excited about the new avenues online programming has opened to us, we're very pleased indeed to be offering some in-person writing courses this summer... for the first time since spring 2020!

We will also continue a wide range of online workshops, too... and most of our in-person classes will continue to be accessible by Zoom, so if you are traveling this summer, or are one of our friends from outside of the CNY region, or just like attending class from the comfort of your own home, you'll still be able to learn and write with us.

See page 3 for new workshop labels that indicate whether programs are in-person, online-only, or in-person with a virtual option.

"ALMOST AUGUST OCCASION" RETREAT WEEKEND

**JULY 15-17, CHRIST THE KING
RETREAT CENTER, SYRACUSE**

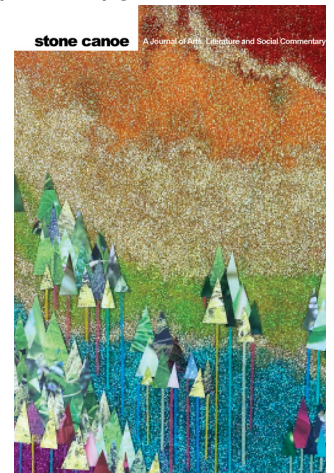
Speaking of things we're excited to get back to! This summer, the DWC is offering the first August Occasion retreat since 2019. Due to a scheduling snafu, we're "almost" in August this year... but we have a great weekend of workshops, readings, and community planned for our guests.

We'll be at a new location this year... the Christ the King retreat center, right in Syracuse! One of the benefits of our new site is that all participants will have their own individual room. And since it's right in Syracuse, those who want to attend just for the day are also welcome.

For complete retreat details, click here!

Submit Work to *Stone Canoe*!

Stone Canoe is the only literary journal focused on writing and art by those who have called upstate New York home. Our submission deadlines are coming up in July, so there's still time to submit your poems, stories, essays, or art for consideration.



All submissions must be submitted through [Submittable.com](https://stonecanoe.submittable.com), and there is no fee to submit work. For complete submission guidelines and info, visit

<https://stonecanoe.submittable.com>

SEE INSIDE FOR...

- **Summer Author Readings**
- **Adult Writing Workshops**
- **Teen Writing Programs**
- **Registration Info**

SUMMER 2022 READINGS

For readings marked **ONLINE**, click the author photo to register for the Zoom event. For events marked **IN PERSON**, location info is included in the event description.

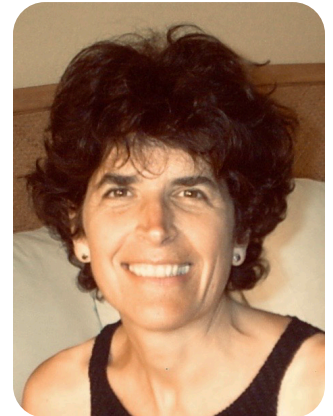
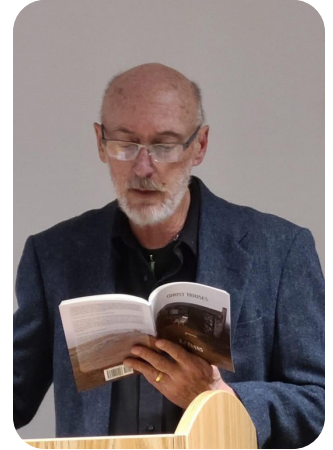
Tuesday, July 12, 7:30 PM

Poets E. J. EVANS and BARBARA REGENSPAN

IN PERSON Backyard of 36 Albany St., Cazenovia (the home of Eric Evans and Heidi Ravven). We're delighted to once again partner with our friends at the Society for New Music for this Cazenovia Counterpoint event!

E. J. Evans is a poet and musician living in Cazenovia. His poetry and prose-poetry have been published widely in literary journals, including *Poetry East*, *RHINO Poetry*, and the *Midwest Quarterly*. He is the author of *Ghost Houses* (Clare Songbirds Publishing), *Conversations With the Horizon* (Box Turtle Press), and the chapbook *First Snow Coming* (Kattywompus Press).

Barbara Regenspan returned to Ithaca after her retirement from Colgate University in 2016, where she taught progressive educational philosophy, social-justice-focused teacher education, and "The Challenges of Modernity." Her second auto-ethnography of teaching, *Haunting and the Educational Imagination*, inspired a new passion for poetry craft, and her first volume of poems, *The Chessmaster's Daughter*, a kind of memoir, was published by Cayuga Lake Books in February. She and her husband David also co-lead the Cascadilla Writers' Group.



Friday, July 29, 7:00 PM
Poet HAYAN CHARARA

ONLINE **Hayan Charara** is a poet, children's book author, essayist, and editor. His poetry books are *These Trees, Those Leaves, This Flower, That Fruit* (Milkweed Editions 2022), *Something Sinister* (Carnegie Mellon Univ Press 2016), *The Sadness of Others* (Carnegie Mellon Univ Press 2006), and *The Alchemist's Diary* (Hanging Loose Press 2001). His children's book, *The Three Lucys* (2016), received the New Voices Award Honor, and he edited *Inclined to Speak* (2008), an anthology of contemporary Arab American poetry. With Fady Joudah, he is also a series editor of the Etel Adnan Poetry Prize. His honors include a literature fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Lucille Joy Prize in Poetry from the University of Houston Creative Writing Program, the John Clare Prize, and the Arab American Book Award. He is a professor in the Honors College at the University of Houston, where he also teaches creative writing.

SUMMER 2022 WRITING COURSES

Workshop Experience Level, Style, and Location Tags

- BEG** **Beginner.** These courses are open to all students, but are geared specifically towards new writers. If you are just getting started with a particular genre, this is the place you should start!
- INT** **Intermediate.** These courses are for students with previous writing experience, along with some degree of familiarity with writing workshops.
- ALL** **All.** Course content is geared to be useful to writers of all experience levels and, frequently, all genres. Beginners are welcome, but experienced writers will also find these courses engaging.
- PRO** **DWC PRO.** These courses are geared towards very experienced writers. Space is limited for those not enrolled in DWC PRO; a manuscript review may be required.
- G** **Generative.** These courses focus on creating new work through exercises and prompts.
- S** **Seminar.** Classes that examine specific elements of literary schools, craft, and/or writing theory in practice, reading often required.
- W** **Workshop.** Workshops focus on peer critique and/or revision strategies.
- M** **Multiple Styles.** Classes will incorporate multiple elements according to the instructor's syllabus.
- DWC** **Course will take place in-person at the YMCA.**
- ONLINE** **Course will take place on Zoom, with no in-person option.**
- HYBRID** **Students can participate either in-person at the YMCA, or on Zoom.**

POETRY COURSES

ALL = M = DWC/HYBRID **Look Who's Talking** with Georgia Popoff. Mondays, 2:00-3:30. 4 weeks, starting July 11. Persona poetry provides both writer and reader with new and often surprising perspectives, expanding possibilities in both theme and point of view. We will experiment with voice as we look at the world through different lenses, using characters in settings other than our own.

ALL = G = DWC/HYBRID **Courting the Spark** with Jessica Cuello. Mondays, 4:30-6:30. 3 weeks, starting July 18. This workshop is designed to stimulate the creative process and bring forth new work, including exercises designed to evoke our own obsessions in surprising ways. Students will write intensively and leave with several new drafts. We will make time at the end of the course to share and respond to our new poems.

ALL = M = ONLINE **Getting Unstuck** with David Ruekberg. Mondays, 6:00-8:00. 4 weeks, starting July 18. Writer's block: Is there such a thing? William Stafford's solution was to ignore "high standards" and "get into action." We'll play with ways to exercise our writing muscles and move through the doldrums and dread, including journaling, experimenting with forms, collaboration, and more.

ALL = G = ONLINE **Lose Your Self** with Sherre Vernon. Tuesdays, 7:00-8:30. 4 weeks, starting August 9. In this generative workshop, we will write poems that begin in our histories, but move beyond them. Our poems will be true, as dreams are true—and just as unpredictable.

ALL = M = DWC/HYBRID **Verse Journalism** with Timothy Carter. Mondays, 3:30-5:30. 4 weeks, starting August 8. What's the relationship between poetry and "the news"? What can poems provide that journalism (or other forms of writing) cannot? This class focuses on shaping what's happening in your community with the concerns of a poet, rather than a journalist. We will use interviews, articles, and photographs to generate new work—with the possibility of talking with local reporters.

MORE SUMMER WRITING COURSES

FICTION COURSES

INT = W = ONLINE **The Writer's Life 4: Workshopping Continued** with Chris DelGuercio. Tuesdays, 6:00–8:00. 8 weeks, starting July 12. The next step in the Writer's Life series, our time will be devoted to peer feedback and exploring specific literary elements. Fine-tune your work until it is the best it can be! Great class for first-time workshop participants or to brush up on your critique skills while kicking your work up a notch.

ALL = M = DWG/HYBRID **Let's Go, Writers!** with Sarah Yaw. Wednesdays, 6:00–8:00. 3 weeks starting July 13. Using craft exercises and prompts designed to develop new work, each session will include in-class writing time, a rapid read aloud to discover the new writing's energy, setting intentions for the week ahead, and selecting readings outside of class for craft and inspiration. Be prepared to loosen your attachments, start anew with a beginner's mind, and be open to giving and receiving positive feedback.

ALL = M = ONLINE **Writing the Middle Grade Novel** with Ona Gritz. Wednesdays, 6:00–8:00. 4 weeks, starting August 3. Have an idea for a novel for 8-12-year-old readers? Already have a manuscript underway? Join us for supportive critiques and informative discussions on the craft and heart of writing fiction for kids.

NONFICTION COURSES

ALL = W = ONLINE **The Summer Flow** with Georgia Popoff. Wednesdays, 6:00–8:00. 6 weeks, starting July 13, OR Thursdays, 1:00–3:00. 6 weeks, starting July 14. Our popular nonfiction critique workshop continues with weekly comments and detailed table critique that are the essence of this group, which welcomes new members seasonally. If you are working on a nonfiction project or need encouragement to resume your writing practice, please join us.

ALL = G = ONLINE **Writing for Social Justice** with Nancy Avery Dafoe. Thursdays, 6:00–7:30. 4 weeks, starting July 21. Do you want to write to make a difference, to inspire activism, to help right a wrong? This is the workshop for you. Structures, genres, evidence, and argument frameworks will be explored. This class is intended for writers with a cause they want to promote. The last class will incorporate reading excerpts from completed work.

CROSS-GENRE / OTHER COURSES

PRO = W = ONLINE **After Inspiration** with Nancy Keefe Rhodes. Mondays, 7:15–9:15. 5 weeks, starting July 11. In this long-form prose workshop, we examine what makes for helpful critique and useful revision. New members are welcome in this continuing workshop.

ALL = M = DWG/HYBRID **Come to Your Senses** with Keith Stahl. Thursdays, 6:00–8:00. 4 weeks, starting July 21. What color is savory? What does fear taste like? Let's get together to generate new work and invigorate the ongoing, employing exercises and workshopping with a focus on summer sights, sounds, tastes, touches, and smells.

ALL = M = ONLINE **Writing Longer Work** with Gemma Cooper-Novack. Tuesdays, 6:00–8:00. 4 weeks, starting August 2. Do you have a great book idea, but get stuck on the beginning; write short stories but want to leap into something longer; or want to form memories into a coherent story? We will discuss brainstorming, outlining, sharpening plot and pace to develop a book. You don't need to already have started—just bring ideas and commitment and we will take it from there.

ALL = G = SEE DESCRIPTION **Writing the Natural World** with Mary Hutchins Harris. Tuesdays, 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM. 4 weeks, starting August 2. Take advantage of summer mornings as we meet in a popular Onondaga County park to create, commune, and enjoy nature. We will stroll, observe, and capture the best of the season. Be sure to bring pens/pencils, unlined paper, and colored pencils.

PRO = W = ONLINE **Photo+Text/Text+Photo** with Nancy Keefe Rhodes. Tuesdays, 7:00–9:00. 5 weeks, starting July 12. Typically when words and images appear together, one serves the other. Images "illustrate" text or text "captions" images. But the two can function as equals. We will consider examples of such successful projects plus participants' own work. New members welcome in this continuing workshop.

ALL = G = ONLINE **Myth Spurs** with Tim McCoy. Wednesdays, 6:00–8:00. 4 weeks, starting July 13. What use is myth in the twenty-first century? We'll look at some key myths and some prior texts that have responded to them to stimulate our imaginations and help us generate work that says something to our tumultuous times.

MORE COURSES

ALL ◻ G ◻ ONLINE **Form-Play** with Tim McCoy. Wednesdays, 6:00-8:00. 4 weeks, starting August 10. Have you ever wanted to write a text like a recipe? Or a Twitter thread? Or a tree branch? In this class, we'll look at various kinds of forms as bases for new pieces of writing and even try to make up forms of our own.

ALL ◻ M ◻ ONLINE **Can We Build with Brevity? Short Forms Make Big Spaces** with Derek Pollard. Thursdays, 6:00-8:00. 4 weeks, starting August 4. "It hurts even worse in French." Six words. An entire story. Economy isn't easy—explore how to write with greater precision to say it just like you mean it in forms like haiku, flash fiction, and short short plays. Experience how vast short-form writing can be and recognize that our work is "bigger on the inside"—whether we're writing senryu or the second volume in a series of historical novels.

THANK YOU

The DWC is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts, and with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency, with the support of the Office of the Governor and the NYS Legislature. Additional support is provided by Onondaga County, CNY Arts, and the Literary Arts Emergency Fund.



**Council on
the Arts**



FOR TEENS

Each of these three terrific programs will hold six-week summer sessions beginning July 10th.

YOUNG AUTHORS ACADEMY

ONLINE

A Saturday workshop for teens and tweens who are on fire to write!
Now celebrating its 10th year.

NUMBERLESS DREAMS

ONLINE

Also on Saturdays, an online writing workshop for teens with disabilities, taught by professional writers with disabilities.

SPEAKING OUT

ONLINE

A new workshop for 9th-12th grade students who identify as LGBTQ+, and their peer allies, meeting on Mondays beginning in June to celebrate Pride month.

All of our teen programs are designed to help students generate new work in a supportive environment.

For more information:

Georgia Popoff
dwcworkshops@ymcacny.org
(315) 474.6851 x380
www.ycny.org/
dwcyoung-authors-academy.html

Courses are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Early registration strongly recommended.

All class times are Eastern, PM unless otherwise noted.

We do not call to confirm registrations; but we will call you if there is any problem.

Refunds are not given after a course begins. (If a course is canceled, all payments are refunded, of course.)

If a course has a required text listed in its description, you will need to obtain that text before the first class meeting.

REGISTRATION FOR YMCA OF CNY MEMBERS

(Y members from other YMCAs, please see instructions at the bottom of this column):

STEP 1: ENSURE A VALID EMAIL ADDRESS IS CONNECTED TO YOUR YMCA OF CNY MEMBERSHIP. If you are unsure, contact Member Services.

STEP 2: GO TO YMCACNY.ORG/MYACCOUNT. Under the "I Want to Set Up Online Access for My Account" box, click "Find Account." Enter your last name, DOB (mm/dd/yyyy) and zip code.

STEP 3: ENTER THE EMAIL ASSOCIATED WITH YOUR MEMBERSHIP. A secure link will be sent to this address prompting you to create a password.

STEP 4: CHECK YOUR EMAIL. Click the link and create your password (must include at least 7 characters and contain at least one capital letter and one number).

STEP 5: GO TO YMCACNY.ORG/MYACCOUNT. Enter your email address and password in the first box, then search for programs and register online!

To take advantage of your free course benefit, use promo code DWC22SUM when you register.

REGISTRATION FOR ALL OTHER STUDENTS:

Register by phone with a credit card by calling (315) 474-6851 x380. If you must pay by check, please call first to reserve your place, then return your form with check payable to YMCA to:

The YMCA's Downtown Writers Center,
340 Montgomery St., Syracuse, NY 13202

Member of a YMCA other than the YMCA of Central New York? You're eligible to take a DWC workshop at the "DWC Member" rate!

<https://ycny.org/dwc>

SUMMER FACULTY BIOS

Timothy Carter is a poet and educator. His first book, *Remains*, won the 2019 BOAAT Book Prize and was published in November 2020.

Gemma Cooper-Novack's theatrical works have been performed in Boston, Chicago, and NY. Her book of poems is *We Might as Well Be Underwater*.

Jessica Cuello's latest book of poems, *Liar*, won the 2020 Barrow Street Book Prize. She is poetry editor for *Tahoma Literary Review*.

Nancy Avery Dafoe won the William Faulkner/Wisdom Creative Writing Competition, and the New Century Writers first place in short story. She is the National League of American Pen Women Letters Chair.

Chris DelGuercio's novella is *Eden Succeeding*. His short fiction has appeared in many journals.

Ona Gritz is the author of the middle-grade novel, *August or Forever*, forthcoming from Fitzroy Books in 2023. Her writing has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Utne Reader*, and elsewhere.

Mary Hutchins Harris is a poet and essayist, and adjunct professor in the Low Residency MFA Creative Writing program at Lesley University.

Tim McCoy holds an MFA from Syracuse University and has had pieces published in *Interim*, *Ekphrasis*, *Stone Canoe*, and other places.

Derek Pollard is editor of *Till One Day the Sun Shall Shine More Brightly: The Poetry and Prose of Donald Revell*. His newest book, *On the Verge of Something Bright and Good*, was published in 2021.

Georgia A. Popoff's most recent collection of poetry, *Psychometry*, was released in 2019 by Tiger Bark Press. She is the DWC's Workshops Coordinator.

Nancy Keefe Rhodes is a writer, editor, and curator whose work covers film and photo. She teaches in the Transmedia film program at Syracuse University.

David Ruekberg has two books of poetry: *Where Is the River Called Pishon?* (Kelsay Books, 2018) and *Hour of the Green Light* (FutureCycle Press, 2021).

Keith Stahl is a 2020 MFA graduate from Syracuse University. His book *From the Gunroom* (Main Street Rag Publishing), won the Joyce Carol Oates Prize.

Sherre Vernon has two award-winning chapbooks: *Green Ink Wings* and *The Name Is Perilous*. *Flame Nebula*, *Bright Nova*, her full-length poetry collection, is forthcoming from Main Street Rag.

Sarah Yaw's first novel, *You Are Free to Go*, won the CNY Book Award and the Engine Books Novel Prize. She is a professor at Cayuga Community College.

SUMMER 2022 ONLINE WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: One Week Before First Class Meeting

Late registrations, where space is available, are subject to a \$15 late registration fee.

Courses (please mark with an "X")	Member Level: YMCA	DWC	Non-Member
<input type="checkbox"/> Look Who's Talking	Free*	\$45	\$65
<input type="checkbox"/> Courting the Spark	Free*	\$45	\$65
<input type="checkbox"/> Getting Unstuck	Free*	\$60	\$80
<input type="checkbox"/> Lose Your Self	Free*	\$45	\$65
<input type="checkbox"/> Verse Journalism	Free*	\$60	\$80
<input type="checkbox"/> The Writer's Life IV	Free*	\$120	\$160
<input type="checkbox"/> Let's Go, Writers!	Free*	\$45	\$65
<input type="checkbox"/> Writing the Middle Grade Novel	Free*	\$60	\$80
<input type="checkbox"/> The Summer Flow (WEDNESDAYS)	Free*	\$90	\$120
<input type="checkbox"/> The Summer Flow (THURSDAYS)	Free*	\$90	\$120
<input type="checkbox"/> Writing for Social Justice	Free*	\$45	\$65
<input type="checkbox"/> After Inspiration	Free*	\$75	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Come to Your Senses	Free*	\$60	\$80
<input type="checkbox"/> Writing Longer Work	Free*	\$60	\$80
<input type="checkbox"/> Writing the Natural World	Free*	\$45	\$65
<input type="checkbox"/> Photo+Text/Text+Photo	Free*	\$75	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Myth Spurs	Free*	\$60	\$80
<input type="checkbox"/> Form-Play	Free*	\$60	\$80
<input type="checkbox"/> Can We Build with Brevity?	Free*	\$60	\$80
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual DWC Membership (1 year)	\$45	\$45	\$45

* YMCA of CNY members are entitled to take one free course per season per membership (a family membership counts as one membership). Additional fees (Book Club, late fees) still apply. All other YMCA members, from anywhere in the country, are eligible for the "DWC Member Rate" discount. Call (315) 474-6851 x380 with questions.

TOTAL FEES: _____ Name: _____

Address (street, city, zip code): _____

Day Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

YMCA of Central New York Member? YES / NO (If yes, branch: _____) DWC Member? YES / NO

YMCA Member from another YMCA? YES / NO (If yes, name of YMCA: _____)

ALL STUDENTS: please previous page for instructions about how to register for courses.