



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

## **THE WRITERS VOICE OF CENTRAL NEW YORK DOWNTOWN WRITERS CENTER and WRITERS VOICE ONLINE WRITING WORKSHOPS – FALL 2024**

### **JOIN US FOR THE 2024 CNY BOOK AWARDS!**

**A literary party that you don't want to miss!  
Join us as we honor all the books published  
by CNY authors in 2023.**

**Awards are available in the categories of  
Poetry, Fiction, Nonfiction, and Children's  
Books, as well as the Nine Mile Community  
Award.**

**CNY Book Awards**

**Thursday, October 3, from 6 to 8 PM  
The CNY Philanthropy Center  
431 E. Fayette St., Syracuse, NY**

### **WANT TICKETS?**

**General tickets are \$75  
VIP tickets are \$145 and get you a copy of  
each winning book!**

**Call 315-474-6851 x380 or visit our website!**

### **KEY TO COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

- BEG** Beginner. These courses are open to all students, but are designed specifically for new writers.
- INT** Intermediate. These courses are for students with writing experience and some familiarity with workshops.
- ALL** All. These courses are for writers of all experience levels--including beginners!
- PRO** PRO/Advanced. Space may be limited in these courses for students not enrolled in PRO. A manuscript review may also be required for new students.
- GEN** Generative. These courses focus on creating new work through exercises and prompts.
- SEM** Seminar. These courses examine literary schools, craft, and/or writing theory in practice; reading is often required.
- WRK** Workshop. These courses focus on peer critique and/or revision strategies.
- MS** Multiple Styles. Classes will incorporate multiple instruction styles.
- DWC** Course will take place in-person at the Downtown Writers Center
- ONLINE** Course will take place online (e.g. Zoom)
- HYBRID** Students can join either in-person at the Downtown Writers Center or online.
- ASYNCH** Students write and share work without a weekly scheduled class.

# FALL 2024 CREATIVE WRITING COURSES

## POETRY COURSES

### READING POEMS, TALKING POETRY

(BEG - MS - ONLINE) with Derek Pollard. Mondays, 6 to 8 PM. 8 weeks, starting October 14. Ever read a poem so good you wanted to share it with everyone? That's what this workshop is all about! We'll share the poems we love so we can apply the lessons they teach us in our own writing.

### PRO POETRY WORKSHOP

(PRO - WRK - ONLINE) with Suzanne Frischkorn. Tuesdays, 5 to 7:30 PM. 8 weeks, starting October 15. Elevate your poems in this collaborative poetry workshop that investigates how great poems work. This class is for experienced poets whose goal is publication. Limited space is available for Writers Voice PRO graduates and other advanced writers. Call 315-474-6851 x 380 for details.

### WRITING FORM POEMS

(INT - SEM - HYBRID) with Gemma Cooper-Novack. Wednesdays, 6 to 8 PM. 8 weeks, starting October 16. Stymied by sestinas? Vexed by villanelles? In this class, we'll tackle various poetic forms, explore their histories, read and discuss contemporary examples, and most importantly, write and share our own poems!

### OVERCOMING WRITERS BLOCK

(ALL - GEN - ONLINE) with Gloria Heffernan. Wednesdays, 10 AM to 12 PM. 8 weeks, starting October 16. We all face it at some point. The blank page that leaves us uninspired or incapable of writing a single word. In this supportive and generative workshop, we'll explore ways to overcome those dry spells and, yes, we'll write poems!

### POETIC LINESCAPES

(INT - GEN - DWC) with Sara Parrott. Thursdays, 6 to 8 PM. 8 weeks, starting October 17. This workshop explores how poets use language to "paint" captivating portraits, landscapes, and still lifes. We will read Diane Seuss, Tarfia Faizullah, Antonio Machado, and others to spur our ideas and develop them into drafts for critique. This class meets in person at the DWC.

## FICTION COURSES

### THE WRITER'S LIFE, PART ONE

(INT - WRK - ONLINE) with Chris DelGuercio. Tuesdays, 6 to 8 PM. 8 weeks, starting October 15. What makes a successful writer? This class helps beginners discover how to maintain a productive writing mindset, find a process that works for them, and overcome obstacles so they can reach their full literary potential!

### OPEN FICTION WORKSHOP

(ALL - WRK - DWC) with Virgie Townsend. Thursdays, 5 to 7 PM. 8 weeks, starting October 17. Writers will draft, read, and workshop fiction in a supportive community focused on celebrating creativity and care. This class will be in person at the Downtown Writers Center.

## NONFICTION COURSES

### INTRODUCTION TO MEMOIR

(BEG - MS - ONLINE) with Susan Keeter. Mondays, 6 to 8 PM. 6 weeks, starting October 21. Do you want to write a memoir or help a loved one write theirs? We'll use prompts based on StoryCorps questions and Modern Love's "36 Questions that Lead to Love," to help you write a manuscript that is soul-searching, intimate and satisfying.

### THE FALL FLOW: NONFICTION WORKSHOP

(ALL - WRK - ONLINE) with Georgia Popoff. Wednesdays, 6 to 8 PM, starting October 16, and Thursdays, 1 to 3 PM, starting October 17. 8 weeks. Our popular nonfiction critique workshop continues with weekly comments and detailed critique. We welcome new members, so if you are working on a nonfiction project or need encouragement to resume your writing practice, join us!

### FLASH NONFICTION

(ALL - MS - ONLINE) with Dan Simpson and Ona Gritz. Thursdays, 5 to 7 PM, starting October 17. 8 weeks. A generative workshop and critique group for writers of flash nonfiction — essays of no more than 800 words. A welcoming place for poets to try their hand at nonfiction and for nonfiction writers to tighten their work.

## CROSS-GENRE COURSES

### INTRODUCTION TO WRITING CHILDREN'S BOOKS

(ALL - GEN - ONLINE) with Susan Keeter. Tuesdays, 5 to 7 PM. 6 weeks, starting October 22. Are you writing for children and wish you could share your work with other writers? Are you looking for a friendly critique group? Be ready to share work in progress, and get constructive criticism so you are ready for professional publishing. 6 weeks.

### FALL READING SERIES BOOK CLUB

(ALL - WRK - ONLINE) with Phil Memmer. Tuesdays, 5 to 5:50 PM, starting October 15. Read and discuss the latest book by authors in our Visiting Author Reading Series. It's a great way to warm up for each week's Friday night reading! Best of all, Book Club itself is free! You just purchase the books through the Writers Voice at a discount. This season's Club includes nine books. Please register by 9/20 to get your books on time!

# MORE FALL 2024 CREATIVE WRITING COURSES

## MORE CROSS-GENRE COURSES

### FINDING YOUR SPACE AS AN LGBTQ+ WRITER

(INT - MS - HYBRID) with Gemma Cooper-Novack. Mondays, 5 to 7 PM. 8 weeks, starting October 14. How can LGBTQ+ writers find space for our work and identify the literary traditions and present moments to which we may belong? We'll read fiction, poetry, and scripts by LGBTQ+ writers, and use these works to develop your own understanding, voice, and skills as a queer writer.

### PRO PROSE WORKSHOP

(PRO - WRK - ONLINE) with Kayla Blatchley. Thursdays, 6 to 8:30 PM. 8 weeks, starting October 17. Through sharing and critiquing each other's work, this class explores how fiction and non-fiction writers craft personal stories that relate to the larger social, cultural, and historical concerns of our time. Limited space is available for PRO graduates and other advanced writers. Call 315-474-6851 x380 for details.

## DRAMATIC WRITING

### WRITE A PLAY WITH A SNAP, CRACKLE, AND POP!

(ALL - MS - ONLINE) with Len Fonte. Thursdays, 6 to 8 PM. 8 weeks, starting October 17. Conflict, diction, and disruption are the basic tools of the playwright. We'll explore them in a series of exercises and move into writing a 10-minute play or scene. Appropriate for first-timers and writers with experience.

## FALL FACULTY BIOS

KAYLA BLATCHLEY is a fiction writer and writing teacher living in Syracuse, NY. She teaches fiction, non-fiction, and everything in between, with the goal of exposing writers to different ways of reading, writing, and revising.

TIM CARTER is the Director of Writing Workshops at the Writers Voice of CNY. He is the author of *Remains* (2022) and *The Pigs* (2023).

GEMMA COOPER-NOVACK is a queer writer, playwright, literacy scholar, and writing coach whose work has been published in over 50 journals. She's the author of the poetry collection *We Might As Well Be Underwater*

CHRIS DELGUERCIO is a writer, teacher, editor, and lecturer. His new collection of short stories *An Unsettled Score* (2023) is available. Visit him at [www.CDelGuercio.com](http://www.CDelGuercio.com).

LEN FONTE'S plays include SALT Award-winner *Werewolf, Wasted Bread, Melagrana*, and others. He taught playwriting at Syracuse University and is a theater critic for the Syracuse Post-Standard.

SUZANNE FRISCHKORN is the author of four poetry collections, most recently *Whipsaw*. She's an editor for *\$-Poetry is Currency*, and is an assistant poetry editor for *Terrain.org*.

ONA GRITZ's memoir, *Everywhere I Look*, explores sisterhood, true crime, and family secrets. Helen Fremont calls it "profound." Lilly Dancyger says it's "Stunning and fearless." Ona's earlier books include *Geode*, an MSR Poetry Award finalist.

GLORIA HEFFERNAN is the author of two full-length poetry collections and three chapbooks. She won the 2022 CNY Book Award for Nonfiction for her guide, *Exploring Poetry of Presence*.

SUSAN KEETER is an children's book illustrator and author and writes non-fiction for all ages. *Sunday's Wheels* was published in Ghana and received the CNY Book Award. Keeter has an MFA from Syracuse University.

PHIL MEMMER founded the Downtown Writers Center in 2000. His sixth book of poems, *Cairns*, was published in 2022.

SARA PARROTT is the author of *Tipping the Water Jar of Heaven*. Her poems have appeared in *Michigan Quarterly Review*, *Dappled Things*, and *Light on the Walls of Life*.

DEREK POLLARD currently serves as the Poets on Poetry Series Editor at the University of Michigan Press. He's a widely published poet and critic, as well as a longtime educator and workshop leader.

GEORGIA A POPOFF is the author of five books of poetry, most recently, *Living with Haints* (Tiger Bark Press 2024). She currently serves as Poet Laureate of Onondaga County.

DANIEL SIMPSON's poetry collection, *Inside the Invisible*, won the Propel Poetry Prize and was nominated for the American Academy of Poets Lenore Marshall Poetry Prize.

VIRGIE TOWNSEND is the author of the fiction chapbook *Because We Were Christian Girls*, which won the 2022 CNY Book Awards for Fiction. Her writing has been featured in *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, and others.

# COURSES FOR TEENS

## YOUNG AUTHORS ACADEMY **HYBRID**

A Saturday afternoon workshop for students grades 6 through 12 who are on fire to write!

10 weeks  
Saturdays, 12 to 2 PM  
Starting October 19

Free for any students in the Syracuse City School District.

Want to know more?

Contact Tim Carter  
Email: [tcarter@ymcacny.org](mailto:tcarter@ymcacny.org)  
Phone: 315-474-6851 x380  
Website: [www.ymcacny.org/young-authors-academy](http://www.ymcacny.org/young-authors-academy)

## WORKSHOP REMINDERS...

**All enrollment is first-come, first-served.**  
**All class times are Eastern.**  
**We do not call to confirm registrations; we will, however, call you if there is any problem.**  
**Refunds are not given after a course begins. (If a course is canceled, payments are refunded.)**  
**If a course has a required text listed in its description, you will need to obtain that text before the first class meeting.**

## THANK YOU

The DWC is supported 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 by Onondaga County and CNY Arts.



**Council on  
the Arts**



## REGISTRATION FOR YMCA OF CNY MEMBERS

**STEP 1: GO TO [YMCACNY.ORG/MYACCOUNT](http://YMCACNY.ORG/MYACCOUNT).**

Create a new account or enter your valid YMCA of CNY membership email and password.

**STEP 2: REGISTER FOR A PROGRAM.** Click "Activities" in the upper right-hand corner, and then click "Register for a program."

**STEP 3: SEARCH FOR PROGRAMS.** Type "creative writing" into the search bar and use the filters to find the right class for you.

**STEP 4: COMPLETE REGISTRATION.** To take advantage of your free course benefit as a Y-member of CNY, use promo code "DWCFALL24" when you register.

Please note that you must complete your transaction for your free course, then start a new transaction for any additional courses.

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## REGISTRATION FOR Y-USA and ALL OTHER STUDENTS:

Register by phone with a credit card by calling (315) 474-6851 x380.

**Paying by check? Call first to reserve your place, then return to your registration form with check payable to the YMCA to:**

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

Members of a YMCA outside of YMCA of Central New York are eligible to take workshops at a discount!  
Use promo code "DWCYUSA".

<https://ymcacny.org/dwc>

# FALL 2024 WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Wednesday 9 October 2024

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

Courses (Please mark with an <b>X</b> )	Member Level	YMCA	WR	Non-member
_____ Reading Poems, Talking Poetry		Free*	\$120	\$160
_____ PRO Poetry Workshop		Free*	\$145	\$190
_____ Writing Form Poems		Free*	\$120	\$160
_____ Overcoming Writers Block		Free*	\$120	\$160
_____ Poetic Linescapes		Free*	\$120	\$160
_____ The Writer's Life, Part One		Free*	\$120	\$160
_____ Open Fiction Workshop		Free*	\$120	\$160
_____ Introduction to Memoir		Free*	\$90	\$120
_____ Introduction to Writing Children's Books		Free*	\$90	\$120
_____ The Fall Flow: Nonfiction Workshop		Free*	\$120	\$160
_____ Flash Nonfiction		Free*	\$120	\$160
_____ Fall Reading Series Book Club		\$160	\$160	\$160
_____ Finding Your Space		Free*	\$120	\$160
_____ PRO Prose Workshop		Free*	\$145	\$190
_____ Write a Play With a Snap, Crackle, and Pop!		Free*	\$120	\$160
_____ Individual Writers Voice Membership (1 Year)		\$45	\$45	\$45

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

TOTAL FEES \_\_\_\_\_ NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS (city, state, zip) \_\_\_\_\_

DAY PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

YMCA of CNY MEMBER? YES / NO (If yes, please specify branch) \_\_\_\_\_

WRITERS VOICE MEMBER? YES / NO

Y MEMBER FROM ANOTHER YMCA ? YES / NO (If yes, please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

ALL STUDENTS please refer to page 4 for details about registering for classes online.