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## FALL 2024 VISITING AUTHOR READINGS AT THE DWC & WRITERS VOICE ONLINE



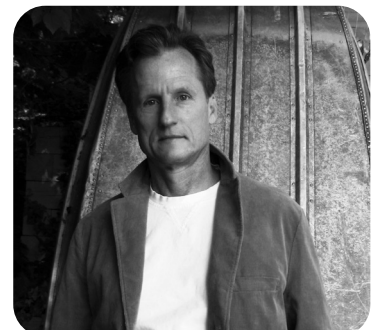
**Friday, October 4, 7:00 p.m. • ONLINE**  
**Poet DORIANNE LAUX**

**Dorianne Laux's** sixth collection, *Only As the Day is Long: New and Selected Poems* was named a finalist for the 2020 Pulitzer Prize for Poetry. Her fifth collection, *The Book of Men*, was awarded The Paterson Prize. Her fourth book of poems, *Facts About the Moon*, won The Oregon Book Award and was short-listed for the Lenore Marshall Poetry Prize. Laux is also the author of *Awake; What We Carry*, a finalist for the National Book Critic's Circle Award; *Smoke*; as well as a fine small press edition, *The Book of Women*. She is the co-author of the celebrated text *The Poet's Companion: A Guide to the Pleasures of Writing Poetry*. Her latest collection of poetry is *Life On Earth*, released in January of 2024. *Finger Exercises for Poets*, a book of concise craft essays and exercises for poets was released in July 2024.

**Friday, October 11, 7:00 p.m. • DWC/HYBRID**  
**Authors GEORGE GUIDA & MARK WISH**

**George Guida** is the author of ten books, including the novels *The Uniform* (Guernica Editions, 2024) and *Posts from Suburbia* (Encircle Publications, 2022); and *The Pope Stories and Other Tales of Troubled Times* (Bordighera Press, 2012), as well as the poetry collections *Zen of Pop* (Long Sky Media, 2020), *New York and Other Lovers* (Encircle Publications, 2020), and *Pugilistic* (WordTech Editions, 2015). He curates the Finger Lakes Arts Series in Dansville, New York, and teaches writing and literature at New York City College of Technology.

**Mark Wish's** novels have been praised by such writers as Delia Ephron and Salman Rushdie, as well as the *Chicago Tribune*, and the *Los Angeles Times*. His short fiction has won a Pushcart Prize and appeared in more than 125 print venues including *Best American Short Stories*, *The Georgia Review*, *The Yale Review*, and *American Short Fiction*. A renowned book doctor for thirty years, he now edits and publishes *Coollest American Stories*. His most recent novel is *Necessary Deeds*; his previous novels include *Watch Me Go*, *Show Up Look Good*, and *Confessions of a Polish Used Car Salesman*.



**Friday, October 18, 7:00 p.m. • DWC/HYBRID**  
**Poet CHRISTOPHER KENNEDY**

**Christopher Kennedy** is the author of *The Strange God Who Makes Us* (2024), *Clues from the Animal Kingdom* (2018), *Ennui Prophet* (2011), *Encouragement for a Man Falling to His Death* (2007), which received the Isabella Gardner Poetry Award, each published by BOA Editions, Ltd. He is one of the translators of *Light and Heavy Things: Selected Poems of Zeeshan Sahil* (BOA Editions, Ltd., 2013), published as part of the Lannan Translation Series. His work has appeared in many print and online journals, including *Ploughshares*, *The Progressive*, *Plume*, *Ninth Letter*, *The Threepenny Review*, *Mississippi Review*, and *McSweeney's*. In 2011, he was awarded a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship for Poetry. He is a professor of English in the MFA Program in Creative Writing at Syracuse University.



**Friday, October 25, 7:00 p.m. • DWC/HYBRID**  
**Poets SAMODH PORAWAGAMAGE & JESSICA CUELLO**



**Samodh Porawagamage** is the author of *becoming sam*, published by Burnside Review Press, and *All the Salty Sand in Our Mouths*, forthcoming from Airlie Press. A practice-based researcher, he writes about the Sri Lankan Civil War, 2004 tsunami, elephant-human conflict, poverty and underdevelopment, lasting effects of colonialism, and disproportionate impacts of climate change on rural and marginalized communities. He enjoys long hikes, birdwatching, martial arts, haphazard cooking, and ghost stories. He works at Hamilton College.



**Jessica Cuello's** most recent book, *Yours, Creature* (JackLeg Press, 2023), was a finalist for the Philip McMath Poetry Prize. Her book *Liar*, selected by Dorianne Laux for The 2020 Barrow Street Book Prize, was honored with The Eugene Nassar Prize, The CNY Book Award, and a finalist nod for The Housatonic Book Award. Cuello is also the author of *Hunt* (The Word Works, 2017) and *Pricking* (Tiger Bark Press, 2016). Cuello has been awarded a 2023 NYSCA Artist Grant, The 2022 Nina Riggs Poetry Prize, two CNY Book Awards, The 2016 Washington Prize, The New Letters Poetry Prize, a Saltonstall Fellowship, and The New Ohio Review Poetry Prize. She is poetry editor at *Tahoma Literary Review* and teaches French in Central NY.

**STUDENT AND MEMBER OPEN MIC NIGHT**  
**Friday, December 6, 7:00 p.m. at the DWC**

All Writers Voice events are free and open to the public. All start times are Eastern. Events labeled **DWC** are held in-person at the Downtown Writers Center, located in the Downtown YMCA at 340 Montgomery St. in Syracuse. Events labeled **ONLINE** are held only on Zoom. Events labeled **HYBRID** are offered at the DWC and also on Zoom. To reserve your spot in the online audience for any **ONLINE** or **HYBRID** event, click the author photo for a link to the Zoom registration page.





**Friday, November 8, 7:00 p.m. • ONLINE**  
**Poets SARA DANIELE RIVERA & LESLIE NEUSTADT**

**Sara Daniele Rivera** is a Cuban Peruvian American artist, writer, translator, and educator. Her writing has appeared in *The BreakBeat Poets Vol. 4: LatiNext*, *Solstice*, *Waxwing*, *Speculative Fiction for Dreamers: A Latinx Anthology*, and elsewhere. She was the recipient of a 2017 St. Botolph Club Emerging Artist Award, the winner of the 2018 Stephen Dunn Prize in Poetry (*Solstice Magazine*), and a 2022 Tin House resident. She is a co-translator of *The Blinding Star: Selected Poems by Blanca Varela* (Tolsun Books, 2021) and co-editor of *Not Your Papi's Utopia: Latinx Visions of Radical Hope* (Mouthfeel Press, 2025). Her debut book of poetry, *The Blue Mimes* (Graywolf Press, 2024), won the 2023 Academy of American Poets First Book Award. She lives in Albuquerque, New Mexico.



**Leslie B. Neustadt** is a retired attorney, poet, and collage artist. Her books include *Becoming Fruit: a Poetic Journey* (Spirit Wind Books, 2014), and most recently, *The Sustenance of Stars* (Kelsay Books, 2024). Her poems have been published in a number of anthologies and journals, including *Veils, Halos & Shackles*, *International Poetry on the Oppression and Empowerment of Women*; *The Bloomsbury Anthology of Contemporary American Jewish Poetry*; *Rumors Secrets & Lies: Stories & Poems About Pregnancy, Abortion & Choice*, and others. She is a board member of the International Women's Writing Guild, chairs its program committee, and produces their workshop series. She lives in Niskayuna, NY.

**Friday, November 15, 7:00 p.m. • ONLINE**  
**Poet JAN BEATTY**

**Jan Beatty's** eighth book, *Dragstripping*, was published by the University of Pittsburgh Press, September, 2024. Her memoir, *American Bastard*, won the Red Hen Nonfiction Award. Recent books include *The Body Wars* and a chapbook, *Skydog* (Lefty Blondie Press, 2022). Other work includes *Jackknife: New and Selected Poems* (University of Pittsburgh, 2018 Paterson Prize) named by Sandra Cisneros on *LitHub* as her favorite book of 2019. Beatty has worked as a waitress, abortion counselor, and in maximum security prisons. She is Professor Emerita at Carlow University, where she directed creative writing, the Madwomen in the Attic workshops, and the MFA program. [www.janbeatty.com](http://www.janbeatty.com)



**Friday, November 22, 7:00 p.m. • ONLINE**  
**Poet JOY LADIN**

**Joy Ladin** is the author of ten books of poetry, including her latest collection, *Shekhinah Speaks*; National Jewish Book Award winner *The Book of Anna*; and Lambda Literary Award finalists *Transmigration* and *Impersonation*, reissued in a revised edition as a free PDF from DoubleBack in April. A new collection, *Family*, is new in September 2024. She has published a memoir of gender transition, National Jewish Book Award finalist *Through the Door of Life*, and another work of creative non-fiction, Lambda Literary and Triangle Award finalist, *The Soul of the Stranger: Reading God and Torah from a Transgender Perspective*. *Once Out of Nature*, a collection of essays on the transformation of gender, will also be published in September. Episodes of her online conversation series, "Containing Multitudes," are available at [JewishLive.org/multitudes](http://JewishLive.org/multitudes); her writing is available at [joyladin.com](http://joyladin.com).

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You can support our visiting authors and the Writers Voice by purchasing books! You can buy books à la carte, or better yet, join us for the **Reading Series Book Club!** Club details are in our fall workshops brochure. Please contact Tim Carter at [dwcworkshops@ymcacny.org](mailto:dwcworkshops@ymcacny.org), or at (315) 474-6851 x380 to register. To ensure that your books arrive in time for the first Club meeting, please register no later than 9/15 (*Please note: book club titles do not include Jessica Cuello, whose latest book was a previous Club selection.*)

Shipping is \$4 for any number of books purchased... order more and save! Prices include sales tax.

## FALL TITLES:

Dorianne Laux, *Life on Earth* - \$25

George Guida, *The Uniform* - \$20

Mark Wish, *Necessary Deeds* - \$17

Christopher Kennedy, *The Strange God Who Makes Us* - \$17

Samodh Porawagamage, *becoming sam* - \$14

Sara Daniele Rivera, *The Blue Mimes* - \$17

Leslie B. Neustadt, *The Sustenance of Stars* - \$22

Jan Beatty, *Dragstripping* - \$17

Joy Ladin, *Family* - \$17

**EMAIL [PMEMMER@YMCACNY.ORG](mailto:PMEMMER@YMCACNY.ORG) TO ORDER**

# JOIN US FOR THE 2024 CNY BOOK AWARDS!

**Thursday, October 3, 6:00-8:00 P.M.**  
**The CNY Philanthropy Center, 431 E. Fayette St., Syracuse**

Each year, the YMCA of CNY's Writers Voice hosts the CNY Book Awards, to honor the best books written in the previous year by authors from the Central New York region.

The event is a fundraiser in support of our important literary arts activities.

Join us for food and beverages, meet the nominated authors, buy books, and of course, hear the winners announced live!

**CLICK HERE TO PURCHASE TICKETS**

## THANK YOU

The Writers Voice of the YMCA of Central New York 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 and CNY Arts.



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