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SPRING 2025 VISITING AUTHOR READINGS AT THE DWC AND WRITERS VOICE ONLINE

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The Syracuse University Humanities Center, in the College of Arts and Sciences, presents as part of the 2024-25 Syracuse Symposium™ on Community

The Beloved Community: A Reading by Poet **PATRICIA SPEARS JONES** Thursday, April 3, 7:00 p.m. • **DWC/HYBRID**

Patricia Spears Jones is a poet, playwright, anthologist, educator, and cultural activist. She is the winner of the 2017 Jackson Poetry Prize from *Poets & Writers* and is the 2023 New York State Poet Laureate. Her most recent book is *The Beloved Community* (Copper Canyon, 2023). She is also the author of *A Lucent Fire: New and Selected Poems*. Her work is anthologized in *African American Poetry: 250 Years of Struggle and Song*; *Of Poetry and Protest: From Emmett Till to Trayvon Martin*; and *BAX 2016: Best American Experimental Writing*. Her poems have been published in *The New Yorker*, *The Brooklyn Rail*, *The Ocean State Review*, *Ms.*, and *Cutthroat, A Journal of the Arts*. Patricia Spears Jones edited *THINK: Poems for Aretha Franklin's Inauguration Day Hat* and *Ordinary Women: An Anthology of New York City Women*. Patricia Spears Jones co-curated the Wednesday Night Series for St. Mark's Church Poetry Project. She has taught graduate and undergraduate creative writing at Hollins University, Adelphi University, Hunter College, and Barnard College. She organizes the American Poets Congress and is a Senior Fellow Emeritus of the Black Earth Institute. She lives in Brooklyn, NY.



Thursday, April 10, 7:00 p.m. • **DWC/HYBRID** **2025 Writers Voice Benefit Reading** with poet **PATRICK MEEDS**

Join us to celebrate Patrick Meeds' brand new collection of poems, *The Invisible Man's Tailor*, and support the important work of the DWC and Writers Voice Online! This event will be live at the DWC's Shinder Theater, but if you cannot join us in person, a Zoom link will be made available to you.

TICKETS: General Admission is a tax-deductible minimum contribution of \$25. Individuals who donate \$50 or more will receive a free, signed copy of *The Invisible Man's Tailor*... and if you donate \$75 or more, you'll also be able to choose a second free book from a selection of titles from recent Writers Voice events or our friends at Tiger Bark Press. Your gift helps ensure that the Writers Voice's important literary mission continues to thrive. Click Patrick's picture to purchase tickets!

Patrick Meeds lives in Syracuse, and is a long-time member and student at the Writers Voice. He was featured as Grandma Moses Press Poet to Notice for February 2024 and was shortlisted for BarBar's poem of the year for 2024 as well. *The Invisible Man's Tailor* is his first book, published this month by Nine Mile Press.

Monday, April 21, 7:00 p.m. • DWC/HYBRID
Author STEVEN SCHWANKERT

Resurrecting forgotten voices from history's most famous shipwreck, Schwankert's meticulous research unveils the harrowing journey of the Chinese Titanic survivors, exposing a deeply human narrative lost to time and prejudice. —Amy Tan, author of The Joy Luck Club

Steven Schwankert is an award-winning writer and editor. He is the co-creator of *The Six*, a book and documentary project about the Chinese passengers aboard RMS Titanic. He is the author of *Poseidon: China's Secret Salvage of Britain's Lost Submarine* and *Beijing & Shanghai*, a guidebook now in its third edition. Steven is a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, a fellow and East and South Asia Chapter Chair of The Explorers Club, and founded SinoScuba. His writing has appeared in *The Asian Wall Street Journal*, *The South China Morning Post*, *Billboard*, *Variety*, *The Hollywood Reporter*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and more. He divides his time between New York City and the People's Republic of China.



Friday, April 25, 7:00 p.m. • ONLINE
Poets KATE LYNN HIBBARD and LYNN DOMINA

KateLynn Hibbard's books are *Sleeping Upside Down* (Silverfish Review Press, winner of the Gerald Cable Book Award), *Sweet Weight* (Tiger Bark Press), and *Simples*, winner of the 2018 Howling Bird Press Poetry Prize. Her latest book is *Unblossoming* (Tiger Bark Press, 2025). Her work has appeared in numerous print and online venues, including *Barrow Street*, *Mid-American Review*, and *Prairie Schooner*. Editor of *When We Become Weavers: Queer Female Poets on the Midwest Experience* (Squares and Rebels Press), she teaches writing and women's history at Minneapolis College, sings with One Voice Mixed Chorus, the largest LGBTQ choral group in America, and lives with her spouse Jan and many pets in Saint Paul, Minnesota.



Lynn Domina is the author of several books, including three full-length collections of poetry, *Inland Sea*, *Framed in Silence*, and *Corporal Works*, and one chapbook, *Killing Him*. Her work appears in *The Los Angeles Review*, *The Canary*, *Barrow Street*, *Lake Effect*, and many other periodicals and anthologies. After living for many years in upstate New York, she moved to Marquette, Michigan, where she teaches English at Northern Michigan University and lives on the beautiful shore of Lake Superior.

Friday, May 9, 7:00 p.m. • DWC/HYBRID
Poet STEPHEN KUUSISTO

Stephen Kuusisto holds a University Professorship at Syracuse University, and is the author of the memoirs *Have Dog, Will Travel: A Poet's Journey*; *Planet of the Blind* (a *New York Times* "Notable Book of the Year") and *Eavesdropping: A Memoir of Blindness and Listening* and of the poetry collections *Only Bread, Only Light*; *Letters to Borges*; and *Old Horse, What is to Be Done?* His latest book is *Close Escapes* from Copper Canyon Press in 2025. He travels and lectures widely on human rights, disability, literature, and the advantages of guide dogs and human-animal relationships.



Friday, May 16, 7:00 p.m. • ONLINE
Poets LYNN EMANUEL and SHERRY VERNON

Lynn Emanuel is the author of six books of poetry. Her selected poems, *The Nerve of It*, was awarded the Lenore Marshall Award by The Academy of American Poets. She has, been awarded the Eric Matthieu King Award from the Academy, two fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, The National Poetry Series Award, and a fellowship from the Civitella Ranieri Foundation. She has been a judge for the National Book Awards and has taught at the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, The Warren Wilson Program in Creative Writing, and the Bennington Low-Residency MFA Program. Her poetry has been published and reviewed in *The New York Times Book Review*, *The New York Times Magazine*, *LA Review of Books*, and *Publisher's Weekly*. Her latest book is *Transcript of the Disappearance, Exact and Diminishing*.

Sherre Vernon (she/her/hers) is the award-winning author of *Green Ink Wings*, *The Name is Perilous*, and *Flame Nebula, Bright Nova*. Her newest book, *Translating Blue*, is new in April 2025. Sherre has been published in journals such as *Tahoma Literary Review* and *The Chestnut Review*, nominated for Best of the Net and Pushcart prizes, and anthologized in several collections including *Fat & Queer* and *Best Small Fictions*. She also teaches workshops at the Writers Voice.



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

ORDER BOOKS / DWC BOOK CLUB!

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 spring workshops brochure. Please contact Tim Carter at 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 March 24th. For non-Club orders, shipping is \$4. Prices include sales tax.

- Patricia Spears Jones, *The Blessed Community* - \$18
- Patrick Meeds, *The Invisible Man's Tailor* - \$18
- Steven Schwankert, *The Six* - \$28 (hardcover)
- KateLynn Hibbard, *Unblossoming* - \$18
- Lynn Domina, *Inland Sea* - \$18
- Stephen Kuusisto, *Close Escapes* - \$18
- Lynn Emanuel, *Transcript of the Disappearance, Exact and Diminishing: Poems* - \$18
- Sherre Vernon, *Translating Blue* - \$18

THANK YOU

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