

The 30th Anniversary of

A Rally of Writers

April 8, 2017

West Campus, LCC
5708 Cornerstone Dr
Lansing MI 48917

8:30 Registration and Coffee Conference Center

9:00 Opening • Linda Peckham

Keynote • Lori Nelson Spielman (free to the public)
“The (Elusive) Joy of Writing”

10:00-11:00 Session 1 - Letters represent rooms

A. Pitching Your Nonfiction • Andrea King Collier

Putting together a nonfiction story that will interest both you and a particular editor.

B. The Theme’s The Thing • Steven Piziks

How? When? Where? Is it even needed? A workshop to explore the questions. A smartphone is helpful.

C. Talking to Write: Poetry • Terry Wooten

A workshop that will use memories as magnifier and writing muse for free verse.

D. Screenwriting for Everyone • J. Gabriel Gates

Hollywood wisdom that will improve your writing, whether it’s for the page, stage or screen.

11:00-11:30 Authors’ Alley: Break & Books

(Tables by invitation only)

11:30-12:30 Session 2

A. & B. The Personality of the Novel •

Lori Spielman and Julie Timmer

An interactive session offering tips/exercises for creating memorable characters and a distinctive narrative voice.

C. The Elders Project • Terry Wooten

Interview techniques to capture important cultural stories and preserve them as narrative poetry.

D. First Page Roundtable • Alice Spielburg

The opening page of a manuscript often determines if an agent or editor will continue. Learn why from an agent.

At this session, ten people will be chosen by lottery to read their first page; others will learn by observation.

12:30 Feeding the Soul: Lunch & Networking

1:15 Authors’ Alley: Break & Books

1:45-2:45 Session 3

A. Writing for Children • Gijsbert & Robbyn Van Frankenhuyzen

Creating words and illustrations for children’s books that meet the ins and outs of children’s book publishing.

B. YA Needs a Teenager • Landis Lain

How to write and speak in the voice of a teenager when you’re not.

C. Short Stories • Barb Modrack

Give your stories some respect: find them a home in print and online.

D. Settings that Work Hard • Jess Wells

How to use the setting to create credible worlds and move your story forward, while avoiding common mistakes.

2:45-3:15 Authors’ Alley: Break & Books

3:15-4:15 Session 4

A. Historical Romance • Beverly Jenkins

Integrating a romance with African-American life in the 19th century.

B. Ghostwriting • J. Gabriel Gates

How to find money and fulfillment writing other people’s books: breaking in and successfully “ghosting.”

C. Family Story Workshop • Jess Wells

Stories begging to be written: how to go from items in the attic to fully-realized people on the page.

D. Nuts & Bolts • Steven Piziks

A workshop on the basics of submitting a manuscript, who to send it to, and how to avoid being scammed.

4:20 Closing: Last Words & Drawing

Bring this schedule to Rally

Contact on Saturday only: 517-285-7444

Need more info now? 517-372-3385

The program is funded in part by Gibson’s Bookstore, Lansing Community College, and the Michigan Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.



www.arallyofwriters.com

Register online or send registration panel with check to:

A Rally of Writers
P.O. Box 4253
East Lansing MI 48823

After April 1, check website for availability of conference

In Celebration of Rally’s 30th Anniversary

Special Fee for Students: \$35

Richard Bradley Scholarship

Registration and Lunch for Rally

For people 15-22 years old - Submission guidelines online

Deadline: February 15, 2017