The DWC presents, as part of its DWC20 celebration, an evening with author

CHERYL STRAYED

Thursday, March 12th, 6:00 PM at the Everson Museum of Art’s Hosmer Auditorium

We are delighted to welcome Cheryl Strayed back to the Downtown Writers Center, as part of our 20th anniversary celebration! Cheryl Strayed is the author of the #1 New York Times bestselling memoir *Wild*, which inspired Oprah Winfrey to revive her tremendously popular book club, with *Wild* as its inaugural selection for the launch of Oprah’s Book Club 2.0. The story also inspired producer and actress Reese Witherspoon to bring *Wild* to the big screen in 2014. Her other best-selling books include *Brave Enough*, *Torch*, and *Tiny Beautiful Things: Advice on Love and Life from Dear Sugar*. Cheryl Strayed holds an MFA in fiction writing from Syracuse University and a bachelor’s degree from the University of Minnesota. She is a founding member of VIDA: Women in Literary Arts, and serves on its board of directors.

*Please note: This event will start promptly at 6:00.*

**TICKETS:**
$25 for YMCA/DWC/Everson members
$30 for the general public

Call us at 315-474-6851 x380 to order tickets by phone, or purchase online using your YMCA account (see page 3).

*Thank you to our event partners!*
The Everson Museum of Art
The Syracuse University Creative Writing Program
The Golden Bee Bookshop

SEE INSIDE FOR...
- Spring Creative Writing Workshops
- Visiting Author Readings
- Faculty Profiles
- Spring Registration Form
SPRING 2020 VISITING AUTHOR READINGS

Friday, March 27, 7:00 p.m. • Poet KEITH FLYNN

Keith Flynn (www.keithflynn.net) is the award-winning author of seven books, including six collections of poetry, most recently The Skin of Meaning (Red Hen Press 2020), and a collection of essays, entitled The Rhythm Method, Razzmatazz and Memory: How To Make Your Poetry Swing (2007). From 1984-1999, he was lyricist and lead singer for the nationally acclaimed rock band, The Crystal Zoo, which produced three albums. He is currently touring with a supporting combo, The Holy Men. His award-winning poetry and essays have appeared in many journals and anthologies, including The American Literary Review, The Colorado Review, Poetry Wales, and many others. He has been awarded the Sandburg Prize, a 2013 NC Literary Fellowship, the ASCAP Emerging Songwriter Prize, and the Paumanok Poetry Award; he was twice named the Gilbert-Chappell Distinguished Poet for NC. Flynn is also founder and managing editor of The Asheville Poetry Review.

Friday, April 3, 7:00 p.m. • Poet GARY COPELAND LILLEY

Gary Copeland Lilley is originally from Sandy Cross, North Carolina, and was a longtime resident of Washington, D.C., where he was a founding member of the Black Rooster Collective. He received the D.C. Commission on the Arts Fellowship for Poetry in 1996 and again in 2000, and he earned a MFA in Poetry from Warren Wilson College in 2002. He is the author of five books of poetry, including The Bushman’s Medicine Show (Lost Horse Press 2017), Alpha Zulu (Ausable Press, 2008), Black Poem (Hollyridge Press, 2005), The Reprehensibles (Fractal Edge Press, 2004), and The Subsequent Blues (Four Way Books, 2004).

Friday, April 17, 7:00 p.m. • Poet CHARD deNIORD


Unless otherwise noted, all DWC events are free and open to the public, and take place at the Downtown Y, 340 Montgomery St., Syracuse, NY 13202.

THANK YOU! • DWC programs are made possible by funding from the County of Onondaga, administered by CNY Arts, and the New York State Council on the Arts, with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.
Friday, April 24, 7:00 p.m.  
Poets MICHAEL BONDHUS and ALBERT ABONADO

Michael (formerly Charlie) Bondhus is the author of *Divining Bones* (Sundress, 2018) and *All the Heat We Could Carry* (Main Street Rag, 2013), winner of the Thom Gunn Award for Gay Poetry. His work has appeared in *Poetry, The Missouri Review, Columbia Journal, Hayden’s Ferry Review, Bellevue Literary Review, Poetry Ireland Review,* and *Copper Nickel.* He has received fellowships from the Virginia Center for Creative Arts, the Sundress Academy for the Arts, and the Hawthornden Castle International Retreat for Writers (UK). He is associate professor of English at Raritan Valley Community College (NJ). http://charliebondhus.com.

Albert Abonado is the author of *JAW* and his poems have appeared in *Boston Review, Pleiades, The Margins, Zone 3,* and elsewhere. He holds an MFA from the Bennington Writing Seminars and has received a fellowship for poetry from the New York Foundation for the Arts. Every Thursday from 2-3PM, he hosts the poetry radio show *Flour City Yawp* on WAYO 104.3 FM-LP. He teaches creative writing at SUNY Geneseo and RIT. He lives in Rochester with his wife.

Friday, May 1, 7:00 p.m. • Poet JUDITH SORNBERGER

Judith Sornberger’s most recent poetry collection *I Call to You from Time* was published in June 2019 by Wipf & Stock, and CavanKerry Press published *Practicing the World* in 2018. Her first book, *Open Heart,* is from Calyx Books. She is also the author of five chapbooks, and a memoir, *The Accidental Pilgrim: Finding God and His Mother in Tuscany,* published by Shanti Arts in 2015. Sornberger has taught creative writing in many venues, including prisons, colleges, and universities. As Professor of English at Mansfield University, she taught poetry and creative nonfiction writing, as well as creating and teaching in the Women’s Studies Program, for 25 years. A Nebraska native, Judith now lives on the side of a mountain outside Wellsboro, PA.

Friday, May 8, 7:00 p.m. • Novelist ANNE VALENTE


DWC SPRING OPEN MIC NIGHT

Friday, May 15, 7:00 p.m.

We’ll bring refreshments... you bring a brief sample of new work to share (1-2 poems, up to 1000 words of prose).