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DWC NEWS – SPRING 2020

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



GOLDEN BEE
BOOKSHOP

SEE INSIDE FOR...

- Spring Creative Writing Workshops
- Visiting Author Readings
- Faculty Profiles
- Spring Registration Form

SPRING 2020 CREATIVE WRITING COURSES

Workshop Experience Level Guide

- BEG** **Beginner.** These courses are open to all students, but are geared specifically towards new writers. If you are just getting started with a particular genre, this is the place you should start!
- INT** **Intermediate.** These courses are for students with previous writing experience, along with some degree of familiarity with writing workshops.
- ALL** **All.** Course content is geared to be useful to writers of all experience levels and, frequently, all genres. Beginners are welcome, but experienced writers will also find these courses engaging.
- PRO** **DWC PRO.** These courses are geared towards very experienced writers. Space is limited for those not enrolled in DWC PRO; a manuscript review may be required.

POETRY COURSES

INT **Revised and Ready** with Georgia Popoff. Thursdays, 6:00–8:00. 8 weeks, starting April 30. What to do with all those drafts? Where do I send them? Burning questions for all poets. This class will focus on prepping work for publication, employing revision strategies and “beta-test” workshopping.

ALL **Poetry in the Round** with Gloria Heffernan. Wednesdays, 10:30–12:30. 8 weeks, starting April 22. This class offers critique workshopping, along with in-class prompts, examples of work by noted poets, and lively discussion of the craft. Learn to hone a keen edge to your work!

PRO **Rhyme and Its Reasons** with Anne Marie Thompson. Tuesdays, 6:00–7:30. 8 weeks, starting April 21. In this course, we’ll discuss how various types of rhyme—true rhyme, slant rhyme, identity rhyme, and pararhyme—can reveal and create meaning, for both writer and reader.

ALL **Writing Form Poems** with Gemma Cooper-Novack. Wednesdays, 6:00–8:00. 8 weeks, starting April 22. Want to practice pantoums? Learn to vary your villanelles? Experiment with ekphrastics? This class will explore a wide range of poetic forms as we read historical and contemporary examples, and practice making them our own.

PRO **DWC PRO Poetry Workshop** with Philip Memmer. Wednesdays, 6:00–8:30. 8 weeks, starting April 15. This workshop is for experienced poets whose goal is publication, focused on strong peer critique. Limited space is available for DWC PRO graduates and other advanced poetry students. Call 474-6851 x380 for details.

FICTION COURSES

BEG **The Writer’s Life II** with Chris DelGuercio. Wednesdays, 6:30–8:30. 8 weeks, starting April 22. Every writer needs to “tend their garden.” This next phase of The Writer’s Life series teaches how to recognize possible missteps, offering quick, effective problem-solving options while focusing on compelling narrative, a must for future storytellers! (*Required text:* Self-Editing for Fiction Writers, Rennie Browne & Dave King).

INT **The Writers Life III** with Chris DelGuercio. Tuesdays, 6:30–8:30. 8 weeks, starting April 21. This course introduces the peer critique workshop process. The exchange of constructive feedback is an essential element of revising one’s work. With careful guidance, participants will develop the skills and language necessary to take work to new and surprising levels.

INT **Fiction Boot Camp** with Megan Davidson. Thursdays, 6:00–8:00. 8 weeks, starting April 23. For writers who want their fiction to be the best it can be, this class helps with early drafts, deep revisions, or fine-tuning a piece for submission. Receive constructive critique from dedicated writers, and enjoy discussion of effective writing techniques. *Prerequisite:* At least two DWC writing classes.

PRO **PRO Prose Workshop** with Jason Zencka. Wednesdays, 6:00–8:30. 8 weeks, starting April 22. This workshop is for experienced prose writers whose goal is publication, focused on strong peer critique. Limited space is available for DWC PRO graduates and other advanced poetry students. Call 474.6851 x380 for details.

Questions? Call us at (315) 474-6851 x380, or email dwcworkshops@ymcacny.org.

MORE SPRING CREATIVE WRITING COURSES

NONFICTION COURSES

ALL **The Spring Flow** with Georgia Popoff. *Thursdays, 1:30–3:30. 8 weeks starting April 30.* Weekly comments and detailed table critique are the essence of this group, which welcomes new members seasonally. Working on a nonfiction project or need encouragement to get writing? Join us!

BEG **Intro to Creative Nonfiction** with Linda Lowen. *Mondays, 3:00–5:00. 8 weeks, starting April 20.* This class is for the person with a story to tell, be it your own, a family saga, a world event or memorable journey, and those who need to know how to get started. You will learn fundamental elements of CNF as you get your story on paper. *Note: no class April 27.*

ALL **Exploring the Hermit Crab Essay** with Linda Lowen. *Mondays, 6:00–8:00. 8 weeks, starting April 20.* Tell your story through unexpected structures: recipes, receipts, prescription labels and more. This experimental form takes its name from the hermit crab: born without a hard exterior, compelled to find a shell to survive. A creative approach that's challenging, freeing, and fun. *Required text: The Shell Game: Writers with Borrowed Forms, Kim Adrian, ed. Note: no class April 27.*

INT **After Inspiration** with Nancy Keefe Rhodes *Tuesdays, 6:00–8:00. 8 weeks, starting April 21.* What is helpful critique and what is useful revision? When are you done? These burning questions form the foundation of this weekly workshop for essayists and prose writers.

DRAMATIC WRITING

ALL **The Dramatic Monologue** with Christopher Carter Sanderson. *Thursdays, 6:00–8:00. 8 weeks, starting April 23.* Explore the dramatic monologue as an independent form, part of a larger play or poem for stage, film, or spoken word performance. Write, workshop, and revise dramatic monologues with attention to voice and technique.

BEG **Fundamental Playwriting** with Peter Moller. *Mondays, 6:00–8:00. 8 weeks, starting April 20.* Learn the basic elements of playwriting: developing characters and conflict, writing dialogue, building plots/subplots, and bringing a full script together from smaller scenes. No previous experience required or expected.

CROSS-GENRE

ALL **Writing from the Other I** with Mary Hutchins Harris. *Mondays, 6:00–8:00. 8 weeks, starting April 20.* Persona poems and flash fiction allow us to see through someone else's eyes... and telling that story (often our own story, but with a new perspective) gives us insight into ourselves and can round out our own writing.

YOUNG AUTHORS ACADEMY

*Saturdays, 12:00–2:00
10 weeks, starting April 18
(no class Memorial Day weekend)*

A community for the next generation of writers and aspiring film-makers and podcasters. Classes in fiction, poetry, dramatic writing, and digital storytelling give 6th–12th graders a chance to generate new work and provide feedback to each other in a supportive environment. For more info, contact Georgia Popoff at dwcworkshops@ymcacny.org or by phone at (315) 474-6851 x380.

ONLINE REGISTRATION

STEP 1: ENSURE A VALID EMAIL ADDRESS IS CONNECTED TO YOUR YMCA OF CNY MEMBERSHIP. If you don't know, or are unsure, contact Member Services.

STEP 2: GO TO YMCAcny.org/myaccount. UNDER THE "I WANT TO SET UP ONLINE ACCESS FOR MY ACCOUNT" BOX, CLICK "FIND ACCOUNT." Enter your last name, DOB (MM/DD/YYYY) and zip.

STEP 4: ENTER THE EMAIL ASSOCIATED WITH YOUR MEMBERSHIP. A secure link will be sent to this address prompting you to create a password.

STEP 5: CHECK YOUR EMAIL. Click the link provided and create your password. Your password must be at least 7 characters and contain at least one capital letter and one number.

STEP 6: GO BACK TO YMCAcny.org/myaccount. Enter your email address and password in the first box, then search for programs and register online!

SPRING FACULTY BIOS

Gemma Cooper-Novack is the author of *We Might As Well Be Underwater*, and her plays have been produced in Chicago, New York, and Boston.

Megan Davidson has written several published historical novels, most recently, *The Thundering*.

Chris DelGuercio's novella is *Eden Succeeding*. His short fiction has appeared in many journals.

Mary Hutchins Harris is a poet and essayist. She is an adjunct professor in the Low Residency MFA Creative Writing program at Lesley University in Cambridge, MA.

Gloria Heffernan is the author of *What the Gratitude List Said to the Bucket List*, and the chapbooks *Hail to the Symptom* and *Some of Our Parts*.

Linda Lowen is a freelance writer and editor who reviews books for *Publisher's Weekly*, local and regional theater for *Syracuse.com/The Post Standard*, and contributes to *The Writer Magazine*.

Philip Memmer is the author of five books of poems, most recently *Pantheon* (Lost Horse, 2019).

Peter Moller, retired from Syracuse University's Newhouse School of Public Communications, is a founding member of the Armory Square Playwrights, and teaches courses in film at Oasis.

Georgia A. Popoff's fourth poetry collection, *Psychometry*, is new from Tiger Bark Press.

Nancy Keefe Rhodes is a writer and editor based in Central New York who covers film, photography, and visual arts.

Christopher Carter Sanderson is a published and produced playwright and director with an MFA from the Yale School of Drama. More than 200 professional productions directed in NYC, with teaching credits at Princeton, SUNY, and others.

Anne-Marie Thompson, originally trained as a pianist, has taught music and writing at Johns Hopkins University, Lincoln University, and Westminster College. Her book, *Audiation*, won the 2013 Donald Justice Poetry Award.

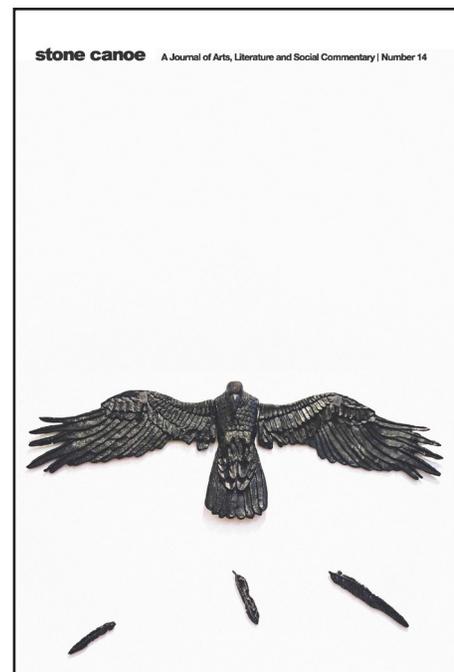
Jason Zencka's stories appear or are forthcoming in *One Story*, *Image Journal*, *Great River Review*, and *Juxtapose*. His story "Catacombs" opens the 2018 Pushcart Prize Anthology.

STONE CANOE

Submit work for consideration for Stone Canoe's 2021 edition (#15)!

Our online submissions portal will open on March 15th. For complete submission guidelines, visit Stone Canoe's page on the DWC website:

<https://ycny.org/stone-canoe>



SAVE THE DATE!

**AUGUST OCCASION 2020
July 31 - August 2**

Join us for the 2020 installment of our annual weekend writers retreat, at beautiful Harding Farm in Clinton NY. Watch for details online, and in our summer season brochure!

SPRING 2020 WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FORM

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: THURSDAY, APRIL 16

Registrations after April 16, if space is available, are subject to a \$15 late registration fee.

Courses (please mark with an "X")

Member Level: YMCA / DWC / Non-Member

<input type="checkbox"/> Revised and Ready	Free* / \$110 / \$140
<input type="checkbox"/> Poetry in the Round	Free* / \$110 / \$140
<input type="checkbox"/> Rhyme and its Reasons	Free* / \$85 / \$110
<input type="checkbox"/> DWC PRO Poetry Workshop	Free* / \$140 / Members Only
<input type="checkbox"/> Writing Form Poems	Free* / \$110 / \$140
<input type="checkbox"/> The Spring Flow	Free* / \$110 / \$140
<input type="checkbox"/> The Writer's Life Phase II**	Free* / \$110 / \$140
<input type="checkbox"/> The Writer's Life Phase III**	Free* / \$110 / \$140
<input type="checkbox"/> Intro to Creative Nonfiction	Free* / \$110 / \$140
<input type="checkbox"/> Fiction Boot Camp	Free* / \$110 / \$140
<input type="checkbox"/> Exploring the Hermit Crab Essay	Free* / \$110 / \$140
<input type="checkbox"/> After Inspiration	Free* / \$110 / \$140
<input type="checkbox"/> The Dramatic Monologue	Free* / \$110 / \$140
<input type="checkbox"/> Fundamental Playwriting	Free* / \$110 / \$140
<input type="checkbox"/> Writing from the Other I	Free* / \$110 / \$140
<input type="checkbox"/> DWC PRO Prose Workshop	Free* / \$140 / Members Only
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual DWC Membership (1 year)	\$40 / \$40 / \$40
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I'd like to add a contribution to support the activities of the DWC! Amount: _____	

* YMCA of Greater Syracuse members are entitled to take one free course per season per membership (a family membership counts as one membership). Additional fees (books, late fees) still apply. Call 474-6851 x380 with questions.

** Course has required text books that must be purchased separately.

TOTAL FEES: _____ Name: _____

Address (street, city, zip code): _____

Day Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

YMCA of Greater Syracuse Member? YES / NO (If yes, branch: _____) DWC Member? YES / NO

Please make checks payable to YMCA and return form with payment to YMCA, Downtown Writers Center, 340 Montgomery St., Syracuse, NY 13202.

Or register by phone with a credit card by calling 474-6851 x380.

YMCA members can also register online using their Daxko account. Please see page 3.

Courses are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. DWC and YMCA members may register for classes upon receiving this brochure in either print or electronic form. Non-members may register beginning March 17. Early registration is strongly recommended for all courses. 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, all payments are refunded.