



2020 Workshop Descriptions

FAYE ARCAND

<https://wordonthelakewritersfestival.com/speakers/faye-arcand/>

Crafting the Short Story

Join award winning short-story writer Faye Arcand to learn the tricks of completing a short story. Writing a short story, whether fiction or non-fiction, is an art unto itself. Learn the different parts of a story, how they work together, and how to write them so the reader is engaged. Come ready to write and explore new ideas.

Saturday 1:45-3:15 Prestige, room - Balmoral

Panel Saturday 3:30-5:00 Prestige, room - Balmoral

Figuring Out Freelance

Have you always dreamed of being a freelance writer? What does that mean exactly? Come learn the strategies that can make a difference to make that dream a reality. Master the steps of how to become a successful freelance writer from understanding the lingo, setting yourself up for success, selling yourself, and even making a business plan. Come prepared to do some brainstorming.

Sunday 12:30-2:00 Okanagan College, room134

ARIANNA DAGNINO

<https://wordonthelakewritersfestival.com/speakers/arianna-dagnino/>

Journeys into the page: how (imaginary) travelling & movement can inspire and nurture your writing.

Travel is commonly associated with exploration, adventure, stories of growth, and personal transformation.

Most of the great writers of all times have tried their hand at or honed their skill through travel-based writing. In this highly interactive workshop, we will discover why this is so by taking you on a journey through memorable stories (of past masters) and highly personal experiences (yours).

Expect to be asked many questions and to have to write your answers in short, fast paragraphs. At the end of the workshop expect to have developed a mental map of your own creative writing mind and of the reasons why it functions at its best once you have really or virtually left the comfort of home.

Saturday 3:30-5:00 Prestige, room - Monashee

Sunday 12:30-2:00 Okanagan College, room 143



2020 Workshop Descriptions

SARAH DE LEEUW

<https://wordonthelakewritersfestival.com/speakers/sarah-de-leeuw/>

Eloquence through Estrangement:

How to Make Your Writing New, Unexpected, Fresh, and Better.

Poet and physician William Carlos Williams once wrote that “what the artist does applies to everything, every day, everywhere...to quicken and elucidate, to fortify and enlarge [life] and to make it eloquent” (quoted in Jamison 2019, 116). In this hands-on and writing-focused workshop, the emphasis is on quickening and elucidating, fortifying and enlarging: expect to leave with new ways of thinking about and undertaking word-work; expect to leave with concrete ways to avoid cliché and think differently about the act of writing; expect to understand how to bring lyric principles and poetic possibilities to the non-poetic, the ordinary, and the every day. This workshop weaves together techniques from poetry with methods and practices more commonly found in literary non-fiction. Be sure to bring a sample of writing (no more than 1 page, preferably under 500 words) written by an author you admire – if you forget, a sample of writing will be provided along with a number of writing prompts. Be prepared to WRITE during this workshop – bring paper and pens or pencils. You’re welcome to bring a laptop, but paper and pens/pencils are essential.

Saturday 1:45-3:15 Prestige, room - Monashee

Sunday 10:35-12:05 Okanagan College, room 143

kc dyer

<https://wordonthelakewritersfestival.com/speakers/kc-dyer/>

Young Writers’ Workshops

May 7th Thursday, Morning sessions

Salmon Arm Secondary School, Sullivan Campus

The Self-Publishing Virgin

A traditionally-published writer tackles self-publishing, and lives to tell the tale. Join bestselling author kc dyer for a frank discussion of the merits and pitfalls of publishing, from self- to traditional, and even some of the places in between.

Saturday 11:00-12:30 Prestige, room Balmoral

Sunday 10:35-12:05 Okanagan College, room 134

Panel Saturday 3:30-5:00 Prestige, room Balmoral



2020 Workshop Descriptions

SCOTT FITZGERALD GRAY

<https://wordonthelakewritersfestival.com/speakers/scott-fitzgerald-gray/>

A Writer's Guide to Editing

This informal overview/Q&A session covers everything you ever wanted to know about editing but were afraid to ask. In a general introduction to editing, we'll talk about the different types of editors that exist in the wild, which types you'll most often interact with as a writer (whether traditional or indie published), and what those editors will and won't do for you. Then extending from the discussion of what editors do, we'll talk about a writer's approach to editing, focusing on tips and tricks that will improve your own work by letting you look at that work with an editor's eye.

Saturday 9:20-10:50 Prestige, room Seymour

Panel Saturday 3:30-5:00 Prestige, room Balmoral

Master Class — “The Language of Story: Plot and Outlining Like Aristotle Never Taught”

Outlining is a contentious topic among authors. Some writers swear by the process; others maintain that outlining is the hallmark of amateurism, and that being able to face down the blank page with nothing but your raw talent and an unhealthy amount of self-loathing is the hallmark of the real artiste. This workshop will show you how both approaches can be one hundred percent right at the same time.

The Language of Story explores the underlying mechanics of how narrative works, and how writers can use those mechanics to our advantage as we drag our own stories kicking and screaming into the light. This is a workshop about outlining, but it's designed for all writers — those who are already outliners, those who've tried outlining and hated it, and those who've been afraid to outline because they've bought into the idea that outlining isn't real writing.

In a quick overview and a follow-up group exercise session, we'll dig into an unorthodox approach to plotting that can make a huge difference in your ability to visualize, clarify, and focus your story. Even if you've already decided that outlining doesn't suit your own style of storytelling, exploring the process of outlining as it relates to the language of story will sharpen your understanding of that language — the underlying mechanics that determine how plot, character, and conflict weave together to create compelling fiction.

Sunday 10:35-12:05 Okanagan College, room 141



2020 Workshop Descriptions

BLU & KELLY HOPKINS

<https://wordonthelakewritersfestival.com/speakers/blu-kelly-hopkins/>

Master Class Don't Tell Me - Show Me

Setting the Hook -

What is a "hook" and how to use it in a song

Song Construction -

Blu & Kelly and participants will be working with rhyme and meter, identifying different song forms and making lyrics fit within them.

We'll be discussing and demonstrating how to create imagery with lyrics, saying more with less.

Participants are encouraged to bring any songs/poems they may be working on.

No knowledge of music is required for this workshop.

All poets take note-a poem is lyrical too. Your poem could become a song!

Saturday 9:20-12:30 Prestige, room Monashee

Conversation with How do we write our poetry and songs?

Sunday opening 9:30-10:30 Okanagan College, room 130

RICHARD KEMICK

<https://wordonthelakewritersfestival.com/speakers/richard-kemick/>

Narrative Nonfiction. What does it mean to turn real life into a real story?

Richard will explain the inner workings of the non-fiction genre and the power that comes from creating a narrative out of actual events. From how to choose a subject, to how to approach those involved, to how to sew it altogether into a single piece, this workshop will be geared towards taking the true and turning it into the truly mesmerizing.

Saturday 1:45-3:15 Prestige, room Seymour

Sunday 12:30-2:00 Okanagan College, room 130



2020 Workshop Descriptions

DAVID POULSEN

<https://wordonthelakewritersfestival.com/speakers/david-a-poulsen/>

Creating Believable Stories

David's writing workshop will give both beginning and experienced writers useful, easy-to-understand strategies they can use in creating their own stories. The workshop focuses on helping writers create real, believable stories that include all of the elements of good story writing including (and focusing particularly on) character and setting. The workshop content is David's response to seeing too many stories/novels that focus only on plot, as emerging writers in particular—surrounded by superhero films and video games--try to create an action movie on paper. David will examine those statements we've all heard like show, don't tell and attach real, practical meaning to the words. Then we will take the strategies discussed and put them into practice as you put pen to paper (or fingers to keys).

Saturday 11:00-12:30 Prestige, room Seymour

Sunday 10:35-12:05 Okanagan College, room 136

Panel Saturday 3:30-5:00 Prestige, room Balmoral

LINDA ROGERS

<https://wordonthelakewritersfestival.com/speakers/linda-rogers/>

Festival Opening Keynote Speaker

Saturday 8:45-9:15 Prestige, room Balmoral

Use your verbs, advice to emerging writers.

"Too many notes" is a comment we often make about musicians who play notes without allowing the pauses where music connects with the player and listener. Similarly, there are a lot of redundant words in writing that beg to be edited. There's nothing wrong with nouns, adverbs and adjectives. They can paint beautiful pictures, but they do not move the story or poem along and they often weigh it down. Life moves, molecule to molecule, minute to minute. We live, we change, and our writing should reflect that, even in still life there is the movement of minute particles of thought. VERBS are the engines of literature, the real muscle in storytelling. In this workshop, we will move the words along, using the energy of verbs.

Saturday 9:20-10:50 Prestige, room Balmoral

Conversation with How do we write our poetry and songs?

Sunday opening 9:30-10:30 Okanagan College, room 130



2020 Workshop Descriptions

It's all in your head, fiction for people who hear voices.

Think of your brain as a diorama, a set to dress and fill with drama, then let the characters walk in. There is a lot of debate about whether plot or character driven fiction is the most satisfying to write or to read. The same can be said of any art form. For sure, dancers need to master technique as do musicians or painters, before they can effectively improvise. Beautiful lift off happens when technique or plot is left behind and the muse takes over. That is when characters live in the writer's head and develop naturally and when readers suspend disbelief. In this workshop, writers will be asked to improvise, get into character and deliver from the heart to the brain, where words assemble.

Sunday 10:35-12:05 Okanagan College, room 153

MICHAEL SLADE

<https://wordonthelakewritersfestival.com/speakers/michael-slade/>

Conflict and tension

Moving readers to the edge of their seats. No one reads a thriller about the pleasant people of Pleasantville to whom nothing unpleasant happens. Monstrous villains, all-or-nothing conflict, and relentless tension turns pages. Learn how to craft "I-can't-put-it-down" roller-coaster fiction.

Saturday 1:45-3:15 Prestige, room Hudson

Sunday 12:30-2:00 Okanagan College, room 136

Shock Theatre

Saturday evening entertainment Prestige, room Balmoral

SYLVIA TAYLOR

<https://wordonthelakewritersfestival.com/speakers/sylvia-taylor/>

LifeStory Writing: Finding the Extraordinary in the Ordinary

From cave walls to computers, humans have been sharing the stories of their lives. Everyone has a LifeStory worth telling and it's never too late or too early to tell it. Whether it's a whole-life autobiography, or slice-of-life memoir, take your stories to the next level and contribute to a legacy of history, heritage, and understanding.

Saturday 9:20-10:50 Prestige, room Hudson

Sunday 10:35-12:05 Okanagan College, room 130

Panel-Moderator

Saturday 3:30-5:00 Prestige, room Balmoral



2020 Workshop Descriptions

KAREN LEE WHITE

<https://wordonthelakewritersfestival.com/speakers/karen-lee-white/>

Make Friends with Your Writer's (Artist's) Block

Our artist soul experiences weather just as the earth does. Wouldn't you love a magic coat to wear in soul rain, soul sun, soul storms and in peaceful times? One size fits all. Let's explore the function of creative blocks. What is it trying to tell us? How do we push through? Or do we hunker down and wait for our creative Spring? No judgement in this space. All welcome!

Saturday 11:00-12:30 Prestige, room Hudson

Panel

Saturday 3:30-5:00 Prestige, room Balmoral

Conversation with How do we write our poetry and songs?

Sunday opening 9:30-10:30 Okanagan College, room 130

Be a Fearless Writer (Especially for The Shy and Terrified)

If you figure out your 'why' you will never doubt yourself or your ability again. Why do you write (or create your art)? Distill and dig deeper. What is your true, pure absolute why? How would you like a set of practical tools to become the fearless and gifted Writer (Artist) you've always wanted to be? To share your voice with the world? What are you waiting for? Let's explore. Fearlessly. No judgement in this space. What have you got to lose? All welcome!

Sunday 12:30-2:00 Okanagan College, room 153