

The 2024 Quills Conference

August 8th – 11th, 2024

The Quills Conference is our premium writer's weekend set in the beautiful mountains of Utah at Marriott University Park, Salt Lake City and streamed online for virtual attendees.

Come learn from industry professionals what you need to be successful in writing and publishing.

Whether you're looking for traditional publishing or exploring indie publishing, find insider tips from top professionals.

Illness Guidelines

The Quills Conference is a hybrid event. If you are experiencing flu-like symptoms, or you've been exposed to anyone with a respiratory illness, we ask that you attend virtually the day of the conference.

Notice of Filming and Photography

The League of Utah Writers will take photos of attendees throughout the Quills Conference. These photos are for League use only and may appear on the League website, newsletter, conference brochures, social media outlets, or other future League promotional material.

This also includes photos uploaded using the League conference app. By virtue of your in-person attendance, you agree to the usage of your likeness in such media.

2024 Guests of Honor



Lisa Bickmore

Poet, Poet Laureate, Publisher, Multimodal



Shveta Thakrar

Author of Nebula Award finalist *Star Daughter*



Maurice Broaddus

Afrofuturist. Community Organizer. Teacher.

Registration

Add-on options include: Bootcamps and Agent Pitches

Friday-only and Saturday-only tickets are now available.

Banquet only and Poet only Brunch go on sale July 21st

Last day to add meals is July 31st!

Super-Early Bird discounts and Holiday Conference Bundle sales
ended December 31, 2023

Early-bird registration opened Jan 1, 2024

Regular pricing started on May 1st, 2024

The application for the Quills Conference Scholarship is now open -
the deadline in which to apply is July 31st.

Regular	Member	Full Conference Including Meals \$425
Regular	Member	Full Conference No Meals \$350
Regular	General Public	Full Conference Including Meals \$475
Regular	General Public	Full Conference No Meals \$400
Late	Member	Full Conference No Meals \$425
Late	General Public	Full Conference No Meals \$475

League's 89th Birthday and Fundraiser

This year, we are holding our annual birthday party and mixer fundraiser during the Quills event and admission is included in your ticket.

If you'd like an extra ticket for a plus one, or would just like to come to the party without coming to Quills, we got you! Click the button below.

Discounted Hotel Registration

The button below will take you to the Marriott reservations webpage where you can book your conference hotel stay with our block discount.

Please note that this rate is only available until July 26th - but since rooms tend to fill up early, be sure to get your reservation ASAP.

You can also call 1-800-228-9290 and reference the League of Utah Writers Quills Conference 2024 with a reservation agent: to get the same discount.

Vendor Tables

Vendor tables are now available to purchase for the Quills Conference, click the sales button for more details.

League Conference Vendor Benefits and Application

Vendors will be situated in Summit - a large room located on the hotel's second floor that will be locked every night to keep your items safe.

To increase traffic to the vendor hall we've done the following:

- Increased time between classes to 30 minutes.
- Made the vendor hall a featured location in the Quills Conference Game, where participants can win a ticket to next year's event.
- Guest of Honor book signings will be held in the Vendor Hall
- Conference snacks and treats will be served in the Vendor Hall

Agents and Editors

*Please note, life sometimes happens.

Agents and Editors are subject to change.

To sign up for pitches, log in to your registration and hit next until you find the listed pitch sessions.



Alan Bahr

Raven Canticle Press AND Gallant Knight Games

Alan Bahr is the publisher and lead designer at Gallant Knight Games, where his RPGs have won awards and become industry best-sellers. He's written for video and board games, numerous IPs, and has been published in nearly a dozen languages. Outside of his gaming work, Alan is a philosopher, comic book writer and letterer, and much more.

Looking for:

Alan Bahr is looking for Fiction, Horror and Dark Fantasy; Fiction, Prose and Poetry; Fiction, Tabletop Gaming



Bernadette Marie Soehner

5 Prince Publishing

Bestselling Author Bernadette Marie writes contemporary romances and believes in Happily Ever After. The married mother of five believes in love at first sight, quick love, and second chances. An avid martial artist, Bernadette Marie is a certified instructor and holds a third degree black belt in Tang Soo Do. She is President of Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers and the CEO of 5 Prince Publishing. When not writing, Bernadette is probably immersed in a Rom Com, from which she will often quote one-liners.

Looking for:

5 Prince Publishing is currently seeking contemporary romance, romantic comedy, paranormal romance, and seasonal romance (such as Christmas/Holiday, Valentine's Day). We are Also looking for 50+ and LGBTQ+ storylines within those genre/subgenres. Projects must be between 50,000 and 90,000 words. Manuscripts must be complete. We do not take idea only pitches. Romance must be the main focus of the story and not just elemental. All stories must include an HEA ending. Series pitches are welcome. We do not take any manuscripts that have previously been published either independently or traditionally.



C.R. Langille

Timber Ghost Press

C.R. Langille spent many a Saturday afternoon watching monster movies with her mom. It wasn't long before she started crafting nightmares to share with her readers. She is a retired, disabled veteran with a deep love for weird and creepy tales. This prompted her to form Timber Ghost Press in January of 2021. She is an affiliate member of the Horror Writer's Association, the DEI Chair for the League of Utah Writers, and she received her MFA: Writing Popular Fiction from Seton Hill University in 2014.

Follow her here: <https://link.heropost.io/crlangille>

Looking for:

Timber Ghost Press is looking for novels, novellas, and collections that fall firmly within the horror genre. Specifically we are looking for weird, cosmic, and unsettling horror. No extreme gore or Splatterpunk. Zombies, vampires, and werewolves are a hard sell, but we're willing to take a look if it has a fresh spin.

We are currently looking for novels/novellas that fall into the following horror categories (We are currently not seeking single-author collections or novelettes this time around):

Hauntings

Possession
Cosmic Horror
Weird Horror
Sci-Fi/Horror
Old West/Horror
Wilderness Horror
Survival Horror
Strange/Liminal Spaces

Pitch sessions are ten-minutes and are non-refundable



Lindsay Flanagan

Mad Cat Books

Lindsay Flanagan is an award-winning editor, author, and co-publisher at Mad Cat Books, an imprint of Roan & Weatherford Publishing. She has published two books, *AnnaGrey* and *the Constellation*, a middle-grade fantasy, and *The Forsaken*, a collection of poetry, short stories, prose, and photographs. Her next novel, *Little Red Wraith*, a young adult fantasy, will be published in August 2024. She has worked in the publishing industry for a decade as an editor at an editing firm and for traditional publishers as well as been an assistant for literary agents.

Looking for:

Young Adult Only

fantasy

sci-fi

historical

horror

speculative romance and romantasy (m/f, f/f/, m/m)

westerns with sci-fi or fantastical elements

diverse and underrepresented voices

the villain's story (think *Heartless* by Marissa Meyer)

magic libraries and/or books love triangles of any type—especially told from a unique pov (the one that doesn't get the girl/guy)

smart female characters

neurodivergent characters

stories with diverse casts



Lisa Mangum

Shadow Mountain

Lisa Mangum has worked in publishing for more than twenty-five years. She has been the managing editor for Shadow Mountain since 2014 and has worked with several award-winning and New York Times best-selling authors.

Lisa is also the author of four national best-selling YA novels, several short stories and novellas, and a nonfiction book about the craft of writing based on the TV show *Supernatural*.

She regularly teaches at writing conferences across the country as well as hosts a writing weekend twice a year in Capitol Reef National Park. She lives in Taylorsville, Utah, with her husband, Tracy.

Looking for:

Fiction

- MG fantasy
- MG contemporary fiction
- YA romance
- YA fantasy
- Adult historical fiction
- Adult mystery



Matt Belford

New Leaf Literary

Matt is a Literary Agent with New Leaf Literary & Media. Prior to joining the team at New Leaf, Matt has worked at several literary agencies and publishers. He received his MFA in Creative Writing from Emerson College, back when he thought he wanted to be a writer. He's since learned the error of his ways and is thrilled to instead be working with authors to help bring their ideas to life. Matt is primarily looking for nonfiction projects with unique takes and fresh ideas to be explored

Looking for:

Nonfiction, Adult: Business, Cookbook, Cultural/Social Issues, Current Affairs, Entertainment, Film, Finance, Food, How To, Journalism, Narrative, Politics Graphic Novels



Ronald Gerber

Lowenstein Associates

Ronald Gerber is a literary agent and manages foreign rights, permissions, and contracts at Lowenstein Associates. Before joining the Lowenstein team in 2019, he spent several years in literary scouting and supported two agents at Writers House. Ronald's clients have books forthcoming from Simon & Schuster, Scribner, St. Martin's Press, and more. His focus is on cinematic stories with strong hooks and relatable characters, and he is

always looking for projects from queer, BIPOC, and other underrepresented authors. Ronald resides in Queens, New York.

Looking for:

Thriller/mystery/crime, contemporary fiction, historical fiction, romance, grounded sc-fi, narrative nonfiction, memoir/biography, true crime, and middle grade



Sabine Berlin

Mad Cat Books

Sabine Berlin's love for the written word has taken her on many different paths. She is an author, editor, and co-publisher at Mad Cat Books, an imprint of Roan & Weatherford Publishing. Her debut novel, *And The Sky Full Of Stars*, was published by Immortal Works. She spends her days working in higher education and her evenings imagining what the world would be like if aliens, alternate realities, and a healthy dose of magic were real.

Looking for:

Young Adult Only
fantasy
sci-fi

historical
horror
speculative
romance and romantasy (m/f, f/f/, m/m)
westerns with sci-fi or fantastical elements
diverse and underrepresented voices
the villain's story (think *Heartless* by Marissa Meyer)
magic libraries and/or books
love triangles of any type—especially told from a unique pov (the one that doesn't get the girl/guy)
smart female characters
neurodivergent characters
stories with diverse casts



Stacey Kondla

The Rights Factory

A life-long bibliophile, Stacey's experience includes working as a Field Representative for Scholastic Book Fairs, managing at Chapters/Indigo stores, freelance editing, and serving on the organizing committee of When Words Collide (A Festival for Readers and Writers). She joined The Rights Factory in 2018 and represents fiction and nonfiction authors across age

categories and across genres. Stacey is drawn to strong narrative voices, innovative storytelling, feeling all the feels, laughing all the laughs, and also the dark and the weird.

Looking for:

My specific wishlist includes fresh new ideas and perspectives in the following genres and age categories:

- Adult hi-concept commercial speculative fiction
- Adult commercial book club books
- Adult historical fiction (not WWI or WWII)
- Adult and YA horror – not gratuitous gore, prefer gothic and psychological
- Adult and children's popular science trade-friendly nonfiction
- Adult and children's history trade-friendly nonfiction

NOT SEEKING picture books, middle grade, politics, trauma memoir, inspirational, self help, poetry, or erotica at this time

Faculty List

*Please note, life sometimes happens.
Special guests and presenters are subject to change.
Listed in alphabetical order by first name.



A.M. Luzzader

A.M. Luzzader is a full-time children's author. She resides in northern Utah and has written and published over 40 books. More than 200,000 copies of her books have been sold in the United States and internationally—both in English and in translations. She is a former president of the League of Utah Writers and has received many writing awards, including Best in Show in the LUW Creative Writing Contest, second place in the Utah Arts and Museums Original Writing Contest, and many others. She was the LUW Writer of the Year for 2019–2020.

Presentations/Panels

Manifesting for Authors: From Dream to Reality,
Amazon Ad Theory: Supercharge Your Amazon Ads, Beginner Author
Pitfalls: How to Avoid Them



Adrian Hummel

For nearly 40 years, I've carried a deep passion for horses. By 14, I had bought my first horse, a dream that marked the start of a lifelong commitment. Now, my home is a sanctuary for 5 wonderful horses, each with their own unique story and personality. Through this workshop, I aim to share my knowledge and experiences with you, to ensure that when you write about horses, it resonates with authenticity and depth. Join me to explore the intricate world of these majestic creatures, enriching your writing with real-life insights and understanding.

Presentations/Panels

Horse Essentials



Alan Bahr

Alan Bahr is the publisher and lead designer at Gallant Knight Games, where his RPGs have won awards and become industry best-sellers. He's written for video and board games, numerous IPs, and has been published in nearly a dozen languages. Outside of his gaming work, Alan is a philosopher, comic book writer and letterer, and much more.

Presentations/Panels

The Art of the Fight Scene - Characters & Combat, The Best RPGs for Writers to Play (And Why!), Writing for RPGs



Anna Bessesen

Holly is an author, poet, and lifelong learner. They are a computer science teacher by day, a writer by night, and queer all the time. When they aren't writing short stories or doing blackout poetry, they are trying to finish the manuscript that is currently plaguing their life. Originally from Denver, they now live in Salt Lake City, even though the mountains here are inferior. The proximity makes up for it. You can find them online at <https://twitter.com/WriterHLVoss>.

Presentations/Panels

Writing with Tarot, Dual Wielding: Fanfiction as a Writing Tool



Bernadette Marie Soehner

Bestselling Author Bernadette Marie writes contemporary romances and believes in Happily Ever After. The married mother of five believes in love at first sight, quick love, and second chances. An avid martial artist, Bernadette Marie is a certified instructor and holds a third degree black belt in Tang Soo Do. She is President of Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers and the CEO of 5 Prince Publishing. When not writing, Bernadette is probably immersed in a Rom Com, from which she will often quote one-liners.

Presentations/Panels

Giving Your All to the 168 Hours in Your Week, Introduction to Independent Publishing, The Art of Writing Romance



Brandon Callor

Brandon Callor is the morgue operations manager at Utah Office of the Medical Examiner (OME). He has worked at the OME for over 20 years implementing systems that are flexible enough to evolve with changing legislation but rigorous enough to maintain efficiency and consistency.

Brandon published a book, *Life After Suicide: The Impact of Suicide on the Ones Left Behind*, where he depicted the various pathways to healing that he and his family experienced after they lost loved ones to suicide. Brandon and his wife, Katy, co-founded a grief counseling organization called Links of Courage.

Presentations/Panels

Virtual Tour of Medical Examiner's Office



Bryan Young

Bryan Young is an award-winning, bestselling author whose work appears in universes from Star Wars and Doctor Who to Robotech and BattleTech.

Presentations/Panels

Exposition: The Art of Restraint, Writing Historical Fiction, Creativity on a Deadline, Bootcamp: Traditional Publishing Prep



C.R. Langille

C.R. Langille spent many a Saturday afternoon watching monster movies with her mom. It wasn't long before she started crafting nightmares to share with her readers. She is a retired, disabled veteran with a deep love for weird and creepy tales. This prompted her to form Timber Ghost Press in January of 2021. She is an affiliate member of the Horror Writer's Association, the DEI Chair for the League of Utah Writers, and she received her MFA: Writing Popular Fiction from Seton Hill University in 2014.

Follow her here: <https://link.heropost.io/crlangille>

Presentations/Panels

Presenting for Presenters, This Isn't the Place: The Use of Setting in Horror,
Something Isn't Right: Horror in the Familiar



Callie Stoker

Callie Stoker is an editor with almost two decades experience. Her business The Manuscript Dr offers coaching and editing services. We believe that writing is a skill that can be taught through the application of individual tools and we love helping our clients elevate their abilities and reach their publishing goals. As an autistic creative, Callie is a champion for neurodiverse representation. She was a guest on Brandon Sanderson's podcast: Writing Excuses, and currently resides in the Dallas, TX area.

Presentations/Panels

Say More with Less: Writing Effective Dialogue, Troubleshooting Tension in Storytelling, A-List Main Characters, Words to Fit Your World, Scenes that Steal the Scene



Candace J. Thomas

Candace J. Thomas is an award-winning author of multiple genres, including Young Adult Fantasy and Contemporary Fantasy Romantic Comedy. Her debut novel *Vivatera* won the LUW Diamond Award for Novel of the Year, as well as its capstone, *Everstar*, won the Silver Quill. She strives to live in poetry and publishes her Sunday poems on Medium. She blogs both on writing and book reviews.

Candace and fellow fantasy author, Jodi L. Milner, co-host a podcast all about being distracted. It focuses on neurodivergent changes, but also just a lot of writing advice, and a heck of a lot of fun!

Presentations/Panels

Bootcamp: Building Your Author's Toolbox



Christina Allen

Christina Allen (publishing as C.W. Allen) is a Midwestern transplant to rural Utah where she serves as the President-Elect of the League of Utah Writers. She writes long stories for children and short stories for former children. She is also a frequent guest presenter at writing conferences, which helps her

procrastinate knuckling down to any actual writing. Her award-winning middle grade fantasy series *The Falinnheim Chronicles* is out now, with many more stories waiting in the wings. Follow her latest projects at cwallenbooks.com.

Presentations/Panels

Kid Lit 101, Wait, Can I Do That?, Comedy (Seriously.)



Jennifer S. Wilkov

Jennifer S. Wilkov is a multi #1 international best-selling award-winning author, producer, an award-winning freelance writer, *The Literary Agent Matchmaker*™ and a literary and entertainment creative consultant. Jennifer was selected as the Top Motivational Speaker, Business Consultant and Best-Selling Author of the Year for 2024. She supports first-time writers and creators and seasoned authors, screenwriters, scriptwriters and playwrights with the essentials to become a bestseller: a great project, a strong platform and a well-polished pitch, presentation and hook for their book, television project, film, or theater project.

Presentations/Panels

Memoir Mastery: How to Tell Your Story So It Sells, Pitch Your Project Like a Pro, The 5 Ways to Publish Your Book



Jodi L. Milner

Jodi L. Milner is the author of the YA fantasy series *The Shadow Barrier Trilogy*, which has won several awards including the prestigious Diamond Quill from the League of Utah Writers in 2023. She's also a cohost of *Squirrel! The Podcast for the Distracted Writer*, runs a small virtual assisting business helping author clients overcome their technical challenges, and teaches at local writing conferences.

When not chasing daydreams or her children, she enjoys destroying movie plots, making amigurumi, and plotting to take over the world.

Find more at <https://jodilmilner.com/>

Presentations/Panels

Bootcamp: Building Your Author's Toolbox



Joe Milner

Joe Milner is the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master of Freemasons in Utah, and next year will serve as the Most Worshipful Grand Master. He is a thirty-second degree Master of the Royal Secret, and a Knight Commander of

the Court of Honor. He is a Knight Templar, a member of the Royal Arch and Cryptic Chapter, and an invited member of the Rosicrucians.

As a Certified Master Ritualist, Joe has conferred many of the Degrees of Freemasonry and other ritual rites, and has been invited to present on Freemasonry and Ritual topics at many conferences nationwide.

Presentations/Panels

Secret Societies and Societies with Secrets



Johnny Worthen

JOHNNY WORTHEN is an award-winning, multiple-genre, tie-dye-wearing author, voyager, and damn fine human being! Trained in stand-up comedy, literary criticism and cultural studies, he writes upmarket fiction, mentors others where he can, and teaches creative writing at the University of Utah. He is a founding member of the Utah chapter of the HWA, a full member of SFWA, RMFW, Pikes Peak Writers, and a lifetime member of the League of Utah Writers. He gets around.

Johnny's best-selling CORONAM trilogy is an epic science fiction tale in the vein of Frank Herbert's DUNE. It is available now from Flame Tree Press.

Presentations/Panels

Morning Meditation and Writing Wellbeing, The Muddled Middle - Writer's Block?, There are no rules; here are ten., Outlining for Non-Outliners, Deeper Reading for Deeper Writing



Kaela Rivera

Kaela Rivera is the multi-award-winning author of the Cece Rios trilogy and the new LEGO DREAMZzz: Dream Chasers and the Riddle-Spokens novelization. She grew up reading the folktales of her Mexican-American and British parents in the forests of Tennessee, but now she writes about them from the soaring mountains of Utah. When not weaving together children's stories, she works as a managing editor for a marketing company. She believes in the power of hope and aims to write adventures that heal. Sign up for her newsletter at kaelarivera.com.

Presentations/Panels

Writing Fight Scenes That Matter, Social Media Isn't a Marketing Plan, How to Make Your Love Interest . . . Interesting



Katherine Monasterio

Whether editing long or short fiction, RPG sourcebooks or podcast anthologies, Katherine lives for strengthening the written word. She lives for creating it, too, as the author of various novels, novellas, and award-winning

short stories. She hails from Cincinnati, Ohio, where her non-wordsmithing hobbies include playing video games and thinking about fictional characters a normal amount.

Presentations/Panels

First Chapter Milestones, Stick the Landing: How to Nail Your Novel's End, Sharpen Your Story, Bootcamp: Traditional Publishing Prep, 3 hour Workshop: Punch Up Your Prose: Crafting Knockout Syntax



Kendra Griffin

Kendra Griffin is a professor, developmental editor, and author who has never met a good dog or a good underdog she didn't love. She is addicted to writing (and reading) about quirky misfits and diverse ensemble casts. In addition to her young adult dystopian Pox series, she has a top-faved science-fantasy serial on Kindle Vella. Kendra has taught college-level creative writing for ten years and coaches authors of all levels. Kendra wishes she could jump between parallel universes and find time to write every novel that has ever occurred to her.

Presentations/Panels

Meeting Your Protagonist, Perspective and Personification, Friend or Foe: Young Adult Dynamics



Lindsay Flanagan

Lindsay Flanagan is an award-winning editor, author, and co-publisher at Mad Cat Books, an imprint of Roan & Weatherford Publishing. She has published two books, *AnnaGrey* and *the Constellation*, a middle-grade fantasy, and *The Forsaken*, a collection of poetry, short stories, prose, and photographs. Her next novel, *Little Red Wraith*, a young adult fantasy, will be published in August 2024. She has worked in the publishing industry for a decade as an editor at an editing firm and for traditional publishers as well as been an assistant for literary agents.

Presentations/Panels

Query Letters 101, Plot & Story Development



Lisa Bickmore

LISA BICKMORE is the author of three books of poems, and is the Poet Laureate of Utah. Her poet laureate project is the micro-press Moon in the Rye Press, which publishes limited edition chapbooks by Utah authors, as well as broadsides made by school age young people. She is the founder/publisher of Lightscatter Press, the mission of which is literary multimodal publishing.

Presentations/Panels

a different kind of integrity: the poetic sequence, harvest business magnitude
& bond: writers building community



Lisa Mangum

Lisa Mangum has worked in publishing for more than twenty-five years. She has been the managing editor for Shadow Mountain since 2014 and has worked with several award-winning and New York Times best-selling authors.

Lisa is also the author of four national best-selling YA novels, several short stories and novellas, and a nonfiction book about the craft of writing based on the TV show Supernatural.

She regularly teaches at writing conferences across the country as well as hosts a writing weekend twice a year in Capitol Reef National Park. She lives in Taylorsville, Utah, with her husband, Tracy.

Presentations/Panels

Top 5 Things I've Learned from 25 Years of Editing, 3-Hour Workshop:
Setting the Stage on the Page



Matt Belford

Matt is a Literary Agent with New Leaf Literary & Media. Prior to joining the team at New Leaf, Matt has worked at several literary agencies and publishers. He received his MFA in Creative Writing from Emerson College, back when he thought he wanted to be a writer. He's since learned the error of his ways and is thrilled to instead be working with authors to help bring their ideas to life. Matt is primarily looking for nonfiction projects with unique takes and fresh ideas to be explored

Presentations/Panels

Advances and Royalties: What defines "success"



Maurice Broaddus

An award-winning Afrofuturist and librarian, he's had over a hundred short stories published in such places as Lightspeed Magazine, Black Panther: Tales from Wakanda, Out There Screaming, Asimov's, Weird Tales, Magazine of F&SF, and Uncanny Magazine. With over a dozen novels in print, his latest include Sweep of Stars, Breath of Oblivion, Unfadeable, Pimp My Airship, & The Usual Suspects. Learn more at MauriceBroaddus.com

Presentations/Panels

Keynote Address: The ABCs of the work: Abundance, Belonging, and Community, 3-Hour Workshop: Characterization Through Dialogue



Michael A. Stackpole

Michael A. Stackpole is an award-winning novelist, game designer, computer game designer, podcaster, screenwriter and graphic novelist. He's had over fifty-five novels published, the best known of those being the New York Times bestselling I, Jedi and Rogue Squadron. He has an asteroid named after him. In 2023 the International Association of Media Tie-In Writers named him their Grandmaster by presenting him the Faust Award. His most recent novel is DARK SOULS: Masque of Vindication.

Presentations/Panels

Building a Solid Series, Plotting, 3-Hour Workshop: 21 Days to a Novel, Bootcamp: Traditional Publishing Prep



Rachael Bush

Rachael Bush published her fourth book, *Love on Location*, with The Wild Rose Press in 2018 under her pen name, September Roberts. As September, she writes romance that's smoking hot and always happy ever after. As Rachael, she writes the *Botany for Everyone* series, because everyone should know the basics of botany. You can find out more at botanyforeveryone.com. When she's not writing, she volunteers as the President of the League of Utah Writers, serves as the Blue Quill chapter president, and builds the app for their conferences. For nerdy science and art, follow Rachael on Instagram @botanyforeveryone

Presentations/Panels

Bees, Wasps, and Hornets Oh My!, Illustrating and Publishing Your Book



Rae Smith

Rae Smith is a retired body removal technician and French Quarter vampire. Her horror short stories and poetry have been published in the *Daughters of Darkness* horror anthology and the *Touchstones* literary journal. In her spare time, she enjoys ghost hunting and long walks through ancient cemeteries at night.

Presentations/Panels

Decomp 101: Describing Death, Crime Scenes and Corpses, The Radical Resistance of Prose Poetry, A Day in the Life of a Body Removal Technician



Ronald Gerber

Ronald Gerber is a literary agent and manages foreign rights, permissions, and contracts at Lowenstein Associates. Before joining the Lowenstein team in 2019, he spent several years in literary scouting and supported two agents at Writers House. Ronald's clients have books forthcoming from Simon & Schuster, Scribner, St. Martin's Press, and more. His focus is on cinematic stories with strong hooks and relatable characters, and he is always looking for projects from queer, BIPOC, and other underrepresented authors. Ronald resides in Queens, New York.

Presentations/Panels

Mastering The In-Person Pitch



Sabine Berlin

Sabine Berlin's love for the written word has taken her on many different paths. She is an author, editor, and co-publisher at Mad Cat Books, an imprint of Roan & Weatherford Publishing. Her debut novel, *And The Sky Full Of Stars*, was published by Immortal Works. She spends her days working in higher education and her evenings imagining what the world would be like if

aliens, alternate realities, and a healthy dose of magic were real.

Presentations/Panels

Dazzling Dialogue, 3-Hour Workshop: Query Letters 101



Shveta Thakrar

Shveta Thakrar is a part-time nagini and full-time believer in magic. Her work has appeared in a number of magazines and anthologies, including ENCHANTED LIVING, UNCANNY MAGAZINE, A THOUSAND BEGINNINGS AND ENDINGS, and TOIL & TROUBLE. Her debut young adult fantasy novel, STAR DAUGHTER, was a finalist for the 2021 Andre Norton Nebula Award, and her second and third novels, THE DREAM RUNNERS and the forthcoming DIVINING THE LEAVES, take place in the same universe. Her adult fantasy novella, INTO THE MOON GARDEN, is available as an original audiobook from Audible.

Presentations/Panels

Keynote Address: Looking from the Outside In: When There's No Chair for You at the Table, 3-Hour Workshop: Writing from Global Myth and Wonder Tales



Stacey Kondla

A life-long bibliophile, Stacey's experience includes working as a Field Representative for Scholastic Book Fairs, managing at Chapters/Indigo stores, freelance editing, and serving on the organizing committee of When Words Collide (A Festival for Readers and Writers). She joined The Rights Factory in 2018 and represents fiction and nonfiction authors across age categories and across genres. Stacey is drawn to strong narrative voices, innovative storytelling, feeling all the feels, laughing all the laughs, and also the dark and the weird.

Presentations/Panels

Publishing Contracts and Subrights - A Primer, Ask Agent Panel

2024 Quills Classes

*Please note, life sometimes happens.
Classes are subject to change.

Ask an expert

Beginner

Secret Societies and Societies with Secrets

Do you want to add a secret society to your next story? Have you ever wondered how they work – their history, rules, codes, and ancient ceremonies? Join Joe Milner, Deputy Grand Master of Freemasons, for an insightful look at real fraternal groups. He'll tell you everything about them – that he is allowed to, of course!

Presented by: Joe Milner

Ask An Expert

Beginner

Bees, Wasps, and Hornets Oh My!

Many people don't know the difference between bees, wasps, and hornets and it shows in their writing. This hands-on session will feature a collection of preserved insects and equipment and tools beekeepers use.

Presented by: Rachael Bush

Ask An Expert

Beginner

Decomp 101: Describing Death

Sometimes people in our stories die. Let's talk about what that looks like, how we can write about it, and some common pitfalls to avoid when writing about what happens after life ends.

Presented by: Rae Smith

Ask An Expert

Beginner

Crime Scenes and Corpses

Let's take a peak behind the curtain and talk about the logistics of death. So you've found a body? What happens next?

Presented by: Rae Smith

Ask An Expert

Beginner

A Day in the Life of a Body Removal Technician

Body snatchers, funeral drivers, removal technicians. It's a dirty job but someone's gotta do it. What does a typical day look like in the life of a body removal expert?

Presented by: Rae Smith

Ask An Expert

Beginner

Writing for RPGs

Best-selling publisher and RPG author Alan Bahr will walk you through how to freelance, create and write for RPGs.

Presented by: Alan Bahr

Ask An Expert

Intermediate

Horse Essentials

Horse mastery session, led by a lifelong horse lover. Dive into horse anatomy, care, riding basics, and behavior. Learn to distinguish between Western and English tack, understand daily horse ownership, and communicate with these magnificent animals. Ideal for enthusiasts and writers seeking authentic equine insights.

Presented by: Adrian Hummel

Craft

Beginner

Dazzling Dialogue

Learn the most common mistakes writers make when using dialogue. From punctuation foul-ups to tagging faux pas this course teaches the tips to create dialogue that will dazzle your readers from beginning to end.

Presented by: Sabine Berlin

Craft

Beginner

First Chapter Milestones

Explore the narrative beats you'll need to cover in the first 5-10% of your novel, including key character moments, plot points, foreshadowing, and more, all in the interest of keeping your readers reading.

Presented by: Katherine Monasterio

Craft

Beginner

Writing Fight Scenes That Matter

Most readers like compelling action scenes, but they can easily get confusing or boring if the writer doesn't combine the right amount of clear blocking, build-up, and emotional impact. In this classes, we'll go over these principles so your fight scenes will be more than exciting—they'll be memorable.

Presented by: Kaela Rivera

Craft

Beginner

Exposition: The Art of Restraint

Including exposition in your story is one of the most difficult balancing acts a writer can make. How much is too much? How much is too little? Bryan Young walks you through strategies to keep exposition to a minimum and helps you find ways to layer it in naturally, making your story or script better and more readable.

Presented by: Bryan Young

Craft

Beginner

Building a Solid Series

NYT Bestselling author Michael A. Stackpole will walk you through the steps of creating the basis for an enduring series. You'll learn about the different types of series, the various presentations and when each is appropriate, as

well as character growth and story creation to maximize the potential for both.

Presented by: Michael A. Stackpole

Craft

Beginner

This Isn't the Place: The Use of Setting in Horror

Explore the significance of setting in horror writing, examining how to establish a sense of atmosphere and unease. Analyze how different locations, from abandoned houses to haunted forests, can shape the narrative and amplify the horror.

Presented by: C.R. Langille

Craft

Beginner

Something Isn't Right: Horror in the Familiar

Investigate the concept of "the horror of the familiar," examining how everyday objects, situations, and routines can be transformed into sources of fear. Analyze how writers can subvert expectations and turn the mundane into the monstrous.

Presented by: C.R. Langille

Craft

Beginner

Stick the Landing: How to Nail Your Novel's End

Gain confidence in the narrative beats, character moments, and payoffs your novel needs to finish with a bang and satisfy your reader to the last page.

Presented by: Katherine Monasterio

Craft

Beginner

Writing Historical Fiction

Writing historical fiction stories can be difficult. Knowing when to research a detail vs. fictionalize can be difficult. This presentation aims to give you the tools you need to know the difference, as well as resources for doing it.

Presented by: Bryan Young

Craft

Beginner

Sharpen Your Story

Take advantage of an editor's perspective with these strategies to keep your novel enticing, engaging, and on point.

Presented by: Katherine Monasterio

Craft

Beginner

The Art of the Fight Scene - Characters & Combat

Alan Bahr will present a discussion on how combat and fighting can communicate about characters without any words being said. Drawing from ideas present in wuxia literature and cinema, comic books and comic book

films, professional wrestling and much more, Alan will walk you through "The Art of the Fight Scene".

Presented by: Alan Bahr

Craft

Beginner

Dual Wielding: Fanfiction as a Writing Tool

Dual Wielding is an examination of the role that fanfiction plays in popular culture, as well as how it can be leveraged as a writing tool for writers of all levels to become better acquainted with their characters.

Presented by: Anna Bessesen

Craft

Beginner

Plotting

NYT Bestselling author Michael A. Stackpole unravels the mysteries of creating compelling plots. A novel is a huge undertaking and the plot has to hold it all together. From creating an outline to maintaining flexibility, this seminar gives you the insider knowledge that will separate you from all of your peers.

Presented by: Michael A. Stackpole

Craft

Beginner

A-List Main Characters

Do you have a great story but a flat main character? Perhaps you find yourself writing a plot around a "placeholder" protagonist? Learn the specific writing

skills of sequel, deep POV, and characterization to create a character-driven plot that will make your protagonist memorable enough to be cosplayed by your fans.

Presented by: Callie Stoker

Craft

Beginner

The Art of Writing Romance

There is an art to writing romance with its wonderfully yummy tropes and sub-genres. Romance is also the biggest selling genre on the market, so why not try your hand at it?

In this workshop we will explore reader and publisher expectations of romance novels.

Presented by: Bernadette Marie Soehner

Craft

Intermediate

Top 5 Things I've Learned from 25 Years of Editing

Lisa Mangum has been in the publishing business for 25+ years, and she's learned a few things about both the practical side of storytelling (writing/revising/editing) and the personal side (honoring your heart and finding your voice). Come learn her top 5 bits of advice that might help you on your own journey.

Presented by: Lisa Mangum

Craft

Intermediate

Say More with Less: Writing Effective Dialogue

This presentation focuses on communication between characters using dialogue, body language, and between-the-lines intention. Pull back from “on the nose” writing and allow dialogue to be driven by character motives, intentions, and context. Use of media to show examples.

Presented by: Callie Stoker

Craft

Intermediate

Meeting Your Protagonist

Have you been waiting for your protagonist to spill their secrets to you? Attend this workshop to learn more about what your character might be hiding between the pages. We'll also discuss character arc, motivation, and which details reader want to know about your protagonist in the first few pages.

Presented by: Kendra Griffin

Craft

Intermediate

How to Make Your Love Interest . . . Interesting

Want readers to swoon for your love interest? In this class, we'll break down what makes a love interest bland and use the principles of the Companion Arc to create love interests that are compelling for the reader, the protagonist, and the plot.

Presented by: Kaela Rivera

Craft

Intermediate

Plot & Story Development

What is plot? What is story? What's the difference? Whether you're in the drafting stage or the revising stage, nailing down what your story is and what your plot is--and knowing the individual components that make up plot and story--will make your manuscript a page-turner!

Presented by: Lindsay Flanagan

Craft

Intermediate

Friend or Foe: Young Adult Dynamics

This workshop will examine the challenges of writing authentic peer relationships between young adult characters, the importance of creating tension between friends and points of similarity between “foes,” and how using contrasting traits (foils) can keep the tension and electricity high for teen readers.

Presented by: Kendra Griffin

Craft

Intermediate

Outlining for Non-Outliners

Whether you're a panther or a plotter, you should be a plotter to some degree. A modicum of planning, a tad of organization, a smidgeon of foresight, pays dividends in allowing one to create effectively and reliably. Class will explore macro planning and micro-planning.

Presented by: Johnny Worthen

Craft

Intermediate

Comedy (Seriously.)

No matter your audience, genre, or format, applying the principles that make comedy writing work can take any project from predictable to un-put-downable! This presentation is geared toward writers of any level of experience, with writing from laugh out loud to deathly dramatic.

Presented by: Christina Allen

Marketing

Beginner

Social Media Isn't a Marketing Plan

Tik Tok seems fun, but social media does not an intentional marketing plan make. In this class, we'll go over the difference between a marketing plan, social media tactics, personal branding, and author career trajectory to better help attendees focus on, and develop, their creative careers intentionally.

Presented by: Kaela Rivera

Marketing

Advanced

Amazon Ad Theory: Supercharge Your Amazon Ads

Are you familiar with the process of creating Amazon Ads, but you're struggling to get traction and sell books? Do you need assistance to make your ads effective? No instruction about creating ads will be provided; instead, you'll learn the ad theory developed by A.M. Luzzader, which has helped her sell thousands of books.

Presented by: A.M. Luzzader

Non-Fiction

Beginner

Memoir Mastery: How to Tell Your Story So It Sells

Understand what it takes to actually tell your powerful story in an impactful way. Master the art of crafting your personal story into a memoir that sells! Discover how to present your amazing story, where to begin it, and start using it to attract more readers, agents, producers, publicists, press and clients.

Presented by: Jennifer S. Wilkov

Poetry

Beginner

The Radical Resistance of Prose Poetry

What is poetry and if you know what poetry is what is prose" -Gertrude Stein. Come learn about Prose Poetry: the genre that resists definitions and breaks all the rules.

Presented by: Rae Smith

Poetry

Intermediate

Perspective and Personification

This session will encourage you to stretch your understanding of voice and POV. We'll dig into the poetic technique of occupying the space of creatures and objects and learning what they have to tell us about the human condition.

Presented by: Kendra Griffin

Practical Applications

Beginner

Presenting for Presenters

Will present with Missy Oveson and Sharee Hughes. Learn to how to give your presentation to an audience in the best way possible so that everyone can understand what you're saying, hear you, and receive your information.

Presented by: C.R. Langille

Practical Applications

Beginner

Manifesting for Authors: From Dream to Reality

Do you dream of being a successful, working author but can't seem to transform this dream into a reality? Do you wonder why others enjoy success, but you can't seem to make it happen? This class focuses on using the principles of manifestation and the law of attraction to achieve your writing and publishing aspirations.

Presented by: A.M. Luzzader

Practical Applications

Beginner

Giving Your All to the 168 Hours in Your Week

With deadlines looming and a life beyond the literary world, the only way to maximize your productivity is to have the right tools when it comes to managing your time. Learn multiple time management techniques that you

can interchange and master in order to live your best life and be as successful as you want to be.

Presented by: Bernadette Marie Soehner

Practical Applications

Beginner

Writing with Tarot

Writing with Tarot is a course for writers of any level that would benefit from strategies to get to know characters, generate prompts, and delve deeper into their plots. It covers a variety of ways in which to use Tarot to enhance their writing.

Presented by: Anna Bessesen

Practical Applications

Intermediate

Morning Meditation and Writing Wellbeing

Join author Johnny for discoveries in eastern philosophy with their application to the life of an author with its many disappointments. Sessions include directed mindfulness meditation and lecture on concepts that directly speak to the writer's journey.

Presented by: Johnny Worthen

Practical Applications

Intermediate

The Best RPGs for Writers to Play (And Why!)

Discover which roleplaying games can help elevate your writing as you play and learn about rpgs that go deeper into the weeds than you ever thought.

Presented by: Alan Bahr

Practical Applications

Intermediate

Creativity on a Deadline

Part of making writing a career is being able to hit your deadlines. And sometimes creativity isn't all that easy to tap into on the clock. Bryan Young will teach you how to schedule and structure your writing life to help you meet your deadlines no matter what with proven techniques.

Presented by: Bryan Young

Practical Applications

Intermediate

Deeper Reading for Deeper Writing

Meaning is hidden beneath signs and facades in literature, layered in word choice and focus. Through shared reading, discussion and meaning and themes, we will learn to consciously see what our subconscious feels within a text, elements that unite and undercut, but always elevate craft into art.

Presented by: Johnny Worthen

Publishing

Beginner

The 5 Ways to Publish Your Book

Master the art of publishing your book! Break through the bottlenecks, discover the 5 ways you can publish your book, get published, get clear on your path to publishing, and start using it to attract more readers, agents, publishers, publicists, press and clients to your book and work.

Presented by: Jennifer S. Wilkov

Publishing

Beginner

Introduction to Independent Publishing

Explore the process of publishing your own books and taking control of your publishing career. Learn the basics to create the to-do list that dreams are made of, the need for pre-publicity, the tools you'll need, how to choose an editor, what to consider when formatting, and different publishing models.

Presented by: Bernadette Marie Soehner

Publishing

Beginner

Publishing Contracts and Subrights - A Primer

Are you relatively new to publishing? Do contracts and subrights confuse you or terrify you? This session will provide a high level look at what is considered normal in a publishing contract, what your red flags might be, and what exactly subrights are and why you should care about them.

Presented by: Stacey Kondla

Publishing

Beginner

Mastering The In-Person Pitch

Are you new to in-person pitching? Or maybe you haven't pitched since last year and want to brush up? No matter your skill level, attend this session for tips and tricks on how to structure a successful pitch and make the most of your limited time with an agent or editor.

Presented by: Ronald Gerber

Publishing

Beginner

Kid Lit 101

Want to write for kids? Here's everything you'll need to know to get started. This overview of the current children's literature landscape, from picture books to YA, highlights unique considerations for writing, querying, publishing, and marketing kids' books.

Presented by: Christina Allen

Publishing

Beginner

Wait, Can I Do That?

A beginner's introduction to publishing contracts, copyright, public domain, fair use, and other legal concerns for writers. From fan fiction to brand names and everything in between, come learn what's allowed, how to stay out of trouble, and how to protect your rights as a creator.

Presented by: Christina Allen

Publishing

Beginner

Illustrating and Publishing Your Book

We all have a story to tell and a unique style of creating art. In this session, I'll talk about how to organize ideas, research your subject, and turn your idea into a finished project you can publish. Whether you're writing and illustrating a children's book, a textbook, or a comic, the creative process is the same.

Presented by: Rachael Bush

Publishing

Beginner

Beginner Author Pitfalls: How to Avoid Them

This class is intended for beginning self-published authors who want to make a career of publishing and selling books. No instruction will be provided on how to publish; instead, the class will discuss the most common mistakes that aspiring self-published authors make and provide tips and tricks to avoid these pitfalls.

Presented by: A.M. Luzzader

Publishing

Intermediate

Advances and Royalties: What defines "success"

Math is complicated. Publishing math, doubly so. In this presentation, we'll dive into the finances of advances and royalties, defining common terms like "earning out" and getting into the math of "financially successful" books. We'll look at publishing costs and why advances may not be the best threshold to judge against.

Presented by: Matt Belford

2024 Thursday Programming

*Please note, life sometimes happens.
Classes are subject to change.

Bootcamps

Thursday, August 8th at 9am
Separate ticket required

Building your Author's Toolbox with Candace J. Thomas and Jodi L. Milner

When it comes to stepping up your author game and moving from hobbyist to professional, there are a lot of technical things that you'll need to figure out – and frankly, it's all pretty daunting. In this bootcamp, we'll walk you through what to consider when developing the tools you'll need in your author's toolbox, including how to set them up, and how to maintain them long term.

The “tools” we will discuss include:

- Creating your author brand
- Setting up a newsletter
- Making an author website
- Creating your author social media presence
- Making business cards and other swag
- What to consider with headshots and bios
- and so much more!

How to prepare:

We will provide a packet of notes, but definitely bring:

- Something to write with
- A printed copy of your current author bio
- Ideas on how you envision what your author brand looks like

- Your personal computer (for both note-taking and participating in the hands-on elements of the class)

Brought to you by the Squirrel Podcast for Distracted Writers

Traditional Publishing Prep with Bryan Young, Michael A. Stackpole, and Katherine Monasterio

Three working industry professionals, bestselling authors Michael A Stackpole and Bryan Young, and Shadowrun and BattleTech editor Katherine Monasterio, will take you personally through your first chapter, query letter, and synopsis to get them ready for publication.

Here are the things you need to have ready to share when attending this boot camp: first chapter, query, synopsis - all .doc files in standard manuscript format

More information on how to submit these items will be provided when you register for this boot camp.

Three-Hour Workshops

Thursday, August 8th and Sunday, August 11th
Included with registration

Punch Up Your Prose: Crafting Knockout Syntax

Excise fluff and power up your word choices to create more effective, more interesting, and more pleasing prose.

Presented by: Katherine Monasterio

a different kind of integrity: the poetic sequence

This workshop focuses on finding the bridges, transitions, and leaps between poems that help to compose and forge a sequence.

Presented by: Lisa Bickmore

Setting the Stage on the Page

This workshop will discuss basic world-building principles and then explore ways that setting can develop character, advance a plot, and highlight themes. We'll also discuss the power that can come when the exterior landscape reflects the internal dynamics of a character.

Presented by: Lisa Mangum

Writing from Global Myth and Wonder Tales

Our ancestors from around the world were deeply creative, and the tales they told can offer writers a jumping-off point for our own work. Let's talk about how to use the bones of global myths and wonder tales to spark new stories and how to be respectful while doing so.

Presented by: Shveta Thakrar

Characterization Through Dialogue

Characters are at the heart of stories and dialogue helps define characters and drive story. In this workshop you'll learn to develop characters, consider word choice, and refine their voice through dialogue.

Presented by: Maurice Broaddus

21 Days to a Novel

NYT Bestselling author Michael A. Stackpole presents his three week program for preparing to write a novel. This set of 21 exercises gives you everything from character creation to world building, practical plotting devices, dialogue development and character voice creation tools.

Presented by: Michael A. Stackpole

Query Letters 101

Not sure how to start writing a query letter? Or maybe you've got a draft, but you're not getting any bites. Let the experts dive into your letter--or show you the steps to get it drafted--and get immediate feedback and suggestions. Bring your laptops to work on your query right in the class.

Presented by: Lindsay Flanagan and Sabine Berlin



League of Utah Writers 2024 Quills Schedule

Schedule At-a-Glance: Thursday, August 8th						
Time	Bonneville Ballroom 1	Bonneville Ballroom 2	Amphitheater	Connor	Ft. Douglas	Aspen
9am - 10am	BOOTCAMP (SEPARATE TICKET REQUIRED)	BOOTCAMP (SEPARATE TICKET REQUIRED)	WORKSHOP	WORKSHOP	WORKSHOP	
10am - 11am	MICHAEL A. STACKPOLE, KATHERINE MONASTERIO, & BRYAN YOUNG	CANDACE J. THOMAS & JODI L. MILNER	MAURICE BROADDUS Honorary Guest	SHVETA THAKRAR Honorary Guest	CALLIE STOKER	
11am - 12pm	Traditional Publishing	Building Your Author's Toolbox	Characterization Through Dialogue	Writing From Global Myth & Wonder Tales	Scenes That Steal the Scene	
12pm - 1pm	Lunch Break 12:00pm - 1:45pm					
1pm - 2pm						
2pm - 3pm			WORKSHOP	WORKSHOP	WORKSHOP	WORKSHOP
3pm - 4pm			MICHAEL A. STACKPOLE 21 Days to a Novel	KATHERINE MONASTERIO Punch Up Your Prose: Crafting Knockout Syntax	JENNIFER S. WILKOV Pitch Your Project Like a Pro	LINDSAY FLANAGAN & SABINE BERLIN Query Letters 101
4pm - 5pm						
5pm - 6pm			LUW Board Meeting			
6pm - 7pm			5:00pm - 7:00pm			
7pm - 8pm	LUW 89th Birthday Mixer & Fundraiser 7:15pm - 9:15pm					
8pm - 9pm						

Schedule At-a-Glance: Friday, August 9th

Time	Bonneville Ballroom 1	Bonneville Ballroom 2	Amphitheater	Connor	Ft. Douglas	Aspen	Tent / Outside	Wakara Bar	Vendor Hall (Summit)
7am - 8am								MEETUP BRYAN YOUNG Writing Time	
8am - 9am					JOHNNY WORTHEN Morning Meditation & Writing Well-Being				
9am - 10am	Opening Ceremony								Morning Coffee, Tea, & Hot Cocoa VENDOR HALL
10am - 11am	Mod: BRYAN YOUNG Panel: S. Kondla, R. Gerber, M. Belford, B. Soehner, C.R. Langille, L. Flanagan, S. Berlin, & A. Bahr Ask an Agent		KATHERINE MONASTERIO First Chapter Milestones	CALLIE STOKER Say More With Less: Writing Effective Dialogue	ANNA BESSESEN Dual Wielding: Fanfiction as a Writing Tool	JENNIFER S. WILKOV Memoir Mastery: How to Tell Your Story So It Sells	STANFORD CREPEAUX What is a Blacksmith?		
11am - 12pm	Lunch Break - 11:00am - 12:45pm Welcome & Networking Reception in Summit - 11:00am - 12:45pm with Food, Contests, & Author Book Signings								Welcome & Networking Reception Food, Contests, & Book Signings
12pm - 1pm									
1pm - 2pm	ALAN BAHR Writing for RPGs	SEPARATE TICKET REQUIRED PITCH BLOCK A SEPARATE TICKET REQUIRED PITCH BLOCK B	BERNADETTE MARIE SOEHNER Intro to Independent Publishing	C.R. LANGILLE This Isn't the Place: The Use of Setting in Horror	JENNIFER S. WILKOV The 5 Ways to Publish Your Book	BRANDON CALLOR Virtual Tour of a Medical Examiner's Office	B. YOUNG, M. STACKPOLE, K. MONASTERIO, J. WORTHEN Peer Pitch Practice		HOURS: 9:00am - 5:30pm
2pm - 3pm									Prompt Competition
3pm - 4pm	BRYAN YOUNG Creativity on a Deadline		MICHAEL A. STACKPOLE Plotting	KENDRA GRIFFIN Meeting Your Protagonist	JOHNNY WORTHEN Outlining for Non-Outliners	CHRISTINA ALLEN Wait, Can I Do That?			Afternoon Coffee, Tea, & Hot Cocoa
4pm - 5pm	Mod: ALAN BAHR Panel: MAURICE BROADDUS, SHVETA THAKRAR, & BRYAN YOUNG RPG Live!		RAE SMITH Decomp 101: Describing Death	MATT BELFORD Advances & Royalties: What Defines "Success?"	SABINE BERLIN Dazzling Dialogue	KENDRA GRIFFIN Friend or Foe: Young Adult Dynamics			CALLIE STOKER Anthology Book Launch
5pm - 6pm									Scavenger Hunt check-in closes at 5:15pm!
6pm - 7pm	DINNER BUFFET (FOOD REQUIRES A MEAL TICKET) w/Guest of Honor MAURICE BROADDUS The ABCs of the Work: Abundance, Belonging, and Community								
7pm - 8pm									
8pm - 9pm	SPECIAL TICKETED EVENT TEDxSaltLakeCity Summer Salon "Creativity & Community"							Wakara Bar Con	
9pm - 10pm			SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY				Mystery, Crime, & Thriller		
10:30pm			AFTER DARK				AFTER DARK		

Schedule At-a-Glance: Saturday, August 10th

Time	Bonneville Ballroom 1	Bonneville Ballroom 2	Amphitheater	Connor	Ft. Douglas	Aspen	Tent / Outside	Wakara Bar	Vendor Hall (Summit)	Game Room (Willow)
7am - 8am								MEETUP BRYAN YOUNG Writing Time		
8am - 9am	Mod: BRYAN YOUNG Panel: MAURICE BROADDUS, SHVETA THAKRAR, MICHAEL A. STACKPOLE, & KATHERINE MONASTERIO The Mimosa Panel (BYOM)				JOHNNY WORTHEN Morning Meditation & Writing Well-Being					
9am - 10am	C.R. LANGILLE Presenting for Presenters	RONALD GERBER Mastering the In-Person Pitch	WORKSHOP LISA MANGUM	STACEY KONDLA Publishing Contracts & Subrights: A Primer	ALAN BAHR The Art of the Fight Scene: Characters & Combat	LINSAY FLANAGAN Plot & Story Development	RACHAEL BUSH Bees & Wasps & Hornets, Oh My!		Morning Coffee, Tea, & Hot Cocoa	
10am - 11am			Setting the Stage on the Page						Prompt Competition & BOOK SIGNINGS	
11am - 12pm				RAE SMITH The Radical Resistance of Prose Poetry	RACHAEL BUSH Illustrating & Publishing Your Book	A.M. LUZZADER Beginner Author Pitfalls: How to Avoid Them	ADRIAN HUMMEL Horse Essentials		VENDOR HALL HOURS: 9:00am - 6:30pm	ALAN BAHR The Best RPGs for Writers to Play (And Why!)
12pm - 1pm	LUNCH BUFFET (FOOD REQUIRES A MEAL TICKET) w/Guest of Honor SHVETA THAKRAR Tempered and Spiced: A Recipe for Mythic Fiction		Lunch Break 12:00pm - 1:30pm							GAME ROOM HOURS: 8:00am - 11:00pm
1pm - 2pm									Afternoon Coffee, Tea, & Hot Cocoa	
2pm - 3pm		SEPARATE TICKET REQUIRED PITCH BLOCK C	BRYAN YOUNG Exposition: The Art of Restraint	LISA MANGUM Top 5 Things I've Learned From 25 Years of Editing	KAELA RIVERA Social Media Isn't a Marketing Plan	JOE MILNER Secret Societies & Societies With Secrets	MICHELLE HENRIE, CANDACE THOMAS, CASSIDY WARD Peer Pitch Practice			
3pm - 4pm							SEPARATE TICKET REQUIRED HEADSHOT BLOCK A		Limerick Competition & BOOK SIGNINGS	
4pm - 5pm	KAELA RIVERA Writing Fight Scenes That Matter	SEPARATE TICKET REQUIRED PITCH BLOCK D	KATHERINE MONASTERIO Sharpen Your Story	RAE SMITH Crime Scenes & Corpses	KENDRA GRIFFIN Perspective & Personification	A.M. LUZZADER Manifesting for Authors: From Dream to Reality	SEPARATE TICKET REQUIRED HEADSHOT BLOCK B			
5pm - 6pm							SEPARATE TICKET REQUIRED HEADSHOT BLOCK C		Prompt Competition & Guest of Honor BOOK SIGNINGS	
6pm - 7pm	RAE SMITH A Day in the Life of a Body Removal Technician	SEPARATE TICKET REQUIRED PITCH BLOCK E	MICHAEL A. STACKPOLE Building a Solid Series	CHRISTINA ALLEN Comedy (Seriously.)	KAELA RIVERA How to Make Your Love Interest... Interesting	A.M. LUZZADER Amazon Ad Theory: Supercharge Your Amazon Ads			Scavenger Hunt closes at 6:30pm!! Winner announced at Awards Banquet!!!	
7pm - 9pm	PLATED DINNER (FOOD REQUIRES A MEAL TICKET) 2024 Quills Awards Banquet									
9pm - 11pm								Wakara Bar Con		

Schedule At-a-Glance: Sunday, August 11th								
Time	Bonneville Ballroom 1	Bonneville Ballroom 2	Amphitheater	Connor	Ft. Douglas	Aspen	Wakara Bar	Ballroom Atrium
7am - 8am							MEETUP BRYAN YOUNG Writing Time	
8am - 9am	BERNADETTE MARIE SOEHNER The Art of Writing Romance	KATHERINE MONASTERIO Stick the Landing: How to Nail Your Novel's End	WORKSHOP LISA BICKMORE Guest of Honor	CHRISTINA ALLEN Kid Lit 101	JOHNNY WORTHEN Morning Meditation & Writing Well-Being	CASSIDY WARD Putting Science in Your Fiction		Information Booth Hours: 8:00am - 11:0am
9am - 10am	BERNADETTE MARIE SOEHNER Giving Your All to Your 168 Hour Week	JOHNNY WORTHEN Deeper Reading for Deeper Writing	A Different Kind of Integrity: The Poetic Sequence	C.R. LANGILLE Something Isn't Right: Horror in the Familiar	CALLIE STOKER A-List Main Characters	ANNA BESSESEN Writing With Tarot		
10am - 11am			RACHAEL BUSH & PATTY BAILEY OPEN FEEDBACK FORUM					
11am - 12pm	POET'S BRUNCH (BUFFET) (FOOD REQUIRES A MEAL TICKET) w/Guest of Honor LISA BICKMORE Utah Poet Laureate Harvest Business Magnitude & Bond: Writers Building Community Keynote, Poetry Open Mic, & Closing							
12pm - 1:15pm								

More info at: <https://www.leagueofutahwriters.com/quills-conference>

Conference
Map

