

The Pre-Quill Conference

April 29, 2023

University Marriott SLC, Utah

Our annual Pre-Quill Conference is a hybrid conference with a collection of pre-recorded presentations available for viewing in our event app starting March 29th and live and streaming workshops with a keynote featuring Aminah Mae Safi on April 29, 2023.

Pre-Quill is a hybrid event. For the safety of guests and attendees, we highly recommend COVID vaccinations and antigen testing before attending in person. Masks are also strongly recommended. 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.

The live portion of the Pre-Quill Conference will be on April 29, 2023, at Salt Lake City Marriott University Park at 480 Wakara Way, Salt Lake City, UT 84108.

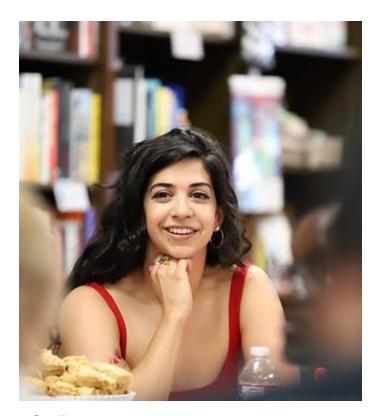
The pre-recorded sessions are available starting March 29th through the conference app.

Registration

Cost

\$25 League Members / \$50 General Public

KeynoteAminah Mae Safi



Aminah Mae Safi is a Muslim-American writer who explores art, fiction, feminism, and film. She loves Sofia Coppola movies, Bollywood endings, and the Fast and Furious franchise. She's the winner of the We Need Diverse Books short story contest. Originally raised in Texas, she now lives in Los Angeles, California, with her partner, a cat bent on world domination, and another cat who's just here for the snacks. She is the author of Not the Girls You're Looking For (Feiwel and Friends, 2018), Tell Me How You Really Feel (Feiwel

and Friends, 2019), This is All Your Fault (Feiwel and Friends, 2020) and Travelers Along the Way: A Robin Hood Remix (2022).

Buy your copy of Aminah's books here:

*Please note, The League of Utah Writers is an affiliate of Bookshop.org and will earn a commission if you click through and make a purchase on books that apply.



This Is All Your Fault



Travelers
Along the
Way: A Robin
Hood Remix



Not the Girls You're Looking for



Tell Me How You Really Feel

Schedule

For a downloadable PDF schedule, CLICK HERE

Schedule At-a-Glance: Saturday, April 29				
Time	Amphitheater	Connor	Ft. Douglas	Atrium
9:00am-9:20am	Welcome Address			
9:30am-10:50am	What Now?: How to Brainstorm New Story Ideas - Sofiya Pasternack	Generating Ideas For Your Short Story - Cassidy Ward	Writing Great Dialogue - Bryan Young	Vendor Hall
11:00am-12:20pm	LUW Board meeting	Lunch on your own		Vendor Hall
12:30pm-2:20pm	Intro to Outlining - Rachael Bush	Short Stories: Why and How - Terra Luft	The Writer's Framework - Aminah Mae Safi	Vendor Hall
2:30pm-2:50pm	Break			
3:00pm-4:50pm	Pre-Writing Your Synopsis - Christina Allen	Principles of Editing - Caryn Larrinaga	Genres and Tropes as the Backbone of your Story - Alex Jay Lore	Vendor Hall
5:00pm-5:50pm	Keynote address featuring Aminah Mae Safi			
6:00pm-6:10pm	Closing Address			
6:15pm-7:00pm				Book Signing

2023 Pre-Quill Live Workshops



Pre-Writing Your Synopsis With Christina Allen

Even established writers dread the synopsis. Why not get it out of the way BEFORE you write the book? Whether you're a plotter or prefer to discover the story as you go, starting off with a solid synopsis will set you up for success and save editing time down the road. This is a hands-on workshop; come prepared to write!



The Writer's Framework With Aminah Mae Safi

The Writer's Framework is designed to give you hands on experiencing in order to solve how you work best. This workshop is designed to set yourself up for success so that when you sit down at the page, you have less of that Blank Page Dread.



Writing Great Dialogue With Bryan Young

The art of writing dialogue is difficult to master. In this class, Bryan Young, will walk you through great dialogue as examples, and offer principles to improve your use of dialogue and how to better reveal characters and exposition through speech.



Short Stories: Why and How With Terra Luft

This workshop will lay the foundation about WHY short story writing is something all writers should use to build craft skills including quick tips on HOW to write shorter stories – especially if you're used to writing longer work. Includes hands-on exercises to come away with a plan (but hopefully a draft) for a story.



What Now?: How to Brainstorm New Story Ideas With Sofiya Pasternack

We've all experienced the terror of being asked "so what are you working on next?" and having no answer! Come learn how to shake up your creative brain and brainstorm ideas for your next story--and beyond!



Principles of Editing
With
Caryn Larrinaga

Editing your own manuscript is a critical step, even if you plan to work with an editor down the line. Join League of Utah Writers Publications Chair Caryn Larrinaga for an in-depth overview of editing principles and best practices. Bring a 1,000 word sample of your own work (on your laptop or printed out) to self-edit.



Intro to Outlining With Rachael Bush

Do you have a great idea, but don't know how to get started writing? In this workshop, you'll take your ideas and turn them into a basic outline covering main plot points, learning how to use scene markers to fill in the gaps. We'll also discuss action tags vs. dialogue tags and how to pick the right POV.



Genres and Tropes as the Backbone of your Story With Alex Jay Lore

Understand how different genres and tropes set expectations for your readers and utilize them to build your stories to make them stand out from what's already out there. This workshop will examine a variety of genres and tropes and use how they function and where they overlap to craft unique characters and plots.



Generating Ideas For Your Short Story With Cassidy Ward

We'll go through ideas, strategies, and exercises to help you come up with new ideas for short fiction. The focus here is in keeping the ideas flowing so you can keep on writing.



April 29, 2023

2023 Prerecorded Class List

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



A Beginner's Guide to Fraud

You will learn common types of fraud, the mechanics of how frauds are perpetrated, the psychology of fraudsters, and methods of fraud detection. I'll share real-life examples of fraud, opening your eyes to a new world of devious dramatic possibilities. You'll also get to hear about Scrooge McDuck's

lax internal controls.

Spencer Osburn

Beginner - Genre Specific / Ask an Expert



An Author's Guide to Audiobooks

Authors (or soon-to-be authors,) if you are interested in learning about turning your book into an audiobook, this class is for YOU! We will go over (1.) The Cost Breakdown for your specific book, (2.) Where to Start/How to Find a Narrator/Engineer, (3.) The Process, (4.) What Happens

After Your Audiobook is Made.

Ashley Bigbie

Intermediate - Practical Applications



Building Suspense

Building tension in stories can be a difficult balance between competing drives in your story. How do you know when a surprise will be more effective for the audience than the slow burn of suspense. How do you accomplish them? This class will walk you through that process.

Bryan Young
Intermediate – Craft



Care and Feeding of your Amazon Author Account

Ever wondered when you should set up an Amazon Author account, or what to do with one? I'll go over the basics whether you're new to publishing, or experienced in either traditional publishing or indie-publishing.

John M. Olsen Beginner - Marketing



Copy Edit Cheat Sheet

Ever feel like those commas got sprinkled into your document at random by an editor? Want to know how to produce cleaner copy that will save time and editing costs? Let's go over the basics of copy editing.

John M. Olsen

Intermediate - Craft



Editing Poetry

Whether you are making the jump from editing fiction or from writing poetry, or you just want to be able to critique someone's poetry effectively, you can learn how to edit poetry without taking over writing the poem. Learn editing basics as they apply to poetry. Learn the poetry jargon to communicate

with the poet.

Talysa Sainz Intermediate - Poetry



Emotion in Poetry

You can fill your poetry with angst without making it sound whiny. You can make your readers feel deep, complex emotions with simple passages. You can pour out your soul behind layers of meaningful metaphors and careful diction and syntax. Do you want to write poetry packed with more

emotion? You can!

Talysa Sainz Intermediate – Poetry



Foundations of Horror

A class about the most visceral genre - HORROR. We'll discuss its evolutionary origins, compare it to its sister genre, then explore it, categorize it and wrestle with it to explore techniques to effectively use horror in our own writing.

Johnny Worthen

Intermediate - Genre Specific / Ask an Expert



Getting, Giving, and Using Reviews
Learn how to get reviews for your work, how to give reviews
of other peoples work, and how to use those reviews.

Daniel Yocom Intermediate - Marketing



Helping Characters Through Tough Transitions

The best stories root themselves in conflict which means your characters are going to suffer. This presentation will explore how to use the Kubler-Ross grief cycle to help your characters work through the toughest of the turmoil you toss

at them.

Jodi L. Milner
Intermediate – Craft



Historical Research for Your Novel

Steve will bring his academic chops to bear in this introduction to historical research. He'll also help you get to thinking about how the research will play into your scenesetting and other elements of your writing.

Steve Capone

Intermediate - Genre Specific / Ask an Expert



How to PREmarket your book

Everyone knows what you should do AFTER your book is published, but what about before your book is even created? This presentation will go through the must-knows to premarket your book.

Elizabeth Anne Suggs

Beginner – Marketing



Imposter Syndrome: How to Beat the Monster It doesn't matter how good you are at your craft, each time you step out of your comfort bubble you face imposter syndrome. In this class, learn tips and tricks that will tame the imposter monster and help you find the confidence you need to take that critical next step.

Jodi L. Milner

Intermediate - Practical Applications



Judge a Book by Its Cover

In this class, you'll get an inside look into how cover artists, cover designers, and AI art generators all work and what the heck to do with them. We'll go over the differences between illustrators and designers, what to look for to make a good cover, and how to work with independent contractors.

Kyro Dean Intermediate - Publishing



Mapping Levels of Conflict in Fiction

Conflicts are a complicated, but inevitable part of life and fiction. Learn how stakeholders behave at different levels of conflict both in the real world and in fiction, and how conflict mapping can help build a roadmap to conflict resolution in your writing.

Curtis Moore Beginner - Practical Applications



Never Give Up, Never Surrender

Janelle and Sabine met at a writers group/kids playgroup for moms over ten years ago. Now between them, they are a Publicist, a published author, and a Senior Editor. But the road was long, unexpected, and not always easy. This course covers the trials of making your dreams come true and the surprise detours to watch for.

JC Youngstrom and Sabine Berlin **Beginner - Practical Applications**

On the Killing of Characters

We will discuss the story drive, the psychology, and the aftermath of the death of a character in your fiction. We'll talk about when it's a good idea, when it's necessary, and how the other characters respond.

Mark Hansen

Intermediate - Craft



Outlining and Story Structure

Some people are outliners, while others are not. Some understand story structure, while others don't. How can you make the most of outlines and structure tailored to your writing style? Let's discuss outlines in relation to the story structure you're after, and what you can do to match it to

John M. Olsen Intermediate – Craft



Perfect Your Writing Style with the Masters Wondering how to write pros that pop? Learn how to harness short and long words in a way that provides dynamic and engaging prose that convey exactly what you mean, using masters of voice, including Abraham Lincoln, Winston Churchill, William Shakespeare, and Ward

Farnsworth.

Kyro Dean Advanced – Craft



Poetry Basics

This crash course in poetry will teach you the fundamentals you need to get started writing poetry: the different types of poems, stress and meter, line breaks and sentence structure, literary elements, choosing the sounds, applying the senses, and using the POV, characters, and subject to enhance your

theme.

Talysa Sainz Beginner – Poetry



Power Up Your Memoir or Personal Essay
Learn how to link personal experiences to universal truths
(and vice versa) and how to steal a technique from artists to
add depth, elevating your story from a series of anecdotes to
a truly powerful memoir, personal essay, or other

Kelley J. P. Lindberg Intermediate - Non-Fiction

creative/narrative nonfiction.



Punch Up Your Prose: Crafting Knockout Syntax

This workshop digs into the specifics of excising fluff and powering up word choices to create more effective, more interesting, and more pleasing prose. I've presented this one before, at Pre-Quills 2021.

Katherine Monasterio Beginner – Craft



Short Fiction: Who Should Write It & When/Why/How

For writers of longer fiction and others. Begins with reasons to write short fiction (which also answers who & when), then focuses on how. Seven near-absolutes, with excerpts to illustrate them. Briefly: avoiding paralysis by too many rules,

then finally an encouraging cup of beef barley soup for the tortured writer's soul.

David Rodeback Beginner – Craft



The Editor and The Publicist

If you want to be successful in today's market you need to have a great book AND know how to market it. This course covers editing "must do's" to make your book shine and marketing "know how's" to get your masterpiece seen.

Sabine Berlin And JC Younstrom

Intermediate - Practical Applications



Trending Editing Errors and How to Avoid Them

An overview of common mistakes in grammar, spelling, and usage and easy ways to remember how to avoid them.

J AUDREY HAMMER

Intermediate - Craft



Write About Music Accurately

The basics of what it's really like to play an instrument for a symphony orchestra and a rock band

J AUDREY HAMMER Beginner - Genre Specific / Ask an Expert



Writing Young Adult

Investigate what makes fiction young adult and also what makes great young adult fiction. From gatekeepers to theme, taboos and responsibilities, it's a time of change and we must embrace it. A class for writers and fans of the genre.

Johnny Worthen

Intermediate - Genre Specific / Ask an Expert



April 29th, 2023

Pre-Quill Faculty

*Please note, life sometimes happens.

Special guests and presenters are subject to change.



Alex Jay Lore Author of Empire of LIGHT

Alex Jay Lore (he/they) is a queer author of science fiction and fantasy with LGBTQ+ protagonists. When not writing queerness with a chance of explosions, Alex is a high school English teacher, waging epic battles against comma splices and misused apostrophes. His debut science fiction novel, EMPIRE OF LIGHT,

written as Alex Harrow, is out now from NineStar Press.

Teaching

Workshop: Genres and Tropes as the Backbone of your Story

http://alexjaylore.com



Aminah Mae Safi Author of Tell Me How You Really Feel

Aminah Mae Safi is the author of four novels, including Tell Me How You Really Feel (Feiwel & Friends) and Travelers Along the Way: a Robin Hood Remix (Feiwel & Friends). She's an erstwhile art historian, a fan of Cholula on popcorn, and an un-ironic lover of the Fast and the Furious franchise. Her writing has been featured on

Bustle and Salon and her award-winning short stories can be found in Fresh Ink (Crown Books) and the forthcoming First Year Orientation (Candlewick Press, 2023) and Out of Our League (Feiwel & Friends, 2024).

Teaching

Workshop: The Writer's Framework

https://www.aminahmae.com/



Ashley Bigbie Owner of AudioBee Productions LLC

Ashley earned degrees in theatre and film from Weber State University and The University of Utah. Ashley has worked for Hale Centre Theatre Sandy, KSL TV, Voodoo Theatre Company, and was even the assistant producer for an Off-Broadway play in NYC. Ashley writes under the pen name Jen Ellwyn and served on the

Board and Conference Committee for the League of Utah Writers as their Volunteer Chair and Tech Coordinator. She is the owner of AudioBee Productions, a brand-new Utah local audiobook production company.

Teaching
An Author's Guide to Audiobooks

http://linktr.ee/audiobeeproductions



Bryan Young Best-selling Author

Bryan Young (he/they) works across many different media. His work as a writer and producer has been called "filmmaking gold" by The New York Times. He's also published comic books with Slave Labor Graphics and Image Comics. He's been a regular contributor for the Huffington Post, StarWars.com, Star Wars Insider magazine, SYFY,

/Film, and was the founder and editor in chief of the geek news and review site Big Shiny Robot! IN 2014, he wrote the critically acclaimed history book, A Children's Illustrated History of Presidential Assassination. He co-authored Robotech: The Macross Saga RPG has written two books in the BattleTech Universe: Honor's Gauntlet and A Question of Survival. He teaches writing for Writer's Digest, Script Magazine, and at the University of Utah. Follow him on Twitter @swankmotron.

Teaching
Building Suspense

Workshop: Writing Great Dialogue

http://www.swankmotron.com



Caryn Larrinaga Internationally best-selling author

Caryn Larrinaga is an internationally best-selling mystery and horror author, a freelance editor, and the League of Utah Writers Publications Chair. She has won multiple awards for her work, frequently finding inspiration in her Basque and Irish roots. Caryn lives near Salt Lake City, Utah, with her husband and their clowder

of cats. She is an active member of Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America, the Horror Writers Association, the Cat Writers Association, and the League of Utah Writers. Visit www.carynlarrinaga.com for free short fiction and true tales of haunted places.

Teaching
Workshop: Principles of Editing

https://www.carynlarrinaga.com/



Cassidy Ward
Short fiction author, freelance journalist

Cassidy Ward is a writer specializing in science and pop culture. He's written for SYFY, StarTrek.com, Observer, The Daily Beast, and more. He's had short stories published in a number of anthologies and you can find his shortest writings, by virtue of character limits, on Twitter.

Teaching

Workshop: Generating Ideas For Your Short Story

http://www.cassidyward.com



Christina Allen Award winning KidLit author

Christina Allen (publishing as C.W. Allen) is a Midwestern transplant to rural Utah, where she serves as the League of Utah Writers newsletter editor and the president of the West Desert Wordsmiths chapter. She writes fantasy novels for tweens, picture books for children, and short stories and poems for former children.

Her middle grade novels Relatively Normal Secrets and The Secret Benefits of Invisibility are out now, with many more stories waiting in the wings. Follow her latest projects at cwallenbooks.com.

Teaching

Workshop: Pre-Writing Your Synopsis

https://www.cwallenbooks.com/



Curtis Moore Environmental Conflict Junkie

Curtis Moore is an attorney and mediator from Eastern Nevada. He has a law degree and master's in conflict and dispute resolution from the University of Oregon. He has published articles on scientific mediation in Nevada Lawyer and the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Journal, as well as articles on horsemanship in Nicker News. He has

written one novel that was bought by a small press, but it went out of business before it was released. Curtis maintains this was not entirely his fault. In his spare time Curtis rides his horse, writes, and makes memes about underrated fantasy novels.

Teaching Mapping Levels of Conflict in Fiction



Daniel Yocom

Known for reviews of games, books, and movies.

Daniel Yocom writes about geeky things because people say to write what you know. Their love of the geeky, nerdy community dates to the 1960s through games, books, movies, and stranger things better shared in small groups. They're an award-winning writer and editor of short stories, books, and hundreds of articles

published by blogs, magazines, and gaming companies.

They enjoy attending conferences, conventions, festivals, sharing on panels, and presentations. Current serving as the president of the Infinite Monkeys Genre Writers, they want to help others become the writer/author they desire to be. Join them at www.guildmastergaming.com.

Teaching

Getting, Giving, and Using Reviews

https://www.guildmastergaming.com/



David Rodeback

Published short story author, aspiring novelist

David Rodeback daylights as CMTO of a Utah manufacturing firm. By night he has published several short stories since resolving almost a decade ago to learn to write fiction, and he has his first novel back from beta readers. He has worked as a speech writer; a college writing, language, and literature instructor; an editor; a

software developer; a database architect; and in digital marketing. He lives in American Fork, Utah.

Teaching

Short Fiction: Who Should Write It & When/Why/How

https://bendablelight.com



Elizabeth Anne Suggs

Amazon best-selling author Elizabeth Suggs

Elizabeth Suggs is the founder of the LUW Romance Writers Chapter, co-owner of the indie publisher Collective Tales Publishing, owner of Editing Mee, and is the author of a growing number of published stories, two of which were in a podcast and poetry journal. She is also a book reviewer (EditingMee.com), popular

bookstagramer, and cosplayer (@ElizabethSuggsAuthor). When she's not writing or reading, she's playing video and board games or making cookies.

Teaching

How to PREmarket your book

https://www.editingmee.com/



J AUDREY HAMMER Freelance Editor

J. Audrey Hammer earned a journalism degree with a linguistics minor and now uses those skills to correct grammar and punctuation everywhere as a freelance editor. Audrey edits for Immortal Works and for authors such as Michael J. Sullivan and Johnny Worthen. Find writing and editing tips at audreytheeditor.blogspot.com.

Teaching
Trending Editing Errors and How to Avoid Them
Write About Music Accurately

http://audreytheeditor.blogspot.com



JC Youngstrom Publicist at Eight Moons Publishing

When Janelle Youngstrom is not playing with words in one way or another, you can find her baking something beautiful, spending time with her family of seven, or improving some wall of her home by painting a mural. She has since been the Vice President of the Write Here in Ephraim Writer's Conference, a workshop speaker, is

currently the manager of an online accountability group for writers, the Vice President of the Wasatch Chapter of the American Night Writers Association (ANWA), and a Publicist and Project Manager for Eight Moons Publishing.

Teaching

The Editor and The Publicist Never Give Up, Never Surrender

http://eightmoonspublishing.com



Jodi L. Milner
Author of the Shadow Barrier Trilogy

Jodi L. Milner is the author of the YA fantasy Shadow Barrier series, which includes Stonebearer's Betrayal, winner of the LUW Recommended Read award, and Stonebearer's Apprentice, winner of the LUW Silver Quill. When not chasing daydreams, she enjoys destroying movie plots, making amigurumi, and plotting to take over

the world.

Teaching

Imposter Syndrome: How to Beat the Monster Helping Characters Through Tough Transitions

http://jodilmilner.com/



John M. Olsen Author, editor, and presenter

John M. Olsen edits and writes speculative fiction across multiple genres and loves stories about ordinary people stepping up to do extraordinary things. His short stories have appeared in dozens of anthologies, and he's edited for both small press and as a freelancer.

Teaching
Copy Edit Cheat Sheet
Care and Feeding of your Amazon Author Account
Outlining and Story Structure

https://johnmolsen.blogspot.com/



Johnny Worthen Multi-Genre, Best-Seller, Tie-Dye

Johnny Worthen is an award-winning, best-selling author of books and stories. Trained in stand-up comedy, modern literary criticism and cultural studies, he writes upmarket multi-genre fiction, symbolized by his love of tie-dye and good words. "I wear tie-dye for my friends, but I write what I like to read," he says. "This guarantees

me at least one fan and easy dressing in the morning."

Johnny teaches writing at the University of Utah and lives in a house with his wife, sons and assorted cats. There's also a lawn.

Teaching

http://johnnyworthen.com/



Katherine Monasterio

Editor, Author, and Oxford Comma Advocate

Whether editing short or long fiction, RPG sourcebooks or podcast anthologies, Katherine lives for strengthening the written word. She hails from Cincinnati, Ohio, where her non-wordsmithing pastimes include playing video games and thinking about fictional characters a normal amount.

Teaching

Punch Up Your Prose: Crafting Knockout Syntax

http://katherinemonasterio.com



Kelley J. P. Lindberg

Award-winning author of fiction and nonfiction

Kelley J. P. Lindberg writes award-winning adult and YA fiction, nonfiction, and how-to books. She loves talking about writing with other writers and book lovers, and her writing workshops are full of take-away information attendees can use the very next day. When she isn't writing from her home in Colorado, she's traveling as far

and as often as she can. Catch up with her at www.KelleyLindberg.com, where she blogs about writing craft and the writing life, or follow her on Twitter at @KelleyLindberg1.

Teaching

Power Up Your Memoir or Personal Essay

http://www.KelleyLindberg.com



Kyro Dean

Author/Editor/Owner for Eight Moons Publishing

Kyro Dean has written over 20 novels, including The Baron's Ghost, which can be found on Kindle Vella. In addition to her works for Eight Moons Publishing, she owns and edits for the blog, Vanilla Grass Writing Resources. She loves to speak and help other authors find their voice. When not writing, she loves spending time

with her delightfully curious children and talking with her plants, though they often give terrible advice. Check out her website @ eightmoonspublishing.com. Or check her out on social media (Twitter and Instagram): @kyro_dean

Teaching

Perfect Your Writing Style with the Masters Judge a Book by Its Cover

http://www.kyrodean.com

Mark Hansen

Author of "A Tale of Heroes"

The overactive imagination of Mark's childhood never went away. After playing way too many Role-Playing games and struggling in school, he took a lot of creative classes in college, including music and creative writing.

Through the years, he has kept busy at both, and in recent years returned to fiction and gaming, self-publishing a system of rules and a series of novels set in the same world. "The Hero's Tale", and "A Tale of Heroes"

Teaching

On the Killing of Characters

http://WindmillCrusaders.com



Rachael Bush Botanist and author

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 short stories about her tumultuous childhood (featured in the 85th anniversary League

anthology, The Function of Freedom) and the Botany for Everyone series. When she's not writing, she volunteers for the League of Utah Writers as the President-Elect, Blue Quill chapter president, and builds the app for our conferences. For nerdy science and art, follow Rachael on Instagram @botanyforeveryone

Teaching
Workshop: Intro to Outlining

http://septemberroberts.com



Sabine Berlin Author of AND THE SKY FULL OF STARS

Sabine Berlin spends her days working in higher education and her evenings imagining what the world would be like if aliens, alternate realities, and all things science fiction were real. She has degrees in higher education leadership, history, and editing and document design. She is a senior editor with Eschler Editing where she has

helped authors hone their writing skills and prepare their books for publication for over 10 years. Her YA novel AND THE SKY FULL OF STARS came out November 2022 from Immortal Works.

Teaching
The Editor and The Publicist
Never Give Up. Never Surrender

http://sabineberlin.com



Sofiya Pasternack
National Jewish Book Award Finalist

Sofiya Pasternack is a mental health professional, the highly-distractible author of Jewish MG and YA fantasy, and prone to oversharing gross medical stories. She enjoys speaking to crowds about writing and mental health. She does not enjoy running but she does it anyway. She is actually a gremlin in a bad wig.

Teaching

Workshop: What Now?: How to Brainstorm New Story Ideas

http://www.sofiyapasternack.com



Spencer Osburn Utah Valley Legends President

Spencer Osburn is the president of the Utah Valley Legends Chapter of the League of Utah Writers, an opportunity he feels honored and amazed to have, having lived in Las Vegas since 2020. He is also a supervising senior at his accounting firm, a fact amazing to everyone else, given the general prohibition on accountants

possessing creativity of any sort whatsoever.

In addition to writing, he loves options trading, bowling, karaoke, and vain attempts to convince anyone with a pulse to watch the 1967 TV masterpiece The Prisoner, and its criminally underrated predecessor Secret Agent.

TeachingA Beginner's Guide to Fraud



Steve Capone

Debut author publishing historical fiction

Steve is a veteran teacher whose debut published novel is set for 2024 release with Gibbs Smith. His specialty is in academic research, and he puts it to good use in his historical fiction. Steve also writes literary and genre fiction and is developing a litfic/gamelit mashup novel.

Teaching
Historical Research for Your Novel

http://www.caponeteaches.com



Talysa Sainz
ACES' 2022 National Editor of the Year

Talysa Sainz is a freelance editor who believes life's deepest truths can be found in fiction. She runs her own editing business and spends her time at the library or volunteering with the League of Utah Writers. Always fascinated with the structure of words, she studied English Linguistics and Editing at BYU. She then went on

to receive a Master of Science in Management and Leadership, focusing on nonprofit work, from WGU. Talysa is the President of the Utah Freelance Editors.

Teaching
Poetry Basics
Editing Poetry
Emotion in Poetry

http://talysasainz.com



Terra Luft
Award winning author

Terra Luft is an award-winning speculative fiction author of short stories whose work explores women's themes and challenges societal norms in hopes of allowing fresh perspectives to emerge. An overachiever by nature, she tackles all things with coffee and sarcasm and believes all rules exist to be broken. Terra holds a BA

in Creative Writing and English with a minor in Communications from Southern New Hampshire University and an MS in Management and Leadership from Western Governors University. She resides in the mountains of Utah with her husband and two daughters.

Teaching
Workshop: Short Stories: Why and How

https://terraluft.com/