



# The Quill

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE LEAGUE OF UTAH WRITERS

## *A Message from the President*

Hey guys,

I'm testing the newsletter network to reach out to you awesome folks in the League of Utah Writers. I, as your new president, want to give you all the heads up about the two big conferences coming. Yes, I know it's far away, but Early Bird Prices are up now for both Spring 2019 conference and Quills 2019 and I thought you should know.

This year's theme is **Live in Letters**. Relish them, cover yourself in adjectives and verbs, surround yourself with nouns, dare to adverb. Follow the imaginings.

Spring Conference will be held Saturday April 27, 2019 at Salt Lake Community College Taylorsville campus. SLCC, West Valley, 4600 South Redwood Road, Salt Lake City, Ut 84123. NOTE that this is a date change. We had to move it back a couple weeks. This is the right date - **APRIL 27, 2019**.

This single day event is priced for everyone.

Here's the spring conference registration link with early bird pricing: <http://bit.ly/LUWspring19>

These prices will be good through March 15, 2019.

Use the code **LILSPRING19TEN** if you are a member in good standing for an additional 10% adult



prices. (Teen prices are static-\$18 for those eighteen and younger.)

Also, the presentation portal for Spring is now up. If you have an idea for an hour-long presentation on craft or business, or anything that would interest your peers, now is your chance. Remember, giving back is part of the deal. Submissions are open until the end of the year.

Here's the portal link for Spring Conference:

<http://bit.ly/spring-portal>

As for Quills, I'm already excited.

Quills, as you may or may not know, is our big event. The last one was awesome and I'm going to try to top it. Our keynote speaker for 2019 is the incomparable New York Times Best Selling Author, Anne Hillerman.



**Anne Hillerman** continues the mystery series her father, the best-selling author Tony Hillerman, created beginning in 1970. After spending many years as a journalist and nonfiction author, Anne published her first novel, *Spider Woman's Daughter*, in 2013. The mystery followed the further adventures of the characters Tony Hillerman created including Jim Chee and Joe Leaphorn and gave Bernadette Manuelito a leading role. The book received the Spur Award from Western Writers of America for Best First Novel.

Her second mystery, *Rock with Wings*, quickly became a *New York Times* best-seller and received the New Mexico Book Awards Founders' Award. The third novel in the reinvigorated series, *Song of the Lion*, arrived in April 2017 and took the detectives to the Grand Canyon and Tuba City, Arizona. It also was a *New York Times* top-ten best seller.

The fourth in her re-envisioning of the mysteries, *Cave of Bones*, uses the rugged lava landscape of New Mexico's Malpais as a setting where crime solver Bernadette Manuelito discovers that a missing person has a complicated past. The book debuted in April, 2018, as number eight on the *New York Times* best seller list for combined hard cover and e-book sales. In addition to enthusiastic reviews from Kirkus, Booklist and Library Journal,

the *New York Journal of Books* wrote, "...this fictional universe now belongs firmly in the hands of Anne Hillerman."

The fifth book in the series, *The Tale Teller*, is set for release in April 2019. Anne is also the author of several non-fiction books including *Tony Hillerman's Landscape: On the Road with Chee and Leaphorn* created with husband/photographer Don Strel.

Anne belongs to many writers' organizations and served on the board of Western Writers of America. She was deeply honored to be invited by the University of New Mexico to present the annual Rudolfo and Patricia Anaya Lecture on the Literature of the Southwest in 2015, and, in 2018, to give the Willard Lecture for the New Mexico Center for Southwest Research and Special Collections. In 2019, she will receive the Frank Waters Award for literary excellence. In 2018, she was named favorite local author in the Albuquerque Journal's Readers' Choice Awards. She has represented New Mexico at the National Book Festival hosted by the Library of Congress.

When she's not writing, Anne enjoys reading, cooking, gardening, skiing and walking with her dog. She lives and works in Santa Fe with frequent trips to the Navajo Nation.

We also already have commitments from Nelson Literary Agency and Wild Rose Press. So get ready to query!

Mark your calendar. The conference will be August 22-24th, 2019 in Salt Lake City.

Thursday will once again be a prequel workshop day with the conference proper being Friday and Saturday. The banquet, with all the writing awards is Saturday and is a separate ticket.

Quills home page: <https://www.leagueofutahwriters.com/quills-conference-2019>

Here's the link for Quills Early Bird Prices: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2019-quills-conference-live-in-letters-registration-49637302508>

Use the Code: **MEMBERS10Q19LIL** if you are a league member in good standing for an additional 10% off most packages.

Quills Early Bird prices should be good until April 30, 2019, but don't delay. Space is limited.



That's all for now.

Write on everyone, be excellent to each other, and **Live in Letters!**

Johnny Worthen,  
President, League of Utah Writers

*The Quill* is published four times a year by the League of Utah Writers, a nonprofit organization dedicated to offering friendship, education and encouragement to the writers of Utah.

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