

The League of Utah Writers
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LEAGUE OF UTAH WRITERS POSTPONES SPRING CONFERENCE IN RESPONSE TO CORONAVIRUS

Salt Lake City, UT -- As the League of Utah Writers looks ahead at its Spring Conference, originally scheduled to occur on April 18, 2020, concerns about Coronavirus (COVID-19) continue to mount. As festivals, concerts, conferences, and events where large amounts of people gather are canceled, the League is looking carefully at a measured response for its annual writing conference and have decided to postpone until May 23, 2020.

“We’re taking this very seriously,” said Johnny Worthen, author and current president of the organization. “We do not want to create any additional burdens on attendees or health professionals that are working to stem the spread of the virus. And we will continue to be responsible.”

Though the event has been rescheduled, the League will continually monitor the situation. On May 9, 2020, 14 days before the event, a final determination about the event will be made. The League will be making this decision based on recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the recommendations of Salt Lake Community College where the event is hosted, and state and county officials. On May 9, 2020, if officials and the League don’t feel safe moving forward with an in-person event, a virtual Spring Conference will be held.

John Olsen, the president-elect of the League, invited writers to carry on as usual at this point. “After much deliberation, this is the only way we felt comfortable moving forward. We welcome all who want to join us for a great conference, although those at high risk due to health or age concerns should take appropriate precautions as we monitor the situation. Since this is the most affordable conference we’ve ever held, the impact of any cancellation should be minimal. And since the ticket includes an optional membership to the League, we still hope to add many writers to our ranks even if we have to switch to a virtual conference.”

The League of Utah Writers Spring Conference is planned to take place Saturday, May 23, 2020 at the Salt Lake Community College Taylorsville Campus. Admission for members of the League is \$20. For everyone else, tickets cost \$50 and include a membership to the League. For more information about getting tickets visit www.leagueofutahwriters.org.

The League of Utah Writers is a nonprofit organization supporting aspiring and established writers with outreach, education, and publishing opportunities. With more than two dozen chapters throughout Utah, from Logan to St. George, it is the state’s

oldest and largest writing community. Established in 1935, the League of Utah Writers sponsors contests, conferences, classes, and other events throughout the year. Aspiring Utah writers of all ages, styles, and experience levels are invited to join the league and take the next step in their writing career.

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