

FLORIDA WRITERSCON 2023

Empower
your writing



OCTOBER 20-22, 2023
Hilton Orlando/Altamonte Springs



WAYNE G MACDOWELL
BEST-SELLING AUTHOR
NINE YEARS IN THE MAKING

NOT JUST ANOTHER WAR STORY

A TRUE TO LIFE ACCOUNT OF WWII

REVIEW

“*This is one of those rare books you won't be able to put down. The thorough and realistic descriptions of various situations made me feel like I was a part of the action. When missions were being flown. I felt like I knew the characters and found myself hoping they make a certain decision or cheering them on. It gave me a much better appreciation for what the airmen, as well as the ground crews, went through during WWII, including the emotional attachments that developed not only between people, but with the aircraft.*” **D. SAMUEL**

You can almost hear the roar of B-17 Flying Fortress Engines

You'll get caught up in this exciting, action-packed, true to life, World War II adventure that puts YOU in a front row seat.

SYNOPSIS

It is the spring of 1942 and as Steve Carmichael celebrates graduating from the University of Florida, it is clear to every young man in America that a war is on. Six months have passed since the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and ordinary citizens stand united, ready to fight against the tyranny of Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan.

Steve grew up on a cattle ranch in Kissimmee, Florida. His two passions: baseball and flying. At the age of 11, his father, Ray, purchased an old mail-route biplane, and within a year, Steve was soaring with the birds. It was an easy decision for Steve to join the Army Air Corps and pursue his desire to pilot the B-17 Flying Fortress. In flight school, he meets his future copilot and best friend, Howie Van Dyke. Stationed overseas in Chelveston, England, with the Eighth Air Force, they form the tight-knit crew—Pappy's Pack in the 305th Bomb Group. Action-packed air battles ensue as they fight deadly flak and German Luftwaffe in the skies of occupied Europe. Though they must complete a total of 30 missions before earning a trip back to the States, a young British nurse named Maggie captures the attention of Steve, and he finds himself torn by both the uncertainty of love and the business of war.

**A story of hope, dreams, and love in a war-torn world.
Available online in both print and digital and at your local bookstore.**



published by DocUmeant Publishing
DocUmeantPublishing.com

www.waynemacdowell.com
ISBN13: 9781937801465



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President

Mary Ann de Stefano

Executive Vice President

Ginnye Lynn Cubel

VP Administration & Membership

Michael Farrell

VP Finance

Donna Brown

Special Advisor

Anne Dalton, Esq.

DIRECTORS

Paul Iasevoli

Sam Knox

Elaine Senecal

Scott Tilley

Florida Writers Association

127 W. Fairbanks Ave. #407

Winter Park FL 32789-

floridawriters.org

contactus@floridawriters.org

Program Editor

Mary Ann de Stefano

Production Editor

Tanya Grae

Cover Design

Ginnye Lynn Cubel

Florida WritersCon 2023

2 Floor Plan of the Hilton Altamonte Springs

3 Welcome

Mary Ann de Stefano, FWA President

Paul Iasevoli, Florida WritersCon 2023 Chair

5 **About the Keynote Speaker: Lisa Black**

7 **NextGen Writers Experience**

8 Member Book Sales & Signings

9 Faculty Book Sales & Signings

Schedule:

12 Friday

13 Saturday morning

14 Saturday afternoon

15 Saturday evening

21st Annual Royal Palm Literary Awards Celebration

17 Sunday morning

19 **FWA Calendar**



Welcome to Florida WritersCon 2023



I am proud and happy to welcome you to our annual conference! Just like other attendees, I'm looking forward to being with old friends and making new ones and excited to meet people in person who I've only communicated with by email or Zoom. And isn't it just the best to be among people who write and are keen to learn more about the craft and business of it all? People who celebrate writing and writers? We will all go home exhausted from soaking in the experience of it all, but our spirits will be re-charged, giving us energy to do what we want to do most of all—write.

You know what else I am proud and happy about? All the amazing people who volunteered their time to make this weekend and everything FWA possible. It starts with our Board of Directors—a working Board who takes the lead on managing all our programs and the infrastructure that supports them. Our current Florida Writers Association Board is composed of the hardest working, most dedicated, and most creative group of people I have ever worked with. They give generously of their time, work collaboratively as a team, and take joy from their service. As I always say, volunteering should be fun, and with this group, it really is.

Many, many more volunteers contribute their time to be writers helping writers: the Royal Palm Literary Awards and Collection teams of admins and judges; Writers Group Leaders; and the FWA's youth (FWAY) program team, and others. Too many volunteers to name here, but know we value every single one of them.

This year, due to the FWAY team's initiatives, we will have the largest group of young writers ever attending the conference—the next generation of writers. We can all be happy and proud of that.

—Mary Ann de Stefano, President



Esteemed Faculty, Members, and Guests,

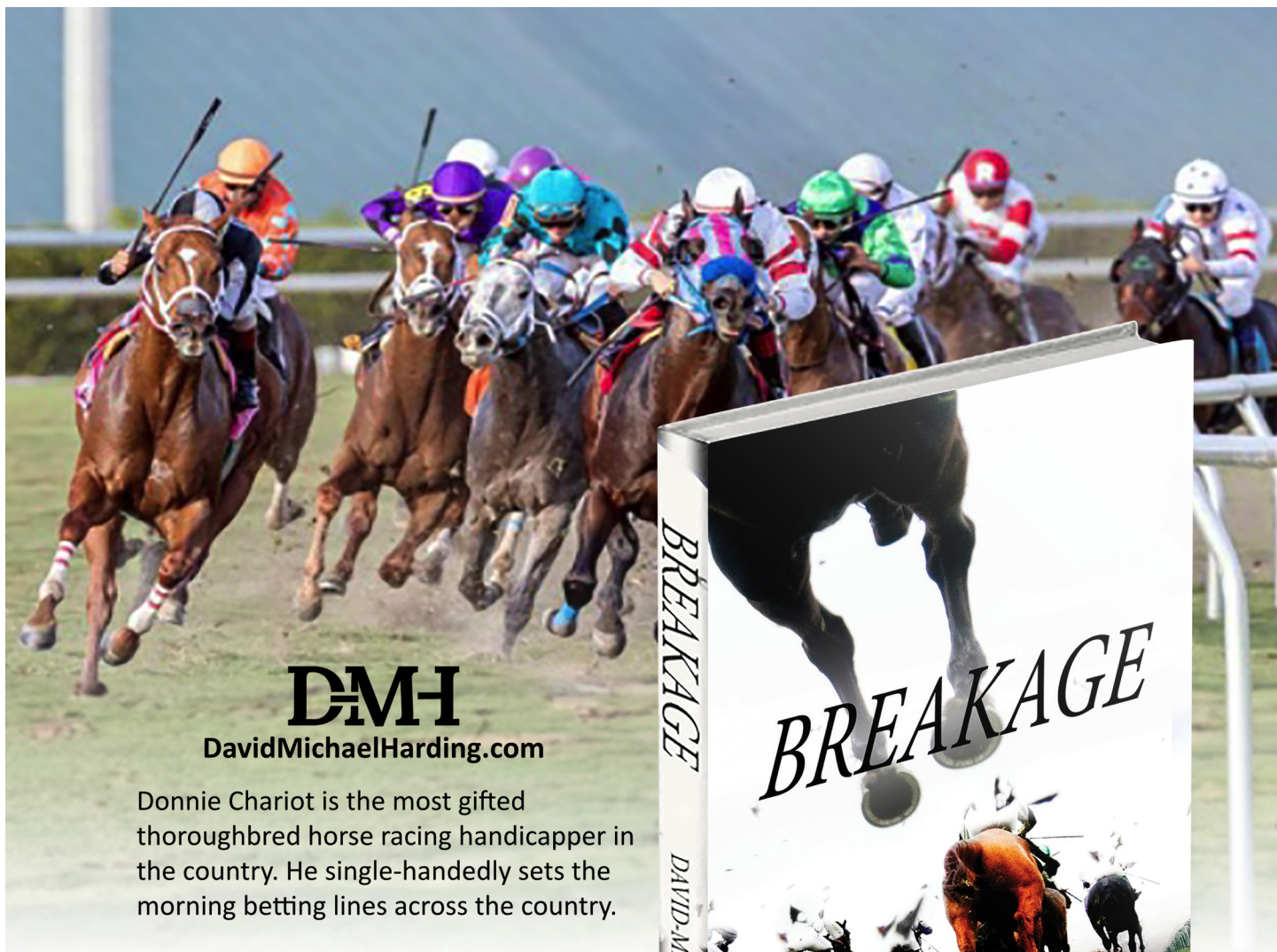
It is my great honor to serve as this year's Florida WritersCon chair. The three days of workshops, presentations, and events were planned with the needs of our growing membership in mind. Way back in December 2022, the conference committee reviewed the surveys submitted by the attendees at the 2022 WritersCon and compiled a list of topics to focus on for 2023.

As you thumb through this program, you'll find workshops on crafting, marketing, and selling your work. You may also notice a pivot to the elephant in the room: AI and ChatGPT. Is this new technology the big, bad wolf who'll blow the writer's house down, or is it just another tool like Spellcheck? The workshops and panel discussion on this topic should help you better understand and deal with this emerging feature of our writing community.

Beyond the nuts and bolts of workshops and presentations that hold the WritersCon together, we hope that you'll enjoy the festivities we've planned. Continuing with a tradition that we began last year, there will be two mixers: the Friday night meet and greet and the Saturday night pre-RPLA party—both of which promise good libations, better food, and great comradery. And let's not forget the open mic where you'll get five minutes to let your words take flight from the mic and land in the ears of your fellow writers.

So, mingle, merge, and make merry with each other, our fine group of presenters, and our special guest: keynote speaker Lisa Black.

—Paul Iasevoli, Florida WritersCon 2023 Chair



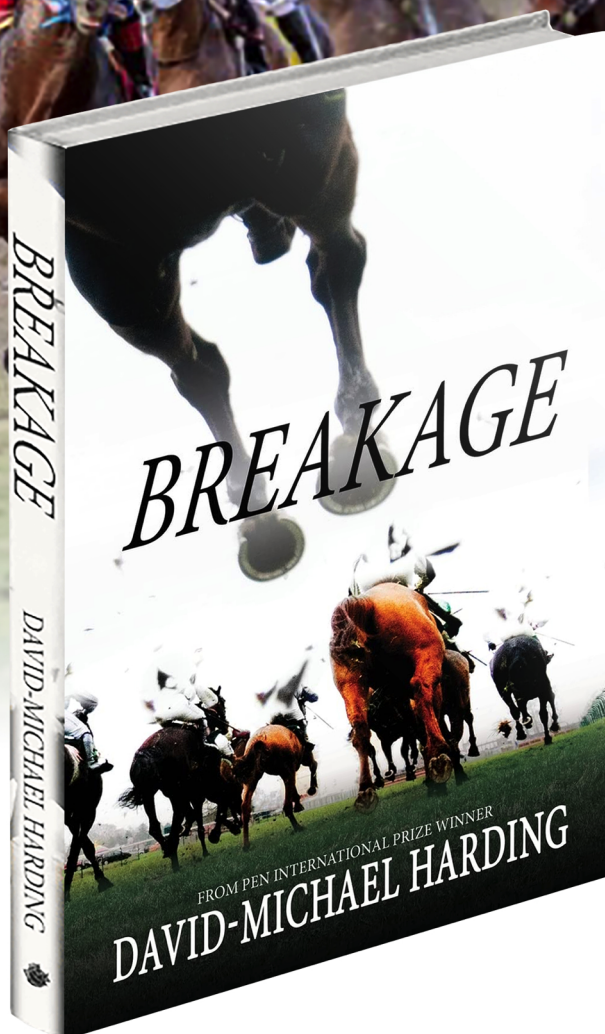
DMH

DavidMichaelHarding.com

Donnie Chariot is the most gifted thoroughbred horse racing handicapper in the country. He single-handedly sets the morning betting lines across the country.

But when early onset Alzheimer's causes his unique gift to fail him, mobsters from Manhattan to Las Vegas aren't happy. Chariot needs his estranged daughter to help him, but their rocky past keeps them apart.

When Donnie's granddaughter is kidnapped to force his daughter into the game, he controls everyone. Until he doesn't. His mind failing, his daughter getting wise, and wiseguys wiser still, it's a race to save a family before the momentum of the past destroys their future.



Scan Code to View on
amazon



BLACK ROSE
writing™



Keynote Address by Lisa Black

Lisa Black will share her path to publication, both the rocky and the smooth patches, through four publishers, two agents, four editors and numerous rejections, revisions, and resurrections. She will also touch on her forensics career and how that has affected her body of work, opinions on the challenges writers face, and her own personal rules for writing.

Lisa Black is the *New York Times* bestselling author of 16 suspense novels, including the Gardiner & Renner series and the Locard Institute series. Her works have been translated into six languages, optioned for film, and shortlisted for the inaugural Sue Grafton Memorial Award.

She is also a full-time Certified Latent Print Examiner and a Certified Crime Scene Analyst, beginning her forensics career at the Coroner's office in Cleveland, Ohio and the police department in Cape Coral, Florida.

She has spoken to readers and writers at numerous conferences, been a consultant for *CourtTV*, and was a Guest of Honor at 2021 Killer Nashville. Website: lisa-black.com



When and Where to See Lisa Black

- **Friday, 1:00 – 3:00 PM**
What Mystery Writers Need to Know about Forensics, Crystal D
- **Saturday, 8:45 – 9:45 AM**
Keynote address, Crystal CDE
- **Saturday, 10:00 – 11:00 AM**
Book sale and signing, Capital Ballroom
- **Sunday, 8:45 – 9:45 AM**
Panel: AI: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly, Crystal DE

SCHOOL WRITING CLUB LEADERS

WANTED

Educators, parents, and youth writing advocates can help your local school become an FWA Honor School.

Benefits for students include:

- Improving writing and connecting with friends
- Earning an Honor School Banner
- Winning a FWA scholarship

INTERESTED? OR WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Contact: fway@floridawriters.org



NextGen Writers Experience

An event filled with presentations and events designed exclusively for the next generation of writers!



For the first time at our conference, selected NextGen writers will read an excerpt of their work live during the event.

All events will take place in the Royal Palm Ballroom unless otherwise noted. Schedule is subject to change without notice.

NextGen Writers Check-in: 7:00 AM – 8:20 AM (Royal Palm Foyer)

8:30 AM – 8:50 AM

You Are the Next Generation – The FWAY Team

Your program leaders will share about how to make the best of the Florida Writers Association Youth (FWAY) program's benefits, including School-based Writing Clubs and the FWAY Scholarship Award.

9:00 AM – 9:45 AM

Writing From Inside Your Characters – Janice Hardy

Characters are at the heart of every story, and the better we know them, the better our stories can be. In this session, writers will learn about point of view and how to see the story from a character's eyes.

10:00 AM – 10:45 AM

The Different Paths to Publishing – Christina Farley

Print books, audiobooks, serialized fiction, oh my! Take this opportunity to explore the different paths of publishing opportunities available for you and embark on a whole new adventure in your writing.

11:00 AM – 11:45 AM

Voice: The Secret Sauce that Endears Your Characters I Defies AI – Sylvia Whitman

In this brave new world where AI-driven technology tools like ChatGPT are beginning to spit out competent prose, voice is what will watermark original work.

11:45 AM – 1:15 PM

Youth Awards Luncheon (Crystal Ballroom)

Celebrate our Youth Royal Palm Literary Awards Winners and great writing as they receive awards, including the NextGen Writing Excellence Award.

1:30 PM – 2:00 PM

Collection Book Signing (Capital Ballroom)

Practice your author signature! FWA Collection Volume 15: Secrets published winners will join a book signing. All conference attendees can join the fun and show their support by getting their complimentary Collection book copy signed.

2:15 PM – 3:15 PM

Storytelling in the Time of Robots – Noel Zamot

Award-winning author Noel Zamot will share ideas on how authors can use the latest tools to make writing more accessible, fun, and dare we say, better. The presenter will combine his experience as an author with his experiences testing autonomous systems for the military—the precursor of AI.

3:30 PM – 4:00 PM

As we come to a close, we'll wrap up the day with pictures and give out the Honor School Banner to those who have established writing clubs with us.

Member Book Sales & Signings

Be a Writer Helping Writers — Buy Books!

Pre-function Area

Friday, October 20

Noon - 1:30 PM

Keith Abbott
Nylda Dieppa
Edwin McCarren
Pamela Mones
John Taylor

1:45 - 3:00 PM

Susan Baginskie
Marc Davidson
Cathy Fyock
Ginger Pinholster
Ann Shortell

Saturday October 21

9:00 - 10:30 AM

Carol Owen
Donna Parrey
Anthony DeLorenzo
Ted Mooney

10:45 - Noon

Peggy Avey
Marisa Mangani
Jack O'Brien
Chazz Vincent
Anita Wasko

Schedule is subject to change without notice



Faculty Book Sales & Signings

Be a Writer Helping Writers — Buy Books!

Capital Ballroom

Saturday, October 21

9:00 - 10:00 AM

Mary Flynn
Sylvia Whitman
Noel Zamot

10:00 - 11:00 AM

Lisa Black
Nancy J. Cohen
Jaimie Engle
Joni M. Fisher
Fred Koelher
Sarah McGuire

2:30 - 3:30 PM

Marty Ambrose
Janice Hardy
Arielle Haughee
Sarah Hendess
Elle E. Ire
Ken Pelham

3:30 - 4:30 PM

Shutta Crum
Vic DiGenti
Tarah Lynn Masih & Kim Bradley
Ben Sharpton

Schedule is subject to change without notice



Mansbridge Editing & Transcription

**Professional
Copyediting – Proofreading**

Beth Mansbridge

Email: bmansbridge@comcast.net

Phone: 904-461-9564

149 Cedar Ridge Circle

St. Augustine, FL 32080-6572

Copyeditor of many award-winning books

20+ years' experience

FWA member since 2006

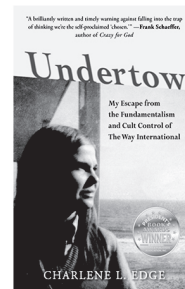
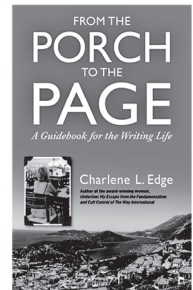
Immerse Yourself in The Works of Award-Winning Author, Charlene L. Edge

How Do Writers Write & Keep Writing?

FROM THE PORCH TO THE PAGE

A Guidebook for the Writing Life

Speaking friend to friend, Edge shares realizations and moments of beauty in essays on the writing life and craft, along with illustrative poems and stories.



Why Do People Join Cults?

UNDERTOW

*My Escape from the Fundamentalism and
Cult Control of The Way International*

Edge writes, "I only wanted to know, love, and serve God and understand the Bible. What harm could that possibly bring?" Find out in *Undertow*.

Charlene L. Edge's books are available at major booksellers and indie bookstores. Visit: <https://charleneedge.com>.



Many Thanks to Our Generous Sponsors

David-Michael Harding, Omega Project

Nate Hoffelder, The Author Website Guy

Writers Helping Writers

A delightful collection of found poetry that will linger long after dessert.

*— Mark Lane, columnist,
The Daytona Beach News-Journal*

Translations from the Chinese Restaurant

A collection of
found poems
sifted from
the wisdom
one finds in
the humble
fortune cookie.

Marc Davidson will have
this and other books at his
FWA book table
on Friday, Oct. 20
1:45–3 p.m.

Please come
and see!



Also available from orders@creativehappiness.org,
or on Ebay. Price \$15

Friday Schedule

NOTE: Schedule is subject to change without notice.

For presenter bios and session descriptions visit floridawriters.org/schedule.

Time	Event	Location
Noon – 5:00 PM	Florida WritersCon Check-in	Pre-function area
Noon – 3:00 PM	Member Book Sales & Signings	Pre-function area
1:00 – 4:00 PM	Writing with AI Scott Tilley	Amphitheater
1:00 – 3:00 PM	WORKSHOPS:	
	The Writer as Presenter Mary Flynn	Conrad
	Beyond the Newsletter: Advanced Email Marketing Strategies for Writers Ginnye L. Cubel	Crystal AB
	The Different Paths to Publishing Christina Farley	Crystal C
	What Mystery Writers Need to Know about Forensics Lisa Black	Crystal D
	Writing for Film Franklin Ritch	Crystal E
3:00 – 3:30 PM	Break & Networking	
3:30 – 4:30 PM	BREAKOUT SESSIONS:	
	Networking for Writers José Pablo Iriarte & Elle E. Ire	Waldorf
	Step Away from the Sledgehammer: Using the Overlooked Tools in Your Writer's Toolbox Sarah McGuire	Conrad
	Pump Up the Muscle in Your Poems Shutta Crum	Crystal AB
	Self-Publishing Made Simple Nancy J. Cohen	Crystal C
	Avoiding the Info Dump in Created Worlds Janice Hardy	Crystal D
	The Not-So-Secret Life of a Ghostwriter Vic DiGenti	Crystal E
4:30 – 5:30 PM	Break & Networking	
5:30 – 7:30 PM	Meet & Greet Mixer	Royal Palm
7:30 – 9:00 PM	Open Mic, moderated by Mary Flynn	Royal Palm

Saturday Morning Schedule

NOTE: Schedule is subject to change without notice.

For presenter bios and session descriptions visit floridawriters.org/schedule.

Time	Event	Location
7:00 – 5:00	Florida WritersCon Check-in	Pre-function area
7:00 – 8:20	Next Gen Writers Experience Check-in	Royal Palm Foyer
8:30 – 4:00	NextGen Writers Experience is a conference within the conference designed exclusively for middle & high school students—the next generation of writers! See page 7 for details	
7:00 – 8:30 AM	Hot Breakfast	Crystal CDE
8:30 – 8:45 AM	Break and Networking	
8:45 – 9:45 AM	Keynote Address Lisa Black	Crystal CDE
9:00 – 3:00 PM	Member Books Sales & Signings	Pre-function area
9:00 – 11:00 AM	Faculty Book Sales & Signings	Capital Ballroom
9:45 – 10:15 AM	Break & Networking	
10:15 – 11:15 AM	BREAKOUT SESSIONS:	
	Secrets of Publishing Contracts: 10 Tips to Protect Your Writing and Yourself Anne Dalton, Esq.	Amphitheater
	Breaking Into Book Reviewing Sarah Hendess	Crystal AB
	How to Write and Sell Short Fiction José Pablo Iriarte	Crystal C
	Your Publishing Timelines: Stay on Track & Don't Miss a Beat Arielle Haughee	Crystal D
	Storytelling in the Time of Robots, or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love ChatGPT Noel Zamot	Crystal E
11:15 – 11:45 AM	Break & Networking	

Saturday Afternoon Schedule

NOTE: Schedule is subject to change without notice.

For presenter bios and session descriptions visit floridawriters.org/schedule.

Time	Event	Location
11:45 – 1:30 PM	Youth Awards Luncheon & Annual Membership Meeting	Crystal Ballroom
1:30 – 2:00 PM	Collection Volume 15: Secrets Book Signing	Capital Ballroom
2:00 – 2:15 PM	Break & Networking	
2:15 – 3:15 PM	BREAKOUT SESSIONS:	
	Thoughts from Veteran Wized Writers Ben Sharpton	Amphitheater
	Sprinting Towards Failure: A Fail Fast Method for Character and Story Arcs Fred Koehler & Sarah McGuire	Conrad
	That's a Poem? The Crazy World of Poetry Today Shutta Crum	Crystal AB
	Writing Quotable Dialogue Joni M. Fisher	Crystal C
	Short Story How To: Creating, Compiling & Marketing Short Story Collections Tara Lynn Masih & Kim Bradley	Crystal D
	How to Create a Literary Legacy: Writing Your Life Story Vic DiGenti	Crystal E
2:30 – 4:30 PM	Faculty Book Sales & Signings	Capital Ballroom
3:15 – 3:30 PM	Break & Networking	
3:30 – 4:30 PM	BREAKOUT SESSIONS:	
	Chat GPT and the Future of Writing Scott Tilley	Amphitheater
	Writing Between the Lines: How an Illustrator Thinks About Your Picture Book Manuscript Fred Koehler	Conrad
	Voice: the Secret Sauce that Endears Your Characters and Defies AI Sylvia Whitman	Crystal AB
	Writing for Magazines & Paid Blogs Joni M. Fisher	Crystal C
	Book Marketing on a Budget Nancy J. Cohen	Crystal D
	Beyond the Borders Jaimie Engle	Crystal E
4:30 – 5:30 PM	Break & Networking	
5:30 – 6:45 PM	Royal Palm Literary Awards Mixer	Royal Palm
7:00 – 10:00 PM	Royal Palm Literary Awards Banquet & Awards Ceremony	Crystal Ballroom

21st Annual Royal Palm Literary Awards Celebration

Saturday, October 21

5:30 PM

Royal Palm Literary Awards Mixer
Royal Palm Ballroom

7:00 PM

Banquet
Crystal Ballroom

8:00 PM

Awards Ceremony
Crystal Ballroom

Order of Awards Presentations

Miscellaneous

- Anthology
- General Catch-All

Short Nonfiction

- Creative Nonfiction
- Published Blog or Article

Book-Length Nonfiction

- Autobiography or Memoir
- Educational or Informational

Short Fiction

- Flash Fiction or Short-Short Fiction
- Short Story

Book-Length Fiction

- Blended
- Fantasy
- Historical Fiction
- LGBTQ+ Fiction
- Mainstream or Literary
- Mystery or Crime
- Novelette
- Romance
- Science Fiction
- Thriller or Suspense
- Women's Fiction

Poetry

- Poem

Literature for Youth

- Children's Picture Book
- Early Reader or Chapter Book
- Middle Grade Fiction
- Young Adult or New Adult

GRAND AWARDS

Best Poem of the Year

Best Short Prose of the Year

Children's Book of the Year

Unpublished Book of the Year

- 4th Runner-up
- 3rd Runner-up
- 2nd Runner-up
- 1st Runner-up
- Winner

Published Book of the Year

- 4th Runner-up
- 3rd Runner-up
- 2nd Runner-up
- 1st Runner-up
- Winner



Join the FWA Speakers Bureau!

Florida Writers Association members can apply to be listed in a directory of speakers with their contact information. This will give members an opportunity to share their knowledge and network!

Apply here:

www.floridawriters.org/speakers-bureau



FIND YOUR WRITERS GROUP. OR START ONE.

floridawriters.org/writers-groups



Sunday Morning Schedule

NOTE: Schedule is subject to change without notice.

For presenter bios and session descriptions visit floridawriters.org/schedule.

Time	Event	Location
7:00 – 8:15 AM	Continental Breakfast	Crystal CDE
8:15 – 8:30 AM	Break & Networking	
8:30 – 9:30 AM	BREAKOUT SESSIONS:	
	What's So Fair About Fair Use? Anne Dalton, Esq.	Amphitheater
	What's Hot & What's Not: Current Trends in Historical Fiction Sarah Hendess	Conrad
	Query Letters Done Right Elle E. Ire	Crystal AB
	The Heartstrings Method: Techniques for Creating Emotional Impact in Your Writing Christina Farley, Janice Hardy, & Sarah McGuire	Crystal C
	Crisp Up That Prose Arielle Haughee	Crystal D
	Don't Follow Me: How to Create Impactful Marketing Without Social Media Ginnye L Cubel	Crystal E
9:30 – 9:45 AM	Break & Networking	
9:45 – 10:45 AM	BREAKOUT SESSIONS:	
	Character Groups to Sustain Series Jaimie Engle	Amphitheater
	Emerging Technology in Science Wyne Karnath	Conrad
	Economical Graphics for Writers: Finding and Using Images Without Breaking the Law Ken Pelham	Crystal AB
	From Planning to Product Using the Notebook Method Marty Ambrose	Crystal C
	PANEL: AI: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly Vic DiGenti, Lisa Black, Arielle Haughee, Fred Koehler, Scott Tilley, Noel Zamot <i>AI has been hailed as a timesaving, inspirational tool for writers, while others warn of impending doom. Our panel will explore the many sides of this revolutionary technology and how it's changing the way we work and write. Embrace it or hate it, AI is here to stay. But have no fear, change is good—at least for now. –Vic DiGenti, Moderator</i>	Crystal DE

*AD Anne Dalton, Esquire
Attorney at Law and Mediator*



Are you a writer-entrepreneur or would like to be?

**I represent creatives in all stages of
their business and creative progression**

- Situation-Specific & General Counsel Services Martindale-Hubbell®
- Contract Review & Prep
- Corporate and LLC Formations
- Simple Wills, Health Care Surrogates,
Durable Powers of Attorney



THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF
DISTINGUISHED NEUTRALS

Please feel free to check my credentials on my website:

**www.daltonlegal.com | (239) 337-7900
2044 Bayside Parkway, Fort Myers, Florida**

See You Next Year!

Florida WritersCon 2024

Hilton Orlando/Altamonte Springs
October 18–20, 2024

Mark Your Calendar!

January 1, 2024	<i>The Florida Writer</i> Submission & ad deadline
February 1, 2024	Collection Volume 16 Open to submissions
February 1, 2024	Royal Palm Literary Awards Open to submissions
March 1, 2024	<i>The Florida Writer</i> Submission & ad deadline
April 30, 2024	Collection Volume 16 Closed to submissions
April 30, 2024	Royal Palm Literary Awards Closed to submissions
May 1, 2024	<i>The Florida Writer</i> Submission & ad deadline
May 1, 2024	Volunteer Awards Open for Nominations
July 1, 2024	The Florida Writer Submission & ad deadline
August 31, 2024	Volunteer Awards Closed to nominations
September 1, 2024	<i>The Florida Writer</i> Submission & ad deadline
October 17, 2024	NextGen Writers Experience
October 18–20, 2024	Florida WritersCon 2024
November 1, 2024	<i>The Florida Writer</i> Submission & ad deadline

First, I listen to you.



“My work had been read by four other reviewers, none of whom made such cogent suggestions as yours. My book is much better because of your advice, and I would heartily recommend your services to others.” —Raff Ellis



MAD about Words

Editing & Manuscript Evaluations

Mary Ann de Stefano • 30+ Years Experience
Lifetime Member, Florida Writers Association

MADaboutWords.com

THE SPILL
KEITH ABBOTT

THE SPILL

TERRORISTS CONTAMINATE THE WORLD'S OIL SUPPLY...
CAN WE SURVIVE?



KEITH ABBOTT

Tech Tips for Authors

from Nate Hoffelder, The Author Website Guy

I like sharing tech tips with my friends just as much as I like solving problems. Here are a few tricks I've learned over the years. - *Nate*

Screen Sizes Matter

Never evaluate a design or proofread text on a smartphone. It doesn't matter whether you are checking a new logo, a print layout, or an illustration, a smartphone's screen is simply too small to properly evaluate the content.

Contact Forms

I know you have a contact form on your site, but does your site also log the messages sent through the form? A recent discussion in my FB group The Help Desk reminded me that emails sometimes go astray. This is why I make sure that the sites I build use a contact form that logs all submissions.

Backups

Backups are the foundation of all website security and maintenance. If your website is backed up regularly, you can use it to undo whatever accident just caused your site to crash. And if your site gets hacked, there's a good chance you will have a backup from before the hack, saving you some of the time and energy required to de-hack the site.

eBook Formatting

This breaks with print formatting rules, but when you use an ellipsis or m-dash in your ebook, you *really* need to add a space both before and after. Some reading apps will treat...this as one long word. Trust me, this can do terrible things to the ebook's formatting.

Spam

Spammers are going to flood your site with their trash, trust me on that. Luckily, you can use the **Cleantalk** Wordpress plugin to automatically keep spam comments from ever being seen by legitimate visitors. *It even kblocks spam in your contact forms!*

Internet Archive

If you've ever discovered a post or page was mysteriously deleted from your site, and wanted to get that one post back without restoring your entire site from a backup, I may have a solution. The Internet Archive regularly scans and backs up most websites, and if you are lucky it will have a copy of your missing page or post.

Let me know if you found these tips useful!

Nate@NateHoffelder.com

www.NateHoffelder.com

