

The South Coast Writers Conference is an eclectic gathering of writers of various genres, novice and published authors, returning and first-time attendees. It is our goal that participants and presenters leave the conference inspired and renewed, with new insights and skills, and better connected to fellow writers and resources. Once again we have invited some of the Northwest's best writers to guide you in an exploration and celebration of the many facets of writing. Participation in workshops is limited to 30 students or fewer; register early to secure a seat in the workshops you want.

The conference is always scheduled on Presidents Day weekend in the hopes that you will extend your stay to write and to explore the splendor of America's Wild River Coast. Visit our miles of spectacular beaches, explore our many hiking trails, or spend time on the mighty Rogue River.

For more information on the conference, contact the Gold Beach Center of Southwestern Oregon Community College (541) 247-2741 or visit the conference website at www.socc.edu/scwriters. For more information on the area, contact the Gold Beach Visitor Center at (800) 525-2334 or www.goldbeach.org.

The 17th Annual South Coast Writers Conference

is co-sponsored by

**Southwestern Oregon Community College
and the Gold Beach Visitor Center**



17th Annual

South Coast Writers Conference Gold Beach, Oregon

February 17 & 18, 2012

Bob Simons Scholarship Applications
Due January 15, 2012
Rogue River Echo Submissions
Due April 1, 2012
See back of registration form for details.
South Coast Writers Conference
Southwestern Oregon Community College
P.O. Box 590
Gold Beach, OR 97444

ACTIVITIES

Friday, February 17, 2012

Friday Workshops - 9am to 4pm

Three different workshops are offered for more intensive instruction at the Curry County Fairgrounds. Details on page 4.

Authors' Night - 7pm to 9pm

Join the Gold Beach community in this exciting and uplifting evening. **Stefanie Freele** will give the keynote presentation: *Writing is Dangerous*.

Following her talk there will be readings by the other conference presenters, as well as a chance for book sales and signing. **Free and open to the public**, held at the Curry Showcase on the Curry County Fairgrounds.

Art & Photography Show - Open during conference

Students of Southwestern Oregon Community College at the Curry Showcase Building on the Curry County Fairgrounds.

Saturday , February 18, 2012

South Coast Writers Conference - 8am to 6pm

Held at Gold Beach High School; additional information on the following pages.

Curry Public Library Book Sale - 9am to 4pm, second floor of the Cannery Building, above the Port Hole Café.

Cedar Valley/North Bank Fish Fry - 11am to 7pm - Docia Sweet Hall, Curry County Fairgrounds.

This regionally famous fish fry, which benefits the Cedar Valley/North Bank Volunteer Fire Department, is one of the many highlights of the writers conference. Take a short walk to Docia Sweet Hall on the Curry County Fairgrounds and enjoy the festive atmosphere. Feast on an all-you-can-eat meal of delicious white fish with coleslaw, baked beans, garlic bread, and a beverage. Homemade desserts are not included with the meal, but are available for purchase.

EVENING ACTIVITIES:

South Coast Writers Conference Writers' Circle - 7pm to 9pm at Gold Beach Books, Hwy 101 and 1st Street.

For those who want to keep on going, join the Writers' Circle after the conference. Share in reading, critiquing and networking with the new acquaintances you've met.

Alice DiMicele Concert - 8pm at Pistol River Friendship Hall, tickets \$15. Purchase advance tickets online at www.PistolRiver.com, or by phone at (541) 247-2848, or locally at Gold Beach Books.

For more than 23 years, Alice DiMicele has been playing her unique blend of Americana, groove folk, and acoustic soul to crowds across the United States. Based in the Pacific Northwest, DiMicele's music celebrates the natural world and the people in it. Alice's new album *Lucky Dogs* features her incredible band and was produced by Rob Seifert Gage.

Sunday , February 19, 2012

Curry Public Library Book Sale - 11am to 4:00pm, second floor of the Cannery Building, above the Port Hole Café.

The Erica Atkisson Memorial Scholarship: Click on the Scholarship button at www.socc.edu/scwriters.

Southwestern Scholarship

The Bob Simons Award

The conference has evolved from one man's dream of energizing local writers and luring others to Gold Beach during the winter season with an affordable, educational conference. To honor this dreamer, the Bob Simons Award has been created. This award provides a scholarship to this year's conference and is open to anyone. Please refer to the back of the registration sheet for details. This year's topic: ***"Thunder was crashing, the rain was pelting down, the lights went out, then..."*** Due January 15.

Rogue River Echoes 2012

All SCWC participants and presenters are eligible to submit poetry, prose, photographs, and artwork for the Eighth Annual *Rogue River Echoes* anthology. Submissions will be accepted at the conference or they can be mailed or emailed (postmarked by April 1). Details at www.socc.edu/scwriters.

Editions from previous years will be for sale at the conference or call to order a copy.

SCWC Conference Schedule

Friday, February 17, 2012

at The Curry County Fairgrounds, 29392 Ellensburg (Hwy 101)

8:30-9am	Check-in at the Curry Showcase building on the Curry County Fairgrounds, continental breakfast.
9am-4pm	Friday Writing Intensive Workshop: See page 4 for details.
7-9pm	Authors' Night: Keynote presentation by Stefanie Freele: <i>Writing is Dangerous</i> , followed by readings and book signing by conference presenters. Open to the general public.

Saturday, February 18, 2012

at Gold Beach High School, 29516 Ellensburg (Hwy101)

8:00-8:30am	Check-in at the conference break room (Gold Beach High School multi-purpose room), continental breakfast and afternoon snacks and refreshments.				
8:30-9:00am	Welcome and Introduction in the conference break room, please be prompt.				
Session 1 9:00-10:30am	A. Dramatic Dialogue Anne Osterlund	B. Political Fiction That Works Jeff Golden	C. The Many Ways to Begin a Story (fiction or memoir) Elizabeth Lyon	D. Beginning Flash Fiction: Writing Intelligent, Compressed Prose Stefanie Freele	E. Stretch: Expand Your Poem Possibilities Drew Myron
Session 2 10:45am-12:15pm	F. Creating A Killer First Page Ray Rhamey	G. Song Catching Alice DiMichele	H. Publishing Demystified Dennis Stovall	I. Learning To Read for Writers & Illustrators Amber Keyser	J. Writing about Animals, Plants and (In)animate Objects Charles Goodrich
Lunch Break (12:15pm - 1:30pm): Walk to Docia Sweet Hall on the Fairgrounds for the famous Cedar Valley Fire Department Fish Fry, bring a lunch and network in the conference break room, or eat out at one of Gold Beach's many fine restaurants.					
Session 3 1:30-3:00pm	K. What's to Love About Young Adult Anne Osterlund	L. Song Catching Alice DiMichele	M. Copyediting Basics: Punctuation, Grammar, and Format Elizabeth Lyon	N. Send, Send, Send: Literary Submissions Stefanie Freele	O. Stretch: Expand Your Poem Possibilities Drew Myron
Session 4 3:15-4:45pm	P. Crafting Killer Description and Dialogue Scenes Ray Rhamey	Q. Political Fiction that Works Jeff Golden	R. Building A Freelance Career/Life Dennis Stovall	S. Graphic Novels: Get a Grip on the Rising Genre Amber Keyser	T. Writing about Animals, Plants and (In)animate Objects Charles Goodrich
5:00-6:00pm	Closing Activities in the conference break room. Book sales and signing; door prize drawings (must be present to win) . Participants may set up and sell their own books.				
7:00-9:00pm	Writers' Circle for those who want to keep on going, share current writings for critique and networking. Meets at Gold Beach Books and Coffee House.				

Additional activities scheduled throughout the community, see previous page for details.

FRIDAY WORKSHOPS

February 17, 2012 - 9am to 4pm (1-hour lunch break)

The Friday workshops are intended for a more intensive learning and writing experience. Choose one of three six-hour workshop options. Workshops are limited to 25 students and cost \$55. Please indicate a first and second choice on the registration form. Priority will be given to Saturday conference attendees through January 31st. Those registering only for a Friday workshop will be placed on a waiting list. On February 1, if space is available, registrations will be processed from the waiting list in order of the date they were received, and participants will be notified. See website for more detailed description of workshops.

1

Sharpen Your Storytelling Skills

Ray Rhamey

The focus is fiction craft issues with 5 writing exercises (2 exercises also in Ray's 2nd Saturday workshop). Free writing ebook provided before conference.

- Writing for effect
- Story as a river
- Start with kitty-cats in action
- Six vital story ingredients
- It takes story questions to turn pages
- Making it experiential to characterize
- Describing a point-of-view character
- How to deliver the sound of dialogue
- When to tell, how to show
- Adverbs: Good? Bad? Yes.

Storytelling: after lecture and exercises, members write the opening page of a story (scenario provided) to read aloud for class critique.

2

Quick Fixes for Fantastic Fiction

Elizabeth Lyon

Many writers are surprised to learn that quick-fix techniques can produce amazing and instant improvements in **style, structure, and characterization**. While some revision requires elbow grease and agonizing hours, this workshop focuses on maximum results for minimum effort.

An in-class exercise will give you a "cheat sheet" to check structure on every page of your book or to pre-plan new works. Scenes composed of goal-directed action and sequels of emotional reactions to events are two fundamental structures. When does a scene deserve development, or to be dumped? How do you tuck emotions into action? What keeps the reader on the hook?

The engine of all successful stories is characterization, presenting authentic characters striving to fill their needs and resolve meaningful questions.

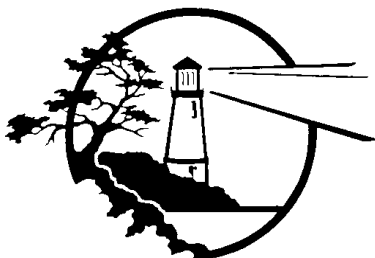
3

Writing Community and Family Histories

Dennis Stovall

This day-long workshop will focus on focus. That's right. We'll consider the amazing whole cloth of our lives or the lives of our families and communities, and we'll work on strategies for finding and pulling the right threads.

- We will discuss how to define, refine, and organize a project:
- how to get buy-in
- how to interview
- how to manage the politics of family and community
- how to economically publish the finished project, and
- where to look for help.



South Coast Writers Conference

Southwestern Oregon Community College
Curry Program - Gold Beach

PH: (541) 247-2741
scwc@socc.edu

FX: (541) 247-6247
www.socc.edu/scwriters

PO Box 590, Gold Beach, OR 97444

Refunds will be honored if requested 48 hours prior to the conference.

SATURDAY WORKSHOPS

February 18, 2012

Come prepared to write and learn. Some workshops will have time for writing and reading of participants' work.

Session 1 - 9am—10:30am

A **Dramatic Dialogue – Anne Osterlund**

A 60-90 minute interactive workshop in which participants use theatrical techniques to create strong written dialogue. Participants role-play and direct a scene as a group. They individually write a script and revise that script into prose by adding setting, action, and emotion.

B **Maybe You Don't Need Western Union: Political Fiction That Works – Jeff Golden**

Filmmaker Billy Wilder probably read his share of screenplays and novels weighted down by clunky advocacy. "If you want to send a message," he once said, "use Western Union." Had everyone agreed, some brilliant work from the pens of Hugo, Steinbeck, Kesey, Bradbury and Kingsolver—to say nothing of William Shakespeare—would never seen the light of day. Is fiction suited for advocacy? What can it do that nonfiction can't? What makes for a powerful and effective political fiction and what makes for clunkers? We'll want you to give us your idea of superb political fiction, and why it worked for you. And if you've written some, bring us a passage you especially like. (also offered in the afternoon)

C **The Many Ways to Begin a Story (fiction or memoir) – Elizabeth Lyon**

Writers hook their readers or lose them with first words, pages, and chapters of their works. Successful examples exist for beginning stories with dialogue, setting, back-story narration, life-and-death scenes, low-key scenes, prologues, interior reflection, characters alone or characters in groups, dream sequences, looking into mirrors, and every other kind of beginning that writers have been taught to use or avoid. What works? What is best for your story?

D **Beginning Flash Fiction: Writing Intelligent Compressed Prose – Stefanie Freele**

Flash (or short-short fiction) is powerful and intelligent compressed prose – a story told in a small space. Participants will read and discuss examples of stellar short fiction. Prompts and freewrites will generate new and unexpected short prose in a relaxed and supportive atmosphere.

E **Stretch! Expand Your Poem Possibilities – Drew Myron**

With an emphasis on poetry, this workshop will focus on fresh writing with prompts and practices designed to inspire and energize. Writers will explore the terrain of poem possibilities as they generate and share new work in a supportive, encouraging atmosphere. This workshop is open to writers of all skills and experience. (also offered in the afternoon)

Session 2 - 10:45am—12:15pm

F **Crafting a Killer First Page – Ray Rhamey**

In the workshop, I first give a brief presentation of six vital story elements for fiction. Then, one at a time, a writing sample (first page from a novel submitted by an attendee) is passed out to attendees. Attendees read the sample, decide if they'd turn the page on this novel, make notes, and then I lead the group in a critique of the page as to its effectiveness, shortcomings, and strengths. I also give my evaluation. My critique may also suggest a better starting narrative from later in the submitted chapter. Attendees who submit samples that are critiqued can take the group's notes with them, including mine.

G **Song Catching – Alice DiMichele**

There are many approaches to songwriting. It is a craft and an art, yet without inspiration it can be more of a mind exercise. "In my experience, the songs that move people the most are the ones that come naturally" says Alice. This workshop will focus on the art of song catching and will include exercises to prepare for the flow of inspiration. Much like fishing, one needs to be prepared with the right equipment and be in the right place at the right time to catch a song. We will also discuss editing of lyrics, vocal phrasing, the difference between song lyrics and poems and the ways that poems can become songs and vice versa. Bring a notebook and a pencil. (also offered in the afternoon)

SATURDAY WORKSHOPS *continued*

H Publishing Demystified – Dennis Stovall

There's never been a better time for writers to get published. Dynamic changes in publishing have opened the gates. Everything is in flux, but the changes sing of opportunity. Whether you want to become a publisher or you want to be well published, you need to know how the game is played: the mechanics of publishing; recent history and current trends; forms of the book; when to self-publish; and how to find and woo the right publisher for your work.

I Learning to Read for Writers and Illustrators – Amber Keyser

One of the first pieces of advice given to new writers and illustrators is "read what you want to write or draw." What does that really mean? In this talk, I'll dissect this cryptic (and overwhelming) suggestion into a series of activities that will help you get a handle on current books in your genre. These activities will help you spot trends, understand what works in children's literature, and identify publishing houses that might be interested in your work. Plus, you'll discover some gems for your bookshelf.

J Bugs, Trees, Tables, and Other People: Writing about Animals, Plants and (In)animate Objects – Charles Goodrich

What if everything is, in fact, alive? What if every creature and object is a person, a character? Such an intuition may lead into us into challenging ethical dilemmas, but it also opens the door to livelier writing. In this workshop, we will practice strategies for creative anthropomorphizing, giving the animate world the respect it deserves. Poets, prose writers, and genre benders are equally welcome. (Also offered in the afternoon)

Session 3 - 1:30pm—3pm

K What's to Love About Young Adult – Anne Osterlund

A discussion about the joys—and challenges—of writing young adult literature. Versatility, complexity, pacing, and the ever-challenging adventure of working with teenage characters!

L Song Catching – Alice DiMichele

There are many approaches to songwriting. It is a craft and an art, yet without inspiration it can be more of a mind exercise. "In my experience, the songs that move people the most are the ones that come naturally" says Alice. This workshop will focus on the art of song catching and will include exercises to prepare for the flow of inspiration. Much like fishing, one needs to be prepared with the right equipment and be in the right place at the right time to catch a song. We will also discuss editing of lyrics, vocal phrasing, the difference between song lyrics and poems and the ways that poems can become songs and vice versa. Bring a notebook and a pencil. (also offered in the morning)

M Copyediting Basics--Punctuation, Grammar, and Format – Elizabeth Lyon

Agents, publishers, and readers love creativity, but not in mistaken punctuation, faulty grammar, and weirdo formatting. If you are planning to self-publish, these gaffes risk bad Amazon reviews and will adversely affect your sales. This workshop identifies the mistakes that appear most frequently. You'll learn about the industry style guide for books, the preferred dictionary for those nitty-gritty decisions about spelling and hyphens, and acceptable format for submitted manuscripts.

N Send, Send, Send: Literary Magazine Submissions—Author & Editor POV – Stefanie Freele

Lecture based on my experience as Fiction Editor with Los Angeles Review, submissions editor with SmokeLong Quarterly, and published writer with over 80 published pieces in a variety of literary magazines. I discuss rejection, cover letters, editor/writer communication, searching for markets, submission strategies etc. **Lecture Only with Q&A.**

O Stretch! Expand Your Poem Possibilities – Drew Myron

With an emphasis on poetry, this workshop will focus on fresh writing with prompts and practices designed to inspire and energize. Writers will explore the terrain of poem possibilities as they generate and share new work in a supportive, encouraging atmosphere. This workshop is open to writers of all skills and experience. (also offered in the morning)

P **Crafting Killer Description and Dialogue Scenes – Ray Rhamey**

The fiction writer's task is to create the experience of the story in the reader's mind, not to just write a report of what happens. By combining a technique called experiential description with action beats in dialogue, a narrative can deliver that experience. This workshop leads writers to think about how to write for effect—the use of writing techniques to affect the experience the reader imagines.

Q **Maybe You Don't Need Western Union: Political Fiction That Works – Jeff Golden**

Filmmaker Billy Wilder probably read his share of screenplays and novels weighted down by clunky advocacy. "If you want to send a message," he once said, "use Western Union." Had everyone agreed, some brilliant work from the pens of Hugo, Steinbeck, Kesey, Bradbury and Kingsolver—to say nothing of William Shakespeare—would never seen the light of day. Is fiction suited for advocacy? What can it do that nonfiction can't? What makes for a powerful and effective political fiction and what makes for clunkers? We'll want you to give us your idea of superb political fiction, and why it worked for you. And if you've written some, bring us a passage you especially like. (also offered in the morning)

R **Building a Freelance Career/Life – Dennis Stovall**

A fellow writing teacher walked into a class where I'd just answered "yes" to "Can you make a living freelancing?" and answered it this way: "As Dennis has undoubtedly told you: No!" Undoubtedly? No way. Life's steady accretion of things learned, craft developed, art nurtured, and connections made means we're better prepared today than yesterday. We'll talk about where ideas come from and we'll consider strategies and tactics for success. It's easier than you think.

S **Graphic Novels: Get a Grip on a Rising Genre – Amber Keyser**

There's currently a lot of hype about graphic novels for kids. What's it all about? In this talk, I'll introduce the genre and discuss the ways in which graphic novels do things differently (and often better) than traditional prose. I'll share how writing graphic novels has improved and enhanced the way I write my other books. You'll leave excited about this growing phenomenon in children's literature.

T **Bugs, Trees, Tables, and Other People: Writing about Animals, Plants and (In)animate Objects – Charles Goodrich**

What if everything is, in fact, alive? What if every creature and object is a person, a character? Such an intuition may lead into us into challenging ethical dilemmas, but it also opens the door to livelier writing. In this workshop, we will practice strategies for creative anthropomorphizing, giving the animate world the respect it deserves. Poets, prose writers, and genre benders are equally welcome. (also offered in the morning)

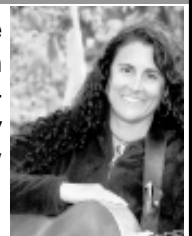
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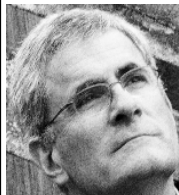


KEYNOTE

Stefanie Freele is the author of the short story collection *Feeding Strays*, a finalist in the John Gardner Binghamton University Fiction Award and the Book of the Year Award. She recently won the Glimmer Train Fiction Open. Her published and forthcoming fiction can be found in *Glimmer Train*, *Sou'wester*, *The Florida Review*, *American Literary Review*, *Night Train*, *Whitefish Review*, *Necessary Fiction*, *Park*, and *Word Riot*. Stefanie is the Fiction Editor of the *Los Angeles Review*. Stefanie's second collection, *Surrounded by Water*, will be published by Press 53 in 2012. She has a Master of Fine Arts from the Northwest Institute of Literary Arts: Whidbey Writers Workshop. www.stefaniefreele.com

Alice DiMicele (songwriter) - For more than 23 years, Alice DiMicele has been playing her unique blend of Americana, groove folk, and acoustic soul to crowds across the United States. Based in the Pacific Northwest, DiMicele's music celebrates the natural world and the people in it. Well-known for unique voice, original songs, and soulful delivery, Alice has the ability to both turn a noisy bar silent within a few notes, and rock any festival stage with her full band. Alice's new album *Lucky Dogs* features her incredible band and was produced by Rob Seifert Gage. www.alicedimicele.com





Jeff Golden attended Harvard University as a National Scholar during the height of the Vietnam War. He chronicled that journey in the book *Watermelon Summer*. He wrote *Forest Blood*, the pre-eminent novel of the Northwest timber wars. His stand for responsible forestry made him the target of an unsuccessful recall campaign financed by national timber corporations, and earned him the first nomination ever from the state of Oregon for the JFK Profile in Courage Award, which is one experience that directly informed the writing of *Unafraid: A Novel of the Possible*. www.unafraidthebook.com

Charles Goodrich is the author of two volumes of poems, *Going to Seed: Dispatches from the Garden*, and *Insects of South Corvallis*, as well as a collection of essays about nature, parenting, and building his own house, *The Practice of Home*. He also co-edited the volume *In the Blast Zone: Catastrophe and Renewal on Mount St. Helens*. His poems and essays have appeared in journals such as *Orion*, *Open Spaces*, *The Sun*, and *Best Essays Northwest*, and number of his poems have been read by Garrison Keillor on "The Writer's Almanac." www.charlesgoodrich.com



Amber Keyser is a former ballerina and evolutionary biologist, who writes about science and adventure for young readers. Currently, she's the go-to-girl and YA novelist for Angel Punk. Amber's articles have appeared in *Odyssey Magazine*, *Mothering Magazine* online, *CommonSenseMedia.org*, and *Globio.org*. Her books include *An Algonquin Heart Song: Paddle My Own Canoe*, two graphic novels about science, *The Basics of Cell Life with Max Axiom* and *Decoding Genes with Max Axiom*, and *Anatomy of a Pandemic*. She is represented by Stephen Fraser at the Jennifer de Chiara Literary Agency. www.amberjkeyser.com

Elizabeth Lyon is the author of *Nonfiction Book Proposals Anybody Can Write*, the *Sell Your Novel Tool Kit*, *A Writer's Guide to Nonfiction*, *A Writer's Guide to Fiction*, and *Manuscript Makeover: Revision Techniques No Fiction Writer Can Afford to Ignore*. This book was featured in "The Writer" magazine as one of the "8 Great Writing Books of 2008," and described as "perhaps the most comprehensive book on revising fiction." www.elizabethlyon.com



Drew Myron is a former newspaper reporter and editor, and now heads DCM, a marketing communications company. Her poems appear in a variety of print and online journals. She earned a Fishtrap Fellowship in 2011, and placed first in the 2010 Spirit First poetry contest, and in the 2009 Tallahassee Writers Association contest. She lives on the Oregon Coast, where she leads writing workshops and hosts Off the Page, an annual event promoting Oregon writers. www.drewmyron.com

Anne Osterlund is the author of three young adult novels, *Aurelia*, *Academy 7*, and *Exile*, all published by Penguin Books. She grew up in the sunshine of eastern Oregon and earned a BA from Whitworth College, where she majored in elementary education with Spanish and English teaching fields. Anne enjoys immersing her students in language, literature, and imagination. Her fourth novel, *Salvation*, is scheduled for release next fall, and she has dreams of many more in the future. www.anneosterlund.com



Ray Rhamey is a developmental fiction editor, author of 4 novels and a non-fiction book on writing craft, Indie publisher, and book designer offering design, editing, and production services for self-published writers at crrreative.com. He writes the internationally known blog, *Flogging the Quill*, on creating compelling fiction, and is a contributor to the Writer Unboxed literary blog. His background includes advertising and screenwriting. His writing how-to book, *Flogging the Quill, Crafting a Novel that Sells* (2009), gets rave reviews from writers. www.crrreative.com

Dennis Stovall, recently retired, is the founder of the graduate program in publishing and student-run Ooligan Press at Portland State University, which he directed for a decade. Stovall was previously the co-owner and co-publisher of Blue Heron Publishing. He is the author of *Classroom Publishing: A Practical Guide to Enhancing Student Literacy*, as well as having written many articles and ghosted books. A native of The Dalles and a 5th generation Oregonian, Stovall received a degree in political science from the UO Honors College.

