

# THE COMMUNITY OF WRITERS

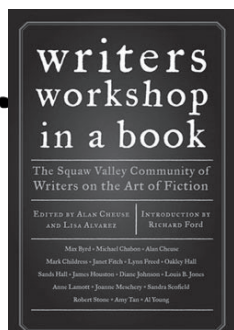
## 2018 Summer Workshops...

- *Poetry Workshop: June 23 - 30*
- *Writers Workshops in Fiction, Nonfiction & Memoir: July 8 - 15*

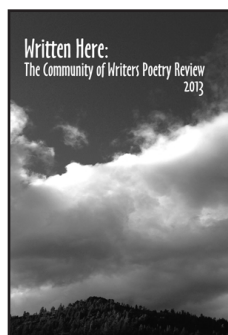
### The Community of Writers

For 48 summers, the Community of Writers at Squaw Valley has brought together poets and prose writers for separate weeks of workshops, individual conferences, lectures, panels, readings, and discussions of the craft and the business of writing. Our aim is to assist writers to improve their craft and thus, in an atmosphere of camaraderie and mutual support, move them closer to achieving their goals. The Community of Writers holds its summer writing workshops in Squaw Valley in a ski lodge at the foot of the ski slopes. Panels, talks, staff readings and workshops take place in these venues with a spectacular view up the mountain.

## ...& Other Projects



- **Published Alumni Reading Series:**  
*Recently published Writers Workshops alumni are invited to return to the valley to read from their books and talk about their journeys from unpublished writers to published authors.*
- **Omnium Gatherum & Alumni News Blog:**  
*Chronicling the publication and other successes of its participants.*
- **Craft Talk Anthology – Writers Workshop in a Book:**  
*An anthology of craft talks from the workshops, edited by Alan Cheuse and Lisa Alvarez.*
- **Annual Benefit Poetry Reading:**  
*An annual event to raise funds for the Poetry Workshop's Scholarship Fund.*
- **Notable Alumni Webpage:**  
*A website devoted to a list of our notable alumni.*
- **Facebook Alumni Groups:** *Social media alumni groups keep the community and conversation going.*
- **Annual Poetry Anthology:** *Each year an anthology of poetry is published featuring poems first written during the Poetry Workshop in Squaw Valley.*



# SUMMER WRITING WORKSHOPS

## The Workshops

- *Poetry Workshop*: June 23 - 30
- *Writers Workshops*: July 8 - 15

Workshops are offered in June and July. The following pages include information about these programs and the teaching staff as well as application procedures.

## Admissions

Admissions are competitive and based on online applications with submitted manuscripts. Each program's specific requirements for application are listed on page 13. Please apply early. Submissions must be received by the application deadline to be considered.

## Financial Assistance

Limited financial aid is available for those who request it, from funds donated by generous individuals and institutions. Most assistance is provided in the form of partial tuition waivers and larger scholarships, and may be requested in the application form. If you have already attended with a scholarship and/or aid, you may not receive aid this time. Please see our website for more details.

## Dates & Deadlines

	POETRY	WRITERS
Program Dates:	6/23- 6/30	7/8- 7/15
Deadline to Apply:	March 28	March 28
Application Fee:	\$35	\$40
Notification Date:	May 1	May 20
Tuition:	\$1150*	\$1200*

*\*Tuition subject to slight change without notice.*

## Frequently Asked Questions

For more information, visit our website [www.communityofwriters.org](http://www.communityofwriters.org).

## Squaw Valley

Squaw Valley, a ski resort located in the California Sierra Nevada close to the north shore of Lake Tahoe, was the site of the 1960 Winter Olympics. Summers are warm and sunny; participants will have opportunities to hike to the local waterfalls, take nature walks up the mountain, swim in Lake Tahoe, or bike along the Truckee River.

## Travel & Logistics

Squaw Valley is located seven miles from Tahoe City and ten miles from Truckee. It is a four-hour drive from the Bay Area, and an hour from the Reno/Lake Tahoe International Airport. Shuttle service is available from the airport to Squaw Valley. It is not necessary to have a car during the week. Upon acceptance, participants will be sent more information about airport shuttles, ride-sharing to the valley, and accommodations.

## Housing & Meals

Most evening meals are included in the tuition, but participants are on their own for breakfast and lunch. There are cafes and restaurants and a small general store close to the conference headquarters. Houses and condominiums in the valley are rented for participant housing, and include kitchens. Participants share these units and may choose single, double, or multiple occupancy rooms. Participants may, of course, arrange their own accommodations. We will send more information about our housing options, as well as local hotels, upon acceptance. For rates and options visit [www.communityofwriters.org/workshops/housing-meals/](http://www.communityofwriters.org/workshops/housing-meals/)

## Contact Information

Brett Hall Jones, Executive Director  
(530) 470-8440 (July 20 - June 10)  
(530) 583-5200 (June 10 - July 20)

[info@communityofwriters.org](mailto:info@communityofwriters.org)

# FORTY-EIGHT YEARS

## DIRECTORS

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Brett Hall Jones

### ALUMNI RELATIONS & DEVELOPMENT

Eva Maria Melas

## SUMMER WORKSHOPS

### FICTION

Lisa Alvarez

Louis B. Jones

### NONFICTION

Michael Carlisle

### POETRY

Robert Hass

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### PRESIDENT

James Naify

### VICE-PRESIDENT

Christopher Sindt

### SECRETARY

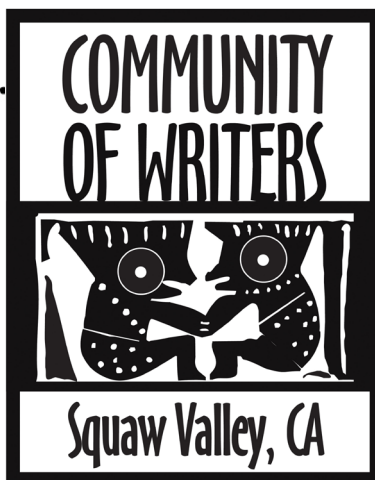
Jan Buscho

### FINANCIAL OFFICER

Burnett Miller

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lisa D. Alvarez	Dana Johnson
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Diana Fuller	Cora Yang



## BRIEF HISTORY

The Community of Writers was established in 1969 by the late novelists Blair Fuller and Oakley Hall, who were both residents of the valley. The first workshop was held in August 1970 and was originally staffed by a band of San Francisco writers including David Perlman, Barnaby Conrad, and John Leggett, the latter two of whom went on to found, respectively, the Santa Barbara Writers Conference and the Napa Writers Conference. The Community of Writers continues to be directed by Brett Hall Jones.

Over the years the Community has hosted workshops in Fiction, Nonfiction, Screenwriting, Playwriting, Poetry, and Nature Writing (the Art of the Wild, co-produced by Jack Hicks at the University of California at Davis) and Writing the Medical Experience (directed by David Watts.) Lisa Alvarez and Louis B. Jones now direct the Fiction Program, which was for twenty years directed by Carolyn Doty. Literary agent Michael Carlisle directs the Nonfiction Program. Galway Kinnell directed the Poetry Program for seventeen years; Robert Hass has directed it since 2004. Diana Fuller directed the Screenwriters Workshop, (founded in 1974 by screenwriters Tom Rickman and Gill Dennis) until 2014.

*"As a recipient of the Lucille Clifton Memorial Scholarship, I was able to make the long journey from New York to California to encounter an incredible faculty whose poems had already nurtured my poetic life. The workshops were humanizing in a way that's difficult to explain. I was inspired by the community and the landscape. I wrote poems that otherwise may have never been unearthed. It was truly a blessing."*

—Ama Codjoe

*"[The Community of Writers] is wonderfully open and free of all that hierarchy business. At Squaw, we are all writers."*

—Adam Scott

*"I felt like I received an intense MFA in one week."*

—Amanda Coggin

*"Quite simply, it was one of the most inspiring and educational times of my writing life. The staff set such a loving, positive tone for the week, and the entire writing faculty followed suit. And to me, this was the central message: Writing is important, vital work."*

—Ryan Griffith

*"I couldn't have been luckier in finding the Squaw Valley community. The opportunity to work with some of the best poets writing in the English language, their guidance, support, and the uniquely nurturing environment of this workshop have been a sustaining force in my work for over two decades."*

—Meryl Natchez

*"It was a week that can only be described as magical! I was inspired every second of every day during my time with the Community of Writers. The general vibe of this workshop is both warm and motivating, full of love and confidence, building both our art and our business. When describing my week to my family in San Diego the following Tuesday, I said simply 'it was the best week of my life.'"*

—Clea Bierman

*"It was an enormously inspiring and encouraging week, from which I continue to draw energy and insight. Though the word 'community' gets bandied about a lot, in Squaw Valley it felt like more than a word. I could feel the real bonds of friendship, collegiality, and affection that both hold this community together and attract kindred spirits."*

—Thomas H. Pruiksma

*"[...] a single week spent in the company of fellow poets has turned out to be one of the most vital and revolutionary experiences in my writing career. Just how Squaw works is a mystery to me, but it does and wonderfully so."*

—Katie Kilcup

# Poetry Workshop

JUNE 23 - 30

The Poetry Program is founded on the belief that when poets gather in a community to write new poems, each poet may well break through old habits and write something stronger and truer than before. To help this happen we work together to create an atmosphere in which everyone might feel free to try anything. In the mornings we meet in workshops to read to each other the work of the previous twenty-four hours; each participant also has an opportunity to work with each staff poet. In the late afternoons we gather for a conversation about some aspect of craft. On several afternoons staff poets hold brief individual conferences. Director: **ROBERT HASS**.

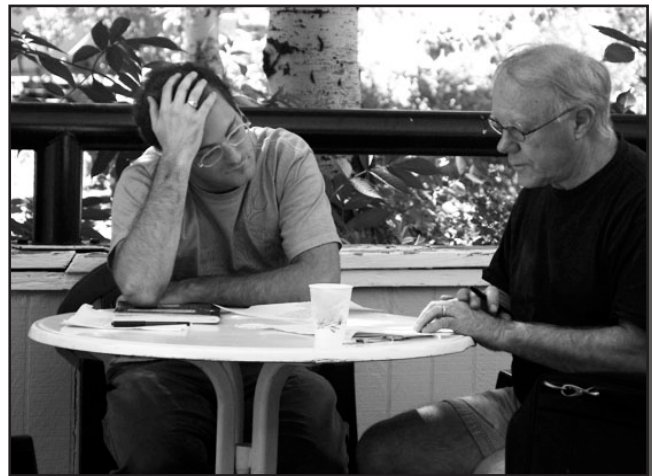
Tuition for the Poetry Program is \$1150.00 and includes seven evening meals. (Accommodations are extra.) *Financial aid is available.* See Application Guidelines, page 13.

The week includes:

- Daily morning workshops
- Poets have an opportunity to create new work daily
- Afternoon craft talks
- Individual one-on-one sessions
- Poetry Reading event
- 72 poets take part in the Poetry Workshop
- Naturalist-led nature walks

## Poetry Teaching Staff

**KAZIM ALI** was born in the United Kingdom to Muslim parents of Indian, Iranian, and Egyptian descent. His books encompass several volumes of poetry, including *Sky Ward*, winner of the Ohioana Book Award in Poetry; *The Far Mosque*, winner of the Alice James Books New England/New York Award; *The Fortieth Day*; and the cross-genre text *Bright Felon*. His novels include the recently published *The Secret Room: A String Quartet* and among his books of essays is *Fasting for Ramadan: Notes from a Spiritual Practice*. He is an associate professor of Creative Writing and Comparative Literature at Oberlin College. His new book of poems, *Inquisition*, and a new hybrid memoir, *Silver Road: Essays, Maps & Calligraphies*, will both be released in 2018. [www.kazimali.com](http://www.kazimali.com)



Robert Hass in conference.

**MÓNICA DE LA TORRE** is the author of six books of poetry, most recently *The Happy End/All Welcome* (Ugly Duckling Presse). Born and raised in Mexico City, she translates poetry, writes about art, and is a contributing editor to BOMB Magazine. Publications include *Triple Canopy*, *Harper's*, *Poetry*, *The White Review*, *Erizo*, the *New Yorker*, and *huun: arte/ pensamiento desde México*. She teaches in the Literary Arts program at Brown University.



## Poetry Teaching Staff continued...

**ROBERT HASS** is a poet, translator and essayist. Ecco/HarperCollins recently published his book of prose, *What Light Can Do: Essays 1985-2010*. His other recent books include his selected poems, *The Apple Trees at Olema* (Ecco/HarperCollins), *Time and Materials* (Ecco/HarperCollins), which was awarded the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award, and his edition of Walt Whitman's *Song of Myself and Other Poems* (Counterpoint). His other books of poetry include *Sun Under Wood: New Poems*, *Human Wishes*, *Praise*, and *Field Guide*. He has also co-translated many volumes of the poetry of Czeslaw Milosz and is the author or editor of several other collections of essays and translations, including *The Essential Haiku: Versions of Basho, Buson, and Issa*; *Twentieth Century Pleasures: Prose on Poetry*; and *Now & Then: The Poet's Choice Columns 1996-2000*. In 2017 HarperCollins published his most recent book of essays, *A Little Book on Form: An Exploration Into the Formal Imagination of Poetry*. He served as Poet Laureate of the United States from 1995 to 1997. Awarded a MacArthur Fellowship and the National Book Critics Circle Award twice, he is a professor of English at UC Berkeley and directs the Poetry Program of the Community of Writers at Squaw Valley.

**SHARON OLDS** is the author of eleven books of poetry. *The Dead and the Living* received the National Book Critics Circle Award; *The Unswept Room* was a finalist for the National Book Award and the National Book Critics Circle Award, and *One Secret Thing* was a finalist for the Forward Prize and the T.S. Eliot Prize. She teaches at New York University's Graduate Program in Creative Writing, where she has been involved with New York University's outreach workshops. The Goldwater Hospital Writing Workshop is in its 30th year, which includes a workshop for veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. Her collection of poetry, *Stag's Leap*, published by Knopf in the US and Jonathan Cape in the UK, won the 2012 T.S. Eliot Prize and the 2013 Pulitzer Prize. In 2015 she was elected a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters. In 2016 The Academy of American Poets awarded her the Wallace Stevens Award. Her most recent collection, *Odes*, was published by Knopf in 2016. [www.sharonolds.net](http://www.sharonolds.net)

**EVIE SHOCKLEY** is the author of several collections of poems including most recently *semiautomatic* (2017) and *the new black* (2011), both published by the Wesleyan Poetry Series. *the new black* won the 2012 Hurston/Wright Legacy Award in Poetry. She has also published a critical study, *Renegade Poetics: Black Aesthetics and Formal Innovation in African American Poetry* (2011). Her poetry and essays appear widely in journals and anthologies. Her honors include the 2015 Stephen Henderson Award for Outstanding Achievement in Poetry and the 2012 Holmes National Poetry Prize. Currently serving as creative editor for Feminist Studies, Shockley is Associate Professor of English at Rutgers University–New Brunswick.

**DEAN YOUNG**'s numerous collections of poetry include *Strike Anywhere* (1995), winner of the Colorado Prize for Poetry; *Skid* (2002), finalist for the Lenore Marshall Poetry Prize; *Elegy on Toy Piano* (2005), finalist for the Pulitzer Prize; and *Primitive Mentor* (2008), shortlisted for the International Griffin Poetry Prize. He has also written a book on poetics, *The Art of Recklessness: Poetry as Assertive Force and Contradiction* (2010). His poems have appeared frequently in *The Best American Poetry*. He holds the Livingston Chair of Poetry at the University of Texas, Austin. His most recent book is *Shock by Shock*, published by Copper Canyon Press in 2015.



# Writers Workshops

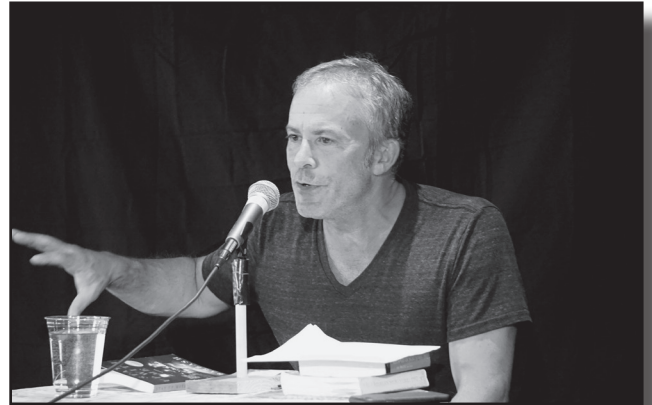
JULY 8 - 15

The Writers Workshops in Fiction, Nonfiction and Memoir assist serious writers by exploring the art and craft as well as the business of writing. The week offers daily morning workshops, craft lectures, panel discussions on editing and publishing, staff readings, and brief individual conferences. The morning workshops are led by staff writer-teachers, editors, or agents. There are separate morning workshops for Fiction and Narrative Nonfiction/Memoir. In addition to their workshop manuscript, each participant will have a second manuscript read by a staff member in individual conference. Nonfiction or memoir submissions should be in narrative form; travel, self-help, how-to, and scholarly works will not be considered. Directors: LISA ALVAREZ, LOUIS B. JONES & MICHAEL CARLISLE.

Tuition is \$1,200, which includes six evening meals; a limited amount of financial aid is available. Admissions are based on submitted manuscripts. See Application Guidelines, page 13.

The week includes:

- Daily morning workshops
- Afternoon & evening craft talks and panels
- Literary readings by prominent writers
- Panel discussions on editing & publishing
- Individual one-on-one conferences
- Published Alumni Reading Series
- Open Workshop led by Sands Hall
- Naturalist-led nature walks



Tom Barbash gives a craft talk.



Kirstin Valdez Quade holds individual conference.



Short Story Panel: Tom Barbash, Robin Romm & Andrew Tonkovich.

# Writers Workshops Teaching Staff

**LISA ALVAREZ's** prose and poetry have most recently appeared in *Faultline*, *Huizache*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Santa Monica Review*, *Truthdig*, *Zocalo Public Square* and in anthologies, including *Sudden Fiction Latino: Short-Short Stories from the United States and Latin America*. Together with Andrew Tonkovich, she edited *Orange County: A Literary Field Guide*, published by Heyday in February 2017. With Alan Cheuse, she edited *Writers Workshop in a Book: The Community of Writers on the Art of Fiction*. She is a professor of English at Irvine Valley College and co-directs the Writers Workshops at the Community of Writers at Squaw Valley.

**TOM BARBASH** is the author of the award-winning novel, *The Last Good Chance* (Picador), and the *New York Times* bestselling nonfiction book, *On Top of the World* (Harper). His stories and articles have been published in the *Best American Non-Required Reading*, *Tin House*, *McSweeney's*, *OneStory*, *Narrative*, *The Missouri Review*, *VQR*, *Men's Journal*, *ESPN the Magazine*, the *Observer*, the *New York Times*, *Bookforum*, *Salon*, *The Believer*, and other publications, and have been performed on National Public Radio for its *Selected Shorts*. National Public Radio, Amazon, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, and *The Independent of London* selected his short story collection, *Stay Up With Me*, as a Book of the Year. His latest novel, *The Dakota Winters*, will be published by Ecco in December 2018.

**CHARMAINE CRAIG** studied literature at Harvard College, received her MFA from the University of California at Irvine, and serves as a faculty member in the Department of Creative Writing at UC Riverside. Her first novel, *The Good Men* (Riverhead), was a national bestseller translated into six languages. Her sec-

ond novel, *Miss Burma* (Grove), recently long listed for the National Book Award, is based on the lives of her mother and grandparents, all born in Burma. Formerly an actor in film and television, she grew up in Los Angeles, where she now resides.

**LESLIE DANIELS** is the author of the novel, *Cleaning Nabokov's House* (Touchstone/Simon & Schuster) which is under option for film and has been published in translation in four languages. Her stories and essays have appeared in multiple publications. Her career includes a long stint as a literary agent in New York City and five years as the fiction editor of *Green Mountains Review*. She teaches writing at the Spalding University MFA program. She lives in Ithaca, New York.

**KAREN JOY FOWLER** is the author of six novels and three short story collections. She's written literary, contemporary, historical, and science fiction. Her most recent novel, *We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves* (Putnam), won the 2013 PEN/Faulkner, the California Book Award, and was shortlisted for the Man Booker in 2014. She lives in Santa Cruz, California.

**GLEN DAVID GOLD** is the author of the novels *Sunnyside* (Hyperion) and *Carter Beats the Devil* (Knopf), which have been translated into 14 languages. His fiction, essays and journalism have appeared in *Playboy*, *McSweeney's*, *Wired*, *ZYZZYVA*, *Tin House* and the *New York Times Sunday Magazine*. He's written comic books for Dark Horse and DC, and is an occasional writer on the podcast *Welcome to Night Vale*. His memoir *I Will Be Complete* is forthcoming from Knopf in June 2018.

*Writers Workshops Staff continued on Page 8*

## DAILY SCHEDULE

Morning workshops meet from 8:30 - 11:30. Afternoons and evenings are quite full, with optional lectures, panel discussions, staff readings, and other presentations. Participants are encouraged to set aside time for the reading and evaluation of workshop manuscripts.

## THE MORNING WORKSHOPS

Each workshop consists of roughly 12 participants and features a different workshop leader each day. In each session, the group usually discusses two participant manuscripts. During the course of the week, each participant will have a manuscript critiqued in workshop. Participants are asked to arrive with copies of the manuscript they would like treated in workshop. Our directors will assign each participant to the most appropriate staff workshop leader.

The Fiction Program accepts roughly 96 participants, while the Narrative Nonfiction/Memoir Program accepts 24. Applicants who work across genres may want to apply to both programs simultaneously, but will have to select one if accepted to both.

## INDIVIDUAL CONFERENCES

Each participant is assigned a brief one-on-one conference with a staff member appropriate to his or her manuscript. These conferences are scheduled at the mutual convenience of the participant and the assigned staff member and usually run no longer than twenty minutes. In most cases, the manuscript to be discussed will be the one submitted with the application, although a different manuscript may be substituted.



# Writers Workshops continued...

## OPEN WORKSHOP

Several afternoons during the week, SANDS HALL leads the Open Workshop, which provides another opportunity for participants to share their writing with their conference peers. Work is read aloud and discussed in a spontaneous and productive format. There is no extra fee for this workshop.

## FILM ADAPTATION CLASS

The Alchemy of Adaptation:  
From Book to Screen,  
a Special Afternoon Class

The majority of films and television series are based on source material, particularly books. Adapting a book for the screen requires a comprehensive understanding of screenplay structure, character development, among other visual storytelling elements. In this course writer/producer Patricia K. Meyer will offer a practical approach to adaptation, applying the fundamentals of screenwriting, including dramatic structure, developing fully dimensional characters, and scene construction. We will examine specific films and series based on books, comparing and contrasting the films with the original material. This class is only open to those enrolled in the Writers Workshops. Indicate your interest in the application form. \$250 fee.

SANDS HALL's memoir, *Flunk. Start. Reclaiming My Decade Lost in Scientology*, will be published by Counterpoint Press in March 2018. She is the author of the novel *Catching Heaven* (Ballantine), and of a book of writing essays and exercises, *Tools of the Writer's Craft*. Recent stories have appeared in *New England Review*, *Green Mountains Review*, and *Iowa Review*. Also a playwright and a singer/songwriter, Sands is Associate Senior Assistant Professor of English and Creative Writing at Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

DANA JOHNSON is the author of the short story collection *In the Not Quite Dark*, published by Counterpoint in 2016. She is also the author of *Break Any Woman Down*, winner of the Flannery O'Connor Award for Short Fiction, and the novel *Elsewhere, California*. Both books were nominees for the Hurston/Wright Legacy Award. Born and raised in and around Los Angeles, she is an associate professor of English at the University of Southern California.

LOUIS B. JONES is the author of the novels *Ordinary Money*, *Particles and Luck*, *California's Over* (Pantheon), and *Radiance*, and *Innocence* (Counterpoint). His short fiction and essays have appeared in *ZYZZYVA*, *The Threepenny Review*, *Open City*, *The Sun*, *Santa Monica Review*, and the *Pushcart Prize*. A story will also be included in *The Best of Pushcart* anthology, due out in 2018. He co-directs the Writers Workshops at the Community of Writers at Squaw Valley.

EDAN LEPUCKI is the bestselling author of the novels *California* (Little, Brown & Co.) and *Woman No. 17* (Hogarth), as well as the novella *If You're Not Yet Like Me*. Her short fiction and nonfiction have appeared in *Esquire*, *McSweeney's*, *Narrative Magazine*, the *New York*

*Times*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and *The Cut*, among other publications. A contributing editor to *The Millions*, she is the founder of Writing Workshops Los Angeles. She lives in L.A. with her husband and two children.

EDIE MEIDAV is the author of *Kingdom of the Young*, a collection of short fiction with a nonfiction coda (Sarabande Books, 2017), as well as three novels, named editorial picks by the *New York Times* and elsewhere: *Lola, California* (FSG/Picador), *Crawl Space* (FSG/Picador) and *The Far Field: A Novel of Ceylon* (Houghton/Mariner). She has been honored by the Lannan, Howard, Whiting, and Fulbright Foundations (Sri Lanka and Cyprus), the Kafka Prize, the Village Voice, the Bard Fiction Prize, Yaddo, Macdowell, Fundacion Valparaiso and elsewhere. Former director of the MFA at the New College of California in San Francisco, a past judge for Yaddo, the NEA, Mass Cultural Council, Juniper Prize, and the PEN/Bingham First Novel Prize, she serves as a senior editor at *Conjunctions* and other journals and is on the faculty of the UMass Amherst MFA.

Patricia K. Meyer is a writer/producer in film and television who has written numerous screenplay adaptations for Martin Scorsese, as well as all the major studios. She has produced eight television movies, including the Emmy-nominated miniseries, *The Women of Brewster Place*. After a decade teaching screenwriting at the American Film Institute Conservatory, she is a Clinical Assistant Professor of Screenwriting at Loyola Marymount's School of Film & Television. She is a longtime Writers Guild of American and Television Academy member. She will teach the special afternoon Adaptation Class. (See sidebar.)



# Writers Workshop Faculty continued...

**PETER ORNER** is the author of two novels, *Love and Shame and Love* (Little, Brown, 2011) and *The Second Coming of Mavala Shikongo* (Little Brown, 2006), and two story collections, *Last Car Over the Sagamore Bridge* (Little, Brown 2013), and *Esther Stories* (re-issued Little Brown, 2013, with new forward by Marilynne Robinson). His most recent book, an essay collection, *Am I Alone Here?* (Catapult, 2016) was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award. A recipient of the Rome Prize and a Guggenheim Fellowship, Orner teaches at Dartmouth College.

**KIRSTIN VALDEZ QUADE** is the author of *Night at the Fiestas* (Norton), a *New York Times* Notable Book, which received a 5 Under 35 award from the National Book Foundation, the John Leonard Prize from the National Book Critics Circle, the Sue Kaufman Prize from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and was a finalist for the New York Public Library Young Lions Award. Her work has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The Best American Short Stories*, *The O. Henry Prize Stories*, the *New York Times*, and elsewhere. A former Stegner Fellow at Stanford, she now teaches at Princeton.

**JASON ROBERTS** is the author of *A Sense of the World* (Harper), a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award and *Guardian* First Book Award, and the forthcoming *Every Living Thing*. He is the inaugural winner of the Van Zorn Prize for fiction, and editor of *642 Stories To Write* and *642 First and Last Lines*.

**ELIZABETH ROSNER** is a novelist, poet, and essayist living in Berkeley, California. Her first book of non-fiction, *Survivor Café: the Legacy of Trauma and the Labyrinth of Memory*, was published in 2017 by Counterpoint. Her first novel, *The Speed of Light*, was translated into nine languages, short-listed for the Prix Femina, and won several literary prizes in the US and Europe. *Blue Nude*, her second novel, was selected as one of the best books of 2006 by the *San Francisco Chronicle*. Her third novel, *Electric City*, was named among the best books of the year by National Public Radio. Her poetry collection, *Gravity*, was published in 2014. Rosner's essays and poems have appeared in the *New York Times Magazine*, *Elle*, *Poetry Magazine*, and numerous anthologies. Her book reviews appear frequently in the *San Francisco Chronicle*.

**MARGARET WILKERSON SEXTON** is the author of the novel, *A Kind of Freedom* (Counterpoint), which was long-listed for the National Book Award. She was born and raised in New Orleans, studied creative writing at Dartmouth College and law at UC Berkeley. She was a recipient of the Lombard Fellowship and spent a year in the Dominican Republic working for a civil rights organization and writing. Her work has been published or is forthcoming in the *New York Times Book Review*, *Oprah.com*, *Lenny Letter*, *The Massachusetts Review*, *Grey Sparrow Journal*, and other publications, and has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize. She lives in the Bay Area, in California, with her family.

**JULIA FLYNN SILER** is the author of *The House of Mondavi* (Penguin's Gotham Books) and *Lost Kingdom* (Grove/Atlantic), both bestsellers. She was a London-based staff writer for the *Wall Street Journal* and *BusinessWeek* magazine and her work has also appeared in the *New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and the *Oxford Dictionary of Food and Wine*. A 2016-2017 recipient of an NEH Public Scholar Fellowship and the Mayborn Fellowship in Biography, she is at work on her third book, *Daughters of Joy*, forthcoming from Alfred A. Knopf. She is a member of the board of the San Francisco-based Litquake Foundation and is a two-term member of the Council of Friends of U.C. Berkeley's Bancroft Library.

**ELIZABETH TALLENT** is the author of *Museum Pieces*, a novel, and the story collections *In Constant Flight*, *Time with Children*, *Honey*, and most recently, *Mendocino Fire*. Her work has been included in *The Pushcart Prize Stories*, *The O. Henry Prize Stories*, *Best American Short Stories*, and *Best American Essays*. Her memoir *Perfectionism* is forthcoming from Harper. She teaches in Stanford University's Creative Writing Program and lives on the Mendocino Coast.

**ANDREW WINER** is the author of the novels *The Marriage Artist* (Henry Holt) and *The Color Midnight Made* (Simon & Schuster). He also publishes philosophical and literary essays and conducts conversations with fellow authors, most recently with Colm Toibin and Geoff Dyer. He is Chair of Creative Writing at the University of California, Riverside, and a recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship in Fiction. He lives in Los Angeles with his wife, author Charmaine Craig, and their daughters. [www.andrewwiner.com](http://www.andrewwiner.com)

# Writers Workshop Faculty continued...

## Editors & Agents

**JENNIFER ALTON** is an editor at Counterpoint Press, where her projects have included books by Sands Hall, Nell Irvin Painter, Alton Logan with Berl Falbaum, and Ismail Kadare. She holds an MFA from San Francisco State University, where she was Assistant Fiction Editor of *Fourteen Hills*, co-curator of the Velvet Revolution Reading Series, and taught undergraduate creative writing. A returned peace corps volunteer, (Ukraine 2011-2013) she lives in the Bay Area.

**REAGAN ARTHUR** grew up in Los Angeles, and moved to New York in 1989 to work in publishing. After more than 10 years at St. Martin's Press and Picador, she moved to Little, Brown, where she is now Publisher. Writers she has edited include Megan Abbott, Sherman Alexie, Kate Atkinson, Joshua Ferris, Elin Hilderbrand, Ian Rankin, George Pelecanos, Tina Fey, Nina Stibbe, and Doree Shafrir. She lives in Montclair, New Jersey with her family.

**MICHAEL CARLISLE**, a founder of InkWell Management, has been involved with the Community of Writers for many years. His fiction and nonfiction client list includes prize-winning as well as debut authors. A former director of the Association of Author's Representatives, a not-for-profit organization of independent literary and dramatic agents, Michael is an active member of PEN. He directs the Nonfiction Program of the Community of Writers and serves on the Board of Directors.

**LUCY CARSON** joined The Friedrich Agency in early 2008, where she now has her own list of *New York Times* bestselling authors in addition to managing all film and television rights for the agency. During her ten years with The Friedrich Agency, she has worked with such authors as Sue Grafton, Karen Joy Fowler, Ruth Ozeki, Terry McMillan, Jane Smiley, and Elizabeth Strout on the adult side, and children's authors Judy Blundell, Laura Geringer, Jessica Khoury, William Ritter and Josh Sundquist. Her list is focused on fiction and narrative non-fiction for both adults and teens.

**JOY HARRIS** established her own literary agency in 1990. She works primarily with literary fiction, strongly-written commercial fiction, narrative nonfiction across a broad range of topics, memoir and biography, and is drawn to a clear, original voice, an engaging point of view, and strong characters. She takes great pleasure in finding new literary voices, and over the course of her career has had the joy of representing many bestselling and acclaimed authors from the time of their first published work.

**JOY JOHANNESSEN** has been an editor at Chelsea House, Grove Press, and Oxford University Press, a senior editor at HarperCollins Publishers, and the executive editor of Delphinium Books. She has worked with hundreds of writers, among them Rabi Alameddine, Dorothy Allison, Amy Bloom, Harold Bloom, Michael Cunningham, Larry Kramer, Ursula Le Guin, Arthur Miller, Ralph Nader, and Héctor Tobar. She is the co-editor, with Roxanne Coady, of *The Book That Changed My Life: 71 Remarkable Writers Celebrate the Books That Matter Most to Them*. She currently freelances.

**CALVERT MORGAN** is an executive editor at Riverhead Books. He has worked with authors including Jess Walter, Roxane Gay, Eula Biss, Lidia Yuknavitch, Tom Piazza, Rick Bragg, Edward Carey, and Stanley Crouch. Previously with HarperCollins and St. Martin's Press, he also serves as board chair of the Center for Fiction, the only organization in the country devoted exclusively to the promotion of fiction.

**BJ ROBBINS** established her Los Angeles-based agency in 1992 after a multi-faceted career in book publishing in New York, first in publicity at Simon & Schuster and later as Marketing Director and then Senior Editor at Harcourt. Her agency focuses primarily on literary fiction and general nonfiction, with a particular interest in narrative history, memoir, biography, pop culture, popular science, medicine and health. Clients include award-winning and *New York Times* bestselling authors such as J. Maarten Troost, James Donovan, Max Byrd, Nafisa Haji, Stephen Graham Jones, Deanne Stillman, Mary Volmer and the late James D. Houston.

**GEOFF SHANDLER** is an Editorial Director and Vice President at HarperCollins, where he oversees the Custom House imprint within William Morrow. He began his publishing career in 1993 as an Editorial Assistant at Random House. Among the many authors he has edited since then are Jonathan Safran Foer, Malcolm Gladwell, John le Carré, Luis Alberto Urrea, Robert Wright, Sarah Perry, James Bradley, Robert Dallek, David Mamet, Mary Gabriel, Bob Spitz, Ben Bradlee, Jr. and Karina Longworth.

ANDREW TONKOVICH edits the West Coast literary journal *Santa Monica Review* and hosts *Bibliocracy*, a weekly books show on Pacifica Radio KPFK in Southern California. His most recent essays, short stories and reviews appear in the *OC Weekly*, *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *Orange Coast Review*, *Faultline*, *ZYZZYVA* and *Ecotone*. He is the co-editor, with Lisa Alvarez, of the first-ever literary anthology of writing from and about Orange County, California. Published by Heyday, *Orange County: A Literary Field Guide* includes contributions from writers who have taught in or attended the Community of Writers poetry and fiction workshops, including founder Oakley Hall.

OSCAR VILLALON is the managing editor of *ZYZZYVA*. His reviews, essays, and interviews have been published in *VQR*, *Zocalo*, *The Believer*, *Lit Hub*, *The Daily Beast*, and many other publications. A former board member of the National Book Critics Circle, and past book editor of the *San Francisco Chronicle*, he lives with his wife and son in San Francisco. [www.zyzyva.org](http://www.zyzyva.org)

## Special Guests

MAX BYRD is the author of a number of detective novels including *California Thriller*, which won the Shamus Award, as well as the historical novels *Jefferson, Jackson, Grant, Shooting the Sun* and *The Paris Deadline*, which was named by *Kirkus Reviews* as one of the ten best crime novels of 2013. He reviews regularly for *The New York Times Book Review* and is a Contributing Editor for *The Wilson Quarterly*. He attended the Community of Writers in 1983, and returns to teach on a regular basis. For many years he served on the Board of Directors, including more than a decade as the President of the Board. [www.maxbyrdbooks.com](http://www.maxbyrdbooks.com)

MO GAWDAT is the Chief Business Officer for Google [X], a serial entrepreneur and author of *Solve for Happy: Engineering Your Path to Joy* (2017). Through his 12-year research on the topic of happiness, he created an algorithm and a repeatable, well-engineered model to reach a state of uninterrupted happiness regardless of the circumstances of life. He works in Google's innovation arm, Google [X] where he leads the business strategy, planning, sales, business development and partnerships.

MICHELLE LATIOLAIS is Professor of English at the University of California at Irvine. She is the author of the novel *Even Now*, which received the Gold Medal for Fiction from the Commonwealth Club of California. Bellevue Literary Press published her second novel, *A Proper Knowledge*, in 2008. *Widow*, a collection of stories, involutions, and essays, was released in January 2011 from Bellevue Literary Press. She has published writing in three anthologies, *Absolute Disaster*, *Women On The Edge: Writing From Los Angeles* and *Woof! Writers on Dogs*. Her stories and essays have appeared in *ZYZZYVA*, *The Antioch Review*, *Western Humanities Review*, *Santa Monica Review*, *The Kenyon Review*, *Iowa Review* and the *Northwest Review*. Her most recent book, *She*, was released in 2016 by W.W. Norton & Company.

GABRIEL TALLENT's debut novel, *My Absolute Darling*, a *New York Times* bestseller, was published in August 2017 by Riverhead Books. He was born in New Mexico and raised on the Mendocino coast by two mothers. He received his BA from Willamette University with a focus on eighteenth-century literature. After graduation he spent two seasons leading youth trail crews in the back-country of the Pacific Northwest. His stories have been published in *Narrative* and in the *St. Petersburg Review*. He lives in Salt Lake City. Instagram @gabriel\_tallent

AMY TAN, born in the U.S. to immigrant parents from China, rejected her mother's expectations that she become a doctor and concert pianist. She chose to write fiction instead. Her novels are *The Joy Luck Club*, *The Kitchen God's Wife*, *The Hundred Secret Senses*, *The Bonesetter's Daughter*, *Saving Fish from Drowning*, and *Valley of Amazement*, all *New York Times* bestsellers. She is also the author of a memoir, *The Opposite of Fate*; two children's books, *The Moon Lady* and *Sagwa*, *The Chinese Siamese Cat*; and numerous articles for magazines. She served as co-producer and co-screenwriter for the film adaptation of *The Joy Luck Club* and was the creative consultant for *Sagwa*, the Emmy-nominated PBS television series for children. She wrote the libretto for the opera based on her novel *The Bonesetter's Daughter*. With music composed by Stewart Wallace, the opera had its world premiere in 2008 at the San Francisco Opera. Her most recent book, a memoir, is *Where the Past Begins*.



## Published Alumni Reading Series

Each summer, recently published alumni are invited to return to Squaw Valley to read from their books and talk about their journey from unpublished writers to published authors. The Community of Writers is delighted to celebrate the success of these writers and to present them to the participants, staff, and the public.

**MICHAEL ANDREASEN** holds a Masters degree in creative writing from UC Irvine. His fiction has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Tin House*, *Zoetrope: All-Story*, *Quarterly West*, and elsewhere. His debut collection, *The Sea Beast Takes a Lover*, will be available from Dutton in March 2018. He attended the Community of Writers in 2007.

**Laurie Ann Doyle's** new collection of stories, *World Gone Missing* (Regal House Publishing) was named a top book pick at *The East Bay Express*. Winner of the *Alligator Juniper* National Fiction Award and a Pushcart Prize nominee, her stories and essays have appeared in the *Los Angeles Review*, *Jabberwock Review*, and *Under the Sun*, among many other literary journals, and anthologized in *Speak and Speak Again* (Pact Press). She teaches creative writing at the San Francisco Writers Grotto and UC Berkeley. She attended the Community of Writers in 2009 and 2014. [www.laurieanndoyle.com](http://www.laurieanndoyle.com)

**JIMIN HAN** was born in Seoul, Korea and grew up in New York, Rhode Island, and Ohio. Her writing can be found online at NPR's Weekend America, *Poets & Writers Magazine*, *Entropy*, *The Rumpus*, *Hyphen Magazine*, *Kartika Review*, *KoreanAmericanStory*, and elsewhere. *A Small Revolution* is her first novel. She teaches at The Writing Institute at Sarah Lawrence College. She attended the Community of Writers in 1995. [www.jiminhan.com](http://www.jiminhan.com)

**MARY KURLA's** collection *Freak Weather: Stories* (University of Massachusetts Press) was selected by Amy Hempel for the Grace Paley Prize in Short Fiction and was published in 2017. Her stories have received The Pushcart Prize, as well as the *Glimmer Train Very Short Fiction Prize*, and have appeared in *Epoch*, *Shenandoah*, *Denver Quarterly*, *Witness*, *Greensboro Review*, *Pleiades*, *The New Orleans Review*, and *Alaska Quarterly Review*, among others. Her award-winning shorts and feature films have premiered at Sundance and Toronto. She has written screen adaptations for United Artists and MGM. She teaches film studies and screenwriting at Loyola Marymount. She attended the Community of Writers in 1995 (Screenwriting) and 2010 (Fiction). [www.marykurla.com](http://www.marykurla.com)

**BRIAN ROGERS** is the author of *The Whole of the Moon* (University of Nevada Press). A former stand-up comedian, he has been the recipient of the Gold Medal prize for Best Novel-in-Progress from the Pirate's Alley Faulkner Society and the George Bennett Fellowship (Writer-in-Residence) from Phillips Exeter Academy. His short play *Come Back, Burt Lancaster* has been featured in a number of festivals and showcases. He is the author of *Inhabitants of the Earth*, a chapbook of flash fiction. Brian attended the graduate writing program at San Francisco State University. He attended the Community of Writers in 1995 and 2002. <http://www.brianerogers.com/>

## Recent Alumni Readers:

2015



Andrew Roe, Désirée Zamorano, Paulette Livers, Aline Ohanesian, Peyton Marshall

2016



Stephanie Kegan, Juan Alvarado Valdivia, Heather Young, Nayomi Munaweera, Marian Palaia

2017



Vanessa Hua, Carole Firstman, Jade Chang, Mauro Cardenas, Kimball Taylor, with emcee (and fellow alum) emcee Natalie Baszile

**ALUMNI WHO HAVE BEEN PART OF THIS READING SERIES** include Kevin Allardice, Anita Amirrezvani, Eddy Ancinas, Ramona Ausubel, David Bajo, Aimee Bender, Mauro Cardenas, Jade Chang, David Corbett, Charmaine Craig, Eileen Cronin, Frances Dinkelspiel, Heather Donahue, Cai Emmons, Alex Espinoza, Joshua Ferris, Carole Firstman, Jamie Ford, Vicki Forman, Amy Franklin-Willis, Alison Singh Gee, Tanya Egan Gibson, Glen David Gold, Alan Grostephan, Judith Hendricks, Susan Henderson, Sara J. Henry, Peggy Hesketh, Vanessa Hua, Rhoda Huffey, Michael Jaime-Becerra, Alma Katsu, Stephanie Kegan, Regina Louise, Krys Lee, Paulette Livers, Michael David Lukas, Peyton Marshall, Marisa Matarazzo, Mark Maynard, Christina Meldrum, Nayomi Munaweera, Janis Cooke Newman, Jessica O'Dwyer, Aline Ohanesian, Marian Palaia, Victoria Patterson, Frederick Reiken, Andrew Roe, Robin Romm, Ismet Prcic, Elizabeth Rosner, Adrienne Sharp, Alice Sebold, Julia Flynn Siler, Jordan Fisher Smith, Scott Sparling, Ellen Sussman, Kimball Taylor, Lisa Tucker, Juan Alvarado Valdivia, Brenda Rickman Vantrease, Mary Volmer, Dora Calott Wang, M.D., Monica Wesolowska, Andrew Winer, Heather Young, Alia Yunis and Désirée Zamorano among others.

# Application Guidelines

To apply, complete our online form by following the appropriate link below. The application manuscript (digital file) can be attached to the online application, or emailed by the deadline. Those without internet may submit through the US Mail. Visit [www.communityofwriters.org](http://www.communityofwriters.org) for more information. You may also email us at [info@communityofwriters.org](mailto:info@communityofwriters.org) or call (530) 470-8440.

## POETRY WORKSHOP

- ☐ Past Poetry participants: If you wish to attend this year, check our website about the returning poet procedure.
- ☐ Deadline for receipt of application/submission: **March 28, 2018**
- ☐ Submission should consist of four or five pages of recent poems, typed, 12 pt. Submit PDF or Word.doc.
- ☐ Put your name in the upper right-hand corner of each page.
- ☐ Attach a digital file (PDF or Word.doc) of your submission ms. to the online application form. (*Manuscripts will not be returned; they will be recycled. Digital files will be deleted.*)
- ☐ To complete the online Application Form, submit Financial Aid application, and to upload a PDF of your manuscript, follow this link: <https://communityofwriters.org/apply/>
- ☐ If any difficulty is encountered uploading your digital manuscript contact us for assistance.
- ☐ Once you have completed the online form, you will receive an email confirmation.
- ☐ A \$35 reading fee will be due with application & submission, payable by check or credit card, online.
- ☐ To pay reading fee by check: (Payable to Community of Writers) print application confirmation email, and enclose with check.  
Mail to:  
Community of Writers - Poetry  
PO Box 1416  
Nevada City, CA 95959
- ☐ Notification of acceptance by May 1.

## WRITERS WORKSHOPS

- ☐ Past Writers Workshop participants:  
Fiction Participants: If you attended the last two years do not apply this year. (i.e., attendance is allowed 2 out of every 3 years.) Nonfiction Participants: Please take two sessions off before reapplying.
- ☐ Deadline for receipt of application/submission: **March 28, 2018**
- ☐ Applicants, including past participants, should submit a sample of their best, unpublished prose.
- ☐ If you have previously applied to our workshop, please do not apply or bring for consideration the exact same material. You may use previously submitted material if it has been revised. Please do not submit previously published material (print or online). However, it is acceptable to send work currently under submission.
- ☐ Writing sample submission ms. may consist of a story (or stories), essay(s) or chapter(s). Book chapters should be accompanied by a one-page synopsis of the whole book. (Add to the end of ms.)
- ☐ Submission (excluding synopsis) must be less than 5,000 words.
- ☐ Submission ms. must be typed, double-spaced and 12 pt.
- ☐ Each page of submission ms must contain your actual name, (not pen name), and ms. word count.
- ☐ Attach a digital file (PDF or Word.doc) of your submission ms. to the online application form. If submitting a 1-page synopsis, make sure it is part of the submission. (*Manuscripts will not be returned; digital files will be deleted.*)
- ☐ To complete the online Application Form, submit Financial Aid application, and to upload a PDF of your manuscript, follow this link: <https://communityofwriters.org/apply/>
- ☐ If any difficulty is encountered uploading your digital manuscript, contact us for assistance.
- ☐ If applying in more than one category, (Fiction, Nonfiction, Memoir) please submit separate online applications.
- ☐ A \$40 reading fee will be due with each submission, payable by check (see address below) or via credit card, online.
- ☐ Once you complete the online form, you will receive an email confirmation.
- ☐ To pay reading fee by check: (Payable to Community of Writers) print application confirmation email, and enclose with check.  
Mail to:  
Community of Writers - WW  
PO Box 1416, Nevada City, CA 95959
- ☐ Notification of acceptance by May 20.

