

COMMUNITY OF WRITERS

July 11-16, 2026 LITERARY EVENTS schedule



In-person at Palisades Tahoe's Olympic House, 1990 Shirley Canyon Road, Olympic Valley or live online via livestream or daily on your podcast app.

Saturday, July 11

1:00 Craft Talk by Francisco Goldman: "All You Need Is Love. Though Not Only."
Introduced by Borchard Foundation Executive Vice-President Michael Spurgeon

2:00 Panel: "Scenes of the Crime: Setting and Plot" with Chris Feliciano Arnold, Tyler Dilts, Shobha Rao. Moderated by Andrew Tonkovich

3:00 Panel: "Despicable Them: When Good People Write Bad People" with Janet Fitch, Dana Johnson, Dylan Landis, Ananda Lima. Moderated by Diana Wagman

5:30 Short Takes Staff Readings:

Leslie Daniels, Jean Guerrero, Keenan Norris, Michael Spurgeon

7:30 Evening Reading: Staff Read and Discuss Their Work: by Mac Crane, Ananda Lima, Kelly McMasters, Greg Spatz. Introduced by Sands Hall



Sunday, July 12

11:45-12:45 Literary Journal Roundtable: Alta Journal (Blaise Zerega), Santa Monica Review (Andrew Tonkovich), ZYZZYVA (Oscar Villalon)

1:00 Craft Talk by Katy Hays: "Foundations to Fixtures. How to Revise and Renovate a Novel (and Maybe Also a House)"

2:00 Panel: "Hello Characterization, Meet Dialogue" with Mac Crane, Leslie Daniels, Janet Fitch, Patricia Meyer with Panelist/Moderator Dana Johnson

3:00 Panel: "Ethical Urgency: Writing Politics with Nuance" with Francisco Goldman, Jean Guerrero, Michelle Latiolais, Oscar Villalon with Panelist/Moderator Keenan Norris

5:30 Short Takes Staff Readings Lisa Alvarez, Tyler Dilts, Louis B. Jones, Andrew Nicholls, Andrew Tonkovich

7:30 Evening Reading and Conversation: "Research as Revelation: How Unexpected Archival Finds and Creative Research Techniques Uncover the Human Texture that Transforms a Story — Fact or Fiction — into Compelling Narrative" with Jeanne Carstensen, Jason Roberts, Hector Tobar, Josh Weil. Moderated by Julia Flynn Siler



SUNDAY, JULY 12, 7:30 "RESEARCH AS REVELATION"

Jeanne Carstensen, Jason Roberts,
Hector Tobar, Josh Weil,
with Julia Flynn Siler



LITERARY EVENTS *schedule* [cont.]



Monday, July 13

1:00 Book Editors Panel: Lashanda Anakwah (Tiny Reparations Books), Todd Portnowitz (Knopf), Celina Spiegel (Spiegel & Grau). Moderated by literary agent Michael Mungiello

2:30-2:50 Panel: Agents Panel with Michael Carlisle, Lucy Carson, Anna Ghosh, Michael Mungiello, BJ Robbins. (Followed by programming for registered participants only.)

6:00 Published Alum Reading: Jean Carstensen, Vishwas Gaitonde, AnnElise Hatjakes, Pamela Rorke Levy (In Memoriam), Daniel Pope, A.M. Sosa introduced by Julia Flynn Siler

7:30 Evening Reading: Francisco Goldman, Peter Orner, Shobha Rao



Wednesday, July 15

1:00 Craft Talk by Margaret Wilkerson Sexton: "The Motor of the Story: What Drives 'Quiet' Narratives"

2:00 Panel: "'The Short Story'" with Lisa Alvarez, Tom Barbash, Dagoberto Gilb, Peter Orner. Moderated by Andrew Tonkovich

3:00 Panel: "Landscapes of Memory and Mis-Memory" with Samuel Freedman, Kelly McMasters, Keenan Norris, Greg Spatz with Panelist/Moderator Sands Hall

5:30 Short Takes Readings: Short Takes Staff Readings: Tom Barbash, Sam Freedman, Sands Hall, Margaret Wilkerson Sexton

7:30 Evening Event: Readings from Janet Fitch, Dylan Landis, Diana Wagman. Introduced by Andrew Tonkovich



Thursday, July 16

11:45-12:45 Panel: "The Single Moment: Crafting Powerful Short-Form Nonfiction" with Samuel Freedman, Julia Flynn Siler, Hector Tobar. Moderated by Blaise Zerega

1:00 Craft Talk by Chris Feliciano Arnold: "Blending the Truth: Case Studies in the Fusion of Genres and Forms"

2:00 Panel: "Close Encounters of the Third-Person POV Kind" with Michelle Latiolais, Greg Spatz, Diana Wagman, Josh Weil Moderated by Tom Barbash



SAT., JULY 11, 7:30
EVENING READING

Mac Crane, Ananda Lima,
Kelly McMasters, Greg Spatz

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WRITERS' ON YOUR PODCAST
APP OR STREAM LIVE ONLINE AT
COMMUNITYOFWRITERS.ORG

MON., JULY 13, 7:30
EVENING READING:

Shobha Rao, Peter Orner,
Francisco Goldman

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 7:30
EVENING READING

Janet Fitch, Dylan Landis,
Amy Tan and Diana Wagman

