



Sat, April 20

10am-2:30pm CST (with 30-minute lunch), via Zoom

**From Description to Discovery:
Personal Essays on Art with Jehanne Dubrow**

Nonmember: \$140; Member: \$120; Student/Educ/Mil: \$75

Ekphrasis is a literary device that provides a visual springboard for unlocking stories you didn't even know were inside of you. In this one-day course, participants will read examples of ekphrastic writing from across genres. Then, they'll learn how to write about art using the five senses and concrete, specific details and how to research the history of an art piece. Participants will then weave their description, research, and a personal experience together to generate an ekphrastic personal essay. Students should come to class with an image of a piece of art that has personal meaning to them.

JEHANNE DUBROW is the author of nine poetry collections and three books of creative nonfiction, including most recently *Exhibitions: Essays on Art & Atrocity* (University of New Mexico Press, 2023). Her next book of poems, *Civilians*, will be published by Louisiana State University Press in 2025. Her writing has appeared in *New England Review*, *POETRY*, and *The Southern Review*, among others. She is a Professor of Creative Writing at the University of North Texas.

Sat, May 4

10am-4pm CST (with 30-minute lunch), Hybrid (via Zoom and in-person at Gemini Ink)

First Page Fiction Bootcamp with Chaitali Sen

Nonmember: \$140; Member: \$120; Student/Educ/Mil \$75

A formidable first page of fiction grabs the reader, sets the tone for what's to come, and captures the essence of the entire work. But how do we create an opening that keeps the reader turning the page? In this one-day workshop, we will study and discuss various examples of compelling first pages to see what works; we will review craft elements such as character, setting, point-of-view, and narrative voice; and we will examine our own first pages in a safe, supportive environment. This course is open to fiction writers of all skill levels, 18+.



CHAITALI SEN is the author of the novel *The Pathless Sky* (Europa Editions 2015) and the story collection *A New Race of Men from Heaven* (Sarabande Books 2023), chosen by Danielle Evans as the winner of the 2021 Mary McCarthy Prize in Short Fiction. Her stories and essays have been published by *American Short Fiction*, *Boulevard*, *Catapult*, *Colorado Review*, *Ecotone*, *Electric Literature*, *LitHub*, *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *New England Review*, *Shenandoah*, among others. Born in India and raised in New York and Pennsylvania, she currently lives in Austin, Texas.

Sat, May 11 & 18

10am-12pm CST, via Zoom

Wellness for Writers with Jen Knox

Nonmember: \$145; Member: \$125; Student/Educ/Mil \$75

Between writer's block, rejection letters, and tough critiques, the writing process can be an emotionally taxing experience. How do we support ourselves so we keep our creative engines burning, tell the truth without injuring ourselves, and manage the ups and downs of the writing life? In this two-session workshop, we will combine writing and wellness practices to help writers develop a more mindful approach to their work. We'll use meditation to tap creativity, explore the connection between self-compassion and craft, and look at how to mine raw personal material in a safe but effective way.

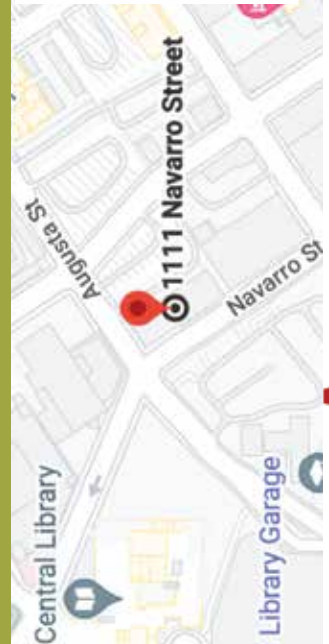
JEN KNOX teaches at Ohio State University and is the founder of Unleash Creatives. She combines her love of creativity with personal development and leadership in workshops she hosts around the world. Jen's debut novel, *We Arrive Uninvited*, won the Steel Toe Books Award, and her collection, *The Glass City*, won the Press Americana Prize. Jen's short writing appears in over a hundred journals and magazines, including *McSweeney's Internet Quarterly* and *The Saturday Evening Post*.



Gemini Ink programming is funded in part by Alice Kleberg Reynolds Foundation, Bexar County, The Brown Foundation, Cavender Auto Group, Charity Ball Association, City of San Antonio—Dept of Arts & Culture, Elizabeth Huth Coates Foundation, Frost Bank, The Greehey Foundation, H-E-B, Humanities Texas, John R. & Grell N. Less Charitable Fund, Mays Family Foundation, The Najim Charitable Foundation, The National Endowment for the Arts, The Poetry Foundation, The Rackspace Foundation, Russell Hill Rogers Fund for the Arts, San Antonio Area Foundation, and Texas Commission on the Arts.



Antonio - Riverwalk



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geminiink.org

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SPRING EVENTS

Join Alexandra van de Kamp, Executive Director of Gemini Ink, for an informal craft talk and discussion on contemporary poetry.

SAT, JAN 13, 10AM-1PM CST, IN-PERSON AT GEMINI INK, FREE POETS & COFFEE

WED, JAN 17, 7-8:30PM CST, VIA ZOOM, FREE THE BIG TEXAS AUTHOR TALK FEATURING GABINO IGLESIAS

THU, FEB 22, 6:30-8:30PM, IN-PERSON AT GEMINI INK SPRING OPEN HOUSE

Join us as we kick off our Spring 2024 line-up of public classes and events. Enjoy readings by San Antonio authors and mingle with our literary community of writers and friends.

WED, FEB 21, 7-8:30PM CST, VIA ZOOM, FREE THE BIG TEXAS AUTHOR TALK FEATURING MAG GABBERT

WED, MAR 20, 7-8:30PM CST, VIA ZOOM, FREE THE BIG TEXAS AUTHOR TALK FEATURING JASON STONE

FRI, APRIL 12, 11:30AM-1:30PM CST, IN-PERSON AT the McNay Art Museum WORLD OF WONDERS: AN AFTERNOON WITH AIMEE NEZHUKUMATATHIL
Ticketed Luncheon

APRIL DATE & LOCATION TBD, 7PM, FREE AUTOGRAPH AUTHOR READING & TALK WITH AIMEE NEZHUKUMATATHIL

WED, APRIL 17, 7-8:30PM CST, VIA ZOOM, FREE THE BIG TEXAS AUTHOR TALK FEATURING CYRUS CASSELLS

FRI, MAY 10, 6:30-8PM, IN-PERSON Poetic Republic Coffee & Wine Co., 2330 S Presa St. ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER (AAP) AUTHOR READING & COMMUNITY OPEN MIC

WED, MAY 22, 7-8:30PM CST, VIA ZOOM, FREE THE BIG TEXAS AUTHOR TALK FEATURING GLENN BLAKE



The Autograph Series!

Featuring **Aimee Nezhukumatathil**

SPRING 2024 SCHEDULE

Spring Classes 2024



Wed, Jan 17, 24, 31 & February 7

6:30-8:30pm CST, Hybrid (in-person at Gemini Ink and online via Zoom)

So, You Want to Write Romance with Laura Castoro

Nonmember: \$155; Member: \$130; Student/Educ/Mil \$75

Compelling lovers, an emotionally driven plot, and steamy sex scenes—these are the ingredients of every great romance story. If you've always wanted to write a romance but didn't know how, now is your chance! Bring your story idea to life with award-winning romance author Laura Castoro (aka Laura Parker). In this 4-session, generative workshop, we will guide writers through the creation of an emotionally resonant plot with a unique slant and irresistible characters for a fascinating and unforgettable romance. By the end of the workshop, each writer will have the good bones of a riveting story.

LAURA CASTORO, a *USA Today*, Amazon top 100, and Apple Books bestseller, has published 47 novels with major publishing houses including Berkley, Avon, Warner, MIRA, Harlequin, and Harper Collins. She has contributed to several fiction anthologies and has been published in *Good House-keeping*. Under the name Laura Parker, she writes historical and contemporary romance, westerns, and sagas. As Laura Castoro, she writes contemporary African American and contemporary women's fiction. Writing as D. D. Ayres, she publishes a romantic suspense series called K-9 Rescue Series. Her current release as Laura Castoro is *Love On The Line* (2021) through William Morrow.

Sat, February 3 & 10

10am-12pm CST, in-person at Gemini Ink

The Art of Zine Making with Caesar Morales

Nonmember: \$100; Member: \$85; Student/Educ/Mil \$75

Want to get your work out there but don't want to wait for traditional publication? A zine is a quick, easy way to distribute your writing in a format that's one-of-a-kind and easily digestible. These small independent publications are usually handmade and combine a collection of photos, text, illustrations, and poems around a common theme. In this two-session workshop we will use short writing prompts to generate new work around specific themes, add visual elements through photos and drawings, receive feedback, and complete a mini-zine. We will also learn how best to distribute hard copy or digital zines.

CAESAR MORALES has an MA in Playwriting and Screenwriting from City University of London in the UK. Prior to that, he obtained a BSc from the University of Greenwich, also in the UK. His photo essays have been published in *Private Photo Review*, and he will have an original short story published in the upcoming anthology, *The 42 Anthology*. He's also taught podcast production, photography, filmmaking, zine publishing, and screenwriting at Wac Arts College in London, UK and at the Institute for the Urban Arts in New York City.



Mon, Feb 12 & 19

6:30-8:30pm CST, Hybrid (in-person at Gemini Ink and online via Zoom)

Unexplored Greats: A Study of Lesser Known African American Authors

Nonmember: \$135; Member: \$115; Student/Educ/Mil \$75

Delving into the work of African American authors outside of pop culture is vital to gaining an expansive view of literature and our shared history as Americans. In this two-session workshop, participants will study the works and valuable literary contributions of Black writers, such as Henry Dumas, Rita Dove, Lucille Clifton, and others. We will explore the narrative and lyrical license, devices, and history of these authors, while

learning to craft our own dynamic works in poetry and fiction. Join us and get acquainted with these Black authors!

ARRIE PORTER is a poet and fiction writer with publications in *The Winward Review*, *Voices de la Luna*, *RiverSedge*, *The Thing Itself*, and others. Her articles have appeared in the *San Antonio Report* and the *San Antonio Express News*. Arrie has developed commentaries for Texas Public Radio, including "The George Floyd Protests in the Pandemic" and "Juneteenth—it's Complicated." She oversees the Poetry Ministry at Agape Christian Church and holds a MA/MFA degree in Literature, Creative Writing, and Social Justice. Arrie is a Professor of English at Our Lady of the Lake University.



Sign up for a class!



Sat, March 2, 9, 16, & 23

10am-12pm CST, in-person at Gemini Ink

Loss, Memory, and Mortality: A Mixed Genre Workshop with 2023 Texas Poet Laureate ire'ne lara silva

Nonmember: \$150; Member: \$125; Student/Educ/Mil \$75

In these turbulent times, the world seems filled with tragedy and death. Few have the tools to handle these losses, yet many are expected to 'move on' from our grief without having the space to process what happened. In this four-week workshop, we will study grief-focused poetry, fiction, and nonfiction written by ire'ne lara silva, and explore strategies for writing about loss, memory, and mortality. We will apply them to on-theme writing prompts and create an open and empathetic space to discuss loss

in our lives. This course is open to writers of all genres, backgrounds, and skill levels, 18+.

IRE'NE LARA SILVA, the 2023 Texas State Poet Laureate, has authored four poetry collections, *furia*, *Blood Sugar Canto*, *CUICACALLI/House of Song*, and *FirstPoems*, two chapbooks, *Enduring Azucares* and *Hibiscus Tacos*, and an award-winning short story collection, *flesh to bone*. ire'ne won the 2021 Texas Institute of Letters Shrake Award for Best Short Nonfiction. A new poetry collection, *the eaters of flowers*, is forthcoming from Saddle Road Press in January 2024.

Mon, March 18, 25 & April 1, 8, 15, 22

6:30-8:30pm CST, Hybrid (available in-person and online via Zoom)

Fiction Never Lies: Turning Personal Experience into Emotional Truth with Nan Cuba

Nonmember: \$155; Member: \$135; Student/Educ/Mil \$75

Sometimes a real experience is so profound, we decide to use that memory as inspiration for a story. But how do writers free themselves from the restrictions of facts in order to create a story with emotional truth? This six-week class will introduce techniques for identifying real events, people, or places that can be adapted into fiction. Examples will be shared, participants will be guided through a sample exercise, and each person's story will receive feedback from the instructor and fellow classmates. Workshop discussions will honor individual styles, voices, intended audiences, and perceived intents.

NAN CUBA is the author of *Body and Bread*, winner of the PEN Southwest Award in Fiction and the Texas Institute of Letters Steven Turner Award; it was listed as one of "Ten Titles to Pick Up Now" in *O, Oprah's Magazine*, and was a "Summer Books" choice from *Huffington Post*. As an investigator of the causes of extraordinary violence, she is a featured journalist in the Netflix documentary, *The Confession Killer*, and another by Hulu, *Wild Crimes: Murder in Yosemite*. She is founder and executive director emeritus of Gemini Ink, a nonprofit writing arts center.

Free Writing Classes

The Veterans' Writing Collective with Sarah Colby meets the third Wed every month (Jan 17, Feb 21, Mar 20, Apr 17, May 15), 6:30-8:30pm CST, via Zoom. Open to active-duty military, veterans, retirees, and their immediate family members. All levels and genres welcome. Email veteranscollective@geminiink.org to register.

Open Writers' Labs meet the last Mon of every month (Jan 29, Feb 26, Mar 25, Apr 29, May 27), 6:30-8:30pm CST, in-person at Gemini Ink or online via Zoom. Led by Kevin Ramos and Robert Allen, classes focus on poetry, flash fiction, and short creative non-fiction. Free and open to all writers. Join our supportive literary community!

Workshops are \$75 for Students, Educators & Military! *K-12 Educators Earn CPEs!

Register online at geminiink.org



Scholarships available

Sat, Mar 30

10am-12pm CST, in-person at Gemini Ink

Poetry Flurry with Typewriter Rodeo!

Nonmember: \$115; Member: \$100; Student/Educ/Mil: \$75

Get your creative juices flowing for National Poetry Month 2024 with Typewriter Rodeo! Whether you're a poet or not, this workshop has something for everyone, including a room full of typewriters to play with. Clacking away on those keys with no way to correct your mistakes is freeing and just darn fun! In this one-day, fast-paced workshop, you'll write between 12 to 21 short poems in less than 2 hours. Yes, really! And, along the way, discover a bit more about the creative voice that's been waiting inside you, patiently, to peek out.

SEAN PETRIE & REBECCA BENDHEIM are part of the nationally-renowned Typewriter Rodeo, where they've written thousands of poems for strangers on the spot, and do weekly radio poems for NPR. Both have MFAs in Writing for Children from Vermont College of Fine Arts, are writing teachers (Sean at UT, Rebecca at Trinity Episcopal School), and authors. Sean's books include *Typewriter Rodeo*, the award-winning *Pet Poems (also not just pets)*, and the Jett Ryder series for kids. Rebecca is represented by Patricia Nelson and has multiple books in the works.



Thu, April 4, 11, 18 & 25

6:30-8:30pm CST, in-person at Gemini Ink

Poetry for Beginners with Jonathan Fletcher

Nonmember: \$135; Member: \$115; Student/Educ/Mil: \$75

Have you ever wanted to try your hand at poetry but didn't know where to start? Are you a newbie poet who's ready to learn more about the genre? If so, this National Poetry Month workshop is for you! In this four-week class, we will review the history of poetry, study

contemporary poets and their craft, and review different poetic forms, including prose, lists, lyrical and narrative, and more. Using these texts and forms for inspiration, we will write and give poetic form to our own experiences and dreams. Participants will receive light feedback and resources to keep them writing.



Originally from San Antonio, Texas, **JONATHAN FLETCHER** holds a Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing (Poetry) from Columbia University School of the Arts. He has been published in *The Adroit Journal*, *Arts Alive San Antonio*, *FlowerSong Press*, *riverSedge*, and *The Thing Itself*. He has served as a Columbia Artist/Teacher for iHOPE, a specialized school for students with traumatic brain injury, as well as a poetry editor for *Exchange*, Columbia's literary magazine for incarcerated writers and artists. Currently, he serves as a Zoeglossia Fellow.

Sat, April 13

10a-1pm CST, in-person at Gemini Ink

The Edge of the Sea is a Strange and Beautiful Place: Hybrid Poetry & Prose Experiments with Aimee Nezhukumatathil

Nonmember: \$145; Member: \$125; Student/Educ/Mil: \$75

In this one-session, cross-genre workshop, participants will focus on generating new work that builds upon Audre Lorde's idea that "the sharing of joy...forms a bridge between the sharers which can be the basis for understanding much of what is not shared between them, and lessens the threat of their difference." We will spend time generating work that sings and celebrates the various big and small delights of this earth. We will also learn several craft practices to help keep us generating new work long after returning home. We'll have plenty of time for craft analysis, discussion, and writing prompts galore.

AIMEE NEZHUKUMATATHIL is the author of the *New York Times* best-selling illustrated collection of nature essays, *World of Wonders: In Praise of Fireflies, Whale Sharks, & Other Astonishments*. She's written four poetry collections. Her most recent chapbook, *Lace & Pyrite*, is an epistolary collaboration with poet Ross Gay. Honors include a poetry fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Pushcart Prize, a Mississippi Arts Council grant, and being named a Guggenheim Fellow in poetry. She teaches English and Creative Writing at the University of Mississippi. Her forthcoming book of food essays is called *Bite by Bite* (Ecco, May 2024).



Register for an Open Writers' Lab