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

Bhiphasis 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.

JEEHANNE DUBROW is the author of nine poetry collections and three books of creative nonfiction, including most recently Exhibitions: Essays on Art & Almodóvar (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 CHAITALI SEN is the author of the novel The Pathless Sky (Europa

Sat, May 14 & 15
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 workshops she hosts around the world. Jen’s debut novel, We Arrive Uninvited, won the Stela Book 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.
In this one-session, cross-genre workshop, participants will focus on generating new work through collaborative writing exercises and other formats that involve sharing. These can be small or large-scale, and the workshop aims to be generative and fun.

**Writers are encouraged to bring a notebook, pen, and at least 5 short poems of their own to share.**

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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, which has been translated into 16 languages and has a book club edition with all-new, engaging front matter. Her other books include Lace & Pyrite, a finalist for the 2013 National Book Award for Young Adult Literature, and a New York Times Notable Book of 2013; and Milk Bar Life, which was selected by Ellen DeGeneres as her book club pick of the month for May 2019.

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