SUMMER EVENTS 2024

June

The Big Texas Author Talk featuring Alex Temblador
Wed, June 15, 7:30pm CST, via Zoom, Free
Info/RSVP at bit.ly/texasauthorstalk

Letters to James Baldwin: A Pride Month Reading & Celebration
Thu, June 27, 6:30pm-8pm, in-person at Gemini Ink, Free

This event will celebrate the genius of James Baldwin, a black, queer writer and civil rights activist, and create space for other writers to draw inspiration from and interact with his work.

August

The Big Texas Author Talk featuring Ramona Reeves
Wed, July 17, 7-8:30pm CST, via Zoom, Free
Info/RSVP at bit.ly/texasauthorstalk

Gemini Ink Volunteer Summer Social
Thu, July 11, 6:30-8:30pm, in-person at Gemini Ink, Free
Past, present, and future volunteers are invited to join us for refreshments, literary games, and celebration. We will share a plethora of upcoming volunteer opportunities.

Poets & Coffee
Sat, July 20, 10am-1pm, in-person at Gemini Ink, Free
Join Gemini Ink’s Executive Artistic Director, Alexandra van de Kamp, as she hosts an informal craft talk on poetry.

Gemini Ink Teaching Artists Reading & Community Open Mic
Thu, Aug 15, 6:30pm, in person at Poetic Republic Coffee & Wine Co., Free, 2330 S Presa St
Info/RSVP at bit.ly/texasauthorstalk

The Big Texas Author Talk featuring Sasha West
Wed, Aug 21, 7-8:30pm CST, via Zoom, Free
Scholarships

Techniques will also be covered to help students prepare poems for stage performance. The contemporary art of spoken word to create our own poems. Theater and choral reading of Igbo oral storytelling traditions of rhyme and verse. Then, we’ll fuse this storytelling with a YA novel from a concept to a synopsis and first chapter. We will also learn how to prepare to pitch YA projects to agents and/or editors. This class is open to writers of all skill levels who are interested in or the thrills of writing.

David Bowles is a Mexican American author and translator from south Texas, where he teaches at UT Rio Grande Valley. He has written over three dozen award-winning titles, notably They Call Me Güero. He has appeared in multiple publications, including The New York Times, Apex Magazine, and Rattle. Additionally, David has worked on TV/film projects, including Victoria (Cartoon Network), Montgomery & Corst (Amazon/Amazon Studios), and Mysteries in America (Discovery). David was inducted into the Utah Institute of Letters and serves as its vice president. He co-founded the activist movement #DignidadTLA, which negotiates Latino representation in publishing.

The Poet Speaks with Amanda Eke

Rhymes to the core—these are the core elements of spoken poetry words. But what if you infuse this type of poetry with aspects of storytelling and oral traditions? This class is a technique-driven workshop that can open us up to a whole new art form. The goal of this one-day workshop is to engage in a unique combination of personal story and poetry. We'll learn about Nigerian and Igbo oral storytelling traditions of rhyme and verse. Then, we’ll fuse this storytelling with the contemporary art of spoken word to create our own poems. Theater and choral reading techniques will also help us explore more poems for stage performance.

Amanda Eke is an award-winning Nigerian American artist, poet, filmmaker, educator and scholar. A Fahrenheit 451 award winner and author of several works in prose and poetry. She loves for writing and music to address socio-political issues and contemporary culture prevalent in society today. Amanda has lived and worked with young adults in Malta, Nepal, United States, and Nigeria.

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Summer Classes 2022

No More Excuses: Submissions Bootcamp with Lyzette Wanzer

Nonmember: $155; Member: $135; Student/Ed/Mil: $75

Does submitting your work keep falling to the bottom of your to-do list? In this workshop, you'll place a submission strategy, research publishing markets, and identify the publications most aligned with your work. We will also review professional etiquette and protocols plus suggestions for avoiding pitfalls that mark you as an amateur before editors even read your submission. Students will be strongly encouraged to submit for publication while enrolled in the workshop. This course is for writers of all levels—from those who are ready to learn about the submission process to those who are in the trenches of submitting.

LYZETTE WANZER is a San Francisco writer, editor, and writing workshop instructor. She received her MFA in Fiction from Mills College. Her stories and essays have appeared in *The Los Angeles Review*, *Flashawn*, *Paradise* magazine, *Fringe Magazine*, *Essay Daily*, *The Naked Truth*, and others. Lyzette has presented her work at conferences, including the American and Popular Culture Association, *The New York Times* Gaming & Writing Programs (AWP), English College (CEA), San Francisco Writers Conference, and others.

Dealing into Latin America: Inspiration from International Poets with Veronica Golos

Nonmember: $145; Member: $125; Student/Ed/Mil $75

In a time of worldwide strife and disconnection, poetry reacquaints us with humanity in a way that transcends borders, time zones, and languages. Join master poet Veronica Golos on an exploring over 200 years of poetry collected from across Latin America. We will explore each poet's craft tools, and apply these techniques to our own work. A packet with packets will be sent to participants who are in the submission trenches. Strongly encouraged to submit work for publication while enrolled in the workshop. This course is for writers of all levels—from those who are ready to learn about the submission process to those who are in the trenches of submitting.

VERONICA GOLOS is the author of four poetry books: *Girls*, awarded the Naj Namon Honor Prize in 2020; *Rootwork*, a poetry collection inspired by a year in Mexico; *Silencio*, a 2011 New Mexico Book Award winner that was translated into Arabic, Spanish, and Persian; and *A Bell Buried Deep*, a collection published in Chinese (Chile), and Juan Gelman (Argentina). Each week we will read deeply, explore each poet's craft tools, and apply these techniques to our own work. A packet with packets will be sent to participants who are in the submission trenches. Strongly encouraged to submit work for publication while enrolled in the workshop. This course is for writers of all levels—from those who are ready to learn about the submission process to those who are in the trenches of submitting.

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