Supporting Writers at Your Library: National Novel Writing Month And Beyond

by
Adele Gardner and Rita Scrivener

Presented at the VLA Professional Associates Forum Conference, Newport News, VA, May 22, 2017



National Novel Writing Month at Hampton Public Library

Main Library Meeting Rooms, 4207 Victoria Blvd., Hampton, VA 23669.

757-727-1312. All events are free and open to ages 18+.

Kickoff Event: Book2Film, Adaptation Wednesday, November 4, 6 p.m.

To get you in the writing mood, our Book/27lm Club screens Adoptation, a 2000 consely about screenwires that even includes a Robert McKee writer's workshop. This may be melaficion, but these zamy tips against writer's block might adustly work! Based on The Orchid Third by Susan Odean.



Crime Writers Study a Crime at the Museum Monday, November 9, 6 p.m.

Mystery witers will want to attend this meeting of the Talewater chapter of Solers in Crime. We'll have from guest speaker. Jeanne William Erganer, Director of Collections Management at The Maniners' Museum in Newport News, Virginia. The museum suffered a devestating internal theft at the hands of one of 8 most Nuested employees— the Director of Archines.

Writing Workshops and Write-Ins

Three spiffy workshops are followed by Write-Ins in our comfortable meeting rooms with refreshments and mood music. Each workshop lests thirty minutes, followed by a short treak before the writing begins. Get inspired

Short Story Workshop and Write-In Monday, November 16, 6 p.m. Both Amy Ton and Roy Bradbury got their start as

Both Amy Ten and Ray Bredbury got their start as novelests with a book of linked shart stories. Writing the story is great practice for novels, giving you command of pacing, dialogue, characterization, setting—and stamine.

Poetry Workshop and Write-In Monday, November 23, 6 p.m.

It's increasingly popular these days—the novel-in-verse! Even if you prefer to keep your poeiry and novels separate, poetry can help you explore the inner motivations of your characters or spork your creativity.



Creative Nonfiction Workshop and Write-In

Monday, November 30, 6 p.m.

Creative nonfacion uses lectriques beditionally associated with novels, such as setting, characterization, dielogue, and plot development. This form is often beneformed into drama on the big screen—fixe Adaptation.

Inspiration Zone and Writer's Resources

Write anytime we're open at a deak or amnohair in this nook past the Reference Deak. Our Writer's Resources shell is stocked with books about the craft.





National Novel Writing Month

November 2016

Events at Hampton Public Library
4207 Victoria Blvd. Hampton, VA 23669
hampton.gov/library 757-727-1312

All events begin at 6:00 PM

Wednesday, November 2

Kickoff movie: Stranger Than Fiction

As writers, we may struggle with narrative voice. But in Stranger Than Fiction, that struggle takes on "literal" substance! This comedy has lessons that will resonate with all writers as we prepare for our journey through National Novel Writing Month!



Thursdays, November 3, 10, and 17

Drop in—or stay the whole time—and enjoy light refreshments and quiet music while you write.



Monday, November 7

Workshop 1: Submitting Your Manuscript

Learn the basics of submitting poetry, short stories, and novels to traditional publishers. We'll discuss proper manuscript format, cover letters, and query letters. Discover the ins and outs of electronic and paper submissions. Learn how to locate the markets best suited to your material, how to keep track of your submissions—and why persistence is the key to success as a writer.



Monday, November 14

Workshop 2: The Framework of Plot



Join the Tidewater chapter of Sisters in Crime, our local mystery-writing group, as C. B. Lane presents "Your House of Fiction: The Framework of Plot." What is plot? Why should you consider designing it early in your novel-writing process, and what do you do if your novel is half-written already? What does plot have to do with "pacing"? We'll discuss the elements of plot, apply them to Star Wars, Episode VI: A New Hope, then look them in your own work (in progress or at the idea stage). Finally, we'll learn how plot fits with all the elements of a novel and consider resources to help us at home.

Wednesday, November 16

Book to Film: Mr. Holmes

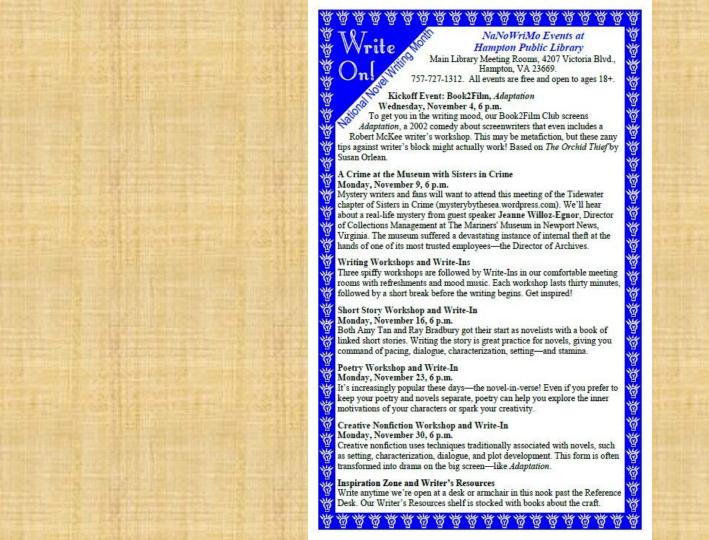
This month's Book to Film, based on Mitch Cullin's novel A Slight Trick of the Mind, fits right in with National Novel Writing Month. Join us to watch and discuss this story of why Sherlock Holmes retired and how he copes with losing his memory.



Monday, November 21 Workshop 3: Where Do You Get Your Ideas?



Writers complain about how often they hear this question. Yet learning the answer for yourself can be the key to getting started as a writer. We'll learn how some well-known writers and works of literature got their start, where to find inspiration in our own lives, and how to generate ideas—then transform them into works of art.



November is National Novel Writing Month

We're hosting write-in sessions, workshops, and book to film discussions throughout the month of November. Visit hampton.gov/calendar or pick up a flyer for more info.

Write your novel here.

nanowrimo

Monday Workshops

Join local authors to learn about helpful topics.

NOV 7 Workshop 1: Submitting Your Manuscript NOV 14 Workshop 2: The Framework of Plot

NOV 23 Workshop 3: Where Do You Get Your Ideas?

Wednesday Movies

Get inspired with literature-themed movies.

NOV 2 Stranger Than Fiction

NOV 16 Mr. Holmes

Thursday Write-Ins

Work on your novel (or anything you like).

NOV 10 NOV 17

All events start at 6:00 PM Write-Ins last until 8:45 PM

4207 victoria blvd main library

nanowrimo

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main library

Appearance on *Round Robin*, an interview show that airs on the Hampton City Channel, TV 47.



Host: Robin McCormick, Hampton Communications Strategist





Atlanti

Medical Directory

Things to Do

Restaurants & Food

Best Of

Weddings

Coast Live

Contests & Events

Resource Guide

Coastal Virginia Magazine Idea House

NaNoWriMo Events: A Crime at the Museum

Date/Time

Nov 9, 2015 06:00 PM until 08:30 PM

Description



Mystery writers and fans will want to attend this meeting of the Tidewater chapter of Sisters in Crime, authors of the Virginia is for Mysteries anthology series.

We'll hear about a real-life mystery from guest speaker Jeanne Willoz-Egnor (pictured), Director of Collections Management at The Mariners' Museum in Newport News, Virginia, and the principal investigator into the massive theft from its archives.

No institution that maintains a collection is immune to internal theft.

The Mariners' Museum suffered a devastating instance of internal theft at the hands of one of its most trusted employees—the Director of Archives. The Museum's Director of Collections Management will provide the intimate details of how the theft was facilitated, the mechanics of the investigation and lessons learned.

The event takes place on Monday, November 9, 6 p.m., in Main Library Meeting Room A. All

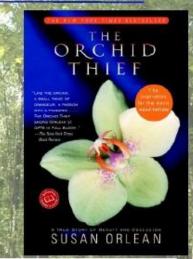
Book to Film

National Novel Writing Month Events Monthly of the Handon Halls

Adaptation.

Kickoff Event: Book2Film Wednesday, November 4 at 6 p.m. Main Library Meeting Room A

To get you in the writing mood, our Book2Film Club screens Adaptation, a 2002 comedy about screenwriters that even includes a Robert McKee writer's workshop. This may be metafiction, but these zany tips against writer's block might actually work! Based on The Orchid Thief by Susan Orlean.



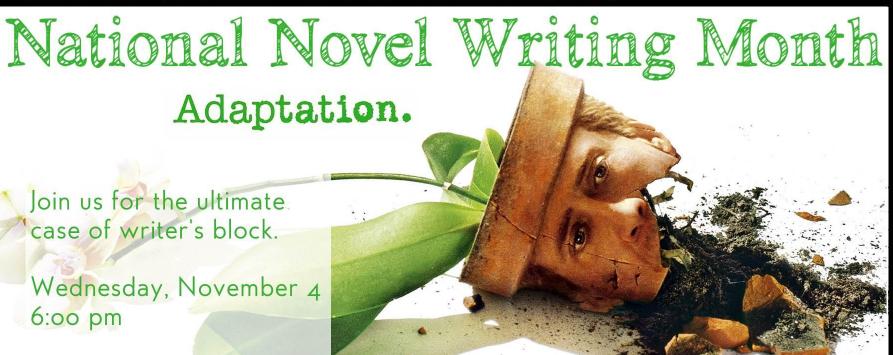


"Write every day, line by line, page by page, hour by hour. Do this despite fear. For above all else, beyond imagination and skill, what the world asks of you is courage, courage to risk rejection, ridicule and failure. As you follow the quest for stories told with meaning and beauty, study thoughtfully but write boldly. Then, like the hero of the fable, your dance will dazzle the world."

- Robert McKee

Make sure to check our website (hamptonpubliclibrary.org) for all our great NaNoWriMo events! We hope to see you there! 757-727-1312 Hampton Main Library 4207 Victoria Blvd. Hampton, VA 23669

Meeting Room A





National Novel Writing Month

We have events throughout November to help you reach your writing goals—and have fun!—during National Novel Writing Month. Some of these events are...

MOVIES

Wednesday, November 2



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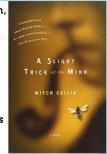
Kickoff movie: Stranger Than Fiction

We have workshops and write-in sessions too! Visit hampton.gov/calendar for more info.

All events at 6:00 PM

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Book to Film: Mr. Holmes

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757-727-1312

Write

National Novel Writing Month Events

Workshop and Write-In:

creative Nonfiction

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HILLENBRAND

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Resilience, and Redemptio

Monday, November 30, 6 p.m. Main Library Meeting Room A

Creative nonfiction employs techniques traditionally associated with novels, such as setting, characterization, dialogue, and plot development. Often lyrical, creative nonfiction requires intense research, a skill which serves novelists well. This form is so novelistic that it's often transformed into drama on the big screen—such as our opening film, Adaptation, and recent popular films such as Unbroken, A Walk in the Woods, and Wild.

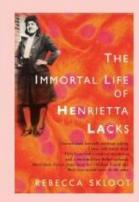


Writing Workshops and Write-Ins

Three spiffy workshops are followed by Write-Ins in our comfortable meeting rooms with refreshments and mood music. Each workshop lasts thirty minutes, followed by a short break before the writing begins. Get inspired!

Short Stories: November 16 Poetry: November 23

Creative Nonfiction: November 30



Workshops

Make sure to check our website (hamptonpubliclibrary.org) for all our great NaNoWriMo events! We hope to see you there!

Hampton Main Library

4207 Victoria Blvd.

Hampton, VA 23669

757-727-1312

Write On!

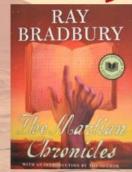
National Novel Writing Month Events

Monday, November 16 6 p.m. Main Library Meeting Room A

Both Amy Tan and Ray Bradbury got their start as novelists with a book of linked short stories. Expanded stories form the basis of many novels. Writing the story is great practice for novels, giving you command of pacing, dialogue, characterization, setting—and stamina.



Short Story Workshop and Write-In



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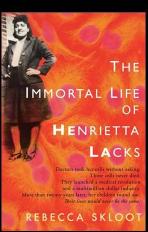
National Novel Writing Month

Workshop and Write-In: Creative Nonfiction

Monday, November 30 at 6:00 pm

Meeting Room A
Visit our Inspiration Zone upstairs too.



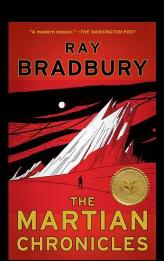


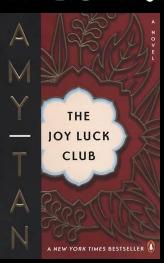
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National Novel Writing Month

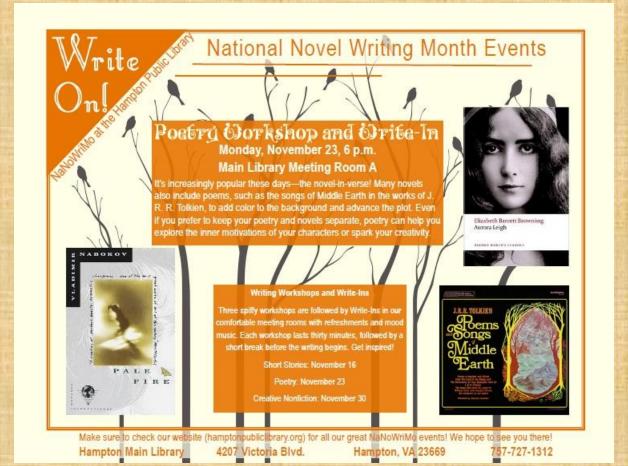
Workshop and Write-In: Poetry Monday, November 23 at 6:00 pm

Meeting Room A
Visit our Inspiration Zone upstairs too.





Poetry can help you explore the inner motivations of your characters or spark your creativity.





November 2016

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Monday, November 7

Workshop 1: Submitting Your Manuscript

Author, poet, editor, and HPL's very own Cataloging Librarian Adele Gardner will help you learn the basics of how to submit poetry, short stories, and novels to traditional publishers.

We'll discuss proper manuscript format, what to put in your cover letter, and how to construct a query letter. Discover the ins and outs of both electronic and paper submissions. Find out how to locate the markets best suited to your material and learn how to keep track of your submissions—and why persistence is the key to success as a writer.



Monday, November 14

NaNoWriMo

Workshop 2: The Framework of Plot



Join the Tidewater chapter of Sisters in Crime, our local mystery-writing group, which welcomes professional and newbie authors and everyone in between. Enjoy a special presentation from author C. B. Lane, "Your House of Fiction: The Framework of Plot." What is plot, anyway? Why should you consider desigming it early in your novel-writing process, and what do you do if your novel is half-written already? What does plot have to do with "pacing?" First, we'll talk about the elements of plot and briefly apply them to a well-known story, Star Wars, Episode VI: A New Hope. Then we'll identify the elements of plot in your works in progress and think about where to go next, or dream up some new ones for the novels in your heads. We'll look at how

plot fits with all the other elements necessary to building a complete novel. Finally, we'll consider some resources to help us at home. If you have time before the workshop, watch the Star Wars film.

C. B. (Cindy) Lane grew up in Virginia Beach and graduated from First Colonial High School. After college in Blacksburg, the Peace Corps in Senegal, and work for the U.S. Forest Service in Northern California, she settled in Suffolk, where she lives on farm near the Great Dismal Swamp with her husband and a wiener dog named Ginger who loves to bark at everything that moves. She received her MFA in Creative Writing from Spalding University in 2013 in Dublin, Ireland, during her capstone residency. Other residency locations included London, Barcelona, Italy, and Louisville, Kentucky, where Spalding University is located. She's a member of Sisters in Crime and Hampton Roads Writers and a frequent student at the Muse Writers Center in Norfolk. She has some short stories (one that won an award) out in the world, and she's working on a novel set in Nansemond County and Suffolk just after the Civil War. She has a good amount of experience criticuing fictional works. For more about Cindv, visit CBLaneWrites, wordpress, com.

Monday, November 21

Workshop 3: Where Do You Get Your Ideas?

Writers complain about how often they hear this question. Yet learning the answer for yourself can be the key to getting started as a writer. Adele Gardner presents how some well-known writers and works of literature got their start, where to find inspiration in our own lives, and how to generate ideas—then transform them into works of art.



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All events at 6:00 PM

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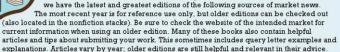
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2016

Writers Resources at Hampton Public Library

On our Writers Resources Shelf in the nook past the Reference Desk,



- + The Writer's Market, Writer's Digest Books, 070.5 W939m
- . Novel & Short Story Writer's Market, Writer's Digest Books, 070.5 N8573a
- + Poet's Market, Writer's Digest Books, 070.5 P752m

NaNoWriMo

- Children's Writer's & Illustrator's Market, Writer's Digest Books, 070.52 C4376w
- . Literary Market Place, R. R. Bowker, 2 volumes, 070.5 L712m

Poets & Writers, Literary Magazines Database, http://www.pw.org/literary_magazines You can filter your results by type of writing or do a keyword search. The results page gives some quick info; click on the title for more detail. Check up-to-date info at the publication itself.

Ralan.com, Speculative Fiction & Humor Markets (Fiction & Poetry), http://ralan.com/ The markets are grouped by how much they pay. Always start with the highest-paying markets. Themed anthologies can help you break in. Check up-to-date info at the publication's site.

Science Fiction & Fantasy Writers of America, http://www.sfwa.org/

Check out the free resources under the Resources tab. They include updated model contracts (http://www.sfwa.org/member-links/committees/contracts-committee/) and an Information Center with information on copyright, market listings, critique groups, and more (http:// www.sfwa.org/other-resources/for-authors/information-center/).

Mystery Writers of America, Approved Publisher List, http://mysterywriters.org/how-tobecome-a-member-of-mwa/approved-publisher-list/

While not meant as a market list, this can help you determine reputable publishers for mysteries.

Markets for Horror Writers & Poets, Horror Writers Assn., http://horror.org/trying-new/ Includes links to other market sources and advice on where & how to submit

Science Fiction Poetry Association, http://sfpoetry.com/

Includes a page with market listings, as well as guidelines for SFPA publications & awards. Check the actual market's page carefully for current information.

Writer Beware, http://www.sfwa.org/other-resources/for-authors/writer-beware/ Writer Beware is sponsored by the Science Fiction & Fantasy Writers of America, with support from the Mystery Writers of America, the Horror Writers Association, and the American Society of Journalists and Authors. Please educate yourself about pitfalls and unscrupulous activities.

Connect with Other Writers through Writing Organizations

You can get great tips from your fellow writers, especially through listservs/forums for members. These organizations also keep an eye on industry news. The above groups may help, as might Sisters in Crime (mystery writers), http://www.sistersincrime.org/

Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators, http://www.scbwi.org/ Poetry Society of Virginia, http://poetrysocietyofvirginia.org/

... and many more!





Where Do You Get Your Ideas?

A workshop with Adele Gardner

National Novel Writing Month 2016

AT

HAMPTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

National Novel Writing Month 2016

Hampton Public Library 4207 Victoria Blvd., Hampton, VA 23669 hampton.gov/library 757-727-1312

SUBMITTING YOUR MANUSCRIPT: TIPS

PAPER SUBMISSIONS. Manuscripts are eligible to

be sent via Media Mail. Find out whether Media Mail or First Class is cheaper (keep in mind how quickly it needs to arrive). Don't use Registered Mail. Use William

Shunn's manuscript format for prose. Secure your manuscript with a paperclip, not a staple. Be sure to include a Self-Addressed, Stamped Envelope (SASE). The size and postage on the SASE reflects whether you want your manuscript returned or just a reply. Large manuscripts should be sent flat in a manila envelope. Smaller manuscripts (maybe ten pages or less) might do well in a half-size envelope for which the manuscript folds down the middle. For a replyonly SASE, use a #10 business envelope with a Forever stamp. For up-to



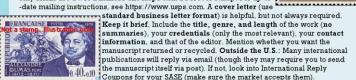
Not a stamp. Illustrat

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it has a song."

"A bird doesn't sing because it has an

answer, it sings because



NaNoWriMo

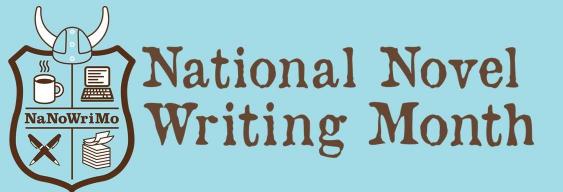
standard business letter format) is helpful, but not always required. Keep it brief. Include the title, genre, and length of the work (no summaries), your credentials (only the most relevant), your contact information, and that of the editor. Mention whether you want the manuscript returned or recycled. Outside the U.S.: Many international publications will reply via email (though they may require you to send the manuscript itself via post). If not, look into International Reply Coupons for your SASE (make sure the market accepts them).

ELECTRONIC SUBMISSIONS. Follow William Shunn's manuscript format for prose, but note any special formatting instructions for the market. These include everything from spaces and italics, to the type of file format used and whether to send an attachment or paste the manuscript into an email using plain text. Many markets these days use free online submission systems such as Submittable (writers create free accounts, https:// www.submittable.com/). Be wary of any market charging a reading or submission fee. Be aware that regardless of your email provider, emails don't always arrive, and neither you nor the market might know. Review your spam and filter settings. Keep all emails about submissions.

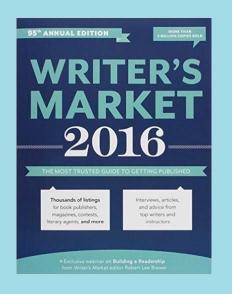
ALL SUBMISSIONS

- . Never send your only copy. Be sure to keep a backup copy of your files in a safe location.
- Keep track of all your submissions. Record editors' comments & save contract details & rights info. Overy when work has been out six months or past their standard response time.
- Resubmit your work as soon as it comes back. Keep a list of potential markets for the work.
- . Carefully proofread your manuscript. Apply grammar and spelling rules as appropriate. Reading aloud can help you catch mistakes and smooth your writing.
- . Send your best work. Then revise only when you truly believe it needs revision, or an editor requests a rewrite (not necessarily when an editor sends a rejection with comments).
- + Follow the rules of the market regarding simultaneous, multiple, and repeat submissions. Pay attention to the length requirements, number of poems, and open reading periods.
- Use standard manuscript/business letter format, but look for additional formatting requirements and do as the market asks. Some places want blind submissions.
- . Carefully evaluate the potential market before submitting. Does it look professional? Are the terms of publication acceptable to you? Do they publish the type of work you're sending?
- . Money flows toward the writer. Beware of scams, bad contracts, fees, required purchases.
- You don't need to register your copyright. You have automatic copyright protection.

PERSISTENCE IS THE KEY TO SUCCESS AS A WRITER, DON'T GIVE UP!



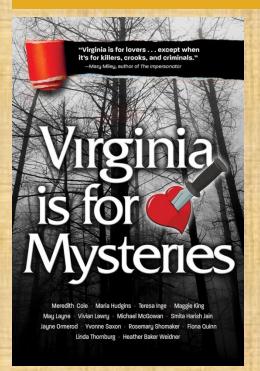
Writing Workshop: Submitting Your Manuscript
Monday, November 7
6:00 PM

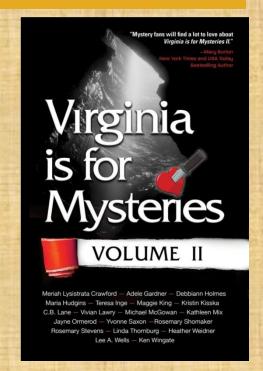


And many more: visit hampton.gov/events

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Sisters in Crime CELEBRATING 30 YEARS





Write was

National Novel Writing Month Events

No institution that maintains a collection is immune to internal theft.

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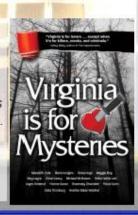
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A Cume at the Museum



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Join the Tidewater chapter of Sisters in Crime, our local mystery-writing group, which welcomes professional and newbie authors and everyone in between. Enjoy a special presentation from author C. B. Lane, "Your House of Fiction: The Framework of Plot." What is plot, anyway? Why should you consider desigming it early in your novel-writing process, and what do you do if your novel is half-written already? What does plot have to do with "pacing?" First, we'll talk about the elements of plot and briefly apply them to a well-known story, Star Wars, Episode VI: A New Hope. Then we'll identify the elements of plot in your works in progress and think about where to go next, or dream up some new ones for the novels in your heads. We'll look at how

plot fits with all the other elements necessary to building a complete novel. Finally, we'll consider some resources to help us at home. If you have time before the workshop, watch the Star Wars film.

C. B. (Cindy) Lane grew up in Virginia Beach and graduated from First Colonial High School. After college in Blacksburg, the Peace Corps in Senegal, and work for the U.S. Forest Service in Northern California, she settled in Suffolk, where she lives on farm near the Great Dismal Swamp with her husband and a wiener dog named Ginger who loves to bark at everything that moves. She received her MFA in Creative Writing from Spalding University in 2013 in Dublin, Ireland, during her capstone residency. Other residency locations included London, Barcelona, Italy, and Louisville, Kentucky, where Spalding University is located. She's a member of Sisters in Crime and Hampton Roads Writers and a frequent student at the Muse Writers Center in Norfolk. She has some short stories (one that won an award) out in the world, and she's working on a novel set in Nansemond County and Suffolk just after the Civil War. She has a good amount of experience criticuing fictional works. For more about Cindv, visit CBLaneWrites, wordpress, com.

Monday, November 21

Workshop 3: Where Do You Get Your Ideas?

Writers complain about how often they hear this question. Yet learning the answer for yourself can be the key to getting started as a writer. Adele Gardner presents how some well-known writers and works of literature got their start, where to find inspiration in our own lives, and how to generate ideas—then transform them into works of art.



Hampton Public Library 4207 Victoria Blvd. Hampton, VA 23669 hampton.gov/library

All events at 6:00 PM

757-727-1312

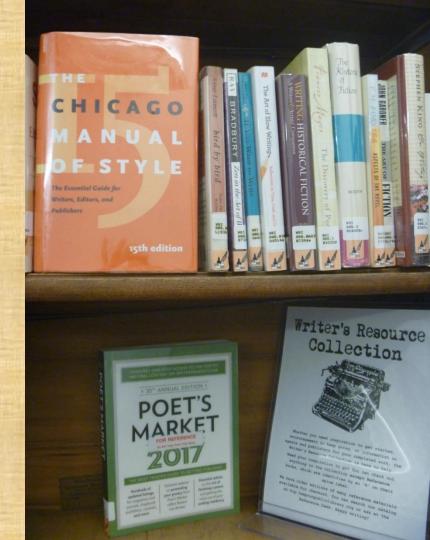
Inspiration Zone



Inspiration Zone



Writer's Resources



Come Write In



National Novel Writing Month

We have events throughout November to help you reach your writing goals—and have fun!—during National Novel Writing Month. Some of these events are...

WRITE-IN SESSIONS

Thursdays, November 3, 10, and 17



Stop by (or attend the whole time) and enjoy light refreshments and quiet music while you write. Keep to yourself or get to know other writers. The write-in is all yours!

While you're here, make sure to visit our Writer's Resources Collection on the second floor. You'll find a shelf full of books just for writers, and a cozy nook to write now or year-round.



We have workshops and movies too! Visit hampton.gov/events for more info. Hampton Public Library 4207 Victoria Blvd. Hampton, VA 23669 hampton.gov/library

Write-In Room Open 6:00-8:45 PM

757-727-1312

Meeting Rooms



Special Collections, Location for November 2017



Special Collections Reading Room



Looking forward to November 2017!

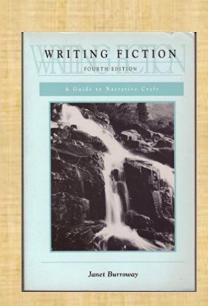


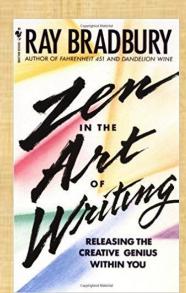
Our Favorite Books about Writing

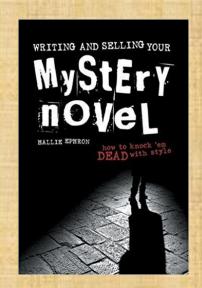
This Year You Write Your Novel

> Walter Mosley

righteous path to real authorhood." - Seattle Pete-Intelligencer







If You Want to Write

A Book about Art, Independence and Spirit



Brenda Ueland

Rita Scrivener

Reference Librarian, rscrivener@hampton.gov

Adele Gardner

Cataloging Librarian, cgardner@hampton.gov