

# The Great Smokies Writing Program

FALL 2009

A Consortium of the Western North Carolina Writers' Community & the University of North Carolina at Asheville

## WORKSHOPS IN POETRY & PROSE

### **Wizards, Wild Things, and Vampires: An Overview of Writing for Children**

(Lang 372, 2 hours)

#### **Joy Neaves**

This literature-based writing course is designed to challenge all of your preconceived notions of children and children's literature. Begin to see your own writing for children in new ways. This course will turn to classic and contemporary works for inspiration, including works for various age ranges—from picture books to middle grade fiction to young adult novels, with a special focus on the elements of writing common to all of them. Intensive in-class writing exercises will explore various aspects of craft specific to children's books. Workshop elements of the class will focus on learning how to break into publishing, how to think like your editor, and how to market your published work. The course will include a week-long on-line forum with publishing professionals.

Joy Neaves has ten years of experience as an editor of children's picture books, poetry, middle grade, and young adult fiction. As Senior Editor at Front Street, an independent, internationally recognized, award-winning publisher of books for children and young adults, she worked with novelists Andrea Cheng, Clay Carmichael, Emily Smith Pearce, Zu Vincent, Shenaaz Nanji, Mary Ann McGuigan, Lindsay Lee Johnson, and Adam Osterweil; the poet Charlotte Pomerantz; and the illustrators Craig Smith, David Udovic, Nicole Wong, Candice McDonald, and Rob Shepperson. She has overseen the publication of several internationally acclaimed authors including the Australian writers Judith Clarke and Steven Herrick and the Swedish writer, Per Nilsson. Joy was also the editor of Lemniscaat, an imprint in which picture books, originally published in the Netherlands, were translated from the Dutch into English for an American audience. She is currently a freelance editor of children's books.

10 Week Class – Starts September 14, Monday evenings, 6-8:30pm at Covenant Presbyterian Church, 281 Edgewood Road, Asheville, NC 28804

### **Husk, Seed, Seedling: A Prose Workshop**

(Lang 372, 2 hours)

#### **Christine Hale, Kevin McIlvoy**

Novelist and memoirist Christine Hale and Kevin McIlvoy, novelist, prose poet

and master teacher, invite writers of fiction and nonfiction to a series of open-ended writing exercises, class discussions, and workshops. Sourced in the natural world (bird song, lore of trees, the ways of animals) the course aims to spark the creative process, generate new writing, and revive and transform writing-in-progress. Participating writers can expect to gain fresh understanding of the different and similar rewards of writing in more than one genre.

Christine Hale is the author of the new novel, *Basil's Dream* (Livingston Press, 2009). Hale's short fiction and creative nonfiction have appeared in many journals, including *Arts & Letters*, *Apalachee Review*, *Rivendell*, *Natural Bridge*, and *The Sun*. A former Beebe Fellow at Warren Wilson College, she's taught fiction there and in the Great Smokies Writing Program. At present she is faculty member at the Murray State University Low-Residency MFA Program in Murray, Kentucky. A fellow of the MacDowell, Ucross, Hedgebrook, and Hambidge colonies and the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, Hale is writing a new novel, and a memoir.

Kevin McIlvoy taught creative writing for over twenty years at New Mexico State University and Warren Wilson's MFA Program. During 2008-2009 he served as Interim Director for the Warren Wilson program. He has published four novels, *A Waltz*, *The Fifth Station*, *Little Peg*, *Hyssop*, and, recently, a short story collection, *The Complete History of New Mexico*. His fiction has appeared in *Harper's*, *The Southern Review*, *Ploughshares*, *TriQuarterly*, and other magazines.

10-week class – Starts September 16, Wednesday evenings 6:00-8:30 pm, at the Randolph Learning Center, 90 Montford Road.

### **The Abiding Image: A Poetry Workshop**

(Lang 372, 2 hours)

#### **Cathy Smith Bowers**

In this course we will explore a variety of ways to tap into abiding images from our own experience and to expand and craft those images into vibrant and moving poems. We will also explore the finer points of a variety of poetic concerns including tension, metaphor, and sound. This course is geared toward the beginning poet, but experienced poets are welcome as well. Text: *Western Wind*, Fifth Edition (ISBN: 0-072819596)

Cathy Smith Bowers is the author of four collections of poetry: *The Love That Ended Yesterday in Texas*, Texas Tech University Press, 1992; *Traveling in Time of Danger*, Iris Press, 1999; *A Book of Minutes*, Iris Press, 2004; *The Candle I Hold Up To See You*, Iris Press, 2009.

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Smith Bowers' poems have appeared widely in publications such as *The Atlantic Monthly*, *The Georgia Review*, *Poetry*, *The Southern Review*, and *The Kenyon Review*. She is a winner of The General Electric Award for Younger Writers, recipient of a South Carolina Poetry Fellowship, and winner of The South Carolina Arts Commission Fiction Project. She served for many years as poet-in-residence at Queens University of Charlotte where she received the 2002 JB Fuqua Distinguished Educator Award. She now teaches in the Queens low-residency MFA program and at Wofford College.

10-week class—Starts September 16, Wednesday afternoons, 2-4:30pm at The Kellogg Center, 11 Broyles Road, Hendersonville, NC 28791

### **Poetry at All Levels: Allowing the Psyche to Speak**

(Lang 372, 2 hours)

#### **Laura Hope-Gill**

No matter where you are on your poetic journey, this course will support your generation of new work, your revision skills and your overall skill level. I will share tricks and strategies for shaping poems. I will offer examples of various technical elements and we'll explore how to use them. Each night, we will write something new, as well as workshop "finished" pieces. My main goal in teaching this class is to increase everyone's confidence in our inherent creative intuition, to "go with the flow" of inspiration and then to revisit that flow for patterns and what we want to say.

Laura Hope-Gill is the director of Asheville *Wordfest*. Her first collection of poems, a collaboration with photographer John Fletcher Jr., *The Soul Tree* (August, Grateful Steps Publishing), is an exploration of the imagery of sacred texts merged with the scenery of the Southern Appalachians. She is an NC Arts Fellow in Creative Nonfiction for her writings on hearing loss. Through her company, The Healing Seed, she works with groups and individuals who want to integrate writing into their lives, as enhancement to therapy and as a means to getting published. Her poems, essays, and memoir have appeared in *Cincinnati Review*, *Parabola*, *The North Carolina Literary Review*, *Xavier Review*, *Crab Orchard Review*, *Arts and Letters*, *Diner*, and *Chattahoochee Review*, among others.

10-week class – Starts September 16, Wednesday evenings, 6:00-8:30 pm, at the Randolph Learning Center, 90 Montford Road.

### **Get Real: A Creative Nonfiction Workshop**

(Lang 372, 2 hours)

#### **Marjorie Klein**

What is creative nonfiction, anyway? It sounds like an oxymoron. How can something real and true — *nonfiction* — be creative at the same time? Often

called the fourth genre, creative nonfiction incorporates elements of the other three — poetry, fiction and drama — with the underlying element of facts. Memoir, personal essay, and literary journalism are subjective views of the world, compiled from our own intimate experiences and from the lives of others. In our reading of published writers and the work of class members, we will examine those truths through the prism of imagination and creativity. While facts are the basis of creative nonfiction, our in-class exercises will kindle memory, inspire language, and sharpen our vision of the world, and may bring us to a deeper understanding of real events.

Marjorie Klein's first novel, *Test Pattern* (Wm. Morrow Publishers, 2000) was a Barnes and Noble "Discover Great New Writers" selection. Her creative nonfiction has appeared in various publications, including 20 years of freelance work for *Tropic*, the Miami Herald's Sunday magazine. She has taught at the University of Miami, Warren Wilson College, and Florida International University (where she received her MFA), and has led workshops at the Florida Center for Literary Arts at Miami Dade College, UNC Asheville's Center for Creative Retirement and the Great Smokies Writing Program. Recipient of a Florida Individual Artist Fellowship in 2007, and honorable mention in 2002, she served as a preliminary judge in the writing category for the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts from 1991-2006, until she moved to Asheville. She has recently completed a new novel, *Shifting Gears*.

10-week class—Starts September 16, Wednesday afternoons, 4:00-6:30pm in Burnsville at the Mountain Heritage Center on Green Mountain Drive.

### **Telling Our Stories: A Course in Memoir Writing**

(Lang 372, 2 credit hours)

#### **Jeff Smith**

Everyone's life is a braid of stories woven together. In this class we will work at braiding our individual stories together towards the whole of our lives, or towards some particular angle of our lives. We will read from acclaimed memoirs and use them as models for telling our own stories. The course is open to beginning and advanced memoirists.

Jeff Smith's memoir, *Where the Roots Reach for Water*, won the PEN/Albrand "Art of the Memoir" Award. A number of his personal essays have been anthologized, and his reviews and articles have appeared widely in such places as *The Washington Post Book World*, *The Cleveland Plain Dealer*, *The Oxford American*, and *Gramophone*, among others.

10-week class – Starts September 16, Wednesday evenings, 6:00-8:30 pm, at the Randolph Learning Center, 90 Montford Road.



## ***A Writer's Boot Camp for Popular Fiction: A Fiction Workshop***

(Lang 372, 2 credit hours)

### **Vicki Lane**

The first four classes will address fundamentals of setting, characterization, dialogue, and opening chapters. Each student will be encouraged to begin a novel (if they don't already have one underway.) The next five classes will give each student a chance to have twenty pages critiqued by the class as well as carefully line-edited by the teacher. The goal of this class is to catapult a would-be writer into writing, to review some fundamentals for the in-process writer, and to guide the students in setting up independent critique groups. The last class will address the question of seeking publication, query letters, agents, and more. If you are a writer in process but you still have some questions, or if you've been thinking about beginning a novel, this may be just the class for you.

Vicki Lane is the author of the Elizabeth Goodweather mystery series from Bantam Dell. (*Signs in the Blood*, 2005; *Art's Blood*, 2006; *Old Wounds*, 2007, *In a Dark Season*, 2008 (Anthony Nominee) as well as the forthcoming standalone *The Day of Small Things*. In 2000, she decided to try her hand at a mystery novel. One brief class (much like this one) later and she was on her way. At the age of 62, she saw her first novel published. Learn more about Vicki and her writing at her website <http://vickilanemysteries.com/> and her blog <http://vickilanemysteries.blogspot.com/>.

10-week class – Starts September 16, Wednesday evenings, 6:00-8:30 pm, at the Randolph Learning Center, 90 Montford Road.

## ***Keeping Ourselves Company: An Advanced Creative Prose Workshop***

(Lang 473, 3 credit hours)

### **Tommy Hays**

This class is for advanced prose writers, who have projects they are working on or who want to start something new in either fiction or memoir. Emphasis will be on reading and critiquing each other's work. The instructor will respond at length to submissions. Instructor's permission required for admittance. Applicants should contact Tommy Hays at [hays@main.nc.us](mailto:hays@main.nc.us).

Tommy Hays' latest novel, *The Pleasure Was Mine*, was chosen for the 2008 One City, One Book community-read in Greensboro and was also chosen for the Amazing Read – Greenville, SC's first community-wide reading of a single book. *The Pleasure Was Mine* was read on National Public Radio's "Radio Reader" hosted by Dick Estell and was a Finalist for the SIBA (Southern Independent Booksellers Alliance) 2006 Fiction Award. Tommy has written two other novels — *Sam's Crossing* and *In the Family Way*, a selection of the Book-of-the-Month Club and winner of the Thomas Wolfe Memorial Literary Award. He is Executive Director of the Great Smokies Writing Program and a Lecturer in the Master

of Liberal Arts Program at the University of North Carolina at Asheville. He also teaches in the low residency MFA Program at Murray State University in Kentucky.

15-week class – Starts August 27, Thursday evenings, 6:00-8:30 p.m. at Asheville School.

## ***The Prose Master Class***

(Lang 473, 3 credit hours)

### **Elizabeth Lutyens**

The Great Smokies Writing Program also offers a Prose Master Class, a next step for those who have been in GSWP for a number of semesters and are looking for a more intensive writing and critiquing experience. This small (eight-member maximum) workshop is limited to experienced writers who are working on something ongoing: a collection of essays or stories, a novel, a memoir. Master Class members will begin the semester with new pages ready to be critiqued and will submit at least three times during the 15-week semester; with a fourth critique optional. This is a workshop for those who are committed to writing—not just to writing well, but to writing a lot. An equally important commitment is that each member will give the best possible attention to the work of others. Admission to the Master Class is by invitation and comes from Tommy Hays. The instructor is Elizabeth Lutyens, who previously led the "Hanging in There Advanced Prose Workshop" for four semesters. She is a graduate of the MFA in Writing Program at Warren Wilson College and is completing her own ongoing work: a novel set in Boston and the Port Royal islands of South Carolina during the early 1860s.

15-week class - Starts August 25, Tuesday evenings, 6:00-8:30 pm, at Asheville School.

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### Cost:

Please make checks payable to UNCA. Payment must accompany all applications. Please allow 3-4 weeks for refunds.

- **Visiting Student Application** (*one-time*) Fee: \$20
- **In-State Residents** (*Individuals who have lived in the state for 12 months*)  
Tuition and technology fees are \$89.10 per credit hour:  
2-credit-hour course (10 weeks): \$178.20  
3-credit-hour course (15 weeks): \$267.30
- **Non-State Residents**  
Tuition and technology fees are \$484.95 per credit hour:  
2-credit-hour course (10 weeks): \$969.90  
3-credit-hour course (15 weeks): \$1454.85

### Class Size

To ensure that students receive individual attention from the instructor, enrollment in each class is limited. In some cases, the instructor's permission is required for admission. See course descriptions where applicable.

### Registration Information

Please come to the office of Extension and Distance Education, 122 Karpen Hall, CPO #2140 to complete an application or call 828/232-5122, or e-mail [fox@unca.edu](mailto:fox@unca.edu). Applications are also available at the following website: [www.unca.edu/gswp](http://www.unca.edu/gswp)

Dr. Elaine Fox, Director  
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122 Karpen Hall, CPO #2140  
UNC Asheville  
One University Heights  
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The Great Smokies Writing Program wishes to thank Malaprop's Bookstore/Café for its support of the Writers at Home series.

Tommy Hays, Executive Director  
Richard Chess, Co-Director  
Elaine Fox, Administrator

The Great Smokies Writing Program is committed to providing the community with affordable university-level classes taught by professional writers, and to giving voice to local and regional writers through Writers at Home, its free reading series.

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