

Writers Workshop

The University of Akron Wayne College in Orrville is hosts its **15th Annual Writers Workshop** Saturday, April 7th, 2018.

The University of Akron Wayne College in Orrville is hosting its 15th annual Writers Workshop Saturday, April 7th, 2018.

This year's workshop allows writers and aspiring writers to meet published authors and participate in sessions about demystifying the creative process, strategies behind a solid writing routine, how to choose personal experiences and creative fiction topics with a purpose, how to target an audience, where emotions meet in poetry, the truth in nonfiction, and building a mystery board. As a participant, you will enjoy a continental breakfast followed by our authors' concurrent workshop sessions, a panel discussion with the presenting authors, and lunch, followed by special guest D.M. Pulley.

Each workshop session runs 75 minutes (topics are detailed in this brochure). Please choose two of the six sessions to attend. Your \$40 fee, due by March 23rd, covers everything for the day. Registration after the deadline will be \$45 (including walk-ins that day).

After the awards ceremony, which recognizes student and regional writers, our speakers will have books for sale. Plan to spend time talking with them during the concluding sell-and-sign opportunity.

For program information or to register, contact **Susan Ackerman** at **330-684-8985** or **sda1@uakron.edu**

Featured Speaker

D.M. Pulley
Can an Engineer Write



D.M. Pulley shares her journey from forensic engineer to best-selling author and the real-life mystery that inspired her first novel. In this informal discussion, she'll discuss what it took for her to start and finish the book and the struggles of getting it published.

Before becoming a full-time writer, D.M. Pulley worked as a Professional Engineer, rehabbing historic structures and conducting forensic investigations of building failures. Pulley's structural survey of a vacant building in Cleveland inspired her debut novel, *The Dead Key*, the winner of the 2014 Amazon Breakthrough Novel Award. The disappearance of a family member formed the basis for her second historical mystery, *The Buried Book*. Pulley's third novel, *The Unclaimed Victim*, delves into the dark history behind Cleveland's Torso Killer. She lives in northeast Ohio with her husband, her two children, and a dog named Hobo and is hard at work on her fourth book.



1901 Smucker Road • Orrville, OH 44667
330-683-2010 • wayne.uakron.edu

2018 Writers Workshop Sponsors

- Auntie Anne's Soft Pretzels

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White's Ford on 57

The Daily Record

Ashland Times - Gazette

To learn more about this event visit:
wayne.uakron.edu/writers/writers-workshop.dot

Schedule for Writers Workshop	
8 - 8:30am	Breakfast Welcome & Introductions
8:35 - 9:45am	Workshop Sessions
9:50 - 11am	Workshop Sessions
11:05 - 11:35am	Panel of Presenters
11:40 - 12:15pm	Lunch
12:20 - 1pm	Keynote Speaker D.M. Pulley
1:00 - 2pm	Presentation of awards and Writer-of-the-Year Book Signing/Selling



The University of Akron
Wayne College



15th Annual
Writers Workshop
Saturday, April 7th, 2018
Open to the public

Workshop Sessions

D.M. Pulley, Keynote Speaker
Facing the Blank Page



In this generative workshop, discussion sessions and guided writing prompts will begin to demystify the creative process and strategies behind a solid writing routine. As a historical mystery writer and former engineer, D.M. Pulley shares how various life experiences and careers can enhance the writing process as well as the pitfalls and challenges of being a non-traditionally trained writer. Come and learn strategies to defeat writer's block and overcome page fright.

Debra Johanyak, PhD
What's Your Story
You've Written A Story – Now What?



Workshop 1
You undoubtedly have many stories to share with avid readers. But how do you decide which one to develop for the public? This workshop helps you explore personal experiences and creative fiction topics to choose one with a purpose. Aristotle believed that quality “art”, including literature, should both teach and entertain. In this session we will discuss ways in which personal life events or fictional themes can do both.

Workshop 2
After creating a piece of writing to be proud of, you are eager to share with readers. What are your next steps? In this session we will discuss how to target an audience, consider publishing options, and attract public attention to your writing. A few simple steps, well-planned, can often lead to increased interest in your work and to invitations to share your story and perhaps write others.

Biography
Dr. Debra Johanyak was raised in Akron, Ohio. Her graduate studies included a year in Shiraz, Iran, where she held a teaching assistantship and witnessed the 1979 Iran hostage crisis. Debra began her professional career as an English instructor, and later, as an assistant professor at Kent State University before coming to the University of Akron Wayne College, where she currently is a professor of English. In addition to her book, Shakespeare's World (Prentice Hall, 2004) and Behind the Veil: An American Woman's Memoir of the 1979 Iran Hostage Crisis (University of Akron Press, 2006), several of her short stories and dozens of her articles have appeared in various literary magazines and journals.

Jeff Gundy
What I Don't Understand Is The Beauty



Biography
Jeff Gundy's seven books of poems include Abandoned Homeland (Bottom Dog, 2015) and Somewhere Near Defiance (Anhinga, 2014), for which he was named Ohio Poet of the Year. His fourth prose book is Songs from an Empty Cage: Poetry, Mystery, Anabaptism, and Peace (Cascadia, 2013). His essays and poems appear in The Georgia Review, The Sun, Kenyon Review, Christian Century, Image, Cincinnati Review, Artful Dodge, and many other journals. He teaches at Bluffton University in Ohio and spent a recent sabbatical at LCC International University in Klaipeda, Lithuania.

Brad Ricca
Nonfiction is 100% True (or is it?)
How to Make a Creepy (but Effective) Mystery Board



Workshop 1
If fiction is made up, then does that mean nonfiction represents truth? Of what? And how do you go about writing something that absolute? In this session, we will question the boundaries of truth and...other stuff...in order to find out the best way to tell true stories that can resonate with your reader like fiction does. This session is for all writers interested in writing nonfiction or memoir and will include a writing exercise.

Workshop 2
In almost every cop or detective show, you will find someone who, in an attempt to solve a crime, has taken over a whole wall with photos, crude notes, and sometimes even color-coded string. In this session, we will learn how this technique can help writers of true crime, mystery, and pretty much anything else, not only find the narrative of their story, but the mystery at the heart of it. This session will include a writing exercise.

Biography
Brad Ricca is the author of Mrs. Sherlock Holmes: The True Story of New York City's Greatest Female Detective and the 1917 Missing Girl Case That Captivated a Nation (St. Martin's, 2017). He is also the author of Super Boys: The Amazing Adventures of Jerry Siegel & Joe Shuster – The Creators of Superman (St. Martin's, 2013), the first literary biography of the two creators of Superman, the world's most iconic superhero. The book won the 2014 Ohioana Book Award for Nonfiction and was named a Top 10 Book on the Arts for 2013. He was born, lives, and works in Cleveland, teaching at Case Western Reserve University as a SAGES Fellow.

REGISTRATION

Make check payable to **The University of Akron Wayne College** and mail registration form to: **Susan Ackerman, The University of Akron Wayne College, 1901 Smucker Road, Orrville, OH 44667**. To register by Fax, send registration form with credit card information or purchase order to 330-684-8989. To register by phone, call 330-684-8985 or 1-800-221-8308, ext. 8985.

Name_____Name of your writers' club (if applicable)_____

Address_____City_____

State_____Zip Code_____Phone_____

Email_____Do you prefer a vegetarian lunch? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Each participant will be placed in two workshops, but workshop space is limited. Please number the six workshops in your order of preference.

_____Facing the Blank Page – D. M. Pulley_____You've Written a Story – Now What? – Debra Johanyak

_____What I Don't Understand Is The Beauty – Jeff Gundy_____Nonfiction is 100% True (or is it?) – Brad Ricca

_____What's Your Story? – Debra Johanyak_____How to Make a Creepy (but Effective) Mystery Board – Brad Ricca

Signature_____Date_____

I have read the refund policy. I understand I may be photographed during this event and these photographs may be used in University publications, including the website.

Please schedule me in sessions with this other registrant _____

Fee for each person is \$40 — Total amount due \$_____ \$45 after March 23 (including walk-ins that day) ☐ Check enclosed

☐ Visa ☐ Discover ☐ Mastercard Card #_____Expiration Date_____CVC_____

Refund Policy: A full refund will be made upon notice of cancellation received by March 23. No refunds will be made after this date, but you may substitute attendance by calling 330-684-8985.