Writing conference set for Saturday at Clackamas Community College


By Vickie Kavanagh, The Oregonian

OREGON CITY -- There are still a few openings left in each of the 13 workshops featured at a creative writing conference Saturday at Clackamas Community College.

Professional writers will share their wisdom in Compose, a seminar designed for writers of all genres and levels happening from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Gregory Forum.

Parking, admission and lunch are free thanks to the sponsors: the college's English Department and the Clackamas Literary Review.

Workshops slated from 10-11:30 a.m. are:

- "Writing for Veterans" by Jeff McAlpine and Marlene Broemer of the college's English faculty
- "Anyone Can Write a Song," by Julie Vitells and Amanda Spring of the What Hearts band
- "Breaking and Entering: Getting In When the Answer Is Always No (From Book to Film)" by Monica Drake, author of "Clown Girl"
- "Writing Fiction" by Trevor Dodge of the college's English faculty

Conference-goers are then invited to a free lunch and presentation by Paulann Petersen, Oregon's poet laureate, a teacher and former Stegner Fellow at Stanford University titled "Writing and Hierarchy: The Trouble With Good, Better, Best."

Sessions slated from 1:30-3 p.m. are:

- "Preparing Manuscripts for Publication" by Ryan Davis of the college's English faculty and editor of the Clackamas Literary Review
- "What's Happening in the Publishing World" by Jeff Baker, book editor for The Oregonian
- "Poetry of Place" by Michele Glazer, poet and associate professor at Portland State University

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- "How to Write the Weird" by Matt Schumacher of the college's English faculty and poetry editor of Phantom Drift
- "With Words From the Mouth of a Stranger" by Paulann Petersen

Workshops slated from 3-4:30 p.m. are:

- "Reading, Writing and Craft" by editor Ryan Davis and some of his Clackamas Literary Review authors
- "Author Marketing" by college alumni Therese Patrick and Morgan Kennedy
- "Memoir and Truthiness: Breaking Down Life" by Lidia Yuknavitch, author of "The Chronology of Water," which is a finalist for the Oregon Book Award.

Registration will begin at 9 a.m., but it is safer to reserve a seat by visiting:


For more information about the event, visit http://ccccreativewritingconference.wordpress.com or contact Ryan Davis at cir@clackamas.edu or 503-594-3238.

-- Vickie Kavanagh; 503-294-5913; or follow me on Twitter @okavkid

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If I wasn't already attending another conference, I would go simply for the joy of spending time writing and hearing from Paulann Petersen.