

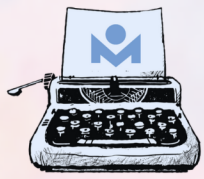




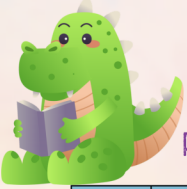
	Classroom AB	Classroom CD	Classroom EF	Classroom G	Auditorium	Friends Room
10-10:50		<p><b>AI and Writing</b> with Cameron Sutter </p> <p>Do you worry about AI stealing your work? Or using others' stolen work to help make your own? Or maybe you're gung-ho about using AI to help your novel-writing process? In this session, Cameron Sutter of Plottr will demystify the "AI" tools we have today and talk through the ethical dilemmas of using AI for writing novels. He will also share AI features being built into Plottr, but mostly it will be a casual, Q&amp;A session about all things AI.</p>	<p><b>Writing and Publishing Short Stories (and Getting Paid for Them!)</b> with Casie Bazay &amp; Annika Lewis</p> <p>Short stories are still based upon the same writing and plotting principles as novels. Learn how you can expand your writing chops by creating short stories in any genre, and how to find publishers that will pay you.</p>		<p><b>The Heart of The Story: Understanding Romance</b> with Maegan Abel, Jess Bryant, Collette Carmon, Sabrina A. Fish, Candace Kade &amp; Cecily Quinn</p> <p>Romance authors will provide a broad overview of the romance genre, the qualities that define it, and share about the subgenres they write. The rest of the panel is an open Q&amp;A for audience members to ask and gain multiple perspectives about writing romance.</p>	<p><b>Critique Partner Speed Networking</b> 9:30-10:45am</p> <p><b>PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED</b></p>
11-11:50	<p><b>See It / Say It: Balancing Dialogue and Action</b> with Zachary Scalzo</p> <p>In this presentation, a playwright and poet talk through how writers can balance what is said and what is shown in their work. Though we'll take playwrighting as our initial inspiration, we will discuss how these ideas can be applied across any kind of writing or hybrid form as you write and revise.</p>	<p><b>Screenwriting: Tips, Tricks, and Development</b> with Laron Chapman, Kyle Kauwika Harris &amp; Marcie Jackson</p> <p>Learn screenwriting tips and tricks like how to prepare before you start writing, how to develop compelling characters, resources to use for reference and what to do after you finish your screenplay.</p>	<p><b>Oklahoma Comic Book Scene</b> with Oklahoma Comic Arts Foundation</p> <p>We are in the midst of an explosion of locally created comics and graphic novels, with titles like Heathen, Kung Fu Legune, Knuckleheads, Glamorella's Daughter, and Rez Detective garnering national acclaim. What led to this surge in notoriety? Some of the state's most active creators will discuss why comic book stores across the US are paying attention to what's happening in Oklahoma.</p>	<p><b>The Art of Narrative Nonfiction and How To Pitch It</b> with Tiffany Yecke Brooks</p> <p>This session will explore different organizational and narrative structures for non-fiction books with an emphasis on memoir. Participants will discuss the standard components of a non-fiction book proposal that agents and publishers want to see.</p>	<p><b>Pub Talk: How to Choose a Publishing Path</b> with Lou Berney, Jeanne Devlin, Danielle Ellison &amp; Amy M. Le</p> <p>There are many ways to become a published author, but knowing your options is the first part of the journey. This opening session examines some pros and cons of each option and pulls back the curtain on the workings on publishing (including traditional, indie, hybrid, and doing it yourself.)</p>	<p><b>How to Write a Children's Book</b> with Mariana Llanos, Barbara Lowell, Brenda Maier, Gaye Sanders &amp; Kim Ventrella</p> <p>Have you always wanted to write a children's book? If so, join our panel of experts to learn more about writing and publishing books for kids, from picture books all the way up to middle grade novels.</p>
12-12:50	<p><b>Character Motivation</b> with Danielle Ellison</p> <p>Characters are the driving force of every story. If a character's motivation is unclear, then it can cause confusion or unease – for the reader AND the writer. This leads to over-plotting, getting stuck, feeling bored, and several other issues that equal you never finishing a draft. In this session you will learn a simple equation for developing clear character motivation and discover how this one element can completely transform your story.</p>	<p><b>Layer Your Scene</b> with Lori Freeland</p> <p>Do you have a scene that's just not working? Too much dialogue? Not enough action? Zero setting or internal thought? Knowing what you want to accomplish in the scene helps you be intentional about what you put on the page. Deliberately layering your scene helps make sure you include and balance the important elements of story-telling from the first line to the last.</p>	<p><b>For the Love of Comics</b> with Jerry Bennett</p> <p>Oklahoma graphic novelist Jerry Bennett will share his love of comics and graphic novels, first as a reader, then discovering how to create them, a process he tackles at length throughout this discussion. Q&amp;A will follow.</p>	<p><b>Oklahoma Folklore</b> with Jeff Provine</p> <p>Have you heard of the Spotlight or Dead Woman's Crossing? How about the Kitchen Lake Witch or the Chicken Man? Strange tales unfold all around Oklahoma, and folklorist Jeff Provine shares some of his favorites.</p>	<p><b>Pub Talk: Choosing the Traditional Publishing Path</b> with Casie Bazay, Barbara Lowell, Brenda Maier &amp; Kim Ventrella</p> <p>The traditional publishing path is full of ups and downs, and this panel of authors will have an open discussion about some of the pros and cons of traditional publishing. How do you get noticed, what does it take to succeed, and what to expect (or avoid) if you take this path to being published.</p>	<p><b>Begin Your Author Journey</b> with Draft2Digital</p> <p>Starting a publishing journey can be a daunting task if you don't know where to start, but it helps to begin your author career with support. Join us to learn how Draft2Digital has spent over a decade helping Indie Authors self-publish and share their stories with the world.</p>

# Program Schedule

	Classroom AB	Classroom CD	Classroom EF	Classroom G	Auditorium	Friends Room
1-1:50	<p><b>Crafting Cozy Mysteries</b> with Gena Showalter &amp; Jill Monroe</p> <p>Join two best selling authors as they dissect the creation of The Jane Laddling Mystery series, sharing secrets about how to build your own cozy mystery series.</p>	<p><b>Keeping Tropes Fresh</b> with Collette Carmon</p> <p>Tropes are the building blocks of romance, but how do you follow them and keep them fresh? This session will explore exactly that. Come ready to talk about tropes and explore how writers can turn traditional romance tropes on their head, while keeping the features that make them identifiable to readers.</p>	<p><b>So You Want To Be a Poet?</b> with Billie Bowen &amp; Ken Hada</p> <p>Get inspired by seasoned local poets Ken Hada and Billie Bowen, who will share their work, information about their poetic process, and answer audience questions.</p>	<p><b>Writing Award-Winning Picture Books</b> with Mariana Llanos (Bilingual session)</p> <p>This is a bilingual presentation about writing amazing picture books for kids. Ask questions (in English or Spanish) and get inspired to write your own award-winning tale!</p>	<p><b>Pub Talk: Choosing the Small/Indie Press Path</b> with Jeanne Devlin &amp; Charles Martin</p> <p>Why should you choose indie publishing? What can a small press offer you that a larger one can't? Indie publishing has entered a golden era and these answers could surprise you. If you've got a passion for books and want to work in the industry or even start your own imprint, come learn some helpful tricks of the trade from the creative director of Literati Press and the founder of The RoadRunner Press.</p>	<p><b>Writing For Teens</b> with Casie Bazay, Lori Freeland, Christy Harrill, Candace Kade &amp; Jes McCutchen</p> <p>Five Young Adult authors will discuss how they come up with ideas for younger readers, why they enjoy writing for teens, how to write authentic teen voices, how to perfect your craft for this ever-changing audience, and MORE.</p> <p>Q&amp;A time will be included.</p>
2-2:50	<p><b>All Write Already</b> with Gena Showalter &amp; Jill Monroe</p> <p>Do you dream of being a published author? In this presentation, two best selling authors with over a hundred published books between them will share tried and true tips to help you write and edit a novel in a year at a manageable pace.</p>	<p><b>Ink &amp; Draw</b> with Literati Press (Ages 12-18)</p> <p>For over eight years, comic book writers and illustrators have been gathering at Literati Press Bookshop on Sundays to draw, talk superheroes, and offer advice and praise for each other's work. Come draw with Ink &amp; Draw's mentors and dip into the exciting world of comic creation.</p>		<p><b>First Pages and Opening Scenes</b> with Barbara Lowell</p> <p>Hooking your readers right away is as important in children's books – from board books, to picture books, to novels, to nonfiction – as it is for writers of books for adult readers. Learn how in this talk that uses the best examples from children's authors.</p>	<p><b>Pub Talk: Choosing the Self-Publishing Path</b> with Dee Britt, Maurice Johnson, Amy M. Le, Mark McCraw &amp; Katrina Schroeder</p> <p>Self-publishing used to be a dirty word, but it, just like all other paths, is a valid one for many authors. In this panel, industry professionals will highlight their own journeys, answer the tough questions, share the triumphs and heartaches of choosing to publish your own work and how to find success as a self-published author.</p>	<p><b>Plottr Like a Pro</b> with Cameron Sutter </p> <p>The creator of Plottr (and local writer) will show you how to use this popular visual book-planning tool to write better stories in less time and have more fun. It will include a demo and show how Plottr can help you visualize your book and series arcs, track your characters, avoid plot holes, and accelerate your writing process. The best part? It works for pantsers, too!</p>
3-3:50		<p><b>More Than a Mary Sue: Making Original Characters</b> with Nell Johnson &amp; Annika Lewis (Ages 12 - 18)</p> <p>We've all read stories or fanfiction with <i>flat</i> characters. Which is great for some <i>Flat Stanley</i> fic, but what can you do to expand your character's personality? How can you make your OC a living, breathing person? Come to this session ready to flesh out one of your OCs—or make a new one!</p>	<p><b>Promoting Your Books on Podcasts</b> with J Hall</p> <p>Most authors didn't sign up to be marketing experts, but that's what's required. In this interactive session, you'll learn about using podcast appearances to promote your book to listeners all over the world. We'll walk through pitching to podcasters and everything you need to know about appearing on podcasts to give you a new set of tools for your marketing toolkit.</p>	<p><b>Spec Fic in the Sooner State</b> with Heather Daugherty &amp; Joshua Loyd Fox</p> <p>Oklahoma authors discuss the process of writing and selling speculative fiction, including horror, fantasy, and beyond.</p>	<p><b>Basics of Worldbuilding</b> with Rachel Vincent</p> <p>Learn the basics of worldbuilding in sci-fi and fantasy from a New York Times Bestselling author of over thirty novels.</p>	<p><b>Critique Partner Speed Networking</b> 3pm - 4pm</p> <p>Sign up during LitFest at the registration table. Space is limited.</p>



# LitFest Kids!



## Programs for CHILDREN

Downstairs: Children's Castle Room	
10-10:50	<p><b>Character Building for Kids</b> with Mariana Llanos (Bilingual session)</p> <p>Join award-winning author Mariana Llanos for a fun writing workshop for kids focused on building characters.</p>
11-11:50	<p><b>Storytime</b></p> <p>Join a librarian for a special storytime that explores creativity!</p>
12-12:50	<p><b>Young Writers Workshop: Plot Your Story</b> with Gaye Sanders</p> <p>Join author and educator Gaye Sanders for an interactive workshop for kids all about plotting stories!</p>



## Programs for TEENS (ages 12-18)

Classroom CD	
2-2:50	<p><b>Ink &amp; Draw</b> with Literati Press</p> <p>For over eight years, comic book writers and illustrators have been gathering at Literati Press Bookshop on Sundays to draw, talk superheroes, and offer advice and praise for each other's work. Come draw with Ink &amp; Draw's mentors and dip into the exciting world of comic creation.</p>
3-3:50	<p><b>More Than a Mary Sue: Making Original Characters</b> with Nell Johnson &amp; Annika Lewis</p> <p>We've all read stories or fanfiction with <i>flat</i> characters. Which is great for some <i>Flat Stanley</i> fic, but what can you do to expand your character's personality? How can you make your OC a living, breathing person? Come to this session ready to flesh out one of your OCs—or make a new one!</p>

Are you a writer looking for a critique partner or beta reader and you just don't know where to start?

## Critique Partner Speed Networking

Pre-register for a bonus session at 9:30am.  
Space is limited.



scan to sign up  
or visit  
[metrolibrary.org/litfest](http://metrolibrary.org/litfest)

A second session is from 3-4pm that will be first come, first serve sign up during LitFest

Two lucky raffle winners at Litfest will receive a **FREE** one year subscription to Plottr.



Earn up to **three extra entries** to this grand prize by attending a Plottr session and/or visiting their booth! Look for the logo to find their session

Sign up with this QR code for email alerts about upcoming library events for writers!

