

Major Morning Tracks & Faculty



TEENS: 21 Ways to Write a Successful Novel Before You Turn 21

Instructor: Bryan Davis, Fiction Freelancer, Western Tennessee

Bryan Davis is the author of the Dragons in Our Midst and Oracles of Fire series, Contemporary/fantasy books for young adults. Eye of the Oracle launched the Oracles of Fire series and hit number one on the CBA Young Adult best-seller list. He is also the author of several non-fiction books for fathers and husbands, and four Arch Books for children.

Bryan was our Teen Track instructor in 2007 and stayed up until all hours of the night working with the teens on their works in progress. They loved him! Your teen will, too.

Bryan lives in Western Tennessee with his wife, Susie, and their children.



INTERNET MARKETING:

Build a Sturdy Platform...on the Internet

Instructor: Laura Christianson, Owner, Blogging Bistro, Snohomish, WA

Your best friend snaps a photo of you wearing a t-shirt with a picture of your book cover on it. You e-mail the photo to five friends, who blog and tweet about it, and post your photo on their Facebook pages. You've just experienced viral marketing – a force that's infecting everyone from solopreneurs to mega-corporations. During this hands-on course, you'll shape a social media strategy that reflects your divine design; create an Internet profile with pizzazz, and practice writing search engine-friendly content. Bring your laptop and learn firsthand how online relationship-building will boost your visibility and credibility.



FICTION: The Sophisticated Novelist

Instructor: Angela Hunt, Freelance Novelist, Seminole, FL

Angela Hunt, who recently handed in her 117th title, begins with the big picture and covers everything from plotting, characterization, setting, theme, voice, self-editing, organization, scheduling, computer programs, agents, marketing, critique groups, writing for the Christian AND general markets, and anything else you want to know. Come prepared to laugh, take notes, sing, dance, and analyze your own work in progress. Extra credit for anyone who shows up with an extra Diet Coke for the thirsty instructor.



NARRATIVE NON-FICTION:

The God's Honest Truth: How to Write and Sell Creative Nonfiction

Instructor: Lynn Vincent, Author, Senior Writer, WORLD Magazine, San Diego, CA

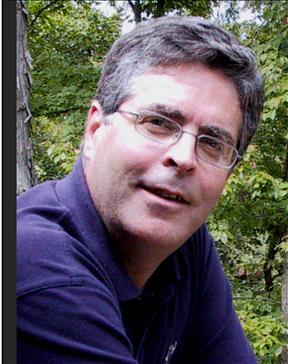
Black Hawk Down, Going Rogue, The Perfect Storm, Same Kind of Different as Me. Publishers—and Hollywood—love narrative nonfiction! Categories within the genre include memoir, as well as first- and third-person narratives of true stories about everything from transformational personal relationships and survival stories to celebrity biographies and military epics. New York Times bestselling writer Lynn Vincent will teach you how to identify great dramatic nonfiction ideas, then craft and sell such stories, both in book length and article form.



DEEPER: Exploring the Spiritual Life of the Writer

Instructor: Steve Laube, President & Agent, The Steve Laube Agency, Phoenix, AZ

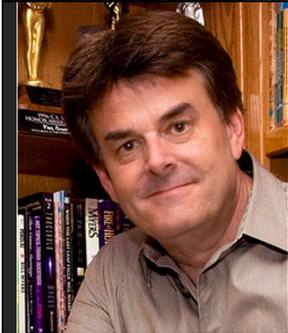
The life of a writer can be a lonely pursuit. At times, after pouring out one's soul onto the page, there is little left in the well. This is a workshop for both writers and editors whose hearts long to walk more intimately with God and draw from the riches of that relationship. We will be exploring the themes of who is this God we serve?, the spirituality of waiting, the hunger for more, the pain found in a vulnerable writer's soul, the sacredness of the written word, the power of the written word, the tension between marketing and ministry and how to maintain both and sustain a life that attempts to plumb the depths of God. A spiritual retreat within the conference.



EXTREME MAKEOVER: Article Edition

Instructor: Doug Newton, Senior Editor, *Light & Life*, Indianapolis, IN

Learn how to be a much better writer by looking over an editor's shoulder and participating in a total rewrite of an actual non-fiction article. Follow the rewrite from the point of submission to its completion for publication. In the process you'll learn about leads, takeaways, logical organization, construction and focus, meaningful use of research and quotations, self-editing, style and voice. One of the value-added benefits of this seminar is that conferees go home with a unique color-coded, side by side, before and after version of the article as a handy reference tool.



CHILDREN'S BOOKS: Writing For Today's Kids

Instructor: Bill Myers, Freelance writer/producer, Thousand Oaks, CA

Together with award winning author of over 70 children's books, films, TV and radio shows, we'll explore how to reach today's child and teen, create characters they will remember, create unforgettable plots, incorporate comedy, preach without getting caught, and market your work.



THE FICTION WRITER'S TOOLBOX

Instructor: Lauraine Snelling, Freelance Novelist, Tehachapi, CA

Having the proper tools makes any project easier, the same with writing. The tools in the Writer's Toolbox include character charts and exercises that yield exciting characters and effective dialogue; nailing a point of view; GMC is not a truck, but Goal, Motivation, Conflict; hammering out a plot; blueprints for a setting; band-aids to cure first chapter-itis. Plan on a hands on approach to this track.



SPECULATIVE/SI-FI/FANTASY:

Writing & Selling Christian Speculative Fiction

Instructor: Jeff Gerke, Owner, Marche Lord Press, Author, Colorado Springs, CO

Jeff Gerke has been called the de facto gatekeeper of Christian science fiction and fantasy. From his own published fiction to his days at three major Christian publishing companies to his current endeavor as publisher of Marche Lord Press, Jeff has been an unfailing champion of Christian speculative fiction. The weird stuff. Come learn from Jeff what are the distinctives of writing this kind of fiction and, perhaps more importantly, what are the current publishing prospects for writing fiction that takes us beyond the edge of the map.



**WRITERS LIFE OF SPEAKING:
Enhance Your Word of Mouth...By Standing on Your Feet**

Instructor: Glenna Salsbury, Paradise Valley, AZ

Come discover the art of holding any audience in the palm of your hand! Learn how to tell spellbinding stories that reveal the heart of your writing and capture the imagination of your readers through your spoken word! You will actually practice standing on your feet and presenting your message to a live audience—your peers! You will discover a powerful formula that will help you organize your written message into a gripping presentation, easily and quickly. Glenna has been a professional speaker for three decades. Known for her humor and high energy, she opens exciting doors for you to bring the heart of your message to the ears of your audience.



PAINLESS, PURPOSEFUL PUBLICITY

Instructor: Rebeca Seitz, President, Glass Road Public Relations, Fulton, KY

“You have to promote yourself.” “You’ll need to promote your book.” “You can’t rely on your publisher to do all the promotion.” They’re right—but you should also know promotion doesn’t have to be painful! Learning literary publicity can be a fun challenge, even for the person who would rather drink four gallons of castor oil than sit in front of a TV camera talking about themselves. A world of possibilities awaits every personality type, from newspapers to radio, television to book clubs, churches to Facebook, and all points in between. This track will help you learn what literary publicity is, what it is *not*, and which elements you can use to comfortably apply a powerful publicity plan to your published (or “to be published”) writing.

Intermediate Mentoring Track: Fiction



Gayle Roper, Chairman, Freelance Novelist, Coatesville, PA

Gayle Roper has authored more than 45 books. She has won the RITA Award and finished repeatedly in the Christys. She has won the Holt Medallion three times and twice her titles have won Book of the Year honors from American Christian Fiction Writers. Several writers conferences including Mount Hermon have cited her for her contributions to the training of writers. She has been chair of the Major Morning Mentoring program at Mount Hermon Writers Conference since its inception.



James Scott Bell, Suspense Freelancer, Woodland Hills, CA

James Scott Bell is the bestselling author of *Deceived*, *Try Dying*, *Try Darkness*, *Try Fear*, *The Whole Truth*, *No Legal Grounds*, *Presumed Guilty*, *Glimpses of Paradise*, *Breach of Promise* and several other thrillers. He is a winner of the Christy Award for Excellence (suspense category), and has been a finalist for the award in the historical category. He has served as the fiction columnist for Writers Digest magazine and has written two bestselling craft books in the Writers Digest series, *Write Great Fiction: Plot & Structure* and *Revision & Self-Editing*.



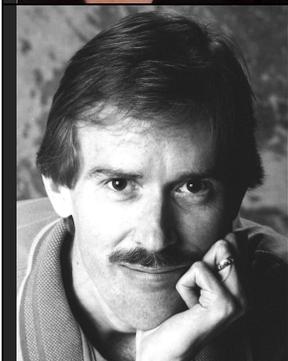
Brandilyn Collins, Thriller Freelancer, Redwood City, CA

Brandilyn Collins is a best-selling novelist known for her trademark Seatbelt Suspense®. She is also known for her distinctive book on fiction-writing techniques, *Getting Into Character: Seven Secrets a Novelist Can Learn From Actors* (John Wiley & Sons). To date she has written 21 books. Brandilyn is a frequent teacher at writers conferences.



Mary DeMuth, Freelancer, Rockwall, TX

Author of three parenting books, four novels, and a memoir, Mary E. DeMuth helps folks turn their trials into triumphs. Mary has spoken at several national writers conferences and has had the privilege of teaching in the US, Europe, and Africa for various churches and church planting ministries. She's appeared on national TV in Canada, and WFAA's Good Morning Texas. Mary and her husband, Patrick, reside in Rockwall, Texas with their three children.



Randy Ingermanson, Freelancer, Battle Ground, WA

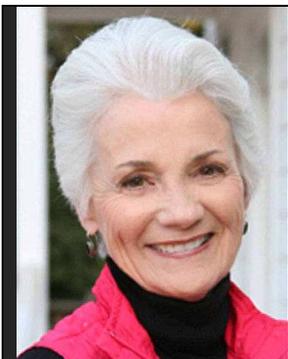
Randy Ingermanson was both the class nerd and class clown. He is the award-winning author of six novels and publishes the Advanced Fiction Writing E-Zine, the largest electronic magazine in the world on how to write fiction. Randy has won about a dozen awards for his writing, has earned a PhD in theoretical physics from UC Berkeley, serves as director of software engineering for Vala Sciences, Inc., sits on the advisory board of American Christian Fiction Writers, and hopes to someday figure out what he wants to do with his life. He lives in southern Washington state with his wife and three daughters. His most recent book is *Writing Fiction for Dummies*.



John Olson, Freelancer: San Leandro, CA

John B. Olson is a novelist who lives with his wife Amy and two children in San Leandro, CA. John earned a PhD in biochemistry from the UW Madison and did postdoctoral research at UC San Francisco. His books have won several awards, including a Christy Award, two Christy finalists, ForeWord Magazine Book of the Year, ACFW Suspense Book of the Year, a Silver Angel award, and a placement on the New York Public Library's *Books for the Teen Age*. See John's website at www.litany.com

Intermediate Mentoring Track: Non-Fiction



Karen O'Connor, Chairman; Freelancer, Watsonville, CA

Karen O'Connor is an award-winning author of 60 books for children and adults, a popular speaker and writing mentor. Karen was named Writer of the Year for 1997 by the San Diego Christian Writers Guild, in 2002 she received the Special Recognition Award at the Mount Hermon Christian Writers Conference for writing and mentoring and in 2005 she accepted the International Reading Association Award for her article for children on Kurdish refugees.



Joseph Bentz, Freelancer, Southern California

Joseph Bentz's most recent book, *God in Pursuit: The Tipping Points from Doubt to Faith*, is scheduled for release in March of 2010. He is also the author of *When God Takes Too Long*, *Silent God*, and four novels. He has also published dozens of articles and book reviews. Joe is professor of English at Azusa Pacific University, where he teaches courses in writing and American literature. More information about his books and speaking can be found at www.josephbentz.com.



Kay Marshall Strom, Freelancer, Eugene, OR

Kay Marshall Strom is an award-winning author of 36 books, both fiction and non-fiction. She has also written numerous articles, two prize-winning screenplays, and has contributed to many larger projects, including several of the NIV devotional Bibles. Kay is also a popular speaker. More and more, her writing and speaking take her around the world as well as around the country.

The intermediate mentoring clinics, held each day during the major morning tracks, are by application only & limited to ten writers per group. The goal is to give novelists and nonfiction writers concentrated time for having their works-in-progress critiqued in a knowledgeable, sympathetic, but realistic manner.

- For an official fiction application form, contact Gayle Roper at gayle@gayleroper.com
- For those interested in nonfiction, write for an official application form to Karen@KarenOconnor.com.

Career Track for Professional Writers



Career Track Team:

Karen Ball, B&H Publishing Group; **Janet Kobobel Grant**, Agent, Books & Such Literary Agency; **Wendy Lawton**, Agent, Books & Such Literary Agency; **Sally Stuart**, Christian Writers' Market Guide

By application only

You must complete an application to be a part of the Career Track. The focus of the Career Track is book publishing, marketing, and career development.

Criteria:

1. Must be registered for the 2010 conference.
2. Must have at least two books contracted with royalty-based publishers.
3. One of those books must have been released within the last 5 years.
4. You must complete the application form and return it to be eligible for this track (under "forms").
5. If you don't meet this criteria exactly, but would like to participate, apply, and we will consider your application on its merits.

Note: Torn between the Career Track and another of Mount Hermon's excellent morning tracks? Well, here's the good news--all of the other morning tracks are recorded! (We don't record the Career Track to ensure confidentiality when we discuss sensitive issues.) So come join us, free from any worry about missing out. All the information you want and need from the other tracks will be available to you on CDs or MP3's. Go to the OT Studios desk in Hospitality for information.

APPLICATION FOR CAREER TRACK

Deadline for applying is February 15, 2010

Application form under www.mounthermon.org/writers/forms and "Career Track":

Fill out and e-mail it as an attachment to STUARTcwmg@aol.com by February 15,

OR print out and mail to Sally Stuart, 1647 SW Pheasant Dr., Aloha OR 97006

to arrive no later than February 15.

Notification of acceptance will be sent February 18, 2010

