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**WYO-WRITER Vol. 45 No. 1**

3 messages

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**Wyoming Writers, Inc.** <WyomingWritersInc@wildapricot.org>  
Reply-To: "Wyoming Writers, Inc." <wyowriters@gmail.com>  
To: Alyss Smith <alyss@presencesocialmedia.com>

Fri, Feb 15, 2019 at 8:31 AM

WYO-WRITER FEBRUARY 2019 VOL. 45 NO. 1



# WYO-WRITER

February 2019 Vol. 45 No. 1

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## Official Newsletter of Wyoming Writers, Inc.

### MEET THE FACULTY FOR WYOMING WRITERS CONFERENCE 2019

By Kathy Bjornestad, Vice President

Get ready for a fantastic Wyoming Writers Conference June 7-9 at the Gateway Center in Laramie, Wyoming. The Center is new and gorgeous, set against the backdrop of the Snowy Range. Our faculty is diverse and will represent genres and topics that should appeal to a wide range of attendees. I hope you will find inspiration and new knowledge by joining their sessions. What follows are detailed biographies of our presenters:

#### **Banquet Keynote Speaker and Session Presenter Brad Watson**



Brad Watson is professor and director for the UW Creative Writing Program. He was born in Meridian, Mississippi and has lived in Laramie and taught at UW since 2005. He was on the faculty of The University of Alabama and Harvard University, and has been writer-in-residence at The University of Mississippi and The University of California-Irvine. He worked as a newspaper reporter and editor before publishing his first book, *Last Days of the Dog-Men* in 1996. Brad's work has been honored by The American Academy of Arts

and Letters, The National Endowment of the Arts, and The Guggenheim Foundation. His first novel, *The Heaven of Mercury*, was a finalist for The National Book Award in 2002, and winner of the Southern Book Critics Circle Award in Fiction. *Miss Jane* was one of ten semi-finalist for The National Book Award in 2016. His books have also been published abroad in the UK, France, Poland, Holland, Germany, Turkey, India, and China. You can read more [www.wiltonbradwatson.com](http://www.wiltonbradwatson.com).

## Opening Keynote Speakers and Session Presenters Tasha Alexander and Andrew Grant

**Tasha is** the daughter of two philosophy professors and grew up surrounded by books. Convinced from an early age that she was born in the wrong century, she spent much of her childhood under the dining room table pretending it was a covered wagon. Never without a book in hand, she loved reading and history more than anything. Tasha studied English Literature and Medieval History at the University of Notre Dame. Her first novel, *And Only to Deceive*, was published in 2005. She is the author of the long-running Lady Emily Series as well as the novel, *Elizabeth: The Golden Age*.



Ever the nomad, Tasha has lived in Indiana, Amsterdam, London, Vermont, Connecticut, and Tennessee before settling down in Wyoming with her husband, the brilliant British novelist Andrew Grant.

Andrew was born in Birmingham, England. He graduated in English Literature and Drama from the University of Sheffield, ran an independent theatre company, then fell into the telecommunications industry. Fifteen years later he escaped and established himself as the author of the critically-acclaimed novels *Even*, *Die Twice*, *More Harm Than Good*, *RUN*, *FalsePositive*, *False Friend*, and *False Witness*. His latest thriller — *Invisible* — was published in January 2019.

Tasha and Andrew are married and live on a nature preserve in southeast Wyoming.

**Nonfiction Specialist, Author, and Educator**

**Page Lambert**



Author of the Wyoming memoir *In Search of Kinship*, and the Wyoming historical novel, *Shifting Stars*, Page Lambert is an advisor for the Rocky Mountain Land Library, member of the International League of Conservation Writers, Colorado Authors' League, and a longtime member of Wyoming Writers. She has been writing about the western landscape and leading nature retreats in the West for twenty-one years, including the Literature & Landscape of the Horse retreat held at the Vee Bar Guest Ranch near Laramie. A founding member of Women Writing the West, her writing can be found inside monumental sculptures at the Denver Art Museum, online at Huffington Post, and inside the pages of dozens of anthologies. Recently published works include "Not for Sale" (*Landscape Magazine*, 2018), "The Rural West" (*The Light Shines from the West*, Fulcrum Books, 2018), and

"Deerstalking" (*Memoir Magazine*, Guns and People Issue, 2018). New works are also included in *Dovetails: Writing for Peace* (2018), and *WAVES: A Confluence of Women's Voices* (A Room of Her Own Foundation, 2019). A recipient of two Literary Fellowships from the Wyoming Arts Council, Page designs and teaches graduate writing courses for the University of Denver's Professional Creative Writing Master's Program. She writes the blog *All Things Literary/All Things Natural* from her mountain home west of Denver, Colorado.



### **Poet Laureate and Director of Your Writing Counts**

### **Jovan Mays**

Jovan Mays is the emeritus Poet Laureate of Aurora, Colorado, a National Poetry Slam Champion, TED Speaker, the Youth Voice Coordinator of Aurora Public Schools, and Director of Your Writing Counts; a youth poetry program throughout the Denver Metro that engages just over 200,000 students annually. Author of three books: *Pride*, *The Great Box Escape* and *This Is Your Song*, Mays' work has been published by *The Pilgrimage*, *Button Poetry* and *Write About Now*. He is a graduate of Chadron State College where he played football, wrestled, and earned a degree in Secondary History Education.

### **Editor and Owner of *Down & Out Books***



## Eric Campbell

Eric Campbell is the founder and publisher of Down & Out Books. After spending twenty-five years in healthcare finance, Eric started Down & Out Books as an avenue to help develop and build "lost" authors. Since then, the company has published over 400 books and is home to several imprints including All

Due Respect, Shotgun Honey and ABC Documentation. Down & Out, from Tampa, FL specializes in crime, thriller and suspense. Eric will be taking pitches.



## Agent Stephanie Hansen of Metamorphosis Literary Agency

Stephanie represents debut to New York Times bestselling authors. She's signed authors with small



presses to major publishing house distribution. She holds a master's degree and Creative Writing Specialization. Predominately she represents YA SF/F but has a secret addiction for romance. While these are her favorite, she handles everything fiction from children's books to adult thrillers. Previously an editor for Mind's Eye Literary Magazine, she became a part of Metamorphosis July 2016. Originally looking to help Midwest authors garner the attention of major

publishing houses, despite residing in "flyover states," she found camaraderie with multiple agents and editors. Stephanie will be taking pitches.

## Angie Hodapp, Director of Literary Development for the Kristen Nelson Literary Agency and Session Presenter

Angie Hodapp holds a BA in English and secondary education and an MA in English and communication development, and she is a graduate of the Denver Publishing Institute at the University of Denver. She has worked in publishing and professional writing, in one form or another, for seventeen years and is currently the Director of Literary Development at Nelson Literary Agency. She loves helping authors hone their craft and learn about the ever-changing business of publishing. Angie will be accepting pitches on behalf of all her agents in most genres with the exception of memoir, cozy mysteries, screenplays or scripts, short-story collections, poetry, or Christian/inspirational.



2019 Conference registration opens online March 1. Brochures will be sent to all members in April.

### 2019 WWI AWARDS

By John Gutiérrez, Awards and Scholarships Chairman

Nominations are now open for the four major awards of WW, Inc. and will be accepted through April 30, 2019. All nominations must come from current WW, Inc. members.

There are two (2) awards which recognize and honor contribution and service:

**The Emmie Mygatt Award** (one award) is given to a WW, Inc. Member for outstanding service to the organization in honor and in memory of one of WW, Inc. founders. Past recipients and the outgoing president of WW, Inc. are ineligible for this award. The nomination must include a letter explaining why the nominee deserves the award.

**The Arizola Magnenat Award** (one award) is given to any adult, organization, business, or other entity that has provided special encouragement and motivation to writers. If you know an adult, organization, business, or other entity that has given much encouragement and motivation to writers, they would be eligible for the Arizola Magnenat Award.

There are two (2) awards which recognize and honor individual achievement and are self-nominated:

**The Western Horizon Award** (multiple awards possible) recognizes a writer's first major work published between May 2018 and May 2019. For a first book, include the title, ISBN, the

publisher, and the publication date. The book must have an ISBN to qualify for this award. For a first article/story/essay/poem in a major publication, include the title of the work, the name of the periodical and the date of publication. The periodical must be national or literary and have a subscriber base. Past recipients are ineligible for this award.

**The Milestone Award** (multiple awards possible) recognizes published writers for ongoing achievements of personal significance in their writing careers. Submissions should succinctly express the breadth and depth of their writing career and include an explanation of what specific events took place that launched the milestone.

\*Nominee must be a current member of WW, Inc.

\*\*Nominee does not have to be a member of WW, Inc.

Submit your nominations via email to John R. Gutiérrez at: [wyowriters@gmail.com](mailto:wyowriters@gmail.com) with the subject line "WWI AWARD NOMINATION" or via snail mail to John R. Gutiérrez, [7591 Rimrock Drive, Gillette, WY 82718](#). Nominations by mail must be postmarked no later than April 30, 2019. Any questions, please call John at 307-257-7455.

**Awards will be presented at the 45th Annual WW, Inc. Conference**

**Saturday, June 8 at the Gateway Center in Laramie, WY.**

## **2019 EMMIE MYGATT MEMORIAL CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIP**

Submit your application for a scholarship to pay the registration fee for the 2019 Wyoming Writers, Inc. Conference, June 7-9, 2019 in Laramie, WY. Provide details in the our [online application](#) setting out your writing goals and your financial need. Applications must be submitted by May 1 and recipients will be announced by May 15, 2019. Scholarship recipients are responsible for the cost of their transportation to the conference, and their lodging. Scholarships are open to members and non-members, students and seniors. Click the button below to access the online application:

Scholarship Application

## **2019 WRITING CONTEST**

Darrah J. Perez is the 2019 Writing Contest Chariman. She is a Wyoming writer and author who is currently pursuing a degree in communications and psychology at Central Wyoming College. Upon completion, she will transfer to the University of Wyoming where she will join the Wyoming Public Radio team as an intern. Darrah is very excited to be involved in her first year helping with the writing contest and is greatly looking forward to meeting and reading from writers in all genres.



Opened February 1

**Eligibility:** Open to all writers at any level.  
Fee per entry: \$15.

Include \$20 with entry fee for 1-Year  
Membership in WWI.

**Categories:**

1) Adult Fiction (3500-word limit; short fiction, novel segments, scripts with treatments; maximum of 3 entries; one fee per entry.)

2) Fiction for Children and Young Adults

(3500-word limit; max. 3 entries; one fee per entry.)

3) Non-fiction (3500-word limit; memoir, opinion/essay, creative non-fiction, historical monograph; max. 3 entries; one fee per entry.)

4) Poetry (*One poetry "entry" may consist of a maximum of 3 distinct poems, 1 poem per page.*)

Traditional poetry (maximum of 3 entries).

Free verse poetry (maximum of 3 entries).

**Awards/Prizes:**

First Place (all categories) \$50

Second Place (all categories) \$30

Third Place (all categories) \$20

Wyoming Writers, Inc. retains the right to not award all prizes.

Honorable mentions are at the judges' discretion. There are no ties in this contest.

All winners receive certificates which will be awarded with prize money at the Wyoming Writers Inc. Annual Conference Awards Lunch on Saturday, June 6, 2019. If winners are unable to attend, award payments and certificates will be mailed following the conclusion of the Conference.

All winners will receive a citation (Author, title, category) in WYO-Writers Newsletter and on the Wyoming Writers, Inc. website. Winners in each category *may* be asked to submit an excerpt or promotional "blurb," for publication in the newsletter or website.

**Qualifications:**

- Your original unpublished work, your sole and exclusive property.
- Does not violate any copyright, trademark, privacy or publicity right.
- No simultaneous submissions.

- Entrant retains copyright of his/her work/entry.
- Format:
- Print work on 8.5 X 11 inch white paper.
- Use standard (e.g. Arial, NY Times) 12 point font, double spaced.
- One inch margin minimum.
- Poetry: one poem, one page; may use various spacing.
- No fancy fonts; no colors.

**Entry fees/ restrictions:**

Fee per entry: \$15 for members and non-members

Submission of work to contest confers permission and authorization to publish winning title and author's name in Wyoming Writers, Inc. website and newsletter.

Contestants may submit in multiple categories.

Nonmembers welcome! \$15 per entry (For an introductory one year membership to Wyoming Writers, Inc. add \$20 to any entry fee.).

All checks/ money orders payable in U. S. currency to **Wyoming Writers, Inc.**

**Refunds:**

No refunds for disqualified or withdrawn entries.

**How to Enter:**

1. Submit one hard copy of each entry; do not staple; use only paper clips if necessary.
2. Place title and page number on each page in header or footer.
3. Author's name must not appear anywhere on work to be judged.
4. Include a cover page for each entry: category, title, word count; author's name, address, phone number and email address. Cover sheet for poetry may contain up to 3 titles.
5. Attach check made payable to **Wyoming Writers, Inc.**
6. Mail entries to: Wyoming Writers, Inc., P.O. Box 454, Riverton, WY 82501

No entries will be returned.

**Judging:**

- Judges will receive materials without identifying information.
- All judges' decisions are final.

**Notification and Public Announcement:**

- Winners are notified by email.
- Winners will be contacted for biographical material to accompany announcement of awards.
- If entrant does not have email, include a stamped, self-addressed postcard in order to be notified.
- Winners will be announced at the annual Wyoming Writers Inc. conference on June 8, 2019.

**Deadlines:** All submissions must be postmarked by March 15, 2019. Winners will be notified by May 1, 2019.

Any questions, please contact Darrah Perez, 2019 Writing Contest Chairman at [wyowriters@gmail.com](mailto:wyowriters@gmail.com) using the subject line "WRITING CONTEST".

**Want to help spread the word about the 2019 Writing Contest? Print out copies of the flyer and hang them around your town!**

## 2019 Writing Contest Flyer

### MEMBER NEWS

#### Betsy Bernfeld

Betsy will be presenting a poetry writing workshop this summer as part of the Grand Teton Association's Art in the Environment: Perspectives in Place program. The two-hour workshop, "Narrative Poetry: A Walk in the Park," is free and will be held on Saturday, July 7, 9:00-11:00 a.m., at Mormon Row in Grand Teton National Park. Take a walk along "the Row" with Betsy and experiment with weaving nature into your personal narrative. More information available at [www.grandtetonassociation.org](http://www.grandtetonassociation.org).

#### Gene Gagliano

Gene received a book contract from Crystal Publishing for his new middle grade fiction book titled *Snap*, which should be released this spring. He did a Skype for Book Talk Radio in December, and a short clip for Good Morning America's celebrate Fettuccine Alfredo Day. Gene will give a poetry reading to the legislature and at the Governor's Arts Awards. In support of Buffalo's Hospice Variety Show fundraiser, Gene in wig and costume, performed as Sonny Bono with Cher singing "I Got You Babe" along with a dialog. He will be giving several middle school presentations, a writing workshop, and a poetry reading at the Buffalo Senior Center later this February.

#### Michael Gear

So far in 2019, W. Michael Gear has had three books released from three different publishers. His western novel, [FLIGHT OF THE HAWK](#), was released in January, and in February two paperbacks came out, his science fiction novel, [OUTPOST](#), and his Civil War novel, [THIS SCORCHED EARTH](#).

#### Cornelius F. Kelly

On Friday, February 8, Cornelius was awarded five gold medals for first places in swimming events in the Wyoming Senior Winter Games. He is a Wyoming poet.

#### John D. Nesbitt

John is happy to announce the release of a CD of western songs written by John and recorded by the great W.C. Jameson. The CD is entitled *In a Large and Lonesome Land*, and it has received very nice reviews from listeners and DJ's. To order or download, follow this [link](#). To listen to complete songs, click [here](#).

Also new from John D. Nesbitt is *Shaping the Story*, an introduction to writing fiction, published by Sundown Press. The book covers many aspects of short story and novel writing, and it has a small anthology of traditional stories to illustrate many of the points made in the chapters. To see a listing, visit this [page](#).

### Dean Peterson

Since the first of last October Dean has been [podcasting his novella "Anna Schutz" chapter by chapter each week as a free audio book](#).

"Anna Schutz" is the story of a suicidal private stationed in Germany whose depression leads him to see the ghosts of people who were on his post during WWII, including the white clad apparition of young woman often seen running through the fog. After falling in love with her, the soldier is led to a warren of tunnels under his barracks and a forgotten clinic once used by the Nazi's where he tries to solve her murder.

He has released a [video](#) about how his own time in Germany on an Army post still riddled with old Nazi junk and local ghost stories, led him to write the story. You can listen to the audio book on [Podbean](#), [YouTube](#), or [iTunes](#).

### Randi Samuelson-Brown

Randi signed a contract with TwoDot for the *Bad Old Days of Colorado*. It will be coming out spring 2020.

## MARKETS

By Abbie Johnson Taylor

Wyoming Writers, Inc. does not endorse any publications mentioned here. Please read all guidelines carefully before submitting. If possible, it's always a good idea to read at least one issue of a magazine to get more of an idea of the type of work they publish. Some publications have online editions and back issues available for purchase.

The Wyoming Arts Council is now accepting manuscripts for its 2019 **Neltje Blanchan Memorial Award**. A thousand dollars is awarded annually for the best poetry, fiction, nonfiction, or script that is informed by a relationship with the natural world. You're eligible if you've published no more than one book in the genre you wish to enter and are not a student or faculty member.

There's no entry fee, and the deadline is March 11<sup>th</sup>. For guidelines and to submit, visit <https://wyomingartscouncil.submittable.com/submit/126432/2019-neltje-blanchan-memorial-writing-award>.

The Wyoming Arts Council is also sponsoring **The Pattie Laysen Greater Yellowstone Creative Writing and Journalism Fellowship**. Writers and journalists are welcome to enter, and pieces must be about science, education, conservation, and other topics related to the greater Yellowstone area. Again, there's no entry fee, and the deadline here is March 15<sup>th</sup>. Work must be submitted online at <https://wyomingartscouncil.submittable.com/submit>.

*The Colorado Review* is now sponsoring its annual **Nelligan Prize for Short Fiction**. Your story could win as much as \$2,000 and be published in the fall/winter issue. The entry fee is \$15.00, and there's a \$2.00 processing charge if you submit online. The deadline is March 14<sup>th</sup>. For more information, visit <https://nelliganprize.submittable.com/submit>.

**Flashes** is a website that publishes fiction, nonfiction, poetry and flash fiction. They're looking for previously unpublished work, but pieces self-published on blogs and note boards are also

welcome. Work must be submitted by email, and they cannot offer payment at this time. For more information, visit <https://www.flashesofbrilliance.org/submissions/>.

***Deep Wild Journal: Writing from the Backcountry***, is now accepting submissions of poetry, fiction and nonfiction for its inaugural issue, to be published this summer. The mission of *Deep Wild* is to provide a forum for the best writing we can find that conjures the experiences, observations, and insights of backcountry journeys. By “backcountry,” we mean away from paved roads, preferably more than a day’s journey by foot, skis, snowshoes, kayak, horse, or any other non-motorized means of conveyance. We are open to a wide spectrum of work, from the personal to the political.

*Deep Wild* will be published twice yearly in portable, pocket-sized editions. Selections may also be published on our website in addition to the physical publication. Find out how to submit at <https://deepwildjournal.com/submissions/>.

The 41st annual *Nimrod* Literary Awards has opened **The Pablo Neruda Prize for Poetry and The Katherine Anne Porter Prize for Fiction**. The Awards offer first prizes of \$2,000 and publication and second prizes of \$1,000 and publication, along with a trip to Tulsa to receive the Awards and take part in our annual writing conference. The postmark deadline for this year’s Awards is April 30th, 2019. For complete rules and to submit work, visit <https://nimrodjournal.submittable.com/submit>.

The Awards are among the most distinguished literary prizes in the country. This year’s judges are Kim Addonizio in poetry and Margot Livesey in fiction. Past judges include Karen Russell, Stanley Kunitz, Marvin Bell, Mark Doty, Olga Broumas, W. S. Merwin, Denise Levertov, William Stafford, Ron Carlson, Linda Pastan, Rilla Askew, Jericho Brown, Robin Coste Lewis, and John Edgar Wideman. Past winners include Sue Monk Kidd, Diane Glancy, Daniel Lusk, Felicia Ward, Ruth Schwartz, and Gina Ochsner.

One of the oldest “little magazines” in the country, *Nimrod* has continually published new and extraordinary writers since 1956. We are dedicated to the discovery of new voices in literature, and the *Nimrod* Literary Awards are a special way to reward talented poets and fiction writers. For more information about *Nimrod*, please visit [www.utulsa.edu/nimrod](http://www.utulsa.edu/nimrod).

# Wyoming Writers, Inc. Membership Form

New Member     Renewal     Student Member

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Student \$10     Regular \$35     Sustaining \$75     Patron \$250

Mail completed form and check to:

Wyoming Writers, Inc.  
P. O. Box 454  
Riverton, WY 82501

WYOMING WRITERS, INC, ADDRESS: PO BOX 454, RIVERTON, WY 82501  
FACEBOOK • TWITTER • LINKEDIN  
UNSUBSCRIBE

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**alyss@presencesocialmedia.com** <alyss@presencesocialmedia.com>  
To: mary.uttmark@gmail.com

Fri, Feb 15, 2019 at 10:02 AM

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

[Quoted text hidden]

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**Alyss Smith** <alyss@presencesocialmedia.com>  
To: Alyss Smith <wyowriters@gmail.com>

Thu, Feb 21, 2019 at 12:12 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Wyoming Writers, Inc.** <WyomingWritersInc@wildapricot.org>  
Date: Fri, Feb 15, 2019 at 8:31 AM  
Subject: WYO-WRITER Vol. 45 No. 1  
To: Alyss Smith <alyss@presencesocialmedia.com>

[Quoted text hidden]

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**Alyss Smith**

Social Media Manager & Digital Storyteller

**Presence Social Media**

307.439.6703