



WRITERS' LEAGUE OF TEXAS

May 24, 2016

Footnotes

In This Issue

[Third Thursday Podcast](#)

[2016 Summer Writing Retreat](#)

[2016 Agents & Editors Conference](#)

Quick Links

[Website](#)

[Renew Membership](#)

[About Us](#)

[Donate](#)

Follow Us

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

[Scribe! the WLT blog](#)



Members Only



"Members Review"

Interested in reviewing books? Contact us at member@writersleague.org with "Members Review" in the subject line and we will respond with more details.



Click [HERE](#) to read WLT member Tony Burnett's review of *Work Like Any*

Other by Virginia Reeves.

"Meet the Members"

Third Thursday Podcast

Friends, Texans, Writers, Lend Us Your Ears: The Third Thursday Podcast



Every month, the Writers' League of Texas hosts a Third Thursday program at BookPeople in Austin, a free and open to the public panel discussion on the craft and business of writing with topics and panelists changing each month. This year alone, we've had conversations on Dealing with Writing Anxiety, Fictionalizing True Stories, Writing About the Military, Writing and Publishing Short Stories, and Writing the Personal in Memoir and Nonfiction.

From the philosophical to the practical, each Third Thursday is an invaluable source of insight and information for beginning and advanced writers alike, with plenty of laughter and a-ha moments.

Want to be profiled on our blog? We are looking for willing subjects for our weekly Q&A posts with current members. If interested, write us at member@writersleague.org.



Member News

Carlotta Eike Stankiewicz (Austin) has published *Haiku Austin*, a poetic, pictorial ode to all things Austin. Featuring full-color photos and pithy poems, the book is the first title from Haiku Empire Press, and available at www.haikuAustin.com, BookPeople and Malvern Books.

Are you a current WLT member interested in submitting to Member News? Email your 50-word blurb (with links!) at member@writersleague.org. For a full list of guidelines, click [here](#).

**Our Next
Open Office Hours
May June 9, 2016
Registration closes
June 8 at 12 pm**

Members: Meet one-on-one with a WLT staffer (in person or call in).

Click [here](#) for guidelines and to sign up. Current members only.

**2016 marks the
Writers' League of
Texas' 35th
Anniversary.**

With the launch of the Writers' League of Texas Third Thursday Podcast, these discussions will be made available to anyone who wants to listen to them. Whether you live in Austin, Houston, El Paso, or Brownsville, or anywhere in between, you'll be able to access recordings of these important conversations with writers sharing their perspectives on topics of interest to all writers.

We've been recording Third Thursday events as of this January, and moving forward, we plan to release new recordings within two weeks of each event. You can listen on our [website](#), visit our [Soundcloud page](#), or download to listen on the go on your computer or mobile device.

As of today, you can find the [January](#) and [February](#) recordings on our website, and we plan to make March, April, and May available in the coming weeks. Visit our [website](#) or subscribe to us on [Soundcloud](#) to access future recordings!

2016 Summer Writing Retreat

2016 Summer Writing Retreat: A Roadmap for Revision



Ever want to get away from it all and spend a week immersed in your craft? Here's your chance with the annual **Summer Writing Retreat** at Sul Ross State University in scenic Alpine, deep in the heart of West Texas.

Seats are still available in the revision class, "[The Confident Revision: A Roadmap for the Editing Process](#)," with Charlotte Gullick. Writers who attend this class will come away with a clear sense of the distinct elements of effective storytelling to focus on for a revision as well as a definitive map for tackling the process and meaningful strategies to get (and stay) unstuck.



WRITERS'
LEAGUE
OF TEXAS

To celebrate this milestone, we're asking members to consider renewing their membership in 2016 at the special Anniversary Level or one of the Premium Levels.

Details on the various membership levels and associated benefits can be found [HERE](#).

Share Your Writers' League of Texas Story!

We're collecting stories, memorabilia, and photos from our members past and present to celebrate our 35th Anniversary.

We've created a form to make it easy to share stories or photos from our history. Click [here](#) to submit your contribution.

For more information on our 35th Anniversary plans, click [here](#).

Online Classes Are Here!



The Writers' League is pleased to announce a new partnership with The Loft Literary Center that will allow our members to sign up for The Loft's online classes at a 25%

When we first set out on the audacious journey of writing an extended piece (whether a novel, memoir, or narrative nonfiction), we begin with either a passionate vision or a smoldering spark of an idea. We draft and draft and lose ourselves in the creative endeavor so that when we go for a walk or take a shower, the ideas, the connections, the associations come to us. This is part of our challenge when it's time for revision: we are so immersed in our work that we cannot see its weak spots, and we so want it to be good that when we sit down to revise, we are often constricted by our deep connections to the piece.

This class will focus on the two states of mind a writer needs-audacity and humility-to truly revise and gain the objectivity on our precious words to move the work from a draft into a crafted, compelling narrative. We will start by honoring the essential spark that brought you to the page and then hone its power to help you move through the many different stages of revision. After we remember the audacity that set us on the journey, we will humbly work with the different elements of effective storytelling to develop transitional drafts, which is key so we don't fall into the rigidity of perfectionism. If we play, we revise from a position of confidence, rather than fear. We will learn how to complete multiple pass throughs-focused on a single craft issue-which is a more efficient means of revising.

Read a Q&A with Charlotte Gullick [here](#), and visit the [class page](#) for more information and to sign up for her class.

"Charlotte is an accessible instructor with the ability to see the potential in the roughest of drafts. She is in the top tier of fine instructors."

*--2015 Summer Writing Retreat Attendee
on Charlotte Gullick's Class*

"Charlotte is the 'real deal' -- she cares about writers and the craft of writing."

*--2015 Summer Writing Retreat Attendee
on Charlotte Gullick's Class*



Charlotte Gullick is Chair of the Creative Writing Department at Austin Community College. A first-generation college graduate, she received her AA from Santa Rosa Junior College, a BA in Literature/Creative Writing from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and a MA in English/Creative Writing from the University of California, Davis. She

discount.

Click [HERE](#) to see The Loft's current list of classes. Choose your class and then contact the Writers' League via phone at (512) 499-8914 or email us at member (at) writersleague (dot) org. Once your WLT membership is confirmed, we'll send you the code to use at checkout. Details can also be found on our [website](#).

Support the Writers' League at Your Local Randalls!



You can support the Writers' League of Texas when you shop at your local Randalls through the [Randalls Good Neighbor Program](#). Since 1996, The Good Neighbor Program has offered their customers an easy way to donate to their favorite nonprofit organization.

Read more about the program [here](#) and follow the link to the form. Be sure to include the Writers' League's Charity Number: 277.

Follow Us



earned her MFA in Creative Nonfiction at the Institute of American Indian Arts in May 2016.

Charlotte's first novel, By Way of Water, was chosen by Jayne Anne Phillips as the Grand Prize winner of the Santa Fe Writers Project Literary Awards Program, and a special author's edition was reissued by the Santa Fe Writers Project in November of 2013. Charlotte's other awards include a Christopher Isherwood Fellowship for Fiction, a Colorado Council on the Arts Fellowship for Poetry, a MacDowell Colony Residency, Faculty of Year from College of the Redwoods as well as the Evergreen State College 2012 Teacher Excellence Award.

2016 A&E Conference

2016 Agents & Editors Conference: Meet the Keynoters

Every year, the Writers' League of Texas brings a knockout line-up agents, editors, and other industry professionals to Austin for its annual Agents & Editors Conference (June 24-26, 2016). This year, in addition to our terrific faculty of eighteen literary agents and three editors, we'll be joined by two keynote speakers, PEN/Faulkner Fiction Prize recipient [Benjamin Alire Saenz](#) and #1 *New York Times* bestselling author [Jenny Lawson](#), and more than 50 panelists and presenters, including Stephanie Barko, Clara Bensen, Scott Blackwood, Chris Brown, Elizabeth Crook, Mo Daviau, Jennifer duBois, Jill Alexander Essbaum, Sandra Goldman, Stephen Harrigan, Donna Johnson, Jeramey Kraatz, Kirk Lynn, Elizabeth McCracken, Karen Olsson, Mark Pryor, Chaitali Sen, Mary Helen Specht, Natalia Sylvester, Manning Wolfe, and many more.

Read more about our keynoters below.



Keynote Cocktail Speaker **Jenny Lawson** is a columnist, blogger and #1 *New York Times* best-selling author. Her personal blog

(www.thebloggess.com) is extremely popular. She's been featured on *Gawker*, *Salon.com*, *Mashable*, *The London Times*, *The Washington Post*, *People*, *O Magazine*, CNN, *Time Magazine*, and *The Today Show*. MSNBC calls her an "internet rockstar," *Forbes* repeatedly lists [thebloggess.com](http://www.thebloggess.com) as one of the Top 100 Websites for

Women, and Katie Couric calls her "Hilarious." She is a repeated finalist (and an occasional winner) in the Weblog awards for Best Writing, Most Humorous Writer, Best Design, Blog of the Year, and Lifetime Achievement. She was once named The Huffington Post's Greatest Person of the Day and has fooled many people into thinking she's very important. She is a sought-after speaker, and has around a half million twitter followers, including Ellen DeGeneres, the Today Show, Barack Obama and many more. She's written two books about her life, [*Let's Pretend This Never Happened: A Mostly True Memoir*](#) and [*Furiously Happy: A Funny Book About Horrible Things*](#), both of which are award-winning NYT bestsellers.

Keynote Luncheon Speaker

Benjamin Alire Saenz is a poet, artist, and fiction writer. He is a former Wallace Stegner Fellow in poetry at Stanford University. His latest collection of short stories, *Everything Begins and Ends at the Kentucky Club*, won the PEN/Faulkner Fiction Prize in 2013.



His first book of poems, *Calendar of Dust*, won an American Book Award and has also been awarded a Lannan Poetry Fellowship. He has published five books of poetry including *Dark and Perfect Angels*, *Elegies in Blue*, *Dreaming the End of War*, and *The Book of What Remains*, and he has just completed a new book of poems, *He.You.I.*

He is an award winning young adult author, and his most recent YA novel, *Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe*, has been recognize with several awards including the Prinz Honor Book, a Lambda Literary Award, The Stonewall Award, and The Pura Belpre Award and has been translated into fourteen languages. His next young adult novel, *The Inexplicable Logic of My Life*, will be published next year, and he is currently at work on the sequel to *Aristotle and Dante*. He is a professor of Creative Writing at the University of Texas at El Paso.

Ready to register for the 2016 Agents & Editors Conference? Find more info [here](#).



The Writers' League of Texas

is a non-profit corporation, funded in part by the Texas Commission on the Arts.

This project is supported in part by the Cultural Arts Division of the City of Austin



Economic Development Department.

**611 S. Congress Ave., Ste. 200 A-3, Austin, TX 78704/ 512-499-8914/
wlt@writersleague.org**