
Preliminary agenda as of 4-28-18; subject to change

Thursday, May 31

****Pre-Conference Retreat (optional, extra fee required, limited slots available)***

10:00 am-noon Writing & Yoga, Jennifer Mattox & Laura Whitaker
1:00-5:00 pm Tightening the Screws: Building and Layering Tension, Manuel Gonzales

****Welcome Reception (FREE for conference participants)***

5:30 pm Welcome Reception (pre-registration open)
6:30 pm Carnegie Center Author Academy Class of 2018 Reading & Commencement Ceremony

Friday, June 1

8:00 am Breakfast & Registration
8:45 am Welcome
9:15-10:30 am Keynote by Crystal Wilkinson (book signing to follow)
10:45 am-12:15 pm Breakout sessions

- How to Make a Successful Pitch, Will Lavender
- Writing Diverse Characters, DaMaris Hill
- The How & Why of Plot, Ian Stansel
- Writing Kids' Books, Marcia Thornton Jones

12:15-2:00 pm Writing Time & Lunch on Your Own
1:25-1:50 pm Literary Tour: James Lane Allen, Gratz Park, & the Language of its Flowers; Brian Perry
2:00-3:30 pm First Page Critique, session 1 (agents & editor panelists offer feedback to participants on first 250 words of manuscripts) **[SUBMISSION INFO TO COME]**
3:45-5:15 pm Breakout sessions

- Making Your World Real, Gwenda Bond
- Smart Ways to Elevate Your Author Platform, Jessica Strawser
- The Subtle Art of Narration, Ian Stansel
- The Power of a Great First Chapter, Tiffany Reisz

5:30-6:30 pm First Page Critique, session 2 (agents & editor panelists offer feedback to participants on first 250 words of manuscripts) **[SUBMISSION INFO TO COME]**

Saturday, June 2

8:30 am Breakfast
9:00-10:30 am Breakout sessions

- Graphic Novels, Robert Gipe
- Revision - Remix and Making It New, DaMaris Hill
- Publishing Panel, featuring Sarabande Books & University Press of Kentucky

10:45 am-12:00 pm Breakout sessions

- Inside the Author-Agent Relationship, Kim Michele Richardson & Stacy Testa
- Dialogue, Robert Gipe
- How to Make a Scene in Memoir, Sarah Gorham
- Self-Publishing, Ben Woodard

12:15-12:30 pm Closing Session & Giveaways

At 1:00 pm, immediately following the conference, you are invited to join us for a Carnegie fundraiser, the Literary Luncheon in Gratz Park, featuring Crystal Wilkinson. To purchase your ticket for the Literary Luncheon, [click here](#).