

2019 CONFERENCE

FOR WRITERS & ILLUSTRATORS



Image Credit: Counsel Langley

September 20 & 21 · BP Energy Center · Anchorage

WELCOME :: Letters to Attendees

Brooke Hartman

Alaska Writers Guild, President



Hello to all my fellow conference attendees! Can you believe 2019 marks my seventh year as your Alaska Writers Guild Conference Coordinator? And what a lucky seven years they've been! In that time, I've had two children, signed with three agents, released one book, signed contracts for three more, and overall experienced the ups, downs, and everything in between that this wacky world of publishing can offer. Now it's time to hand my conference reigns to someone else. Someone with the passion and drive to launch this conference and their own writing career into the next level of awesome. Someone who wants the chance to help choose which amazing agents, exceptional editors, and publishing pros to invite to this great state of Alaska. Does this position take time? Yes. Does it take commitment? Yes. Does it sometimes make you want to day drink? Very yes. But above all, it offers a first-row seat at experiencing a side of publishing many never get a chance to see. Who will be our 2020 AWG Conference Chair? I hope the answer is you.

Stefanie Tatalias & Jena Benton Lasley

SCBWI Alaska Regional Advisor & SCBWI Alaska Illustrator Coordinator

Welcome SCBWI members and all those who write for children and teens! It is our pleasure to join with two other writing organizations to bring you one amazing conference. Writing and illustrating is generally a solitary activity, but we have so much to learn from each other. We urge you to stay connected with us via social media on our Facebook Page "SCBWI Alaska Chapter," through our upcoming webinars, at our critique groups and workshops, and with the people you meet here at the conference. The SCBWI is a worldwide organization here to support you and your personal and professional writing goals. We hope to see you throughout the year.



Tamsin Ley

AKRWA Board President



On behalf of the Alaska Chapter of Romance Writers of America (AKRWA), I'd like to welcome you to the 2019 Annual Conference for Writer's and Illustrators. RWA is a national organization started by romance writers in 1980 to advance the interests of career-focused romance writers and is currently more than ten thousand members strong. Our local chapter has had a long-standing presence in Alaska, with membership open to published and unpublished romance writers alike. We are delighted to be able to partner with AWG and SCBWI to help more Alaskans achieve their writing goals. We hope this weekend is a springboard for your writing activities, and you carry the momentum forward. Pursue your dreams, refine your craft, and most of all, finish writing your book—you're the only one who can! Visit akrwa.org to learn more, or stop by our cover contest booth here at the conference. Thank you for attending and sharing your enthusiasm for the written word.

2019 BOARDS



Brooke Hartman

AWG President



CJ Allison

AWG Vice President, MatSu Chapter



Laura Lancaster

AWG Vice President, Interior



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AWG Member At Large



Stefanie Tatalias

SCBWI AK Regional Advisor



Jena Benton

SCBWI AK Illustrator Coordinator



Tamsin Ley

AKRWA Board President

FACULTY :: Agents & Editors



Rachel Orr

Agent

Prospect Agency

Rachel Orr is celebrating her twelfth year with Prospect Agency, where she represents

both authors and illustrators in projects ranging from picture books through YA. Her clients include Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen (*Chicks Rule* / Abrams), Cori Doerrfeld (*The Rabbit Listened* / Dial), Samantha M. Clark (*The Boy, the Boat and the Beast* / Simon & Schuster), and Todd Tarpley (*Three Grumpy Trucks* / Little, Brown). Rachel lives in Hoboken, New Jersey, with her husband and two young children. You can follow her on Twitter @rachelprospect.



Katie Grimm

Agent

Don Congdon Associates

Katie Grimm started as the assistant for Don Congdon Associates in 2007. In Adult, she focuses on Literary

and Upmarket Fiction that has something to say about interpersonal relationships. She's also looking for Narrative Non-Fiction that blends the personal and investigative for a deeper emotional understanding of a topic. In Children's, she loves the idea of finding new heartfelt and magical Middle Grade classics as well as either urgently contemporary or speculative Young Adult novels with the immediacy of feeling that comes with being a teenager.



Eddie Gamarra

Literary Manager/Producer

The Gotham Group

Eddie Gamarra is a literary manager/producer at The Gotham Group, a multi-faceted management and production company representing some of the creative and successful screenwriters, directors, animators, authors, illustrators, publishers, and animation studios. With a primary focus on children's & family entertainment, Dr. Gamarra's extensive client roster includes numerous *New York Times* best-selling authors and illustrators as well as Oscar, Emmy, Caldecott, and Newbery award winners.



Kat Brzozowski

Senior Editor

Swoon Reads and Feiwel & Friends

Kat Brzozowski is a senior editor at Swoon Reads and Feiwel & Friends, divisions of the Macmillan Children's Publishing Group. She edits books acquired through Swoon Reads, as well as acquires books traditionally for Feiwel & Friends. She edits a wide range of young adult projects. Kat is passionate about young adult fiction with complicated female characters, and is drawn to a strong voice, realistic dialogue, and a great hook.

FACULTY :: Illustration/Design & Authors



Lucas Elliott

Illustrator

Lucas Elliott is an Illustrator based in the frozen tundras of Alaska. His work can be found with such companies

as IDW, Upper Deck, and Blind Ferret Entertainment. His largest work to date was illustrating the Alaskan epic *Moose* the graphic novel. You can find his current project, *Battle Star*, online at battlestarcomic.com and his portfolio at lucaselliottart.com. Twitter: @LucaseElliottArt Instagram: @LucasElliottArt.



Kimberly Killion

CEO/Art Director

The Killion Group

Kimberly Killion is the CEO/Art Director of The Killion Group. They represent 2,000+ clients,

publishing houses and agencies in the publishing world. She has nearly 25 years of experience in design and communications. She holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts, a Certificate in Web Design, and she is an ACE (An Adobe Certified Expert). In addition to the paperwork, she also taught Graphic/Web Design for over a decade. Kimberly is also a RITA® nominated, award-winning author who is traditionally published as well as indie-published.



Laurie Halse Anderson is a New York Times-bestselling author who writes for kids of all ages. Known for tackling tough subjects with humor and sensitivity, her work has earned numerous international, national, and state awards. She has been nominated three times for the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award. Two of her books, *Speak* and *Chains*, were National Book Award finalists, and *Chains* was also short-listed for the Carnegie medal.



Don Rearden is a professor at the University of Alaska Anchorage, producer, screenwriter, and the author of The Washington Post Notable novel, *The Raven's Gift*, and co-author of the hit memoirs *Never Quit* and *Warrior's Creed*. He lives with his wife and two children in Bear Valley, Alaska.

FACULTY :: Authors



Douglass Bourne has written several award-winning screenplays and serves as the Screenwriting Contest Coordinator at the Anchorage International Film Festival. He has served on panels and provided screenwriting workshops in the Anchorage community. He is also a published poet and prose writer and has served as editor or judge for national and regional publications. He earned an MFA in creative writing from University of North Carolina Wilmington.



Tamsin Ley wanted to become a biomedical engineer, but discovered the stories in her head were way more fun than the tedium of a lab. After graduating from Willamette University, she moved back to Alaska, where she now lives with her husband and an adorable rabbit named Abigail. Tamsin has an obsessive green thumb, loves homemade cider, and is a secret zombie prepper. She has published over sixteen science fiction and romance titles and is serving her second term as the President of the Alaska Chapter of Romance Writers of America. Learn more about her at tamsinley.com



Boone Brux is a *USA Today Bestselling* author in paranormal romance and urban fantasy. She lives in the icy region of Alaska, where she writes full time with her husband, two daughters, and a myriad of animals. Always looking for the next adventure, it's not unusual to find her traversing the remotest parts of the Alaskan bush. No person or escapade is off limits when it comes to weaving real life experiences into her books.



Damon Suede has earned his crust as a model, messenger, promoter, programmer, sculptor, singer, stripper, bookkeeper, bartender, techie, teacher, director... but writing has been his bread and butter. Damon has been a full-time writer for print, stage, and screen for almost three decades. He has won some awards, but counts his blessings more often: his amazing friends, demented family, beautiful husband, loyal fans, and silly, stern, seductive Muse who keeps whispering in his ear.



Geoff Symon has been using his experience as a federal law enforcement special agent to put away the bad guys. He has certified training in the collection of evidence, blood spatter analysis, autopsies, and laboratory techniques. He lectures and consults with writers to bring detail to the depiction of investigation, and his *Forensics for Fiction* series has become the go-to resource for genre authors. You can reach him at geoffsymon.com.

FACULTY :: Authors



Kat Shepherd is the author of both the *Babysitting Nightmares* and *Gemini Mysteries* middle grade series. She is a former classroom teacher and a lifelong advocate of bringing joyful literacy to every child. Kat has also spent various points in her life working as a deli waitress, a Hollywood script reader, and a dog trainer for film and television. Find her at katshepherd.com



Erick Mertz is a professional writer, editor and manuscript consultant based in Portland, Oregon. He has over fifteen years experience as a fiction, non-fiction, memoir, and business book ghostwriter. He has produced best-selling manuscripts for high profile clients throughout the US and the world. As a fiction author, Erick produces The Strange Air Series of supernatural mysteries. The debut book in that series, *The Lies & Truth of Doctor Desmond Brice* came out in January of 2019. His short fiction and poetry has been widely published in literary journals.



Dante Medema is a mother to four girls, an amateur cake decorator, and a Young Adult author. Her debut novel *The Truth Project* comes out Fall 2020 from HarperTeen. She is a member of SCBWI and 49 Writers, and serves on the board for The Alaska Writers Guild. You can visit her website for more information at dantemedema.com or follow her Alaskan writer adventures on Instagram at [@dantemedemabooks](https://www.instagram.com/dantemedemabooks).



Brooke Hartman is an Alaskan mom and author of silly, serious, and strange stories for children and young adults. Her writing has garnered national awards, including Writer's Digest, Pacific Northwest Writers Association, and the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators. Her debut picture book *Dream Flights on Arctic Nights* (2019, West Margin Press) received a starred review from Kirkus. Future works include *Lotte and Her Paper Puppet Pictures* (2020, Page Street Kids) and *Klyde the Kraken Wants a Hug* (2020, The Innovation Press). Follow her writing on Facebook at [@BrookesBooksAK](https://www.facebook.com/BrookesBooksAK).



Lizbeth Meredith is an Anchorage-based writer and speaker whose work has appeared in *Sunlight Press*, Jane Friedman's blog, and *A Girl's Guide to Travelling Alone* by Gemma Thompson. Her memoir, *Pieces of Me: Rescuing My Kidnapped Daughters*, has sold over 20,000 copies, with the bulk of sales occurring two years post-publication.

FACULTY :: Authors



Lynn Lovegreen has lived in Alaska for fifty years. After twenty years in the classroom, she retired to make more time for writing. She enjoys her friends and family, reading, and volunteering at her local library. Her young adult historical fiction novels are set in Alaska, a great place for drama, romance, and independent characters. See her website at lynnlovegreen.com, or find her on Facebook and Instagram.



Cheryl Burghart is an International Beauty Queen, a former singer/songwriter, and one of Murfreesboro, Tennessee's 15 Most Beautiful People (2009). She is the youngest of seventeen children and credits her artistic background to her sister Linda, who taught her to read at the age of three! She completed her first novel, a contemporary multi-cultural, in 2016. Cheryl now resides in Alaska with her husband. He is her knight in shining armor and the inspiration behind her novels! Their four children are in college.



Mercy Zephyr (she/her) was born and raised in the Mat-Su Valley, where she and her husband of ten years live today. Together, they enjoy bicycling, spending time with her supportive parents, and spoiling their grandchild and each other. She is an asexual transgender woman of Athabaskan descent who transitioned alongside her husband. She writes sweet, optimistic #ownvoices romance with a spoonful of humor and a dash of grit, centering transgender and sometimes asexual characters.



D.R. Slaten writes sexy books. When not writing, she sings in the shower (terribly), inadvertently kills all the flowers she plants and shops for high end shoes at bargain prices on the internet. She reads lots of books in a variety of genres. She makes fun of the news and reality TV. She thinks chocolate should be on the food pyramid as its own category. Dirty martinis are her preferred drink. She's not human until and unless she's had her first cup of coffee.



Karen Kiely is a lifelong Alaskan who has never lived in an igloo and doesn't know anyone who has. Her contemporary romances set in Alaska feature a touch of humor and a lot of heart. Once upon a time, Karen's alter-ego was paid for the privilege of selecting all fiction for her public library. In her spare moments, she reads, travels, and hopes the Chicago White Sox will win another World Series in her lifetime.

FACULTY :: Authors



Elizabeth Allyn-Dean writes paranormal romance, urban fantasy, and fantasy stories that blend these elements to get to a happily ever after. From the first time she lost herself in a fantasy novel in her self-built treehouse, Elizabeth knew she wanted to be an author. After a detour into the world of archaeology, she returned to her true love—writing. For the last twenty years, she has called Alaska home, enjoying the adventures, gorgeous scenery, and fascinating people and places it offers.



Kellie Doherty is a queer science fiction and fantasy author living in Eagle River, Alaska. Her work has been published by Desert Palm Press, Queer Sci Fi, and *Pathos Literary Magazine*, among others. Her most recent work is an adult fantasy called *Sunkissed Feathers & Severed Ties*, published on March 27, 2019. It's part of a five-book fantasy series titled the Broken Chronicles, and she's working on the second book now. In her (mostly non-existent) spare time, she likes to read, play games, and watch way too much YouTube. Find out more at kelliedoherty.com.



Lindsay Pierce MA is the author of the book *Trans Liberty Riot Brigade*, published by Nine Star Press. She is also an anti-oppression trainer and believes in the radical transformative power of the human relationship, building upon a decade of experience in spheres of social service, mental health, and academia. Her passion for social justice manifests in her work as an author and poet, and she is a traveling speaker on LGBTQ+ representation in literature and current media. She has a Masters in Counseling Psychology from Saint Martin's University.



Kristen Ritter is a playwright and fiction writer based in Anchorage, Alaska. She holds an MFA from Vermont College of Fine Arts and a BA from Vassar College in New York. Her plays have been produced locally by TBA's Alaska Overnights and the One Minute Play Festival. Three of her plays have received staged readings at the annual Last Frontier Theater Conference in Valdez, Alaska. She enjoys rock climbing, Dungeons & Dragons, and casually bringing up gender politics. You can contact her through her website at iamkristen.com.

SCHEDULE

Friday, September 20

BP Energy & Conference Center
900 E Benson Blvd, Anchorage

PLEASE NOTE: TIMES, BREAKOUT SESSIONS, AND TOPICS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

8:30am	Check-In Opens for Optional Morning Intensives
9:00–11:00am	Submissions IOI: synopses to pitches and everything in between with authors Dante Medema & Brooke Hartman <p>Is it scary when you query? In the swamp with comp titles? Do your synopses need a necropsy? This three hour intensive workshop is perfect for writers huddled in the submission trenches. Starting with how to write a synopsis-thingamabob that does the job, we'll boil down your submissions to craft the perfect query letter, and finally whittle everything down to your pitch/hook. Includes bonus tips and tricks for finding where, who, and how to submit your story! Time will be provided for you to work on your own submissions material, so bring your works in progress, or start fresh!</p>
9:00–12:00pm	Moving Characters with author Damon Suede <p>Bestsellers start with fascinating people. In this session we'll take your fictional folks to the next level with a simple, powerful technique that will strengthen your plots, your hooks, and your voice. Go beyond looks, persona, and boilerplate traits so you can build the perfect cast to dazzle your readers. Compelling characters boost your writing process and anchor your career at any stage. Whether you like to wing it or bring it, you'll leave this workshop with a new set of practical, hands-on tools to populate your pages and lay the foundations of unforgettable fiction.</p>
9:00–12:00pm	Revision Without Tears with Bestselling Author Laurie Halse-Anderson <p>This intensive takes a deep dive into the craft and tools necessary to revise your work until it sparkles on the page. NYT Bestselling Author Laurie Halse-Anderson will use examples from her own work to lead this intensive. Focused on middle grade and young adult authors, with techniques that span all genres.</p>
9:00–12:00pm	Illustrator Intensive: Let's Lay it Out, Comic and Kidlit Page Design with Lucas Elliott <p>Whether you're creating your first picture book dummy, or you are scripting your first graphic novel, determining how your story flows from one page to another is important. With this intensive, we'll go through the anatomy of what it takes to develop a strong sense of story through panel design, composition, and framing.</p>
12:00pm	Check-In Opens for Optional Roundtable Critiques
12:30–2:30pm	First Pages Roundtable Critiques with Agents Eddie Gamarra, Rachel Orr, Katie Grimm, and editor Kat Brzozowski
2:30pm	Check-In Opens for Optional Afternoon Intensives

SCHEDULE

Friday, September 20 continued

3:00–6:00pm

Breaking Into the Indie Market with Kimberly Killion, Tamsin Ley & Boone Brux

Interested in self publishing your book, but have no idea where to start? Look no further than this master class. In this intensive session, you'll learn: how to set up your Amazon account, easy ways to publish with other vendors, paperback vs ebook, beta readers, editing, and ARCs, cover design, writing a compelling description, how to format the interior and what to include, ISBN options, how to choose keywords and categories, lots of time- and money-saving tools and tips, and more!

3:00–6:00pm

Plotting with author Damon Suede

A plotting class even pantsers love... Even when a happy ending is certain, a great plot keeps your writing fresh while amplifying your voice. Learn how to craft a sure-fire structure and launch your story. We'll go beyond the bullet points. Rather hammering one "true" blueprint, we'll break down major story models from Aristotle to Netflix, identify their seven shared points, and help you develop your own narrative strategy.

3:00–6:00pm

Your Crash Course in Screenwriting with Film Writer Douglass Bourne

Ever wanted to write a feature-length screenplay? Have you written a script but are unsure about the structure? This crash course will help writers master industry formatting, develop scenes with emotional impact and memorable characters, and structure the script to maximize a cinematic journey. Attendees will leave with deeper knowledge of industry formatting, characteristics of a scene, and creating authentic dialogue, all within the confines of a screenplay.

3:00–6:00pm

Picture Book Intensive: "Bad Writing" with Literary Agent Rachel Orr

Voice flat? Not unique? Struggling to find your niche in the market? In this intensive session, we will purposefully rewrite great passages in published books poorly in order to better understand the distinction between a solid voice and a flat one that doesn't grab reader's attention.

SCHEDULE

Saturday, September 21

BP Energy & Conference Center

900 E Benson Blvd, Anchorage

PLEASE NOTE: TIMES, BREAKOUT SESSIONS, AND TOPICS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

8:00am	Check-In & Coffee in BP Energy Center Foyer			
8:20–8:40am	Birch Room: Welcome, Opening Remarks, and Awards			
8:40–9:20am	Birch Room: Opening Keynote with Bestselling Author Laurie Halse-Anderson: “Creativity is a Wild Mind and a Disciplined Eye”			
9:20–9:30am	Break			
9:30–10:30am	Breakout Sessions			
	BIRCH ROOM	COTTONWOOD/ ALDER	FIR ROOM	WILLOW/SPRUCE
	<p>1A - Eddie Gamarra</p> <p><i>Adapting Your Book to a Screenplay.</i></p> <p>This session will be dedicated to guiding those interested in the art and craft and business of screenwriting broadly, as well as those interested in adapting their own work. We will discuss practical and personal pros and cons for each type of writing process.</p>	<p>1B - Lynn Lovegreen</p> <p><i>Nuts and Bolts for Kidlit Newbies</i></p> <p>Maybe you want to write a book, or you have one started. But questions are swirling around your mind. Can I turn this idea into a whole book? What kind of children’s book is it—picture book, MG, YA? How do I work writing into my schedule? What about a critique group or writing group? Where do I even start? You’re not alone—we’ve all been there at one time or another. Published YA author Lynn Lovegreen will share ideas on kidlit, the writing process, tools, groups, and tips she learned the hard way. And you’re welcome to ask questions, too!</p>	<p>1C - Geoff Symon</p> <p><i>Scene of the Crime, perpetrating & investigating your fictional felonies.</i></p> <p>This course gives you the basic tools to investigate your own fictional scenes through law, evidence concepts and real life people who process crime scenes. We’ll visit the most common forensic flubs and fallacies while discussing true primary forensic methods and fundamental terminology to breathe life into the scene of your crime.</p>	<p>1D - Katie Grimm</p> <p><i>Agent 101.</i></p> <p>To sell your book to a major publishing house, you need an agent. But what goes on in their office? Agent 101 is a nitty gritty survey of the of the agent’s role, from being on the receiving end of query letters to submission lists and deals. Write down your burning questions for an anonymous Q&A!</p>
10:30–10:40am	Break			

SCHEDULE

Saturday, September 21 *continued*

10:40–11:40am		Breakout Sessions	
BIRCH ROOM	COTTONWOOD/ ALDER	FIR ROOM	WILLOW/SPRUCE
<p>2A - Laurie Halse-Anderson <i>Historical Fiction; Blood, Bones, and History.</i> A fast-paced, fact-heavy look at the special demands of researching and writing historical fiction. Bring your questions and the log jams holding back your research!</p>	<p>2B - Rachel Orr <i>Picture Books; Get on the Write Page!</i> Look at your story through the eyes of an agent and editor by learning to how to pace your story, or illustrations, with page turns. We will study the art of pagination by making dummies of our works-in-progress.</p>	<p>2C - Douglass Bourne <i>Plot Your Novel Like a Movie.</i> This talk will discuss how to use the techniques of screenwriting to hone the craft of writing, from short stories to novels and memoirs. We'll study the qualities of a dynamic scene, including good dialogue and action, employing these techniques to strengthen your prose.</p>	<p>2D - Damon Suede <i>Game Face; Build a Winning Author Platform.</i> You're your own best advertisement for your work. We'll take a look at your presence and platform, as well as ways to attract allies, shape your message, expand your audience, and find the fun in your process to earn the right attention on- and offline.</p>

Our stories matter.



The Alaska Humanities Forum designs and facilitates experiences that bridge distance and difference.

We provide grants to fuel creative projects that share and preserve the stories of people across the state and explore what it means to be Alaskan.

Contact grants@akhf.org
to discuss your project ideas.
Annual Grants: up to \$10,000
Mini Grants: up to \$5,000

akhf.org

ALASKA
HUMANITIES
FORUM

SCHEDULE

Saturday, September 21 continued

11:40am	Lunch Available in Foyer			
12:00–12:30pm	Diversity Author Panel: Writing for, by, to, and about gender and LGBTQ+ with authors Kellie Doherty, Kristen Ritter, Lindsay Pierce, Mercy Zephyr, Damon Suede, and Geoff Symon			
12:30–12:40pm	Break			
12:40–1:40pm	Breakout Sessions			
BIRCH ROOM	COTTONWOOD/ ALDER	FIR ROOM	WILLOW/SPRUCE	
<p>3A - Eddie Gamarra</p> <p><i>Book-to-Screen: The Roller Coaster of Film Adaptations.</i></p> <p>In this session, we will examine a variety of examples of book adaptations for screens big and small, and discuss creative, financial, legal, marketing, and other considerations involved in the process.</p>	<p>3B - Lucas Elliott</p> <p><i>Ink and Snow, Being a KidLit Illustrator in Alaska.</i></p> <p>Whether you're creating your first picture book dummy or scripting your first graphic novel, determining how your story flows from one page to another is important. With this intensive, we'll go through the anatomy of what it takes to develop a strong sense of story through panel design, composition, and framing.</p>	<p>3C - Eric Mertz</p> <p><i>Monsters Are Needy.</i></p> <p>This class takes a deep dive into the "monster" character in genre fiction, a vital part of science fiction, horror, thriller and fantasy. We'll discuss the core concept of the monster character, understanding how they fit into those genres and how to effectively deploy them in your fiction. Students will come away with an understanding of why their monsters command a lot of screen and page time and how to give them what they need without robbing the rest of your story.</p>	<p>3D - AKRWA Panel with Authors Mercy Zephyr, Cheryl Burghart, D.R. Slaten, Elizabeth Allyn-Dean, and Karen Kiely: Diversity in Romance and Beyond.</p> <p>Presented by Boone Brux, Erin McLellan, Jennifer Bernard, and E.M. Shue, moderated by Karen Kiely. Seasoned Romance authors discuss how today's market successfully combines themes and elements from multiple genres into single, satisfying stories.</p>	
1:40–1:50pm	Break			

Saturday, September 21 continued

1:50–2:50pm		Breakout Sessions	
BIRCH ROOM	COTTONWOOD/ ALDER	FIR ROOM	WILLOW/SPRUCE
<p>4A - Kim Killion</p> <p><i>What Really Happens at a Romance Cover Shoot?</i></p> <p>Ever wondered what really happens at a Romance Novel Cover Photoshoot? Is it candles and soft music? Do those models really kiss? Is he naked under that kilt?! Have all these questions (and more) answered in this workshop with special guests Damon and Geoff Suede. We will have a live mock photoshoot plus time for Q&A too about what elements make a great cover design.</p>	<p>4B - Kat Shepherd</p> <p><i>Writing a Series for Authors of Middle Grade and Young Adult.</i></p> <p>While landing a series might feel like the ultimate goal for some authors, creating one offers a unique set of challenges to consider. This session discusses both the drawbacks and the payoffs of the format. We'll look at novel structure vs. series structure, pacing, character arcs, and world-building, as well as differences in marketing and building an audience.</p>	<p>4C - Don Rearden</p> <p><i>Rethinking Revision.</i></p> <p>Roll up your sleeves in this hands-on session that goes beyond revision with Don Rearden, who the Washington Post Calls "A master of cliffhangers." Spoiler alert: some writing may be involved!</p>	<p>4D - Lizbeth Meredith</p> <p><i>Keep the Promotion Buzz Going on a Budget (long after your book is launched!)</i></p> <p>With over a million books being published a year, how do we give our book every opportunity to stand out while we're writing new books and minding our budgets? Attendees will learn how to keep the buzz alive by creating an author's ecosystem including social media, Help A Reporter Out (HARO), content marketing, and continuing to stay abreast of the publishing world.</p>
2:50–3:00pm		Break	
3:00–3:40pm		Closing Keynote, Eddie Gamarra & Kat Shepard: "Mind Your Business, How Authors can Transform Publishing from the Inside Out."	
3:40–4:00pm		Wrap-Up and Illustrator Awards	
4:00–4:30pm		Faculty Author Book Signing in Foyer	
4:15pm		Silent Auction and Bookstore Closes	
5:00pm		BP Energy Center Closes	

SELL MORE EBOOKS!

SMART AUTHOR

with

MARK COKER

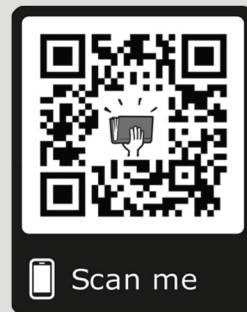
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SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS

Alaska Writers Guild Workhorse Scholarship

The Alaska Writers Guild offered a Workhorse Scholarship to two lucky winners this year. During this scholarship, the winners got to experience what happens behind the scenes during conferences and what makes them run smoothly, like helping to set up tables and run the check-in table. The scholarship included access to Friday's intensive sessions and Saturday's conference.

The Lin Halterman Memorial Grant

All silent auction proceeds benefit the Lin Halterman Memorial Grant, awarded in memory of Linda L. Halterman, a charter member and the second secretary of the Alaska Writers Guild. An indefatigable worker, she plowed into projects with a focus that was never diverted. Her work continued until one summer day in 2009, when she was diagnosed with cancer and given six months to live. She finished her family legacy, *Journey of a Lifetime*, and fought the issue of cancer with as much determination as she mustered in her other pursuits. In her memory, the Alaska Writers Guild raises funds through our annual silent auction to assist authors in pursuing their writing goals.

SCBWI Scholarships

SCBWI offered two scholarships this year—a conference scholarship and a travel scholarship. The conference scholarship winner received free admission to the conference on Saturday plus one intensive on Friday. With the travel scholarship, the winner was able to fly into Anchorage in order to attend the conference. This year, preference was given to diverse applicants (under-represented, marginalized writers and #OwnVoices writers—if a writer's main character is marginalized or under-represented, the writer belongs to that same group).

OTHER THINGS TO NOTE

One-on-One Manuscript Reviews will take place in the Aspen Room on the first floor, west side.

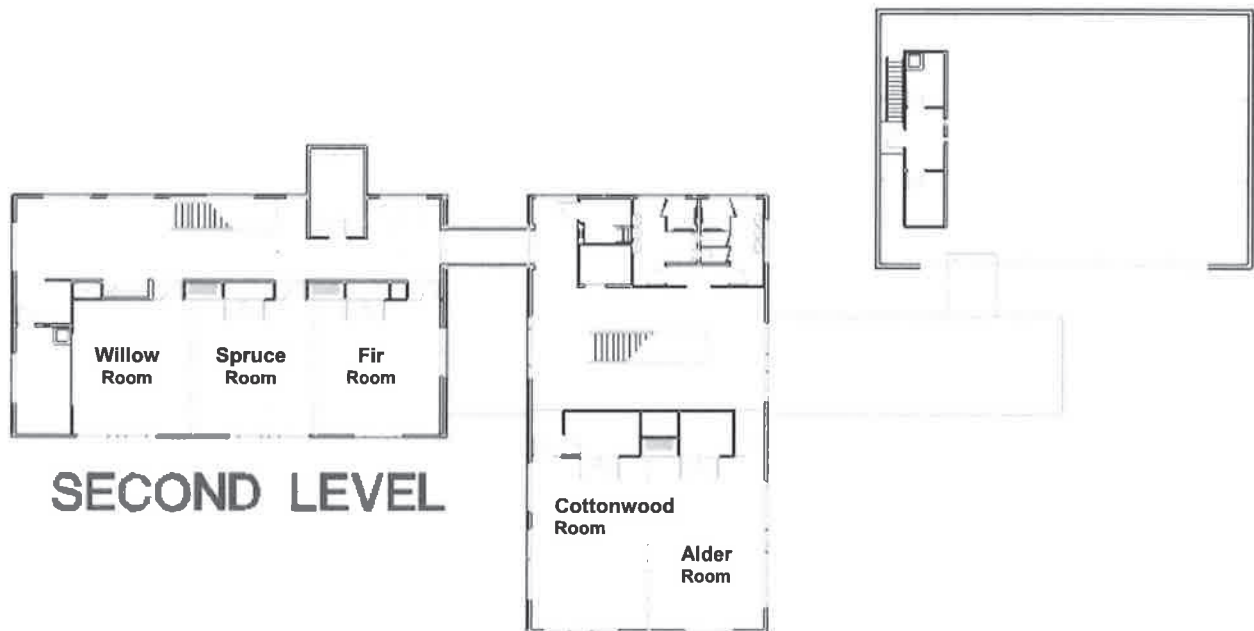
Complimentary water, coffee, and tea stations are located on both the upper and lower levels.

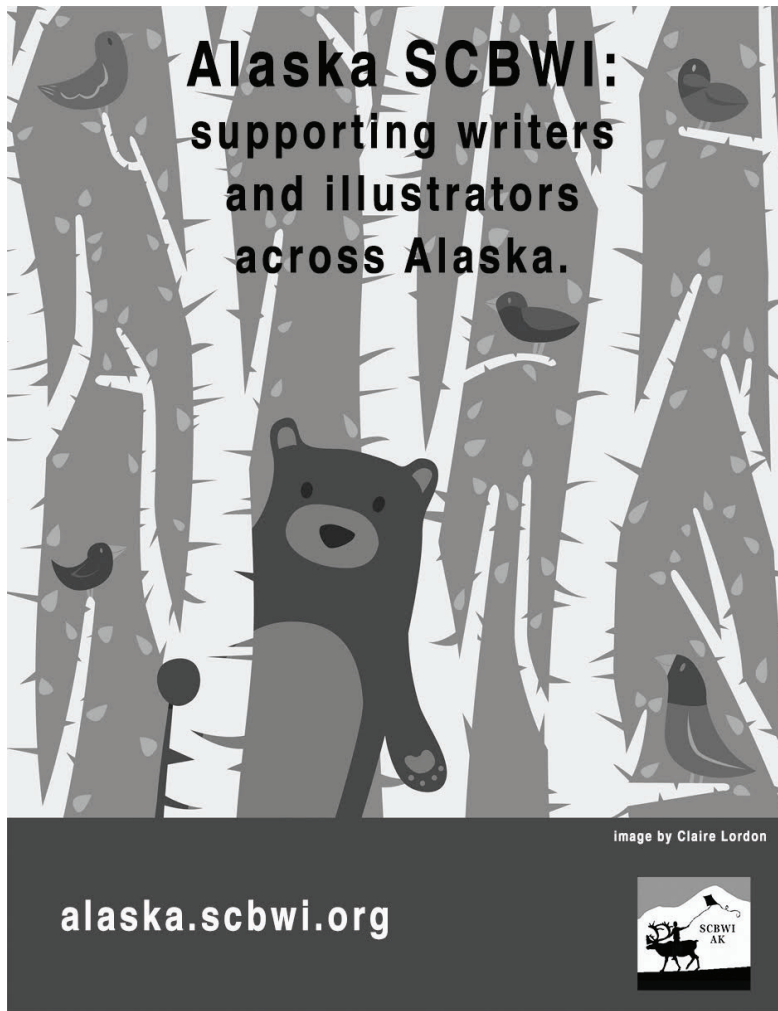
Silent Auction and Bookstore closes promptly at 4:15pm on Saturday.

Twitter & Facebook: Take those selfies! Photo bomb your author buddies! Tweet 'til you drop! Just don't forget to add our official conference hashtag: #AKWriters2019

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FLOOR PLAN

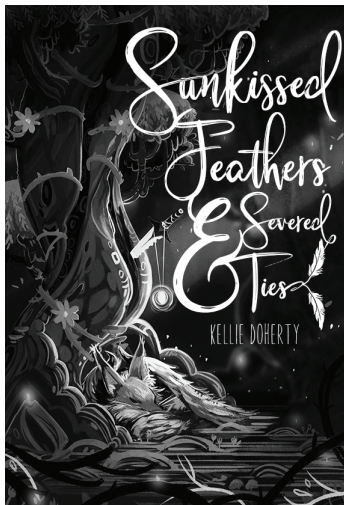




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image by Claire Lordon

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Sunkissed Feathers & Severed Ties by Kellie Doherty

Misti Eidelmann is a Vagari—a race whose innate crafting ability is connected to the creatures of the world. During a fight, a banished one slips a pendant around her neck that saps her strength. She sets off to find help. Old and new friends join her on this quest, including her longtime crush Dylori and a villager named Arias. The journey is risky—filled with frightening suncreatures, evil worshippers, and twisted betrayal. Misti is thankful to have friends on this path into the scorching light, but something much bigger is waiting for them in the sunshine. Her pendant is just a piece of puzzle.

*“The campaign we follow grips us, holding us hostage to the end.”
~ Thinking Moon*

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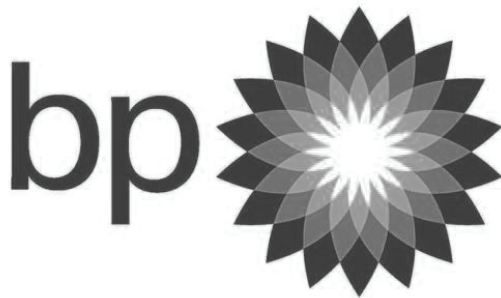


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