

## Current News & Views

**Attend the next open WCWF board meeting - Wed. June 5, 11am, 740 Gunnison, GJ.**

**How important is WCWF to you? Will you support its continued life?**

**Respond to [wwritersforum@gmail.com](mailto:writersforum@gmail.com)  
The Board Needs You!**

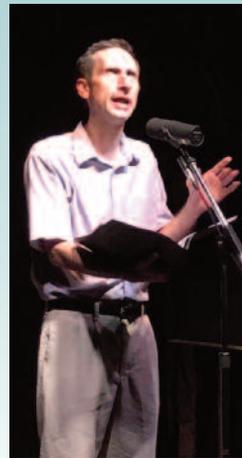
**Playwrights' Dream - 10-Minute Play Competition, deadline 6/11/19, your original work performed at the Historic Jones Theater in gorgeous South-Central Colorado. \$10 submission fee. Details at: [jonestheater.com](http://jonestheater.com)**

**SAVE THE DATE:** There will be no Writers Night at the Art Center in July due to the adjacency of Fourth of July. The first Tuesday workshops will resume on August 6.

WCWF survives on dues and grants. Pay your dues, make a donation or find out what you can sponsor at [www.westerncoloradowriters.org](http://www.westerncoloradowriters.org).

Send news and contributions to [virg@leafmedia.com](mailto:virg@leafmedia.com)

## Write Out Loud Performance Returns to KAFM



*WOL director David Kenworthy*

WCWF presents its third annual performance of local original plays, essays short fiction and poetry. The works are submitted by local artists for the WCWF Writers Challenge in May. Pieces are selected by a panel of writer/judges and the producer. Artists may read their own work, as the past performers (shown right) chose to do, or they may have actors perform for them. This is a showcase for the many talented authors in the Grand Valley. Join us for an evening of entertainment as your friends and neighbors share their talents on stage.

*Robert Tallarico, Melinda Rice with niece Lula Dobbs, and Terry Chase performed in 2018.*



WITH SUPPORT FROM  
**City of Grand Junction**  
COLORADO  
COMMISSION ON  
ARTS & CULTURE

**Friday June 28 - 7pm  
Saturday June 29 - 2pm  
KAFM Radio Room  
1310 Ute Ave., GJ, CO**

  
**KAFM88.1**  
SOLAR POWERED  
COMMUNITY RADIO

**How Do I Get My Muse to Come out and Play?**

**Writers Night - June 4, 2019**

**The Art Center • 7th and Orchard, GJ, CO • 5:30-7:30**

*Rebecca Mullen returns with her vivacious personality, her positive encouragement and her great ideas to help us make contact with the ever-elusive muse.*



## WHAT YOU MISSED!



### AVOIDING THE 10 MOST COMMON GRAMMATICAL MISTAKES

*Dr. Jennifer Hancock, CMU professor, has over twenty years of experience wrestling with grammar problems in her students' writing, and focuses on giving them the tools they need to write with clarity.*

A record crowd attended on May 4 to hear Dr Hancock expound on grammar. Who would have thought grammar to be so interesting? But soon she had us laughing and listening. We contemplated such exciting aspects as subject-verb agreement, dangling modifiers and plural forms. We took a test (oh, yeah!) and discovered our own weaknesses in grammatical form. Well worth the time.

# Why read your work out loud?

Katie McCoach, content editor and blogger, decided to give it a try. She, like many writers, had kept her writing and editing in the safe silence of her mind. This was her experience.

"I began reading aloud ... when no one was home and was shocked at how often I would stop and find myself rewriting a line here and there. Oh, that doesn't sound right. Did I really just use the word dull three times in one paragraph? And, the interesting part is – I have read this piece so many times over the past couple years. I've read it after taking a break for a few months and still I never noticed these issues. It was amazing what reading aloud did for my story."

Best-selling author Claire Cook has similar advice for self-editing, Cook suggests:

"The best one I know is to read your work out loud. You'll absolutely pick up mistakes you'd otherwise miss. This is particularly helpful with dialog. If it doesn't sound like something someone would actually say, it won't come out of your mouth right. But this technique also helps me hear other mistakes and to find the rhythm of my work. Try it — I think you'll like it!"

Another thing to keep in mind with reading your writing out loud – if you do become a published author, attending events and readings, this is a skill set you will want to perfect early on. Master it before you have to face a larger audience – practice with writing groups and in the comfort of your own room. You'll find your rhythm and learn to love your writing that much more. You wrote it, so why shouldn't you feel great reading it?

If you haven't practiced this before, I encourage you to try it now, or as soon as you can!

## BEACON

Do you love meeting new people and recording their stories? The BEACON Senior Newspaper is looking for fresh voices to join their freelance writing staff. Send a cover letter and writing samples to

<mailto:beacon@pendantpublishing.com>

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TO POETRY.

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# AROUND THE REGION

## Grand Junction

### Mesa County Library

Poetry Night - Wed., June 12, 6pm. With Lisa Connors and Jennifer Hancock, assistant professor of English at CMU. Find other events at [mesacountylibraries.org](http://mesacountylibraries.org).

### Poets & Writers of CMU

CMU reading is in hiatus for the summer.

### Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers



Saturday, June 15, 9-Noon, 2591 Legacy Way, GJ, CO. Topic is **Audio Books: How to Turn the Written Word into the Spoken!** The speaker is Sandra Murphy. Did you know that the highest growing segment of publishing is audiobooks? Creating an audiobook is not intimidating once you know the basics. This workshop will cover top audiobook trends, writing with speaking in mind, hiring a compelling narrator, and best practices for getting started in the world of audiobooks. Sandra will discuss all the details needed to help you give your book a voice and secure more lifetime fans of your work.

ALSO: Check out the on-line class - How to Write (and Finish!) Your First Novel with Natasha Watts on June 2.

<http://rmfw.org/events/free-programs/ws/>

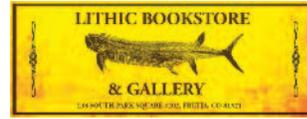
Contact Terri Benson: [tbenson@gjincubator.org](mailto:tbenson@gjincubator.org)

Poetry Reading and Writing - Tuesday nights, 6:30-7pm - Writing; 7-8pm Reading. Red Lion Gallery and Art Studio, 546 Main, in the Mercantile Building. Hosted by Anne Harter and Carley Smith, co-sponsored by WCWF.

## Fruita

### At the Lithic

138 South Park Sq., #202, Fruita, CO - Th-Sat, 12-8. Check out Lithic Book Store's New Calendar of Events at <https://lithicbookstore.com/western-slope-literary-calendar/2018-01/>



### Talking Gourds Tour

In hiatus for the summer. Contact Art Goodtimes, [shroompa@gmail.com](mailto:shroompa@gmail.com)

### Ridgway

Ridgway's Open Bard Series in hiatus. Check for current info here. <https://www.facebook.com/RidgwayPoetrySeries/>

### Aspen

Aspen Poets Society reading, last Sunday of the month. For more information Contact Lisa Zimet at (970)379-2136 or [lisamaxz@aol.com](mailto:lisamaxz@aol.com)

Pitkin County Library Open Mic, first Thursdays, 5-8pm. To sign up in advance email: [monique.rodriguez@pitkincounty.com](mailto:monique.rodriguez@pitkincounty.com)

## READING ALOUD SUGGESTIONS:

- Read from a paper copy so you can make notes and changes as you go. Don't wait - stop and make corrections when you notice them.
- Read at a moderate pace; don't smooth over, fill in or make oral corrections.
- Read backward by the sentence or paragraph to catch grammar and content errors.
- Ask a friend to read your work, and notice if they stumble or don't understand.
- Notice both voice and style - what overall impression are you creating?

## Fischer Prize and Colorado Cantor Awards for Poetry

Winners of the Fischer and Cantor awards were announced at the Telluride Institute's Festival last month. Winner of the \$1,000 prize goes to **C(h)ord** by Carlos Andrés Gómez of Forest Hills (NY). Colorado's Cantor Prize goes to **The Poet's Broken Heart** by Renee Podunovich of Dolores (CO). Five finalists received \$200 each. Details at [www.tellurideinstitute.org/2019-fischer-cantor-winners-announced/](http://www.tellurideinstitute.org/2019-fischer-cantor-winners-announced/)

### *Summer hiatuses got you down? Hungry for more poetry? Try this blog!*

Science writer Christie Aschwanden (from Cedaredge) and Rosemerry Trommer (a poet from Telluride) co-host Emerging Form, a podcast on creative process. They are just completing their first season. The podcast features 30-minute episodes that explore themes such as getting started, when to quit, how to promote healthy collaborations, how to ask for feedback, and existential despair. They often invite guests from other creative fields to help get a bigger picture. The two writers also host a FB page for listeners to discuss their own responses to the same two questions they ask their guests.

Please check it out—it's available on iTunes and other podcast platforms, and here is the website: <https://emergingform.blubrry.net/>

# WCWF Wrap-Up

## Report from the Board

The Board met May 9 2019, in the CFI Solarium with members Joe Wilcox, Joe Skinner, Linda Skinner, Carly Smith and Chris Kanaly.

The financial report was approved. The board approved to pay \$500 for liability insurance.

The workshop with Jodie Hollander was discussed as there has been only one sign-up. We agreed that if we could get 7 people, the Board would front the rest of her fee of \$250.

We discussed the new Paypal app for merchant services which Joe acquired so we can take cards at events.

***The Board needs new members. Attend the June 5 meeting. Get everything FREE if you join.***

## WCWF Board Members

Chairman - Joe Wilcox  
 Secretary/Treasurer - Joe Skinner  
 Program Director - Linda Skinner  
 PR/Newsletter - Virginia Jensen  
 Linda Evans • Carly Smith  
 Chris Kanaly

To contact a board member email to:  
[wwritersforum@gmail.com](mailto:writersforum@gmail.com)

## General Information

Pay your dues or make a donation at [www.westerncoloradowriters.org](http://www.westerncoloradowriters.org), or send a check to WCWF, 740 Gunnison Ave., Suite 205, GJ, CO 81501. Check out and like our Facebook page so that you'll be even more up to date. Volunteers who can help with PR, set up events, and liaison with community groups are welcome. You *are* WCWF.

# Western Slope Writers' Calendar - June 2019

| Sun  | Mon | Tue  | Wed                                      | Thu  | Fri  | Sat  |
|--|-----|--|--|--|--|--|
| <p><i>The fire of literacy is created by the emotional sparks between a child, a book, and the person reading. It isn't achieved by the book alone, nor by the child alone, nor by the adult who's reading aloud—it's the relationship winding between all three, bringing them together in easy harmony. —Mem Fox</i></p> |     |  |  |  |  | 1  |
| 2  | 3   | 4<br>Writers Night at the Art Center, 5:30-7:30pm, p.1   | 5<br><b>Board Meeting 11am, CFI, p.1</b> | 6<br>Prose Critique, 1:30-3:30<br>Pitkin Cty. Lib.; 5-8pm, p.3 | 7  | 8  |
| 9  | 10  | 11<br>Every Tuesday, Poetry Write/Read, 6:30, Red Lion, p.3  | 12<br>Poetry Night, GJ Library, 6pm, p.3 | 13   | 14   | 15<br>RMFW Audio-book Workshop, 9-noon, p.3              |
| 16   | 17  | 18   | 19                                       | 20<br>Prose Critique Groups, 1:30-3:30; 6-8pm                  | 21   | 22   |
| 23   | 24  | 25   | 26                                       | 27   | 28<br><b>Write Out Loud</b><br>KAFM Radio Room, 7pm, p.1 | 29<br><b>Write Out Loud</b><br>KAFM Radio Room, 2pm, p.1 |
| 30<br>Poets Read, 6:30pm, Aspen, p.3   | 31  | <p><i>Become tough through exposure to the opinions of others, through which you will eventually learn your own genuine opinion of your writing...In the end writing because you care about writing, and writing to be true to yourself, are the only things that matter. —Viet Thanh Nguyen, The Writer, Feb 2017</i></p> |  |  |  |  |