

Current News & Views

**Next open WCWF board meeting -
Bring your input for 2020; RSVP please
December 10, 3:30 at CFI. See p.3.**

Save the Date

SLAM “Why We Have Hope” coming on January 21 with Bobby Le Febre, nationally known slam poet from Denver. Actions are underway to host this on line if live site is not available. If you are a poet, think about writing a slam of three minutes or less on the theme. Event will be hosted as a facebook event by Caleb Fergancheck. Entries will be via videos from poets. For information see www.westerncoloradowriters.org.

POETRY NIGHT AT THE LIBRARY in GJ is in hiatus again. Due to increase in COVID cases, the library is ceasing some operations. Go to mcpld.org for more information.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN FICTION WRITERS remains active on line. See their info for blogs, podcasts, on-line workshops and more at their web site: rmfw.org

WCWF survives on dues and grants. Pay your dues, make a donation or find out what you can sponsor at www.westerncoloradowriters.org.

Send email, news and contributions to virg@leafmedia.com

“Keep Reading” says local author Colleen Story

What a wonderful time to catch up on our reading! Familiar WCWF workshop leader Colleen Story offers us her suggestions just in time. Colleen is a native of Palisade and returns regularly to visit. Her workshops over the last few years have encouraged us to promote, promote, promote. And she is great example with her monthly blog. Here she recommends her favorite fiction and nonfiction books of 2020. Check out her site for comments and brief synopses.

<http://writingandwellness.com/2020/11/30/my-top-8-books-for-2020-5-novels-and-3-nonfiction/>



December Writers Night Unfortunately Cancelled Writers Don't Read this December

It's always a joy to know what everyone is writing – and to hear them read it! But COVID's resurgence in Mesa county and all over the country has severely limited our ability to gather safely. We miss this delightful opportunity and hope to bring you an exciting menu of Writers Nights in the near future.

Our continued thanks to the Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture for their financial support and their interest and investment in this community.



Prompt and Circumstance • In hiatus until 2021

Due to Thanksgiving and Christmas so near to the last Thursday this event will not be held in November or December. Have a wonderful Holiday Season.

Info at westerncoloradowriters.org

Embassy International 28th Annual POETRY CONTEST

Must be received by April 15, 2021

Over \$1,000 in prize money to be awarded and an invitation to read either live at the Dancing Poetry Festival at the Palace of the Legion of Honor or virtually on Zoom.

Three Grand Prizes will receive \$100 each plus their poem costumed, choreographed and performed by Natica Angilly's Poetic Dance Theater Company.

Six First Prizes - \$50 each

Twelve Second Prizes - \$25 each

Thirty Third Prizes - \$10 each

All winners will be invited to read at the Dancing Poetry Festival and receive an award certificate suitable for framing.

CONTEST RULES

Line Limit: 38 lines maximum each poem. No limit on number of entries

Send TWO typed, clear copies of each entry

Show name, address, telephone number, e-mail and how you heard about us on ONE copy only (The anonymous copy goes to the judges. Judges decisions are final.)

Poems must be in English or include English translation. No poems will be returned.

Entry Fee: One poem for \$5 or 3 poems for \$10 (Poets outside the USA, please send an international postal money order in US dollars).

Make checks payable to Artists Embassy International

Send all entries and fees postmarked by April 15, 2021, to...

AEI Contest Chair, Judy Cheung

704 Brigham Ave.

Santa Rosa, CA 95404 USA

KEEP WRITING

It's so easy to get bored, staying home and missing the inspiration, personal feedback (and competition) of our writing friends, but we can encourage each other in many other ways. WCWF Board member Annette Ferriole offers some holiday writing prompts for the newsletter.

1. A holiday card arrives in the mail 50 years after it was delivered...
2. A Christmas ornament is enchanted...
3. Notes and gifts from a secret Santa take a strange turn...

These are taken from the website bryndonovan.com

Greenhouse wins Fischer Prize, Oreskovich the Cantor Prize

TELLURIDE ... The Telluride Institute's Talking Gourds poetry program is happy to announce that Jonathan Greenhouse of New Jersey has won the 23rd national \$1000 Fischer Prize with his poem, "Thanks a Lot, Shakespeare, for the Starling." And Mark Oreskovich of Pueblo has received the \$500 Cantor Prize for the best poem by a Colorado poet in the Fischer competition, "The Sunflower Miners." This year's judge was Claire Blotter of San Rafael (CA).

"In three short stanzas, Greenhouse skillfully navigates from the personal to the political to the historic – and finally, back again to the personal with a poet's sharp eye and profound empathy," explained Blotter. "This poem shines among those that espouse the sometimes contradictory values of preserving the earth, its bird and animal life."

"It's wonderful to honor Colorado poet Mark Oreskovich who writes about local history and the miners who immigrated from the Old World to their Promised Land," said Talking Gourds co-director Art Goodtimes.

Raised in Pueblo, Colorado, Oreskovich calls this city home again after years in Pittsburgh and Chicago. Away from work, he writes poetry, sings, and plays both guitar and a Croatian folk instrument called a tambura, which is obscure but lovely. He shares life with Annie, who "smiles when she sleeps, and paints like God, to borrow Guy Clark's phrase." They have two daughters, Molly and Willa.

This year there were 230 poets participating in the contest and over 500 poems submitted. The top-five finalists for the Fischer Prize — each receiving a \$200 award — included Melissa Studdard of Texas for "Migration Patterns," Partridge Boswell of Vermont for "Upon Hearing Amy Winehouse at St. James Church in Dingle" (which first appeared in Poetry), Julie E. Bloemeke of Georgia for "After Rousseau's 'The Dream,' Museum of Modern Art, 2016," A. Kaiser of New York for "Shape Shift," and V. Penelope Pelizzon of Connecticut for "Sentimental Education" (which first appeared in Gulf Coast).

All the poems can be viewed here: <https://www.tellurideinstitute.org/fischer-prize/>

For more info, contact Art Goodtimes <shroompa@gmail.com> or Galaxy <galaxyearthdancer@gmail.com>

WCWF Wrap-Up

The Board's next meeting, Dec. 10 at 3:30, will be held at the Center for Independence and/or on line. Meetings are open to members.

In November, we continued discussing organization of the twelve bibliotherapy workshops - who would manage classes, who would lead and how to promote.

Writers Nights and Prompt and Circumstance events were also topics of planning.

Some meetings are being cancelled due to the upcoming holidays.

We are holding as many meetings as we can live or live with Zoom. Much is dependent on conditions. If you have questions or you wish to attend the open meeting, contact the board at writersforum@gmail.com

Please be safe and well and keep writing!

WCWF Board Members

Linda Skinner, Pres.

Virginia Jensen, Vice Pres.

Jane Miller, Sec.

Erica Kitzman, Treas.

Sunny Ramsey • Carly Smith

Caleb Ferganchick • Annette Ferriole

To contact a board member email to:

writersforum@gmail.com

General Information

Pay your dues or make a donation at 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.

Write Now: Re-Building Community Through Self-Expression

Western Colorado Writers' Forum and Postvention Alliance present a series of programs intent on fostering community and personal resiliency through writing and art.

The Writers' Forum and Post-vention Alliance received a \$7,500 grant from Arts in Society, a state group that is part of Colorado Creative Industries. The grant funds a series of workshops aimed at different community groups with the theme of "Re-Building Community"

Postvention Alliance is a Grand Junction non-profit organization dedicated primarily to suicide prevention, suicide loss survivors, and family and friends affected by suicide. They also assist first responders, faith leaders and funeral directors, children and teens, underserved populations and overdose bereavement.

Workshop schedule to be announced:

Workshop Facilitators for all groups we want to serve, caretakers teens and veterans, agree the groups should be in person. A schedule of classes will be developed when it becomes safe to meet again. If you are interested in being a part of any of these writing groups, please send you name, email and a note about what you are looking for to writersforum@gmail.com.

Join us for free workshops where we will experiment with ways to adapt to challenging times

We will explore creativity, self-expression, self-compassion, helpful ways of thinking and build community through the use of writing prompts, stories, poems and art.

No writing experience necessary!

Sign-up information will be available in the future at our web site: westerncoloradowriters.org. Additional information can be obtained by emailing WCWF.

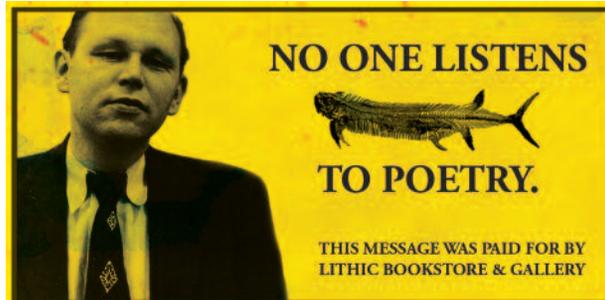
If you are interested in any group, please send your contact information including your email to writersforum@gmail.com



With grant support from:

ARTS IN SOCIETY

A Denver-based collaborative grant-making program that fosters cross-sector work through the arts by supporting the integration of arts and culture into multiple disciplines critical to the health and well-being of Coloradans. The program is administered by RedLine Contemporary Art Center..



Amy M Monger
hair & color professional
(970) 201.4244
2412 F rd, unit 8, suite 112
grand junction, co 81505
www.aerohairstudio.com
amymonger@gmail.com



aero hair studio