

Current News & Views

**Next open WCWF board meeting -
Bring your input for 2020; RSVP please
February 11, 3:30 at CFI. See p.3.**

STUBBORN PRAISE Three poets read online. Feb 8, 6pm. See p. 2 for info and registration.

Fischer Prize Winner Reads - Feb 2
Jonathan Greenhouse reads online at the Bardic Trails event. See page 3 for more on Bardic Trails. Register at <https://telluridelibrary.org/events/>

Save the Date

MARCH 2 WRITERS NIGHT Features young adult writer Renee Collins who will talk about inventing worlds.

Wyoming Writers Contest is open to all. Entry fee \$15, deadline March 12. Includes fiction, non-fiction and poetry. Contest rules and guidelines at <https://wyomingwritersinc.wildapricot.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

WRITERS NIGHT: ZINE YOUR FEELINGS



Join poet Tori Miner as she talks about instant self publishing, approaches for self expression and slam poetry. She won third place in the adult category last November at the annual Western Colorado Writers Forum Poetry Slam competition at Colorado Mesa University. Her exuberant and positive energy is inspiring.

Writers Night on ZOOM

February 2, 2021, 6pm MST

To receive log-on information, go to

www.westerncoloradowriters.org

Workshop limited to 20 participants



T. L. Christiansen's January Writers Night workshop "Marketing your Story: Avoiding the Pitfalls" can now be found on our website under media.

Colorado poet Wendy Videlock had a poem published on Inauguration day on the premier poetry magazine Rattle. To read it click [HERE](#)

Writing by Writers sponsors "Reading by Writers"

Writing by Writers is a non-profit group out of California whose mission is "to create a rigorous and compassionate environment to learn the art of reading and writing from accomplished authors." They offer seminars, workshops, residencies and fellowships. Readings By Writers is a free, online event held every week where writers discuss their new books over Zoom. Pam Houston, who some will be familiar with from her visit to GJ, hosts the event. Join them on Thursday evenings at 5pm PDT/8pm EDT. Upcoming authors on Readings By Writers are:

Feb. 18 - Nadia Owuso: Aftershocks

Feb. 25 Elle Johnson: The Officer's Daughter

Mar. 18 - Joshua Mohg: Model Citizen

More information at:
www.writingxwriters.org

stubborn

praise



AN EVENING CELEBRATING HERE AND NOW THROUGH POETRY

Registration is NOW OPEN! This FREE poetry discussion features Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer, James Crews and Naomi Shihab Nye!

The evening will begin with a few poems by each of the hosts, then a reading by Nye, and then a conversation between the three about poetry and how it is helping us meet this moment.

Monday, February 8 • 6 p.m (MDT) • Register at:
https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_xJqAsVcBRB6psjpaEjkE3g

Also James Crews has agreed to host a 6-week webinar series with SHYFT on mindfulness and writing, beginning Feb. 26. Themes include self-care, welcoming what's difficult, the practice of joy, and MORE! Here's a link for tickets!
www.eventbrite.com/e/mindful-writing-with-james-crews-tickets-137836473603

– Carrie Behounek, SHYFT at Mile High
(SHYFT is a mindfulness center in Denver)

POETRY CONTEST

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. Must be received by April 15, 2021. Details at:

www.dancingpoetry.com/dpfpoetrycontestrules.html

Reading About Writing

Always be reading, always be writing. Isn't that the advice we hear from a lot of successful writers? Perhaps we could add always be reading ABOUT writing. I have found many informative and inspiring books over the decades during which I've been attempting to write well. Every now and then another one comes into my hands. This book was on the recommendation of a fellow writer.

The Hidden Machinery: Essays on Writing by Margot Livesey was published in 2017. She has written eight novels and a story collection, plus. She is a professor of fiction at the Iowa Writers' Workshop; if you've ever wished for this highly reputed learning experience, here is your chance. These essays delve into the thinking, planning and understanding that goes into the creation of excellent writing. Her style is personable and her examples pertinent. You will feel as if you have drifted off to Iowa. And you will be glad you did.



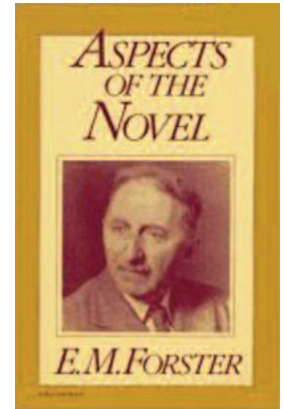
Her frequent references to EM. Forster's book about the novel led me to seek it out.

Aspects of the Novel by E. M Forster was published in 1927 and at times seems a bit dated, but his depth and experience make up for it. You would probably know Forster for his novels *A Room with a View*, *Howards End* and *A Passage to India*. First given as a series of lectures at Cambridge University, *Aspects of the Novel* is Forster's analysis of this great literary form. If you want to know what made the great books great, this is the book to read. It is written in an engaging conversational manner, full of irreverence, wit and wisdom.

These books delve into the depths of writing in a deep but very readable manner. I was so enthralled with my library copies that I purchased both for my own library.

I hope others will share their finds. What a great time to be reading about our favorite thing while we have the time at home.

–The Editor



Check out the RMFW Podcast

Interviews with fiction writers, teachers, and members of Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers (RMFW).

Don't miss out on these fascinating interviews done by Mark Stevens with great members from our community and beyond! This week's podcast features Wendy Howard & Paul Martz on First Encounters. Go to <https://rmfw.org/its-a-podcast/>



WCWF Wrap-Up

The Board's next meeting, Feb. 11 at 3:30, will be held at the Center for Independence and/or on line. Meetings are open to members. We are happy to have become versed at bringing you on line events on ZOOM.

In January, we discussed when to reinitiate the twelve bibliotherapy workshops and the upcoming poetry slam.

Writers Nights will continue on the first Tuesday of the month as a zoom meeting; Prompt and Circumstance events will be discontinued until further notice into 2021.

We would love to meet with you all again in-person. 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.

Talking Gourds wins grants, hosts Bardic Trails and recommends Chesonis for another San Miguel County Poet Laureate term

TELLURIDE ... Grants from the family of Elaine Cantor Fischer and the Guttman Foundation have guaranteed a 2021 season for the Telluride Institute's Talking Gourds.



"We're delighted with the continuing support..." said Art Goodtimes, Talking Gourds co-director. "And, thanks to a second grant from the Guttman Foundation,

we have moved ... to online Zoom meetings through the Wilkinson Public Library -- a series that we're calling Bardic Trails."

The first Bardic Trails virtual reading last week was a success with some 50 participants and an intimate reading by 2020 Cantor Prize winner Mark Oreskovich of Pueblo.

At the recommendation of Talking Gourds, San Miguel County is planning to re-appoint between the Covers Bookstore co-owner Daiva

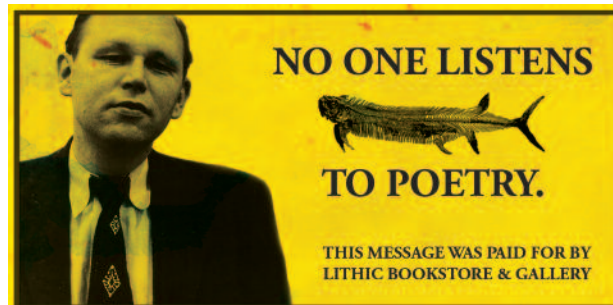
Chesonis to a second two-year term as County Poet Laureate. "I'm thrilled," she told the Telluride Institute. "The second term will afford me the chance to really put time into the Laureateship to do the Rella project proud, continue on with my on-going poem "The Ballad of San Miguel County", and get a book published."

The Talking Gourds poetry program is now accepting submissions for the national Fischer Prize on its website. In addition to the Fischer \$1000 prize and five \$200 finalist prizes, the Colorado poet scoring highest in the contest will receive the Cantor Prize of \$500. This year's judge will be Santa Fe's Donald Levering.

Talking Gourds is initiating a membership drive this year to match our successful grant appeal efforts. For more information on becoming a member and members benefits, go to: www.tellurideinstitute.org/talking-gourds/

—submitted by Art Goodtimes

Bardic Trails registration happens with the Wilkinson Public Library and will take place on the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. Winter dates will be February 2 featuring 2020 Fischer Prize winner Jonathan Greenhouse and March 2 featuring 2020 Fischer Prize finalist Anne Kaiser.



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