

## Current News & Views

**Monthly WCWF board meeting**

Send your helpful input to us at  
[writersforum@gmail.com](mailto:writersforum@gmail.com)

**Next Meeting is Nov. 18, 6:30 at CFI**

November 4 - FATT Critique Group is restarting after their long hiatus. The next step from writing all alone toward publishing your work is sharing your writing with other serious writers who offer you feedback. Details on page 2.

## Save the Date

**TAKE THE MIC! DECEMBER WRITERS NIGHT** will be our usual open reading. Sign up to read at [wwritersforum@gmail.com](mailto:writersforum@gmail.com) or at the event. Location of this event is **TBA**. Look for location announcement here, in your email, or on our web site.

Writers Nights will continue into 2022. Our new team of program developers is hard at work securing a new round of presenters, including old favorites and new faces, with topics that will move your writing forward. Look for announcements here and check our web site for details.

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

# Writing Toward Healing and Transformation

Laura Tohe will use various poet's work as examples as we write poems or stories about healing and transformation. Language, song, prayer, and thinking can be healing for ourselves, our community, and for the earth.

Laura Tohe is the Navajo Nation Poet Laureate. An award-winning poet, she was twice nominated for the Pushcart Award. She is Professor Emerita with Distinction from Arizona State University.



**WCWF Writers Night • Nov. 1, 2021 • 6pm at The Art Center**  
7th and Orchard, Grand Junction, CO • Registration appreciated, please go to [westerncoloradowriters.org](http://westerncoloradowriters.org).



## Plotting a Mystery

Saturday, Nov 13, 2021, 9-noon  
2591 Legacy Way Grand Junction CO

Whether a cozy, a police procedure or a bloc -buster thriller, all mystery stories share common plot elements. Join author Cindi Myers to learn about the essential elements of a mystery novel and how you can use these elements to plot your own novel. Together we will plot an impromptu mystery as a group.

Cindi Myers is a western slope writer and long-time member of RMFW. She is the author of over 200 published novels including 30 romantic suspense titles.

Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers regularly sponsors workshops at the Incubator in Grand Junction. Local representative Pam Chiaro welcomes WCWF members with coffee tea and snacks at 9; workshop begins at 9:15.



## WCWF CRITIQUE GROUP EMERGES FROM HIATUS

The F.A.T.T. Critique group (First And Third Thursdays) will restart November 4 and 18, 1:30-3:30, at the Center for Independence, 740 Gunnison Avenue, Grand Junction. There are some who can only make it once a month, or contribute once a month; the FATT group will take you in!

For those of you who have commitments and can't make that first date, if you would please let us know best time(S) and date(S) for you, we might be able to form another critique group for you. Please send us that information so we have it for the first meetup. Contact coordinator Jane Miller at: [cjmiller@gobrain-storm.net](mailto:cjmiller@gobrain-storm.net)

You will enter Center for Independence through the west, or left door as you're facing the Center for Independence at 744 Gunnison Avenue. It's locked, but ring the bell and you

will be let in. The stairs are on your immediate left when you enter the door. The Solarium meeting room is at the top of those stairs. Hope to see you there!

Masks are required until you get to meeting room, which is on the second floor.

We are also starting a remote (zoom) group for those of you in outlying areas or want to participate by zoom.

*“Remember: when people tell you something’s wrong or doesn’t work for them, they are almost always right. When they tell you exactly what they think is wrong and how to fix it, they are almost always wrong.”*  
– Neil Gaiman

## Fischer, Cantor and Other Poetry Prizes Announced

The Telluride Institute's Talking Gourds poetry program is happy to announce that Ja'net Daniello of Long Beach (CA) has won the 24th annual Fischer Prize with her poem, "We Thank the Veteran for his Service." Originally from Queens (NY), Daniello now teaches at Ceritos College. She has a chapbook out "The Song of Our Disappearing" (Paper Nautilus, 2020) and hosts her own website.

Our Western Slope neighbor Madison Gill of Montrose has won the 24th annual Cantor Prize with her poem, "Urraca." Gill has performed at literary events and university-level conferences around Colorado and has published in print and on-line with Sledgehammer Literary Journal, Anti-Heroic Chic, Tiny Spoon, Tempered Steel and others.

Five Fischer Prize finalists will also receive \$250 each.

One of this year's finalists, Partridge Boswell of Vermont, was a finalist last year as well. His poem this year was "Pop a Wheelie." Boswell is Co-founder of Bookstock Literary Festival and troubadours widely with the poetry/music group Los Lorcás.

Other finalists include Stephanie Bailey of California for "The Patron Saint of Letting Go," Bianca Darby-Matteoda of California for "bird cry," Mitchell Untch of California for "Eden," and Janet Ruth of New Mexico for "Sacred Datura." Read winning poems here: [www.tellurideinstitute.org/2021-fischer-cantor-prize-winning-poems/](http://www.tellurideinstitute.org/2021-fischer-cantor-prize-winning-poems/).

## Accomplishments

Virginia Jensen has been a WCWF Board member for nearly seven years. She has held the position of president, vice president and for all her years has also been the editor and producer of the WCWF Newsletter every month.



A long time graphic designer and publisher, Virginia was principal of her own ad agency for ten years, free lanced, and worked as graphic designer at the University of New Mexico, where she also studied creative writing. After moving to GJ and taking up art and serious writing, she has created, written and illustrated four books of beadwork designs, which were published by a major craft publisher.

Virginia is active in the workshops and readings as well as a member of several critique groups. "One great thing about being on the board," she says, "is that you end up going to every event, so I've learned a lot about writing and still hope to publish some fiction. Or maybe a memoir. One day."

In her other career as a beadwork designer Virginia sells her work at local craft fairs. Her original, hand-made earrings, necklaces and bracelets will be showing at the Art Center Holiday Arts and Crafts show, GJ, on the weekend of November 19-21. Her beadwork books are available at Amazon and other major book dealers.

**Holiday Arts & Crafts Fair**  
November 19-21  
The Art Center, 7th & Orchard, GJ

## WCWF Wrap-Up

The Board's next meeting is November 18, 6:30, in the Solarium at CFI. 740 Gunnison, GJ. The time has changed in order to accommodate new members. We are happy to have visitors.

The Board met on October 14 at CFI.

The library's "In This Together" anthology is at the printer. An event to showcase the work is planned at the library in December.

The visit of Laura Tohe was discussed and arrangements made for her many presentations and the disbursal of money.

New board members were elected; see below.

The Board is still needs some positions to be filled. If you have something to offer the writing community, please contact us or attend the next board meeting.

### WCWF Board Members

Melody Jones, Pres.

Virginia Jensen, Vice Pres.

Caleb Ferganchick, Sec.

Erica Kitzman, Treas.

Jane Miller • Linda Skinner

Melody Jones • Annette Ferriole

John Lancey • Avery Brooks

Christie Matherne

To contact a board member email to:

[writersforum@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.

## Writer Chicks Coffee Club

New location! Want a chance to connect with fellow writers? Join us every Wednesday morning from 9-10 a.m. in the Vault Room at Main Street Bagels for coffee, community, and camaraderie. Join our Facebook group of the same name. Ladies only. RSVP to [MelodyJones@MelodyJonesAuthor.com](mailto:MelodyJones@MelodyJonesAuthor.com)



## Poetry Night at the GJ main library resumes live meetings with host Lisa Connors

Poetry Night has resumed their regular gathering on the second Wednesdays at 6pm, upstairs, SE side of library. No reservations needed but must wear mask.

Check the library site for schedule and content at [mesacountylibraries.com](http://mesacountylibraries.com) and search events. For more info: email

[Lisa.a.connors@gmail.com](mailto:Lisa.a.connors@gmail.com)

**“Writing permits me to be more than I am. Writing permits me to experience life as any number of strange creations.”**

**—Alice Walker**

**NOVEMBER**  
**is national**  
**NaNoWriMo month**

## Bardic Trails Zoom poetry

Santa Fe poet Debbi Brody will be the featured reader at the Bardic Trails Zoom poetry webinar Tuesday, November 2nd at 7:00 pm (Mountain Time). Debbi is published in numerous books and magazines. Her latest book is *In Everything Birds*. A production of the Talking Gourds Poetry Program, Bardic Trails is a free event open to any who pre-register.

Register online by Nov 2nd at the Wilkinson Public Library to get Zoom Link.

Go to [telluridelibrary.org/events](http://telluridelibrary.org/events).

Future Bardic Trails: Dec. 7 with Al Zolynas

## 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! For courses, events and the latest Colorado writing news, go to <https://rmfw.org/its-a-podcast/>

## Confluence Studios

634 Main in GJ is dedicated to bringing art and community together to build a more vibrant, creative, and sustainable home for all of us in the Grand Valley.

Check out their many classes and opportunities for creating a variety of craft, art and writing, and receive their newsletter:

[www.imconfluencestudios.com](http://www.imconfluencestudios.com) or  
[facebook.com/imconfluencestudios/](https://facebook.com/imconfluencestudios/)