

Steamboat Springs Council
of the Arts & Humanities
1001 13th Street
P.O. Box 774284
Steamboat Springs, CO 80477

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Steamboat Springs Writers Group

A DAY FOR WRITERS IN STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

The Depot Arts Center, 1001 13th St.

July 27-28, 2018

The 37th Steamboat Springs Annual Conference will sharpen the skills of writers from all backgrounds and experience levels. Advance your creativity in the relaxed and friendly atmosphere of the town's historic train depot Arts Center, 1001 13th St.

CONFERENCE PRESENTERS

John Cotter



John, inaugural fellow at the Lighthouse Writers Fort Lyon residency, lived and worked with recovering addicts at a homeless shelter on the high plains of Colorado. He is author of nonfiction essays, memoir, short fiction, poetry, comics, art writing, literary criticism and the novel, *Under the Small Lights*. His writing has been published in *Volt*, *Puerto del Sol*, *Bookforum*, *Westword*, *Sculpture*, *Cuernnica*, *Catapult* and *Open Letters*. John's current project concerns the dynamics of sound and what the world resembles when sound disappears (excerpts in *Guernica*, *Catapult*, *Open Letters*, and YouTube). Read about John's work at <https://johncotter.net/>

John Cotter's Sessions - From Another Point Of View

We all know the difference between 1st, 2nd, and 3rd person, but there are more different shades of 3rd than we can fit on a color wheel. Free indirect, for example, in all its manifestations, remains the style de jour among contemporary fiction writers. Mastery of this style is an essential tool.

Close and Omniscient 3rd Person - All 3rd-person writing features, consciously or not, an "author character." We'll talk about the huge differences between the sort of 3rd-person that makes full use of this author character and 3rd-person fiction that strives to emulate a camera's objectivity. We'll learn the difference between "close" and "omniscient" third and talk about the way the style of discourse, indirect libre, or Free Indirect Discourse, evolved and matured. We'll study paragraphs from Edith Wharton, Katherine Anne Porter, and Herman Melville to get a solid handle on what this style of writing is and from whence it came.

Contemporary Use of Free Indirect Narration - A wide range of contemporary voices employ free indirect discourse--now the most common style of 3rd person narration. Learn what this hugely popular style can do for our own work. We'll read excerpts from American writers like Evan S. Connell, Joy Williams, Maureen McHugh, and J. Robert Lennon and we'll learn their magic tricks. You'll never read or write 3rd -person the same way again, and your work will be far stronger for it.

Rachel Weaver



Rachel was winner of the 2015 Willa Cather Award for Fiction for her novel, *Point of Direction*. It was named a Top Ten Titles by *Oprah Magazine*, a Top Ten Debut for spring 2014 by American Bestsellers Association, and an Indie Next List Pick. Also an editor and creative writing instructor, Rachel directs the Colorado Writing School and is on faculty at Regis University's MFA program in Denver. In 2017, she received the Lighthouse Writers Beacon Award for Teaching Excellence. Prior to earning her MFA from Naropa University, Rachel worked for the Forest Service in Alaska studying bears, raptors and songbirds. Find out more at www.RachelWeaver.net/

Rachel Weaver's Sessions - Techniques for Revising Your Manuscript

You've been writing furiously for months (or years) and that glorious day comes when you write the last sentence. Now what? Often what follows is many years of inefficient cutting and pasting, rewriting and moving around and moving back. It's easy to get caught in addressing surface problems rather than evaluating the backbone of the story from a crafting standpoint. Solid techniques to make your revisions as efficient and effective as possible will be discussed.

Revising Efficiently Part One: Character and Plot Arc, and Dramatic Tension - In the first hour, we'll discuss the first three main drafting stages: Filling the Page, Finding the Arc in Your Main Character and Your Plot, and Maintaining Dramatic Tension. Learn, in detail, how to go about successfully completing each of these stages.

Revising Efficiently Part Two: Evaluating Your Manuscript Theme - The focus is the final three drafting stages: Theme: Adding Dimension to Your Book, Deepening Your Scene Work/Setting, and Critical Review. After learning how to successfully complete each of these stages, you will feel confident your book is ready to head out into the world with no glaring issues.

OPTIONAL FRIDAY EVENING MEET AND GREET BUFFET

Kick off the conference at the optional Friday Evening Meet and Greet Buffet. A cash bar with wine, beer, and non-alcoholic beverages will be available to enjoy as you network with speakers and other attendees. Stay at Home Chef will cater your lovely buffet dinner, including vegetarian selections. After dinner enjoy FIVE MINUTES OF FAME as the first fifteen attendees who sign up, at no additional cost, will stand at the podium and share their writing talents.

A Day for Writers Schedule	
Friday July 27th	
5:30 pm	Meet and Greet Cash Bar
6:00 pm	Buffet Dinner
7:00 pm	Five Minutes of Fame
Saturday July 28th	
8:30 am	Check-in
	Buffet Continental Breakfast
9:00 am	Opening Session
9:30 am	Morning Workshops Begin
Noon	Break for Buffet Lunch
1:00 pm	Afternoon Workshops Begin
3:30pm	Q&A and Closing
SATURDAY BOOK SALES: Authors are encouraged to bring their books to sell and are responsible for their sales.	

A Day for Writers Registration Information	
Conference Fees	
Registration	\$60.00 before May 27 \$75.00 after May 27
Send 50 Word Bio for Completed Registration To Ba_Sparks@Yahoo.Com	
Meet and Greet Buffet (Conference Attendees Only)	
Conference Attendee	\$18.00
Attendee Guest	\$18.00
(No Children Please)	
Five Minutes of Fame (No additional fee)	
Sign up at Meet and Greet	
PLEASE prepare your five minute piece in advance	
Manuscript Critique	\$50.00

REFUNDS: 90% refund with written cancellation before June 25
50% if received June 26 - July 9
No refunds after July 9

QUESTIONS: Call 970-291-9115 or
Email: Info@SteamboatWriters.Com

CUT HERE AND RETURN WITH PAYMENT-----

REGISTRATION

Make check payable to: Steamboat Springs Council for the Arts (We cannot accept credit cards at this time.)

Mail registration and check to: SSAC, P.O. Box 774284, Steamboat Springs, CO 80477 Attn: Writers Conference

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____ **Phone** _____

CONFERENCE FEES \$60 Saturday Conference Fee (Before June 1) _____
 \$75 Saturday Conference Fee (After June 1) _____
 \$18 Friday Meet and Greet Dinner- Registered Attendee _____
 \$18 Guest (if applicable) _____
 Guest Name _____
 Total Enclosed Payable to Steamboat Springs Council of the Arts _____
 \$50 Manuscript Critique Fee (Separate Check payable to Rachel Weaver) _____

Please email your bio to Ba_Sparks@Yahoo.Com. Check the box to indicate it has been emailed.