



Program

JANUARY – MARCH 2017

SA

Writers

Centre Inc

Welcome to our 2017 Program

Our first quarter 2017 Program is here! We are excited to share with you a snapshot of all the things we have planned for our members and friends in the new year.

Throughout 2017 we'll be bringing you more of what you love — workshops, readings, networking events, mentorships, industry information and conferences — alongside some brilliant initiatives delivered in partnership with our industry friends, including Adelaide Writers Week, Express Media, Penola Arts Festival, Salisbury Writers Festival, Hachette Australia, Georgetown Literary Festival and more.

We're launching our new year-long SA Manuscript Incubator, a program designed to support writers to complete or redraft their novels or works of narrative nonfiction; as well as a new 'How to Write ...' series, where we invite selected experts to talk to our writers about their fields of expertise, from police investigators to fashion experts and body language professionals.

As always, we rely on members' feedback and participation to develop our program, so let us know what you'd like to see more of, and keep your eye on our enews for regular call outs for workshop presenters, readers, writers, mentors, volunteers and more.

Bookings

Bookings are essential. Please book online at www.sawriters.org.au

All program details are correct at publication, but details can change. Check our website and enews for updates. Registered participants will be contacted directly if there are any course changes. See our website for full terms and conditions.

Enquiries

EMAIL: admin@sawriters.org.au

PHONE: 0882237662

IN PERSON: Level 2, 187 Rundle St, Adelaide. Tuesday to Thursday, 10am to 5pm.

Accessibility

SA Writers Centre has a strong history of supporting writers with disability. The SA Writers Centre is an accessible venue and we accept Companion Cards. If you have specific access requirements, please contact us.



The SA Writers Centre is committed to ensuring access to our program, and supporting diverse writers, and those who face barriers on the basis of their gender, sexuality, ethnicity, language, religion, race, or through economic, geographic and other structural constraints.

Unless otherwise noted, all events at the SA Writers Centre are alcohol free.

Please contact us for information about scholarships and access to funded spaces.

The SA Writers Centre acknowledges that the land we work and meet on is the land of the Kaurna people, and we recognise their continuing relationship with land. We pay respect to Kaurna elders past, present and future.

SA Writers Centre is assisted by the Government of SA through Arts South Australia and by the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, its arts funding and advisory body.

Skills Development for Writers

SA Manuscript Incubator

19 February – 26 November 2017
Full Price \$1,895 Members Price \$1,195

Are you struggling to finish your manuscript? Looking for support to turn your first draft into a final polished product? The new SA Manuscript Incubator will challenge and inspire you, and give you the tools and networks you need to make 2017 the year of your manuscript.

This exclusive 10-month program is designed to provide the space and time, skills development, professional guidance and industry knowledge needed to complete your manuscript, and the skills and support to revise, redraft and refine it.

Participants will have access to high quality writing workshops, a monthly guided writers group for support and critique, personalised manuscript feedback, career consultations with industry experts, and more.

The SA Manuscript Incubator is suitable for both fiction and narrative nonfiction writers.

The package includes:

- 10 x guided group meetings covering critique, feedback, writing craft and industry topics
- 10 x writing craft workshops
- 2 x TWELVE workshops
- 1 x industry workshop (Getting Started or Getting Published)
- First Feedback and Pre-Submission Assessments
- Access to a private online space to share work and ideas
- Access to writing resources and support from SA Writers Centre staff
- Priority application to the 2017 or 2018 Adelaide Pitch Conference

Workshops: Sundays 10am – 1pm

19 February	Beginnings and Endings
26 March	Structure and Narrative Arc
30 April	Plotting and Pacing
28 May	Setting and Place
25 June	Character Building
30 July	Point of View
27 August	Dialogue
24 September	Creating Conflict
29 October	Editing
26 November	Synopsis and Pitching

Group Meetings: Wednesdays 5:30–7:30pm

8 February
15 March
19 April
17 May
14 June
19 July
16 August
13 September
18 October
15 November



Kickstart your writing year with a bang!

SA Writers Centre is delighted to be launching our 2017 Skills Development Program with two exclusive workshops by award-winning author Maxine Beneba Clarke. Renowned for her skills across almost every literary genre including spoken word performance, poetry, short fiction, memoir, and recently a children's book, Maxine is an extraordinarily diverse writer and one of the most dynamic and experimental voices in Australian literature today. Her work has also appeared in many of Australia's major literary publications and she currently writes for *The Saturday Paper*.

Join Maxine as she shares her techniques for unique feature and profile writing, or immerse yourself in her secrets to creating great short fiction. Whatever you do, don't miss this exclusive opportunity to learn from one of Australia's most accomplished storytellers.

Book early to avoid disappointment.

Profile Writing

With Maxine Beneba Clarke

Saturday 21 January 10am – 4pm
Full Price \$180 Members Price \$120

In her two years profile writing for *The Saturday Paper*, Maxine Beneba Clarke has shared the stage with Bad Feminist Roxane Gay, spent nine minutes shooting questions at actor Hugh Jackman, shared a drink with transgender porn star Buck Angel, chuckled with blind film critic Tommy Edison, and been escorted out of a department store for 'stalking' Santa Claus.

Join her to discuss the art of short-form profile writing, including interviewing techniques, framing, journalistic ethics, structure, narrative voice, pitching and editing.

Short Fiction

With Maxine Beneba Clarke

Sunday 22 January 10am – 1pm
Full Price \$90 Members Price \$60

Brush up on your fiction skills with short fiction writer Maxine Beneba Clarke, author of the multi-award-winning *Foreign Soil*. This course will explore all of the elements of good short fiction, including structure, characterisation, plotting, editing, and narrative voice.

Maxine Beneba Clarke is an Australian writer of Afro-Caribbean heritage. She is the author of three poetry collections, including *Carrying The World* (2016). Her short fiction collection *Foreign Soil* won the 2015 Indie Award for Best Debut Fiction, the 2015 ABIA Award for Best Literary Fiction, and was shortlisted for the Stella Prize. Her critically acclaimed memoir *The Hate Race* and her first children's book *The Patchwork Bike* were published in 2016. She writes for *The Saturday Paper*.

Word for Word

With Kerryn Goldsworthy

Saturday 28 January 10am – 4pm
Full Price \$160 Members Price \$95

We are re-running this incredibly popular workshop with renowned writer and reviewer Kerryn Goldsworthy because it sells out every year. Get in quick!

How often have you read a book, story or poem based on a great idea, or with a gripping plot or interesting characters, that has been spoiled by simplistic or clichéd writing?

In this workshop, Kerryn will teach you the value of choosing every word thoughtfully and carefully to maximise the emotional impact on your readers and enhance your storytelling.

Participants will learn:

- perfect individual word choices
- how to eliminate clichés and other lazy language choices
- how to make their writing more powerful, meaningful and effective
- the uses and abuses of aids such as the thesaurus and the rhyming dictionary
- awareness of elements of speech and their purpose in the construction of a sentence
- the way to use the sound of words – especially sentence rhythms, stresses, consonance and assonance – to enhance writing.

Dr Kerryn Goldsworthy is a freelance writer and critic who writes regularly for *Australian Book Review*, *The Sydney Review of Books*, *The Age* and *The Sydney Morning Herald*. Essayist, blogger, reviewer, fiction writer, and author of three books including *Adelaide* in the 'Cities' series, she was a lecturer in literature at Melbourne University for 17 years and has been teaching creative writing since 1983.



Getting Started

With Bethany Clark

Saturday 4 February 10am – 1pm
Full Full Price \$90 Members Price \$60

Keen to leap into writing but not sure where to start? Looking for beginner's inspiration, or to reignite a lost passion? This is **THE** workshop to kickstart your new writing journey.

Full of practical tips and honest advice, this workshop details how to get started, how to establish good writing practices, and where to find the support and resources available to early career writers. It will also help you to identify your publication goals and how to build pathways to achieve them.

Join Bethany Clark for this insightful session that will put a firecracker of inspiration under you.

'Bethany was engaging and inclusive. The workshop provided pertinent and practical advice for the craft of writing and her enthusiasm was infectious!' April 2016

'Getting Started was very engaging and interesting. Throughout the workshop I found myself writing down parts of my story I was struggling with. Loved it!' Jul 2016

Bethany Clark is the Program Manager for SA Writers Centre as well as a strategic communications consultant with extensive experience within the Australian publishing landscape as an editor, publicist, arts administrator and project manager. She is passionate about promoting Australian literature and works with authors, publishers, booksellers, libraries, writing centres and national reading and literacy organisations to promote their work, build their profiles and develop their readerships.

Getting Published

With Sarah Tooth

Saturday 4 February 2–5pm
Full Price \$90 Members Price \$60

There is an overwhelming amount of information available on how to get published, and — based on other writers' anecdotes — an infinite number of pathways to publication. But with a surplus of information, where do you start? And how do you decide which is the right path for you and your work?

One of the first steps towards getting published is understanding the publishing industry and how the publication process for traditional and self-published books works.

This workshop will provide you with an overview of the Australian publishing industry and the pathways to publication for traditional and self-published works, the resources available to writers hoping to be published, and tips on how to navigate the minefield that 'getting published' can be for aspiring authors.

'Very interesting and informative. For a beginner this workshop was eye opening!' Jul 2016

Sarah Tooth is the Director of the SA Writers Centre. She has more than 20 years experience as a writer, community arts worker, screen producer, arts manager, programmer and creative producer, and has worked for organisations as diverse as Brown's Mart Community Arts, the ABC's international television service (Australia Network), and the Ubud Writers & Readers Festival. She sits on a number of arts industry and tertiary advisory committees, received an Australia Council Artistic Leadership Grant in 2014 and is part of the 2016 Australia Council's Arts Leaders Program. She has spent many years connecting writers, readers and publishers, and advising emerging writers on pathways through the publishing jungle.

The Joy and the Fear: Writing Queer Lives

With Mag Merrilees

Sunday 5 February 10am – 1pm
Full Price \$90 Members Price \$60

What does it mean to be LGBTQI* or non-gender-binary? How does it shape a person's life? And how do we write about that experience?

This workshop will explore the powerful decisions that queer folk make (the ones that heterosexuals don't have to): coming-out, not coming-out, the labels, the challenges, the oppression, living 'out'. Covering love sex and more, it will give you an overview of what other writers have said, examine the ethics and politics of this writing, and provide practical writing advice.

Participants will learn to:

- position your writing in relation to existing LGBTQI and N-G-B writing
- identify the way labels and identity are used by queer folk and others
- identify the personal challenges with particular aspects of this writing
- identify the ethics and pitfalls of writing 'real life' in this genre
- explore writing possibilities ranging from first-person memoir to third-person fiction.

Margaret (Mag) Merrilees' second novel, *Take Big Rough Stones*, will be published this year. In 2012 her debut novel, *The First Week*, won the Wakefield Press Unpublished Manuscript Award. After publication it was shortlisted for a Barbara Jefferis Award, a NSW Premier's Literary Award, and the Onkaparinga People's Choice Award. In 2014, Wakefield Press published her *Fables Queer & Familiar*, illustrated by Chia Moan. A second volume will appear this year. The Fables started life as a blog and were also broadcast as a radio serial. Mag's short work has appeared in *Meanjin*, *Griffith Review* and *Island*.

* Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Trans/Queer/Intersex

Travel Writing Fundamentals

With Jo McKay

Saturday 11 February 10am – 4pm
Full Price \$160 Members Price \$95

If you've ever dreamed of becoming a paid travel writer — or simply want to understand the basics of travel journalism — then join Jo McKay for an in-depth look at travel writing.

Tackling everything from generating ideas, pitching features, crafting copy and fact-checking, to insider tips on how a travel journalist approaches each trip, this 6-hour course will unpack the fundamentals of travel writing and give you the skills to turn your wanderlust into words.

Participants will discover:

- what magazines expect from a pitch and a completed story
- the types of travel feature
- basics such as angles, structure and crafting
- the behind the scenes work required: dealing with PRs, in-depth research and planning itineraries
- how to write on the road and how to write without leaving town.

'Jo was great. Knowledgeable, open, friendly, keen to pass on her expertise and help us to learn.' Sept 2016

Jo McKay is a freelance journalist, editor and copywriter. Over the past fifteen years, she has written a wide range of lifestyle features including celebrity profiles, interiors, beauty, fashion, food, and travel. She has held senior editorial positions both in the UK and Australia, and her byline has appeared in a range of publications such as *Qantas*, *InStyle*, *Harper's BAZAAR* and *The Australian Women's Weekly*. A flaneur at heart, she has lived in six cities across three continents. Currently calling Adelaide home, her present focus is on travel journalism.

Creative Writing 101

With David Chapple

Sunday 12 February 10am – 1pm
Full Price \$90 Members Price \$60

Are you looking for inspiration to start your creative writing journey?

If you have passion, ideas and motivation then this workshop will add technique and confidence to your armoury, as well as offering a range of approaches to generate great writing. Not only will you discover your writing voice and form but you'll also uncover your strengths and unearth new confidence to complete your creative projects.

If you want to write creatively for yourself, or others, then this workshop will show you the breadth of contemporary writing practice, the challenges of the industry and the rewards of a life with words. This workshop is ideal for beginners or those who want to refresh their skills.

'Refreshing; innovative style; great humour; new ideas. Thank you! Time to get started...' Jan 2016

'Excellent. Lots of fun exercises. Dave was very passionate and encouraging'. Jan 2016

David Chapple is the Writing Development Manager at the SA Writers Centre and he spends his working life finding fantastic writers in surprising environments. He holds a Masters in Creative Writing, specialising in Writing and Health and has worked as the writer in residence in mental health projects, disability services and hospitals. He has also shared his unique approach to teaching creative writing within schools and prisons and has delivered creative writing projects for *The Big Issue*, *Flinders Medical Centre*, *Common Ground* and *Adelaide Cemeteries Authority*.



Beginnings and Endings

With Vikki Wakefield

Sunday 19 February 10am – 1pm
Full Price \$90 Members Price \$60

'Just when the caterpillar thought her life was over, she began to fly.'

Beginnings are hard, and endings can be elusive, but one cannot exist without the other. Never letting go of the thread, the vital connection between the first scene and the last, is what makes a story complete and unforgettable.

This workshop with award-winning author Vikki Wakefield will teach you the steps needed to create a compelling beginning, find connections throughout your story, and how to lay the trail that will lead you to a satisfying conclusion.

Participants will explore:

- Compelling beginnings (what to put in and what to leave out)
- Understanding style, tone and purpose
- The unspoken contract between writer and reader
- How perfect beginnings reveal perfect endings
- Endings (why they work and why they don't)

Vikki Wakefield's first novel *All I Ever Wanted* won the inaugural 2012 Adelaide Festival Literary Award for Young Adult Fiction, as did her second novel, *Friday Brown*, in 2014. Both *Friday Brown* and her latest book, *Inbetween Days*, were named CBCA Honour Books and shortlisted for the Prime Minister's Literary Awards, among others, and her novels have been published overseas, including the US, UK and Germany. Vikki lives and writes in her hometown, Adelaide.

Social Tales

With Greg Barila

Sunday 19 February 2–5pm
Full Price \$90 Members Price \$60

In this informative session with leading journalist and editor Greg Barila you will learn how to use social media as an effective tool for storytelling and reporting.

Explore the many ways in which you can monitor social media lists and feeds to discover story ideas, map trends, connect with great sources and tell engaging narratives over platforms such as Twitter or Instagram. And along the way learn insights about your audience which will enhance effective strategies for amplifying your work via social media.

Greg will also teach you which tools work best for which kinds of stories – and share his tips for gathering good quality pictures, video and audio, even if you're using your mobile phone. And on top of all that, he'll give you his recommendations for the best tools to measure audience and engagement.

'Greg was a great presenter; sharp, engaging and entertaining with straight forward, practical tips I can use straight away.' May 2015

Greg Barila is an award-winning journalist with *The Advertiser* in Adelaide. In his role as Audience Engagement Editor, Greg is responsible for building communities across digital platforms and finding new ways to engage readers around *The Advertiser's* journalism. His portfolio covers all things social media but also takes in new and emerging platforms, such as chatbots, app alerts, live video and podcasting. In 2011 – 12 he spent a year researching and writing about trends in digital and social media at News Corp's headquarters in New York.

How to write ... Crime

Tuesday 21 February 6–8pm
Full Price \$55 Members Price \$30

With Neil McKenzie

In great storytelling it is often the small details that can move characters and plots from one dimensional to riveting and real. In this new series of seminars, we invite a selection of experts to shine a light behind the scenes of their fascinating workplace, research, or specialised knowledge especially for the benefit of our writers.

Writing a crime thriller and wanting to know how a police investigation is really run in Australia? Striving to understand the emotional turmoil that police detectives go through when working a case, and when the peak stressors may occur? Wondering how the logistics of major crime task forces are employed?

Then come along to our first seminar in our How To Write ... series with a list questions ready and be prepared to be speechless. The last time Neil McKenzie joined us to share insights into his police career you could hear a pin drop in the room ...

Neil McKenzie is the former Deputy Police Commissioner for the South Australia Police. During a career spanning more than 30 years, Neil was involved in solving and prosecuting a number of the state's most high profile crimes, including the Truro Murders and the 'Bodies in the Barrels' case in Snowtown.

Adelaide Writers Week Workshops

4–9 March

SA Writers Centre, in partnership with Adelaide Festival of Arts, presents an exclusive series of writing workshops featuring Adelaide Writers' Week visiting international authors.

Presented by a selection of the most brilliant and provocative voices in contemporary global literature, these workshops are a once in a lifetime opportunity – and they will book out quickly!

Workshops will run throughout Adelaide Writers Week and dates and details about presenting writers will be released in January.

Register your interest now for an exclusive 24 hour pre booking period.

What participants thought of these workshops in 2016:

'A rare opportunity to be in a small group with a legend. Very generous, open and funny session.'

'The workshop was fantastic from start to finish – tons of useful info and very entertaining and funny as well.'

'Having the opportunity to do a workshop with a writer who I admire is amazing.'

'What worked well? Oh my goodness – everything! The best workshop I've ever done.'

'Thank you so much. This is my second AWW workshop and I am blown away.'

Poetic Form and Structure

With Jan Owen

Saturday 25 March 10am – 4pm
Full Price \$160 Members Price \$95

This workshop with award-winning poet Jan Owen is an intensive session for writers interested in learning how to shape a poem through line length, word choice, and patterning devices such as alliteration, repetition and rhythm.

Covering free verse and also traditional rhymed and metered verse forms including the sonnet, ballad, tanka and villanelle, Jan will also offer pointers on poetic structure, including the development and change of ideas, feelings and attitudes within the poem.

This workshop includes a mix of practical exercises, demonstration, assistance, and feedback as participants work on a number of first drafts in various forms.

So come ready to be inspired – and work!

Jan Owen is an award winning South Australian writer and translator whose awards include the Mary Gilmore Prize, the Gwen Harwood Poetry Prize, the Max Harris Poetry Award and the 2016 Philip Hodgins Memorial Medal. A compilation of her new and selected works, *The Offhand Angel*, was published in London in 2015 by Eyewear Publishing, and her volume of translations from Baudelaire's *Les Fleurs du Mal* was published in the same year by Arc Publications. A book of satirical limericks, *The Wicked Flowers of Charles Baudelaire* came out with Shoestring Press in June 2016.

Structure and Narrative Arc

With Jane Turner Goldsmith

Sunday 26 March 10am – 1pm
Full Price \$90 Members Price \$60

You may be a brilliant wordsmith, but if your novel lacks a strong narrative arc it will fail to hook your reader and keep them turning the pages.

This workshop introduces you to the classic narrative arc structure on which most blockbusters – both films and novels – are based. Using examples, the importance of narrative and other structural elements of the novel will be discussed, and through group exercises and discussion, you will develop the skills to apply them to your own writing projects.

Participants will learn:

- what a strong narrative arc is and how to create one
- the formula for a good story
- how planning and structure can improve your writing
- confidence and new techniques for storytelling.

'Fantastic workshop and great exercises. Jane really engaged with us and was so positive.' Aug 2016

'Great mix of participation, exercises and teaching. Very informative – has given me a lot to think about in my own writing.' Aug 2016

Jane Turner Goldsmith is a writer, psychologist and teacher. Her novel *Poinciana* (Wakefield Press, 2006) was shortlisted for a Commonwealth Prize. She has also published short stories, poetry and children's fiction and edited a non fiction anthology of adoption stories. She has worked as a content writer for the Black Dog Institute, taught fiction writing through TafeSA and edits SA Psychnews. She currently works as student counsellor at the University of Adelaide, and writes on mental health and wellbeing for staff and students.

Freelancing for Beginners

Sunday 26 March 2–5pm
Full Price \$90 Members Price \$60

With Benjamin Brooker

It can be difficult to know where to start as a freelance writer and confusing finding answers to your many questions like how much should I charge? What makes for a good pitch? Which publications are right for me? Do I need an ABN, to register for GST? Can I claim expenses?

And while the freedom and idea of being your own boss can be exhilarating, self-discipline and an understanding of best practice processes are crucial if you are to avoid being overwhelmed by too much work, or left aimless and penniless by too little.

This workshop with freelance writer Ben Brooker is a practical guide to getting started and includes tips on how to make the most of it from someone who's been there.

Participants will learn how to:

- take a pitch from idea to payment
- the ins and outs of pitching to editors
- how to set up the business side of being a freelance writer: fees, ABN, invoicing etc.
- how best to organise workplaces and daily writing schedules as a freelance writer
- how to look after yourself (physically and mentally) as a freelance writer and how to stay true to your own creative vision.

Ben Brooker is a writer, editor, critic, essayist, and playwright. His work has been featured by *Overland*, *New Matilda*, *New Internationalist*, *Australian Book Review*, *RealTime*, *The Lifted Brow*, and *Daily Review*. Ben was a featured playwright at the Emerging Writers' Festival Adelaide Roadshow in September 2014, and at the National Play Festival in Adelaide in July 2015. His most recently produced work for the stage was the dystopian triptych *This Storm* (which he also directed), a critical and commercial success at the 2016 Adelaide Fringe Festival. He is currently an inaugural Sydney Review of Books Emerging Critics Fellow.

TWELVE

Saturday 14 January + 25 February, 8am – 8pm
Full Price \$90 Members Price \$60
Discounted 12 Month Pass \$450

Do you have trouble finding the time to write? Are there too many distractions around you? Do you often think to yourself, 'if only I just had a day to write, I would get so much done?' If so, then The TWELVE experience is for you!

TWELVE is your 'no excuses, no limits, no distractions' opportunity to get your writing projects heated up to boiling point. No escape, no diversions, no wandering focus – just twelve uninterrupted hours of unadulterated writing. When there are no distractions, there's nothing left to do but write and you will surprise yourself at how much you get down on the page.

Whether you're getting a novel started, finishing a work in progress, or simply looking for dedicated time to focus creatively, investing in TWELVE is the way to do it. So join us for a life changing, writing marathon and unlock the writing creature from within!

People love our TWELVE events:

'I got the first 5000 words of my novel and the first 8 pages of my children's story done, finally. Thank you.'
May 2016.

'The quiet space, lack of distraction and support when needed. So useful and I managed to push through a difficult patch of writing and get some good momentum going with my project.' July 2016.

Networking Opportunities for Writers

Writing Group Mixer

Saturday 11 March 1–4pm
Full Price \$90 Members Price \$30

Calling all writers groups! It's time for our annual meet-up event for writers groups, and this year it's aimed especially at regional writers and groups.

Our Writing Group Mixer is an opportunity for regional writers to come together to network, share resources and ideas, and to plan collaborative projects that will bring together writers across our state.

It's open to representatives from all South Australian writers groups, both regional and metropolitan and regional members interested in joining a writing group are also welcome to attend.

And if that's not enough to get you along – the event also includes afternoon tea.

Member Meet Ups

FREE for Members

In 2017, our regular Member Meet Ups go genre!

We've heard the calls for us to provide an opportunity for members to meet others who share their writing passions. So from memoir to speculative fiction, poetry or history, you can now come to our Member Meet Ups and meet your fellow fans, or simply come along and test out a new genre.

These events are focused on building stronger community and connections between our members, and are an open, warm and inclusive way to start networking.

Dates for your diaries:

- **Thursday 9 Feb, 5.30pm: Children's & YA Meet Up.**
- **Thursday 30 March, 5.30pm: Historical Fiction Meet Up.**

See our website and enews for further dates and details.

#ADLLitDrinks

Thursday 19 January, 6pm
FREE, Publishers Hotel, Franklin St, Adelaide

Join us as we kick off the year with our first #ADLLitDrinks of 2017!

This event is a relaxed networking opportunity for those people in (or interested in) the writing industry. It's a great opportunity to meet your writing peers, connect with your community and find out what's happening in the world of words in SA.

So whether you are an old hat or a new member, writing fiction, non-fiction or a blog, join us to natter about writing, publishing, books, words, the weather ... whatever!

All welcome. RSVP essential. Happy hour specials and nibbles available.

Alcohol will be on sale at our #ADLLITDRINKS venues.

Performance Opportunities For Writers

Quick & Dirty Readings

Held in a variety of locations throughout the city and beyond, our Quick & Dirty new work readings present a diverse array of South Australian voices sharing their works in progress.

In 2017 our Quick & Dirty series will focus on the big things in life: love, food, vice and death, as we explore their boundaries and uncover our readers' hidden secrets.

Our first event for the year, Death, will feature exclusive readings by established and emerging writers under the stars at the West Terrace Cemetery. Don't miss it!

Quick & Dirty: Death
Wednesday 1 Feb, 6.30pm
West Terrace Cemetery
FREE. Bookings Essential.

Members: if you're interested in reading at our Quick & Dirty events make sure to keep your eye on our enews for call outs, or visit our website for information on how to pitch your stories. This is a curated event, but we are always looking to offer opportunities to new readers.

Alcohol will be on sale at our Quick & Dirty venues.



Professional Development For Writers

Manuscript Assessment

SA Writers Centre offers writers access to a professional, independent reading and assessment service. All our assessors are industry professionals, with many years experience in reading, assessing, reviewing, representing and publishing manuscripts.

This service is useful for writers who have already written and workshopped a manuscript, and who may have previously received feedback from other readers such as family, friends, or members of a writers group.

You may be considering submitting your work to a publisher, or you may be just seeking fresh advice from a professional reader. If so, this service could be of benefit to you.

Visit our website for pricing and more information.

First Feedback

Are you starting out as a writer and looking for some guidance? Or just wanting someone other than your mum to critique your work?

Our new online First Feedback service provides an opportunity for new writers to get a first reader for their work, wherever they are based. Submit up to 1500 words of writing (poetry, fiction or non fiction) and receive in text comments and a page of basic feedback on your story and your writing, with some questions designed to develop and challenge your writing skills.

Available to members only. Visit our website for more information.

Mentorship Program

The SA Writers Centre mentorship program is designed to connect our members with a suitable mentor, at any stage of their writing careers.

From writing craft, editing, pre publication, to marketing and publicity mentorships – and encompassing a wide range of genres – SA Writers Centre will assist you to identify the most appropriate mentor for your needs.

Available to members only. Visit our website for more information on our mentors and how to book.

2017 Youth Program

Creative Writing Holiday Workshops

Tuesday 17 / Wednesday 18 / Thursday 19 January, 10am – 4.30pm

Price \$270

Do you love writing? Do you dream of becoming a writer but aren't sure where to start? Our Holiday Workshops are specifically designed for high school writers just like you.

Every school holidays we present three packed days of writing challenges, guest writers, fun and inspiration to kick start or help develop your writing projects. You'll learn writing skills and techniques, information about the writing industry and publication and reading opportunities for young writers. Plus we can match you up with mentors to help you complete any writing projects that you have on the go – whether it's for love or for school.

Our team of professional, award winning writers and creators will take you on a journey from developing an idea to producing the final draft of a great story people will want to read. And along the way you'll learn a whole heap of skills that will set you up for a future career as a writer including characters, setting, plot, dialogue, editing and so much more.

And the best part? You'll do it with a group of like-minded people who love to write as much as you do.

The SA Writers Center is a Child Safe organisation and our work is supported by appropriate policies and codes of conduct.

Our Creative Writing Workshops are accredited by the Children's University.

Teen Writers Group

Term 1 Dates: Saturday 4 February to Saturday 8 April, 10–11:30am

Term Price \$200

The SA Writers Centre Teen Writers Group provides a space for young writers to make new connections, be inspired and develop their writing craft. We provide a safe, fun and engaging year-round program for passionate high school writers of all interests, ages and abilities.

The group now meets on Saturday mornings during term times, and is guided by SA Writers Centre staff, mentors and guest teachers. The program itself is shaped by the interests of the group, as they are supported to set and achieve their own writing goals, and includes creativity craft workshops, access to guest authors, industry and career information, mentorships, and the opportunity of support for school-based writing projects.

From 2017 the group will also be supported to produce an annual anthology of writing, providing real life publication experience.

In 2017, the SA Writers Centre is also partnering with Express Media, the national organisation for young writers, to bring even more programming, publication and performance opportunities to South Australia. Stay tuned for more info.

SA Writers Centre offers a small number of financial scholarships for School Card Holders to attend our Youth Program each term. Please email admin@sawriters.org.au for enquiries.

Other Exciting Programs in 2017

Educators Program

The SA Writers Centre is now offering programming specifically for those working within the South Australian education sector aimed at strengthening skills in the areas of creativity, storytelling and diversity.

Our tailored workshops are especially relevant to teachers who are looking for innovative and challenging professional development opportunities, and who are looking for new and inclusive techniques to engage students in learning.

These are also suitable for a broad range of teachers: from English and creative arts teachers, through to those in STEM areas looking at new creative ways to engage young people in their curriculums. And they support a wide range of professional knowledge, aligning with the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers. All participants completing the courses are eligible for a certificate of completion.

Workshops include: Participatory Literature, Storytelling for Teachers, and Diversity in the Classroom, among others. Email admin@sawriters.org.au for the full program and dates.

Corporate Writing Program

Creativity, clarity and concision are the building blocks of effective communications for both individuals and businesses and are the keys to corporate success.

The SA Writers Centre's suite of professional workshops are designed to teach you and your staff the skills you'll need to find and tell your own compelling story and increase your brand's reach.

Packages include Storytelling for Business, Business Writing for Online, Writing Your Business Book and Grammar Essentials, among others, and each can be tailored to suit your individual businesses' needs.

Contact us to discuss how our Corporate Writing Program can benefit your business in 2017 via admin@sawriters.org.au.





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Open Tuesday–Thursday
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