



Program

APRIL – JUNE 2017

SA

**Writers
Centre Inc**

Program: April – June 2017

Welcome to our Autumn program for 2017.

This program includes something for everyone; from the writing curious, beginners and beyond, to business writers, those looking to explore and challenge their creativity through words, and writers who want to extend their craft.

We are also excited to be working with Express Media to bring Tracks Adelaide to life in April, an incredible opportunity for young writers. And we can't wait to see what our friends at Penola Arts Festival have in store for us in May.

As always, we rely on your feedback and participation to develop our program and we are constantly looking for ways we can promote and support our writers, so let us know what you'd like to see, 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–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

Bibliotherapy: Book Club for Writers

27 March–27 November 6–7:30pm
Full Price \$180 Members Price \$120

Back by popular demand, our Bibliotherapy: Book Club for Writers has a fresh new book list to keep your reading critical and soothe your literary aches.

Do you turn to books to help you through writers' block, literary rejection, or the search for the perfect metaphor? Have you been looking for a book club with people who understand your obsession with reading? Do you want to immerse yourself in incredible writing and then discuss it with like-minded people?

Then join us on the last Monday of the month as we address a different writing ailment with a prescription of great books, lively discussion, genuinely great and understanding company (along with some wine and refreshments).

Places are extremely limited so book early to avoid disappointment.

Meeting dates:

27 March
24 April
29 May
26 June
31 July
28 August
25 September
30 October
27 November



Getting Started

With Bethany Clark

Sunday 9 April 10am–1pm
Full Price \$90 Members Price \$60

Keen to leap into writing but not sure where to start? Looking for beginners inspiration or to reignite a lost passion? Then 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 inspirational session that will get you raring to write.

Bethany Clark is the Program Manager at the 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 arts organisations to promote their work, build their profiles and develop their readerships.

'Excellent content and Bethany's presentation and personality made it terrific. It exceeded my expectations.' – April 2016.

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

Creative Word Play

With David Chapple

Sunday 9 April 2–5pm
Full Price \$90 Members Price \$60

Creative writing in any form can be both a wildly rewarding and incredibly challenging pastime which most writers - new or experienced - approach with a sense of play and enjoyment. But what happens when the late nights, painful edits or fading inspiration stop you in your tracks? Or when you start to lose the sense of playful exploration you started out with?

Filled with fun and exploration, this workshop with David Chapple will teach you new ways of thinking, writing, and thinking about writing, and get you back on the creative track. Using a range of lateral and playful techniques, you will explore various forms of storytelling including poetry, prose and non-fiction.

Suitable for writers of all genres and levels, from beginners to experienced wordsmiths wishing to explore and expand their creative writing practice.

David Chapple is the Writing Development Manager at the SA Writers Centre and 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.

'David's engagement with the group was excellent, as were his thought-provoking exercises.' – April 2016

'Friendly, personable instructor. Inclusive and lots of fun!' – August 2016

How to Write ... Personality Flaws

With Stuart Baulk

Tuesday 11 April 6–7.30pm
Full Price \$55 Members Price \$30

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

Our first instalment with former Deputy Police Commissioner Neil McKenzie gave our writers priceless inspiration about the secret and fascinating life of a police investigator and some of the high profile criminal cases he had worked.

At our next session we will explore the world of applied psychology, delving into personality traits, character flaws and more with Dr Stuart Baulk, a psychologist with over 20 years experience. This session will suit writers who are interested in creating unique or flawed characters, or those just looking for a deeper understanding of the basic principles of psychology to help mould more compelling characters.

Stuart Baulk has worked as a lecturer, researcher, program developer and consultant in applied psychology for almost 20 years. He writes science communication articles for magazines and websites and is often approached to give scientific expert interviews for the media, discussing everything from drink-driving to Christopher Nolan's *Inception* and the brain during sleep. Stuart was a co-writer of *The Three Ages of Sasha* (RokStarr Films, 2012), a feature film screened at the OzAsia Festival in 2013. He lectures in Psychology at the SA Institute of Business and Technology and is currently studying for a Bachelor of Design at UniSA.

Diary Date:

Our next How To Write ... session will be all about fashion on **Tuesday 20 June**. This session is for writers who need to clothe their characters. That'd be most of you, so put it in your diaries!



Brave Words: Honouring Your Life Story

With Ali Cobby Eckermann

Sunday 23 April 10am–4pm
Full Price \$160 Members Price \$95

Writing your personal life story, be it a memoir, family history or essay, can take great courage. Facing your truths instead of turning away, and understanding how to shape your complex experience into a creative narrative can feel overwhelming. This supportive and safe workshop is designed to support you to overcome the fears involved in sharing your story and instead find the bravery to embrace your literary voice.

Using excerpts from her own writing, award-winning poet, memoirist and novelist Ali Cobby Eckermann will share her process in writing life story, even when the truth may be challenging for both the writer and the reader. Ali will gently guide the group through the steps of turning difficult or painful memories and experiences into creative non-fiction.

Participants will explore:

- personal writing using a range of creative outlets
- ideas to distil emotional truths for the telling
- writing exercises that grow a sense of courage
- buoyant and movable models of personal story sharing.

Suitable for non-fiction and memoir writers.

Ali Cobby Eckermann's work has been published in various languages and she has travelled widely to showcase Aboriginal poetry overseas. In 2013 Ali toured Ireland as an Australian Poetry Ambassador and won the Kenneth Slessor Prize for Poetry and Book Of The Year (NSW) for *Ruby Moonlight*, a massacre verse novel. She was the inaugural recipient of the Tungkunungka Pintyanthi Fellowship at Adelaide Writers Week, and is the first Aboriginal Australian author invited to attend the International Writing Program at University of Iowa. Her memoir *Too Afraid To Cry* was launched in New Delhi India in 2015, on her way to Jaipur Literature Festival, and in 2016 Ali presented a Keynote at the Active Aesthetics conference in Berkeley, California. In March 2017 she was awarded the Windham-Campbell Prize for poetry by Yale University.



Plotting and Pacing

With Amy Matthews

Sunday 30 April 10am–1pm
Full Price \$90 Members Price \$60

Very limited places! Book early.

Whether you're a plotter or a fly-by-the-seat-of-your-pants organic writer, this workshop offers a bagful of tricks for creating gripping plots that move at a cracking pace.

This workshop will help you identify the major dramatic question of your work and develop a deeper understanding of your characters' goals, motivations and conflicts so you can craft plots that twist when they're supposed to twist, and turn when they're supposed to turn. And along the way you will learn a handful of practical techniques that will not only improve your plotting and pacing, but also increase the emotional punch of your writing.

Participants will:

- identify the major dramatic question of your work
- understand the difference between goal, motivation, and conflict
- identify your characters' goals and motivations (both internal and external)
- amp up the conflict in your plots
- understand the role of time pressure and how to add a 'ticking clock' to your work.

Amy T Matthews is an award-winning novelist and a lecturer in Creative Writing at Flinders University. Her novel *End of the Night Girl* won the Adelaide Festival Unpublished Manuscript Award, was shortlisted for the Dobbie Literary Award and the Colin Roderick Literary Award, and longlisted for *The Australian/Vogel* Literary Award. She also writes historical romance fiction under the name Tess LeSue and has won the Anna Campbell Award for historical romance, and been shortlisted for Romance Writers of Australia's EmeraldPRO, Emerald and STALI Awards. Tess's novel *Bound for Eden* is in stores now.

'An engaging presenter and so much to learn. I'll be coming back to my notes for months. Excellent!' – October 2016

Historical Fiction: Researching Your Way to Success

With Anthony Laube

Sunday 30 April 2–5pm
Full Price \$90 Members Price \$60

They say truth is stranger than fiction, and in fact often the best creative writing is inspired by a real person, news story or event. Whether you are writing historical fiction or are just using a real event as a starting point, how can you make the most of historical sources and methodologies to improve the authenticity of your work? And how can clever research techniques lead to great historical writing?

In this exclusive workshop with librarian, historian and biographer Anthony Laube, you'll discover useful research tools and a range of online resources that will help you unearth great historical inspiration. Drawing on his 30 years as a librarian at the State Library, Anthony will share the best ways to source new information, lead you in exercises designed to inspire your work, and demonstrate how you can turn your research into creative form.

Participants will discover:

- a range of online and other resources for historic research
- opportunities for attendees to ask their own research questions
- exercises exploring techniques for historical writing
- how to search and use digitised historic newspapers
- focus on methods for both finding and using historical information.

Anthony Laube has been a librarian for 30 years and has written local history, biography, and newspaper history. His work has focussed on historic newspapers as well as South Australian historical resources, providing advice to a range of researchers on a myriad of subjects, and he has given numerous papers, workshops and seminars to a wide range of audiences on aspects of historical research and on historic subjects, particularly with a South Australian focus. His current work includes non-fiction and a fiction work, both with historic themes.

Getting Ready to E-Publish

With Scott Zarcinas

Saturday 6 May 10am–4pm
Full Price \$160 Members Price \$95

Ebook publishing and platforms have come a long way in the past ten years, and the number of self published writers finding readers and financial success through this industry continues to grow. If you've got a blockbuster up your sleeve, you too can self publish your work on Amazon, iTunes, Kobo and Google Play - all you need is the right "know how" and the drive to make it happen.

This workshop will give you the practical steps you need to follow to become your own publisher, along with insider tips on how to edit and present your work as an ebook. Plus, you'll learn what not to do and how to avoid some of the most common mistakes writers make when self publishing online.

Participants will learn:

- how to get your manuscript ready for ebook publishing
- publishing best-practice for ebook conversions to Kindle, iTunes and Kobo
- the top ten free publishing resources online
- cover design essentials
- the "must haves" for your author website.

Dr. Scott Zarcinas is the Director of DoctorZed Publishing and the author of eight books, including *Samantha Honeycomb* and *Your Natural State of Being*. As a publisher he has edited more than 40 books and overseen the publication of over 100 titles. Since 2011, he has been the Chairman of the Australian Digital Publishing Group and is part of the SA Writers Centre mentor program.

'Scott was fantastic. I love the way he ran the workshop. Feeling really inspired.' – September 2016

Show Don't Tell

With David Chapple

Sunday 7 May 10am–1pm
Full Price \$90 Members Price \$60

You've probably heard the phrase 'show, don't tell', but what does it really mean? And can your writing break this golden rule and still be successful?

This workshop with David Chapple explores various narrative modes to help you effectively tell your story, and guides you through techniques to apply them. Using various practical exercises and techniques, you will learn how to create writing that is succinct, contemporary, economic and powerful.

Through this workshop you will learn:

- the rules of prose architecture.
- how to achieve economy of style
- about authors who have mastered this style
- the 'rules' of writing and the joy of breaking them.

David Chapple is the Writing Development Manager at the SA Writers Centre and 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.

'Practice challenges, group discussions, it was very informative, great food for thought' – September 2016

'Very confident. well set out topic list. Quick on feet to speak. Best point: that writing is a craft, and not too focussed on technique.' – September 2016

Getting Published

With Sarah Tooth

Saturday 13 May 10am–1pm
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.

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.

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

'Sarah is very knowledgeable and is an engaging speaker. I learned a great deal. She made the topic very interesting.' – May 2016

Synopsis and Pitching

With Patrick Allington

Saturday 13 May 2–5pm
Full Price \$90 Members Price \$60

You've completed your manuscript and are ready to pitch it to publishers. But where do you start?

Presenting your novel and pitching the right way is a vital first step towards getting a busy publisher to pluck it out of the slush pile and read it.

In this informative workshop with respected editor and author, Patrick Allington, you will learn how to write a concise and alluring synopsis that reflects your manuscript's unique selling points, and how to polish your pitch documents to make publishers take notice.

Participants will learn:

- the importance of editing and formatting manuscripts
- what publishers are looking for in submission documents
- what a good manuscript synopsis looks like
- how to write a great pitch letter.

Patrick Allington is a writer, critic, editor, researcher and academic. His novel *Figurehead* (Black Inc. 2009) was longlisted for the Miles Franklin Literary Award in 2010. His short fiction, essays, columns and reviews have appeared widely. He is a lecturer in English & Creative Writing at Flinders University, and a board member of the SA Writers Centre and of Australian Book Review.

'Patrick was down to earth and really welcoming and approachable.' – July 2016

'Industry specific, current knowledge, an excellent resource. I will be attending more workshops in the future.' – July 2016

Welcome to World Building

With Jason Fischer

Saturday 20 May 2–5pm
Full Price \$90 Members Price \$60

Do you dream of creating your own written universe where all the rules are made by you? Are you imagining a world of dragons, or a space station where aliens meet and trade? If so then Aurealis Award-winning writer Jason Fischer will guide you through the steps needed to create your own world and setting, either to kickstart your own stories and comics, or just for fun.

This workshop is a hands on and interactive way to learn how to build worlds with words, and will involve drawing maps, creating creatures, and talking about the natural laws observed by writers when creating their fantasy settings.

Suitable for beginners and writers at any level interested in learning creative ways to enhance their world building skills.

Jason Fischer has won an Aurealis Award and the Writers of the Future Contest, and his writing has been included on multiple awards shortlists including the Aurealis, Ditmars and the Australian Shadows Awards. He is the author of dozens of short stories, with a novel, a collection, comics and computer game also under his belt. He enjoys karaoke and loves puns more than life itself.

'Fun and interactive. We need this type of workshop more often!' – May 2016

'I really enjoyed the interaction with fellow writers in the room.' – May 2016

Picture Book Perfect

With Mike Dumbleton

Sunday 21 May 10am–4pm
Full Price \$160 Members Price \$95

How hard is it to write and publish picture books? What are the tricks and the traps of the trade you need to know to make it easier? This workshop with award-winning children's author Mike Dumbleton will answer these and many more questions you might have about creating stories for children.

Using various activities to deepen your understanding of the writing process from initial ideas to final revisions, Mike will also provide you with helpful ideas to assist with word-choice, dialogue, story structure, point of view, the use of rhyme and self-editing. And he will share practical strategies to help aspiring writers develop and refine their manuscripts to make them as perfect as possible before submitting to a publisher.

Participants will gain:

- a practical understanding of the structure and flow of picture books from a writer's perspective
- picture book writing tips and tricks, and important traps to avoid
- ideas for writing for alternative picture book audiences, from preschool to post primary
- effective strategies for developing and fine-tuning picture book texts for submission to publishers
- insights into working with publishers when manuscripts are accepted.

Mike Dumbleton is an award winning picture book writer with eight titles selected as 'Notable Books' by the Children's Book Council of Australia. Other awards include: Speech Pathology Australia Book of the Year, *Muddled-up Farm*, 2004; CBCA Honour Book, *Cat*, 2008; Speech Pathology and Crichton Award shortlistings, *Meet Douglas Mawson*, 2015. Mike has also written many junior novels and educational books, and is currently an Ambassador for Raising Literacy Australia. After working as a literacy consultant in New York, he has now returned to Australia and is dedicating more time to his writing. He has recently signed contracts for three new picture books.

Setting and Place

With Kerryn Goldsworthy

Sunday 28 May 10am–1pm
Full Price \$90 Members Price \$60

Places are extremely limited! Book early to avoid disappointment.

Whether your novel is based in a well-known city or a small, imaginary country town, in the outback or beside an ocean, the way you write setting and place is crucial in shaping your story and creating good fiction.

This workshop with respected author and teacher Kerryn Goldsworthy will show you how to situate your story in vivid places that create mood and strengthen your characters.

This workshop will cover:

- ideas and techniques used for writing about place
- practical exercises and examples for locating your story
- an overview of the three-way relationship between character, plot and setting.

Kerryn Goldsworthy is the author of three books: a collection of short stories, a critical study of the writing of Helen Garner, and a history/travel/memoir book called *Adelaide*, part of the 'Cities Series'. She has also published numerous essays, articles, reviews, stories and columns (including on local tourism, for The Adelaide Review). Kerryn taught at Melbourne University for 17 years and has now taught Creative Writing classes and workshops at Melbourne and Adelaide Universities on and off since 1983.

'An inspiring and intriguing blend of information and recommendations, with positive and encouraging feedback. I found the impromptu writing exercises very helpful.' – August 2016

'Well structured. The format, with class participation, was excellent. Kerryn was well informed and imparted this to the student. Learned a lot!' – August 2016



Structure and Narrative Arc

With Jane Turner Goldsmith

Wednesday 31 May 6–9pm
Full Price \$90 Members Price \$60

Re-run by popular demand!

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. The importance of narrative and other structural elements of the novel will be discussed using examples, and you will develop the skills to apply them to your own writing projects through group exercises and discussion.

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.

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.

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

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



Digital Bootcamp with The Walkleys

Friday 2 & Saturday 3 June

Ready to shake up your storytelling skillset? Looking to learn from some brilliant journalists and writers who are using the digital space to challenge and disrupt traditional formats?

SA Writers is again partnering with The Walkley Foundation to present a weekend for aspiring and experienced journalists and writers who want to explore the newest tools, techniques and structures for cutting edge reporting and storytelling.

Learn from some of the most innovative storytellers from around the country and discover how they are tackling the challenges of an increasingly fast-paced online world. From translating your story into a serialised podcast, to building your online presence with social content, and using digital tools to find, verify and tell stories in new ways, get fake news ready and whip your writing into shape with the Walkleys' Digital Boot Camp.

One day: \$95 members (\$160 non members)

Two days: \$180 members (\$260 non members)

PLUS don't miss a lively panel conversation and networking drinks with Future Friday: F*** Fake News (\$15 or FREE with two day pass).



Distilling the Personal Into Fiction

With Cameron Raynes

Saturday 17 June 10am–1pm
Full Price \$90 Members Price \$60

You've probably heard the common writerly wisdom that you should write what you know. But what if you were instead to write about what you were feeling? What if you wrote about what impassioned you, or what made you angry?

Starting from the Tolstoyan premise that happiness just isn't interesting, this workshop explores how writers can tap into their own vulnerabilities to produce works of fiction that engage, ring true, and have an authenticity they would otherwise not have. It will help you understand how your individual experience of difference can open up unique vistas in your work, and how you can return, through art, to a place where you can write about what it is to be human.

Participants will examine:

- how other writers – from Austen and Dickens to Winton and Winterson – have used personal experience to fashion artful stories
- how moving from a write-what-you-know to a write-what-you-feel approach can help the marketing of your work
- how personal experiences can be drawn upon when writing fiction
- media and internet resources that can help writers appreciate their vulnerabilities, and those of others.

Suitable for fiction writers.

Cameron Raynes survived bruising encounters with three psychopaths, before turning away from welfare work and anthropology to find his voice as a writer. He teaches history and creative writing at the University of South Australia and is the author of *The Last Protector* and the short story collection *The Colour of Kerosene*. His recent novel, *First Person Shooter*, explores the deeply personal experience of adolescent stuttering. Cameron has won the Josephine Ulrick Literary Prize (for short story), and the short film he wrote, *The Colour of Kerosene*, won Best Australian Film at the Barossa Film Festival.

Powerful Playwriting

With Alexis West

Saturday 17 June 2–5pm
Full Price \$90 Members Price \$60

Turning words on the page into visual performance is both challenging and rewarding, and it can expand the scope of your narrative while providing you with a unique creative storytelling experience. But where do you start when translating your ideas and words into a dynamic piece of playwriting? And what are some of the practical steps you can take to create engaging stories for the theatre?

Join playwright, poet, and performer Alexis West in this interactive workshop as she leads you through practical approaches to turning your words and stories into powerful plays.

Participants will learn how to:

- find a premise for their theatre piece
- consider their targeted audience
- collaborate respectfully with others
- discover engaging ways to put their pain on the page
- think of creative ways to get their pages ready for stage delivery.

Alexis West has worked as a dancer, choreographer, performer, writer, poet, theatre-maker and filmmaker over the past 20 years. As a Birri Gubba, Wakka Wakka and Kanak woman, Alexis is passionate about First Nation people's voices, as well as the stories of people with disability and people from diverse backgrounds. She has worked as an artistic director, writer, and facilitator for organisations including the Karrikarrinya Theatre Collective, SA Writers Centre, Spirit Festival, Our Mob, Art Gallery SA, and Adelaide Fringe. Alexis has devised and directed new works for No Strings Attached Theatre of Disability since 2008, and worked as AD, co-writer and performer for State Theatre Company SA.

CHARACTER FEST:

Crafting Compelling Characters

Saturday 24 June 10am–4pm
Full Price \$180 Members Price \$120

One of the biggest challenges for writers across the board, whether crafting creative fiction or short story, is to create authentic characters. Likeable or not, unrelatable and two-dimensional characters can often ruin a great plot or idea and slow down plotting and pacing, preventing readers from investing in the story.

Compelling characters on the other hand can draw the reader in, create interest, smooth over plot defects, and keep your story moving along.

Join us as we spend a full day delving into the depths of crafting compelling characters with a series of workshops, panels and seminars with award-winning writers, psychologists, body language experts and more. Immerse yourself in the world of personality ticks and tricks, learn how to create empathy for your characters and engage your readers, and discover how body language can be translated onto the page.

Full program to come, including exclusive workshops with award-winning crime writer and screenwriter Kathryn Fox. Places are very limited so register early.



TWELVE

Saturday 22 April+ Sunday 18 June 8am-8pm
Full Price \$90 Members Price \$60

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, 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.



Online Workshops for Writers

Creative Writing 101

With David Chapple

Delivered over 6 weeks: 1 April–6 May

Full Price \$180 Members Price \$120

Are you looking for inspiration to start your creative writing journey? If you have passion, ideas and motivation then this 6 week online course will add technique and confidence to your armoury, as well as offering you a range of approaches and practical exercises to help you generate great writing.

Including weekly modules packed full of writing theory, directed readings, and writing exercises, this course aims to help you uncover your writing voice, explore contemporary writing practice, and find the confidence to write creatively.

This workshop is ideal for beginners or those who want to refresh their creative writing skills in a supportive online format.

Conducted over email, you will also have access to a dedicated online forum to share your work and get feedback from participants.

David Chapple is the Writing Development Manager at the SA Writers Centre and 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.

Autumn Inspiration: Daily Writing Prompts

1–31 May

Price \$30

Want to stay motivated and write as the days get cooler? We've designed the perfect inspirational program for your creative writing. Every day during May an inspiring and specifically crafted writing prompt will be delivered straight to your inbox.

Providing you with discipline, structure and inspiration, each writing prompt is designed to get your day's writing underway. You'll have the chance to join a dedicated online forum group to share your work and stay motivated. And at the end of the month you'll have a bunch of new story/scene/character ideas that will keep your writing fresh for the rest of the year. Best of all, it's a lot of fun!

Bookings close 30 April.

#sawritersdailyinspo #seasonalinspo #writingdaily

People Love Our Online Inspiration Programs:

'The prompts were really thought-provoking. There was a nice feel to the community and it was a very safe place to post work.' – January 2016

'I really enjoyed the challenge that many of the prompts inspired - it stretched me so much and I've had lots of little ideas that I hope to nurture into fully grown stories some day soon.' – April 2016

'I enjoyed the challenge and discipline of writing everyday with a set topic. These constraints forced me to be creative.' – April 2016

Networking Opportunities for Writers

Member Meet Ups

Members Only

In 2017, our regular Member Meet Ups have gone 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 to 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.

Thursday 27 April, 5.30pm: Speculative Fiction Meet Up
Thursday 25 May, 5.30pm: Memoir Meet Up
Thursday 29 June, 5.30pm: Crime Writers' Meet Up

See our website and enews for further dates and details.

#ADLLitDrinks

Thursday 20 April 6pm
Publishers Hotel, Franklin St, Adelaide

Join SA Writers staff and your South Australian writing community at our April #ADLLitDrinks event. This is a relaxed networking opportunity for those people in (or interested in) the writing industry to leave their solo writing dens and mingle with other real life writers - in person! It's a chance for you to share a beverage and some nibbles with other writers, new members, or the usual suspects, and chat about your current writing projects, the state of publishing, books, words, the weather ... whatever.

So whether you are a writer, publisher, illustrator, blogger, teacher/lecturer, librarian, work in the media, work in the arts or are an artist, we'd love for you to join us for these rather informal catch ups.

All welcome, RSVP essential. Happy hour specials available, nibbles provided.

Alcohol will be on sale on our #ADLLitDrinks venue.



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 is focusing 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, was a spooky success, with an incredible line up of readers performing their work as dusk fell across the graves in West Terrace Cemetery.

Our next event will feature exclusive readings by a new bunch of established and emerging writers on the theme of VICE. Don't miss it!

Quick & Dirty: VICE

Thursday 11 May 6.30pm

FREE. Bookings Essential.

Venue to be advised. Keep an eye out on our enews for updates.

NOTE FOR 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 may be on sale at our Quick & Dirty venues. See event listing for updates.



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.

Professional Development for Young Writers

Tracks: Adelaide

Saturday 8 April 9am–5pm

SA Writers is delighted to be partnering with Express Media to host Tracks, a travelling pop-up program for young writers that brings the best of Express Media's workshops, masterclasses, networking opportunities and special events to communities across Australia.

If you're aged 14 to 25 and have a love of writing and storytelling, Tracks: Adelaide is an exciting day-long event just for you. Across the day, you'll learn from some of the best writers in South Australia, take part in a fiction masterclass or a non-fiction masterclass, find out what opportunities there are for you in Adelaide and beyond, and discover what happens when you've been selected for publication. You'll also hear the work of some of South Australia's most exciting young writers, and meet the people and organisations that make the arts and literature community thrive. The full lineup will be released soon.

Tracks is free for Express Media members to participate in and attend. If you're not a member already, Tracks: Adelaide costs \$25 and includes membership to Express Media (normally \$25) and SA Writers Centre (normally \$44). Plus, the first ten participants to register will also receive a free one-year print subscription to Voiceworks (normally \$60).

BOOK NOW via Express Media's website: expressmedia.org.au

Tracks: Adelaide is presented by Express Media in partnership with SA Writers Centre.



Creative Writing Holiday Workshops

Tuesday 18 / Wednesday 19 / Thursday 20 April, 10am-4:30pm

Members 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 kickstart 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 Centre 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.

'All the general advice and helpful suggestions worked well. I found the prompts really inspiring and I feel as though my writing has improved greatly'. – January 2016

Teen Writers Club

Term 2 dates: Saturdays 6 May to 8 July 10–11.30am

Price \$200

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

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

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

Bookings Essential.

SA Writers Centre offer a number of financial scholarships for School Card Holders each term. Please email admin@sawriters.org.au for enquiries.

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 book your staff into our workshops or to discuss how our Corporate Writing Program can be tailored to suit your business' needs. Email admin@sawriters.org.au.

Tuesday 28 March 10am–1pm

Storytelling for Business

Thursday 27 April 10am–1pm

Copywriting 101

Thursday 11 May 10am–1pm

Grammar Essentials

Tuesday 6 June 10am–1pm

How to Write Your Business Book





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Open Tuesday–Thursday
10am–5pm

Don't forget to sign up to our
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