



SUMMER  
PROGRAM

2021

# Welcome to summer at Writers SA

## Summer Program

We are delighted to share with you our first quarterly program of events for 2021, featuring a suite of leading local and national writers. From long term programs like the SA First Nations Writers Group, Manuscript Incubator and First Draft, to shorter online sessions and in-person workshops, Writers SA will work with you to support your creative career in every genre and at all stages of development. Join us to write about nature, sex, sci-fi and faery tales, learn to edit yourself stronger, write in the short form and for video games, and bend literary genres—as a vibrant community of writers.

– Jessica Alice, Director, Writers SA

## Please note

All in person events are held following the latest guidelines from SA Health and government advice, and are subject to change. Physical workshop locations could change or move online, if necessary. If health advice alters the delivery of this session, ticket holders will be notified immediately. All online workshops take place using Zoom. Workshops are designed for participants aged 18+ unless otherwise stated. Members of other state-based writers centres can also book at the Writers SA member rate; please contact us with your membership number to book.



## Writers SA

Writers SA supports writers of all ages and experience levels on writing craft and publishing in South Australia and beyond. In addition to our program of workshops, we offer a range of services and resources.

## Membership

Writers SA members receive a 30% discount on all events and workshops, discounts on manuscript assessments, exclusive access to mentorships and services, a personal consultation with our director, access to a range of promotional opportunities, and more.

## E-News

Published weekly, our email newsletter rounds up the latest news and events from Writers SA, as well as giveaways, opportunities for writers, and member news.

## Services

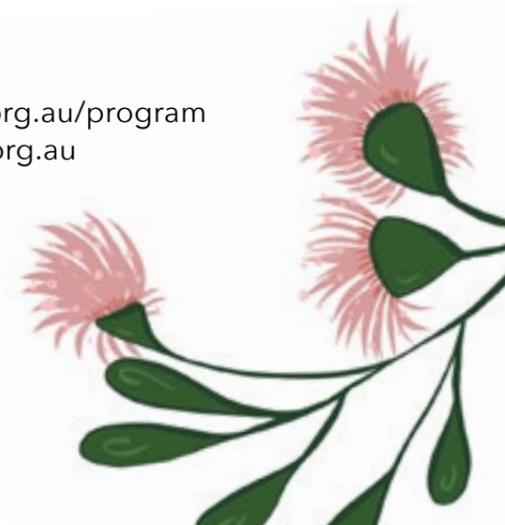
Writers of all genres are invited to gain invaluable feedback and development for their work before submitting to an agent or publisher. Our assessors and mentors give you the chance to work with an experienced professional on all aspects of writing craft and publishing.

## Residencies & Opportunities

Writers SA works in collaboration with partners to provide residencies and other opportunities throughout the year, including our regional Writers and Readers in Residence, and our literary criticism program A Year in Review. Check out the website and newsletter for the latest opportunities and how to apply.

## Bookings

[www.writerssa.org.au/program](http://www.writerssa.org.au/program)  
[info@writerssa.org.au](mailto:info@writerssa.org.au)  
(08) 8223 7662





# COURSES AND EVENTS

## RE-IMAGINING FAERY TALES

with Margot McGovern (in person)

Faery tales are steeped in symbol, rite and ritual that speak to our primal fears and hopes. They are also fundamental in shaping our understanding of narrative and spirit us back to childhood. Through discussion and creative writing exercises you'll examine the key tropes and archetypes and discover how their enduring magic might be harnessed to create compelling contemporary fiction.

**30 January**

**Full Price \$115 / Members Price \$77**

## TEEN WRITERS CLUB

with Dan Thorsland (in person)

Term 1 kicks off under the leadership of Dan Thorsland, an editor, writer, video and film producer who contributed to the Superwoman, Wonder Woman and Star Wars comic series at DC and Dark Horse. Dan will work with high-school aged writers to explore the basics of how to tell stories using words, pictures, and interaction.

**Weekly for 8 weeks, starting 30 January**

**\$200 \*places strictly capped.**

## PITCHING TO MEDIA

with Michelle Prak (online)

Your writing has been published - now you want to promote it! This session will delve into the world of traditional news media: newspapers, radio and TV. It's a competitive space and it's not easy to get coverage, but this workshop will provide you with insights and advice, led by a PR practitioner who has worked with the media for more than 20 years.

**2 February**

**Full Price \$50 / Members Price \$35**

## EDITING

with Alexandra Nahlous (online)

Too often, the task of redrafting is overwhelming for a writer. You know the story isn't yet perfect, but you're not quite sure how to proceed with examining it, and maybe even pulling it apart to find the weak spots. The great news is that you can edit your way to a better draft.

**16 February**

**Full Price \$50 / Members Price \$35**

## FIRST DRAFT

with Sean Williams (intensive program)

If you're working on a first draft or a draft that just isn't working, Writers SA's First Draft program can help you shape your novel and stay on track. Monthly writing group meetings, access to quarterly workshops, feedback and consultations, and group support will get you another step closer to completing your novel by the end of the year.

**February - September**

**Full Price \$1390/ Writers SA Members \$890**

## MANUSCRIPT INCUBATOR

with Victoria Purman (intensive program)

If you're looking for support to turn your final draft into a submittable or publishable product, this is the series for you. This exclusive program is designed for writers with a finished or almost finished first draft. You will access high quality writing workshops, a monthly writing group, professional feedback, career consultations with an industry expert, and more.

**February - September**

**Full Price \$1390/ Writers SA Members \$890**

## WRITING SEX

with Krissy Kneen (online)

Is it really that hard to write about one of the central activities of humankind? Join Krissy Kneen for a workshop that demystifies writing about sex. Through a series of exercises, discussions and readings, this workshop will get you up and writing sex scenes, finding the words and phrases that best suit your style when writing sex and giving you the confidence to do it.

**20 February**

**Full Price \$95 / Members Price \$65**

## NATURE WRITING

with Rebecca Giggs (online)

This workshop focuses on writing about nature, from the grandeur of a mountain range and the bewitching ocean-depths, to nature as we find much closer to home; in local parklands, and perhaps even in our gardens. How does nonfiction, as a human artform, access and represent the non-human world? How do we make facts and real experiences come alive on the page?

**6 March**

**Full Price \$95 / Members Price \$65**

## SHORT STORIES

with Ellen van Neerven (online)

This session is all about the short story, exploring approaches to the form, ways of thinking about the work that it can do, and ideas about exactly what it is and what it might be. Working from a number of examples and ideas from contemporary short stories, it will look at ways to write fiction that's engaging but also brief.

**9 March**

**Full Price \$50/ Members Price \$35**

## CHARACTER CLINIC

with Graeme Simson (online)

Join international bestselling author of The Rosie Project for an intensive and interactive look at crafting characters. This interactive session will teach you powerful techniques for creating and defining characters, their backstories and their interaction with the plot.

**13 March**

**Full Price \$95 / Members Price \$65**

## GENRE BLENDING

with Claire G. Coleman (online)

In years past (in fiction, especially) we're told by the marketing machines, not to mix more than two genres in one book. Join Claire G. Coleman in a genre-blending workshop about you too can create 'a delightfully duplicitous noodle-bender' of a story by breaking all the rules while still (somewhat) colouring within the lines.

**20 March**

**Full Price \$95 / Members Price \$65**

## WORK SPACE

with Jessica Alice (in person)

Over the course of a day, we'll dig deep to hit those word count goals, with a writing day in a dedicated space in the State Library. We'll even shout you a coffee to help you get started.

**21 March / All tickets \$35**

## SA FIRST NATIONS WRITERS GROUP

with Edoardo Crismani (online)

The Group was established to foster and develop the continuing diversity and growth of local First Nations writing in SA.

**Monthly meetings**



# WORKSHOP LEADERS



**Edoardo Crismani** is the Coordinator of the South Australian First Nations Writers Group. A descendant of the Wiradjuri people, Edoardo is a singer-songwriter, filmmaker, poet and short story writer who is currently working on

his first novel manuscript. Seven of his films have screened on NITV and are available to view on SBS on Demand including his hour-long documentary about his grandfather, *The Panther Within*, for which he was nominated for an Australian Writers Guild Award in 2017. His short documentary *Lest We Forget, Aboriginal Women* screened nationwide on Remembrance Day 2018. He most recently directed *Deadly Family Portraits: Crombie Crew* for ABC TV and iview.



**Claire G. Coleman** is a Noongar woman whose family have belonged to the south coast of Western Australia since long before history started being recorded. She writes fiction, essays, poetry and art writing, was awarded a Black&Write!

Indigenous Writing Fellowship her novel *Terra Nullius*. Since mid 2020 Claire has been a member of the cultural advisory committee for Agency, a Not-for-profit Indigenous arts Consultancy.



**Rebecca Giggs** is an author from Perth, Australia, where she writes on Noongar Whadjuk country. Her work has appeared in *The Atlantic*, the *New York Times Magazine*, *Granta*, and in anthologies including *Best Australian Essays* and *Best*

*Australian Science Writing*. Rebecca's nonfiction focuses on how people feel towards animals in a time of technological and ecological change. Her first book *Fathoms: The World in the Whale* (2020) won the Mark and Evette Moran Nib Prize and the Whitley Award for Popular Zoology, and it is shortlisted for the ALA Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Nonfiction in the US.



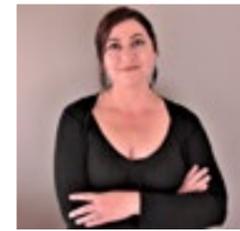
**Krissy Kneen** is the author of the best-selling memoir *Affection*, the novels *Steeplechase*, *Triptych*, *The Adventures of Holly White* and the Incredible Sex Machine, the Thomas Shapcott Award winning poetry collection *Eating My*

*Grandmother* and *An Uncertain Grace*, shortlisted for the Stella Prize, the Norma K Hemming Award and the Aurealis awards. *Wintering*, her latest novel has been longlisted for the Colin Roderick Award and shortlisted for the Davitt Award and the Qld Literary Award for both fiction and a work of state significance. She is currently developing two TV series with STAN and a feature film with Like a Photon.



**Margot McGovern** is a Young Adult author whose work is influenced by children's classics, myths and faery tales. Her debut novel *Neverland* (Penguin Random House Aus.) was shortlisted for the 2020 Adelaide Festival Awards for Literature, and

an early version of the manuscript was shortlisted for the 2015 Text Prize. Margot holds a creative writing Ph.D. from Flinders University. She is also a book reviewer, occasional blogger and current member of the LoveOzYA Committee.



**Alexandra Nahlous** is a freelance editor who specialises in fiction and narrative non-fiction. With over twenty years' publishing experience, she has worked in-house as a senior editor and fiction publisher, taught editing at UTS, and presented information sessions and workshops for

authors at numerous writers' festivals and centres. She works with major publishers and agents, and authors who want to polish their work for submission or self-publishing. For more details, go to [www.alexandranahlous.com](http://www.alexandranahlous.com).



**Ellen van Neerven** (they/them) is an award-winning author, editor and educator of Mununjali (Yugambah language group) and Dutch heritage. They write fiction, poetry, and non-fiction, and play football on unceded Turrbal and Yuggera land. van Neerven's first book, *Heat and Light* (UQP, 2014),

a novel-in-stories, was the recipient of the David Unaipon Award, the Dobbie Literary Award and the NSW Premier's Literary Awards Indigenous Writers Prize. van Neerven's poetry collection *Comfort Food* (UQP, 2016) won the Tina Kane Emergent Award and was shortlisted for the NSW Premier's Literary Awards Kenneth Slessor Prize. *Throat* (UQP, 2020), van Neerven's latest poetry collection, and recipient of the inaugural Quentin Bryce Award, is now available.



**Victoria Purman** is an Australian Top Ten and USA Today bestselling fiction author. Her bestselling *The Land Girls* was published in April 2019. *The Last of the Bonegilla Girls*, a novel based on her mother's postwar migration to Australia, was

published in 2018. Her previous novel *The Three Miss Allens* became a USA Today bestseller in April 2019. Her next novel, *The Women's Pages*, was published in September 2020. She is a regular guest at writers festivals, is a workshop presenter and was a judge in the fiction category for the 2018 Adelaide Festival Awards for Literature.



**Graeme Simson** is the author of five novels, all international bestsellers, including *The Rosie Project* which was Australian Book Industry Association Book of the Year for 2014. He was a latecomer to fiction after a career in

technology, management, research and teaching in which he was a regular presenter at international conferences and ran masterclasses around the world, and even then took a detour via screenwriting. His PhD looked at creativity in the context of technical work, but he draws on what he learned there every day. He lives in Melbourne with his wife, Anne Buist, an author in her own right, and they have written two novels together.



**Dan Thorsland** is an editor, writer, video and film producer, who contributed to *Superwoman*, *Wonder Woman* and *Star Wars* comic series when he worked for DC and Dark Horse. Dan will work with the Teen Writers to help them understand the basics of

how to tell stories using words, pictures and interaction. In 2001 he migrated to Adelaide from New York, and began his second career as a video game and visual effects producer. Here he has worked as a producer at KOJO, Ratbag, Krome, Rising Sun Pictures and most recently was General Manager of Mighty Kingdom, Australia's largest independent game studio.



**Sean Williams** is an award-winning, #1 New York Times bestselling author of forty-nine novels and over one hundred and twenty short stories for adults, young adults and children. As well as his original fiction, he has contributed to shared universes

such as *Star Wars* and *Doctor Who* and collaborated with Garth Nix. His 2019 novel *Impossible Music* was shortlisted for the Ethel Turner Prize for Young People's Literature and listed as a Notable Book by the Children's Book Council of Australia. His latest novel is *Her Perilous Mansion*, a tale of two children trying to escape from a haunted house.



**Michelle Prak** aka Prakky, is a PR consultant who has worked with leading South Australian brands to gain and manage media coverage. She teaches PR at the University of South Australia and is also the indie author of three rom-com novels. Two novels are

set within the media industry.



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[writerssa.org.au](http://writerssa.org.au)

