

**Kansas Authors Club Virtual  
Convention & Writers Conference**

# Writing Across Kansas

*Featuring  
Kevin Willmott,  
Academy Award  
Winning  
Film Writer and  
Director  
&  
Huascar Medina,  
Kansas Poet  
Laureate*



*...a Sense  
of Place*

**2020 PROGRAM**



## *A Message from our President: Duane Johnson*

### **Rising to the Challenge: the 2020 Convention**

The COVID-19 pandemic has challenged all of us to adapt, both in our family lives and in our working relationships with others. I have noticed how several Kansas Authors Club districts have adapted to the need to cancel or curtail district activities. Those of you who are looking for ideas might want to pay special attention to what Jim Potter and District 6 have been doing.

Planning this year's convention also has been a challenge. The 2020 Convention Planning Committee has done an excellent job preparing for October. Seldom have we had two keynote speakers with the credentials of Poet Laureate Huascar Medina and an Oscar-winning screen writer Kevin Wilmott. The line-up of workshops is also stellar.

One of the changes you will notice this year is the absence of a state board meeting and annual members meeting. These will take place during the next weekend.

At every convention, much work is behind the scenes, and thus goes unnoticed. This year is no exception; moreover, an addition to the behind-the-scenes work is the Webinar team of Curtis Becker, Tracy Million Simmons, Carol Yoho, and myself. As you join us online during this year's convention, one or more of us will continually be present, manipulating the controls. We will be doing everything we can do to make all events go as smoothly as possible. I am sure we will have a few glitches, and I thank you for your patience and understanding ahead of time.

*Updated 9/30/2020*

Registered attendees will receive the links to attend the webinars via the email they used to sign up for the convention at Submittable. These links will be sent on Friday, October 2, 2020.

#### **A few notes about attendance:**

- The webinars will be open for attendees to enter and exit at will. It is fine to select a workshop from webinar #1 for the 9 a.m. section, for instance, and switch to a workshop from Webinar #2 for the 10 a.m. section.
- Most workshops will be available in "attendee" mode, meaning that you will be able to watch and listen, but will not be required to be on camera. Participation through typed questions will be encouraged. Note on the schedule that some workshops will invite attendees to participate in "camera-on" mode. This is not a requirement to attend these workshops.
- The webinars will be recorded and made available to registered attendees in the days following the convention. Most workshops will be available to watch for three months. Those sponsored by Kansas Humanities will be available to watch for one week.
- If you have registered for the convention and do not receive your links via email, please contact [kansasauthorsclub@gmail.com](mailto:kansasauthorsclub@gmail.com). We will be monitoring this email during the convention and will attempt to assist with issues in a timely manner.

## Convention Schedule

### Friday, October 2

*If you are new to Zoom, join us at 6:30 for a quick introduction.*

7 p.m. Poetry read-around (Regular zoom meeting; Breakout rooms as necessary)

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3 - WEBINAR #1

#### MORNING WEBINAR #1

9 a.m. Workshop #1: José Faus, “Cambiaron Mi Nombre/They Changed My Name”  
\*Note that this workshop will be a 15 minute presentation followed by face-to-face discussion with the presenter. Attendees will be invited to appear by video and talk with the presenter during the workshop  
**- funded by Humanities Kansas** (recording will remain available for one week)

10 a.m. Workshop #2: Kerrie Flanagan, “10 Tips for Writing Successful Fiction” - **sponsored by POD Print, Wichita, KS**

11 a.m. Workshop #3: Chris McKitterick, “Science Fiction Futures: Writing Transformative Change.”

#### SATURDAY AFTERNOON WEBINAR #1

2 p.m. Presentation of Children’s awards, Grades 1-12  
3 p.m. Huascar Medina presentation for youth writers, “The” and “I” are cancelled.

#### SATURDAY EVENING WEBINAR #1

6 p.m. Book Awards  
6:30 p.m. Member Service & Merit Awards  
7 p.m. Huascar Medina Keynote, “Are you my ally?”

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

7:30 a.m. Rosemary Time (Regular zoom meeting)

#### SUNDAY MORNING WEBINAR #1

9 a.m. Workshop #10: Michael Pearce, “Dorothy was right, . . . There’s no place like home. Being a Kansan helped it all happen”  
  
10 a.m. Workshop #11: Poetry Panel, Roy Beckemeyer, Bill Karnowski, Kris Polansky, “Words on the Page: A Look at the Creative Process”

#### SUNDAY AFTERNOON WEBINAR #1

1 p.m. Adult Literary Contest Awards Presentation  
2:30 p.m. Kevin Wilmott Keynote Address  
3:15 p.m. Announcement of 2021 Convention in Topeka

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3 - WEBINAR #2

#### Morning Webinar #2

9 a.m. Workshop #4: Toni Cummings, “Connecting Breath to Creativity”

10 a.m. Workshop #5: Huascar Medina, “May Our Voices Ring True” - **funded by Humanities Kansas** (recording will remain available for one week)

11 a.m. Workshop #6: Angela Bates, “Children of the Promised Land” - **funded by Humanities Kansas** (recording will remain available for one week)

#### SATURDAY AFTERNOON WEBINAR #2

2 p.m. Workshop #7: Richard Gwin, “Cuba: Faces & Places”

3 p.m. Workshop #8: Mark Wentling, memoir writing: “Born in Kansas, Made in Africa”

4 p.m. Workshop #9: Kevin Rabas, “Writing and Performing to Music” \*Note that this workshop will be a short presentation followed by face-to-face discussion with the presenter. Attendees will be invited to appear by video and interact with the presenter during the workshop

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

#### SUNDAY MORNING WEBINAR #2

9 a.m. Workshop #12: Barbara Waterman-Peters, “Your Story and My Art: A Collaboration”  
  
10 a.m. Workshop #13: Rich Hawkins, “Writing for Radio Broadcast”

## The Book Room Game

Buy 1 book and get a prize

Buy any 3 books to be entered in a little drawing

Buy any 5 books to be entered in a big drawing

Buy 6 = enter the little drawing twice, big once!

Buy 10 = enter both drawings twice!

### How to Play:

- Visit the [Virtual Bookroom](#)
- Purchase a book from a convention attendee
- Submit a selfie with your books to be entered into a drawing for the prize. Email photos to [kansasauthorsclub@gmail.com](mailto:kansasauthorsclub@gmail.com) by the end of the year to be entered into the drawing.
- The first 3 to submit get double the entries!

The address if you have trouble with the above link is :

<https://issuu.com/kansasauthorsclub/>

Select the 2020 Virtual Convention Stack.

A book by an author who does not reside in Kansas	A 2020 KAC Award Winning Book	A Poetry Book
Historical Fiction set in Kansas	A Children's Book	A Mystery or Suspense Novel
A Book Written by a Woman	A Book Written by a Man	A Book with Multiple Authors
A Book by a Workshop Presenter	A Book with a Nature Scene on the Cover	A Book by an Author you have Never Met Before
A Book by an Author You Know Well	A Book that you will Give as a Gift	A Memoir

\*Sadly, we will not be able to sell books directly this year due to the virtual nature of the convention. We are encouraging attendees to shop and buy books by Kansas authors, however. The books in the virtual bookroom are available to purchase through your typical book-buying channels, or the author has provided details at ISSUU on how to purchase their books.

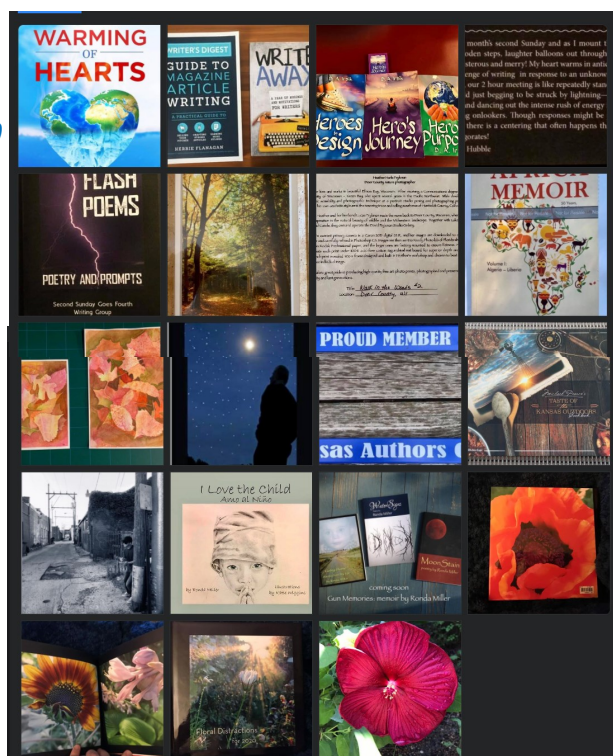
*Updated 9/30/2020*

## Visit Our Silent Auction on Facebook

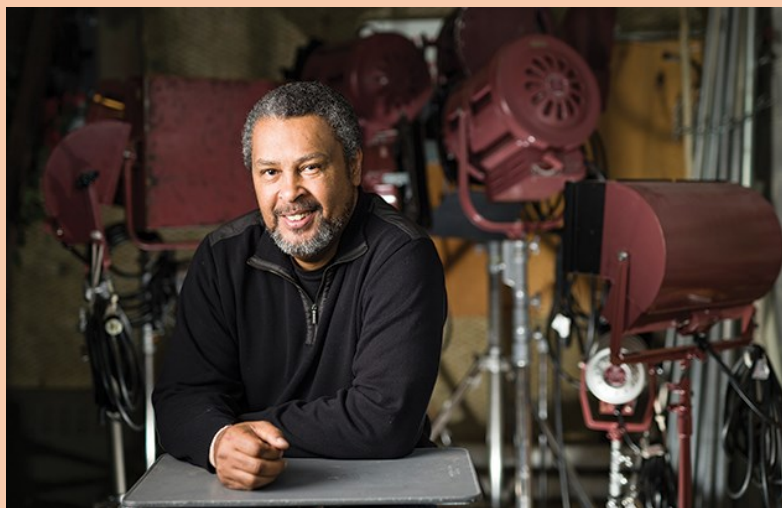
This is a fundraiser for District 7 of Kansas Authors Club. KAC is a 501(c). Your bids are tax deductible donations as are the items donated. Have fun!

[Click this link](#) to get to the silent auction page on Facebook. If you are not on Facebook, please consider asking a friend or family member to help you visit and bid. The address if you have trouble with the link is <https://www.facebook.com/groups/360985818246597>

The images are a selection of the items in the Silent Auction as of 9/19/2020. Check back for new items!







**Kevin Willmott**  
**Sunday Keynote Speaker**  
*Writing about Race, History, America and the Urgency of Now*

Willmott will discuss writing *Blackkkklansman*, *Da 5 Bloods*, *Jayhawkers*, and *CSA Confederate States of America*. Exploring what these films say about our lives as Americans and how writing can create a more democratic nation.

Kevin Willmott won an Academy Award and the BAFTA (British Academy award) for co-writing with Spike Lee the feature film *Blackkkklansman*. The film also won the Grand Prix at the Cannes film Festival.

He also co-wrote and is the Executive Producer of the critically acclaimed film, *Chi-Raq* also directed by Spike Lee. The film is on numerous “Best of 2015” lists, including best film and best screenplay by *The New Yorker Magazine*.

Award winning Films written and directed by Willmott include *Ninth Street*, *CSA-Confederate States of America*, *the Battle for Bunker Hill*, *Jayhawkers*, and *Destination Planet Negro*. Documentaries directed by Willmott include: *From Separate to Equal: The Creation of Truman Medical Center*, *Gordon Parks Elementary*, *Fast Break: The Legendary Coach John McLendon*, and *William Allen White: What’s the Matter with Kansas*.

He co-wrote with Spike Lee the feature film, *Da 5 Bloods* for Netflix. He recently co-wrote and directed the feature film *The 24th*, about the Houston Riot of 1917.

Willmott grew up in Junction City, Kansas, and attended Marymount College, receiving his BA in Drama. After graduation, he returned home, working as a peace and civil rights activist, fighting for the rights of the poor, creating two Catholic Worker shelters for the homeless, and forcing the integration of several long-standing segregated institutions. He attended graduate studies at New York University, Tisch School of the Arts, receiving several writing awards and his M.F.A. in Dramatic Writing. Willmott is a Professor in the Media and Film Studies Department of Kansas University.



**Huascar Medina**  
**Saturday Evening Keynote Speaker**  
*Are You My Ally?*

Huascar Medina is a poet, writer, performer, and Literary Editor for *seventyfive magazine* who lives in Topeka. He has published two books of poetry, *How to Hang the Moon* (2017) and *Un Mango Grows in Kansas* (2020). He is the current poet laureate of Kansas (2019 - 2021).



# Workshops



**HUMANITIES  
KANSAS**

## **Angela Bates**

### ***Children of the Promised Land***

Nicodemus, a small, unincorporated town in Graham County, is the only remaining western town established by African Americans during the Reconstruction Period after the Civil War. Today the town is a National Historic Site. This pictorial history explores the unique experience of mothers and their children in Nicodemus, some of whom were the first members of their families born free. This discussion will explore the dynamics of child-rearing during and after slavery, stories of children conceived in slavery but born free, and how baby names were changed or used to reflect attitudes about free-born children.

Bates, a Nicodemus descendant and historian, is the executive director and founder of the Nicodemus Historical Society. Working with the Nicodemus community, the National Park Service, and Senators Dole and Roberts, she helped designate Nicodemus as a National Historic Site. Angela presents educational programs to cultural organizations across the nation, covering the history of Nicodemus, Exodusters and black towns in the West, Buffalo Soldiers, and black women in the West. Her series of children's books, *Adventures of Nicodemus Annie*, focus on the history of Nicodemus. Angela joined the Humanities Speakers Bureau in 2010.



## **Toni Cummings**

### ***Connecting Breath to Creativity***

Connecting Breath to Creativity, a practice of mindfulness in movement, will provide the participant with an awareness of how intentional breathing leads to a deeper level of focus. Central to this practice is acknowledgment of the creative energy generated by the body-mind-spirit interconnection. Various "postures" combined with rhythmic breathing and flowing movement helps establish calm, intensify concentration, and relieve stress.

Note: In addition to having a nearby water bottle, a sturdy, armless chair on which to sit and hold onto while standing, participants should wear comfortable, stretchable clothing.

Cummings teaches yoga and fitness classes to all levels through her small business, The Breath Connection, and as adjunct instructor at Northwest Kansas Technical College in Goodland, Kansas, where she grew up and has lived most of her life. After earning her Bachelor of Arts degree from Fort Hays State University, Cummings taught junior and senior high school Language Arts for twenty-four years before retiring in 2011. She has been a member of KAC District 7 since 2019.



**HUMANITIES  
KANSAS**

## **José Faus**

### ***Cambiaron Mi Nombre / They Changed My Name\****

This presentation brings together the dynamics of immigration told through the lens of visual art and poetry. It showcases an interactive exploration of a personal journey from the heart of Colombia to the heart of the United States, exploring the conundrum of belonging in unfamiliar surroundings while straddling two different cultures and narratives. Presentation available in English and Spanish.

Faus is a writer, performer, visual artist, and independent teacher/mentor with an interest in the role of artists as creative catalysts for community building. He is a founder of the Latino Writers Collective and sits on the boards of the UMKC Friends of the Library, The Latino Writers Collective, and Charlotte Street Foundation.

His chapbook, *This Town Like That*, was released by Spartan Press. His first book of poetry, *The Life and Times of José Calderon*, was published by West 39 Press.



# Workshops



## Kerrie Flanagan

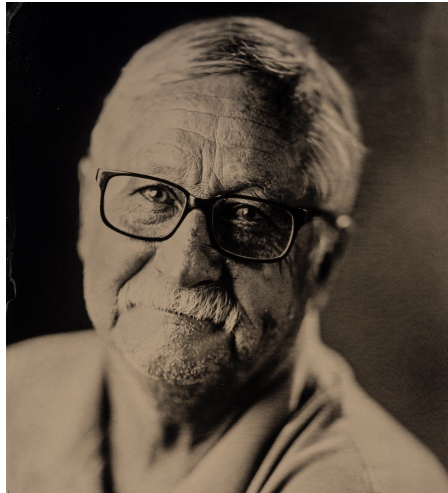
### *10 Tips for Successful Fiction Writing*



Strong writing packs a punch and has a better chance of resonating with readers (along with agents and editors). It creates vivid imagery, an engaging story, and intriguing characters. In this workshop, author and writing consultant, Kerrie Flanagan will teach you 10 tips for writing successful fiction that you can begin implementing into your work right away. By understanding the elements that constitute strong fiction writing you will increase the likelihood of success and provide readers a satisfying book experience.

Kerrie Flanagan is an author, writing consultant, instructor with Stanford Continuing Studies, and freelance writer with over 20 years' experience in the publishing industry. She is the author of, [The Writer's Digest Guide to Magazine Article Writing](#). In addition, she has published thirteen other books, with a co-author under the pen names, [C.K. Wiles](#) and [C.G. Harris](#). Her work has appeared in publications including *Writer's Digest*, *Alaska Magazine*, *The Writer*, and six *Chicken Soup for the Soul* books. She's worked with hundreds of authors through classes and individual consultations. Now, as the cofounder of the [Wordsmith Institute](#), she coordinates one-day online writing conferences.

[KerrieFlanagan.com](https://KerrieFlanagan.com)  
<https://Wordsmith.Institute>  
<https://www.facebook.com/KerrieFlanaganWriter/>



## Richard Gwin

### *Cuba: Faces and Places*

Richard Gwin graduated from Pratt High School in 1968 and, after high school, attended Pratt Junior College for two years. His aspirations then led him to transfer to the University of Kansas to study Fine Arts. He then set his sights on the Photojournalism School. During his three semesters in the Photojournalism Program, Richard received a part-time position at the *Lawrence Journal-World*. After two years in that position, he became the head photographer for the next few years. For the next forty years he held the spot as Senior Photographer, retiring in 2016. Richard's many hobbies and interests include drag racing, fishing, gardening, fearless cooking, and building his own home. Recently Richard has turned out his second self-published book, this one on Cuba, showing the change since 1992. He gives personal tours of Cuba.

Gwin has garnered multiple awards from the Kansas Press Association, including Award of Excellence in Online Video, Feature Photograph Award, and Award of Excellence. He has also earned recognition for photography from the International Association of Fire Fighters and for news reporting from SNA Newspapers and the Associated Press.



## Rich Hawkins

### *Writing for Radio Broadcast*

Hawkins will discuss the key aspects of writing for radio broadcast:

- In writing for radio, you must be very sound conscious
- Use simple direct words that are easy to pronounce and understand
- Everything must be timed to fit the exact time allotted and the programming format
- Nothing is ready for performance until the writer has read it aloud

Hawkins began his broadcast career at the age of 20 at KXXX in Colby. After 15 years, he moved to KRVN in Lexington, Nebraska, for 17 years. The next 5 years, Hawkins worked at WHB in Kansas City. Hawkins is presently retired in Colby, Kansas, where he writes and performs a weekly five-minute program for KXXX Colby and KYVZ Atwood.

# Workshops



**Chris McKitterick**

***Science Fiction Futures: Writing Transformative Change***

Science fiction is the literature of the human species encountering change, whether it arrives via scientific discoveries, technological innovations, natural events, or societal shifts. In this workshop, Chris will talk about writing fiction set after the world-shaking changes we'll soon see (if civilization makes it...).

When writing in a world more than 10 years into the future—especially more than 20 years—you must account for three fundamental areas of technological change that will utterly alter what it means to be human. Chris will discuss the power of science fiction in responding to the transformative changes *we will see in our lifetime*, and how you can write work set in the near future that doesn't immediately feel obsolete. Afterward, he'll send everyone home with links to lots of SF-writing resources created especially for attendees.

**Chris McKitterick** has lived in seven states and two countries but calls Lawrence—where he teaches science fiction and writing at KU—home. His newest short fiction, “[Ashes of Exploding Suns, Monuments to Dust](#),” won the [AnLab Reader's Award](#) for best novelette. His debut novel was [Transcendence](#). Current projects include [Ad Astra Road Trip](#), [Empire Ship](#), [Stories from a Perilous Youth](#), and more. He's a popular speaker, [Campbell Award](#) juror and chair, and [Gunn Center for the Study of Science Fiction](#) director. He sees surviving his youth as evidence of quantum realities.

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Tumblr](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Christopher-McKitterick.com](#)



**HUMANITIES  
KANSAS**

**Huascar Medina**

***May Our Voices Ring True***

Poetry is a lens that can be both microscopic and telescopic, representing the “. . . clear expression of mixed feelings,” as poet W.H. Auden suggests. Poetry creates space where we can discover ourselves, find our place, and revel in beauty and truth. But through poetry we can also find connection with one another. Poet Mahmoud Darwish said it like this: “Poetry and beauty are always making peace. When you read something beautiful you find coexistence; it breaks walls down.” This presentation will use poetry to help us find our voices, share our words, and discover what truly connects us. May our voices ring true, and may our truth have the grace of beauty.

Huascar Medina is a poet, writer, performer, and Literary Editor for *seventyfive* magazine who lives in Topeka. He is the current poet laureate of Kansas (2019 - 2021).



**Michael Pearce**

***A Forty-Year Career of Outdoor Writing (Dorothy was right, “. . . There's no place like home.” Being a Kansan helped it all happen.)***

Jimmy Carter was handing the keys to the White House to Ronald Reagan when Michael Pearce sold his first article on the outdoors. About 6,000 bylines and hundreds of millions of reads or views later, he's still producing. He'll explain how being a lifelong Kansan has helped him consistently produce quality text, come up with unique story angles, and be able to get stories other writers can not.

A subscription to *Outdoor Life*, gifted from his grandmother, ignited Pearce's passion for writing when he was six years old. He spent much of his childhood telling people he'd someday write for that magazine and others. His senior year at KU he did exactly that, with national features in *Outdoor Life* and other publications. A nearly 40-year career has established Pearce as the top conveyor of the outdoor experience in Kansas. He was the outdoors writer/photographer for the *Wichita Eagle* for 17 years, had a 19-year career as an independent writer, and his outdoors articles appeared in the *Wall Street Journal*, *Sports Illustrated* and several luxury travel magazines.

A 6th-generation Kansan from Tonganoxie, he and his wife, Dr. Kathy Pearce, moved to Lawrence two years ago. He's currently semi-retired, writing for a variety of Kansas-based publications.



# Workshops



**Kevin Rabas**  
*Writing and Performing  
to Music*

Kevin Rabas supplies the prompts, and we will write and perform with live music, particularly drum. There is a long legacy of spoken word combined with music, stretching hundreds of years and across countless cultures, featuring scops, bards, troubadours, and more. (No experience necessary. Open to writers of both poetry and prose.)

Past Poet Laureate of Kansas (2017-2019) Kevin Rabas teaches at Emporia State University, where he leads the poetry and playwriting tracks and chairs the Department of English, Modern Languages, and Journalism. He has twelve books, including *Lisa's Flying Electric Piano*, a Kansas Notable Book and Nelson Poetry Book Award winner. He is the recipient of the Emporia State President's and Liberal Arts & Sciences Awards for Research and Creativity, and he is the winner of the Langston Hughes Award for Poetry.

**Presentations will be recorded and will remain available to registered attendees to view online for a period of time after the convention.**

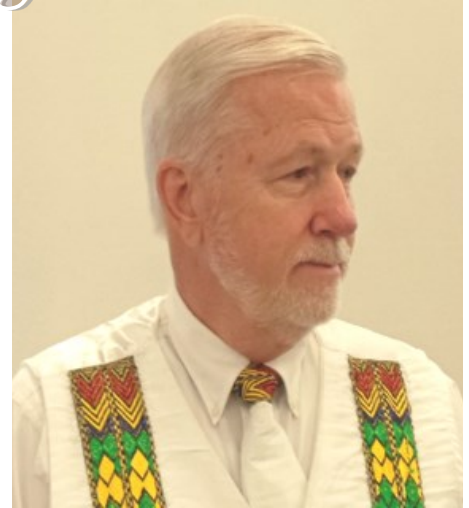


**Barbara Waterman-Peters**  
*Your Story and My Art:  
A Collaboration*

Explore different methods by which the author and the artist/graphic designer, working in tandem, can create an attractive literary product. With so many options today there is no reason for a book with poor visual appeal. Whether you have written fiction, non-fiction, a memoir, a children's book, or a collection of poems, your book can be a source of pride.

Barbara Waterman-Peters, (BFA, Washburn University, MFA, Kansas State University, Honorary Doctor of Fine Arts, Washburn University) whose award-winning work is in museum, corporate, and private collections. She was a founding member of the Collective Art Gallery (1987-2014) and is a charter member of Circle of 7. She has shown regionally, nationally and internationally in over 275 solo, invitational and juried exhibitions. Waterman-Peters taught at Washburn and Kansas State Universities as well as for Lassen Community College in California. She was the staff artist for the Washburn University Theater from 1999 until 2016. In 2010 she founded STUDIO 831, an artists' space and gallery in the North Topeka Arts & Entertainment District (NOTO).

She is co-founder of Pen & Brush Press with author Glendyn Buckley. She and Glendyn each received a Children's Book Award from Kansas Authors Club for their work on their second book, *Bird*. She writes articles about art and artists for *TOPEKA Magazine* and other publications.

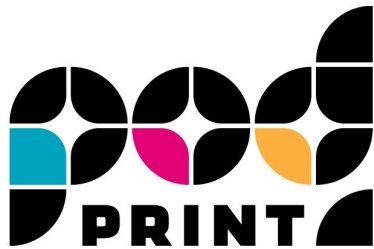


**Mark Wentling**  
*Memoir Writing: Born in Kansas,  
Made in Africa*

Wentling shares his experiences as a Kansan spending half a century in Africa. He provides information about the complex continent of Africa and of 54 of its countries. Wentling has published [a three-volume Africa Memoir](#). (Link to Mark's book on YouTube.)

Mark Wentling obtained his bachelor's degree from Wichita State University. He served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Honduras, Togo, Gabon, and Niger. In 1977, he began working for the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) in Niger and later served as its principal officer in Guinea, Togo/Benin, Angola, Somalia and Tanzania. Following retirement from the U.S. Senior Foreign Service, Mark continued to work as an advisor for the Great Lakes Region, then with USAID Missions in Zambia, Malawi, Guinea and Senegal.

His many jobs and travels in Africa, visiting all 54 African countries, contributed to the completion of his latest book, *Africa Memoir: 50 Years, 54 Countries, One American Life*. Those who know him well say he was born and raised in Kansas but made in Africa.



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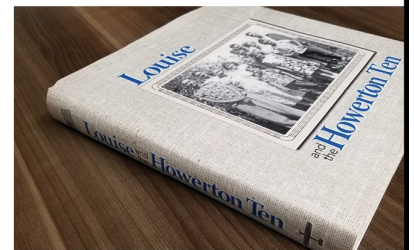
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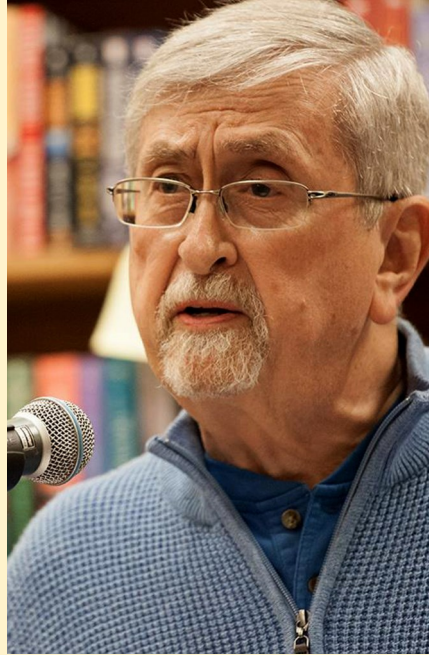
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# Three Poets—*Poetry Panel*



**Kris Polansky** experiments with various poetic forms, studying how content and form shape each other. Four of her poems were published in *Tallgrass Voices: Poems from Members of the Kansas Authors Club*, Gary Lechlitter, Editor (Hill Song Press 2011). She has shared many others over the years with Kansas Authors Club members and with her Manhattan, Kansas, community. She plans to share a sonnet, a sestina, and a short free-verse piece, briefly discussing why those forms fit the subject matters she chose to explore. Her process for getting from inspiration to words on a page remains consistent, no matter which poetic form she uses and how serious the subject matter. As she will explain, her process can be summed up in one word: Play.

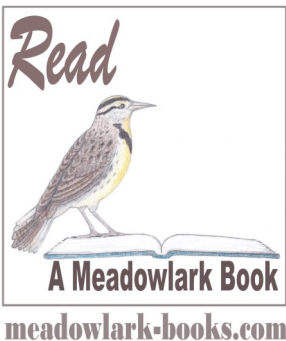


**Roy Beckemeyer's** latest poetry collection is *Mouth Brimming Over* (Blue Cedar Press, 2019). *Stage Whispers* (Meadowlark Books, 2018) won the 2019 Nelson Poetry Book Award. *Amanuensis Angel* (Spartan Press, 2018) comprised ekphrastic poems inspired by depictions of angels in works of art. *Music I Once Could Dance To* (Coal City Press, 2014) was a 2015 Kansas Notable Book. Beckemeyer lives in Wichita, Kansas, and is a retired engineer and scientific journal editor. His work has been nominated for Pushcart and Best of the Net awards and was selected for Best Small Fictions 2019. He served as President of Kansas Authors Club from 2016-2017.



**William J. Karnowski** makes his home in Wamego, Kansas, where Karnowski owns a construction company with his brother, makes furniture, and writes poetry by night. He is the author of seven books of poetry. He served as president of Kansas Authors Club in 2014-2015.

## Youth Writing Contest Award Winners 2020



Thank you to Meadowlark Press of Emporia, KS, for preparation and formatting of the youth contest awards book.

Book printing donated by  
Mennonite Press of Newton, KS.

## Thanks to Mennonite Press for Sponsoring our Youth Programs and Providing our Youth Award Winners' Book



**MENNONITE PRESS, INC.**

**SELF-PUBLISHING WITH MENNONITE PRESS INC**

Self-publishing is when an author finances the publication of their own manuscript and, once published, also markets and sells the book. At one time self-publishing was considered "vanity publishing." However, that is no longer the case. There are now approximately four times more self-published books published each year than traditionally published books.

Self-publishing may be the best way to put your manuscript into print. With many works, such as community histories, genealogies, children's books, and some works of fact and fiction, self-publishing is the only way to have your book published. The fact is a publishing company operates to make a profit. To be profitable they must analyze each manuscript critically, not only for literary value, but also from a return-on-investment perspective. A rejection notice from a publishing house often means the company thinks the manuscript will not generate sufficient profit or it does not fit into their publishing genre specialty. It may be an excellent book that adds significantly to a unique body of literature. The person with creative ability, writing skills, tenacity, and desire to communicate often must look to self-publishing. The alternative is to file the manuscript away only to be read by a few close confidants.

Becoming a self-publisher is a gratifying venture that allows an author to wear the hat of print-buyer, marketing planner, and, very often, warehousing and distribution manager as well. The exciting part is maintaining control of editing, design, and production decisions; the rewarding part is not sharing the profits; the fulfilling part is presenting content firsthand to audiences that can directly benefit from the author's research and experiences. Very often, the daunting part is making business decisions that will package your writings in an affordable and successful way to reach that audience.

Self-publishing and printing for publishers has been a niche of Mennonite Press, Inc. since its beginning. Mennonite Press is a mid-size commercial printing company founded in 1902. Our services include: Design, Consultation, Digital and Offset Printing, Book Registration, Full Finishing Capabilities, Warehousing, and Delivery. Having a book printed can be exciting, profitable, and fulfilling. Mennonite Press has printed memoirs, travel guides, cookbooks, poetry, photography collections, research books by professors, children's books, and much more.

Self-publishing can be exciting, profitable, and fulfilling. It can also cost you more than it should and end up being a losing project. It is our goal to help authors achieve the former rather than the latter. The cost of producing the book is very important to a self-publisher. It is key to making a business plan succeed. Early in the self-publishing process, it is a good idea to obtain a quote in a range of quantities. In order to provide you with accurate pricing for your self-publishing venture, we ask for very detailed information in order to know what we can do to help you. If you are in an early stage and do not know all the answers, make a preliminary choice and we can update it as your project progresses.

If you would like advice from one of our consultants, please call our main number 800-536-4686 and leave your name, number, and email address, and we will get back to you promptly. For more author information, check [MPIselfpublishing.com](http://MPIselfpublishing.com). The quote request form on the above site gives you practical choices, and we will be glad to submit it for you if you would like to take the time to go over your project on the phone (or visit if you are nearby).



## Thank you to those who shared their time and talent as judges for our Youth Writing Contests

**Ann McWhite** was born and raised in Marysville, Kansas, and moved to Colorado in 1969. She finished college in Denver and then worked as a nurse at P/SL from 1975 to her retirement in 2014. She enjoys attending writing book club, paddle boarding, astronomy, gardening, reading, climbing in the mountains with her son Joe, baking, and just being with other retired friends keeping friendships open. *Judged Fiction Grades 1-2, and Non-Fiction Grades 1-2*

**Jolene Haas** grew up in southeast Kansas listening to the many stories of her extended family members. Some stories were true, but most were creatively told with twists and turns in the events, depending on who was telling the story. As a young girl, she began writing her own stories. She continues to love to read and to write middle-grade and young adult fiction. Jolene has taught students in PreK-eighth grade for twenty-seven years. She has served Kansas Authors Club as the 2017 Youth Writing Contest Manager and as Publicity Chair. She is a member of Kansas Authors Club and Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators. *Judged Non-Fiction Grades 3-4*

**Curtis Becker** teaches 8th Grade English at Holton Middle School. *He Watched and Took Note*, Becker's collection of poetry and short fiction, was released in August 2018. In addition to his teaching and writing, he operates Kellogg Press, which has published three poetry collections in 2019. Becker earned a BA in English from ESU and an MA in English and Creative Writing from Southern New Hampshire University. He is a proud member of Kansas Authors Club and the Emporia Writers Group. *Judged Fiction Grades 3-4*

**Louise Brown** has lived most of her life in Colorado, currently Arvada. She treasured her chance, years ago, to take adult education classes from Colorado poet Carolyn Campbell, which launched her efforts in writing poetry. She has been a member of Columbine Poets of Colorado, a branch of National Federation of State Poetry Societies, for many years. Most recently she participates in Hard Times Writers at the Arvada Library. Louise has a 16-year-old granddaughter and a 13-year-old grandson, Jason. She is a retired preschool teacher whose favorite part of the job was reading to the children. She loves reading novels, poetry, and a variety of non-fiction. Jason continues to help his grandmother review the KAC youth contest entries. She values his insight, comments, and teen POV. *Judged Fiction & Non-Fiction Grades 5-6, Grades 7-8*

**Jane Lewis** was born and raised in Marysville, Kansas. She moved to Colorado and raised a family while working for one of the largest HMOs, serving as a construction project manager and in-house art consultant. Writing has always been a constant in her life. Jane is currently focusing on writing memoir stories. *Judged Fiction & Non-Fiction Grades 9-12*

**Kari Heide, M. Ed** is a State Trainer for Kansas MTSS & Alignment, following six years as a second-grade teacher in both Lawrence and Eudora, Kansas. She and her husband live in Eudora where they are raising three children, ages 19 (at KU), 17, and 15. In brief moments of spare time, Kari loves to garden, cook new recipes, and read books about adventurous people doing fantastic things. Most of all, she loves enriching the lives of children through exceptional instruction and genuine care. *Judged Poetry Grades 3-4*

**Marie A. Shepard** is a graduate of the University of Utah with degrees in History and Education. She has taught in Alternative School in Salt Lake City. She volunteered at KRCL Listener's Community Radio in Salt Lake City and read books over the air. She also has worked with disabled youth in Manhattan, Kansas. At the present time she is raising her great-grand niece and nephew. *Judged Poetry Grades 5-6*

**Seth Heide** is a husband, father, and school administrator in Eudora, Kansas. He has two high school aged daughters and a son at the University of Kansas. He has most recently taught 2nd and 4th grades before becoming assistant principal at Eudora Elementary School in 2013. Previously, he taught middle school Spanish and Social Studies, as well as serving as children's ministries director at his church prior to teaching in Eudora. Seth enjoys time with his family, running, and Cubs baseball. *Judged Poetry Grades 7-8*

**Lindsay Frank** is a 5th grade teacher in Eudora, Kansas. She's a proud Jayhawk who just finished her master's in curriculum and instruction at the University of Kansas. In her free time, she enjoys reading, playing the piano, going on walks, drinking coffee, playing sports, crafting, and spending time with her family and her dog. She's excited to be a part of this process and read the excellent poetry submitted by students! *Judged Poetry Grades 9-12*



Ruth Maus  
Author of *Valentine*

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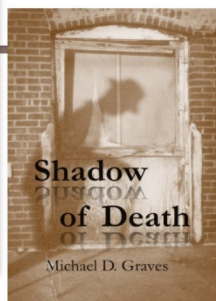
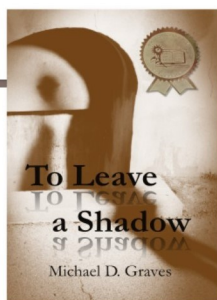


## PETE STONE

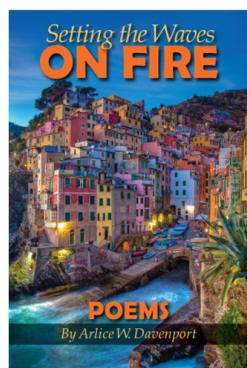
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### MOUTH BRIMMING OVER

by Roy Beckemeyer  
(2019, Blue Cedar Press, \$15)  
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Other books by Roy Beckemeyer:  
*MUSIC I ONCE COULD DANCE TO* (2014, Coal  
City Press, 2015 Kansas Notable Book);  
*AMANUENSIS ANGEL* (2018, Spartan Press);  
*STAGE WHISPERS* (2019, Meadowlark Books,  
2019 Nelson Poetry Book Award Winner)

A Kansas Journal of Creative Nonfiction

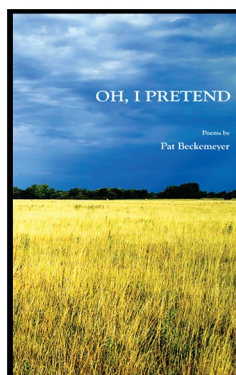


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Reading Period:  
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Theme for our First Issue: *Beginnings*

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### OH, I PRETEND

by Pat Beckemeyer  
(2019, Spartan Press, 68 pp., \$10)  
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"This treasure...*Oh, I Pretend*, poems by  
Pat Beckemeyer, arrived in my mailbox  
yesterday... 'Rain at the Golf Course,'  
'Dementia's Alphabet,' the title poem...  
have haunted my quiet time today."  
-- Tracy Million Simmons



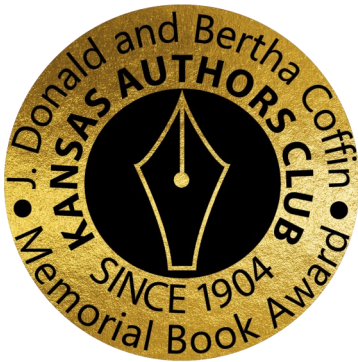
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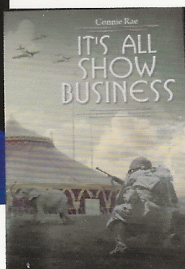
# Who will Win? Tune in for our 2020 Book Awards

## Saturday evening, 6:00p.m. - Webinar #1



### Saturday evening at 6:30p.m.

Each year, Kansas Authors Club recognizes members for achievement in writing, service to the club, and for special accomplishments. Please join us in celebrating these members in 2020.



**Kansas Author**  
**Connie Rae**  
316-210-2917  
[craepa@cox.net](mailto:craepa@cox.net)



## Recognized in 2020—Length of Membership Awards

Fred C. Appelhanz – 15 years

Roy J. Beckemeyer – 10 years

Patricia Bonine – 10 years

Annabelle Corrick – 10 years

Edna M. Dyck – 50 years\*

Pauline Fecht – 20 years

Marie Fletcher – 30 years

Jean Grant & Bob Fraga – 10 years

Yvonne Evie Green – 20 years

Reaona T. Hemmingway – 15 years

Kelly W. Johnston – 10 years

Carole Katsantoness – 10 years

Peg Nichols – 15 years

Kristine A. Polansky – 15 years

Cheryl Skupa – 10 years

Candace C. Sherman – 30 years

### Octogenarians

Sylvia Columbo (2018)

Tom Mach

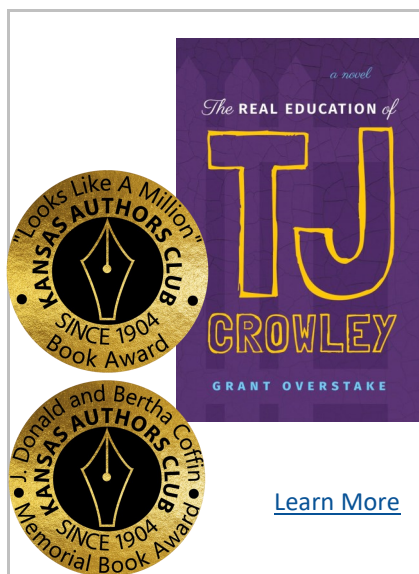
### Centenarians in 2020

Edna M. Dyck – birthday Oct. 23

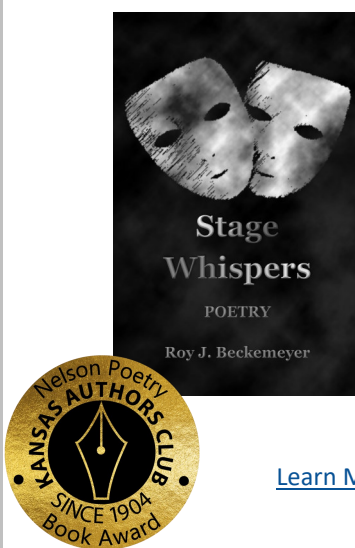
Edna Bell-Pearson – birthday Dec. 9

**Let's have a card shower! Pull out your yearbook and send these ladies a birthday card!**

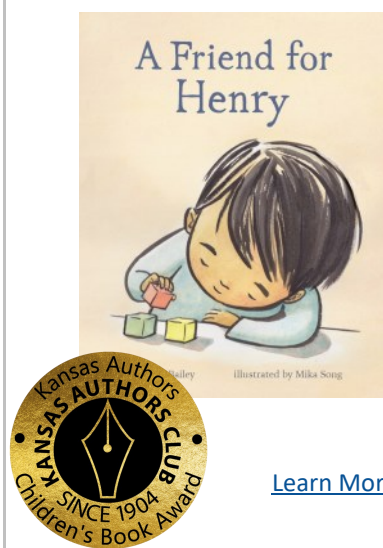
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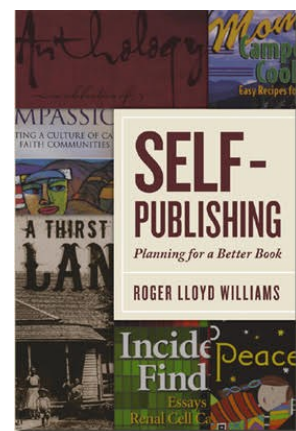
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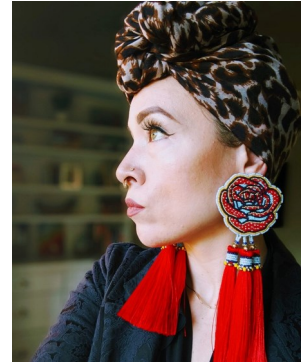
# Thank You to the Judges of our Adult Literary Contest

**Thank you also to Roy Beckemeyer for sponsoring our Playwriting category, and to Mike & Monica Graves for sponsoring our 1st Chapter of a Book category.**

## Poetry Theme Contest - J.C. Mehta

Jessica (Tyner) Mehta is a citizen of the Cherokee Nation, interdisciplinary artist, multi-award-winning poet, and author of over one dozen books. Place, space, and personal ancestry inform much of her work. She's also the Editor-in-Chief of *Crab Creek Review* and owner of an award-winning small business. MehtaFor is a writing services company that offers pro bono services to Native Americans and indigenous-serving non-profits.

Her novel *The Wrong Kind of Indian* won gold at the 2019 Independent Publisher Book Awards (IPPYs) and at the American Book Fest Best Book. Jessica has also received numerous fellowships in recent years, including the Everett Helm Visiting Fellowship at the Lilly Library at Indiana University in Bloomington and the Eccles Centre Visiting Fellowship at The British Library in London. Jessica is a popular speaker and panelist, featured recently at events such as the US State Department's National Poetry Month event, "Poets as Cultural Emissaries: A Conversation with Women Writers," as well as the "Women's Transatlantic Prison Activism Since 1960" symposium at Oxford University.



She has undertaken poetry residencies around the globe including at Hosking Houses Trust with an appointment at the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust in Stratford-Upon-Avon, England, Paris Lit Up in France, and at the Crazy Horse Memorial and museum in South Dakota. Her work has been featured at galleries and exhibitions around the world, including IA&A Hillyer in Washington DC, The Emergency Gallery in Sweden, and Institute of American Indian Arts in New Mexico. Learn more at [www.jessicamehta.com](http://www.jessicamehta.com).

## Classical Poetry - Jay York

Jay York studied English literature and poetry at Emporia State University under the great Christopher Howell. He has worked for many years as a technical writer and editor in the aerospace industry. He lives in Broomfield, Colorado.



## Free Verse - Linzi Garcia

Linzi Garcia loves words and all the good conversation that comes from them. As a poet, she has frolicked through cemeteries, bars, and bookstores to live a great story and document it through this medium. Her full-length poetry collection *Thank You* was published in 2018 by Spartan Press, and she continues to publish work in print anthologies and online. She and her partner, Jase Buck, released a chapbook with Analog Submission Press about their experiences in England last summer. Linzi is currently working on two new poetry collections based on her time building a house of joy with her budding family and working as a reporter with *The Emporia Gazette*. While getting her Master of Arts in English at Emporia State University, Linzi worked as the graduate assistant to former Poet Laureate of Kansas (2017-2019) Kevin Rabas, and as an editorial assistant with Bluestem Press. Her academic research focuses on small press publishing, particularly the social and literary aspects of Kansas authors. Though originally from Evergreen, Colorado, Linzi has fallen in love with Kansas and has planted herself there for the time being as a writer, editor, and marketer.

## Narrative Poetry - Cal Phoenix

Cal Louise Phoenix received her dual bachelors' in English creative writing and sociology from Washburn University in Topeka, Kansas. Her immediate plans include the pursuit of an MFA in creative writing. She was the winner of *Beecher's* 2015 contest in nonfiction, and her poetry has appeared in the likes of the *Apeiron Review*, *Cactus Heart*, *HOUND*, and *Green Blotter*, among others. Away from her desk, she enjoys hand-sewing, attends shul, and resists nihilistic self-sabotage.

## Whimsy - Jessica Woolhiser Stallings

Jessica Woolhiser Stallings, DAT, ATR-BC, LMHP, LPC, is a mental health clinician at a therapeutic school providing art therapy and counseling. Jessie adjuncts for the Emporia State University (ESU) Art Therapy and Counseling Masters programs where she previously served as an associate professor. She maintains a part-time private practice working with teens and adults. A graduate of the ESU MS in Art Therapy (2005) and Mount Mary Doctorate of Art Therapy (2019), Jessie has researched use of art therapy with individuals with autism and written on a variety of topics in the field. She has served on the Kansas Art Therapy Association board for eight years and is a past president and current webmaster. Jessie also serves on the Nebraska art therapy licensure coalition. She serves as an adhoc reviewer for *Art Therapy: Journal of the American Art Therapy Association*. She is also a practicing artist.

## Japanese Poetry - Dennis Etzel Jr.

Dennis Etzel Jr. lives with Carrie and the boys in Topeka, Kansas, where he teaches English at Washburn University. He has two chapbooks, *The Sum of Two Mothers* (ELJ Publications 2013) and *My Graphic Novel* (Kattywompus Press 2015). *My Secret Wars of 1984* (BlazeVOX 2015) was selected by *The Kansas City Star* as a "Best Poetry Book" of 2015, and its sequel, *My Grunge of 1991*,

was recently published (BlazeVOX 2017). *Fast-Food Sonnets* (Coal City Review Press 2016) is a 2017 Kansas Notable Book selected by the State of Kansas Library. *This Removed Utopia* (Spartan Press 2017) was published as part of the Kaw Valley Poetry Series. His work has appeared in *Denver Quarterly*, *Indiana Review*, *BlazeVOX*, *Fact-Simile*, *1913: a journal of poetic forms*, *3:AM*, *Tarpaulin Sky*, *DIAGRAM*, and others. Etzel is the recipient of a 2017 Troy Scroggins Award and the 2017 Topeka ARTSConnect Arty Award in Literary Arts. He co-edited *Ichabods Speak Out: Poems in the Age of Me, Too* with Dr. Jericho Hockett which features poems against sexual assault from the Washburn University and Topeka Community. He is a TALK Scholar for the Kansas Humanities Council and leads poetry workshops in various Kansas spaces.



### Performance Poetry - Adina Sanchez

Adina Sanchez is a Pittsburg, KS, resident who enjoys theater and all aspects of the arts. She currently works as a Family Nurse Practitioner and serves in the United States Army Reserves. She has competed in speech and debate events in high school and college, as well as serving as a coach for local high school students. She admires all the effort and discipline it takes to create new art and the guts and grit necessary to perform for others! Thanks for all the great submissions!



### New Poets - Carol Kapaun Ratchenski

Carol Kapaun Ratchenski is a lifelong resident of North Dakota, where you can see the sky without ever looking up and the open spaces demand art. And sometimes, love.

She is the author of two books of poetry, *A Beautiful Hell*, New Rivers Press, 2016, and *A Certain Kind of Forgiveness*, Meadowlark Press, 2019. Her work has won the Many Voices Project Award for poetry and the Birdy Poetry Prize. *A Beautiful Hell* has since been adapted to the stage by Laurie J Baker with the support of Theatre B and Humanities North Dakota. Ratchenski's first novel, *Mamababy*, was published in 2013 by Knuckledown Press. Her work has appeared in *Gypsy Cab*, *Red Weather*, *North Dakota Quarterly*, *Wintercount*, *Lake Region Review*, *Dust and Fire*, *Dash*, *NDSU Magazine* and others as well as in the anthologies, *Resurrecting Grace: Remembering Catholic Childhoods*, edited by Marilyn Sewell, Beacon Press, 2001, *The Cancer Poetry Project: Poems by Cancer Patients and Those Who Love Them*, edited by Karen B. Miller, Fairview Press, 2007, *Visiting Bob: Poems Inspired by the Life and Work of Bob Dylan*, edited by Thom Tammamro and Alan Davis, New Rivers Press, 2018, and *Rocked by the Waters: Poems of Motherhood*, edited by Margaret Hasse and Athena Kildegaard, Nodin Press, 2020.



Ratchenski is a Licensed Professional Counselor and the owner/operator of Center for Compassion and Creativity in Fargo, ND, where she also lives. She is at work on a second novel while she prepares to be honest, loving, disruptive, and groovy at age 60.

### Prose Theme Contest - Callie Lyons

Callie Lyons is an investigative journalist and author living in the Mid Ohio Valley. Her first book, *Stain-Resistant, Nonstick, Waterproof and Lethal: The Hidden Dangers of C8*, is cited in 22 scientific studies and inspired the *Madrid Statement* - documenting the scientific consensus regarding the prevalence of highly fluorinated chemicals and their potential to harm human health. Known as a "warrior for public health," Lyons' environmental investigations have been featured in documentaries, including *Good Neighbors - Bad Blood*, *Toxic Soup*, and *Parched: Toxic Waters* by National Geographic. Her work has appeared on *Nova's Whiz Kids* and in *Mother Jones* magazine.

In 2019, Lyons revisited her hometown roots with a book of historical fiction about the murder of Dora Hand in Dodge City, Kansas, 1878. *The Short, Fantastic Life of a Saloon Girl* is available on Amazon.

Lyons is currently working on an update of her first book on highly fluorinated chemicals, which was released in 2007. A second saloon girl book is also in the works.



### Humor - Sharon Gregory

Sharon Gregory began her teaching career as an English teacher at Syracuse, Kansas, and during the summer breaks, she engaged in coursework to attain an advanced degree in English. In the fall of her second year of teaching in Syracuse, Sharon met Gary, her future husband, a local farmer, who after developing a relationship with Sharon, decided that he could "go broke" more slowly as a teacher than as a farmer. Following their marriage, they both attended graduate school, and Sharon completed her Master's Degree.

Gary and Sharon both attained positions as teachers in Goodland, Kansas. Sharon's favorite aspect of teaching English was writing and the power of language. She also became engaged in the "Middle-School Movement" and school improvement and earned advanced degrees in school administration at the school and district levels. She was an assistant principal at Grant Jr. High School and then at Central Elementary School. In addition to those positions, she was the School Improvement Specialist—director of curriculum, assessment, technology, and the process of accreditation. Sharon engaged in and led evaluations



teams at the state, national, and international level. Prior to her retirement, she was the principal at Goodland High School. Following her retirement, she has taught English Composition classes for Colby Community College and Northwest Kansas Technical College and developed the on-line curriculum modules for those classes.

### **Memoir/Inspirational - Lindsey Bartlett**

Lindsey Bartlett is the author of *Vacant Childhood*, a poetry collection. Her work has appeared in *Flint Hills Review*, *The Tin Lunchbox*, and *MidAmerican Fiction and Photography*. Bartlett teaches Composition to first year writing students at Emporia State University and also serves as the Administrative Assistant for Faculty Senate. She has served as a panelist for Indies Introduce, Summer/Fall 2020, and as a reader for *The Tin Lunchbox* literary magazine. Bartlett resides in the beautiful Flint Hills region of Kansas.



### **Flash Fiction - Lydia Kautz**

Lydia Kautz is the Editor of the *Junction City Union* in Junction City, KS. She is also a student with Emporia State University's SLIM program and a hobby writer of fiction and other fun things.



### **Stories for Teens - Charity Kemper Sandstrom**

Charity Kemper Sandstrom fell in love with the written word as soon as she made the connection between marks on the page and the stories her mother read to her. Her voracious appetite for reading blossomed into a desire to use words in self-expression. This love of words fuels her work as pastor and her study of theology. Her book of spiritual questions, *Quaker Queries for All Seasons*, is available on Amazon. You can find more information about Charity on her website [AboundingInGrace.com](http://AboundingInGrace.com)



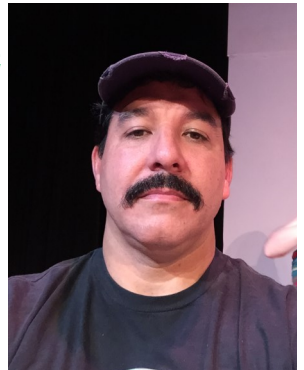
### **Short Story - Melissa McLoughlin**

Melissa McLoughlin received her degree in journalism from St. Mary's of the Plains College in Dodge City, Kansas. She worked in newspapers for the first decade of her professional career while raising three children. She enjoys reading, camping, outdoors/travelling, and concerts. Melissa is an Occupational Therapist in Wichita.



### **Playwriting - Tony Sanchez**

Tony Sanchez is a husband and a father of two amazing young adults. He has had a lifelong love affair with the theatre and has acted and directed various plays and musicals. Some of his favorites include Neil Simon's *RUMORS*, and *TO KILL A MOCKING BIRD*. His favorite moment in any production is the first table read-thru. Oh the possibilities! Tony is a board member of the Pittsburg Community Theater. He is also on the campaign leadership team for the renovation of the Colonial Fox Theatre in Pittsburg, KS. When he is not busy with all things theatre, he makes a living as Realtor with Reece Nichols Sunflower Realty Group LLC. He is currently serving as President of the Pittsburg Board of Realtors.



### **1st Chapter of Book - Michelle Zumbrum**

Michelle Zumbrum is a self-describing bleeding-heart social worker, writers' groupie, and single mom of two semi-sweet/semi-surlly teenagers. Hobbies include cat calling cats, imbibing cheap wine, and watching "CinemaSins" on YouTube.

## **Thank You to the Judges of our Book Awards Contests**

### **It Looks Like a Million Book Contest Judge - Rick Mitchell**

Rick Mitchell has been a professional artist/photographer since 1974. He was professor of photography at Rutgers University for eighteen years and has taught at other institutions including Baker University and the University of Kansas. He is a former Director of the Exhibition Program at the Lawrence Arts Center where he was, for five years, the publisher of *Cottonwood Literary Magazine* in cooperation with the University of Kansas Department of English, and a founder of the Committee on Imagination & Place and the I&P Press.



## 2020 Children's Book Judges – Allison and Gary Haworth



Allison and Gary Haworth have two adult daughters: Mary Kate and Becky. Allison is a graduate of the University of Kansas and taught early elementary school in the Lawrence school district prior to having children. Raising her own children instilled a passion for young children. Allison has been a pre-school teacher for the Lawrence Arts Center for the past 20 years. Gary Haworth is an elementary curriculum PhD graduate of the University of Iowa. He has taught at the elementary school level and was a central office and elementary school administrator. He is now retired.

## Martin Kansas History Book Award: Thomas C. Percy, Ph.D.

Though born in Canada, Thomas C. Percy has lived in Kansas since 1990. He received his B.A. in History and a B.Ed. from Brock University in St. Catharines, Ontario. Inspired by several outstanding history professors, he continued with higher education acquiring his M.A. in history from Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, Texas and his Ph.D. in history from the University of Kansas in Lawrence, Kansas.

During a seminar at the University of Kansas, Percy researched and wrote a paper on the origins of the Kansas State Fair. The topic proved fertile ground and Percy expanded the paper into his dissertation, "A History of the Kansas State Fair, 1863-2006." As chance would have it, Percy found a position teaching history at Hutchinson Community College, the permanent home of the Kansas State Fair. While Percy has enjoyed teaching at Hutchinson Community College since 1994, he has also published *Images of America: Kansas State Fair* in 2014 and has reviewed books in the *Canadian Journal of History/Annales canadiennes d'histoire*, *Teaching History: A Journal of Methods* and *Kansas History*.

## The Nelson Poetry Book Award: Elizabeth (Beth) Schultz

During her 34 years of teaching English at the University of Kansas, Beth was known as a scholar of African American literature and of Herman Melville. She also wrote two collections of essays, one focused on Kansas and the other on her summer community in northern Michigan. From 1958-1961, she taught English at the high school and junior college levels in Osaka, Japan. She taught as an American Literature Fulbright-Hays lecturer from 1970 - 1974 and as a Fall 1992 American Literature and Culture lecturer at seven universities, Africa at the Universities of Ibadan, Makerere, Dar es Salaam during the summer of 1972, Russia, where she taught a New York University summer session at the University of St. Petersburg, and China. In 2007, she traveled to the Beijing Foreign Studies University in China as a Fulbright Distinguished Lecturer. There she offered courses on American Women Writers and the very first Ecocriticism course to be offered at a Chinese university. Other awards she has been honored with include the John Masefield Prize for Fiction, Wellesley College 1958; the Major Hopwood Award for Fiction, University of Michigan 1962; the Woodrow Wilson Fellowship for Graduate Study, University of Michigan 1967; and the National Endowment for Humanities Fellowship in Historical, Social, and Cultural Studies of US Ethnic Minorities, 1974-1975.



Following her retirement in 2001, she turned to writing poetry, and in the last twenty years has published numerous chapbooks as well as five collections of poetry (*Conversations*, *Her Voice*, *Mrs. Noah Takes the Helm*, *The Sauntering Eye*, and *Water-Gazers*).

## J. Donald Coffin Book Award: William Sheldon



William Sheldon lives with his family in Hutchinson, Kansas, where he teaches and writes. He took his BS and MA in English from Emporia State University and an MFA in Creative Writing from Wichita State University. His poetry and prose have been published widely in such journals as *Blue Mesa Review*, *Columbia*, *Flint Hills Review*, *New Letters*, and *Prairie Schooner*. He is the author of two books of poetry, *Retrieving Old Bones* (Woodley, 2002) and *Rain Comes Riding* (Mammoth, 2011), as well as a chapbook, *Into Distant Grass* (Oil Hill, 2009). *Retrieving Old Bones* was a Kansas City Star Noteworthy Book for 2002 and is listed as one of the Great Plains Alliance's Great Books of the Great Plains. He plays bass for the band The Excuses.



# Thank You to our 2020 Convention Committee

Zoom Webinar

Participants (12)

Panelists (12) Attendees (0)

- Ronda Miller (convention chair)
- Sheryl Brenn
- Kris Polansky
- John Sanders
- Maryann Barry
- Marilyn Johnson
- Carol Yoho
- George Phillippy
- Connie White
- Frank Powers
- Sheree Wingo
- Reona Hemmingway

Invite Mute All

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1:35 PM 9/26/2020

# And Thank You to our ZOOM Team Hosts

Carol Yoho

Tracy Million Simmons

Curtis Becker

Duane Johnson



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welcomes creative, technical, academic, and journalistic writers

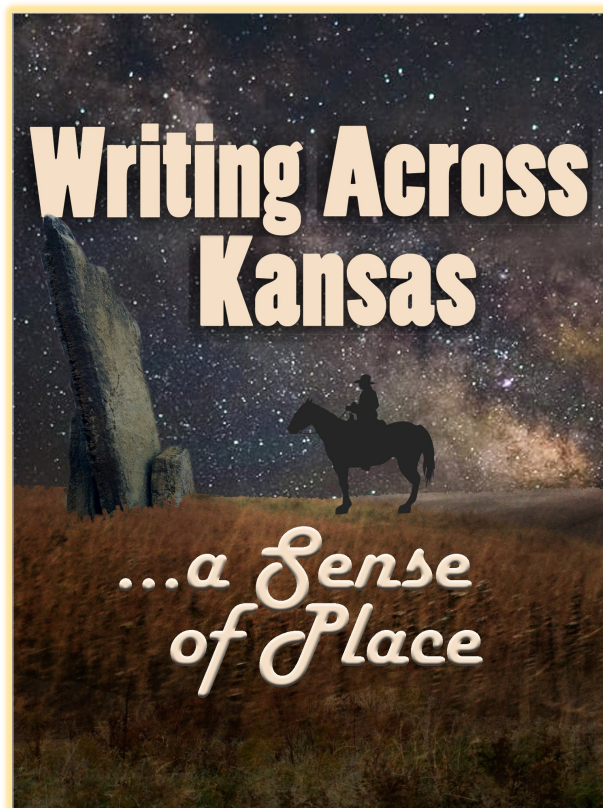
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