

2024 Season 1 Program

# Twilight

WRITERS  
VICTORIA

All about writers

**About Writers Victoria** Page 3

**Courses and Events** Page 4

**Event Calendar** Page 20

**Tutors** Page 30

**Membership** Page 36

**Services** Page 38

**Bookings** Page 39

**Twilight:** ‘the soft, diffused light from the sky when the sun is below the horizon.’ In times when we feel like light is fading, it’s worth a reminder that nightfall is beautiful. We want to celebrate liminal spaces and to see sunset as part of a cycle, as beginning rather than ending. We want you to see writing in this way, too, finding the magic in the everyday, investigating shadows and remembering that there’s fertility and possibility in shifting skies.

## WRITERS VICTORIA IS ALL ABOUT WRITERS

For more than three decades, Writers Victoria has been a leading provider of information, resources and skills development for our members and the broader writing community.

In addition to the courses and workshops you'll find in our Season 1 program, Writers Victoria provides a range of other services and activities. Visit us online for more: [writersvictoria.org.au](http://writersvictoria.org.au).

## MEMBERSHIP

See page 36 for more information about becoming a Writers Victoria member.

## MAGAZINE & NEWSLETTER

Published quarterly, our member magazine *The Victorian Writer* includes articles on the craft and business of writing, news and views from the writing world and listings of writing-related events, opportunities and competitions. Members of Writers Victoria receive the magazine in digital or print edition as part of their membership.

Twice a month, Writers Victoria emails a member newsletter filled with writing news, upcoming events, interviews with writers, book giveaways and writing competitions and opportunities.

To receive *The Victorian Writer* or the newsletter, become a Writers Victoria member by filling out the form on page 37 or visiting [writersvictoria.org.au/join-writers-victoria](http://writersvictoria.org.au/join-writers-victoria).

**WRITERS**  
VICTORIA

All about writers

## MENTORING & MANUSCRIPT ASSESSMENTS

Writers of all genres and styles can receive a detailed manuscript assessment from one of our industry experts to help develop the work or prepare to submit it to a publisher.

Mentorships offer writers the opportunity to work with an experienced author or industry professional on a one-to-one basis. Our mentors can help you with all aspects of the craft and business of writing.

**Prices start from \$300. For more information or to book a manuscript assessment or mentorship, visit our website.**

## FELLOWSHIPS

Writers Victoria works in collaboration with partners and funders like the Grace Marion Wilson Trust and the Hazel Rowley Literary Fund to provide fellowships for emerging and established writers, including residencies, mentorships and funding to develop work.

**Keep an eye on the Writers Victoria website or newsletter for more information about our fellowships and deadlines.**

## ACCESS

Please notify us of all access requirements when booking online. If you require further assistance, contact our program line on (03) 9917 8463 or [program@writersvictoria.org.au](mailto:program@writersvictoria.org.au). For information on The Wheeler Centre, please visit: [www.wheelercentre.com/about-us/accessibility](http://www.wheelercentre.com/about-us/accessibility).

## BOOKINGS

[writersvictoria.org.au/calendars/events](http://writersvictoria.org.au/calendars/events)  
[program@writersvictoria.org.au](mailto:program@writersvictoria.org.au)  
(03) 9917 8463

# Courses and events

**ALL IN-PERSON COURSES** take place at Writers Victoria in The Wheeler Centre at 176 Little Lonsdale Street in Melbourne (unless otherwise stated). All online courses take place via the Writers Victoria Zoom room. All courses are designed for writers aged 17 and older, but younger writers may be considered on a case-by-case basis. Please contact the office if you have any questions.

## Health & Safety

Please stay home if you have any COVID-19 symptoms, including a sore throat, dry cough or a fever. If you have tested positive or are a close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, please do not attend in-person events; we are able to provide refunds. For up-to-date information on our COVID-19 protocols, please see: [writersvictoria.org.au/about-us/covid-19-information/](https://writersvictoria.org.au/about-us/covid-19-information/).

## **Online: Live Write**

Tuesdays, 8pm; Fridays 12 noon

Join us on Zoom for a 30-minute writing check-in. Featuring a timed 25-minute writing session, writing prompts and conversation with fellow writers, Live Write is a great way to set some accountability, get in some writing and take time for your project. To attend, sign up for session reminders at [mailchi.mp/writersvictoria/newsletter-signup](mailto:mailchi.mp/writersvictoria/newsletter-signup).

## **In Person: Friday Write Club**

Fridays 2 February, 1 March, 5 April,  
3 May, 7 June, 12 noon

Join us in the Writers Victoria library on the third floor of The Wheeler Centre on the first Friday of every month for a short burst of writing followed by an opportunity to network with other writers. Afterwards, feel free to stay and work on your projects in the library or chat with new and old friends.

Part creative development, part networking, part writing group, the Established Author Forum features in-depth lectures at a high level from prominent writers on the topics they know best, as well as an opportunity to ask questions about their work and your own. After each lecture, writers share wins, frustrations, opportunities and industry developments within a social setting.

All sessions will take place at The Wheeler Centre, unless otherwise noted.

- **Thursday 29 February, 6.30pm**

Featuring Cate Kennedy on Building and Modulating Tension in Your Narrative, exploring ways to deepen your understanding and use of pacing in prose.

- **Thursday 13 June, 6.30pm**

Featuring Jane Harrison on Lessons from Theatre, considering ways to deepen your understanding of characterisation and dialogue through playwrights' tricks.

- **Thursday 24 October, 6.30pm**

Featuring Melanie Cheng on balancing writing with work and other aspects of life.

- **Thursday 21 November, 6.30pm**

End of year celebration, with refreshments and an open mic night for readings from members.

**Per session:**

MEMBER PRICE: \$60/\$75 Non-Member price: \$115

**For the year:**

MEMBER PRICE: \$175/\$235 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$325

**Note these are early bird prices.** To secure the workshops at these prices book at least nine days before the event.

**Established  
Author Forum**

In 2024, Writers Victoria is delighted to introduce Literature Lessons, an evening seminar series that hovers between craft talk, reading group and workshop. Led by experienced writers, focusing on their sources of inspiration, you'll take craft cues from interesting texts and find new ways to approach your own work. These sessions involve discussion of writing and film and include exercises designed to help you put the lessons into practice.

- **Wednesday 27 March, 6.30pm**

Featuring Eugen Bacon on Peter Temple, a bold, immersive writer who shows us ways to break norms and climb over the fences of genre.

- **Wednesday 15 May, 6.30pm**

Featuring Diego Ramirez on *Interview with the Vampire*, with lessons on moving between book and film alongside examination of postcolonial vampire approaches.

- **Wednesday 24 July, 6.30pm**

Featuring Tony Birch on Alexis Wright, *Country and Literature*, examining non-fiction and writing place.

- **Wednesday 18 September, 6.30pm**

Featuring Maria Tumarkin on Preti Taneja's *Aftermath*, a genre-blurring exploration of atrocity and grief.

**Per session:**

MEMBER PRICE: \$40/\$50    NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$75

**For the Year:**

MEMBER PRICE: \$150/\$190    NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$280

Bookings for the full year and for Eugen Bacon and Diego Ramirez's Literature Lessons are open now. Individual session bookings for Tony Birch and Maria Tumarkin's Literature Lessons will open alongside our Season 2 program in June.

**Note these are early bird prices.** To secure the workshops at these prices book at least nine days before the event.

## Literature Lessons

## Evening Appetiser: Writing Light in Poetry

with Lou Garcia-Dolnik

In this generative workshop, remain curious about the potentials of working critically with light, dark, shadow and reflection in poetry. By moving through selected readings from a broader corpus of queer, trans and anti-colonial work, you'll learn to read light and shadow in poetry as more than inert, backgrounded material into its potential for building and enhancing imagery that, paraphrasing Francis Bacon, resounds through the nervous system more violently.

WHEN: Thursday 8 February, 6–7pm WHERE: Online  
MEMBER PRICE: Free NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$25

First Nations writers, writers of colour and queer and trans writers may attend this seminar for free, regardless of membership status.

## Lunchtime Bite: Filtering Feedback

with Kylie Moppert

New writers are encouraged to join writers' groups and attend workshops. Often these include sharing work and giving and receiving feedback. Though most courses provide 'how to' guides on working with feedback, they can't ensure no harm. Even well-meaning readers can bruise new work and a writer's confidence. In this session, explore the desire for feedback and ways to listen while minimising the risk of being discouraged from writing and sharing your work.

WHEN: Friday 9 February, 12–1pm WHERE: Online  
MEMBER PRICE: Free NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$25

**Free for  
Members**



## **Lunchtime Bite: Grant Seeking and Writing for Beginners**

with Lucy Hamilton

Do you have a project that needs funding support? Are you at a loss as to how to approach a grant application or find out what options are out there? In this session, Writers Victoria CEO Lucy Hamilton will give an overview of the options out there. You will learn how to approach a grant from demystifying guidelines, approaching application questions and gathering support materials, as well as who to go to for extra help.

WHEN: Thursday 18 April, 12-1pm WHERE: Online

MEMBER PRICE: Free NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$25

## **Lunchtime Bite: What can Writers Learn from Magicians?**

with Sarah Giles

Writing is a special kind of magic and writers can learn a lot from magicians. A magic trick is an intricate narrative with a beginning, middle and end teeming with tension, conflict and point of view, set ups, and pay offs. In this session, you'll explore writing through the magician's lens, understanding the elements of a story as the many moving parts needed to create an entertaining and engaging illusion.

WHEN: Friday 19 April, 12-1pm WHERE: Online

MEMBER PRICE: Free NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$25

This season, Writers Victoria's Online Feedback Clinics have been reimagined, making them more flexible for participants. For the full experience, you can sign up for an online workshop to get started and meet your tutor before you submit work for feedback from the tutor and your peers across a three-month period via our online forum. If you'd prefer to just dip a toe into the clinics, you can sign up for a one-day workshop; if you're more confident in your drafting skills, you can opt, instead, to focus solely on the feedback rounds.

## Online Short Story Clinic

with Julie Koh

In this Online Short Story Clinic, Julie Koh will introduce exercises and techniques for drafting strong short stories, focusing on elements including plot, character and voice. You'll form a community with your peers, commenting on one another's work and receiving feedback that helps you move forward with short fiction.

**Workshop:** Saturday 10 February, 10am – 4pm

**Submission Deadlines:** Pieces of up to 1000 words due Tuesdays 9 April, 14 May, 11 June.

MEMBER PRICE: \$355/\$395 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$470 LEVEL: All

**Note these are early bird prices.** To secure the workshops at these prices book at least nine days before the event.

# Online Feedback Clinics

## Online Creative Non-Fiction Clinic

with Sam van Zweden

In this online course, develop your non-fiction prose under the mentorship and supervision of Sam van Zweden. You'll have an opportunity to concentrate on developing your own non-fiction with expert advice before submitting short pieces or excerpts and receiving feedback, developing your work and identifying opportunities and areas for improvement. This online course actively encourages sharing of your work with your cohort as well as with the tutor.

**Workshop:** Sunday 11 February, 10am – 4pm

**Submission Deadlines:** Pieces of up to 1200 words due Thursdays 11 April, 16 May, 13 June.

MEMBER PRICE: \$355/\$395 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$470 LEVEL: All

## Online Children's Book Clinic

with Jane Godwin

This online course offers targeted, personalised feedback on your work from Jane Godwin, an experienced publisher and author of over 35 books for young people. Starting with a one-day workshop you'll learn to plan your book before you submit your drafts and receive feedback over three months. If you are keen to workshop your writing with other writers, as well as receive specific feedback from Jane, then this is the opportunity for you!

**Workshop:** Sunday 3 March, 10am – 4pm

**Submission Deadlines:** Pieces of up to 1000 words due Thursdays 11 April, 16 May, 13 June.

MEMBER PRICE: \$355/\$395 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$470 LEVEL: All

## Online Poetry Clinic

with Elena Gomez

There are no rules in poetry, which means dialogue with other poets and discussion of your drafts is vital to developing your own sense of poetic form and style. In this course, you'll learn to draft poems while forming a community with other poets working in a range of different ways, under the expert guidance of Elena Gomez. After a day-long workshop on drafting, you'll submit poems and receive feedback each month.

**Workshop:** Sunday 25 February, 10am – 4pm

**Submission deadlines:** Poems of up to 80 lines due Tuesdays 9 April, 14 May, 11 June.

MEMBER PRICE: \$355/\$395 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$470 LEVEL: All

## Crime Novel Intensive

with Anna Snoekstra

### Three full-day courses

- **Whodunnit – Characters in Crime:** Unreliable narrators and amateur detectives. Sleuths and sidekicks. What makes a compelling character in the world of crime fiction? In this course you will learn to write nuanced, complex characters that your readers will invest in.
- **Wheredunnit – Setting in Crime:** Small towns with big secrets. Police headquarters. Crime scenes. Successful settings in crime fiction are characters unto themselves. In this course you will learn how to create a sense of place that captivates and entrances.
- **Howdunnit – Plotting and Structure in Crime:** Double crossings. Hidden motives. Third act twists. When writing crime stories we engage both our left and right brains. Using both practical and creative methods, you will learn the building blocks to structure a killer plot that keeps your reader glued to the page.

### Two 90-minute seminars

- **Red Herrings, Plot Twists, and How to Keep Your Reader Guessing:** A great mystery must skirt the line between being too obtuse and too obvious. In this seminar you will delve into how create a satisfying mystery and pay-off for the reader.
- **Fridging, Sexy Lamps, and Other Crime Clichés to Avoid:** When does a trope become a cliché? When does a crime narrative become problematic? This seminar is all about looking deep into the sticky, tricky and sometimes uncomfortable side of writing crime fiction.

**Note these are early bird prices.** To secure the workshops at these prices book at least nine days before the event.

**Long Courses**

**WHEN:** Workshops Saturdays 3 February, 2 March, 18 May, 10am – 4pm; Seminars Thursdays 8 February, 4 April, 6.30–8pm  
**WHERE:** Workshops, The Wheeler Centre, 176 Little Lonsdale Street; Seminars, Online  
**MEMBER PRICE:** \$500/\$590 **NON-MEMBER PRICE:** \$830 **LEVEL:** All

## Self-Publishing In Depth

with Ellie Marney

This course is a practical, three-day intensive designed to provide you with all the skills and information you need to successfully self-publish – from essential knowledge to more advanced tricks. As Beth Revis said, ‘Welcome to the world of publishing. BYOB.’

**WHEN:** Saturdays 17 February, 24 February, 2 March

**WHERE:** The Wheeler Centre, 176 Little Lonsdale Street

**MEMBER PRICE:** \$420/\$460 **NON-MEMBER PRICE:** \$570 **LEVEL:** All

## Learning from Love Poetry

with Lucy Van

The Ancient Greek love poets had an epithet for Eros – *limb-loosener* – describing a force so powerful it dissolves the joints and disjoins the body. In this course, you will turn to and loosen three stages of love poetry in the Western tradition, developing your own writing in the process.

### Three full-day courses

- **The Time of Love and the Geometry of Pleasure:** Ancient Greek lyric hurled its audience out of the distant past and into the here and now. This session takes cues from Sappho, examining bittersweet time, romantic rivals, love triangles and the lover’s mind.
- **The *Desultor Amoris* and the Desire for Discourse:** This session introduces the lovelorn, cynical and insincere protagonist of late Roman elegy, Ovid’s *Naso*. What does love, and Cupid particularly, have to do with Rome and power? What is writing to the lover? What if writing was not a substitute for sex, but a form of sex?
- **Love Poetry Today:** What resemblance does contemporary love poetry bear to those original bursts of classical love poetry? Who is the lover today, and what do they do in the love-poetry connection? This session allows you to examine ways that other contemporary poets write into this tradition, developing your own ability to engage across time as a writer.

**WHEN:** Sundays 21 April, 5 May, 19 May, 10am–4pm

**WHERE:** The Wheeler Centre, 176 Little Lonsdale Street

**MEMBER PRICE:** \$420/\$460 **NON-MEMBER PRICE:** \$570 **LEVEL:** All

## Evening Appetiser: Writing Light in Poetry

with Lou Garcia-Dolnik

In this generative workshop, remain curious about the potentials of working critically with light, dark, shadow and reflection in poetry. By moving through selected readings from a broader corpus of queer, trans and anti-colonial work, we'll learn to read light and shadow in poetry as more than inert, backgrounded material into its potential for building and enhancing imagery that, paraphrasing Francis Bacon, resounds through the nervous system more violently.

WHEN: Thursday 8 February, 6–7pm

WHERE: Online MEMBER PRICE: Free NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$25

First Nations writers, writers of colour and queer and trans writers may attend this seminar for free, regardless of membership status.

## Lunchtime Bite: Filtering Feedback

with Kylie Moppert

New writers are encouraged to join writers' groups and attend workshops. Often these include sharing work and giving and receiving feedback. Though most courses provide 'how to' guides on working with feedback, they can't ensure no harm. Even well-meaning readers can bruise new work and a writer's confidence. In this session, explore your desire for feedback and ways to listen while minimising the risk of being discouraged from writing and sharing your work.

WHEN: Friday 9 February, 12–1pm

WHERE: Online MEMBER PRICE: Free NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$25

**Note these are early bird prices.** To secure the workshops at these prices book at least nine days before the event.

# Online Courses

## Clinic Workshop: Drafting a Short Story

with Julie Koh

This workshop, which can be taken independently or as part of the Online Short Story Clinic, will take you through exercises and techniques for drafting strong short stories. If you're new to writing or keen for a refresher, this day will give you a solid foundation and sense of confidence in constructing short fiction.

WHEN: Saturday 10 February, 10am-4pm WHERE: Online  
MEMBER PRICE: \$140/\$160 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$220 LEVEL: All

## Clinic Workshop: Creative Non-Fiction Basics

with Sam van Zweden

In this workshop, you'll level up your understanding of the rich possibilities and importance of creative non-fiction. Learn how to gather material from your own experiences and expertise, refine your ideas, understand narrative structure and effectively plan and execute your piece. Whether you're a novice or an experienced writer, this workshop offers practical tools to enhance your non-fiction writing in a single day, building a strong shared understanding for group workshoping in the Online Creative Non-Fiction Clinic or for independent work.

WHEN: Sunday 11 February, 10am-4pm WHERE: Online  
MEMBER PRICE: \$140/\$160 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$220 LEVEL: All

## Let's Talk About... Writers and Libraries

with Angela Savage and  
Giselle Au-Nhien Nguyen

Writers and libraries are a natural fit, but how do writers build relationships with libraries? Angela Savage and Giselle Au-Nhien Nguyen have, as writers working in libraries, been on both sides of the process. In this session, learn more about ways that libraries support writers and the best ways to approach and collaborate with librarians and library programmers.

WHEN: Tuesday 20 February, 6.30-8pm WHERE: Online  
MEMBER PRICE: \$18/\$25 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$45 LEVEL: All

## Clinic Workshop: Finding Your Process – Writing and Rewriting a Poem

with Elena Gomez

Often, the scariest part of writing a poem is putting something on the page. In this workshop, which can be taken independently or as an introduction to the Online Poetry Clinic, we'll use exercises, prompts and discussion to assist with finding new ways to conjure poems, regardless of whether you're completely new to poetry or looking for some poetic revitalisation.

WHEN: Sunday 25 February, 10am-4pm WHERE: Online  
MEMBER PRICE: \$140/\$160 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$220 LEVEL: All

## Writing Criticism

With Cher Tan

How do we approach criticism as a form that, as critic Merve Emre asks, “allows us to make sense of something—a fact, a feeling, an art form—by orienting a set of beliefs about the world [and] allows us to make this knowledge known to others”? In this course, participants will learn how to structure and think through techniques that will help hone their approach to writing criticism.

WHEN: Saturday 2 March, 10am-4pm WHERE: Online  
MEMBER PRICE: \$140/\$160 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$220 LEVEL: All

## Writing Relationships for a YA Readership: Families, Friends, Foes and First Loves

with Sophie Gonzales

Learn to craft realistic, relatable relationships within your YA novel, from the villain that your main character loves to hate, to the beautiful and brooding character your main character hates to love, and everything in between. This course combines psychology with narrative techniques to teach you how to identify the relationship dynamics that work best for your character and story, as well as how to effectively craft these relationships.

WHEN: Saturday 2 March, 10am-4pm WHERE: Online  
MEMBER PRICE: \$140/\$160 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$220 LEVEL: All

## Clinic Workshop: Planning a Children's Book

with Jane Godwin

Children’s books might be simple to read, but they’re among the hardest texts to successfully construct. In this one-day workshop, which can be taken independently or as an opening to our Online Children’s Book Clinic, learn to plan your picture book. You’ll develop a strong narrative framework, allowing you to refine delightful details and charming characters that engage young readers.

WHEN: Sunday 3 March, 10am-4pm WHERE: Online  
MEMBER PRICE: \$140/\$160 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$220 LEVEL: All

## How to Structure an Essay

with Timmah Ball

Learn how to develop an essay and other forms of non-fiction writing from initial ideas to re-drafting and research. The course will cover basic structure, different styles of essay and non-fiction writing, editing your own work as well as research techniques. Topics covered will include different styles within essay and non-fiction writing as well as hybrid and experimental forms.

WHEN: Saturday 23 March, 10am-4pm WHERE: Online  
MEMBER PRICE: \$140/\$160 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$220 LEVEL: All



## Writing Romance

with Saman Shad

Dive into the world of romance with this romance writing masterclass. Discover the intricacies of crafting compelling narratives, understand character development for authentic chemistry, and explore the use of romantic tropes. Whether you're just starting out or have penned numerous tales of love, this course promises to enhance your storytelling prowess. Equip yourself with the tools to craft resonant and memorable romantic stories.

WHEN: Sunday 24 March, 10am–4pm WHERE: Online  
MEMBER PRICE: \$140/\$160 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$220 LEVEL: All

## Clinic Feedback Rounds: Short Story

with Julie Koh

In this online clinic, you'll submit short fiction of up to 1000 words each month for three months via an online WordPress forum. You will receive individual feedback from Julie Koh, focusing on elements including plot, structure, character and voice. You'll also practice exchanging feedback with your peers.

**Submission Deadlines:** Pieces of up to 1000 words due Tuesdays 9 April, 14 May, 11 June.

MEMBER PRICE: \$215/\$240 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$285 LEVEL: All

## Clinic Feedback Rounds: Poetry

with Elena Gomez

Over three feedback rounds, you'll form a community with other poets under the expert guidance of Elena Gomez. Each month, you'll share your work with the group and receive constructive advice from Elena and your peers, allowing you to develop the writing that you submit and your voice as a poet.

**Submission deadlines:** Poems of up to 80 lines due Tuesdays 9 April, 14 May, 11 June.

MEMBER PRICE: \$215/\$240 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$285 LEVEL: All

## Clinic Feedback Rounds: Creative Non-Fiction

with Sam van Zweden

In this online clinic, you'll be part of a collaborative community of practice, providing a safe space to experiment. You will play within the capacious boundaries of creative nonfiction, exchange feedback with peers and delve deeper into what makes your work tick. Under the supervision of Sam van Zweden, you will work together to harness energy and build a powerful writing practice going forwards.

**Submission Deadlines:** Pieces of up to 1200 words due Thursdays 11 April, 16 May, 13 June.

MEMBER PRICE: \$215/\$240 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$285 LEVEL: All

## Clinic Feedback Rounds: Children's Books

with Jane Godwin

This online course offers targeted, personalised feedback on your work from Jane Godwin, an experienced publisher and author of over thirty-five books for young people. These feedback rounds run over three months and you can submit the same piece of work multiple times or a different piece each month. If you are keen to workshop your writing with other writers, as well as receive specific feedback from Jane, then this is the opportunity for you!

**Workshop:** Sunday 3 March, 10am – 4pm

**Submission Deadlines:** Pieces of up to 1000 words due Thursdays 11 April, 16 May, 13 June.

MEMBER PRICE: \$215/\$240 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$285 LEVEL: All

## Let's Talk About... Book Covers

with Pooja Desai and W.H. Chong

It's difficult to capture the essence of a book in a small rectangle and designers are required to marry artistic skill and marketing expertise in creating covers. This is a process that's often emotional and opaque for writers; in this session, Pooja Desai and W.H. Chong will share everything that's involved in creating some of this country's most iconic covers and answer some of the questions about design that mystify many writers.

WHEN: Tuesday 16 April, 6.30–8pm WHERE: Online  
MEMBER PRICE: \$18/\$25 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$45 LEVEL: All

## Lunchtime Bite: Grant Seeking and Writing for Beginners

with Lucy Hamilton

Do you have a project that needs funding support? Are you at a loss as to how to approach a grant application or find out what options are out there? In this session, Writers Victoria CEO Lucy Hamilton will give an overview of the options out there. You will learn how to approach a grant from demystifying guidelines, approaching application questions and gathering support materials, as well as who to go to for extra help.

WHEN: Thursday 18 April, 12–1pm WHERE: Online  
MEMBER PRICE: Free NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$25

## Lunchtime Bite: What can Writers Learn from Magicians?

with Sarah Giles

Writing is a special kind of magic and writers can learn a lot from magicians. A magic trick is an intricate narrative with a beginning, middle and end teeming with tension, conflict and point of view, set ups, and pay offs. In this session, we will explore writing through the magician's lens, understanding the elements of a story as the many moving parts needed to create an entertaining and engaging illusion.

WHEN: Friday 19 April, 12–1pm WHERE: Online  
MEMBER PRICE: Free NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$25

## Editing Your Manuscript

with Camha Pham

This workshop is designed for writers who want to become more confident in editing their own work. Participants will be introduced to different editorial approaches and techniques that will help get their manuscript in the best shape before submission to publishing houses or self-publishing. They will also learn the importance of developing a self-editing practice and gain an understanding of the strengths and weaknesses in their own writing.

WHEN: Saturday 20 April, 10am–4pm WHERE: Online  
MEMBER PRICE: \$140/\$160 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$220 LEVEL: All

## Personal Geographies

with Jazz Money

In this workshop, Jazz Money leads poets into place and memory. Over the course of the day, learn how to construct and create poetry that marks time and engage with a variety of poetic forms. This workshop will focus on joy-based writing, free of rules and judgement, and provide writing prompts and tools to overcome writers' block.

WHEN: Saturday 27 April, 10am–4pm WHERE: Online  
MEMBER PRICE: \$140/\$160 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$220 LEVEL: All

## Publicity for Authors

with Hannah Ludbrook

The importance of understanding the role of publicity, and what proactive measures an author can take to get media and readers alike to notice their work, is often overlooked, undervalued or misunderstood. From nailing your elevator pitch to the best ways to reach your target audience to communicating with the media, publicity and communications professional Hannah Ludbrook will walk you through the basics. The tools Hannah will present will be beneficial to anyone, regardless of whether you are a budding author, an established writer or a self-published star, and will help to give your work the best chance of success in an increasingly competitive market.

WHEN: Sunday 5 May, 10am–4pm WHERE: Online  
MEMBER PRICE: \$140/\$160 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$220 LEVEL: All

## The Art of the Start

with Laurel Cohn

Beginnings are crucial; if the beginning of a story is weak chances are no one will ever get to the middle, let alone the end. How do you choose the right way to start? How do you craft a beginning that will keep the reader wanting more? This workshop combines critical reading with writing exercises to examine the importance of the opening sentence, opening paragraphs and opening chapters, unpicking what works and why.

WHEN: Saturday 18 May, 10am–4pm WHERE: Online  
MEMBER PRICE: \$140/\$160 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$220 LEVEL: All

## FEBRUARY












Sat. 3 Feb. – 18 May	 <b>Crime Novel Intensive</b>	Anna Snoekstra	p.12
Thurs. 8	 <b>Evening Appetiser: Light in Poetry</b>	Lou Garcia-Dolnik	p.14
Fri. 9	 <b>Lunchtime Bite: Filtering Feedback</b>	Kylie Moppert	p.14
Sat. 10	 <b>Writing Exquisite Sentences</b>	Emily Bitto	p.25
Sat. 10 Feb. – 21 June	 <b>Online Feedback Clinic: Short Story</b>	Julie Koh	p.10
Sat. 10	 <b>Clinic Workshop: Drafting a Short Story</b>	Julie Koh	p.15
Sun. 11	 <b>Developing Your Newsletter</b>	McKinley Valentine	p.25
Sun. 11 Feb. – 21 June	 <b>Online Feedback Clinic: Creative Non-Fiction</b>	Sam van Zweden	p.11
Sun. 11	 <b>Clinic Workshop: The Basics of Creative Non-Fiction</b>	Sam van Zweden	p.15
Sat. 17 Feb. – 2 March	 <b>Long Course: Self-Publishing In Depth</b>	Ellie Marney	p.13
Sun. 18	 <b>Writing ‘Home’</b>	Elise Valmorbida	p.25
Tues. 20	 <b>Let’s Talk About... Writers and Libraries</b>	Angela Savage and Giselle Au-Nhien Nguyen	p.15
Sun. 25 Feb. – 19 June	 <b>Online Feedback Clinic: Poetry</b>	Elena Gomez	p.11
Sun. 25	 <b>Clinic Workshop: Finding Your Process – Writing and Rewriting a Poem</b>	Elena Gomez	p.15
Thurs 29 Feb. – 21 Nov.	 <b>Established Author Forum: Full Year Program</b>	Cate Kennedy, Jane Harrison and Melanie Cheng	p.6
Thurs. 29	 <b>Established Author Forum: Building and Modulating Tension in Your Narrative</b>	Cate Kennedy	p.26

## MARCH

Sat. 2	 <b>Writing Criticism</b>	Cher Tan	p.16
Sat. 2	 <b>Writing Relationships for a YA Readership: Friends, Foes and First Loves</b>	Sophie Gonzales	p.16
Sun. 3 Mar. – 21 June	 <b>Online Feedback Clinic: Children’s Books</b>	Jane Godwin	p.16
Sun. 3	 <b>Clinic Workshop: Planning a Children’s Book</b>	Jane Godwin	p.16
Sat. 23	 <b>How to Structure an Essay</b>	Timmah Ball	p.16
Sun. 24	 <b>Writing Romance</b>	Saman Shad	p.17
Wed. 27 Mar. – 18 September	 <b>Literature Lessons: Full Year Program</b>	Eugen Bacon, Diego Ramirez, Tony Birch and Maria Tumarkin	p.7
Wed. 27	 <b>Literature Lesson: Peter Temple</b>	Eugen Bacon	p.26

# Event Calendar




## APRIL

Apr. 9 - 19 June		<b>Clinic Feedback Rounds: Poetry</b>	Elena Gomez	p.17
Apr. 9 - 21 June		<b>Clinic Feedback Rounds: Short Story</b>	Julie Koh	p.17
Apr. 11 - 21 June		<b>Clinic Feedback Rounds: Creative Non-Fiction</b>	Sam van Zweden	p.17
Apr. 11 - 21 June		<b>Clinic Feedback Rounds: Children's Books</b>	Jane Godwin	p.18
Tues. 16		<b>Let's Talk About... Book Covers</b>	Pooja Desai and WH Chong	p.18
Thurs. 18		<b>Lunchtime Bite: Grant Seeking and Writing for Beginners</b>	Lucy Hamilton	p.18
Fri. 19		<b>Lunchtime Bite: What can Writers Learn from Magicians?</b>	Sarah Giles	p.18
Sat. 20		<b>Autofiction: Race, Representation &amp; Self</b>	André Dao	p.26
Sat. 20		<b>Editing Your Manuscript</b>	Camha Pham	p.19
Sun. 21 Apr. - 29 May		<b>Long Course: Learning from Love Poetry</b>	Lucy Van	p.13
Sat. 27		<b>Deepening the Emotional Truth of Your Memoir</b>	Lee Kofman	p.27
Sat. 27		<b>Personal Geographies</b>	Jazz Money	p.19
Sun. 28		<b>Publishing Children's Books</b>	Michael Earp	p.27

## MAY

Sat. 4		<b>Verse Novels for Young Audiences</b>	Karen Comer	p.28
Sun. 5		<b>Publicity for Authors</b>	Hannah Ludbrook	p.19
Wed. 15		<b>Literature Lesson: Vampire Literature</b>	Diego Ramirez	p.28
Sat. 18		<b>The Art of the Start</b>	Laurel Cohn	p.19
Tues. 21		<b>Let's Talk About... Writers' Festivals</b>	Emily Westmoreland and Özge Sevindik	p.22
Sat. 25		<b>Observation and Voice In Fiction</b>	Jessica Zhan Mei Yu	p.22
Sat. 25		<b>Pitching to Literary Journals</b>	Adalya Nash Hussein	p.28

## JUNE

Sat. 1		<b>Autobiographical Poetry</b>	Madison Godfrey	p.22
Sun. 2		<b>Thriving with Imposter Syndrome</b>	Liel Bridgford	p.22
Thurs. 13		<b>Established Author Forum: Lessons from Theatre</b>	Jane Harrison	p.28

## Let's Talk About... Writers' Festivals

with Özge Sevindik and  
Emily Westmoreland

One of the delights of being a writer is festivals, where we meet and set our work in conversation with other writers and readers. Festivals, though, can be intimidating to writers who are starting out. In this conversation, learn about the ways in which festivals are developed and programmed and gather tips for making the most of your time as a festival guest!

WHEN: Tuesday 21 May, 7-8.30pm WHERE: Online  
MEMBER PRICE: \$18/\$25 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$45 LEVEL: All

## Observation and Voice in Fiction

with Jessica Zhan Mei Yu

It's the way in which characters see the world, often, that makes fiction compelling. In this workshop, you'll hone your skills in observation and voice through examining influential writers and observational consciousness across contemporary literary fiction. You will also practice writing from characters' perspectives and give and receive feedback on one another's drafts.

WHEN: Saturday 25 May, 10am-1pm WHERE: Online  
MEMBER PRICE: \$80/\$100 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$140 LEVEL: All

## Autobiographical Poetry

with Madison Godfrey

How can you create poems about your everyday experiences that resonate with strangers? In this course, you'll be guided through readings and exercises that illuminate a relationship between autobiography and poetry. What's so special about your favourite park? What do you reach for before bed? Is there a shirt you can't wear without visiting a past version of you? Here, autobiography and memory become tools that construct a strong poetic persona. Led by Madison Godfrey, the author of *Dress Rehearsals*, which is described as 'a memoir made of poetry'.

WHEN: Saturday 1 June, 11am-5pm WHERE: Online  
MEMBER PRICE: \$140/\$160 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$220 LEVEL: All

## Thriving with Imposter Syndrome

with Liel Bridgford

A practical course on recognising imposter syndrome in yourself and learning to manage it. You will practice useful tricks to make imposter syndrome your writing friend. Using successful techniques drawn from Acceptance and Commitment Therapy, you will learn how to thrive as a creative with imposter syndrome. Facilitated by a writer and mental health professional, this course will leave you confident to start working towards your writing goals and dreams.

WHEN: Sunday 2 June, 10am-1pm WHERE: Online  
MEMBER PRICE: \$80/\$100 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$140 LEVEL: All



## Crime Novel Intensive

with Anna Snoekstra

### 3 Full-day courses

- **Whodunnit – Characters in Crime:** Unreliable narrators and amateur detectives. Sleuths and sidekicks. What makes a compelling character in the world of crime fiction? Learn to write nuanced, complex characters that your readers will invest in.
- **Wheredunnit – Setting in Crime:** Small towns with big secrets. Police headquarters. Crime scenes. Successful settings in crime fiction are characters unto themselves. In this course you will learn how to create a sense of place that will captivate and entrance.
- **Howdunnit – Plotting and Structure in Crime:** Double crossings. Hidden motives. Third act twists. When writing crime stories, you engage both your left and right brains. Using both practical and creative methods you will learn the building blocks to structure a killer plot that will keep your reader glued to the page.

### Two 90-minute seminars

- **Red Herrings, Plot Twists, and How to Keep Your Reader Guessing:** A great mystery must skirt the line of being too obtuse, nor too obvious. In this seminar you will delve into how create a satisfying mystery and pay-off for the reader.
- **Fridging, Sexy Lamps, and Other Crime Clichés to Avoid:** When does a trope become a cliché? When does a crime narrative become problematic? This seminar is all about looking deep into the sticky, tricky and sometimes uncomfortable side of writing crime fiction.

**Note these are early bird prices.** To secure the workshops at these prices book at least nine days before the event.

## In-Person Courses

**WHEN:** Workshops Saturdays 3 February, 2 March, 18 May, 10am–4pm; Seminars Thursdays 8 February, 4 April, 6.30–8pm  
**WHERE:** Workshops, The Wheeler Centre, 176 Little Lonsdale Street; Seminars, Online  
**MEMBER PRICE:** \$500/\$590 **NON-MEMBER PRICE:** \$830 **LEVEL:** All



## Writing Exquisite Sentences

with Emily Bitto

Regardless of genre, style or level of experience, all writers work with words and sentences as the basic units of prose. This course will re-focus your writing on the level of the sentence, providing practical ways to improve your prose in both drafting and editing stages. You will learn, among other things, to write more freely and imaginatively, to strengthen your verbs, avoid cliché, think more creatively about imagery and metaphor, and edit your work, and the work of others, more effectively. The course involves a combination of tuition, examples, writing exercises and workshoping to empower you to elevate your sentences from ordinary to sublime.

**WHEN:** Saturday 10 February, 10am–4pm  
**WHERE:** The Wheeler Centre, 176 Little Lonsdale Street  
**MEMBER PRICE:** \$140/\$160 **NON-MEMBER PRICE:** \$220 **LEVEL:** All

## Developing Your Newsletter

with McKinley Valentine

Newsletters are no longer just a marketing tool – they’re one of the best available vehicles for your writing. Increasingly, writers and journalists are ditching the gatekeepers and connecting directly with their ‘1000 True Fans’. Unlike blogs, your newsletter is built around your voice and interests, not around a specific, SEO-friendly topic and clickbait headlines. McKinley will show you how to set up a newsletter from scratch and build it into a platform to share your unique take on the world.

**WHEN:** Sunday 11 February, 10am–4pm  
**WHERE:** The Wheeler Centre, 176 Little Lonsdale Street  
**MEMBER PRICE:** \$140/\$160 **NON-MEMBER PRICE:** \$220 **LEVEL:** All

## Self-Publishing in Depth

with Ellie Marney

This course is a practical, three-day intensive designed to outfit you with all the skills and information you need to successfully self-publish – from essential knowledge to more advanced tricks. As Beth Revis said, ‘Welcome to the world of publishing. BYOB’.

**WHEN:** Saturdays 17 February, 24 February, 2 March  
**WHERE:** The Wheeler Centre, 176 Little Lonsdale Street  
**MEMBER PRICE:** \$420/\$460 **NON-MEMBER PRICE:** \$570 **LEVEL:** All

## Writing ‘Home’

with Elise Valmorbida

What is home? Do we travel towards it, or do we navigate the world from it? Is it a place, a character, an idea? If it’s the setting of your story or a recurring theme in your mind, these questions are relevant. In this workshop, you’ll explore ‘home’ through language, memory, perspective and place. There’ll be plenty of discussion, writing exercises and supportive critical feedback. Whether you’re deep into a work-in-progress, or just starting out, fiction or non-fiction, this day is for you.

**WHEN:** Sunday 18 February, 10am–4pm  
**WHERE:** The Wheeler Centre, 176 Little Lonsdale Street  
**MEMBER PRICE:** \$140/\$160 **NON-MEMBER PRICE:** \$220 **LEVEL:** All

## Established Author Forum: Building and Modulating Tension in Your Narrative

with Cate Kennedy

If you've written one book or five, you've likely found that each new project involves new challenges, many of which hinge on narrative tension and propulsion. This session focuses specifically on deepening your understanding of tension and impetus and developing ways to put these lessons into practice. Afterwards, chat with other writers in a social setting.

**WHEN:** Thursday 29 February, 6.30-8.30pm

**WHERE:** The Wheeler Centre, 176 Little Lonsdale Street

**MEMBER PRICE:** \$60/\$75 **NON-MEMBER PRICE:** \$115 **LEVEL:** Established

## Literature Lessons: Peter Temple

with Eugen Bacon

Reading Peter Temple is to unravel fiction that climbs over fences of genre. Temple's text is fast paced, brutal, radical. His writing hums with tension. His characterisation ascends physical traits and the reader promptly understands 'who is ice or heat or fragile or solid'.

Join this Literature Lesson hosted by Eugen Bacon – a bold, immersive writer who adores breaking the norms of traditional writing. Discover Peter Temple in the fascinating light of crossover narrative.

**WHEN:** Wednesday 27 March, 6.30-8.30pm

**WHERE:** The Wheeler Centre, 176 Little Lonsdale Street

**MEMBER PRICE:** \$40/\$50 **NON-MEMBER PRICE:** \$75 **LEVEL:** All

## Autofiction: Race, Representation & Self

with André Dao

All autobiographies, writes Brian Castro, are 'highly inventive acts of dissimulation'. At the same time, 'autobiography' makes claims 'about oneself, one's family, lineage, history'. In this course, you will explore how autofiction makes productive use of this ambiguity in all writing about the self. In particular, you will learn how the techniques of autofiction might be applied to writing about race, ethnicity and identity in contemporary Australia.

**WHEN:** Saturday 20 April, 10am-4pm

**WHERE:** The Wheeler Centre, 176 Little Lonsdale Street

**MEMBER PRICE:** \$140/\$160 **NON-MEMBER PRICE:** \$220 **LEVEL:** All

First Nations writers and writers of colour may attend this course at the member price regardless of membership status.

## Learning from Love Poetry

with Lucy Van

The Ancient Greek love poets had an epithet for Eros – *limb-loosener* – describing a force so powerful it dissolves the joints and disjoins the body. In this course, you will turn to and loosen three stages of love poetry in the Western tradition, developing your own writing in the process.

### Three full-day courses

- **The Time of Love and the Geometry of Pleasure:** Ancient Greek lyric hurled its audience out of the distant past and into the here and now. This session takes cues from Sappho, examining bittersweet time, romantic rivals, love triangles and the lover's mind.
- **The *Desultor Amoris* and the Desire for Discourse:** This session introduces the lovelorn, cynical and insincere protagonist of late Roman elegy, Ovid's *Naso*. What does love, and Cupid particularly, have to do with Rome and power? What is writing to the lover? What if writing was not a substitute for sex, but a form of sex?
- **Love Poetry Today:** What resemblance does contemporary love poetry bear to those original bursts of classical love poetry? Who is the lover today, and what do they do in the love-poetry connection? This session allows you to examine ways that other contemporary poets write into this tradition, developing your ability to engage across time as a writer.

WHEN: Sundays 21 April, 5 May, 19 May, 10am–4pm

WHERE: The Wheeler Centre, 176 Little Lonsdale Street

MEMBER PRICE: \$420/\$460 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$570 LEVEL: All

## Deepening the Emotional Truth of Your Memoir

with Lee Kofman

This class is suitable for writers who are working on or have a draft of a memoir and are seeking to lift their work to the next level. You will focus on the art of revision, helping you get closer to the truth of your work. You'll also pay attention to the craft – the gradual rendering of this truth palpable on the page, clear and vivid to your readers. You'll do this through a mix of teaching techniques – theory, discussions, exercises and brainstorming of the unique problems you are tackling in your manuscript.

WHEN: Saturday 27 April, 10am–4pm

WHERE: The Wheeler Centre, 176 Little Lonsdale Street

MEMBER PRICE: \$140/\$160 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$220 LEVEL: All

## Publishing Children's Books

with Michael Earp

So, you've written a book (or books!) for kids or young adults, but need to get your head around the industry? This workshop will provide an overview of all the parts that aren't writing or illustrating. You'll learn how to research and approach publishers or agents, what to include in your pitch to show you're knowledgeable, what to expect from publishers, the roles that booksellers play (along with how you can work with them) and more!

WHEN: Sunday 28 April, 10am–4pm

WHERE: The Wheeler Centre, 176 Little Lonsdale Street

MEMBER PRICE: \$140/\$160 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$220 LEVEL: All

## Verse Novels for Young Audiences

with Karen Comer

Verse novels are wonderfully layered, both sparse and lyrical. You'll create a mini creative journal to collect your fragments, make connections and most importantly, to play. Verse novels need flow and fragments, movement and stillness – you'll write poems which cover these ideas. You'll also explore the importance of symbols and add layers of meaning. This workshop is suitable for writers with a few initial ideas and those who have a first or second draft.

**WHEN:** Saturday 4 May, 10am–4pm

**WHERE:** The Wheeler Centre, 176 Little Lonsdale Street

**MEMBER PRICE:** \$140/\$160 **NON-MEMBER PRICE:** \$220 **LEVEL:** All

## Literature Lessons: Interview with the Vampire

with Diego Ramirez

In this seminar, you'll focus on *Interview with the Vampire*, examining the craft of the vampire in book and film, but take inspiration from a range of vampires. You'll consider characterisation through vampires, which have evolved both physically and psychologically and in dialogue with a range of theories, moving from *Dracula* to *Twilight* and beyond.

**WHEN:** Wednesday 15 May, 6:30–8:30pm

**WHERE:** The Wheeler Centre, 176 Little Lonsdale Street

**MEMBER PRICE:** \$40/\$50 **NON-MEMBER PRICE:** \$75 **LEVEL:** All

## Pitching to Literary Journals

with Adalya Nash Hussein

In this workshop, you will develop your craft in pitching essays, commentary and criticism to literary journals and similar publications. Over the course of the day, you'll learn the key components of a pitch, develop your own targeted pitches and learn to look at them critically, making your work clearer, cleaner and more compelling.

**WHEN:** Saturday 25 May, 10am–4pm

**WHERE:** The Wheeler Centre, 176 Little Lonsdale Street

**MEMBER PRICE:** \$140/\$160 **NON-MEMBER PRICE:** \$220 **LEVEL:** All

## Established Author Forum: Lessons from Theatre

with Jane Harrison

In this session, celebrated playwright and novelist Jane Harrison will explore the lessons she has taken from theatre and applied to prose. In theatre, characterisation is vital and dialogue needs to be sharp. You'll learn new approaches to these areas, and more, through this masterclass. Afterwards, join fellow authors to chat in a social setting.

**WHEN:** Thursday 13 June, 6:30–8:30pm

**WHERE:** The Wheeler Centre, 176 Little Lonsdale Street

**MEMBER PRICE:** \$60/\$75 **NON-MEMBER PRICE:** \$115 **LEVEL:** Established



# Tutors

**Adalya Nash Hussein** is a writer and editor. Her work has appeared in *Meanjin*, *Overland*, *Voiceworks*, *The Lifted Brow*, *Ibis House*, *Going Down Swinging* and others. It has also been shortlisted for the KYD Creative Non-Fiction Essay Prize and the Scribe Nonfiction Prize. She has been a CA-SRB Emerging Critic, an Emerging Writers' Festival Melbourne Recital Centre Writer in Residence, and a Wheeler Centre Hot Desk Fellow. She has edited for *Voiceworks*, *Liminal* and *The Lifted Brow*, and is currently Managing Editor of Australian Poetry and *The Victorian Writer*.

**André Dao** is the author of *Anam*. He is the co-founder of Behind the Wire, an oral history organisation documenting the experiences of migrants and refugees imprisoned by the Australian government. He is also a Postdoctoral Research Fellow with the Laureate Program in Global Corporations and International Law at the Melbourne Law School.

**Angela Savage** is an award-winning author, CEO of Public Libraries Victoria and former CEO of Writers Victoria. She holds a PhD in Creative Writing, giving her the Bond villain-like name of Doctor Savage. Her latest novel is *Mother of Pearl*.

**Anna Snoekstra** is an award-winning author and screenwriter. She is the author of *Only Daughter*, *Little Secrets* and *The Spite Game*. Her novels have been published in over twenty countries and sixteen languages. She has written for *Meanjin*, *KYD*, *Lindsay*, *SMH*, *LitHub*, *The Griffith Review* and is a profile writer for *The Saturday Paper*. Her most recent novel is *Out of Breath* (2022) and in 2023 she released her first audio drama *This Isn't Happening*.

**Camha Pham** is a freelance editor based in Naarm/Melbourne, with over ten years of experience in the publishing industry. Her freelance clients include publishers such as Hachette, Hardie Grant, UQP, Affirm Press, and Pantera Press, among others. She has worked in-house at Oxford University Press and Margaret River Press, and has sat on various editorial boards. She also works in the industry as a manuscript assessor and was the mentor for the 2023 Open Book publishing program.

**Cate Kennedy** is the author of the highly acclaimed novel *The World Beneath*, which won the People's Choice Award in the NSW Premier's Literary Awards in 2010. She is an award-winning short-story writer whose work has been published widely. Her first collection, *Dark Roots*, was shortlisted for the Steele Rudd Award in the Queensland Premier's Literary Awards and for the Australian Literature Society Gold Medal. She is also the author of a travel memoir, *Sing, and Don't Cry*, and the poetry collections *Joyflight*, *Signs of Other Fires* and *The Taste of River Water*, which won the Victorian Premier's Literary Award for Poetry in 2011. She lives on a secluded bend of the Broken River in north-east Victoria.

**Cher Tan** is an essayist and critic. Her work has appeared in the *Sydney Review of Books*, *Kill Your Darlings*, *Runway Journal*, *Gusher* magazine, *Hyperallergic*, *Overland* and *Catapult*, amongst others. She is a book columnist at ABC Arts, an editor at *Liminal* and the reviews editor at *Meanjin*. Her debut essay collection, *Peripathetic: Notes on (Un)belonging*, is forthcoming with NewSouth Publishing in 2024.

**Diego Ramírez** is an artist with dreams, a writer with hopes and a facilitator with beliefs. Ramírez has written locally for Art Gallery of Western Australia, *Art and Australia*, *Disclaimer*, *MEMO*, *un Projects* and internationally with *NECSUS* (NL) and *BLUE Journal* (US x FR). As a facilitator, he is the former Director of Seventh Gallery and sits in panels for Creative Victoria, City of Melbourne, and is a peer assessor for Australia Council. He is represented by MARS Gallery.

**Elena Gomez** is a poet and editor living on unceded Wurundjeri country. She is the author of *Admit the Joyous Passion of Revolt* and *Body of Work*. She has facilitated workshops for Express Media and Queensland Poetry Festival, and is a PhD candidate in Creative Writing at the University of Melbourne.

Italian Australian author **Elise Valmorbida** won the Victorian Premier's Literary Award 2019 for her fourth novel, *The Madonna of the Mountains*, published internationally in several languages to critical acclaim. She has written three works of non-fiction; the latest is *The Happy Writing Book*, a positive guide to creative writing and wellbeing, inspired by her twenty-plus years of experience as writer-teacher. Elise is also an award-winning indie film producer and script consultant.

**Ellie Marney** is a New York Times bestselling and award-winning hybrid author of eleven YA thrillers – her titles include *None Shall Sleep*, *The Killing Code* and *Every Breath*. She successfully self-published an *Every Breath*-spinoff, *No Limits*, and her first indie series, *Circus Hearts*, made No. 1 in Amazon category bestseller lists and sells into bookstores and libraries.

**Emily Bitto** is an award-winning writer of fiction, non-fiction and poetry. Her debut novel, *The Strays*, won the 2015 Stella Prize. Her second novel, *Wild Abandon*, was the winner of the 2022 Margaret and Colin Roderick Literary Award. Emily has taught creative writing for over a decade and is currently a course advisor at the Faber Writing Academy.

**Emily Westmoreland** is the Program Director for Willy Lit Fest. She runs Dinner Party Press, is the publisher of *PENinsula*, and is part of the team behind the *Desperate Literature* Prize for short fiction. She works as a bookseller by day. In 2023, she was the Penguin Random House Young Bookseller of the Year.

**Eugen Bacon MA, MSc, PhD** is an African–Australian author of novels and collections. She's a British Fantasy Award winner, a Foreword Book of the Year winner, a twice World Fantasy Award finalist, a Rhysling and twice-Elgin award nominee for poetry, and a finalist in the BSFA, *Aurealis*, *Ditmar* and Australian Shadow Awards. Eugen was announced in the honor list of the Otherwise Fellowships for 'doing exciting work in gender and speculative fiction'. Website: eugenbacon.com.

**Giselle Au-Nhien Nguyen** is a Vietnamese–Australian writer, journalist and critic based in Naarm/Melbourne. Her work has been published widely in media and literary publications, including *The Age*, *The Guardian*, *Meanjin* and *Sydney Review of Books*. She was an inaugural recipient of The Wheeler Centre's Next Chapter fellowship in 2018 and a fiction judge for the 2021 Victorian Premier's Literary Awards.

**Hannah Ludbrook** has worked in book promotion for over five years in both the UK and Australia and has led campaigns for a range of authors from literary debuts through to bestselling narrative non-fiction. She is currently a Senior Publicist at Penguin Random House Australia and New Zealand.

**Jane Godwin** is the highly acclaimed author of over thirty-five books for young people, across all styles and ages. Her work is published internationally and she has received many commendations. Jane was the children's publisher at Penguin Books for many years, where she produced books for a wide range of readers, from very young children to Young Adult titles.

**Jane Harrison** is descended from the Muruwari people of NSW. Her first play, *Stolen*, had productions across Australia and toured internationally. She was co-winner of the 2012 RAKA Kate Challis Award for *Stolen*. *Rainbow's End* has had numerous productions since its premiere in 2003 and won the 2012 Drivers Award for best touring production. Both *Stolen* and *Rainbow's End* have been placed on secondary school curricula. *The Visitors* premiered at Sydney Festival in 2020 and won the Sydney Critics Award for Best New Australian Work for 2021. It had a new production at the Sydney Opera House in September 2023. Her novel, *Becoming Kirrali Lewis*, won the 2014 Black & Write! Prize, and was shortlisted for the Prime Minister's Literary Awards and the Victorian Premier's Literary Awards. Her latest novel is *The Visitors*. She is the Festival Director of Blak & Bright First Nations Literary Festival (2016, 2019, 2022).

**Jazz Money** is a Wiradjuri poet and artist based on Gadigal land, Sydney. Her practice is centred around poetics while producing works that encompass installation, performance, film and print. Jazz's writing and art has been widely presented, performed and published nationally and internationally. Their first poetry collection, the best-selling *how to make a basket* (UQP, 2021) won the David Unaipon Award, and a second collection is forthcoming through UQP in 2024.

**Jessica Zhan Mei Yu** is a writer of fiction, non-fiction and poetry. She is a Lecturer in Creative Writing at the University of Melbourne. Her debut novel, *But the Girl*, was published by Jonathan Cape (UK) and Penguin Random House (Australia) in 2023 and will be published with Unnamed Press in the US in March 2024. Her essay collection, *All the Stain is Tender*, is set to follow.

**Julie Koh** is the author of *Capital Misfits* and *Portable Curiosities*. The latter was shortlisted for several awards and led to Julie being named a 2017 *Sydney Morning Herald* Best Young Australian Novelist. Her short stories have been published widely, including in the *Best Australian Stories* and *Best Australian Comedy Writing*. She has written radio plays for ABC Radio National and the libretto for *Chop Chef*. She was a judge for the 2018 Stella Prize and the 2022 USQ Steele Rudd Award.

**Karen Comer** is an author, freelance editor and speaker based in Melbourne. She's represented by Danielle Binks at Jacinta di Mase Management and Booked Out speakers' agency. She presents writing workshops to adults and children. Her work as a freelance editor includes fiction for adults and children and non-fiction. Karen writes verse novels – *Grace Notes* for young adults (Hachette) and *Sunshine on Vinegar Street* for middle-grade readers (Allen & Unwin) were published in 2023.

After a marginally successful career in acting, **Kylie Moppert** became an accountant. After two decades she needed a change and became an artisan baker. Although the creative and community life nourished her, the long hours proved unsociable and exhausting. Also, she wanted to pursue writing. In 2022 she sold her bakery to make writing her main pursuit. She regularly attends courses, participates in writing groups and has had works published in, to date, three anthologies. She is on the Writers Victoria Board.

**Laurel Cohn** is a book editor passionate about communication and the power of stories in our lives. As a developmental editor, assessor and writing coach she has been helping writers prepare their work for publication for over three decades. She is a regular workshop presenter for Writers Victoria, Writing NSW, Queensland Writers Centre and Byron Writers Festival. She has a PhD in Literary and Cultural Studies.

**Lee Kofman** is the author of six books, including *Imperfect* (2019, Affirm Press), which was shortlisted for the Nib Literary Award 2019, and *The Dangerous Bride* (2014, MUP); editor of *Split* (Ventura, 2019), which was longlisted for ABIA Awards 2020, and co-editor of *Rebellious Daughters* (Ventura, 2016). Her short works have been widely published and her blog was a finalist for Best Australian Blogs 2014. Her most recent book is *The Writer Laid Bare* (Ventura, 2022).



**Liel Bridgford** (she/they) is a Psychologist (Provisional), writer, educator, podcaster, and a disability and justice advocate based in Naarm. Her work is published in *ABC Arts*, *MamaMia*, *We've Got This* (Black Inc, 2022), *Hireup* and *Mascara Literary Review*, among others. Liel was an ABC TOP 5 Arts resident, editor of *Writing Place* magazine, and is the creator and host of the (Un)marginalised podcast. She not-so-secretly loves singing along to the *Frozen* soundtrack with her kids.

**Lou Garcia-Dolnik** is a poet living and working on sovereign Gadigal Country. Their writing has been awarded Second Prize in *Overland's* Judith Wright Poetry Prize, a place on the shortlist for the 2020 Blake Prize, 2021 Val Vallis Awards, 2022 LIMINAL Non-Fiction Prize, 2022 Kat Muscat Fellowship, and an Academy of American Poets University Prize from the University of Texas at Austin. They were the 2023 recipient of the Australian Poetry/NAHR Eco-Poetry Fellowship.

**Lucy Hamilton** is the CEO of Writers Victoria. She has over fifteen years of arts administration experience. She has held roles at Express Media and Regional Arts Victoria, as well as voluntary roles with Multicultural Arts Victoria and the Human Rights Arts and Film Festival. She lived in the UK for seven years, where she studied medieval French literature and had a brief stint in the world of advertising while working as a stage manager and production manager across comedy clubs, fringe venues and festivals.

**Lucy Van** is an Australian poet and researcher. She is a recipient of the Melbourne Research Fellowship (University of Melbourne, 2018) and the *Overland* Malcolm Robertson Foundation Residency (2019). Her poetry collection, *The Open* (Cordite, 2021), was longlisted for the Stella Prize, shortlisted for the Mary Gilmore Award, and highly commended by the Anne Elder Award. She teaches poetry at the University of Melbourne.

**Madison Godfrey** is a writer, editor, educator, and the author of *Dress Rehearsals* (Allen & Unwin: JOAN 2023). Their writing is described as “sensual and often funny” by *The Guardian* and “fiercely punk and undeniably powerful” by ArtsHub. Madison has performed poetry at the Sydney Opera House, the Royal Albert Hall, St Paul's Cathedral and Glastonbury Festival. They are a previous recipient of the Kat Muscat Fellowship and the Varuna Flagship Poetry Fellowship. Madison lives and teaches on Whadjuk Noongar land.

**Maria Tumarkin** writes books, essays, reviews, and pieces for performance and radio; she collaborates with sound and visual artists and has had her work carved into dockside tiles. She is the author of four books of ideas. Her latest book, *Axiomatic*, won the 2018 Melbourne Prize for Literature and was named a New Yorker Top 10 Book of 2019. Tumarkin is a recipient of the 2020 Windham Campbell Prize in the non-fiction category. She holds a PhD in cultural history from the University of Melbourne, where she teaches in the creative writing program.

**McKinley Valentine** grew up in a tiny copper-mining town on the edge of the Australian desert, and has established herself as a pioneering voice in what's been called the 'golden age of newsletters'. She is the writer of cult-hit newsletter 'The Whippet' and produces newsletters for design studio Paper Giant and board game company Jellybean Games. She regularly consults with creators to give strategic guidance on balancing growth while staying true to their voice.

**Michael Earp** is a non-binary writer living in Naarm, editor of the anthologies *Kindred: 12 Queer #LoveOzYA Stories* and *Everything Under The Moon: Fairy Tales in a Queerer Light*. With a teaching degree and a Masters in Children's Literature, they have worked between bookselling and publishing for twenty years and were named ABA Bookseller of the Year in 2021 and twice ABA VIC Sales Rep of the Year. Their writing has appeared in *Archer*, *The Age*, *PopMatters*, *The Victorian Writer* and *Aurealis*.

**Özge Sevindik** is the director and co-founder of the Australian Muslim Writers Festival. She is a librarian and works for Annabel Barker Literary Agency as the submissions coordinator. Özge was a judge for the Prime Minister's Literary Awards and the Neilma Sidney Travel Grants in 2023. She holds an honours degree in Journalism and a Master of Information Studies. Her work has appeared in *Meanjin*, *The Guardian*, *Peril Magazine* and *The Victorian Writer*.

**Pooja Desai** is the Art Director at Hardie Grant Children's Publishing where she also publishes books into a ground-breaking list, Bright Light. Pooja is an award-winning designer and the recipient of the 2021 ABIA Rising Star award in recognition of her achievements within the publishing industry. A past secretary of ABDA, Pooja has also promoted book design through speaking events at Geelong Design Week, Editors Victoria, and the Independent Publishing Conference. She hates peas and loves collecting vases.

**Sam van Zweden** is a Melbourne-based writer interested in memory, food, mental health and the body, and author of *Eating with my Mouth Open*. Her writing has been published by the *Saturday Paper*, *ABC Everyday*, *Meanjin*, *The Big Issue*, *The Lifted Brow*, *Cordite*, the *Sydney Review of Books*, *Griffith Review* and others. Her work has been shortlisted for the Scribe Nonfiction Prize for Young Writers, *The Lifted Brow* and non/fictionLab Experimental Non-fiction Writing Prize, and the Lord Mayor's Creative Writing Awards.

**Saman Shad** is a writer, journalist and teller of stories. Her writing credits span mediums, including radio scriptwriting for the BBC in the UK and the ABC in Australia, and playwriting, with works commissioned by theatres in London and Sydney. She is a regular writer for several publications, including *The Guardian*, *Sydney Morning Herald* and SBS. She has also worked on screen projects including *The Disposables* currently showing on ABC Me. Her debut novel, *The Matchmaker*, is out now, published through Penguin Australia.

**Sarah Giles** (she/her) is a writer and PhD candidate at Swinburne University. She is researching the possibilities of the contemporary short story cycle as a means for exploring women's experiences of isolation, trauma, mental illness, and relational agency. Sarah's creative work is informed by the life and art of Joy Hester (1920–1960). Her writing has been published in *Creative Writing Responses to Images of the Living Brain*, *TEXT Journal*, *The Incompleteness Book*, *ACE III*, *ACE IV*, *The Victorian Writer* and *Lip Magazine*, among others. Sarah currently works as the Marketing and Communications Coordinator at Writers Victoria and the Jewish Museum of Australia.

**Sophie Gonzales** writes young adult queer contemporary fiction with memorable characters, biting wit and endless heart. She is the author of *The Law of Inertia* and *Only Mostly Devastated* and *Perfect on Paper. If This Gets Out* (co-written with Cale Dietrich) was published in December 2021 from Wednesday Books / Macmillan. When she isn't writing, Sophie can be found performing in musical theatre, ice skating and practicing the piano. She currently lives in Adelaide, Australia.

**Timmah Ball** is a writer and zine maker of Ballarong Noongar heritage. Previous zines and micro publications include *Wild Tongue* in collaboration with Loving Feminist Literature for Melbourne Fringe (2016), *Wild Tongue Vol. 2* in collaboration with Azja Kulpinska for Next Wave Festival (2018) and *Do Planners Dream of Electric Trees?* (2021) created through Arts House Makeshift Publics residency. She is currently developing a new zine/DIY publication called *Class Wars in the Airport Lounge*.

In 2023 **Tony Birch** published the novel *Women & Children*. His previous books are the novels *The White Girl*, *Ghost River* and *Blood*, the short story collections *Dark As Last Night*, *Shadowboxing*, *Father's Day*, *The Promise* and *Common People* and the poetry collection *Whisper Songs*.

**W. H Chong** is an artist and book designer. He is the design director at Text Publishing and an inductee in the Australian Book Designers Hall of Fame. His 2023 book *Portraits* comprises three hundred of his portraits of artists, writers and musicians.



# Membership

If you earn an income from your writing this year you may be able to use your Writers Victoria membership and course fees as a tax deduction (for professional development expenses).

## MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- Discounts on courses, manuscript assessments and mentorships
- *The Victorian Writer* quarterly magazine, delivered either to your inbox or your door
- Twice-monthly newsletter filled with writing news, events and opportunities
- Up to three free listings a year in *The Victorian Writer* or newsletter
- Access to the Writers Victoria library on Level 3 of The Wheeler Centre (10am to 4pm weekdays), including a great collection of writing-related reference books, literary magazines, journals, trade weeklies and more (subject to restrictions)
- Access to a place to write in our library and meeting rooms
- Representation and advocacy on issues affecting Victorian writers
- Information, advice and guidance from the Writers Victoria team

## MEMBERSHIP WILL ALSO ALLOW YOU TO:

- Support your sector
- Have your say in the organisation, attend and vote at Annual General Meetings or nominate for the Board of Directors
- Get discounts from our partners

## GIVE THE GIFT OF WRITING

Writers Victoria membership also makes a great gift idea for the other writers in your life. Fill in the form on the next page or join online at [writersvictoria.org.au](http://writersvictoria.org.au).

**Please complete and send to:** Memberships, Writers Victoria, Level 3,  
The Wheeler Centre, 176 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne Vic 3000

Name	Phone
Organisation (if required)	Mobile
Postal address	Email
Suburb	State      Postcode

### TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP

#### Individual

- One-year \$75
- Two-year \$135
- One-year concession \$55
- Two-year concession \$100
- Regional \$50
- Regional two-year \$90
- Overseas \$75
- Under 25 (joint membership with Express Media) \$55

#### Writers groups, libraries and organisations

- One-year \$145
- Two-year \$260

How would you like to receive our quarterly member magazine, *The Victorian Writer*?

- Digitally (no cost)
- Print: 1 Year (\$15)
- Print: 2 Years (\$30)
- Tick if you DO NOT want to receive our newsletter twice a month

### PAYMENT

#### Payment method

- Cheque
- Please charge my credit card

Card holder name

Card number

Expiry date

Signature

#### Concession type (if applicable)

- Health care card
- Pension card
- Seniors card
- Student card

Concession card number/s:

**TOTAL**

# Services

## WRITEABILITY

Writeability supports writers with disability to develop their skills and writing careers. It provides tools and information to support disabled writers to tell their own stories in their own way. Our Writeability programs include mentorships, fellowships and writing groups. Subject to funding, Writeability Fellowships support up to five writers each year. We also partner with local councils to deliver the Writeability Goes Local program.

For upcoming Writeability events and opportunities, or to find out how you can bring a Writeability program to your local area, please see our website or email [writeability@writersvictoria.org.au](mailto:writeability@writersvictoria.org.au).

## ON-DEMAND COURSES

Get tips and tricks on the art of writing and publishing at a fraction of a course fee from the Writers Victoria webinar library. On-demand courses are available year-round and online at [writersvictoria.org.au/shop/](http://writersvictoria.org.au/shop/).

## BUSINESS WRITING

Writers Victoria offers professional writing courses for businesses and government departments, including in-house training, one-on-one coaching and open-access courses. Visit [writersvictoria.org.au/business](http://writersvictoria.org.au/business) for more information.

## WRITERS VICTORIA FUND

Writers Victoria recognises that many writers face financial barriers to participation in literary activities. For more information about bursaries to attend courses through the Writers Victoria Fund, visit [writersvictoria.org.au/wvfund/](http://writersvictoria.org.au/wvfund/).

# Bookings

## BOOKING POLICY

Prior bookings are required for all events. As places are limited, we advise that you book early. Bookings are confirmed upon full payment to Writers Victoria.

### Please take note of our cancellation policy:

- within 5 days of event – no credit or refund
- within 6–10 days of event – 50% credit, no refunds
- over 10 days before event – full credit or refund
- credits are valid within the same calendar year.

Writers Victoria reserves the right to cancel any activity up to two days before an event. Please contact us to confirm your event will go ahead before booking travel or accommodation.

## EARLY BIRD PRICING

Book early to access our early bird prices! These expire nine days before the course begins. Please keep in mind that our workshops require a minimum number of participants to run, so booking early also helps ensure that a workshop will go ahead.

### BOOKINGS

[writersvictoria.org.au/calendars/events](http://writersvictoria.org.au/calendars/events)  
[program@writersvictoria.org.au](mailto:program@writersvictoria.org.au)  
(03) 9917 8463

## CONTACT

### Writers Victoria

Level 3, The Wheeler Centre,  
176 Little Lonsdale Street,  
Melbourne Vic 3000

**Email:** [program@writersvictoria.org.au](mailto:program@writersvictoria.org.au)

**Website:** [writersvictoria.org.au](http://writersvictoria.org.au)

**Telephone:** (03) 9917 8463

## VENUES

Unless otherwise stated, all workshops, seminars and events are held at:

**Writers Victoria**, The Wheeler Centre,  
176 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne  
(alongside State Library of Victoria).

## ACCESS

Writers Victoria aims to make our program, services and opportunities as accessible as possible for people with disability. Please let us know about your access requirements when booking. Please give two weeks' notice for Auslan interpreting.

## PROGRAM CHANGES

For the latest news, events and activities, go to [writersvictoria.org.au](http://writersvictoria.org.au).

## AGE REQUIREMENTS

Workshops are designed for participants aged 17+ unless otherwise specified. Please contact Writers Victoria if you wish to enrol younger people into one of our events.



WRITERS  
VICTORIA

---

All about writers