

The Report: March 2016

Oklahoma Writers Federation, Inc.

READ ALL ABOUT IT

OWFI Conference 2016

By OWFI President, Tony LoPresti

Zen. It is what we here behind the scenes are trying to do as we piece together the conference starting May 12, 2016. Can we achieve Zen? Well, probably not, however, we are working to create it at the conference.

For a mind to learn it must be relaxed, Zen. What will you learn at the 2016 conference? Would you like to go to a different world and populate it with strange and interesting characters and landscapes. Vickey Kennedy has you covered.

Maybe you are trying to make your character come alive and jump off the page. Jan Morrill will show you how to do it. Your nonfiction is a little dry? Linda Apple can show you how to spice it up.

Maybe it is the mechanics you need help with. Pam Johnson will take you through editing from start to finish. Many other sessions are available too.

What do you do with all this knowledge? At our box lunch on Friday, William Bernhardt will explain how it all goes together.

This year we have also gotten short. Yes, we have sessions on short stories and how to teach writing.

Yes, we have something for everyone including the person who is looking for social networking.

Behind the scenes for the last year a lot of people have been working to bring the best possible conference and make it as valuable as possible.

New this year will be a photographer to help anyone who needs a PR headshot. The first one is free with a minimal charge for any extras. If you want to remember the conference with friends, the photographer will be more than happy to help with that too.

Saturday afternoon will be the Gong Show. Attendees will be allowed to anonymously submit ideas and our panel of agents and publishers will let you know what they think of the idea with a mallet and a two foot gong.

Food. What about the food? Plenty to eat for both banquets. While arranging for the banquets the hotel chief introduced himself and his ideas for food. The banquets are not to be missed. The first will be a fest for the eyes as the costume contest swings into high gear and our keynote speaker, Steven James speaks about capturing a moment on the page.

The awards banquet will be just as festive as award are handed out by our vice President Marsha Kay Oldham and it will set the record straight on who won and who needs to try again next year.

On behalf of all the volunteers working diligently to bring the best conference possible, we look forward to seeing you there.

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Help make dreams come true! Sponsor an OWFI Contest Category. Full Sponsorships \$105 per category, \$500 for the Crème de la Crème Category. Partial sponsorships accepted. Contact vck@cox.net or visit <http://www.owfi.org/#!sponsor-contest-category/c126v> for details.

2016 OWFI CONFERENCE STAFF

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Famous Author Banquet:	Jennifer McMurrain	jennifermcmurrain@gmail.com
Costume Contest:	Ruth Weeks	witchywoman2@sbcglobal.net

Questions? If you can't reach the committee chair or need additional information, contact conference coordinator Maria Veres, mariapolsonveres@yahoo.com, or president Tony LoPresti, hardlo@cox.net.

OWFI 2015-2016 OFFICERS & STAFF

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*The Report is the official newsletter of the Oklahoma Writers' Federation, Inc. It is published three times per year, in March, September and December. News deadlines are the first day of the month previous to publication (February 1, August 1 and November 1, respectively). Please send submissions or questions to OWFINews@gmail.com. Please send address changes to OWFITreasurer001@gmail.com. OWFI is a non-profit federation of writer's groups dedicated to promoting higher standards for the written word. Find us online at www.owfi.org, **Facebook** at Oklahoma Writers' Federation, Inc. (OWFI) and Twitter @OWFI*

All About the Conference

We're glad your path has led you OWFI, and we can't wait to see you at our 48th annual conference in May.

We're bringing back some favorite speakers who inspired us at previous conferences, including bestselling author Steven James as keynote. We'll also have several first-time OWFI presenters and a few surprises. Whether you're a brand-new writer or an experienced professional, you'll find many opportunities to learn, network, and grow in your craft.

- **Conference Registration** begins Thursday at 5:00pm. The registration desk will also be open Friday and Saturday mornings. We accept walk-in registrations, but we recommend signing up in advance.
- **Thursday Evening Pre-Con.** Acclaimed author Christine Taylor-Butler returns to OWFI to lead our pre-con session, "The Writer's Journey: What's in Your Toolbox?" An extra charge applies. Full-time students may attend this session free as space allows.
- **Friday and Saturday: Breakout Sessions, Pitches, and More!** From marketing and legal issues to poetry, world building, and screenplays, we'll offer more than 35 sessions covering just about every aspect of writing. Some presentations are geared toward beginners and others target experienced writers, but you're welcome to attend any session you want. Our faculty members are experienced authors and publishing professionals who will be available throughout the conference to network with you.
- Got a manuscript that needs a home? Shop it to agents, publishers and editors during the **pitch sessions**. If your manuscript isn't quite there yet, get an expert critique from our **book doctor**, Mari Farthing. Between sessions, check out our **bookstore** or support OWFI scholarships by **bidding** on the gift baskets displayed in the atrium.
- **Have Lunch with Bestselling Authors.** Oklahoma author and teacher Bill Bernhardt will present our Friday lunch workshop, and keynoter Steven James will lead the Saturday lunch workshop. You must register for the box lunch workshops in advance. Grab your tickets early before they're gone.
Lunch is also an ideal time to get to know our speakers. There are several restaurants within walking distance of the hotel. Find a speaker and a few friends, and enjoy the fellowship.
- **Got Book? Get Promoted.** Authors have several ways to promote their work at OWFI. Make and donate a table centerpiece that relates to your book, sell your work in our bookstore, sign copies for fans at the autograph party, and see your name in lights at our Famous Authors Banquet on Friday. Check our website or elsewhere in this newsletter for more details about these opportunities.

By OWFI 2016 Conference Chair Maria Veres

What to Wear

- There's no dress code, but usually business casual clothing.
- The Friday night banquet features a costume contest. If you'd rather not enter, slacks, a dress, or even nice jeans are OK.
- Attire for the Saturday night banquet is usually fancier. If you aren't into formal wear, business casual clothing is fine, too.

What to Bring

- Business cards, if you have them.
- Notebook and pen, for taking notes during the sessions. Laptops are welcome too, but many rooms don't have accessible outlets.
- A sweater or light jacket. The rooms can be chilly.
- Your ID, if you want to indulge during happy hour.

Other Tips

- During sessions, people often need to come and go due to pitching appointments or volunteer assignments. Please make sure the doors close gently behind you.
- Please silence cell phones during the sessions.
- Water is available in seminar rooms. Coffee is not provided, but can be purchased in the hotel restaurant.
- If you have any questions, ask the folks at the OWFI registration desk or anyone wearing an Officer or Volunteer badge. We'll be glad to help.

- **Gongs, Costumes, Buzz, and Awards.** Brand new this year—the one and only OWFI gong show. We'll read manuscripts aloud (anonymously, of course) and our panel will strike the gong when they've heard enough.
- For the Friday night **Famous Author Banquet**, we're bringing back the popular costume contest. Dress as your favorite book character and compete for fabulous prizes. Steven James will present our keynote address on "The Untouched Moment." After the banquet, hang out with our faculty at the informal buzz sessions.
- As always, we'll wrap things up on Saturday night with our **contest awards**. Wear your glamorous best and bring your party horns.

Want More from Your Conference? The people who get the most out of OWFI are our conference volunteers. Contact any OWFI officer to find out how you can help, or check out the list of volunteer opportunities in this newsletter.

Any Questions? Check our website often at owfi.org to keep updated on conference news. We also have a very active Facebook group (search for "Oklahoma Writers' Federation"). If you have questions that aren't answered there, contact our president, Tony LoPresti (hardlo@cox.net) or conference coordinator Maria Veres (mariapolsonveres@yahoo.com).

	ROOM A	ROOM B	ROOM C	ROOM D
Thursday, May 12				
7:00pm— 8:30pm	Pre-Con Workshop with Christine Taylor-Butler The Writer’s Journey: What’s in your toolbox? <i>(\$20 workshop fee may be paid at the door)</i>			
Friday, May 13				
8:30am	Opening Session—Welcome: Tony LoPresti, OWFI President			
9:00am	Writing Short Stories (beginners) <i>Arlene Gale</i>	Romancing the Reader: Keys to Writing Romance <i>Erin Taylor Young & Lacy Williams</i>	Editing Level I: 8 Common Mistakes That Will Peg You as an Amateur <i>Pam Johnson</i>	Freelance Life <i>Nathan Gunter</i>
10:00am	Giving Characters a Voice: Using First-Person in Poetry & Short Fiction <i>Jennifer Horne</i>	Whose Voice is it? <i>Christine Taylor-Butler</i>	The Zen of Writing a Sequel <i>Jan Morrill</i>	Finding Our Faults & Encouraging our Strengths: Starting & Keeping a Critique Group <i>Christine Jarmola</i>
11:00am	World Building Blocks <i>Vickey Kennedy</i>	Superbugs: Terror in the Air & Don’t Pet that Dog <i>Carol Shenold</i>	Writing 101 <i>Vivian Zabel</i>	DESCRIPTION TK <i>William Tyler</i>
Noon			Box Lunch Workshop Structure: Putting the Pieces Together <i>prior ticket purchase required</i> <i>William Bernhardt</i>	
1:30pm	Writing for Children: It’s Harder than it Looks! <i>Holly Jahangiri</i>	Creative Characterization Part I: Interviewing & Letter Writing <i>Jan Morrill</i>	DESCRIPTION TK <i>Uwe Stender</i>	How to Turn a Situation into a Plot <i>Larry Baker</i>
2:30pm	Beneath World Building Blocks <i>Vickey Kennedy</i>	Using Fiction to Tell the Truth <i>Linda Apple</i>	Fiction Vs. NonFiction <i>Vivian Zabel</i>	DESCRIPTION TK <i>William Tyler</i>
3:30pm	Writing Short Stories (Advanced) <i>Arlene Gale</i>	Big Ideas: Serving (not Swamping) Your Story with Philosophical Themes <i>Eric Reitan</i>	Write What You’ve Learned <i>Jennifer Horne</i>	Editing Level II: What Do You Mean, My First Draft Isn’t Good Enough? <i>Pam Johnson</i>
4:30pm— 5:30pm			Book Signing	
7:00pm	Banquet Keynote Steven James: The Untouched Moment <i>Buzz Sessions will follow the banquet</i>			

	ROOM A	ROOM B	ROOM C	ROOM D
Saturday, May 14				
9:00am	<i>There's No Such Thing as Writer's Block</i> Eric Reitan	<i>Yours, Mine and Ours: The Dos's Don'ts and Maybes of Collaborative Writing</i> Christine Jarmola	<i>How to hook an Editor and What to Do Once You Have Them</i> Ally Robertson	<i>Writing From Your Soul</i> Linda Apple
10:00am	<i>DESCRIPTION TK</i> William Tyler	<i>Tips & Tricks for Teaching Writing</i> Vivian Zabel	<i>Query Etiquette: How to Navigate the Process of Finding the Right Agent</i> Noah Ballard	<i>Editing Level 3: Ask the Right Questions to Move Toward Publication</i> Pam Johnson
11:00am	<i>Beyond World Building Blocks</i> Vickey Kennedy	TBD	<i>Characters Come from Life, Not the Writer</i> Larry Baker	<i>Acquiring Endorsements</i> Stephanie Barko
Noon			Lunch Session <i>The Business of Publishing</i> prior ticket purchase required Steven James	
1:30pm	<i>Plotting Your Way to a 1st Draft</i> Carol Shenold	<i>Public Speaking for Writers</i> Linda Apple	<i>Creative Characterization, Part 2: Focus on Perspective</i> Jan Morrill	
2:30pm	<i>Business and Legal Considerations for Writers</i> Arlene Gale	<i>Writing as a Way of Seeing</i> Jennifer Horne	GONG SHOW	
3:30pm	<i>Why Do We Write?</i> Larry Baker	<i>Creating a Winning Social Strategy</i> Holly Jahangiri		
4:30pm— 5:15pm	OWFI BOARD MEETING		Book Signing	
5:15pm— 5:30pm	OWFI General Membership Meeting			
7:00pm	BANQUET OWFI WRITING AWARDS			

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Get Involved: Conference Information, Answers and Opportunities

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Be a Part of the Action!

The more you put into the OWFI conference, the more you'll get out of it. Volunteering is a great way to network, meet conference faculty, and grow your skills. Whether it's your first conference or your twentieth, there's a place for you on our team. There are many options listed below, so be sure to check out what the conference has to offer you—and ways that you can help!

Contact the committee chairs listed below to sign up. Don't wait—the best jobs go fast!

- **Shepherds** assist our conference speakers. You will introduce your speaker and help as needed during sessions. Your duties may also include picking speakers up from the airport, taking them to lunch, and sitting with them at the banquets. If you want to spend one-on-one time with a publishing professional, this is your perfect chance. Contact Eric Reitan, eric.reitan@okstate.edu.
- **Registration Desk Workers** greet conference attendees with a friendly smile and help them get oriented. Contact Adrean Messmer, junkyardpoet@gmail.com.
- **Other Needs:** As the conference gets closer, we may need help with other tasks, including speaker hospitality, registration packet prep, book room setup, Friday night buzz sessions, and more. See below for more information on a variety of ways you can help. For more information, contact Maria Veres, conference coordinator, at mariaolsonveres@yahoo.com.



Basket Wars

Every year before the OWFI conference, affiliates and individuals use their imaginations to assemble "baskets" of goodies for writers and readers to enjoy, which are auctioned off for a great cause!

- Baskets can be suitcases, purses, buckets, egg baskets or even, well, baskets.
- Contents can be books, journals, interesting bottles of drinks, gardening tools, jewelry, quilts, bookmarks, candy, a Kindle, anything else a reader might enjoy.
- Don't have enough for a whole basket? You can donate services (such as editing or cover design), gift cards or signed copies of your work.
- Funds collected in the Basket Wars auction go to fund scholarships for next year's conference. Scholarship recipients are asked to help out with Basket Wars when they attend.
- Items aren't needed until you sign in at the conference (no later than 10am on Saturday), but please let us know by April 15 if you plan to participate (<http://tinyurl.com/basketwars>).

- Questions? Contact the Basket Wars 2016 coordinator Jodi Thompson, Jodi_thompson@yahoo.com or post general questions on the OWFI Facebook page.

Help us reach our goal of \$3,000! We can do it with your help!



Buzz Sessions

Buzz Sessions are informal, come-and-go talks held after the Friday night banquet. Here's your chance to visit with a favorite speaker and get answers to questions you were too shy to ask in the seminars. Many OWFI attendees say these sessions are their favorite part of the conference.

Sessions and locations will be announced at the end of the banquet.

If you'd like to host or present a buzz session, contact Jenifer Nipps, jencnipp@gmail.com.



Famous Authors Banquet

Did you publish a book in 2015? Then we want to celebrate you at our Famous Authors Banquet on Friday night. ALL books published, traditionally or independently, during the year of 2015 are acceptable. Please send the following information to Jennifer McMurray at JenniferMcMurray@gmail.com by **April 25, 2016**:

- 1 Your name or pen name (however you want to be introduced), please include phonetic spelling.
 - 2 Title of your book
 - 3 Date your book was published
 - 4 Tag line or short blurb, limited to 50 words.
 - 5 .JPG or .PNG of your book's cover
- April 25th is a hard deadline, so get that information in today!! If you have any questions feel free to e-mail Jennifer at JenniferMcMurray@gmail.com.



Author Centerpieces

Featured on the banquet tables in the evenings, Author Centerpieces are imaginative creations featuring your books! Raffle tickets will be sold for \$1 each, with proceeds benefitting OWFI.

Be wild or mild, make a centerpiece that matches the theme of your book, newly published or not, and bring it with you to registration on the first day of the conference. Check out all the centerpieces to be raffled off Friday night and buy tickets up until the drawing on Saturday evening. Don't forget to get your photo taken with the centerpiece author/artist you win! Please contact Peggy at peggy.chambers@hotmail.com if you plan to participate.



Pitch Room

The OWFI pitch/agent room will be open again for 2016 Conference with new agents, editors, and publishers ready to talk with you about your writing. The full list is available on the OWFI website. I encourage you to explore each one online to determine the best fit for your writing, and then start practicing your pitch NOW. The more you talk about it, the better chances you have.

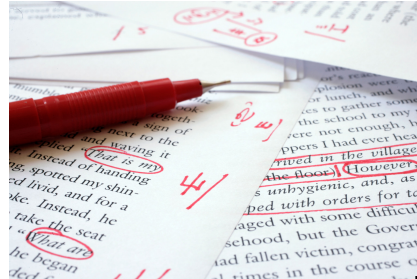
Our hours will be the same as last year: Friday 1:00–5:00pm, Saturday 9:00am–noon and 1:00–5:00pm. Sessions will be shorter than in previous years at the request of the agents. You may sign up for 2 sessions initially. If sessions are still open, I will send out a reminder the week before conference and you can sign up for

more at that time. As always you can schedule your sessions at the conference by coming to the pitch room.

Editors and Agents announced at this time:

- Vivian Zabel, 4RV Publishing
- Lacy Williams and Erin Taylor Young, Redbud Press (inspirational romance)
- Nathan Gunter, *Oklahoma Today* Magazine
- Ally Robertson, The Wild Rose Press (romance and mainstream)
- Stephanie Barko, publicist
- Uwe Stender, agent
- Noah Ballard, agent (Curtis Brown Ltd.)

Volunteers are essential in making the pitch room a success each year. It takes a lot of people to keep things running smoothly and to coordinate everyone coming and going. Volunteering in the pitch room is a great way to see what goes on during a pitch session and help alleviate your nerves. If you can help for an hour or two, send me an email at ecochranpitchco15@gmail.com. I promise you'll have a great time!



Book Doctor

Feeling stuck? Need feedback on your work, an honest opinion about story development, language use, grammar, characterization? Make an appointment with the OWFI Conference Book Doctor.

Please send up to 25 pages of your manuscript (formatted with 12 point Times New Roman font, double-spaced, 1" margins, page numbers, title of work and your last name in header or footer of each page) with a check (for \$50 made payable to OWFI) and a short synopsis of your work, the genre and any direct questions or issues you would like addressed.

Mari Farthing
OWFI 2016 Book Doctor

5400 Montford Way
Choctaw, OK 73020

If you are unable to attend the OWFI 2016 conference, feedback may be returned via email or hard copy (if you include a self addressed large envelope with postage to cover manuscript return) by the date of the conference. If you are attending the conference and would like to meet to discuss your project, please include your email so that Mari may coordinate a time to meet with you and discuss your project.

Deadline for submission: April 1, 2016



The Great Gong Show

Get ready for a big, exciting and spectacular. Yes, it is the Gong Show. What is the Gong Show you ask? It is a panel of agents and publishers who will listen to anonymous pitches read by an Master of Ceremonies. If the pitch is good, everyone will nod and be impressed. If not so good, they have a hammer to hit the Gong standing behind them.

How do you enter your pitch? There will be a place set up at registration, a do it yourself station. Fill out the card, drop it in a box, you are now in the Gong Show. If your card is picked it gets read out loud for the panel. Come prepared with your genre/market (YA, middle reader, historical, western, memoir, etc), title and a few sentences on what your story is about. Pitches are anonymous, so leave off your name!

Ladies and Gentlemen, let the Gonging begin!



Hotel Information

The 2016 Conference will be held at the Embassy Suites by Hilton Oklahoma City Will Rogers Airport, on 1815 S. Meridian.

A block of rooms have been reserved for May 11–15, 2016 at a rate of \$121 for one king bed or \$131 for two double beds, per night.

The special room rate will be available until April 22nd or until the group block is sold-out, whichever comes first. Booking a reservation from our site is simple.

To begin the process visit <http://goo.gl/9OonTH> and click on "Book a Room" to receive your group's preferred rate.

The fine print from the hotel:

- Reservations must be made online by April 22, 2016.
- Rates published are for single occupancy. An extra person charge per person may apply for 2 or more guests sharing the same guestroom.
- There is a 13.88 % per room per night tax.
- Payment for room and tax and all incidental charges is due in full upon check out. Payment can be made by cash, by certified check, or credit card. Hotel accepts American Express, Diners Club, Discover Card, Duet Card, Eurocard, JCB International, Maestro/Switch, Master Card or Visa.
- If you wish to cancel, please do so 72 hours before arrival to avoid cancellation penalties.
- A limited number of rooms for guests with special needs, in accordance with ADA, are available. Please contact the hotel reservations department to confirm your arrangements.
- At check in, the front desk will verify your check-out date. Rates quoted are based on check-in date and length of stay. Should you choose to depart early a departure fee will be charged.
- We reserve the right to cancel or modify reservations where it appears that a customer has engaged in fraudulent or inappropriate activity or under other circumstances where it appears that the reservations contain or resulted from a mistake or error.



Book Room Guidelines

As in past years, there will be a "Book Room" available where books by attending authors and speakers will be available for sale, as well as a selection of books pertaining to the writing craft.

Due to a scheduling problem with the conference later in the month and other factors, we have a new bookstore retailer partnering with OWFI to operate the Conference Book Room. We welcome Full Circle Books of Oklahoma City, and look forward to a great weekend of book browsing and buying. Despite the change, the Room will operate much as it always has.

All OWFI members and conference speakers are eligible to participate. Authors who want their books available for sale must conform to the following guidelines.

Authors (or publishers) must notify Doug Kelley, the book room chairperson, by **April 11, 2016** of any title(s) they want included in the book room inventory, choosing one of the two options below. Due to limited space, non-speaker titles will be limited to 5 copies on display at any one time. Also, authors of multiple books will be limited to no more than 5 titles on display. (You may, of course, restock as sales warrant.)

- **Option No. 1: Full Circle Books will order your books** from Ingram or other distributors or your publisher if they are returnable and the bookstore receives the standard retailer discount. Full Circle will not purchase books via the Internet, self-published books, or electronic books. (See Option 2 for books published by those methods.) Neither Full Circle or OWFI will assume responsibility for delays in shipment, short ships or publisher/shipper errors, although every effort will be made to alert authors of problems before the conference so other avenues of supply can be considered.

- **Option 2: Authors provide the books to be sold** by Full Circle. Books will be sold at retail price, which will be provided by the author, along with quantity delivered, author name, address, and return shipping information. Of this retail price, the author will receive 70% and Full Circle Books will collect 30%.

Those using this option should bring in their books to the book room starting Thursday evening (during Full Circle's set-up time) or Friday morning, or whenever you arrive at the conference. Unsold books must be picked up at the end of the autographing session Saturday afternoon. If the remaining books are not picked up, Full Circle or OWFI are not responsible for them.

Authors may ship their books directly to the Embassy Suites to arrive between May 2 through May 13, addressed to:

OWFI Book Room
Embassy Suites Hotel
1815 South Meridian
Oklahoma City, OK, 73108.
Phone: 405-682-6000.











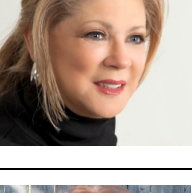


Do not contact Full Circle Books directly. Contact me, and I will coordinate it:





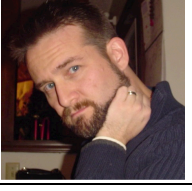

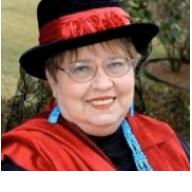

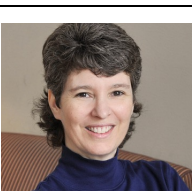
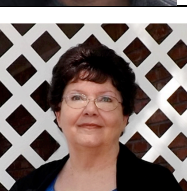
Doug Kelley
2500 Barnes
Pocola, OK 74902

Phone: 479-459-2429 (cell); E-mail: dougijas@yahoo.com

Send the following information: Author name; Title; ISBN; Publisher; Release date
Finally, please remember that Full Circle Books is in the book selling business, and despite the many books sold during the conference they don't make a great deal of money considering all the work they put in. Please treat their staff with the respect and courtesy with which they treat us.

Meet your conference faculty!

	<p>Conference Keynote Speaker Steven James is a national best-selling author whose book on the craft of writing, <i>Story Trumps Structure</i>, received the award for Best Storytelling Resource from Storytelling World.</p> <p>Steven will be the keynote speaker at the Friday night banquet and also the speaker at Saturday's lunch session. Friday banquet is included with two-day conference registration. Additional ticket purchase required for lunch workshop.</p>		
	<p>Christine Taylor-Butler is the award-winning author of more than 75 books for children. Christine will be presenting the pre-conference workshop on Thursday evening. Additional ticket purchase required.</p>		<p>William Bernhardt is the author of more than 30 books and is one of the most sought-after writing instructors in the country. William will be presenting the box lunch workshop on Friday. Additional ticket purchase required.</p>
	<p>Linda Apple teaches writing workshops and presents to both writers' conferences and to women's groups. Linda is an accomplished writer and enjoys mentoring and helping others to realize their potential.</p>		<p>Larry Baker is a critically-lauded author who has been named to the <i>Los Angeles Times'</i> Top 100 list and the American Library Association's Banned Books list.</p>
	<p>Noah Ballard is an agent at Curtis Brown, Ltd. Noah specializes in literary debuts, upmarket thrillers and narrative nonfiction, and he is always on the lookout for honest and provocative new writers.</p>		<p>Stephanie Barko has been presenting and helping American authors get reviewed and noticed for the past ten years. Her articles have been published in <i>Writers' Digest</i>, <i>Southern Writers Magazine</i>, and <i>San Francisco Book Review</i>.</p>
	<p>2016 Conference Book Doctor Mari Farthing is a freelance writer and editor whose experience includes both media and traditional writing and editing. Mari also serves as the current OWFI newsletter editor and website admin.</p>		<p>Arlene Gale has 25 years of writing and speaking experience. She advises non-fiction writers on writing and publishing issues and has published multiple award-winning short stories and articles.</p>
	<p>Nathan Gunter is the managing editor of <i>Oklahoma Today</i> magazine. He has contributed to a number of print and online publications, including CNN.com and <i>This Land Press</i>.</p>		<p>Author and humorist, Nikki Hanna, teaches memoir writing, judges contests, coaches writers, and speaks on how to find joy and purpose through writing.</p>
	<p>Jennifer Horne is a native of Arkansas who currently teaches in the Honors College at the University of Alabama. She is the author of several poetry anthologies and chapbooks and is currently writing a biography of Sara Mayfield.</p>		<p>Holly Jahangari is a writer and social media analyst. She was an internet addict before it was a thing and has published three children's books plus multiple short stories and poems.</p>

	<p>Christine Jarmola is known to many as the 2014 OWFI President, second-generation member, and the recipient of the 2015 OWFI Lifetime Member award. She has published two novels and multiple essays.</p>		<p>Pam Johnson is a self-proclaimed editing nerd who loves to discuss the importance of POV and debate the use of the Oxford comma. Pam is an editor and has edited all 15 of Steven James' novels.</p>
	<p>Vickey Malone Kennedy is a former President of OWFI, former VP of Norman Galaxy of Writers, a member of SoonerCon, and a co-founder of Rose Rock wRiters. She is the editor at 4RV Publishing.</p>		<p>Jan Morrill is the author of four books, including the award winning <i>The Red Kimono</i>. While working on a sequel and three children's books based on characters from <i>The Red Kimono</i>, Jan enjoys speaking, giving workshops and, of course, being a new grandma!</p>
	<p>Eric Reitan is a philosophy professor at OSU and 2008 OWFI Crème de la Crème winner. He has published poems, essays, short stories and an academic book named a Choice Outstanding Academic Title in 2009.</p>		<p>Ally Robertson has been an editor with The Wild Rose Press since they opened their doors in 2006. While she specializes in the Crimson Rose line she edits any genre and welcome speaking with authors about all their projects.</p>
	<p>Carol Shenold writes fiction and non-fiction, mystery and medical, respectively. She is a registered nurse and an accomplished speaker who paints portraits and teaches Zentangle in her spare time.</p>		<p>Literary Agent Dr. Uwe Stender is interested in all kinds of commercial fiction (especially YA, MG, Mysteries, and Women's Fiction) and non-fiction projects. His tastes are eclectic, and he may love what you wrote!</p>
	<p>Erin Taylor Young is an acquisitions editor and author liaison for Redbud Press, a publishing company she helped to found. She is an award-winning humor writer, podcast producer and teaches workshops about writing and publishing.</p>		<p>Vivian Zabel has been an editor for over 40 years and an English and writing teacher for almost 30 years and an author of poetry, articles, short stories and novels. She's been the head of 4RV Publishing since 2006.</p>

Looking for affiliate news?

*Please visit OWFI.ORG and click on the **AFFILIATES** tab to find a list of active affiliates and links to news and updates.*

Information is updated frequently and affiliate updates should be sent to OWFINews@gmail.com by April 15.

Revd date _____ Check # _____ \$ _____ Full _____ Pre Con. _____ F-S _____ F-L _____ F-B _____
S-S _____ S-L _____ S-B _____ \$ Due _____ Club _____ Initial _____

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OWFI 2016

Pathways to Writing

2016 Oklahoma Writers' Federation Conference May 12 – May 14 Embassy Suites, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

NAME (type or print clearly) _____

STATUS (circle): ATTENDEE, JUDGE, SPEAKER, OWFI OFFICER, SCHOLARSHIP, MEMBER AT LARGE

HOME PHONE _____ BUS. PHONE _____ FAX _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____ ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

AFFILIATION/MAL _____

FULL REGISTRATION: (includes Fri/Sat seminars and both Friday night and Saturday night banquets). Refunds granted only if requested on or before April 6, 2016, a \$50 processing fee will be charged. Note: lunchbox sessions not included.

Postmarked by 3-15-2016 @ \$175 each x _____ = \$ _____

Postmarked **after** 3-15-2016 @ \$200 each x _____ = \$ _____

EXTRA BANQUET TICKETS:

Friday Banquet (ticket name _____) @ \$55 each x _____ = \$ _____

Saturday Banquet (ticket name _____) @ \$55 each x _____ = \$ _____

Special Dietary Requests: Vegetarian Gluten Free

SINGLE DAY SEMINARS (banquets and lunch workshops NOT included)

Friday Seminars only @ \$80 each x _____ = \$ _____

Saturday Seminars only @ \$80 each x _____ = \$ _____

Extra WORKSHOPS (minimum 25 participants, must preregister - NO WALK-INS)

Thursday 7:00- 8:30p.m. *Pre-Con Workshop* **Christine Taylor-Butler** @ \$ 20 each x _____ = \$ _____

Friday Box Lunch Workshop (*meal included*) – **William Bernhardt** @ \$ 25 each x _____ = \$ _____

Saturday Box Lunch Workshop (*meal included*) – **Steven James** @ \$ 25 each x _____ = \$ _____

Total amt. enclosed = \$ _____

Please enroll at OWFI.org. Send to JunkyardPoet@gmail.com. Enclose check payable to **OWFI**. Mail completed form and check (if applicable) to: Vinita Eggers, Route 7, Box 51, Mena, AR 71953. To pay by credit card please go to paypal.com and enter owfityreasurer001@gmail.com

HOTEL INFORMATION: Embassy Suites Oklahoma City ❖ 1815 South Meridian ❖ 405-682-6000
Book room(s) **no later than 4-17-2014** for reduced OWFI rate of \$121.00 for a king suite or \$131.00 for a double suite.
Rate is per suite, per night, plus tax.

Breakfast and Happy Hour included!

IMPORTANT: Use the hyperlink at OWFI.org or mention "OWFI" when making room reservation(s).

Read all about it at OWFI.org

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Great food! Editors and Agents!

Featuring... fun and informative speakers!

is just around the corner!

The 2016 PATHWAYS TO WRITING CONFERENCE

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