



22nd ANNUAL BLUE RIDGE WRITERS' CONFERENCE

April 5 & 6, 2019

The Mission of the Blue Ridge Writers' Conference is to educate, inform, and inspire writers. No matter the level of expertise, the Blue Ridge Writers' Conference provides a venue for professional writers, editors and agents to provide honest and accurate feedback to the aspiring writer in how to craft that first novel, sell a magazine article, market yourself in the literary world, or finding inspiration for your poetry. Other previous keynote speakers include a number of well-known writers such as novelist Claire Cook, Terry Kay, mystery writers Patricia Sprinkle, Joshilyn Jackson and Sharyn McCrumb, essayists James Kilgo and Steven Harvey, suspense writer Karin Slaughter, and former Georgia poet laureate, David Bottoms.

Saturday, April 6th begins with light breakfast fare and our keynote speech. The 2018 keynote speaker will be Thomas Mullen. Thomas Mullen is the author of *Darktown*, an NPR Best Book of the Year, which has been shortlisted for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize, the Southern Book Prize, the Indies Choice Book Award, and has been nominated for two CWA Dagger Awards; *The Last Town on Earth*, which was named Best Debut Novel of 2006 by USA Today and was awarded the James Fenimore Cooper Prize for excellence in historical fiction; and his next novel, *Lightning Men*, which follows the characters from *Darktown* two years later, was named one of the Top 10 Crime Novels of 2017 by The New York Times Book Review.

His works have been named to Year's Best lists by The Chicago Tribune, USA Today, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, Kirkus Reviews, The Onion's A/V Club, The San Diego Union-Times, Paste Magazine, The Cleveland Plain-Dealer, and Amazon. His stories and essays have been published in Grantland, Paste, The Huffington Post, and Atlanta Magazine.

The day continues with concurrent workshops on everything from Children's Literature to assembling a book of poetry to marketing a manuscript. Our 2019 speakers include a wide variety of fiction, non-fiction, poetry writers, editors and much more. Conference attendees appreciate the chance to network with other writers and speakers during the day and the opportunity to submit their work for critique by one of the conference speakers. High school students from area counties are invited to attend and the Art Center offers scholarships to make this more affordable.

The Blue Ridge Writers' Conference also offers a four-hour Workshop Intensive on Friday, April 5th. For an additional fee, the Workshop Intensive provides a more concentrated workshop to strengthen and inspire your literary endeavors. The 2019 workshop instructor will be literary agent, Diana Flegal.

If you are an author and have registered for the conference, you may sign up with the Art Center to have your books for sale on Friday evening during the reception and on Saturday afternoon during the conference until 3:00pm. Please email the Art Center no later than *March 3rd* at blueridgearts@gmail.com to pre-register for a space. Please limit your book sales to no more than (5) titles, with a total of (10) books per title. All books for sale must be delivered to the Art Center no later than 5pm on Thursday afternoon, April 4th. The Art Center will sell books in the Mahan Gallery & Art Supply Station for a 10% commission.

We look forward to you joining us this year for our 22nd Annual Blue Ridge Writers' Conference!



REGISTRATION FORM
22nd ANNUAL BLUE RIDGE WRITERS' CONFERENCE
April 5 & 6, 2019

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Home _____ Work _____ Cell _____

Email _____

Website _____

Fees: Your registration fee includes a continental breakfast and lunch.

(BRMAA Members & Active UNG Students will receive **10% off registration fees only**. Valid UNG Student ID must be present to receive discounted rate.)

_____ \$60/Person before March 1st

_____ \$75/person on or after March 1st

_____ \$35/Critique Fee (please complete and submit Critique Request Form along with your manuscript no later than March 1st, 2019.)

_____ ** \$35/Intensive Workshop fee. Workshop will take place on Friday, April 5th.

Light snacks and water will be provided but please bring your own bag lunch.

Please note space is limited for the Intensive Workshop.

_____ I would like to donate \$_____ to the Barbara Groce Memorial Fund. My donation will help to give the gift of the literary arts and support future conference scholarships.

_____ **Total Enclosed**

Please Note: No Refunds After March 15, 2019.

Method of Payment:

_____ Check (payable to BRMAA)

_____ MasterCard

_____ Visa

Card # _____

Expiration Date _____ CVV (security code) _____

Name on Card _____

Signature _____

Billing Address (if different from above): _____

Reception RSVP: I _____ do/ _____ do not plan to attend the Friday evening reception.

*Please note if you have any special accessibility requirements: _____

Temperature inside the conference center tends to be unpredictable, we suggest you dress accordingly.



CRITIQUE REQUEST FORM

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A limited number of manuscripts for critique will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. You will have a fifteen minute meeting with one of the conference speakers to discuss your work. The Art Center must receive your manuscript with the \$35 critique fee, your conference registration form and registration fees by March 1, 2019. Please check the speaker you prefer. No staples or report covers, please. All manuscripts must be in 12 point type, with page number and author's name on each page, **MUST BE DOUBLE SPACED** and have 1" margins.

ALL submissions and fees **MUST be received by March 1, 2019.**

Name _____

Please indicate your critique selections below:

- Fiction: Limit 10 pages plus 1 page outline or synopsis
- Nonfiction: Limit 10 pages plus 1 page outline or synopsis
- Poetry: Limit 5 pages
- Children's Literature: Limit 10 pages plus 1 page outline or synopsis

_____ Thomas Mullen: Fiction (limited critiques available)

_____ Diana Flegal: Fiction

_____ Karen Head: Poetry (limited critiques available)

_____ Marc Jolley: Fiction and Non-Fiction

_____ Diane Z. Shore: Children's Literature

*Please note if you have any special accessibility requirements: _____
