



27th ANNUAL BLUE RIDGE WRITERS' CONFERENCE April 5 & 6, 2024

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 find inspiration for your poetry.

Saturday, April 6th begins with light breakfast fare and our keynote speech. The 2024 keynote speaker will be Brian Panowich. Mr. Panowich is the award winning and best-selling author of the McFalls County Series, set in the mountains of North Georgia. His debut novel, *Bull Mountain* won the International Thriller Writers Award for Best First Novel, as well as the Southern Book Prize for Best Mystery. The book was also nominated for the Barry Award, the Anthony Award, The Georgia Townsend Book Prize, and was a finalist for the 2016 LA Times Book Prize. *Bull Mountain* was also inducted into the list of "Books All Georgians Should Read" by The Georgia Center of The Book. His second novel, *Like Lions*, won The Georgia Author of the Year award, while his third, *Hard Cash Valley*, was hailed by The New York Times Book Review as one of the 10 Best Crime Novels of 2020 and was a Barnes & Noble Featured Book Club Pick in 2021. Brian's books have been printed in 12 languages around the world and his short stories appear in numerous publications including *One Story*, and *Best American Mystery Stories* of 2020. His latest McFalls County Novel, *Nothing But The Bones* is to be released on April 16, 2024.

The day continues with concurrent workshops on everything from Fiction and Non-Fiction to Poetry and topical memoirs. Our 2024 speakers include a wide variety of fiction, non-fiction, poetry writers, agents, and editors. 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.

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 2024 Workshop Intensive will be a panel of writers providing insights into self-publishing. Panel members include Angela DeCaries (CEO of BookLogix), Danny Pelfrey (author of traditionally published and self-published books), and Sandy Webster (self-published author through Amazon KDP).

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 during the conference until 3:00pm. Please email the attached Book Sales Inventory form to Caroline Mann no later than **Friday March 15th** at blueridgearts@gmail.com to register. Please limit your book sales to no more than (8) titles, with a total of (10) books per title. All books for sale must be delivered to the Art Center Thursday April 4th or Friday April 5th between 11am and 4pm. The Art Center will sell books in the Mahan Gallery for a 15% commission.

*We look forward to you joining us this year for our
27th Annual Blue Ridge Writers' Conference!*



REGISTRATION FORM

27th ANNUAL BLUE RIDGE WRITERS' CONFERENCE

April 5 & 6, 2024

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.)

_____ \$80/Person before March 1st

_____ \$100/person on or after March 1st

_____ \$40/Critique Fee (Registered participants only. Please complete and submit Critique Request Form along with your manuscript no later than Friday, March 1st, 2024.)

_____ \$40/Intensive Workshop Fee. Workshop will take place on Friday, April 5th. (Registered participants only. Please note space is limited for the Intensive Workshop.)
Light snacks and water will be provided but please bring your own bag lunch.

_____ I would like to sell books during the conference. (Registered participants only. Please complete and submit Book Sales Inventory form no later than Friday, March 15th, 2024.)

_____ 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 Friday, March 15th, 2024.**

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.