



225 E. 2nd St. Suite 303
Davenport, Iowa 52801

Midwest Writing Center

Fostering appreciation of the written word, supporting and educating its creators.



The Writer's Block E-Newsletter

September 2011



Looking for a critique group?

The Writers' Studio, next meetings - September 3rd & 17th at 11 a.m. at MWC.

Poetry Reading by Ryan Collins & Erin Betram:
Wednesday, September 7th at 8 p.m. at Rozz-Tox, 2108 3rd Avenue in Rock Island.



Out Loud Open Mic Night September 29th



Fall Writing Workshops

Sept. 11th—Oct. 9th Creative Writing Basics On-line Course: Get an introduction to writing without leaving your house! Enroll in this on-line course through the Black Hawk College [website](http://www.bhc.edu) at www.bhc.edu. Part of the proceeds benefit the MWC.

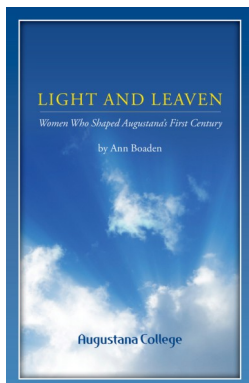
Sept. 17th—Common Errors in Writing : Join Jane VanVooren Rogers from 1-3pm to explore some of the most common writing errors and ways you can avoid them. Whether you're writing an article or memoir, a novel or a dissertation, the same errors can trip you up.

For \$10 you can have up to 5 pages of writing reviewed (manuscripts due by Sept 10th). Visit www.midwestwritingcenter.org or call us at 563-324-1410 to register.

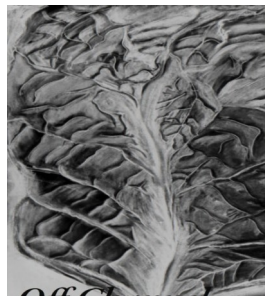
Sept. 22—How to Write and Sell Your Books to a Publisher with Cecil Murphey: Beginning with learning to write a book concept in 3 sentences, you'll receive tips on how to write the proposal (and you won't have to write the book until you have a contract). You'll learn the best ways to connect with editors and agents and how to write a one-sheet to approach editors and agents. The seminar will conclude by focusing on your platform—why you're qualified to write your book and what you can do to promote it. 6 - 8:30 p.m. at Midwest Writing Center; cost is \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members. Visit www.midwestwritingcenter.org or call us at 563-324-1410 for more information and to register.

Book Launches & Signings:

Sept 10th, 1-3 p.m.: "Light and Leaven: Women Who Shaped Augustana's First Century" by Ann Boaden.



Sept 10th, 2-3 pm: "Off Channel". Some of the finalists and winners of the 2011 Mississippi Valley Poetry Contest will be reading their work from *Off Channel* which will be sold at a discount.



Sept 17th, 4-6pm: "How to Avoid Being and Other Paths to Triumph" By Jane VanVooren Rogers. This chapbook of poetry was written mostly about women's issues and female empowerment. It contains award-winning poems from Augustana College and Western Illinois University.



Literature Festival

Tuesday, October 25, 2011 at The River Center. This festival is for students and their adult supervisors in traditional or home-schooled settings. Go to <http://www.midwestwritingcenter.org/RedesignedSite/Events/Children's%20Lit%20Festival.htm> for information about our presenters and a brochure with a registration form to sign up.

We welcome Newbery Award Winner, Clare Vanderpool, to this year's festival!

MWC MEMBER BUZZ...

Are you a member with news to share? Email it to us at mwc@midwestwritingcenter.org and you may be featured here!



DID YOU KNOW?

The MWC has raised **\$170** through iGive.com! Do your online shopping at over 700 brand name stores and the Midwest Writing Center will receive a portion of each purchase, and you can receive a tax deduction. That is all there is to it. Once registered you will have an opportunity for some special deals.

Submissions will be accepted for the Out Loud Poetry Anthology beginning **Oct. 1st**. All who have previously participated in Out Loud events may submit!



Friday, Sept 9th, 7 p.m.: The winners of our Great River Writer's Retreat, Robert Manaster and Christiana Langenberg, will be reading some of the work they will have completed at their retreat at Benet House. FREE.

Banned Books Reading: Friday, Sept 30th at 7 p.m. Locals will read passages from books, poems and plays that have been frequently contested. The public is invited to enjoy this special event, celebrating our freedom to read. FREE. Email mwc@midwestwritingcenter.org or call 563/324-1410 if you'd like to read.

2011 Pen-In-Hand Workshop Series October 8th

Visit www.midwestwritingcenter.org for full workshop descriptions

Register before October 1st to receive the early bird tuition rates:
\$20 per workshop or \$60 for all adult workshops

After October 1st: \$25 per workshop; or \$75 for all adult workshops

For more information, visit www.midwestwritingcenter.org or call 563-324-1410

Class Offerings:

- **8:30-10:15** Writing and Taxes with **Ann Capion**

Are you numerically challenged? Do you think taxes are one of the worlds greatest mysteries? This workshop will be sure to crack that great enigma for the all who attend.

- **10:30-12:15** Intellectual Property with **Ellen Tsagaris**

Sans "legalese," we will explore the Fair Use Doctrine and the world of intellectual property including patents, trademarks, and copyrights as they apply to writers and artists

- **1:15-3:00** College Essays and Applications with **Augustana Faculty**

A member of the Augustana who has an insider's look at college admissions will teach you how you can ensure a bright future in academia. This class is offered at a reduced price of \$10 for high school students.

- **1:15-3:00** Sonnet Play with **Ryan Collins** for middle schoolers

*Looking at both classic and contemporary examples of the sonnet, we will try our hands at our own responses and interpretations of possibly the most well-known of Western poetic forms. This class is ***FREE*** for students.*

- **1:15-3:00** Creating Buzz for You and Your Book with **Twila Belk**

No matter how powerful or entertaining your message is, who will read it unless they've heard about your or your book first? We'll discuss silly, simple and strategic ways to create buzz.

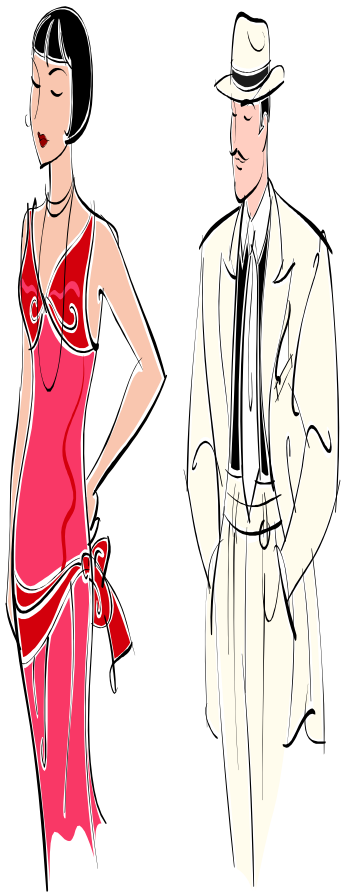
- **3:15-5:00** Creative Writing Basics with **Jodie Toohey**

This class aims to help you begin the creative writing process. You will learn what creative writing is, how to establish a writing routine, and how to improve with creative writing techniques and exercises.

You're Invited!

To The Bohemian Ball!

Oct. 21st 7-10pm



Join us as we travel back to the 1920's to enjoy delicious food and live music at this fundraiser for the Midwest Writing Center. The Bohemian Ball will also feature a silent auction.

Tickets:

Early Bird: \$25

At the door: \$30

Order online or by phone!

If you or someone you know would like to help sponsor this event or if you have any items you wish to donate for the silent auction, please call 563-324-1410 or email mwc@midwestwritingcenter.org

Do you need a writing mentor?

Does your business need writing advertising copy?

Do you need help writing your family's story?

Do you have a manuscript and need help formatting it for a printer?

Looking for someone to design your cover?

Visit our blog for tips and suggestions for freelancers AND consumers!

Go to
www.midwestwritingcenter.org
and click on an icon like the one below!



Directory of
Eastern Iowa
& Western Illinois
Freelance
Literary Services



Our programs are partially supported by grants from the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency; and the Riverboat Development Authority



Should you wish not to receive e-mail information about upcoming events at the Midwest Writing Center, please send a reply with REMOVE in the subject line to: mwc@midwestwritingcenter.org

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