

29th KENTUCKY WOMEN WRITERS CONFERENCE

welcomes

POETS • NOVELISTS • JOURNALISTS
MEMOIRISTS • TRAVEL WRITERS

READERS 

and
ECO-WARRIORS

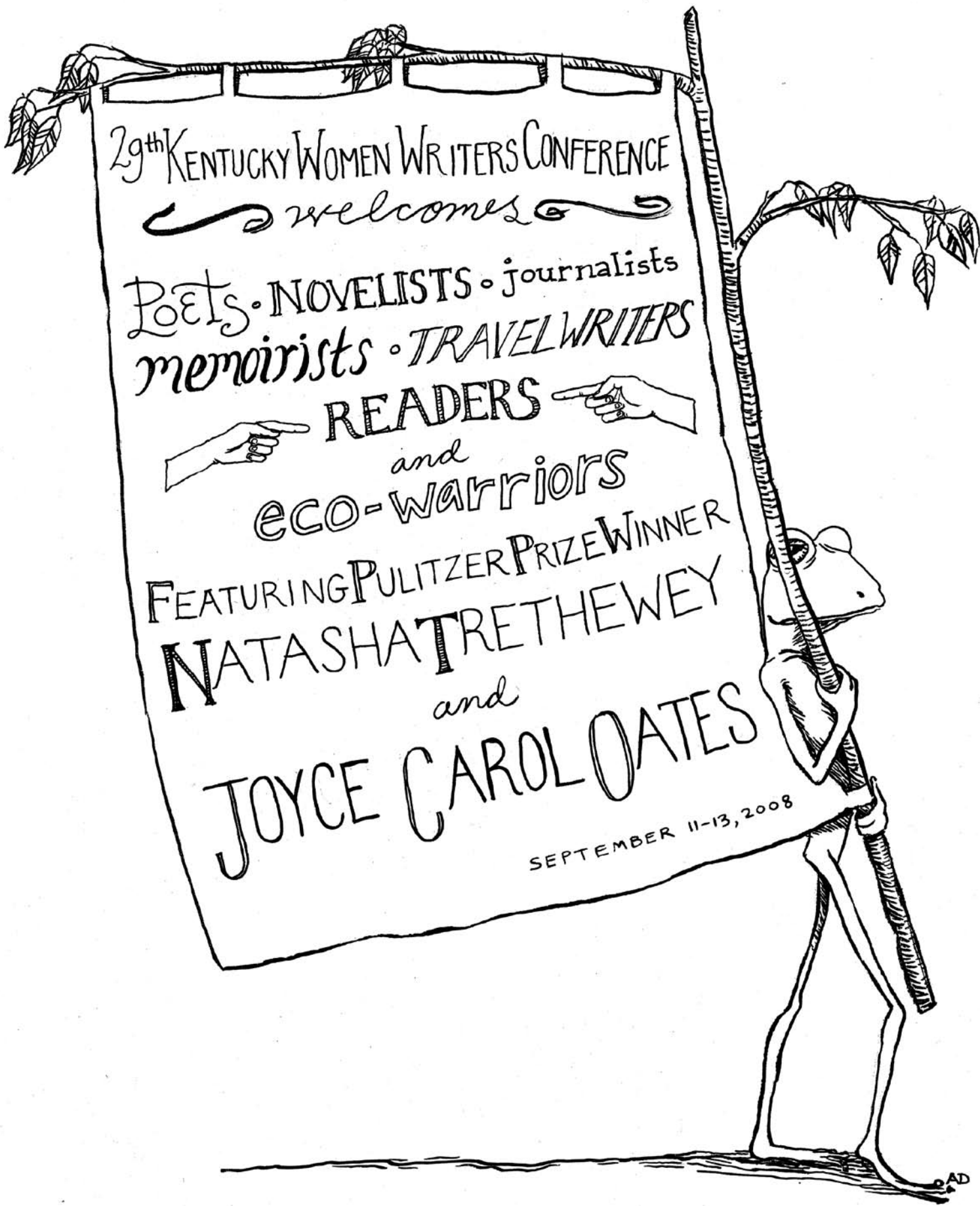
FEATURING PULITZER PRIZE WINNER

NATASHA TRETHEWEY

and

JOYCE CAROL OATES

SEPTEMBER 11-13, 2008



gypsy*slam

feature poet: samantha thornhill

a showcase of women poets from around the country
thursday, sept. 11, 7:00–10:00 p.m., with opening events at 6:00 p.m.
victorian square * downtown Lexington

“...sometimes the same thing
that slowly kills us is exactly the same thing
keeping us alive.”



NATASHA TRETHERWEY

A premier reading by the **2007 Pulitzer Prize winner in poetry**
Friday, September 12, 4:30 p.m.,
William T. Young Library, University of Kentucky

A bilingual reading by the eco-warrior/ A la lectura bilingüe del eco-guerrero

MAJÍN ALEGRÍA



Saturday, September 13, 1:30 p.m./ sábado, 13 de septiembre, 1:30 p.m.
Village Branch / Suncus Village
2185 Versailles Road
859-231-5575 or 859-257-2874
Lexington Public Library / Biblioteca Pública de Lexington
Free and open to all / gratis y abierto al público

Our Presenters



malin alegria is a teacher, permaculture consultant, eco-warrior, Aztec dancer, and performer. She is the author of two novels for youth, *Estrella's Quinceñera* (Simon & Schuster, 2006) and *Sofi Mendoza's Guide to Getting Lost in Mexico* (Simon & Schuster, 2007).



laura benedict's essays and short stories have appeared in *Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine* and a number of anthologies including *Surreal South: An Anthology of Short Fiction and Poetry*. Her novel *Isabella Moon* was released in 2007; a second thriller, *Calling Mr. Lonely Hearts*, will be released this winter.



debra marquart is the author of two poetry collections, *Everything's a Verb* and *From Sweetness*, and a memoir, *The Horizontal World: Growing Up Wild in the Middle of Nowhere* (Counterpoint, 2006). Marquart is also the author of a short story collection, *The Hunger Bone: Rock & Roll Stories*.



Intimate Story of Skyler Rampike, inspired by an unsolved American true crime mystery.

joyce carol oates is one of America's most beloved and prolific writers. She has published over 100 books, including two in 2008: *Wild Nights: Stories about the Last Days of Poe, Dickinson, Twain, James, and Hemmingway* told in first person evocations of those writers' voices; and *My Sister, My Love: The*



social site for engaging and mobilizing the hip-hop audience.

kim osorio is the author of *Straight from the Source: An Exposé from the Former Editor in Chief of the Hip-Hop Bible* (Simon & Schuster, 2008). She earned a J.D. from New York University Law School and is a 10-year veteran in publishing. She is currently vice president of content at Global Grind, the premier online



jennifer sahn is the editor of *Orion* magazine, an award-winning bimonthly magazine about nature, culture, and place. She has been on the magazine's editorial staff for the past 16 years and has worked closely with the education and outreach programs of The Orion Society.



ginger strand is the author of *Flight*, a novel, and *Inventing Niagara: Beauty, Power, & Lies* (Simon & Schuster, 2008), a cultural history of natural wonder at Niagara Falls. She has published essays and fiction in many places, including *Harper's*, *The Believer*, *The Iowa Review*, and *Orion*, where she is a contributing editor.



samantha thornhill is a performance poet and the author of the young adult novel *Seventeen Seasons* (forthcoming from Penguin Books). She earned her M.F.A. in poetry from the University of Virginia.



met at Kentucky State University. She is currently Phillis Wheatley Distinguished Chair in Poetry at Emory University.

natasha trethewey won the 2007 Pulitzer Prize in poetry for *Native Guard* (Houghton Mifflin). Her two earlier poetry collections are *Belleoq's Opbelia* (Graywolf, 2002), which was named a Notable Book for 2003 by the American Library Association, and *Domestic Work* (Graywolf, 2000). Trethewey's parents



College in Danville, Kentucky.

lisa williams's first book of poems, *The Hammered Dulcimer* (1998), won the May Swenson Poetry Award. Her second book, *Woman Reading to the Sea*, was selected by Joyce Carol Oates for the 2007 Barnard Women Poets Prize. She is currently associate professor of English at Centre

Friday, September 12

All Friday daytime sessions are held at the
Lexington Public Library—Central Branch, 140 East Main Street

8:30–9:00 a.m.

REGISTRATION and complimentary continental breakfast
1st floor, lobby

9:00–10:15 a.m.

“Poetry and History”

CONVERSATION with **Natasha Trethewey**
open to all registrants, 1st floor, library theater

“Place and Prose” —part 1

WORKSHOP in creative nonfiction with **Ginger Strand**
by reservation only, 4th floor, conference room B

“Postcards from Anywhere But Here” —part 1

WORKSHOP in travel memoir with **Debra Marquart**
by reservation only, 4th floor, conference room C

10:30–11:45 a.m.

“Inventing Niagara: Beauty, Power, & Lies”

READING in creative nonfiction by **Ginger Strand**
open to all registrants, 1st floor, library theater

“Openings, Closures, Breaks: Intensifying Poems” —part 1

WORKSHOP in poetry with **Lisa Williams**
by reservation only, 4th floor, conference room B

“Writing on the Dark Side” —part 1

WORKSHOP in genre fiction with **Laura Benedict**
by reservation only, 4th floor, conference room C

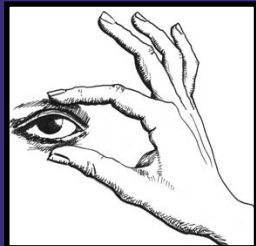


Illustration by Arwen Donahue

The Hardwick/Jones Keynote Reading with

Joyce Carol Oates & Laura Benedict

Friday, September 12, 2008, 7:30 pm
Memorial Hall, University of Kentucky
Free and open to all

10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

MANUSCRIPT CONSULTATION with **Natasha Trethewey**
by reservation only, 5th floor, boardroom

12:00 noon–1:30 p.m.

DOWNTOWN LUNCHEON: *See page 7 for a list of eateries*

1:30–2:45 p.m.

“The New Environmental Writing and the Politics of Feminism”

EXCHANGE with **Debra Marquart**, **Jennifer Sahn**, and
Ginger Strand

1st floor, library theater

“Blurring Boundaries”

PERFORMANCE: poetry and youth fiction with **Samantha Thornhill**
5th floor, boardroom

3:00–4:00 p.m.

“Young Adult Fiction”

EXCHANGE with **Malín Alegria** and **Samantha Thornhill**

1st floor, library theatre

Betty Gabehart Prize and Gypsy Slam Poetry Prize

READINGS by winners Kelly Bancroft, Lisa K. Buchanan, E. Gail
Chandler, Jane Doe, and Sue Smith
5th floor, boardroom

3:00–5:00 p.m.

MANUSCRIPT CONSULTATION with **Jennifer Sahn**

by reservation only, 4th floor, conference room B

4:30–5:30 p.m.

“Native Guard”

READING in poetry by **Natasha Trethewey**

W. T. Young Library, 401 Hilltop Ave., University of Kentucky
*Free and open to the public. See p. 5 for parking, directions, and shuttle bus
information*

5:30–7:30 p.m.

dinner on your own—see page 7 for a list of eateries.

7:30 p.m.

“Mentorship and Collaboration in Women Writers’ Lives”

HARDWICK/ JONES KEYNOTE READING

with **Joyce Carol Oates** and **Laura Benedict**

Memorial Theatre, 610 S. Limestone St., University of Kentucky
Free and open to the public.

Saturday, September 13

All Saturday daytime sessions are held at
The Carnegie Center, 251 W. Second St.

8:30–9:00 a.m.

REGISTRATION and complimentary continental breakfast
1st floor, lobby

9:00–10:15 a.m.

“Poem or Story? Finding Your Subject’s Form”
EXCHANGE with **Joyce Carol Oates** and **Lisa Williams**
open to all registrants, 1st floor, Stuart room

“Place and Prose” —part 2
WORKSHOP in creative nonfiction with **Ginger Strand**
by reservation only, 2nd floor, Allen room

“Postcards from Anywhere But Here” —part 2
WORKSHOP in travel memoir with **Debra Marquart**
by reservation only, lower level, Warren room

10:30–11:45 a.m.

“Lessons from the School of Hard Knocks:
Writing, Publishing, and Promoting Your Book”
CONVERSATION with **Malín Alegria**
open to all registrants, 1st floor, Stuart room

“Openings, Closures, Breaks: Intensifying Poems” —part 2
WORKSHOP in poetry with **Lisa Williams**
by reservation only, 2nd floor, Allen room

“Writing on the Dark Side” —part 2
WORKSHOP in genre fiction with **Laura Benedict**
by reservation only, lower level, Warren room

12:00 noon–1:30 p.m.


lunch on your own—see page 7 for a list of eateries

1:30–2:45 p.m.

“Editing a Movement: Writing to Inspire Change”
EXCHANGE with **Kim Osorio** and **Jennifer Sahn**, moderated
by **Patrice Muhammad**, publisher of *The Key NewsJournal*.
1st floor, Stuart room

“Woman Reading to the Sea”
READING in poetry by Lisa Williams
2nd floor, Allen room

“Sofi Mendoza’s Guide to Getting Lost in Mexico”
BILINGUAL READING in youth fiction with **Malín Alegria**
Off-site venue: Village Branch Library, 2185 Versailles Road, free



kim osorio

Hip-Hop Journalism: Straight from The Source

A Sonia Sanchez Event, free to all
Saturday, September 13, 2008, 7:30 pm
Coleman Recital Hall, Transylvania University

3:00–3:30 p.m.

TEA TIME

Sign-ups for 90 Seconds Open Mic (see 5:30 p.m. listing, below)

3:00–5:00 p.m.

MANUSCRIPT CONSULTATION with **Jennifer Sahn**
by reservation only, lower level, Warren Room

3:30–4:45 p.m.

“The Horizontal World: Growing Up Wild in the Middle of Nowhere”
READING in memoir by **Debra Marquart**
1st floor, Stuart Room

READING: **The Carnegie Center’s Young Women Writers**
with **Cincinnati’s Young Women Writing for (a) Change**
2nd floor, Allen Room

5:30

HAPPY HOUR READING: 90 Seconds Open Mic
Natasha’s Restaurant, 112 Esplanade, tel (859) 259-2754
Please sign up in advance at book-selling table

dinner on your own—see p. 7 for restaurants

7:30 p.m.

“Hip-Hop Journalism: Straight from The Source”
SONIA SANCHEZ SERIES featuring **Kim Osorio**
Coleman Recital Hall, Transylvania University, 300 N. Broadway
free and open to the public

Venues & Parking

Thursday Evening

Victorian Square, 401 West Main Street: **1**
 Convenient, covered parking, accessible from Short Street, is plentiful and free.

Friday Day

Public Library - Central Branch, 140 E. Main Street: **2**
 The library has its own parking garage. Take your ticket from the Lexington Public Library parking garage to the registration table and we'll stamp it for free.

Friday Evening

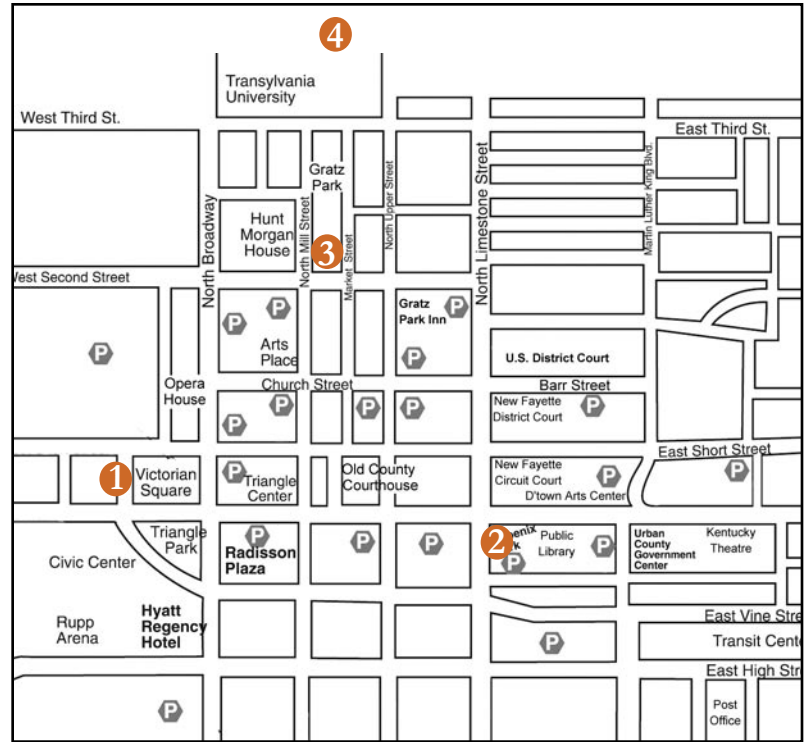
see below for map and parking at the University of Kentucky.

Saturday Day

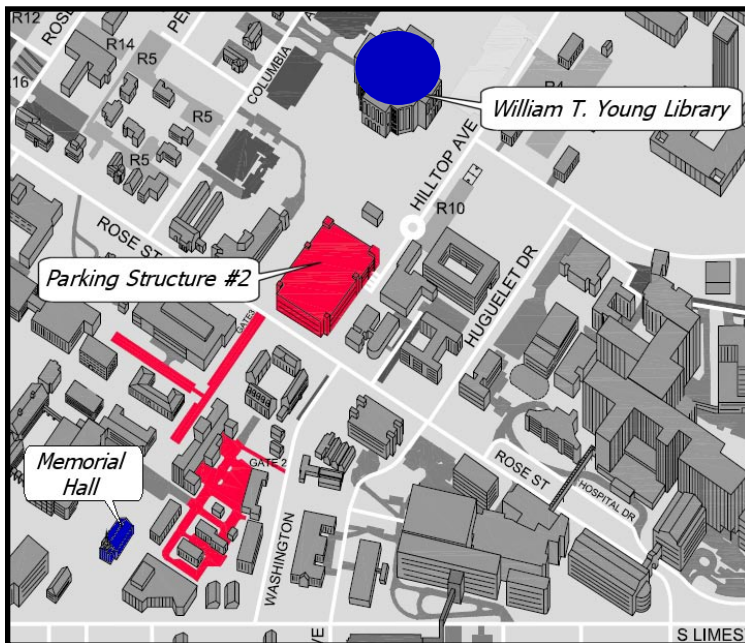
Carnegie Center, 251 West Second Street: **3**
 Street parking is plentiful on weekends.

Saturday Evening

Coleman Recital Hall, Transylvania University, 300 N. Broadway: **4**
 Heading north on Broadway or Limestone, Transylvania's campus is between Third and Fourth streets. The Coleman Recital Hall is located in the Mitchell Fine Arts Center. The closest parking lot is at the rear of the building on Fourth, between Broadway and Upper.



Friday Evening



4:30 p.m., reading by **Natasha Trethewey**

William T. Young Library
 401 Hilltop Avenue, University of Kentucky
 A round-trip shuttle bus between the Central Library and Young Library is available, departing the Central Library at 4:10 p.m. and departing the Young Library at 5:40 p.m.

7:30 p.m., **Hardwick/ Jones Reading by Joyce Carol Oates and Laura Benedict**

Memorial Hall
 601 South Limestone St., University of Kentucky
 Directions to parking structure 2, traveling from downtown at Main Street and Broadway: Drive south on Broadway for 3 blocks. At Maxwell Street, turn left and drive about 5 blocks to Rose Street. Turn right on Rose Street and drive 3 blocks to Columbia. Parking Structure #2 is on the left side of Rose just past Columbia. See the map on the left.

a la Lucie

159 N. Limestone St., 252-5277

American eclectic cuisine with a French flair reminiscent of France's West Bank where white tablecloths and leopard print converge.

Alfalfa

141 E. Main St., 253-0014

Feeding vegetarians and carnivores alike with innovative and eclectic homemade eats for over 35 years. Live music most nights and the works of local artists featured on brick walls.

Cheapside Bar & Grill

131 Cheapside Drive, 254-0046

This downtown favorite has the best of both worlds: inside and outside dining. The patio is a popular place to dine and socialize. Happy Hour is a must while visiting here.

Good Foods Chapter 2

Central Library lobby, 140 E. Main, 422-6802

Soups, salads, and sandwiches made fresh with organic ingredients, plus pastries, fair trade coffees, a full espresso bar, assorted beverages and deserts, and sushi delivered daily.

Natasha's Bistro Boutique

112 Esplande, 259-2754

Serving New American Cuisine, meaning everything from ratatouille and pizza to Asian salads, pastas and stir fries. An urban bistro in a space with a warehouse/theater feel, "Definitely too funky to franchise."

Stella's Kentucky Deli

143 Jefferson St., 255-3354

Simple, high quality foods that emphasize the superior flavors and textures of fresh, local ingredients. All sandwiches, salads, soups, and desserts are made by hand, in house, using seasonal ingredients.

A Taste of Thai

101 W. Main St., 255-1155

Noodles, currys, and other classic Thai dishes, prepared to order spicy or mild.

Third Street Stuff & Coffee

257 N. Limestone, 255-5301

Like walking into a fairy tale with a punk edge, this music and art venue serves up soups and sandwiches (and the likes of Lucky Charms cereal) with fair trade coffees and espresso

Recommended Reading

Malín Alegria

Sofi Mendoza's Guide to Getting Lost in Mexico

Laura Benedict

Isabella Moon

Debra Marquart

The Horizontal World

Joyce Carol Oates

The Faith of a Writer

My Sister, My Love

Kim Osorio

Straight from the Source

Jennifer Sahn

Orion Magazine: Nature/ Culture/ Place

Ginger Strand

Inventing Niagara: Beauty, Power, & Lies

Samantha Thornhill

Seventeen Seasons (forthcoming)

Natasha Trethewey

Native Guard

Lisa Williams

Woman Reading to the Sea

Take Some Time...

Friday Luncheon

Join a party of 12 at one of four downtown restaurants where we've reserved tables: Alfalfa, Cheapside, Natasha's, or Taste of Thai. At 11:45 a.m., look for our board members who will be leading groups there.

Conference Evaluation Form

Have you filled out your conference evaluation form? These help us plan future events. Forms are enclosed in your conference tote bag and may be submitted at the registration or book table.

Book Table

Visit our book table for a selection of publications by our presenters, which can be signed at presenters' readings. The lantern poster and blank journals commemorating the conference, both designed and hand-printed by Cricket Press, are also for sale. If you already know which books you want, fill out the Book Order Form in your conference tote bag for easy purchasing.

Saturday Afternoon Tea

A thirty-minute break for sipping tea, mingling, and browsing the book table. Sign up for the 90 Seconds Open Mic if you'd like to read at Natasha's Bistro at 5:30 p.m.



Conference presented by:

UK UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
Women Writers of Kentucky



With generous donations from:



Transylvania
University



WHITAKER BANK



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Coleman Recital Hall, Transylvania University
Natasha's Bistro
Victorian Square

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& The University of Kentucky**

* A Town-Gown Relationship *

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