



Honoring Adrienne Rich, 1929–2012

kentucky
women writers
conference

September 20–23, 2012

Our Presenters



Kim Addonizio has been called “one of our nation’s most provocative and edgy poets.” Her latest books are *Lucifer at the Starlite* and *Ordinary Genius: A Guide for the Poet Within*. Her collection *Tell Me* was a finalist for the National Book Award. Addonizio offers private workshops in Oakland, CA and online.

Tara Betts is the author of *Arc and Hue*, her debut collection. She represented Chicago twice at the National Poetry Slam and has performed in Cuba, London, and New York. Betts has taught creative writing at Rutgers University, is a Cave Canem fellow, and is a Ph.D candidate at Binghamton University in New York.



Karen Joy Fowler is the author *The Jane Austen Book Club*, which spent thirteen weeks on the *New York Times* bestseller list. Her novel *Sister Noon* was a finalist for the 2001 PEN/Faulkner Award. Her debut novel, *Sarah Canary*, was a *New York Times* Notable Book, as was her second novel, *The Sweetheart Season*. Fowler’s short story collection *Black Glass* won the World Fantasy Award.

dream hampton has written about music, culture and politics in the *Village Voice*, the *Detroit News*, *Harper’s Bazaar*, *Essence* and a dozen anthologies, most recently *Born to Use Mics: Reading Nas’s Illmatic*. She co-authored *Black Book* with Shawn Jay-Z Carter and collaborated with him on *Decoded*.



Rebecca Gayle Howell is a poet, translator, and documentarian. Her forthcoming poetry collection, *Render / An Apocalypse* was selected by Nick Flynn for the CSU Poetry Center’s First Book Prize. Her translation of Amal al-Jubouri’s *Hagar Before the Occupation / Hagar After the Occupation* was a *Library Journal* best book of 2011. A Kentucky native, Howell is currently a PhD candidate at Texas Tech University.

About the cover: Poet, feminist, and essayist Adrienne Rich was a presenter at the conference in 1981, the same year her book *A Wild Patience Has Taken Me This Far* was published.



Debra Gwartney is the author of the memoir *Live Through This*, a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award. With her husband Barry Lopez, she was co-editor of *Home Ground: Language for an American Landscape*. Debra is on the nonfiction faculty for Pacific University’s MFA in Writing program and lives in Oregon.

Julia Johnson is the author of two poetry collections, *The Falling Horse* and *Naming the Afternoon*, winner of the Fellowship of Southern Writers’ New Writing Award. She grew up in New Orleans and recently became associate professor of English at the University of Kentucky.



Kelly Link is the author of three collections of short stories, *Stranger Things Happen*, *Magic for Beginners*, and *Pretty Monsters*. She operates Small Beer Press with her husband, Gavin J. Grant, in Northampton, MA.

Ruth Reichl is the author of four best-selling memoirs, *Tender at the Bone*, *Comfort Me with Apples*, *Garlic and Sapphires*, and *For You Mom, Finally*, and is at work on a fifth. She was editor-in-chief of *Gourmet* magazine for ten years until its closing in 2009, restaurant critic of the *New York Times* (1993–1999), and both the restaurant critic and food editor of the *Los Angeles Times* (1984–1993). Her first novel, *Delicious!*, will be published in summer 2013.



Naomi Wallace’s major plays include *One Flea Spare*, *In the Heart of America*, *Slaughter City*, *The Trestle at Pope Lick Creek*, *And I and Silence*, and *The Fever Chart: Three Short Visions of the Middle East*. Her work has received the Susan Smith Blackburn Prize, the Kesselring Prize, the Fellowship of Southern Writers Drama Award, an Obie, and the MacArthur “Genius” Fellowship. She received a 2012 Horton Foote Prize for *The Liquid Plains*, premiering in 2013. *One Flea Spare* was incorporated into the repertoire of La Comédie Française, where it was produced in 2012. Her films *Lawn Dogs* and *The War Boys* are available on DVD.

Special Guests

Sallie Bingham published her first novel with Houghton Mifflin in 1961 and is the author of over ten books of fiction, poetry, memoir, and plays. She established the Kentucky Foundation for Women in 1985. Her newest collection of stories, *Mending*, was published in 2011.

Ryan Case is the Co-Artistic, Managing Director of Balagula Theatre in Lexington and was seen on the stage most recently in the title role for *Caligula*. For more information on Ryan's acting, directing, and producing credits, please visit www.balagula.com

Sarah Fritschner is editor of *Edible Louisville*, a food writer for *Kentucky Living* magazine, and coordinator of Louisville Farm to Table. She is the author of four cookbooks, including *Sarah Fritschner's Derby Start to Finish* and *Sarah Fritschner's Holidays*. She was a journalist for the *Washington Post* and the *Florida Times-Union*, and was longtime food editor of the *Louisville Courier-Journal*.

Carrie Green's poems have appeared in journals including *Blackbird*, *Cave Wall*, and *Crab Orchard Review*. The Kentucky Foundation for Women awarded her and the artist Lori Larusso a grant to publish the collaborative chapbook *It's Not My Birthday, That's Not My Cake* (2011).

Melissa A. McEuen is Professor of History at Transylvania University and the author of two books about American women in the 20th century. She is co-editor and a contributor for *Kentucky Women: Their Lives and Times* (forthcoming from U. Georgia Press), for which she is researching the Slow Food Movement.

Tori Murden McClure is an explorer and adventurer whose travels have taken her to Kenya, Antarctica, and Mt. Rainer. She was the first woman to row solo across the Atlantic Ocean, and her adventures are depicted in her memoir, *A Pearl in the Storm*. She became president of Spalding University in 2010. She holds degrees from Smith College, Harvard University, University of Louisville, and Spalding University.

Stella Parks graduated from the Culinary Institute of America in 2002 and now works at Table 310. This year, *Food & Wine* magazine named her one of America's Best New Pastry Chefs. She writes for *Gilt Taste*, *Serious Eats* and her own blog, BraveTart. Her first book, *Sweet Truth: the Secret History of Iconic American Desserts*, will be published by Norton in 2014.

Rona Roberts hosts the blog Savoring Kentucky, and recently published *Sweet, Sweet Sorghum: Kentucky's Golden Wonder*. She is a convenor for Lexington's weekly Local Food Percolator lunch. She and husband Steve Kay host weekly Cornbread Suppers, and you are always invited.

Author of three volumes of poetry, **Leatha Kendrick** leads workshops in poetry and life writing. Her fiction, poetry and essays appear widely in journals and anthologies. Two of her books of poetry are indexed in NYU's Literature, Arts, and Medicine database.

Affrilachian Poet and Cave Canem Fellow **Bianca Spriggs** is the author of *Kaffir Lily* and *How Swallowtails Become Dragons*. A 2013 recipient of an Al Smith Individual Artist Fellowship, Spriggs, in partnership with KY Domestic Violence Association, is the creator of The SwallowTale Project: creative writing for incarcerated women.

Anna Sproul-Latimer is a literary agent at the Washington, D.C.-based Ross Yoon Agency. She received a B.A. from Columbia and an M.A. from Oxford, both in twentieth-century English literature. In her spare time, she is a freelance editor, writer, and ghostwriter, so she can sympathize about how much work and persistence it takes to write a book.

Crystal Wilkinson is the author of two books, *Blackberries*, *Blackberries* and *Water Street*. Her forthcoming novel is *The Birds of Opulence*. She teaches in the writing programs at Spaulding University and Morehead State University and is co-owner, with husband Ron Davis, of the independent bookstore The Wild Fig.

Thursday, September 20

12:20–1:20 p.m.

Poetry Craft Talk with **Tara Betts** at the Writing Center, Transylvania University

7:00–8:30 p.m.

"The Shadow History of Women in Hip Hop Beginning with the Black Panther Party"

Sonia Sanchez keynote presentation with

dream hampton

The Lyric Theatre, 300 E. 3rd Street, downtown Lexington warm up at 6:30 p.m. with DJ Miss Erin Green and rappers Samirah Hall and TSmilez

Friday, September 21

All daytime sessions are held at The Carnegie Center for Literacy and Learning, 251 W. 2nd Street.

8:30–9:00 a.m.

registration & complimentary continental breakfast

9:00–10:15 a.m.

“Adrienne Rich: Mother Poet—

A Memorial Panel of Kentucky Writers”

panel discussion with **Sallie Bingham**, **Rebecca Gayle Howell**, **Ellen Rosenman**, and **Crystal Wilkinson**

open to all registrants, second floor, Allen Room

“I’d Rather Do It Myself: The Self-Publishing Adventure”

seminar with **Rona Roberts**

open to all registrants, second floor, Dunnigan Room

small group workshops, 9:00–11:30 a.m.

“First Impressions”

workshop in fiction with **Karen Joy Fowler**, part 1
by reservation only, lower level, Caudill Room

“Writing About Trauma”

workshop with **Debra Gwartney**, part 1
by reservation only, lower level, Warren Room

Fiction workshop with **Kelly Link**, part 1

by reservation only, lower level, Wells Brown Room

10:30–11:30 a.m.

“Poetry Is What Gets Lost In Translation”

craft talk with **Rebecca Gayle Howell**

open to all registrants, second floor, Allen Room

11:45–1:15 p.m.

plenary luncheon, bring your luncheon ticket

see below

BIG HISTORY SMALL

Resistance, Hospitality, & Writing for the American Theater

Plenary Luncheon with **Naomi Wallace**

open to all registrants, first floor, Stuart Room

1:30–2:45 p.m.

“Live Through This”

reading in memoir with **Debra Gwartney**

open to all registrants, second floor, Allen Room

“Pitching Nonfiction: What Agents, Editors, and Marketing Teams Want to See from Your Book Proposal”

seminar with **Anna Sproul-Latimer**

open to all registrants, second floor, Banks Room

small group workshops, 1:30–4:00 p.m.

“Revision”

workshop in poetry with **Kim Addonizio**

by reservation only, lower level, Caudill Room

“Blessed Be the Truth-Tellers: Poets As Inspiration”

workshop in poetry with **Tara Betts**, part 1

by reservation only, lower level, Warren Room

“Ekphrastic Poetry”

workshop in poetry with **Julia Johnson**, part 1

by reservation only, lower level, Wells Brown Room

3:00–4:15 p.m.

“No Time,” by **Sallie Bingham** and “One Short Sleeper,” by **Naomi Wallace**, staged readings performed by workshop participants and **Ryan Case**

open to all registrants, first floor, Stuart Room

manuscript consultations with **Anna Sproul-Latimer**

by reservation only, first floor, Writers Reference Room

4:30–5:30 p.m.

“The Falling Horse” and “Lucifer at the Starlite”

poetry readings by **Julia Johnson** and **Kim Addonizio**

open to all registrants, first floor, Stuart Room

5:30–7:00 p.m.

dinner on your own

7:00 p.m.

GYPSY POETRY SLAM

featuring **Tara Betts** with **Bianca Spriggs** as host

open mic begins at 6:30 p.m.

Carrick Theatre, Transylvania University

300 N. Broadway

Saturday, September 22

All daytime sessions are held at The Carnegie Center for Literacy and Learning, 251 W. 2nd Street.

8:30–9:00 a.m.

registration & complimentary continental breakfast

9:00–10:15 a.m.

Gabehart Prize Winners: readings by **Jen Hirt** (nonfiction), **Rebecca Keller** (fiction), and **Patti White** (poetry)
open to all registrants, first floor, Stuart Room

“Food and Story”

panel discussion on writing about food with **Sarah Fritschner**, **Carrie Green**, **Melissa McEuen**, and **Rona Roberts**
open to all registrants, second floor, Allen Room

small group workshops, 9:00–11:30 a.m.

“Playwriting for Poets and Novelists”

workshop in playwriting with **Sallie Bingham** and **Naomi Wallace**, part 1
by reservation only, second floor, Banks Room

“First Impressions”

workshop in fiction with **Karen Joy Fowler**, part 2
by reservation only, lower level, Caudill Room

“Writing About Trauma”

workshop with **Debra Gwartney**, part 2
by reservation only, lower level, Warren Room

Fiction workshop with **Kelly Link**, part 2

by reservation only, lower level, Wells Brown Room

10:30–11:30 a.m.

“Surprise Me: Poetry and the Unexpected”
craft talk in poetry with **Kim Addonizio**
open to all registrants, first floor, Stuart Room

11:45 a.m.–1:15 p.m.

group lunches at local restaurants, see p. 7 for details

1:30–2:45 p.m.

reading in fiction with **Karen Joy Fowler** and **Kelly Link**
open to all registrants, first floor, Stuart Room

“Finding a Literary Agent”

seminar with **Anna Sproul-Latimer**
open to all registrants, second floor, Allen Room

small group workshops, 1:30–4:00 p.m.

“Playwriting for Poets and Novelists”

workshop in playwriting with **Sallie Bingham** and **Naomi Wallace**, part 2
by reservation only, second floor, Banks Room

“Blessed Be the Truth-Tellers: Poets As Inspiration”

workshop in poetry with **Tara Betts**, part 2
by reservation only, lower level, Warren Room

“Ekphrastic Poetry”

workshop in poetry with **Julia Johnson**, part 2
by reservation only, lower level, Wells Brown Room

3:00–4:15 p.m.

“Making It New: Transforming Conflict into Redemption”
panel discussion on writing about trauma with **Debra Gwartney**, **Rebecca Gayle Howell**, **Leatha Kendrick**, and **Bianca Spriggs**
open to all registrants, first floor, Stuart Room

“Cooking a Book: Developing a Cookbook Proposal and Making the Leap from Blogger to Author,”
seminar with **Stella Parks**
open to all registrants, second floor, Allen Room

4:30–5:30 p.m.

“140 Characters”

seminar on social media with **Stella Parks**
open to all registrants, first floor, Stuart Room

Young Women Writers reading by participants in the Carnegie Center’s program for teens
open to the general public, second floor, Allen Room

5:00–6:30 p.m.

dinner on your own, or reception for **Ruth Reichl**
Maxwell Place, 471 Rose Street, University of Kentucky
\$20 for conference registrants, \$40 for general public

7:00 p.m.

EATING OUR WORDS

keynote presentation with **Ruth Reichl**
followed by a Q&A with **Ouita Michel**
Worsham Theatre, UK Student Center, 404 S. Limestone

Sunday, September 23

STARS WITH ACCENTS

a reading featuring recent guests of WRFL's Accents

Rebecca Gayle Howell | Nancy Jensen | Tori Murden McClure

7:00 p.m., The Carnegie Center for Literacy & Learning, 251 West Second Street, Lexington

free & open to all

Conference Venues

1 THURSDAY NIGHT

Sonia Sanchez Series with dream hampton
The Lyric Theatre, 300 East Third Street

2 FRIDAY & SATURDAY DAYTIME SUNDAY NIGHT: STARS WITH ACCENTS

The Carnegie Center, 251 West Second Street
During Friday daytime sessions, FREE validated parking is available in the Transylvania University parking lot on Upper Street, between Third Street and Mechanic Street. Parking lot is marked TU General Parking & TU Bookstore Parking. On Saturday and Sunday, free street parking is plentiful.

3 FRIDAY NIGHT

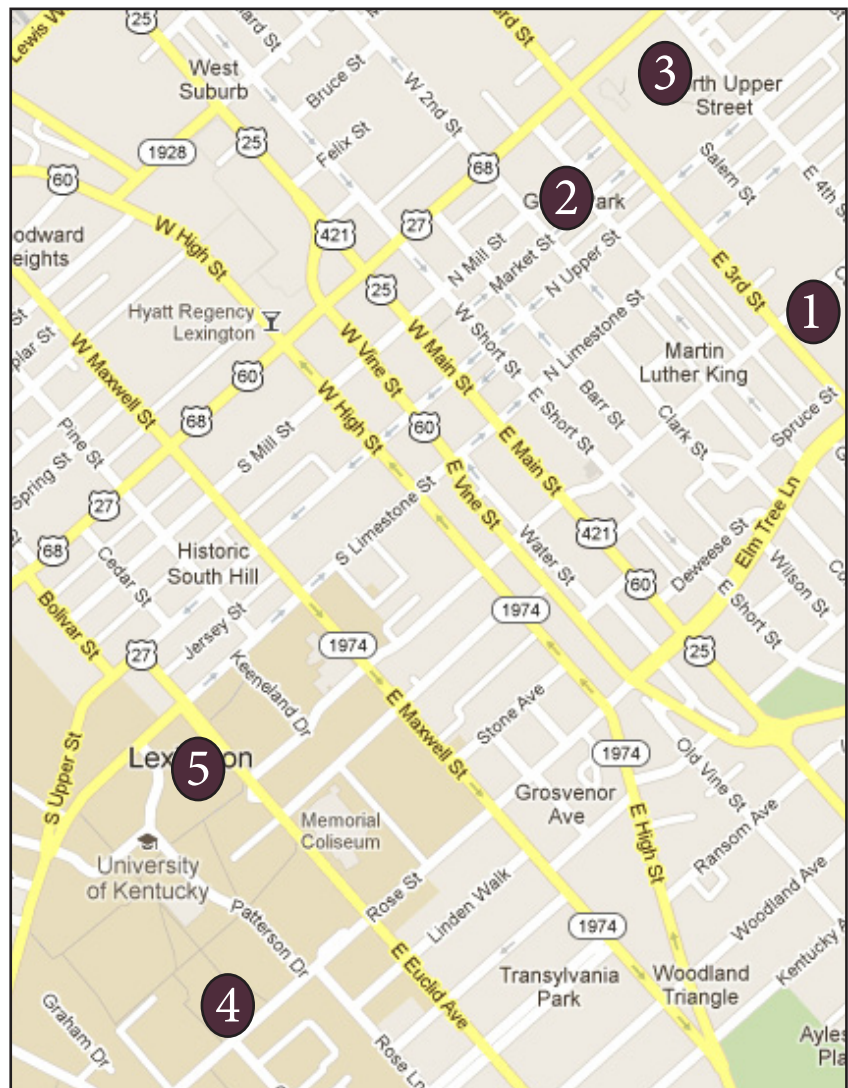
Gypsy Poetry Slam with Tara Betts
The Carrick Theatre, Transylvania University
Parking is available behind the theatre.

4 SATURDAY EVENING RECEPTION

Maxwell Place, 471 Rose Street
Parking available in Student Center parking lot and Rose Street parking garage.

5 SATURDAY NIGHT

Ruth Reichl
Worsham Theatre, University of Kentucky Student Center, 404 South Limestone Street
Parking is available in the lot adjacent to the Student Center, at the Avenue of Champions and Lexington Avenue.



May we suggest...

Saturday Luncheons

We reserved tables at three nearby restaurants. Look for volunteers in the Carnegie Center lobby who will lead parties to:

- Third Street Stuff—especially for poets
- Doodles—especially for fiction writers
- Cheapside—especially for nonfiction writers and playwrights

Contribute

A program of the University of Kentucky, KWWC is incorporated as its own nonprofit organization and relies on donations from the community to attract writers of the highest quality and international renown. We pay our presenters fairly and feature many free events, and thus ticket sales cover only about 10 percent of operating costs. Please consider joining our list of supporters shown on p. 8. You may contribute to our Annual Campaign, endow a lecture series or writing contest, or provide scholarships for students.

Overheard at the 2011 Conference . . .

"I wish I could buy a book by one of these amazing authors, but I just can't afford it!" Students this year have a surprise in their tote bags: a donor really did overhear that comment by a student last year and has purchased gift cards for everyone registered at the student rate, good towards the purchase of any book for sale at the Carnegie Center during the conference. Our bookseller, Morris Book Shop, has tossed in an additional 20% discount, for a value of \$18 each. Many thanks to both bookseller and donor!

Prize for Women Playwrights

Scripts are now being accepted for year two of our biennial playwriting prize, to be judged by Kia Corthron. Entries must be submitted electronically by 11-1-12, and a winner will be announced on 3-15-13. The prize carries a \$500 cash award and a world premier production by Balagula Theatre. Visit our Web site for submission guidelines.

Faith A. Smith Poetry Prize

The top honor in the Gypsy Poetry Slam, the Faith A. Smith Poetry Prize was established by Frank X Walker in 2011 in memory of his mother. It awards \$500 to the winner of the Slam, and the runner-up is awarded \$300. Competing this year are Joy Priest, Whitney Greenaway, Amaris Selah, Katie F-S, Ciara Miller, Maya Wegerif, Rachel Bryant, Rose Smith, Lisa Marie, Daundra Harden, and Tuesday Taylor.

2012 Betty Gabehart Prize

Congratulations to Jen Hirt of Harrisburg, PA for her essay "Glow in the Dark"; to Rebecca Keller of Oak Park, IL for her short story "The Widows Walk"; and to Patti White of Tuscaloosa, AL for her poem "Lipstick."

Explore the Arts in Lexington

Gallery Hop: This self-guided tour of the visual arts in downtown Lexington occurs 5:00–8:00 p.m. on September 21. Patrons visit the sites of their choice, admission is always free, and most sites offer refreshments. A good place to start is Ann Tower Gallery, 141 East Main St., and the Carnegie Center is also part of the tour.

Boomslang: A Celebration of Sound & Art

This multi-venue festival featuring live music, art and other curiosities is presented by the University of Kentucky student-and community-run radio station, WRFL FM 88.1 on the same weekend as KWWC. We collaborate with Boomslang for our Sunday night "Stars with Accents" reading, which features guests from the "Accents" radio show on WRFL. More information at www.boomslangfest.com.

Stay in Touch

Please give us your feedback using our evaluation forms. We especially love hearing ideas for future sessions or presenters. To receive our listserv or annual print newsletter, contact us at: kentuckywomenwriters@gmail.com 232 East Maxwell Street, Lexington KY 40506 Tel 859-257-2874; find us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter @KYWomenwriters.

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