



kentucky
women
writers
conference

September 20–22, 2013

Bonnie Jo Campbell is the author of the four works of fiction, *Once Upon a River*, *Q Road*, *Women and Other Animals*, and *American Salvage*, a finalist for the 2009 National Book Award. She teaches writing in the low residency program at Pacific University, lives with her husband near Kalamazoo, and spends her spare time practicing Koburyu kobudo weapons training.

Kia Corthron’s plays include *A Cool Dip in the Barren Sabaran Crick*, *Trickle*, *Moot the Messenger*, *Light Raise the Roof*, *Snapshot Silhouette*, *Slide Glide the Slippery Slope*, *The Venus de Milo Is Armed*, *Breath*, *Boom*, and *Force Continuum*, among others. Her most recent achievement includes the 2012 Lee Reynolds Award, sponsored by the League of Professional Theatre Women. She currently serves on the Council of the Dramatists Guild, is a member of the Writers Guild of America, and is an alumnus of New Dramatists. Kia resides in New York City.

Claire Dederer is the author of *Poser: My Life in Twenty-Three Yoga Poses* and has contributed to *The New York Times*, *Vogue*, *Yoga Journal*, *The Nation*, and *Real Simple*, among others. Her essays have also appeared in the anthologies *Money Changes Everything* and *Heavy Rotation*. Claire has co-taught writing at the University of Washington with her husband, Bruce Barcott, and is currently working with private students. She lives on Bainbridge Island in Puget Sound with her family.

Jennifer Haigh is the author of the short story collection *News from Heaven* and four critically-acclaimed novels: *Faith*, *The Condition*, *Baker Towers*, and *Mrs. Kimble*. Her books have won both the PEN/Hemingway Award (for debut fiction) and the PEN/L.L. Winship Award (for an outstanding book by a New England author). Her short stories have been published widely, including in *The Atlantic*, *Granta*, and *The Best American Short Stories 2012*. A native of western Pennsylvania, she is a coal miner’s granddaughter and writes often about that region. She lives in upstate New York.

Ada Limón is the author of three collections of poetry: *Sharks in the River*, *This Big Fake World*, and *Lucky Wreck*. *Sharks in the River*, was named one of the top 30 books of 2010 by *Coldfront* magazine and called “complex and wonder filled” by the *Library Journal*. Her work has appeared in numerous magazines and journals including *Harvard Review*, *TriQuarterly Online*, *Poetry Daily*, and the *New Yorker*. She is currently a judge for the 2013 National Book Award in poetry and will join the 2013 faculty of the low-residency M.F.A. program in Latin America for Queens University of Charlotte. She lives in Lexington, Kentucky, and Sonoma, California.

About the cover: *Magnolia grandiflora*, collage by Mary Delany, British Museum, from *The Paper Garden: Mrs.Delany Begins Her Life’s Work at 72*, by Molly Peacock.

George Ella Lyon’s most recent poetry collections are *Many-Storied House*, just published by the University Press of Kentucky, and *She Let Herself Go*. Her other works include a novel, a memoir, and a short story collection as well as thirty-seven books for young readers. She has received an Al Smith Fellowship, residencies at the Hambidge Center for the Arts, numerous grants from The Kentucky Foundation for Women, a Pushcart Prize nomination, and is featured in the PBS series The United States of Poetry. A native of Harlan County, Kentucky, Lyon works as a freelance writer and teacher based in Lexington.

Molly Peacock is the author of *The Paper Garden: Mrs. Delany Begins Her Life’s Work at 72* and six books of poetry, including *Second Blush* and *Cornucopia*. Her other works include the memoir *Paradise*, *Piece by Piece* and *How to Read a Poem and Start a Poetry Circle*. Her awards include the Danforth Foundation, Ingram Merrill Foundation, Woodrow Wilson Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, and New York State Council on the Arts Fellowships. Currently she is on the faculty of the Spalding University Low-Residency M.F.A. program and lives in Toronto.

Kiki Petrosino’s newest collection of poems, *Hymn for the Black Terrific*, was just published by Sarabande Books. Other publications include *Fort Red Border* and a chapbook, *The Dark Is Here*. Her poems have appeared or are forthcoming in the *New York Times*, *Tin House*, *Jubilat*, *Gulf Coast*, *Harvard Review*, and elsewhere. She has been awarded two staff scholarships from the Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference and a postgraduate writing fellowship from the University of Iowa. She currently resides in Louisville.

Paisley Rekdal is the author of the poetry collections *The Invention of the Kaleidoscope*, *Girls Without Pants*, and *A Crash of Rhinos*. Her most recent collection of poems, *Animal Eye*, was voted one of the five best poetry collections for 2012 by *Publishers Weekly* and was a finalist for the Kingsley Tufts Prize and winner of the UNT Rilke Prize. She is the author of a book of essays, *The Night My Mother Met Bruce Lee*, and a memoir combining poetry, fiction, nonfiction, and photography entitled *Intimate*. She currently teaches at the University of Utah.

Sonya Renee Taylor is a national and international poetry slam champion, published author, activist, and full time artist. She has shared her work on stages across the United States, New Zealand, Australia, England, Scotland, Sweden, Canada and the Netherlands as well as in prisons, treatment facilities, homeless shelters, festivals, and universities. She is the founder and CEO of the The Body Is Not An Apology, an international movement focused on radical self- love and body empowerment. Taylor has been seen on HBO, BET, MTV, CNN, Oxygen Network and has shared stages with such luminaries as Hillary Rodham Clinton, Harry Belafonte, Amiri Baraka, and more. She currently resides in Oakland, California.

Trish Ayers is a freelance writer and director of Kentucky Women Playwright Seminar. Her work is in anthologies including *Scenes from the Common Wealth: Short Plays and Monologues by Kentucky Women*, *Just Like a Girl*, and *Rocking Chair Reader Series*. She was the 2011 Sallie Bingham Award winner and has received several Kentucky Foundation for Women playwriting grants. She has written numerous award-winning plays, including *Painting the Egress*, *LUMPs*, *Judging Quilts*, and *Taking Stock*.

Beth Dotson Brown is a freelance writer, editor, and curious life observer. She is the author of *Yes! I Am Catholic*, a contributor to *A Cup of Comfort for Breast Cancer Survivors*, and has won awards for her articles and short stories. Beth lives in a quiet Kentucky town where she gardens, cooks, teaches, and works to make peaceful and positive contributions to the world.

A native Floridian, **D. S. Davies** is enrolled in the M.F.A. program at Florida International University. She is assistant fiction editor of *Gulf Stream* magazine and the graduate coordinator for Writers on the Bay Reading Series. She won first place in the 2013 FIU Student LiteraryAwards for nonfiction, and has been published in *Real South* magazine. She lives with her family.

Peggy DeKay is book coach, podcaster, publisher, and author. Her podcast, *The Business of Writing Today*, is heard in 67 countries and throughout the United States and can be downloaded free from iTunes. com. As a book coach, she has helped publish over 40 books and helped hundreds of authors through her workshops, podcasts on self-publishing, and training seminars. She is the author of *Self-Publishing for Virgins: The first-time author’s guide to self-publishing* and the organizer of The Business of Writing Today International Summit held annually in Louisville, where she resides.

Herman Daniel Farrell III is the Dramatists Guild Kentucky Regional Representative and an Associate Professor of Playwriting at the University of Kentucky. Co-writer of the Peabody Award–winning HBO Film *Boycott* and New Dramatists alum, he has had productions/workshops at The Flea, Echo Theater Company, FringeNYC, The O’Neill, Working Theater, Primary Stages, Crossroads and Lincoln Center Director’s Lab.

Sarah Freligh is the author of *A Brief Natural History of an American Girl* and *Sort of Gone*, a book of poems. Her work has been featured in the *Sun Magazine*, *Brevity*, *Rattle*, *Barn Owl Review*, and *Tar River Poetry*, on Garrison Keillor’s “Writer’s Almanac” and in the 2011 anthology *Good Poems: American Places*. Among her awards are a 2009 poetry fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts and a grant from the Constance Saltonstall Foundation in 2006. She currently lives in Rochester, New York.

Nancy Gall-Clayton has written numerous award-winning plays, including *General Orders No. 11*, *Felicity’s Family Tree*, *The Colored Door at the Train Depot*, and *The Snowflake Theory*. She has been a Visiting Artist at Ohio State University and a Tennessee Williams Scholar at Sewanee Writers Conference. She has degrees in education, counseling, and law, and currently resides in Louisville.

Nancy Jensen is the author of the best-selling debut novel *The Sisters*, which the *New York Times* said, “movingly shows how the forces of love and hope inevitably bind families together.” Her first book, *Window*, is a collection of short stories and essays, and her work has also appeared in numerous literary journals. When she isn’t writing, she teaches in the Bluegrass Writers Studio M.F.A. in Writing program at Eastern Kentucky University and resides in Richmond, Kentucky.

Leatha Kendrick is the author of *Second Opinion*, a book of poetry. Her essays and poetry have appeared in numerous anthologies, including *When the Bough Breaks*, *The Kentucky Anthology—Two Hundred Years of Writing in the Bluegrass*, and *Listen Here: Women Writing in Appalachia*. She has been the two-time recipient of the Al Smith Fellowship in Poetry from The Kentucky Arts Council. She currently resides in Lexington, Kentucky.

Kim Lozano teaches creative writing for Oasis in St. Louis, Missouri. She serves as a contributing editor at River Styx and also co-directs the *River Styx* at the Tavern Reading Series. Her work has been published or is forthcoming in *Poetry Daily*, *The Iowa Review*, *Alaska Quarterly Review*, *The Journal*, *Denver Quarterly*, *Valparaiso Poetry Review*, *Midwestern Gothic*, *The Pinch*, the anthology *Discoveries: New Writing from The Iowa Review*, and elsewhere.

Jennifer Militello is the author of three collections of poetry: *Body Thesaurus*, *Flinch of Song* (winner of the 2009 Tupelo Press First Book Award), and the chapbook *Anchor Chain, Open Sail*. Her poems have appeared in *American Poetry Review*, the *Kenyon Review*, the *New Republic*, the *North American Review*, the *Paris Review*, *Ploughshares*, and *Best New Poets 2008*.

Patrice K. Muhammad is founder and editor of the *Key Newsjournal*, serving Central Kentucky’s Black community since 2004, and host of the syndicated radio show *Key Conversations*. She is proud to have been born and raised in Detroit, where she began writing in middle school as a reporter for her school newspaper. Patrice is a wife and mother and is also a blogger and lover of social media.

Bianca Spriggs is the author of the poetry collections *Kaffir Lily* and *How Swallowtails Become Dragons*, and her work can also be found in the anthologies *New Growth: Recent Kentucky Writings* and *America! What’s My Name?* She has been named one of the top thirty performance poets by The Root and currently resides in Lexington, where she is a doctoral candidate in English at the University of Kentucky.

Katerina Stoykova-Klemer is the author of the poetry collection *The Porcupine of the Mind*. Her first book, the bilingual *The Air around the Butterfly* won the 2010 Pencho’s Oak award, recognizing literary contributions to contemporary Bulgarian culture. She is the author of the chapbook *The Most and Indivisible Number*, and editor of the anthology *Bigger Than They Appear: Anthology of Very Short Poems*. She hosts Accents—a radio show for literature, art and culture on WRFL FM 88.1 in Lexington—and in 2010 founded Accents Publishing—an independent press for brilliant voices.

Saul Williams says, “I write poetry because it is the clearest and most direct expression of how I think. I take pride in being called a poet mostly because it feels like an ordination. I did not grow up thinking of myself as a poet, so it is an honor to be considered one. So far, I’ve written four books that fall under the category of poetry. For me, they chronicle my growth as an artist, friend, lover, father, son, and individual. . . .”

Marianne Worthington is the author of *Larger Bodies than Mine*, a poetry chapbook that was selected as the 2007 Appalachian Book of the Year in poetry by the Appalachian Writer’s Association. She is also the editor of numerous compilations, including *Motif: Writing By Ear*, *An Anthology of Writings About Music* and *Motif 2: Come What May, An Anthology of Writings About Chance*. She resides in Williamsburg, Kentucky.

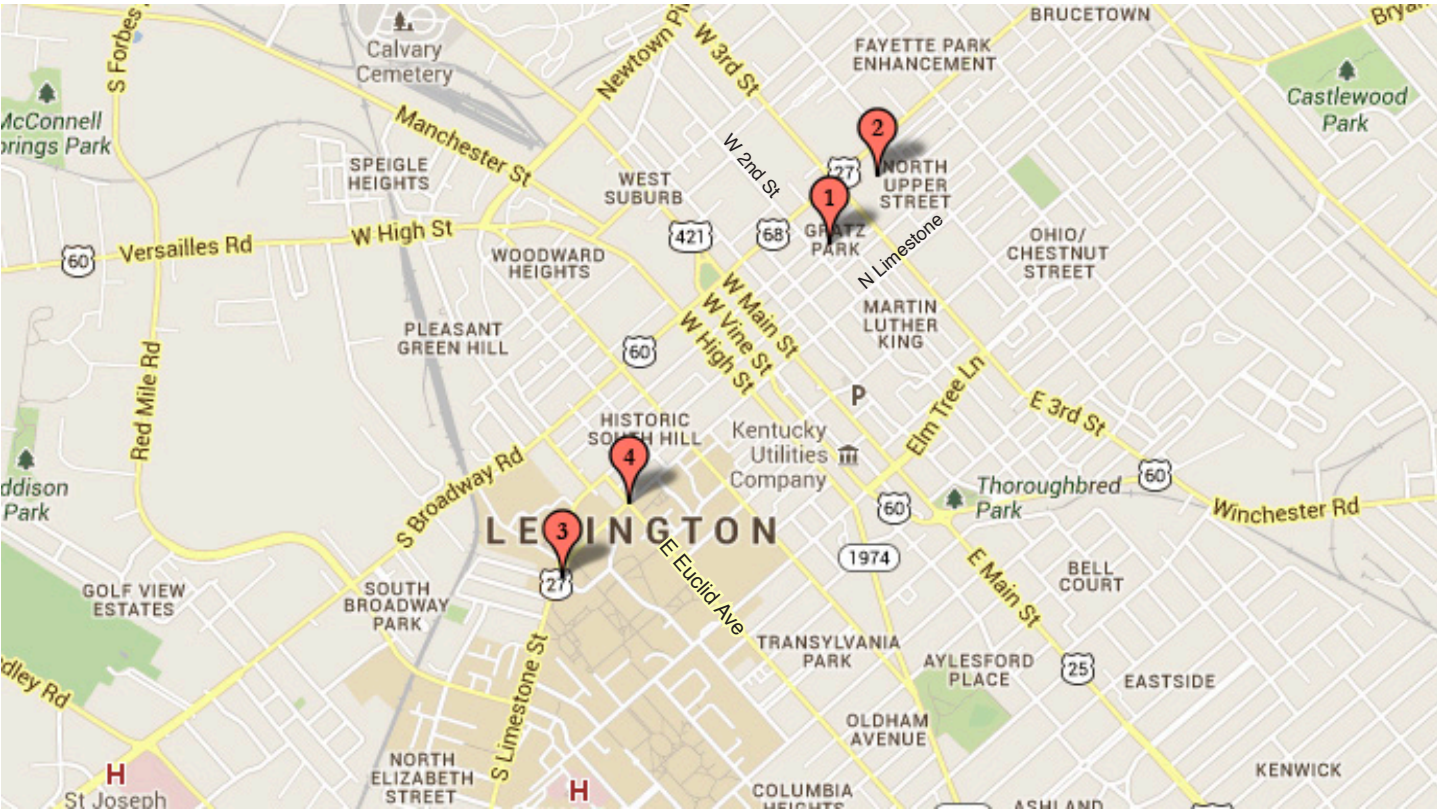
4:00–5:30 p.m.

Drama and Social Change: A Conversation with **Kia Corthron** and **Patrice Muhammad**
Sonia Sanchez Series keynote
free and open to everyone, first floor, Stuart Room

7:00–8:30 p.m.

Stars with Accents: readings by Sarah Freligh, **Ada Limón**, and **George Ella Lyon**, hosted by **Katerina Stoykova-Klemer**
free and open to all, first floor, Stuart Room

Conference Venues



1 Carnegie Center for Literacy and Learning

All daytime events take place here, 251 West Second Street

2 Friday night, Wild Women of Poetry Slam

Carrick Theatre, Transylvania University, 300 North Broadway

3 Saturday evening reception

The Lexmark Public Room 209, Main Building, 410 Administration Drive

4 Saturday evening keynote with Bonnie Jo Campbell

Worsham Theater, Student Center Addition, 200 Avenue of Champions/ Euclid

Saturday Luncheons

We’ve reserved tables at the following nearby restaurants, all in walking distance of the Carnegie Center. Look for our Board members in the Carnegie Center lobby who will gather around 11:45 a.m. and lead parties to:

- Cheapside—especially for poets
- Shakespeare & Company—especially for fiction writers
- The Village Idiot—especially for nonfiction writers and playwrights

Prize for Women Playwrights

Congratulations to Jo Morello, winner of our second biennial Prize for Women Playwrights, chosen by Kia Corthron. Jo’s winning script, *E.G.O.: The Passions of Eugene Gladstone O’Neill*, has ongoing performances Sept. 13–22 at 7:30 p.m. (2:00 Sunday matinees) at the Downtown Arts Center, 141 East Main Street, directed by Kathi E.B. Ellis and produced by Balagula Theatre. Tickets are \$20, \$15 for students. Call the LexArts box office at 859-225-0370.

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 renown. We pay our presenters fairly and feature many free events, and thus ticket sales cover only about 20 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.

Postgraduate Scholarships

If you are enrolled in graduate school and living on limited funds, this scholarship is for you. It provides free admission to the conference, a \$195 value, and will be available to five graduate students each year, thanks to a multi-year pledge by an anonymous donor. Applications of a cover letter and five-page writing sample were due July 1 and were reviewed for merit and need by a committee of the director plus one adviser. Many thanks to our donor’s support for women writers!

Faith A. Smith Poetry Prize

The top honor in the Wild Women of 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

2013 Betty Gabehart Prize

Congratulations to D. S. Davies of Plantation, Florida, for the essay “Three Places”; to Kim Lozano of Wildwood, Missouri for the short story “Just Married”; and to Jennifer Militello of Goffstown, New Hampshire for “A Dictionary at the Periphery” and other poems. Don’t miss their reading during the conference at 1:30 p.m. on Friday.

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 Friday, September 20. 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. Hop is managed by LexArts as a service to the visual arts community in Lexington.

Boomslang: A Celebration of Sound & Art

This fifth annual 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 Katerina Stoykova-Klemer’s “Accents” radio show on WRFL. Saul Williams will also make a special guest appearance at our poetry slam courtesy of Boomslang. More information at www.boomslangfest.com.

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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
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