

Irish
Writers
Centre

Áras
Scribhneoirí
na hÉireann



Spring Programme 2017

Clár an Earraigh

19 Parnell Square
Dublin 1

A Scríbhneoir, a chara,

The IWC team is emerging gingerly into 2017 after an incredible anniversary year. One of our biggest achievements was the release of *Beyond the Centre* — our diverse, engaging anthology where Irish writers tell us how it is, in their own words. Do you have your copy yet?

With the support of ACNI, we are delivering professional development services and courses in the North, including our commissioning project Compass Lines, and various opportunities for Northern and Southern writers to connect together as one community.

This spring we have great offerings in fiction, creative non-fiction, experimental, children's and genre writing with an emphasis on professional writers' needs such as managing taxes (Gaby Smyth), pitching to festivals (Dani Gill), presenting work (Emmet Kirwan, Michelle Read, Jessica Traynor) and connecting with non-fiction magazine editors.

January is membership renewal time, so if it's your first time, don't be shy — you won't regret it. Writers at any level can join, and with sixteen Writer-in-Residence opportunities last year for Professional Members, the more experienced writer should really consider joining too. Thanks in advance to our stalwart members for your support! We look forward to welcoming you in the Centre soon.

Valerie Bistany
Stiúrthóir, Director



Like what you see?
Consider becoming
a donor of the Irish
Writers Centre!

Become an IWC Member!

Bí í do bhall d'Áras Scríbhneoirí na hÉireann!

Membership of the IWC costs just €50 per annum and only €30 for students and the over 65s. Membership for 2017 begins on Thur 1 Dec, 2016 and lasts until Dec 31, 2017. In 2015, we introduced Professional Membership; rates are staggered until 31 Dec 2017. We also introduced Organisational Membership and Friends Membership for those looking to strengthen their links with the IWC. Find out more at www.irishwriterscentre.ie.

STANDARD MEMBER BENEFITS

- Discounts on bookings.
- Use of workspace in beautiful Georgian surroundings 10am – 5.30pm, Mon – Fri.
- Free Wi-Fi.
- The opportunity to mingle with other writers at launches and events.
- Information on opportunities, competitions and events.
- Annual members' showcase.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBER BENEFITS

All the benefits of Standard Membership plus:

- Consideration given for all employment opportunities.
- Eligible for all WIRs/bursary applications.
- Opportunity to act as Member Nominee on IWC Board.
- Eligible to be on selection panels for all IWC opportunities

Spring Courses 2017 • Cúrsaí an Earraigh 2017

Our courses are loosely divided into colour-coded headings, designed to help you identify your own level as a writer and to encourage you to try new courses:

Beginner

Tosnaitheoir

FOR THE NOVICE WRITER: will help you find your way into your own writing through practical, creative and supportive means with an experienced professional facilitator.

Emerging

Ag borradh

FOR WRITERS who have attended courses in the past, the emerging series will allow you to perfect your skills and develop your creative abilities.

Specialised

Sainspéis

WORKSHOPS FOR WRITERS who are eager to step out of their comfort zone or to gain new ideas and skills in different forms, genres, or styles.

Prof. Development

Forbairt Ghairimiúil

LED BY INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS, these workshops are designed to help the writer to work on essential skills that are part and parcel of being a professional writer in the public eye.

MID-WEEK COURSES • CÚRSAÍ LÁR-SEACHTAINE

6-Week Starter Kit with DAVID BUTLER

TUES 7 FEB • 6.30PM – 8.30PM • 6 WEEKS • €165/€150 MEMBERS

A successful writer must read widely, and then get writing. Participants on this six-week course will be doing plenty of both. Along with your own works-in-progress, we'll look at examples of successful writing, focusing on areas such as: how and where to start; creating your own voice; character building; handling narrative structure; and building tension. Be prepared to discuss the work of others; it's the best way to become your own most important critic! David Butler's most recent publications are the novels *The Judas Kiss* (2012) and *City of Dis* (2014), and the short story collection *No Greater Love* (2013).



BEGINNER

Writing Memoir with IVY BANNISTER

WED 8 FEB • 2.00PM – 4.00PM • 8 WEEKS • €220/€200 MEMBERS

This course will explore the elements of writing memoir: theme, structure, voice and narrative; character and place. The objective will be to get the story out of your head and onto the page in a safe environment. Participants will look briefly at the work of some master memoirists, but the focus will be on you, and the work you bring into the classroom. The course is suitable both for beginners, and those who are working on a first draft. Ivy Bannister has written a memoir, *Blunt Trauma*; a book of short stories, *Magician*; a poetry collection, *Vinegar and Spit*; a number of plays for RTÉ radio, and more than fifty pieces for *Sunday Miscellany* and *The Living Word*.



Begin your Novel with LOUISE PHILLIPS

TUES 14 FEB • 6.30PM – 8.30PM • 10 WEEKS • €280/€260 MEMBERS

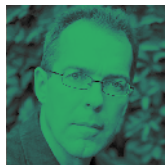
This ten-week course will set you on the exciting path of starting your novel. You will learn how to plot, outline, develop your cast of characters, and use mind maps, whilst understanding how best to create effective dialogue. Along with editorial critique, during the course you will explore and develop your story world, including setting and points of view. Louise Phillips is the bestselling author of four novels. She has won numerous awards, including an Irish Book Award in 2013. She has been a judge on the Irish Panel for the EU Literary Award.



Beginner's Creative Writing with PAT BORAN

THUR 16 FEB • 6.30PM – 8.30PM • 8 WEEKS • €220/€200 MEMBERS

This workshop, suitable for the complete beginner or someone already writing, will explore the building blocks of poetry and short fiction, from initial impulse to final edit. Using a variety of guided exercises and games, participants will produce and edit a range of new work with the aim of applying their new-found skills to work beyond the workshop environment. Pat Boran is the author of more than a dozen books of poetry, fiction and non-fiction as well as the popular writers' handbook, *The Portable Creative Writing Workshop*. A former presenter of *The Poetry Programme* on RTÉ Radio 1, he is currently editor at Dedalus Press.



4-Week Starter Kit with YVONNE CULLEN

MON 20 MAR • 6.30PM – 8.30PM • 4 WEEKS • €110/€95 MEMBERS

On this four-week course, the guidance of poet, prose writer and teacher Yvonne Cullen will help you towards achieving your writing goals. Expect to contribute to lively discussions and attempt brief exercises in the classroom while taking on challenges to try at home. Participants will be asked to share their writing experiences and will practise close reading with a view to learning from other writers' skills. Author of *Invitation to the Air* (poetry), and *A Winter Quarters* (non-fiction, forthcoming), Yvonne Cullen has led writing classes all round Ireland with great success for the last twenty-four years.



6-Week Starter Kit with GAVIN CORBETT

TUES 21 MAR • 6.30PM – 8.30PM • 6 WEEKS • €165/€150 MEMBERS

Make a start in creative writing by finding your own unique voice. Over six weeks, Gavin Corbett will help you coax out that muse, and cover such essentials of the writing craft as character development, plotting, structure, dialogue and tension-building. Participants will produce a short story, or the beginnings of a novel, and Gavin will provide feedback on the works-in-progress. Gavin Corbett is the author of three novels: *Innocence*, *This Is the Way* and *Green Glowing Skull*. *This Is the Way* won the 2013 Kerry Group Irish Novel of the Year award and was shortlisted for the Encore Prize.



Finish your Children's Book* with SARAH WEBB THUR 2 FEB • 6.30PM – 8.30PM • 6 WEEKS • €165/€150 MEMBERS

Every week participants will share their writing and get feedback from Sarah and the class. They will also have the chance to talk to an experienced children's editor, and will work towards preparing their book for submission and writing a knock-out submission letter. Sarah Webb writes for both children and adults and is the Children's Curator of the Mountains to Sea dlr Book Festival. The third book in her new series, *The Songbird Café Girls*, *Aurora* and *the Popcorn Dolphin* has recently been published by Walker Books. * Please note this course is aimed at writers who have previously attended one of Sarah's courses in the Irish Writers Centre.



(No class:
THUR 23 FEB)

Writer's Surgery: Poetry Workshops with

JESSICA TRAYNOR & ADAM WYETH
MON 6 FEB • 6.30PM – 8.30PM • 6 WEEKS • €165/€150 MEMBERS

Award-winning poets Adam Wyeth and Jessica Traynor are offering a space for your poems to be workshopped and critiqued in a relaxed and supportive atmosphere. Each participant will have the opportunity to read their own pieces to the group. They will then have a chance to listen to feedback from their audience, with Adam and Jessica giving a final summary of detailed analysis, constructive feedback and suggestions for further improvement. Jessica Traynor's debut poetry collection, *Liffey Swim* (Dedalus Press), was nominated for the 2015 Strong/Shine Award. Adam Wyeth is a published poet and playwright and works as editor for Fish Publishing.



Masterclass Series on the Short Story with MULTIPLE AUTHORS

TUES 21 FEB • 6.30PM – 8.30PM • 8 WEEKS • €250/€230 MEMBERS

Some of the greatest writers of the 20th century have explored, teased and experimented with the short story to create small but perfectly formed works of fiction that challenge both the reader and the craft of writing itself. Incorporating a diverse range of topics, from the universal struggle of rewriting and revising, to openings, language, structure and narration, attendees will have an exclusive opportunity to engage with those who do it best. Join **Nuala Ní Chonchúir, Anthony Glavin, Christine Dwyer Hickey, Mike McCormack** and **Sean O'Reilly** over eight sessions to discover new ways to get to the heart of what makes short fiction one of the most engaging forms of modern literature. See www.irishwriterscentre.ie for more information.



Join us for our Open Day – January 2017

SAT 28 JAN • 11.00AM-3.00PM • Places will be held on a first-come, first-served basis

- Free creative writing classes - includes prose and poetry sample classes
- Information session on our Novel Fair
- Presentation on our Professional Development initiatives for writers
- Free tours of the building
- Join Inkslingers – our popular and longest running writing group
- Drop into a New Irish Communities session, an open creative writing group for non-native English speakers
- Free tea, coffee, cake and biscuits

“I have found the Irish Writers Centre to be a fantastic resource ... The team have been tremendously welcoming and encouraging at all times. Carlsberg don't do writers centres, but I'm sure if they did ...” Elaine Butler, course attendee of the IWC

Writing for Television with FERDIA MacANNA**THUR 9 FEB • 6.30PM – 8.30PM • 10 WEEKS • €280/€260 MEMBERS**

Writing TV drama can be artistically and financially rewarding. Nowadays, most of the top screenwriters are writing for acclaimed international TV dramas like *Game of Thrones*, *Breaking Bad* and *The Good Wife*, as well as soaps like *Eastenders*, *Fair City* and *Red Rock*. This course will cover drama writing basics including structure, dialogue, dramatic premise, character building and creation, and scene breakdowns while providing guidance and expertise on how to find work in the industry. Ferdia MacAnna is a novelist, screenwriter and TV producer/director. He has produced and directed many TV programmes including *Don't Feed the Gondolas*, *Upwardly Mobile* and the BAFTA-winning *Custer's Last Stand Up*.

**Sci-fi and Fantasy Fiction with OISÍN McGANN****THUR 16 FEB • 6.30PM – 8.30PM • 8 WEEKS • €220/€200 MEMBERS**

This course combines tuition, writing exercises and feedback; it will help writers to develop technique and teach trade skills. It will also focus on the fundamental elements of storytelling and how they can be applied to make the unreal feel real, not just in science fiction and fantasy, but across all genres. The course will include practical advice on publishing, as well as the editing, production and promotion of your work. Oisín McGann has published eleven novels. He is a winner of the European Science Fiction Society Award and has been shortlisted for Locus Magazine's Best First Novel.

**Screenwriting with****RACHEL O FLANAGAN & MARY KATE O FLANAGAN****MON 20 FEB • 6.30PM – 9.00PM • 8 WEEKS • €280/€260 MEMBERS**

This course focuses on the art of scene-writing. It covers the overall structure of a screenplay first. Then it teaches how to make scenes economical, compelling and visual. The first four weeks will consist of lectures, film analysis, television drama analysis and scene analysis. Thereafter, participants will write scenes each week to be workshopped and polished. Participants will be encouraged to complete an outline and scenes for the pivotal moments of their story. Rachel and Mary Kate O Flanagan work with screenwriters internationally helping to shape scripts for film and television.

**Writing a Non-Fiction Book/Creative Non-Fiction with SELINA GUINNESS****MON 20 FEB • 6.30PM – 8.30PM • 8 WEEKS • €220/€200 MEMBERS**

Creative non-fiction is a true story, well told. The key is learning how to persuade readers that what interests you should also interest them. Using field notes and exercises, you will explore the ideas that underpin the desire to write, focus on the skills needed to bring the text alive, and discuss what publishing opportunities exist for your work. Participants will share and discuss their own works-in-progress, and will be encouraged to try out fresh approaches during the course. Selina Guinness's memoir, *The Crocodile by the Door*, was shortlisted for the UK Costa Book Awards, and the BGE Irish Book Awards.



Comics and the Graphic Novel with DECLAN SHALVEY

TUES 21 FEB • 6.30PM – 8.30PM • 6 WEEKS • €165/€150 MEMBERS

While comic characters and superheroes have a huge presence in our popular culture, they are only part of a genre contained within a much more imaginative medium. Comics and graphic novels are sequential storytelling: the balance of words and pictures. Over six weeks, Declan Shalvey will take you through the process of creating a piece of sequential storytelling with a mix of lectures and workshops. Declan Shalvey is an award-winning writer/artist known for his work with Marvel and DC Comics such as *All Star Batman*, *Deadpool* and the critically acclaimed *Moon Knight* with writer Warren Ellis.

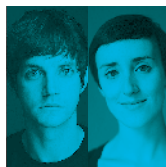


The Art of the Spoken Word with

EMMET KIRWAN & JESSICA TRAYNOR

WED 8 MAR • 6.30PM – 8.30PM • 6 WEEKS • €165/€150 MEMBERS

As an art form and mode of communication, spoken word is enjoying tremendous popularity and is a powerful and playful way to communicate on themes of social importance. Spoken word embraces word-play, intonation and voice inflection with strong links to rap, hip-hop, theatre, jazz and blues. While the words are important, how they are delivered is equally so. This new course takes a two-pronged approach, as actor, writer and star of *RIOT*, Emmet Kirwan focuses on the art of performance, the truth, delivery and connection to the audience, while award-winning poet Jessica Traynor will guide participants through the technicalities of the form.



Travel Writing with MADELEINE KEANE

WED 15 MAR • 6.30PM – 8.30PM • 6 WEEKS • €165/€150 MEMBERS

In this six-week course, award-winning journalist Madeleine Keane will take students on an exciting journey around the rewarding world of travel writing. Students will explore the different forms of travel writing, while learning how to identify their market and how to pitch to editors. The technical aspects of the craft will be examined in depth – from research and fact checking to creating rich, vivid prose. The course will also delve into the digital world of online media and blogging. Madeleine Keane is Literary Editor of the *Sunday Independent* and has been writing about travel for 30 years. She also lectures on travel writing at UCD.



Introduction to Blogwriting* with KETTY ELISABETH

WED 1 FEB • 6.30PM – 8.30PM • 6 WEEKS • €165/€150 MEMBERS

This beginner/intermediate level course is aimed at anyone who has ever wanted to start a blog and not known where to begin, or started a blog and not known how to grow it. Participants will be provided with advice on how to get going, from finding your niche and choosing the right platform to expanding your audience and learning to stand out from the crowd. The course will also cover finding your voice, engaging your audience and, most importantly, using social media. These are not technical or IT based workshops but classes designed to get you started. Ketty Elisabeth is the author, editor and eater behind French Foodie in Dublin, the multi award-winning blog about Dublin's food scene. *The final session will consist of a two hour panel discussion with other high-profile bloggers.



PROF. DEVELOPMENT

The Life Cycle of the Book with

AUTHORS, AGENTS & PUBLISHERS

presented by PUBLISHING IRELAND *in association with the*
IRISH WRITERS CENTRE *supported by* Words Ireland

**TUES 7 FEB • 6.30PM – 8.30PM • 4 WEEKS • €15/€10 MEMBERS, PER SESSION
• €50 FOR ALL FOUR SESSIONS (NON-MEMBERS)**

The Life Cycle of a Book is a series of short evening talks on the different aspects of the publishing process, aimed at both established and aspiring writers and all those interested in how books come to life behind the scenes. The idea is to break down the stages of publishing, from putting pen to page, right through to books coming to our attention through the media. There will be four talks in total, covering 'The Writing Process', 'Getting Published', 'What Publishers Actually Do' and 'Reaching the Reader'. Each talk will include a panel of three experts, who will discuss their respective experiences with an audience Q&A to follow.

Edit your Novel: A Publisher's Perspective with **CIARA CONSIDINE**

WED 22 FEB • 6.30PM – 8.30PM • 6 WEEKS • €165/€150 MEMBERS

This six-week course will teach you how to edit a work-in-progress, in order to hone and refine your manuscript before submission to publishers. The course will provide an overview of the complete editing process – structure, voice, characterisation, setting and plot – and will also focus on clarifying goals and setting intentions, giving consideration to the current publishing landscape. Taking a results-orientated approach, Ciara will guide participants in a process of constructive feedback on their work, as a necessary component in the learning process. Ciara Considine has worked in the Irish publishing industry for over twenty years, and for the past fourteen as an editor and publisher with Hachette Books Ireland.



MENTORING PROGRAMME • CLÁR COMHAIRLEOIREACHTA

MANUSCRIPT DEVELOPMENT:

Meet with an experienced and published writer of your choice who will:

- **read your work in-depth**
- **provide you with a written report in advance of the meeting**
- **meet one-to-one for an hour and a half to provide further feedback and give direction**

You can meet the author/mentor just once, or on a number of occasions for ongoing manuscript development. You can provide new or revised text in advance of each meeting.

Go to the Professional Development section of our site to see what writers and industry professionals are available.

WE OFFER MENTORING FOR THE FOLLOWING FORMS AND GENRES:

Novels, short fiction, playwriting, TV & film scripts, poetry, historical fiction, fantasy fiction, crime writing, feature writing, freelance journalism, travel writing and more.

CONSULTATION

Involves a one and a half hour meeting with a writer or professional to seek industry advice and information on any of the following areas:

- **book publicity**
- **author contracts**
- **marketing and social media**
- **introduction to the publishing industry**
- **managing book launches**
- **teaching creative writing**
- **engaging festival curators or venues**
- **and more...**



FURTHER INFORMATION & BOOKING

Go to the Professional Development section of our site to see what writers and industry professionals are available

WEEKEND COURSES • CÚRSAÍ DEIREADH SEACHTAINE

Digital Marketing and Social Media* with LAURENCE O'BRYAN

SAT 18 FEB • 10.30AM – 4.30PM • 1 DAY • €80/€70 MEMBERS

This one-day course will introduce you to writer websites, blogs and social media. It will provide hands-on help in getting accounts set up and discussion of personal goals. You will also discover how a writer can build a meaningful digital and social media identity and use storytelling techniques online. The use of video readings, podcasts, blogging, Twitter and Facebook will all be covered. Answers will be provided to your questions on all aspects of going online. **Participants are requested to bring a WiFi capable laptop and arrive 15 minutes early to set it up.*



PROF. DEV.

Pitching to Magazine Editors* with MADELEINE KEANE

SAT 18 FEB • 10.30AM – 4.30PM • 1 DAY • €80/€70 MEMBERS

Madeleine Keane delivers a day-long masterclass in getting your work published. Participants will learn how to convert an idea into a perfect pitch and discover what magazine editors really want. From communicating with commissioning editors to researching different publications and markets, this class is a must for all aspiring journalists. Madeleine Keane has over 30 years' experience working in newspapers and magazines including the *Sunday Independent*, *The Gloss*, *Image* and *Social & Personal* on books, travel and the arts. She has also broadcast on TV and radio. **Attendees will be requested to submit an idea for publication (approx. 300 words) two weeks ahead of time, ideally reflecting their interests and area of experience.*



SPECIALISED

Mindshift: Managing your Taxes with GABY SMYTH

SAT 4 MAR • 10.30AM – 12.30PM • 2 HOURS • €30/€25 MEMBERS

What kind of tax set-up do you need – limited company or sole-trader? What level of book-keeping do you need to maintain? What taxes, if any, are due? When it comes to understanding and managing your own taxes you're not alone. This presentation is led by a leading accountant and tax specialist operating in the arts sector, and will allow lots of time for Q&A. Gaby Smyth is managing director with Gaby Smyth & Company Ltd., Business. He has provided business and taxation advice to individuals and companies for almost 20 years, specialising in literature, music, film and theatre.



PROF. DEV.

Mindshift: Working the Festival Circuit with DANI GILL

SAT 4 MAR • 10.30AM – 1.00PM • 2 ½ HOURS • €30/€25 MEMBERS

In this half-day seminar, participants will learn about the festival year, how scheduling falls and what to consider when submitting to a festival, such as the elements of a writer's CV that will be of most interest to curators. There will be an examination of festival themes and how the lens of curation affects what a festival director may look for in a certain year, in terms of topics, genres and forms of writing. Participants will also look at themes and features in their own writing that could be explored and presented in a marketing context. Dani Gill has curated for the Cúirt International Festival of Literature for six years.



PROF. DEV.

Mystery and Suspense with DECLAN BURKE**SAT 11 MAR • 10.30AM – 4.30PM • 1 DAY • €80/€70 MEMBERS**

All great crime fiction stems from the fact that character *is* mystery. From whodunits to psychological thrillers, via private eyes and police procedurals, we'll uncover the crucial elements that make for a memorable crime/mystery novel. Embracing plot, character, style, language, setting, tone and the authorial voice, this course employs classic and contemporary crime writing to illustrate the way forward for authors seeking to hone their craft and maximise the impact of their writing. Declan Burke is an award-winning author of six novels, and the editor/co-editor of two non-fiction titles on crime writing. He is the editor of the short story anthology *Trouble Is Our Business* (New Island).

**Submitting to Publishers with TRAMP PRESS****SAT 25 MAR • 10.30AM – 4.30PM • 1 DAY • €80/€70 MEMBERS**

This one-day course with Sarah Davis-Goff and Lisa Coen of Tramp Press will focus on getting your novel ready for submission to publishers and agents. You'll hear about ways to stand out in a crowded slush pile, how to target the right people and the pitfalls to avoid while presenting your work. There will also be a discussion on sample cover letters and synopses. Bring questions, and be prepared to talk about the last novel you read! Tramp Press is an independent publisher of fiction based in Dublin. They have published Sara Baume's *Spill Simmer Falter Wither*, Mike McCormack's *Solar Bones* and other award-winning novels and anthologies.

**Mindshift: Between Fact and Fiction with CHRIS AGEE & MARK O'CONNELL in conversation with SUSAN TOMASELLI****SAT 25 MAR • 10.30AM – 2.30PM • 1/2 DAY • €18/€15 MEMBERS, PANEL****• CLINICS €20 • €30 BOTH SESSIONS**

This two-part day on creative non-fiction will focus on what leading editors are looking for and how to do justice to your own work. The morning session will consist of a panel discussion where Chris Agee (editor, *Irish Pages*) and Mark O'Connell (writer, *Slate*, *The New Yorker* and others) will discuss their respective experiences in the industry with Susan Tomaselli (editor, *gorse*). The afternoon session will allow for writers to have a unique one-to-one consultation (15 minutes) with Susan, Chris or Mark where they can bring along some sample material and receive constructive criticism on their work. Places are limited for both sessions and will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Support Your Career by Writing Online with E.R. MURRAY****SAT 1 APR • 10.30AM – 4.30PM • 1 DAY • €80/€70 MEMBERS**

This practical one-day workshop with E.R. Murray will provide you with all the nuts and bolts you need to get started in the world of online freelance work. Topics covered include; the different types of online copywriting, finding your niche, writing compelling copy, understanding the market and building your profile. E.R. Murray is an award-winning author of children's and young adult fiction including *The Book of Learning – Nine Lives Trilogy 1* (2016 Dublin UNESCO Citywide Read), *The Book of Shadows – Nine Lives Trilogy 2* (shortlisted Best Children's Book – Senior, Irish Book Awards 2016), and *Caramel Hearts*. She is also a professional freelancer, with a specialism in online poker.



How to Rewrite and Revise your own Work with LIA MILLS

SAT 1 APR • 10.30AM – 4.30PM • 1 DAY • €80/€70 MEMBERS

You've finished the third/ninth/ninety-ninth draft of your story. It's not as good as you'd hoped it would be but you've done your absolute best and you're sick of the sight of it. Before you send it out, consign it to a drawer or shred it, why not go over it one last time? This workshop will show you how to develop revision and rewriting skills, how to identify common faults and correct them and how to improve the craft essentials that every professional writer needs. Lia Mills writes novels, short stories, essays and memoir. Her most recent novel, *Fallen*, was the Dublin/Belfast Two Cities One Book selection for 2016.



EMERGING

Dialogue Workshop: What Characters Say and How They Say It with MICHELLE READ

SAT 8 APR • 10.30AM – 4.30PM • 1 DAY • €80/€70 MEMBERS

Dialogue in dramatic theatre is fundamental. What the characters say, how they say it and what lies underneath the words is often the main tool a dramatist has to tell their story. This day-long workshop will focus on exploring the process of active dialogue creation through script analysis and practical exercises. You will be working from a live performance point of view but this workshop will also be of value to fiction writers wishing to develop their dialogue writing. Michelle is an award-winning playwright. She has worked in theatre in Dublin for over twenty years and has a wide range of experience as a performer, producer, playwright and dramaturge.



SPECIALISED

Short Story Workshop with DANIELLE McLAUGHLIN

SAT 8 APR • 10.30AM – 4.30PM • 1 DAY • €80/€70 MEMBERS

Where do stories come from? Do we find them, or do they find us? On this one-day course participants will undertake writing exercises designed to generate new stories. You will also, by examining extracts from a selection of great short stories, consider such things as: how to begin; dialogue; setting; plot (what is it and is it necessary); how to create compelling characters; knowing when to stop; how to write endings that work. Danielle McLaughlin's debut collection of short stories, *Dinosaurs On Other Planets*, was published in Ireland in 2015 by The Stinging Fly Press, and in the UK and US in 2016 by John Murray and Random House.



BEGINNERS

Experimental Fiction with ROB DOYLE

SAT 15 APR • 10.30AM – 4.30PM • 1 DAY • €80/€70 MEMBERS

Through close reading of work by risk-taking, playful and inventive authors, participants will be encouraged to experiment with styles and techniques that deviate from conventional forms of prose fiction. In a friendly, stimulating environment, both beginners and more advanced writers will examine and practise techniques such as cut-ups, metafiction, autofiction, writing with constraints, 'found' texts, randomness, microfictions, stream of consciousness, fragmentary writing, prose which blurs the line between fiction and reality, and more. Rob Doyle is the author of two highly acclaimed books, *This Is the Ritual* and *Here Are the Young Men*. His work has appeared in the *Guardian*, *Observer*, *Irish Times*, *Dublin Review* and elsewhere.



SPECIALISED

NORTHERN IRELAND COURSES • CÚRSAÍ I DTUAISCEART ÉIREANN

PROF. DEV.

Edit your Novel: A Publisher's Perspective with CIARA CONSIDINE
in association with the CRESCENT ARTS CENTRE, BELFAST
ANTRIM • SAT 4 FEB • 10.30AM – 4.30PM • 1 DAY • €28/£25

This one-day course will teach you how to edit a work-in-progress, in order to hone and refine your manuscript before submission to publishers. The day will provide an overview of the complete editing process – structure, voice, characterisation, setting and plot – and will also focus on clarifying goals and setting intentions, giving consideration to the current publishing landscape. Taking a results-orientated approach, Ciara will guide participants in a process of constructive feedback on their work, as a necessary component in the learning process. Ciara Considine has worked in the Irish publishing industry for over twenty years, and for the past fourteen as an editor and publisher with Hachette Books Ireland.



 The Crescent Arts Centre

EMERGING

The Poetry Masterclass Series with MULTIPLE POETS
DERRY • THUR 16 FEB • 7.00PM – 9.00PM • 8 WEEKS • €88/£80

This unique course offers new, emerging and professional poets an inside look at the craft and processes of those who have previously excelled at the form. This series of curated masterclasses, taking place over eight weeks, is designed to encourage the experienced poet to step outside his/her comfort zone through exposure to the working techniques and ideas of practising poets at the top of their game. Over a two-week period, a different poet will deliver a masterclass on a theme of their choice. Join **Ciaran Carson, Moyra Donaldson, Abby Oliveira** and others to discover new ways to get to the heart of your own work. See www.irishwriterscentre.ie for full line-up.



Sarah's Reading
HomePlace
Life, Literature & Inspiration

EMERGING

Mindshift: The Confident Writer with JANE TALBOT
TYRONE • SAT 4 MARCH • 10.30AM – 4.30PM • 1 DAY • €28/£25

If you're one of the many writers who doesn't feel completely confident and relaxed when doing readings, talks and interviews then this workshop is for you. Over the course of a day, you will learn the tools and techniques for handling unwanted emotions (such as anxiety) and associated behaviours (such as speaking too quickly or too quietly). You will also learn how to generate resourceful states (such as confidence) which lead to engaging performances and interactions. And, finally, you will learn how to create a dynamic rapport with your audience. Participants will be expected to bring some of their work along to read aloud in class. Jane Talbot is a writer, storyteller and trainer of both Neuro-Linguistic Programming [NLP] and hypnosis. She has delivered workshops in the UK, Ireland, UAE, Kuwait and Israel.



the burnavon

PROF. DEV.

Writing and Publishing Arts Reviews, Interviews and Analysis with NADINE O'REGAN
ARMAGH • SAT 1 APRIL • 10.30AM – 4.30PM • 1 DAY • €28/£25

Develop the skills necessary to write arts interviews, reviews, criticism and broader, long-form cultural analysis pieces that would be suitable for newspapers and other publications. The class will focus on how to structure an article, select suitable subject matter and keep audiences engaged. Different forms of arts writing will be explored and feedback offered. The course will also give participants a practical grounding in how to pitch ideas to editors and a list of suitable contacts. Suitable for practising writers and novices. Nadine O'Regan is Books and Arts Editor for the Sunday Business Post and the presenter/producer of *Songs in the Key of Life* on Today FM.



Market Place Theatre & Arts Centre, Armagh



Give your loved ones the gift of writing

Our gift cards are available in any denomination and can be redeemed against any of our courses.

See www.irishwriterscentre.ie for more details



John Banville



Anne Enright



Roy Foster



Marian Keyes



Éilís Ní Dhuibhne



Joseph O'Connor

Ambassadors of the Irish Writers Centre

"Here, in 19 Parnell Square, a genuine community has grown and flourished. It, like all truly functioning communities, has had to craft its own ethic of solidarity, one that is based on equality, full participation and genuine respect for the many differing voices that makes up its whole.

It is for that reason that I am very proud to be Patron of the Irish Writers Centre."

President of Ireland, Michael D. Higgins,
Patron of the Irish Writers Centre

NOVEL FAIR

2018 LAUNCH

Aspiring novelists,
could you sign the
next big book deal?



12 April 2017
at 7pm

Books IRELAND



the world of
Irish books—
every two
months

Now available
as a digital
edition



www.booksirelandmagazine.com

Available at all good newsagents
and bookstores or ring 01-2933568



AMERICAN COLLEGE DUBLIN
in association with
THE IRISH WRITERS CENTRE



Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Creative Writing

American College Dublin, a constituent college of Irish American University,
is accredited by Middle States Commission on Higher Education

- Offers aspiring or published writers a one-year course which examines the process and composition of prose fiction.
- A combination of critical workshops and individual mentoring guides students towards completing either a novel or a short story collection.
- Considers the creative writing process from intellectual, psychological, economic and cultural angles.
- Emphasises the business and professional environment of writing, with seminars and masterclasses presented by agents, publishers and established writers.

'As a published non-fiction writer and teacher of writing, I set the bar high for my MFA. The programme at American College Dublin was well above my expectations. The tutors are skilled, knowledgeable and generous. My understanding of craft and ability to use it grew exponentially. I feel fortunate to have spent a year there.'

Carole Craig, MFA Class of 2016

For further advice on the programme and guidance on submitting:
www.amcd.ie 01 - 676 - 8939 admissions@amcd.ie

WORDS IRELAND

WRITERS SERIES

Nationwide meetings for creative writers & illustrators

DATES

Leitrim	22 October	Cork	Spring 2017
Galway	5 November	Wicklow	Spring 2017
Kilkenny	19 November	Limerick	Spring 2017
Belfast	3 December	Dublin	Writers - Spring 2017
Dublin	Illustrators - 25 January		

Free Admission. Booking Essential.

wordsireland.ie | [@wordsireland](https://twitter.com/wordsireland) | info@wordsireland.ie

Words Ireland is hosting a series of nationwide public meetings for professional and practising writers to hear how writers sustain their careers. We want to begin a national debate on the future of literature resourcing and funding in Ireland.

Each meeting will give you – the writers in the audience – the opportunity to have your voices heard. Come prepared with practical improvements and new ideas for the literature sector

in an event which will undoubtedly generate lively discussion and debate among the writers, poets, and children's authors present.

Words Ireland is a grouping of seven national literature resources organisations who work collaboratively to provide co-ordinated professional development and resources services to the literature sector.



What's On This Spring

EVENTS AT THE IRISH WRITERS CENTRE
Ar siúl in Áras Scríbhneoirí na hÉireann

NOLLAIG NA mBAN
6 January 2017

FIVE LAMPS ARTS
FESTIVAL
March 2017

TAKIN' THE MIC
Last Friday of
every month

IRISH WRITERS CENTRE
OPEN DAY

28 January 2017

NOVEL FAIR 2018
LAUNCH
April 2017

COMPASS LINES
Dublin & Belfast
Spring 2017

UNESCO: DUBLIN ONE CITY, ONE BOOK
April 2017

See www.irishwriterscentre.ie 'What's On'
section for full event listings in Dublin and
further afield. Sign up to our weekly newsletter
or connect with us to find out more.



Irish Writers Centre, 19 Parnell Square, Dublin 1
info@writerscentre.ie 01 872 1302 www.irishwriterscentre.ie