

# Southern Vermont Writers' Conference



March 30 - April 4, 2025  
Equinox Resort & Spa, Manchester, Vermont

## Conference Schedule

(Subject to change)

We have built in plenty of time between activities so you can write, relax, recharge, and make new writer friends. Remember, this is *your* conference; participate in the activities that work for you!

**Sunday, March 30th** - Afternoon arrival and 3 PM check-in for those staying at The Equinox Resort & Spa. Otherwise, plan on arriving at around 5 PM.

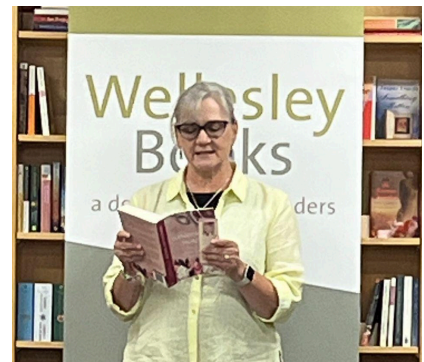
- 5 PM Registration, outside the Battenkill Room
- 5-6:30 PM Welcome Reception (cash bar)
- 6:30-7:30 PM Welcome Dinner, Battenkill Room
- 7:30-9 PM Kick-Off Event with Chris Wells, Sari Botton, & Justen Ahren

**Monday, March 31st** - First full day of the conference.

- 7-9 AM Morning Wake Up Buffet, Battenkill Room
- 9 AM Morning Road Map with Kim & Caren
- 9:30 AM First Morning Workshops (Battenkill, Dorset, or Bennington Room)
- 12:30-2 PM Lunch Buffet, Battenkill Room
- 2PM First Afternoon Craft Talk, Battenkill Room  
“A Writer is Born and a Family Trembles: Best Practices Around Writing About Family and Others Close to You”  
with Sari Botton
- 4 PM Cookie Break, by the fireplace - grab a beverage from the Marsh Tavern if you wish
- 4:30-6PM Evening Salon, location TBD
- 6 PM Dinner and the remainder of the evening on your own

## What is an Evening Salon?

The Evening Salons allow you to read your work aloud in a safe and supportive environment and, just as importantly, to be present to listen and support your fellow writers who want to share their work. Sharing is optional! We will have sign-up sheets at registration and each morning as long as space is available. Each reading slot is 5 minutes long, giving you 3 minutes to read and 2 minutes for questions.



## **Tuesday, April 1st**

7-9 AM Morning Wake Up Buffet, Battenkill Room

9 AM Morning Road Map with Kim & Caren

9:30 AM Second Morning Workshops (Battenkill, Dorset, or Bennington Room)

12:30-2 PM Lunch Buffet, Battenkill Room

2PM Second Afternoon Craft Talk, Battenkill Room

“Doubt, Commitment, Endurance—on building a writing practice” with Chris Wells

4 PM Cookie Break, by the fireplace

4:30-6PM Evening Salon, location TBD

6 PM Dinner and the remainder of the evening on your own

## **Wednesday, April 2nd**

7-9 AM Morning Wake Up Buffet, Battenkill Room

9 AM Morning Road Map with Kim & Caren

9:30 AM Third Morning Workshops (Battenkill, Dorset, or Bennington Room)

12:30-2 PM Lunch Buffet, Battenkill Room

2PM Third Afternoon Craft Talk, Battenkill Room

“First Page Masterclass” with Thomas Henry Pope

Also at 2 PM Small Group Poetry Workshop with Justen Ahren  
Limited to 10 participants. Sign up via email after registration.

4 PM Cookie Break, by the fireplace

4:30-6PM Evening Salon, location TBD

6 PM Dinner and the remainder of the evening on your own

## **Thursday, April 3rd - We're shaking things up today!**

7-9 AM Morning Wake Up Buffet, Battenkill Room

9 AM Morning Road Map with Kim & Caren

9:30 AM Fourth Morning Workshop (Battenkill, Dorset, or Bennington Room)

12:30-2:30 PM Lunch in Manchester with new friends

2:30 PM SPECIAL EVENT! Bookseller Recommendations at  
[Northshire Bookstore](#) in Manchester

3:30-5:30 PM Enjoy Manchester! Shop at Northshire, shop in town, write in the [Colburn Cafe](#)

5:30-7 PM Capstone Author Event with [Megan Mayhew Bergman](#) at  
[The Manchester Community Library](#) - admission to this event is included with your conference registration

7 PM Dinner on your own in town - we're sure there will be plenty of group plans by this point!

**Friday, April 4th** - Our final morning together!

7-9 AM Morning Wake Up Buffet, Battenkill Room

9:30 AM Later Morning Road Map with Kim & Caren so folks staying at the hotel have time to check out before their workshops

10 AM Final Morning Workshops (Battenkill, Dorset, or Bennington Room)

12:30 PM Gather together in the Battenkill Room to pick up Farewell Packets and say our goodbyes—until next year!

## **What to pack for late winter in Vermont...**

There's a saying, "If you don't like the weather in Vermont, wait a minute." The weather in southern Vermont is highly unpredictable, especially in late March and early April. In general, go for layers, especially since the temperature in each conference room may vary.

Attire for the conference is casual. Be comfortable. Feel good. Remember, there will be other guests at the hotel, so PJs and bunny slippers might be pushing it, but hey, it's your conference!

[The Equinox Spa](#) is exceptional, so if you are staying on property, you may want to bring workout clothes and even a swimsuit for the indoor pool and outdoor hot tub. Even if you are not staying on the property, spa appointments are available, and with an appointment, you get access to the fitness center, pool, hot tub, and locker room with steam room and sauna for the day.

