

# PRESS RELEASE

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#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# AWP to Present 10 Free Author Events at Boston Conference

Annual Conference Features Free Readings by Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award Winners and Other Noted Writers. Bookfair Open to Public on Saturday.

Fairfax, VA, February 18, 2013 — The Association of Writers & Writing Programs (AWP) will host its Annual Conference & Bookfair at the John B. Hynes Veterans Memorial Convention Center from Wednesday, March 6 to Saturday, March 9, 2013. The gathering is the largest literary conference in North America and is expected to attract over 11,000 attendees. The conference will also bring together two Nobel Laureates, twelve Pulitzer Prize-winning writers, two U.S. Poets Laureate, eight National Book Award winners, and four recipients of the National Book Critics Circle Award, among hundreds of other readers, speakers, and panelists. It will feature 550 events and 650 exhibitors, including independent and trade presses, literary magazines, writers' centers, and literary arts organizations.

On Friday, March 8 and Saturday, March 9, the following conference events at the Hynes Convention Center (900 Boylston Street) will be free and open to the public:

#### Cave Canem Prize Winners, Then and Now

Featuring Major Jackson, Lyrae Van Clief-Stefanon, Tracy K. Smith, and Iain Haley Pollock Friday, March 7 at 3:00 p.m., Hynes Ballroom, Level 3

# Don DeLillo & Dana Spiotta: A Reading & Conversation

Sponsored by the Center for Fiction Friday, March 8 at 3:00 p.m., Veterans Memorial Auditorium, Level 2

#### Alison Bechdel & Jeanette Winterson: A Reading & Conversation

Sponsored by Emerson College & *Ploughshares* literary magazine Friday, March 8 at 4:30 p.m., Veterans Memorial Auditorium, Level 2

# Language at the Breaking Point: Jorie Graham & Terrance Hayes

Sponsored by Blue Flower Arts Friday, March 8 at 8:30 p.m., Hynes Ballroom, Level 3

#### Amy Bloom & Richard Russo: A Reading & Conversation

Sponsored by the Lesley University MFA in Creative Writing Friday, March 8 at 8:30 p.m., Veterans Memorial Auditorium, Level 2

# POEMJAZZ: A Conversation & Performance with Robert Pinsky, Laurence Hobgood, Ben Allison, & Stan Strickland

Sponsored by WAMFEST & Fairleigh Dickinson University Saturday, March 9 at 3:00 p.m., Hynes Ballroom, Level 3

# Tracy Kidder & Adrian Nicole LeBlanc: A Reading & Conversation

Sponsored by Pine Manor College Solstice MFA Program Saturday, March 9 at 4:30 p.m., Hynes Ballroom, Level 3

### Andre Dubus III & Edith Pearlman: A Reading & Conversation

Sponsored by the PEN/Faulkner Foundation Saturday, March 9 at 4:30 p.m., Veterans Memorial Auditorium, Level 2

# Academy of American Poets Presents Lucie Brock-Broido & Anne Carson

Saturday, March 9 at 8:30 p.m., Hynes Ballroom, Level 3

# Augusten Burroughs & Cheryl Strayed: A Reading & Conversation

Sponsored by the Wilkes University Low-Residency MA/MFA in Creative Writing Saturday, March 9 at 8:30 p.m., Veterans Memorial Auditorium, Level 2

On Saturday, March 9, the AWP Bookfair in exhibit halls A, B, and D of the Hynes Convention Center will be free and open to the public from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Exhibitors include *AGNI*, Alice James Books, Beacon Press, Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, *Boston Review*, Dzanc Books, Grub Street, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, *jubilat*, McSweeney's, *Orion*, *Ploughshares*, Poets & Writers, Talking Writing, Ugly Duckling Presse, the Writer's Center, and W.W. Norton, among hundreds of other magazines, presses, and literary organizations. Two stages within the bookfair exhibit halls will feature readings by noted authors.

For more information about these free events, to register for the conference, or to view a full schedule of events open to paid conference attendees, visit https://www.awpwriter.org/awp\_conference/overview

On-site registration for the conference will open at noon on Wednesday, March 6 at the Hynes Convention Center. On-site rates are \$190 for AWP members and \$285 for non-members. Day passes are \$120. Registration includes admission to the bookfair. Press passes can be requested from conference@awpwriter.org. Eligible publications must have a print circulation of at least 10,000.

Sponsors and literary partners of the Boston conference include Bath Spa University, the Academy of American Poets, Adelphi University, Alice James Books, Antioch University Los Angeles, Cave Canem, the Center for Fiction, the Council of Literary Magazines & Presses/Small Press Distribution, Emerson College & Ploughshares, Grub Street, Kundiman, the Jackson Center for Creative Writing at Hollins University, Lesley University, the Loft Literary Center, the National Book Critics Circle, the National Endowment for the Arts, Paris Press, the PEN/Faulkner Foundation, the Poetry Foundation, the Poetry Society of America, Poets House, the Stonecoast MFA program at the University of Southern Maine, the University of Tampa, VIDA: Women in the Literary Arts, the Virginia G. Piper Center for Creative Writing at Arizona State University, WAMFEST & Fairleigh Dickinson University, Wesleyan University Press, and Writers in the Schools.

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The mission of AWP is to foster literary achievement, to advance the art of writing as essential to a good education, and to serve the makers, teachers, students, and readers of contemporary writing. Founded in 1967, AWP supports nearly 50,000 writers, over 500 college and university creative writing programs, and 125 writers' conferences and centers.