

AWP Event Outline

EVENT TITLE: "The Paper Mask: Writing Personas Our Students Put On"

DESCRIPTION: In this panel, writers and educators discuss the ways in which students, particularly first-generation students, wear paper masks—personas in their writing to mask their own voices which they may see as inadequate in academic settings. Panelists explore this phenomenon across genres in the teaching of creative nonfiction, poetry, and academic writing. We discuss theory, practice, and strategies to empower students to appreciate and use their own voices.

EVENT TYPE: Pedagogy for Teaching Creative Nonfiction, Poetry, and Academic Writing

See below a list of speakers and resources each speaker discusses.

Elizabeth Threadgill, Utica College (Moderator & Organizer) – "Removing the Paper Mask: Linguistic Justice"

- "Students' Right to Their Own Language" (CCCC position statement, <https://cccc.ncte.org/cccc/resources/positions/srtolssummary>)
- *Telling Writing* by Ken Macrorie
- "Inventing the University" by David Bartholomae
- *Lives on the Boundary* by Mike Rose
- Linguistic Justice: Black Language, Literacy, Identity, and Pedagogy by April Baker-Bell
- "This Ain't Another Statement! This is a DEMAND for Black Linguistic Justice!" (CCCC position statement, <https://cccc.ncte.org/cccc/demand-for-black-linguistic-justice>)
- "Statement on White Language Supremacy" (CCCC position statement, <https://cccc.ncte.org/cccc/white-language-supremacy>)

James Knippen, Utica College – "Dispelling Rules of the Paper Mask"

- Higher Education Opportunity Program (<http://www.nysed.gov/postsecondary-services/higher-education-opportunity-program-heop>)
- "Students' Right to Their Own Language" (CCCC position statement, <https://cccc.ncte.org/cccc/resources/positions/srtolssummary>)
- "This Ain't Another Statement! This is a DEMAND for Black Linguistic Justice!" (CCCC position statement, <https://cccc.ncte.org/cccc/demand-for-black-linguistic-justice>)

Daniel Shank Cruz, Hunter College – "Finding a Personal Voice to Cut Up the Paper Face"

- *We Are Never Meeting in Real Life* by Samantha Irby
- *Writing and Being* by Lynn Nelson
- *Labor-Based Grading Contracts* by Asao B. Inoue
- *Bitches Gotta Eat* (blog) by Samantha Irby (<https://bitchesgottaeat.substack.com/>)

Suzanne Richardson, SUNY Binghamton – "Steps Towards Encouraging Authenticity in the Creative Writing Classroom"

- *The Big Magic* by Elizabeth Gilbert
- *Imaginative Writing* by Janet Burroways
- *Bruce Lee Artist of Life* by Bruce Lee
- *Craft in The Real World* by Matthew Salesses

- *The Anti-Racist Writing Workshop: How to Decolonize the Creative Classroom* by Felica Rose Chavez
- *The Artist's Way* by Julie Cameron

Sara Lupita Olivares, New Mexico Highlands University – “Will There Be Time to Make Myself a Mask: Honoring the Paper Mask in Creative Writing”

- *Bordered Writers: Latinx Identities and Literacy Practices at Hispanic Serving Institutions* edited by Isabel Baca, Yndalecio Isaac Hinojosa, and Susan Wolff Murphy
- *Extracting the Stones of Madness* by Alejandra Pizarnik
- *The Anti-Racist Writing Workshop: How to Decolonize the Creative Classroom* by Felica Rose Chavez
- *Identity in Education* by Amie A. Macdonald and Susan Sánchez-Casal