The Workshop
The Pima Writers’ Workshop, May 27-29, 2016, is for all writers, beginning and experienced. The workshop offers opportunities to talk and consult with professional writers and agents, as well as to write.

Cost and Registration
$150 (Manuscript consultation included)

Registration Deadlines
Register by May 13 (to have a manuscript reviewed) or by May 27.

Noncredit Registration
Register for noncredit course WR 705 (CRN 68037):
- In person at any campus (specify “noncredit”)
- By phone at 520-206-6468
- By mail

For More Information
Meg Files, Pima Writers’ Workshop Director
520-206-6084 or mfiles@pima.edu

Location
Pima Community College
Center for the Arts, West Campus,
2202 W. Anklam Road, Tucson, AZ

Manuscripts
There is no extra fee for a manuscript consultation. To meet with an author or an agent for a manuscript conference:

1. Submit one manuscript:
   - Electronic submission (preferred):
     mfiles@pima.edu (subject heading: Pima Writers’ Workshop Submission)
   - Mail: Meg Files
     Pima Community College West Campus
     2202 W. Anklam Road, Tucson, AZ 85709-0170

2. Deadline: Manuscript must be received by May 13.

3. Prose manuscripts must be typed, double-spaced, and no longer than 15 pages. For poetry, submit up to three poems.

4. Requests for a particular author or agent will be honored on a first-come, first-served basis. Include a list of your first four choices along with your submission.

5. All Faculty except Nancy Mairs and Kathryn Conrad are reading manuscripts.

The Schedule
Thursday, May 26
7:00 p.m. Meet-the-Authors Reception
Reading by Thomas Cobb
Riverpark Inn, 350 S. Freeway

Friday, May 27
9:00 a.m. How to Hook an Agent — From the Query Letter Through the Opening Pages,
Jean Hegland
10:30 a.m. Writing Exercise: My Worst Job and Other True (or False) Confessions,
Carolyne Wright
11:40 a.m. Reading by Kevin Canty
1:00 p.m. What No One Is Telling You About Being a Published Author, Tom Levene
2:15 p.m. The Novel Within the Novel: Breaking the Boundaries of the Sequential, Chronological Narrative, Priyanka Kumar
Creating an Irresistible Pitch Package to Attract an Agent or Editor, Regina Brooks
3:30 p.m. When Your Characters Speak Spanish: Writing in an English-only Culture, José Skinner
How to Write Exquisite Dialogue, Tom Levene
7:00 p.m. Readings by Priyanka Kumar, José Skinner and Carolyne Wright
Navigating the Writer's Journey: Strategies for Success

The Faculty

Regina Brooks is the founder and president of Serendipity Literary Agency, LLC, in New York. Her agency represents a diverse base of award-winning clients in adult and young adult fiction, nonfiction and children’s literature. In 2015, Publishers Weekly nominated her as a PW Star Watch Finalist, and Writer’s Digest magazine named Serendipity Literary Agency as one of the top 25 literary agencies. Formerly, she held senior editorial positions at John Wiley and Sons and McGraw-Hill. She is the author of "Writing Great Books for Young Adults" and "You Should Really Write a Book: How to Write, Sell and Market Your Memoir."

Kevin Canty’s eighth book, a novel called “The Underworld,” will be published in 2017. He is the author of the novels “Everything,” "Nine Below Zero," “Into the Great Wide Open” and “Winsock in Love,” and of the story collections “Where the Money Went,” “Honeymoon” and “A Stranger In This World.” His stories have appeared in the New Yorker, Esquire, Tin House, GQ, Glimmer Train, Story, the New England Review and elsewhere, and his essays and articles in Vogue, Details, Playboy, The New York Times and the Oxford American, among many others. His work has been translated into many languages, including French, Dutch, Spanish, Catalan, German, Polish and Italian.

Michael Carr is an agent with Veritas Literary Agency in San Francisco, a full-service agency specializing in select literary and contemporary fiction and nonfiction. With a background in writing and editing, he works carefully with clients to produce the cleanest, most professional manuscripts. His work has appeared in publications such as The Atlantic, The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction and Military History Magazine. He is interested in historical fiction, women’s fiction, science fiction and fantasy and nonfiction.

Thomas Cobb is the author of “Crazy Heart,” made into an Academy Award-winning film. His novel “Shevastai” won the Western Writers of America Spur Award and the Texas Institute of Letters Jesse H. Jones Award for fiction. "With Blood in Their Eyes" won the Spur Award and was named a Southwest Book of the Year by the Pima County Library Association. His story collection “Acts of Contrition” won the George Garrett Award. His new book, “Darkness the Color of Snow,” was a Western Writers of America Spur Award winner for Best Long Novel.

Kathryn Conrad is director of the University of Arizona Press. She has held marketing and editorial positions at the University of Missouri Press, Algonquin Books, River Styx literary journal and Great American Short Stories. In 2013 she received the Tucson-Pima County Historical Commission’s Historic Preservation Award for her role in publishing and promoting the high-quality work of scholars and artists working in and writing about Southern Arizona and in initiatives that promote the underwritten histories of indigenous people and under-represented populations.

Jean Hegland is the author of the novels “Into the Forest,” “Windfalls” and the newly-released “Still Time,” as well as a book of creative nonfiction, “The Life Within: Celebration of Pregnancy.” “Into the Forest” has been translated into more than a dozen languages, and a film adaptation, starring Ellen Page and Evan Rachel Wood, will be released in the U.S. in July. She has taught creative writing for many years, both in the U.S. and abroad.

Priyanka Kumar is the author of “Take Wing and Fly Here,” the first book in her “New West Trilogy.” She is the recipient of an Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Award and a New Mexico/ New Visions Governor’s Award, as well as an Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences Fellowship. Her essays and reviews have appeared in the Huffington Post, Los Angeles Review of Books and other publications. She wrote, directed and produced the feature documentary “The Storytelling Martin Scorsese and Peter Rainer. It was “Pick of the Week” in the Los Angeles Times.

Tom Levene is the author of seven novels, with imprints of Random House and Simon & Schuster, including "Party," "manicpixiedreamgirl," "Random" and "Shackled." His novel "Zero" was a 2015 Best Book by the Young Adult Library Services Association, and his book "Sick" recently won the Grand Canyon Reader Award and the Westchester Fiction Award. For the past two years, he has been on the faculty of Your Novel Year Certificate Program at the Virginia G. Piper Center for Creative Writing at Arizona State University.


Nahid Rachlin is a member of the memoir, “Persian Gisha,” four novels, “Jumping Over Fire,” “Foreign M.” Married to a Stranger” and “The Heart’s Desire,” a collection of short stories, “Vida” and a novella, “Crowd of Sorrow.” Her stories have appeared in more than 50 magazines, including The Virginia Quarterly Review, Prairie Schooner, Redbook and Shambhala. She has been interviewed by Terry Gross for NPR’s “All Things Considered.” Her awards include the Bennett Cerf Award, PEN Syndicated Fiction Project Award and a National Endowment for the Arts grant.

José Skinner is the author of two short story collections, “Flight and Other Stories” and “The Tombstone Race.” He holds a Master of Fine Arts in fiction from the Iowa Writers’ Workshop. His fiction and translations have appeared in Quarterly West, Colorado Review, Other Voices, Bilingual Review, Puerto del Sol, and other journals, and his nonfiction in such anthologies as “Desde las Heridas: Transborder Testimonies” and “Our Lost Border: Essays on Life Amid the Narco-Violence.” He has taught creative writing at the University of Iowa and the University of Texas-Pan American, where he co-founded its MFA program in creative writing.

Carolyne Wright is the author of nine books of poetry, including “Mania Klepto: The Book of Eulene,” “A Change of Maps,” nominated for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize, and “Seasons of Mangoes & Brainfire,” winner of the American Book Award. Her work has appeared in "The Best American Poetry 2009," “The Pushcart Prize XXXV: Best of the Small Presses" and in various magazines, including Iowa Review, North American Review, Southern Review and TinQuarters. She has published four books of poetry in translation, including the Chilean poet Jorge Teiellier and in the West Bengal poet Anuradha Mahapatra. She edited the anthology “Raising Lilly Ledbetter: Women Poets Occupy the Workplace.”

Sunday, May 29

9:00 a.m. The Rules for Writers: Lessons Learned Writing and Teaching, Thomas Cobb

10:15 a.m. Edit Yourself Into Print — Giving Your Work a Professional Polish, Michael Carr

Writing Exercises: Character Is Language Is Character, Kevin Canty

11:30 a.m. Reading by Nahid Rachlin

1:00 p.m. Reading and QA, Nancy Mairs

Panel: The Writer's Evolution

Woman’s Work: In the Margin, Carolyne Wright

2:30 p.m. Contest Awards

Special book signings follow the authors’ talks. Antigone Books donates a portion of book sales to support the Pima Writers’ Workshop.

Saturday, May 28

9:00 a.m. "There’s No Biz Like Po-Biz"—Surviving and Thriving in the Writer’s Workspace, Carolyn Wright

10:15 a.m. The Seed of Creativity in a Hostile Soil, Nahid Rachlin

Writing Exercises: Where Are They Now, How Were They Then? Creating Characters from People You Have Known, José Skinner

11:30 a.m. Reading by Jean Hegland

1:00 p.m. Time in Fiction, Kevin Canty

Writing Exercises: Distill Your Book into Three Paragraphs, Priyanka Kumar

2:15 p.m. You Really Should Write a Memoir, Regina Brooks

Writing Exercises: Fiction = Friction, José Skinner

3:30 p.m. Think Like a Publisher: Sales & Marketing 101, Kathryn Conrad

Writing Exercises: Writing the Opening Scene of Your Story, Nahid Rachlin

Support the Pima Writers’ Workshop.

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