

2012 tentative schedule

Friday night – registration and reception at 6 p.m.; Heavy hors d'oeuvres and cash bar
Opening speaker at 7:30 p.m.: Mark Mustian

Saturday

7-7:45 a.m. Breakfast, ballroom

8-8:45 a.m. N.M. Kelby – The Closet Writer's Workshop (Monroe)

An inspirational workshop about how to be a writer in the world with practical advice about writing fiction that sells—and what to *really* expect once it does.

Pat MacEnulty – Memoir workshop (Capital)

9-9:45 a.m. Jessica Morrell – Bitches, Bastards & Bullies: the bad guys of fiction (Monroe)

Pat MacEnulty - Memoir Workshop (Capital)

10-10:45 a.m. Jessica Morrell – Secondary Characters: love 'em or leave 'em (Monroe)

DM Barnes – Get Your Stage Play Published and Produced (Capital)

If you're a playwright, do you need an agent? How do you get your stage plays published and produced? Can playwrights make a living in a competitive market? What are the pros and cons of self publishing your play? What are editors and producers looking for? This in-depth discussion will explore these topics and more.

11-11:45 Philip Deaver – How to incorporate autobiography into fiction (Monroe)

D-M Barnes – Y/A Fiction: You Think You Know Us? (Capital)

Teenagers can spot a fake within the first paragraph. Through discussion and writing exercises, key strategies will be explored on how to craft fiction that will ring true for young adult readers. Additional topics will include: why the young adult market is booming (again), how to stay current with pop culture and teen trends, ways to write contemporary dialogue, tools to create the ultimate teen protagonist, how to market your work to teens and what to do if your teen characters want to have sex...with each other.

12-1:30 Lunch and Keynote: Steve Berry (Ballroom)

1:45-2:30 p.m. Steve Berry – Creating Suspense? Historical research? A plenary in the ballroom.

2:45 p.m.-3:30 Jessica Morrell – Writing the How-To Book (Capital)

Philip Deaver – The Unreliable Narrator (Monroe)

3:45-4:30 p.m. DM Barnes – Shameless: The Author's Art of Self-Promotion (Monroe)

Is it shameless to self-promote? Is being a "careerist" really a bad thing? Are email blasts tacky and impersonal? If so, then how do you get the word out about your work and accomplishments? Discover innovative and unique strategies to garner more attention for your literary work via the Internet. Find out how websites, Facebook, Twitter, MySpace, blogging, email blasts and discussion forums can bring big results. The do's and don'ts of electronic submissions will also be covered during this in-depth discussion.

Jessica Morrell Putting the narrative in narrative nonfiction (Capital)

Sunday (could divide Monroe Room and run 3 sessions in a.m.)

8-8:45 a.m. breakfast (or look into skipping and paying \$350 rent?)

9-9:45 a.m.

Philip Deaver – Short Story workshop (Capital)

NM Kelby – Putting Flesh on the Bones (Side A, Monroe)

Practical tips on how to create the memorable characters that editors love and readers can't get enough of.

10-10:45 a.m. Philip Deaver – Short Story workshop (cont.) (Capital)

Jessica Morrell – Corpses, Cliffhangers, & Other Remedies for Pacing (Side A, Monroe)

11-11:45 a.m. DM Barnes – Coloring Outside of the Lines: Writers Crossing Gender and Cultures (Side B, Monroe)

A workshop for authors who dare to color outside of the lines by creating characters of opposite gender and cultures of their own. Are the voices of writers any less authentic if they don't inhabit the same day-to-day universe that their characters do? Is the literary value of their work diminished if they don't belong to the same social, religious, economical or ethnic community as their protagonists? Can a female author truly capture the essence of masculinity? Can men write women's fiction? And if they do, will their work be judged any differently?

Someone on Ebooks or Self Publishing (Capital)

12-1:30 Lunch with speaker in ballroom

Sunday afternoon

Book festival for public 1:30-4 p.m., Monroe Room