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PWC Monthly Meetings

Phoenix Writers Club meets every 3rd Saturday of the month.

Hybrid MEETING: Saturday, September 16, 12:00 p.m. to 2 p.m. via in person and in Zoom. Meeting details on page 3.

Reminder: Membership Dues due October.

Questions? Email Navissa Kaiser at navissak@hotmail.com, call or text (480) 200-5191.

September Speaker

In September, we welcome Sudha Balagopal!

Flash fiction will be our topic as Sudha Balagopal kicks us off. Take a look at her site for some of her inspiring stories. www.sudhabalagopal.com

Sudha Balagopal's fiction straddles countries and continents, blending and melding ideas from the east and the west.

Her flash fiction collection, *Tiny Untruths*, from Alternating Current Press was published in April 2024.

In July of 2021, her novella-in-flash, *Things I Can't Tell Amma* was published by Ad Hoc Fiction (UK). She is the author of a novel, *A New Dawn*, and two short story collections, *There are Seven Notes*, and *Missing and Other Stories*.

Her fiction has been published in journals around the world. Her work has been selected for Best Microfiction, Best Small Fiction, and the Wigleaf Top 50.



A Note from the PWC President

Welcome back, Members!

Ah, September! You are the doorway to the season that awakens my soul. Peggy Toney Horton

This quote matches my soul exactly. September has always meant beginnings to me, shaking the sand from my mind and manifesting the creative year ahead. So, it's only natural that the beginning of the Phoenix Writers Club year shares my thoughts.



We are excited to be back in person while also offering the options of Zoom or a recording. We continue our dedication to providing speakers of various genres to educate and enlighten our members. And most importantly we offer the camaraderie of fellow writers as we share our writing lives.

There are lots of writing workshops, conferences, etc. in the Valley going on so take advantage of the opportunities to heighten your writing skills and hang with the creative community.

Our newsletter is filled with the latest PWC news; the deadline for Uta Behrens contests, meeting info, dues, elections, and more. Keep in touch with us through our Facebook page ([13 phoenixwritersclub - Search Results | Facebook](#)) and emails and we always welcome involvement from members to keep our club rockin' and rollin' as we celebrate 100 years in 2026!

Write on,
Cindi Reiss

Membership Dues

Reminder: Annual membership dues payable in October are \$35. Either give Navissa a check at Gallagher's during our September meeting or send a check, or money order addressed to PWC via snail mail to: Navissa Kaiser, 5715 E. Alder Ave. Mesa, AZ 85206.

If you are a new member, please include a note with your physical address, phone number, email, and genre. We do not share your information outside the club!

Thank you!

PWC Critique Writing Group

Our critique workshop meets via Zoom every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month, from 6:00-8:00. Email Bernadette Inclan at bsbincoin@aol.com for information.

PWC August 2023 Meeting

By Bernadette Inclan

Took a summer break.



September Hybrid Meeting—September 16

We are excited to announce our second hybrid meeting! Please join us in-person or virtually on September 16 for speaker Sudha Balagopal !

If you choose to attend **in-person**:

Join us at **12 p.m.** at **Gallagher's Sports Grill** at 7575 N 16th St, Phoenix, AZ 85020

Members: \$25 CASH ONLY for lunch, which includes an entree, non-alcoholic beverage, tax and tip.

Guests: \$30 CASH ONLY for lunch, which includes an entree, non-alcoholic beverage, tax and tip.

If you choose to attend **virtually**:

Please log-in to our virtual Zoom meeting space at **12:30 p.m.** when we will begin our club and member announcements.

The speaker will begin at 1 p.m. and our hybrid meeting will adjourn at 2 p.m.

We will have someone monitoring Zoom so that anyone who attends virtually will be able to share any announcements, comments, or ask the speaker questions. Recordings will also be available for members who are unable to attend.

We look forward to continuing with a hybrid meeting option and are grateful for your grace and understanding as we keep attempting this new meeting format!





Dear Friends,

We're reaching out to you as past participants in [Desert Nights, Rising Stars Writers Conference](#). This year the conference will be held October 12-14, 2023. There is still time to join us. **The early bird rate of \$225 will be active until September 7, 2023**

Held on the campus of Arizona State University (ASU) in Tempe, Arizona, this three-day writing conference offers participants intensive writing classes and workshops with over 60 presenters and over 70 sessions.

Our 2023 theme is “Reimagine, Recreate, Reinvent, and Revision.” The conference keynote speaker is 23rd US Poet Laureate Joy Harjo. Award-winning faculty include Robert Boswell, Felicia Rose Chavez, Victoria Chang, Ramona Emerson, Brandon Hobson, Cynthia Hogue, Naomi Shihab Nye, Peter Turchi and many more stellar writers.

You can take a look at our [complete faculty list](#) and view our [conference schedule](#) on the website at www.piper.edu.

In addition to our early bird rate of \$225, we offer discounted rates of \$75.00 for students and people with disabilities. We also offer discounted rates of \$95.00 for seniors, military personnel, and Arizona educators. Go [here](#) to learn more or to register.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me directly at sfblack@asu.edu if you have any questions or if I can help in any way.

We hope you return to celebrate writing and writers with us and look forward to seeing you at the 2023 Desert Nights, Rising Stars!

Warmly,

Sheila Black (she/her/hers)

Assistant Director
Virginia G. Piper Center for Creative Writing
Arizona State University

Uta Behrens Contests

1. Poetry
2. Non-Fiction Books

Last chance to get your submissions in!

The rules are:

Must be current in PWC dues as of September 30th and a local Phoenix Writers Club member.

If you are not a member and interested in joining, it is \$35 a year and email Treasurer Navissa Kaiser at navissak@hotmail.com for details.

Deadline for submissions: September 15th, 2023. Bring entries to PWC meeting on September 16th.

Poetry contest

Please submit one completed poem.

Must rhyme

Must be at least 20 lines

Award \$75

Non-fiction book contest

Non-fiction includes memoirs, books of essays, short stories, and books of poetry published or finished manuscripts as of 2021 and at least 120 pages.

Award \$300

The winners of both the poetry and non-fiction book contests will be announced and presented their awards at the October 21, 2023 meeting.

Thank you Uta and get writing everyone!

September Nominations

Hello Members!

As the Nominating Chair, I present you the slate for board member elections for September's meeting:

President - Cindi Reiss
Vice President - Jenny Bilskie-Smith
Secretary - Bernadette Inclan
Treasurer - Navissa Kaiser

See you Sept 16!

Ilsa Manning
Nominating Chair

The Business of Authorship

As Cindi said in her President's greeting, a lot of workshops have been scheduled. Here's another that you might find interesting.

THE BUSINESS OF AUTHORSHIP

with Ryder & Susan

Join [Metro Phoenix Shut Up & Write](#) and [POP](#) at a workshop series about the business side of being an author

LOCATION— [Foothills Library](#)
19055 N 57th Ave · Glendale, AZ

DATES / TIME

10/02/23 - *Up Your Game: Emotionally Intelligent Strategies for Authors*
RSVP: <https://www.meetup.com/shutupandwritephoenixaz/events/295320999/>

11/06/23 - *Trends & Analytics 2023-2024 and Budgeting for Your Book Launch/Series Launch*
RSVP: <https://www.meetup.com/shutupandwritephoenixaz/events/295321325/>

12/04/23 - *Literary Industry & Agents 101*
RSVP: <https://www.meetup.com/shutupandwritephoenixaz/events/295321346/>

If your plans change, please switch your RSVP from “Yes” to “No” to free up the space for another writer.

Each workshop runs from 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM.

COST / REGISTRATION

Workshops are free.
Sign-up is required.
RSVP via our Meetup calendar.

WHAT DO I NEED TO BRING?

Bring your favorite note-taking tools. Foothills Library has free WIFI access.

FOOD/BEVERAGES?

No food or beverages (except water bottles) are permitted.

PARKING

Free parking is available at the site.

NOTE

Workshops are for adult writers only; no childcare at the site.

Arizona State Poetry Society

In support of our Arizona State Poetry Society (ASPS), we'd like to provide you with the following information.

The Page to Stage Journey

—by Ben Gardea, aka B-JAM, Workshop Facilitator
(see attached flyer or go to azpoetry.net/page-to-stage-workshop/)

Note: The Arizona State Poetry Society (ASPS) sponsored workshop facilitator Ben Gardea for the 2023 Blackberry Peach National Poetry Championship. He finished in the top 10.

Poets across the valley are earnestly exploring ways to perform their art in an authentically compelling way. Be it at open mics or competitive slams, any poet can affirm the inherent challenge in bridging the gap between a page of poetry and a performance of poetry. After all, poetry is an incredibly nuanced and dynamic art form in that even the seemingly most minor of modifications can drastically alter the energy of the delivery.

In this 1:00-3:00 workshop (October 7th-Tempe and 14th-Tucson), participants will learn the fundamental techniques of delivering their poem in a compelling way. These sessions will be interactive in nature to encourage collaborative energy and ensure engaged participation. Participants will explore the concepts of vocal range and diction in addition to stage presence and choreography.

Katie Sarah Zale, TAPS President (Tucson branch of ASPS) will lead these two workshops in anticipation of and preparation for the January **2024 ASPS Annual Conference** where volunteers from the workshops will demonstrate their learning side-by-side with SLAM poets, i.e., competitive spoken word artists.

The Journey—In conjunction with the workshop series and January 2024 conference, Katie will lead and organize a regional slam tournament, such that the winner will qualify for the Blackberry Peach National Poetry Championship. The only requirement to enter the regional slam tournament is to become a member of ASPS. Ultimately, the goal is to support poets through their journey, from page to stage and beyond. In doing so, we establish our legacy and inspire new generations of Arizona poets to come.

Local Writing Clubs

PWC may be the longest running writing club; however, there are others in the area you might like.

- Shut up and Write—Shut Up & Write hosts free in-person and online writing events for writers all over the world
- Tempe Science Fiction Writing Meetup—Thursday Evening South Tempe. Come write and talk about writing craft with other local writers. All skill levels welcome
- Scottsdale Society of Women Writers—<https://brooksgoldmannpublishing.com/scottsdale-society-of-women-writers/>
- Arizona State Poetry Society (ASPS) - azpoetry.net

Check the internet for others—some may be close to your area.



PWC Contact Info

President	Cindi Reiss	writeoncindi@gmail.com
Ex-officio President	Uta Behrens	602-441-3888
Vice President	Jenny Bilskie-Smith	jenny12366577@gmail.com
Secretary	Bernadette Inclan	bsbincoin@aol.com
Treasurer & Membership	Navissa Kaiser	navissak@hotmail.com
Speakers	TBD	
Website/Social Media	Ilsa Manning	ilsamanningwrites@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor	D'Anne Pientka	azdanne@gmail.com
Writers Critique Workshop	Bernadette Inclan	bsbincoin@aol.com
WOW! Coordinator	Cindi Reiss	writeoncindi@gmail.com
Historian	TBD	
Phoenix Writers Club website	phoenixwritersclub.com	

Local Writing Activities

Central Phoenix Writing Workshop – check their website—they have several workshops scheduled https://www.meetup.com/CentralPhoenixWritingWorkshop/?_cookie-check=mzzcOalgDI-tuB9n

Write Here, Write Now, Virtual pop-up workshops each month, hosted online, co-presented by Phoenix College and ASU's Piper Center for Creative Writing . Go to Changing Hands to register. 6:30-8:00. <https://www.changinghands.com/upcoming-events>

Writing Workshops, <https://writingworkshops.com/>, lists all sorts of upcoming workshops for writers.

Eventbrite: Use the link below and add the filter “writing”. The upcoming events appear. They have a few workshops scheduled for September. <https://www.eventbrite.com/d/az--phoenix/writing/>

Phoenix Writers Network: phoenixwritersnetwork.com

The **Tucson Arts Poetry Series (TAPS)** was started Feb. 2023 by Katie Sarah Zale, Bonnie Wehle, and Janet Rives. Each 4th Saturday of the month, at 3:30 pm, two Arizona poets are highlighted reading published work. The event takes place in 25,000 square feet of breathtaking art and artifacts. TAPS is sponsored, in part, by the **Arizona State Poetry Society (ASPS)**. This reading is supported by a grant from **Poets & Writers**, made possible by **Tucson Poetry Society (TPS)**

LOCATION: Tucson Desert Art [Museum](#), 7000 E. Tanque Verde Rd and Sabino Canyon