

# SLCC Community Writing Center



*Strange Jetty Moon* by Stephen Speckman

## Wake of Our Waning Sea Lake as Legacy/Lake as Future: Great Salt Lake Anthology 2024

The Community Writing Center is part of the Great Salt Lake Collaborative (GSLC), a Solutions Journalism collaborative of more than a dozen Utah organizations working together to share stories about Great Salt Lake and ways to protect our city's dying namesake.

We are proud to announce the publication of the 2024 anthology, "The Wake of Our Waning Sea, Lake as Legacy/Lake as Future" Community Anthology 2024.

"Wake of Our Waning Sea" creates a space for Utah to process the slow and somber loss of the Great Salt Lake.

The photographs, poems, and narratives included within this work embody that of wake for the Great Salt Lake. It is a remembrance of our very own sea, of the disassembled soul that once was a large part of Northern Utah. It is a communal vigil for our framework, our namesake. It is a call for an awakening of our diminishing home.

As our days with the Great Salt Lake begin to dwindle, we will need one another's experiences, memories, and feelings to lean on. In doing so, we can earnestly ask for a saving, for a reawakening.

This anthology will be published this Fall and celebrated at the 2024 Great Salt Lake Anthology Gala/Launch on September 19th, 2024.

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**FUNDED BY**

Salt Lake  
Community  
College

**OPEN TO EVERYONE**

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# THE CWC'S FALL WORKSHOPS

All workshops will be held at the CWC: 210 East 400 South #8, SLC, UT 84111

## WRITING AS A JOURNEY OF THE SOUL

Join us as we present a workshop on writing that explores your connections with your inner-self, others, nature, universe, spirituality, or your cultural heritage in a meaningful and creative way. So whether you are interested in writing for wellness or mindfulness, as a meditative exercise, or as a spiritual practice this workshop is for you.

- 1-part workshop
- Saturday, August 24, 12-1:30 pm
- Cost: Free. Registration is required.

## INSPIRATION THROUGH EMULATION WITH KATHLEEN J. WOODS

*Has a piece of poetry or prose ever made you think, "Wow! I wish I could write like that?" In this workshop, you'll break open a favorite short piece or passage to discover how and why it works, mapping the patterns and rhythm of effective craft. Then, in a supportive group of other writers, you'll weave your own ideas through that outline, learning from a writing style by actively trying it on. We'll also discuss ways to apply this process to other forms of art, like music and painting. Discover how mimicry can lead you to something completely new!*

*Kathleen J. Woods is the author of the novel *White Wedding*, published by University of Alabama Press and Fiction Collective Two. She earned an M.F.A in Creative Writing from the University of Colorado at Boulder, where she served as Managing Editor for *Timber Journal*. She is an alum of SF Writers Grotto Fellowship, the Tin House Summer Writers Conference, and the Wellstone Center Residency. Her work has been featured in *Electric Literature*, *Literary Hub*, *Pacifica Literary Review*, *Bitch*, *Western Humanities Review*, and others. She lives in the San Francisco Bay Area, where she works at a coastal library and writes under a pile of cats.*

- 1-part workshop
- Thursday, September 5, 5-6 pm
- Cost: \$15. Registration is required.

## THE BUSINESS OF WRITING WITH ELIZABETH SUGGS

**Part 1:** *Mastering Pitches, Queries, and Blurbs: A Workshop for All Authors*

*Learn essential techniques for capturing the attention of traditional publishers and readers alike, making it invaluable for self-published authors. We'll cover crafting compelling pitches, writing effective query letters, and creating engaging blurbs that attract agents, publishers, and readers. Gain practical strategies to boost your success in the competitive publishing landscape, regardless of your publishing path.*

**Part 2:** *SMART Goals for Authors: Achieve Your Writing Aspirations*

*Setting Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound goals will help you stay focused, organized, and motivated. Whether you're aiming to finish a novel, improve your writing skills, or grow your readership, this workshop will provide practical strategies to help you achieve your aspirations. Don't miss this opportunity to take control of your writing journey and reach your goals with confidence.*

- 2-part workshop
- Saturdays, September 14 and 21, time TBD pm
- Cost: \$30. Registration is required.

## GRIMDARK FICTION

*Want to add some edge to your fiction stories? Why not try some grimdark? Grimdark is a subgenre of fiction with a tone, style, or setting that is particularly dystopian and bleak. Whether your stories take place in a morally grey sci-fi future or a grim fantasy world, come learn how to make your stories gritty in our grimdark writing workshop.*

- 1-part workshop
- Tuesday, September 24, 6-8 pm
- Cost: \$15. Registration is required.

*Can You Meet Where I Am* by Paola Ramos



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## WHAT IS WRITING ANYWAY?

The invention of writing systems and their spread across the globe can be traced back to thousands of years ago. This human-made technology has forever changed the way we think, connect and communicate. This workshop will explore social histories of writing as well as what writing is and can do across many different contexts.

- 1-part workshop
- Saturday, September 28, 1-3 pm
- Cost: \$15. Registration is required.

## AFTER SCHOOL SCARY STORIES

Calling all middle schoolers! Get into the Halloween spirit, and join us for an after-school workshop all about horror and spooky fantasy. We'll discuss monsters, magic, and different strategies for giving your readers goosebumps. You'll have a chance to start writing your own fantasy or horror story and submit to our Salt Lake Teens Write Anthology. Ages 11-14.

- 1 Part workshop
- Wednesday October 2, 4-6 pm
- Cost: FREE. Registration is required

## WRITING ABOUT CHARACTERS WITH DISABILITIES WITH JONATHAN REDDOCH

Join us for a judgment-free exploration of characters with disabilities. We will focus on writing with sensitivity, authenticity, and nuance. We will create characters that are more than their disabilities or mere stereotypes. Including tips, examples, and hands-on activities.

- 1-part workshop
- Thursday, October 3, 6-8 pm
- Cost: \$15. Registration is required.

## BOOK DESIGN AND LAYOUT

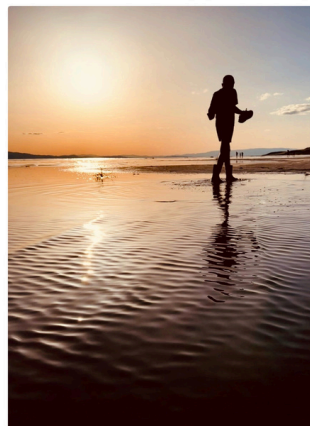
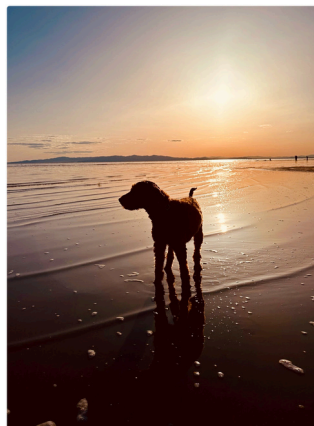
Learn the basics of book design! We will cover designing both the cover and inside pages of a book. This workshop will walk you through how to set up a document in InDesign, import text, layout pages, and add details like pages numbers and images to create an appealing design. No need to have a book finished, this workshop is for everyone in any stage of the creative process!

- 1-part workshop
- Saturday, October 5, 12-3 pm
- Cost: \$15. Registration is required.

## PERFECTING FEAR: A HORROR WRITING WORKSHOP

Summon your inner horror author in this workshop designed to not only get under your skin but also sharpen your writing. During the three days, we will delve into the darkness that is the horror genre exploring topics such as: the evolution of horror; the many sub-genres within the horror realm; how to build dread and tension using different techniques; how to identify and properly use horror tropes; how to effectively utilize blood, gore, and violence in your writing. This is a hands-on workshop, so come expecting to get your hands bloody with plenty of writing exercises and feedback. By the end, you'll have the knowledge and tools to craft creepy and disturbing tales that will stick with your readers well after they've put the story down. No prior horror writing experience needed.

- 3 part workshop
- Tuesdays October 8, 15, and 22, 6-7:30 pm
- Cost: \$30. Registration is required.



*Great Salt Lake Photography by Niki Challis*

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## FANTASY AND HORROR FOR YOUNG WRITERS

What makes something “spooky?” Join the Community Writing Center for a morning discussing the spooky and fantastical. This workshop focuses on writing horror and fantasy. Come learn about the undead, the eldritch, and the otherworldly, and explore different ways to add fright and suspense to your writing. You'll also have some time to workshop your own horror stories and submit to our Salt Lake Teens Write Anthology. Ages 15-18.

- 1 part workshop
- Saturday, October 12, 9:30-1:30
- Cost: FREE. Registration is Required

## SHE SAID: MONSTROUS WOMEN

Folktales, myths, legends, and other monster stories contain a myriad of monstress women from Medusa to the aswang to the witch to the werewolf to the siren and many more. These monstress women were often originally portrayed as deviant, wicked, deceptive, and dangerous. In this workshop, we'll explore how girls and women have been represented and monstrous and how monstress women in storytelling across time, place, and tradition are sites of cultural struggle as well reclamation. We'll work on re-imagining and reclaiming monstress women as symbols of stories we want to tell about girlhood and womanhood in Utah and beyond. No previous writing experience or preparation required!

- 1 part workshop
- Wednesday, October 23, 6-8 pm
- Cost: FREE. Registration is Required

## CREATING MONSTERS WITH JONATHAN REDDOCH AND ELIZABETH SUGGS

Ever wanted to make your own horrific creation? In this workshop, we'll go through the steps to making not just any monster, but a memorable monster for your story. You will have a chance to share your work and get feedback from two seasoned horror publishers and the group!

- 1-part workshop
- Saturday, October 26, 1-3 pm
- Cost: \$15. Registration is required.

## STARTING FROM THE MIDDLE: OVERCOMING WRITERS BLOCK WITH ELIZABETH SUGGS

This workshop is designed to help writers overcome writer's block by encouraging them to start their stories from the middle. By focusing on the middle of the story first, participants can build momentum and later develop the beginning and end, resulting in a well-rounded narrative. This can be in any genre, but I'll give examples mostly in speculative fiction.

1-part workshop

- Saturday, November 2, 1-4 pm
- Cost: \$15. Registration is required.

## NANOWRIMO'23

November is National Novel Writing Month! Join us for this fly-by-the-seat-of-your-pants approach to novel writing. We'll explore techniques for writing 50,000 words in 30 days and attempt to end the month with a rough draft. Don't worry about mistakes; that's part of the process. Coaching sessions will also be available throughout the month.

- 3-part workshop
- Thursdays, November 7, 14, 21, 6-8 pm
- Cost: \$45. Registration is required.



*Snow Egret Refuge* by Stephen Speckman

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## BEYOND THE DUNGEON: TABLETOP GAMING FOR BEGINNERS

Are you interested in tabletop role play games and looking for a place to start? Join us for an evening workshop where we talk about imaginative world building and collaborative storytelling through TTRPGs. We'll discuss the broad mechanics of tabletop gaming, different tools and techniques you use to build your world as a Gamemaster and create our own characters using the Dungeons & Dragons 5th Edition rules.

- 1-part workshop
- Saturday, November 9, 12-2 pm
- Cost: \$15. Registration is required.

## GRANT WRITING

Join the SLCC Community Writing Center for an interactive workshop on the basics of grant writing. We'll cover the basics of grant proposals and explore strategies of persuasive storytelling to make a strong case for your projects and organization.

- 2-part workshop
- Saturdays, December 7, 14, 10-1 pm
- Cost: \$50 (fee can be waived on request; contact [kati.lewis@slcc.edu](mailto:kati.lewis@slcc.edu)). Registration is required.

## PET MEMOIRS

We love to read and write about our animal friends, whether it is through personal photo scrapbooks, stories about incredible animal adventures, or following our favorite cat personality on social media. Join the CWC in this workshop celebrating our favorite furry, scaly, and feathered friends as we explore the ways we connect with animals and one another through writing.

- 1-part workshop
- Tuesday December 10, 6-7:30 pm
- Cost: \$15. Registration is required.

**ALL WORKSHOP FEES CAN  
BE WAIVED UPON REQUEST.**

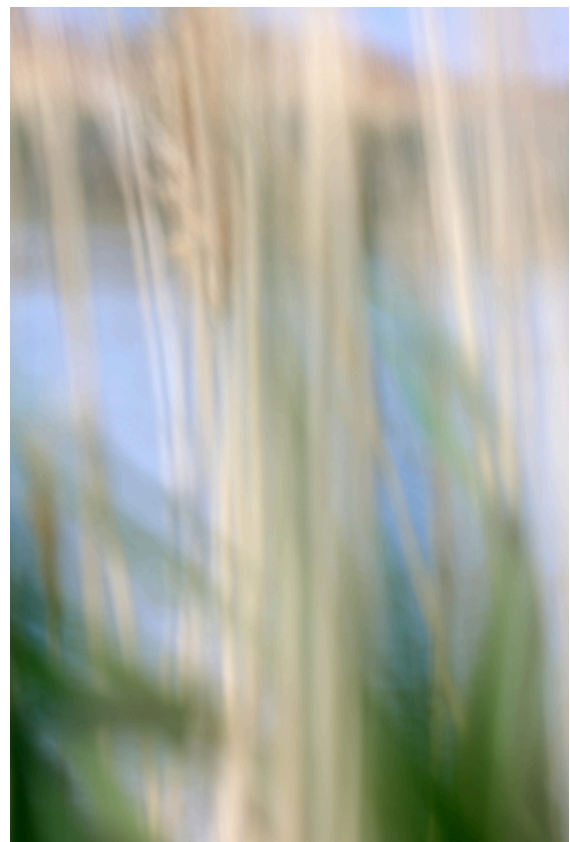
**email: [kati.lewis@slcc.edu](mailto:kati.lewis@slcc.edu)**

**for fee waivers.**

## DEBUNKING MYTHS/MISCONCEPTIONS: A POETRY WORKSHOP

When you think of poetry, what first comes to mind? Shakespeare? Rhyming? Form? Inferred truths and deeper meanings that seem impossible to figure out? Join us in debunking these common misconceptions through a workshop all about poetry. In this workshop, we will reflect over the myths versus the realities that the genre entails whilst reading through and writing alongside written works by women and queer poets. This genre contains a diverse and expressive world... let's discover it together!

- 1-part workshop
- Date is TBD
- Cost: \$15. Registration is required.
- Location is TBD



*Refuge by Stephen Speckman*

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# NOTES ON SUMMER FUN WITH THE CWC

## CWC and the U of U Partner for an Awesome Youth Writing Camp

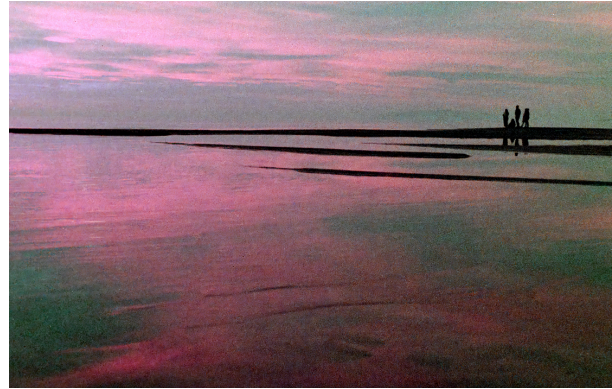
Daniel Baird

For the week of July 15th through the 17th several youth gathered at the Youth Education Center at the University of Utah for the “Everyone Can Write Youth Camp”.

Christie Toth, Sophie Gauthier, Elisar Soueidi, and I led workshops ranging from memoir writing to poetry to character creation and journaling for mental health.

The youth especially enjoyed creating their characters on HeroForge.com such as a frog warrior and a film noir style hit man. One day was set aside for learning about college applications, scholarships, and writing resumes. On the final day everyone gathered with those parents who could attend at the CWC to share something written during the week.

Pieces read included imaginative short stories and moving memoirs about family experiences. At the end, the youth asked if next summer the camp could be extended to 2 weeks instead of just 1!



*Mirror* by Jiovani Medina

## School's Out For Summer!

Sophie Gauthier

School's Out for Summer brought together middle school students for a week of creative writing and collaborative storytelling, facilitated by CWC staff Daniel Baird, Elisar Soueidi, and me.

Writers composed creative and clever limericks, moving personal poems, gripping horror stories, and political dramas set in medieval kingdoms.

Some of our writers shared snippets of the projects they were already working on, while others began brand new stories with characters that they developed over the course of the week.

One of my personal highlights was the day that campers worked together to build a map of a unique fantasy world, complete with giants, deadly sandpits, and enchanted railroads.

The creativity and thoughtfulness of these young writers blew us away!

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# COMMUNITY VOICES

## A Former Skier Asks Questions About Nomenclature

Sophie Gauthier

“Microglacier” the skier calls  
a patch of snow in August, hoping  
it remains year- round

as in “microscope” -- evidence of change  
splashed across a plastic slip  
made visible by that blaze of light

Who told me the snow-fields dotting  
Bald Mountain might count as glaciers?  
We have no metric, no minimum requirement

of depth or shape. Could the patch of ice  
protected by the shade of a ski lift  
be called a glacier, if it remains?

I used to comb hillsides with binoculars  
searching for these muddy strips  
which to the touch resemble

bags of sugar poorly stored  
and crumbling. I skied every month;  
I carved ephemeral spirals

though microglaciers, watching them  
rot like animal tracks, until winter  
or another fanatic interred them.



Heaven and Earth by Janiece Murray



is *fanatics* the proper term for us?  
As in “fanum,” the temple of zealots  
and half-possessed priests. A type

of ritual, to be sure, donning neoprene  
bare-legged down to our boots.  
I want to believe we worshipped

the microglaciers, in our way. We imagined  
glaciers as living tongues of ice, which hulked  
and crawled across arctic landscapes

our slopes only specters of these  
blue behemoths. “Microglaciers”  
which is not a lexicon word

or a word at all. What do we call a shrunken ice floe  
whose mass no longer inspires grandeur?  
It trickles its flesh through valleys newly lush

of wildflowers, as retreating crevasses expel  
the bones of recreators in a gush of fluid  
leaving only shaded piles of snow

Do we call it “microglacier?” As in traversable  
easily skied, such that criss-cross lines mark  
the snow like pork-skin bound for a fryer

## INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING?

learn how to get involved

visit <a href="http://slcc.edu/cwc/">slcc.edu/cwc/</a>	call (801) 957-2192	210 E 400 S, #8
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## COMMUNITY VOICES

### Are You Listening?

Mia Manfredi

exhaust is the  
only thing left  
free of charge.

my limbs  
kiss it, after being plucked from the sea,

and spit out  
into a large pile of ruby.

here, stillness is  
indistinguishable from  
suffocation.

who will make my mother a grandmother?

here, warmth no longer means  
love  
nor laughter.

when will i hear the midsummer song again?

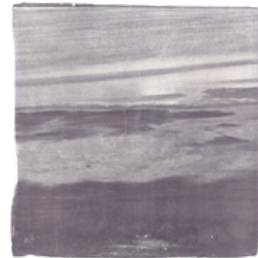
the gull's body,  
the dead solidier,  
the barren vessel,  
the life taken off the hook

and slammed into the forgotten corner of the room.

all lathered in dust,

here, i've forgotten  
how  
to dance in the evening's light .

how will i ever remember?



Archive by Bjorn Johansson

### INTERESTED IN FREE WRITING COACHING?

make an appointment online or by phone

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## COMMUNITY VOICES

### Smog and Suffocation

Hannah Musgrave

I lay with my friends in the park and from the grassy hilltop we can see downtown Salt Lake City, folded into sheets of pillowy smog

Tomorrow we plan to go on a hike; to where the elevation is higher and the air is cleaner

We will walk amongst trees that tower over us and hear birds that sing, maybe spot a deer or a porcupine

And we will forget about other places where Mother Nature is losing her battle

In the park we lay on a blanket and eat cheese and berries we collected from the farmers market

We fantasize skiing, the Wasatch mountains, and the things we love about Salt Lake City

We talk about how we may not be able to live here much longer

And then we go back to talking about the farmers markets, the thrift stores, bike rides, the unique collection of people this city attracts

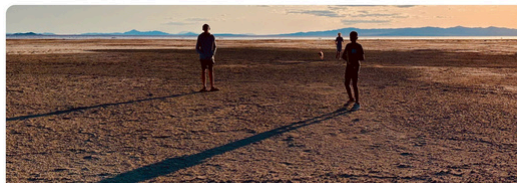
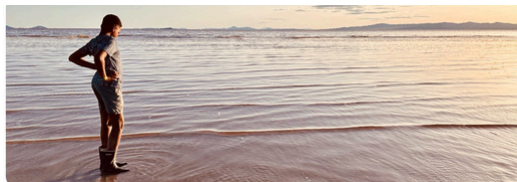


I love it here, we agree

The sky bows to nightfall as the sun turns a fluorescent pink; we note on how both beautiful and disturbing that is

How beautiful to have so many conveniences and to not have to change anything about our lifestyles, how disturbing are the sacrifices we make for that

*Can You Meet Where I Am* by Paola Ramos



### INTERESTED IN FREE WRITING COACHING?

book an appointment online or by phone

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# WRITING GROUPS

## **Get It Written!**

This is a welcoming, inclusive space for you to focus on your writing passion around other writers. There are no word count or genre requirements, no critiques (unless requested), and most importantly, no pressure. It's just you, your passion project(s) and other writers ready and eager to support each other.

- 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month, 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- Location: CWC, 210 East 400 South #8

## **Poetry Writing Group**

Welcome to the Poetry Writing Group! Together we'll learn about reading, writing, and publishing poetry. Beginners are welcome—this group aims to help you grow as a poet, no matter what level you're starting from. Feel free to bring a poem you've written so we can workshop it together, but no worries if you don't have the material yet: we will spend part of each meeting doing poetry exercises to help everyone get comfortable.

- 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
- Location: Marmalade Library, 280 West 500 North

## **What's Your Story?: Creative Nonfiction Writing Group**

Everyone has a story to tell--so, what's your story? Our writing group welcomes writers at any and all skill levels to join us in sharing true stories through creative nonfiction writing. Whether you want to write about a silly encounter you had at a grocery store, or a life-changing conversation you had with your grandma, we want to create a fun, supportive environment in which writers can authentically share any experience. As a group, we strive to empower you as a writer through discussion, collaboration, and ultimately, storytelling. Wherever you are in the writing process, from the idea stage to the final draft, we look forward to collaborating with you!

- 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month, 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- Location: CWC, 210 East 400 South #8

## **Queer, Trans and Non-Binary Writing Group**

We are a fun and laid-back group of people, who enjoy getting together over writing. We welcome all to write, read and share their stories.

- 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- Location: CWC, 210 East 400 South #8

## **Day Writers**

Feeling Creative? Like to write? Come join our Day Writers writing group! We welcome writing of ANY genre and at ANY level. Whether you are just getting started or are already published, we have a great appreciation of the writing craft. Our participants are a diverse group who love to share stories, listen and learn. We will be writing together and reading out loud to one another. The goal is to help the writer feel good about their piece. Please note that although it is not required, writers in this group are encouraged to bring a short piece of writing with them to receive feedback.

- 1st and 3rd Thursdays from 1:30-3:00 PM
- Location: CWC, 210 East 400 South #8

## **Escritores De Utah Writing Group**

Escritores de Utah es un grupo donde puedes acudir y aprender de los distintos estilos poéticos, se te presentarán herramientas para que puedas entender y escribir desde prosa hasta un soneto.

- 3rd Saturday from 2:00-4:00 PM
- Location: CWC, 210 East 400 South #8

## **Playhouse Writing Cohort (PWC)**

By request from enthusiastic local writers, we present to you: The Playhouse Writing Cohort! The PWC is a community-driven writing group whose goal is to develop and share the results of their passion for the performing arts. While concentrating on the tenets of playwriting and its relationship to other art forms, the PWC affords a safe environment for writers of all levels and backgrounds to submit their works in progress to table readings and comprehensive workshopping. Nothing is off the table, and no one is beholden to adhere to any given topic. However, the PWC focuses on different elements and principles of playwriting, periodically alternating themes and topics according to the group's drive.

- 1st Tuesday from 6:45-7:50 PM
  - Location: CWC, 210 East 400 South #8
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# ANTHOLOGIES

## Wake of Our Waning Sea: 2024 Launch and Gala

The SLCC Community Writing Center (CWC) and the Great Salt Lake Collaborative will host the "Wake of Our Waning Sea" Launch and Gala on Thursday Sept. 19, from 6:30-8:30 pm at Patagonia (2292 Highland Dr., Salt Lake City, UT 84106).

We invite each artist, writer, photographer, and creator who will be published in the anthology to celebrate the beautiful showcase of their work alongside us! Patagonia will generously provide refreshments as well as a space for the gala.

Everyone who was published in "Wake of Our Waning Sea" will be given a copy of the anthology. We will hand out copies to the creators who attend the gala, however we will have more available for those who were published at the SLCC Community Writing Center. If you were unable to attend the launch, please stop by the center to receive your copy.



## Salt Lake Young Writers and Anthology

The Salt Lake Young Writers program is a series of intensive writing workshops to help middle and high school aged teens develop their skills and passion for creative writing.

Teens entering grades 7-12 this fall are eligible to participate in different cohorts, workshops, and programs throughout the year.

The next middle school cohort will meet for After School Scary Stories, a 1-part workshop on Wednesday, October 2, 4-6 pm at the CWC. The next high school cohort will meet Saturday, October 12, 9:30 am -1:30 pm for Fantasy and Horror for Young Writers.

There will be other intensive workshop series throughout the academic year. Participants in each cohort will work together and individually to create amazing works of writing and engage in their creative passions. Teens are welcome to participate in multiple Young Writers events throughout the year.

We encourage all teens 11-19 years old in the Salt Lake Valley to submit their poetry, short stories, short memoirs, personal essays, photography, artwork, etc. for publication in our Salt Lake Young Writers Anthology.

