The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has designated Iowa City, Iowa, the world’s third City of Literature, making the community part of the UNESCO Creative Cities Network. The Creative Cities Network was designed to promote the social, economic and cultural development of cities in both the developed and the developing world. The cities that apply to join the network seek to promote their local creative scene; they share interest in UNESCO’s mission toward cultural diversity.
The seminar fee is $290 if received by June 15th, and $375 afterwards.
The fee does not include housing, transportation or food.
The deadline for registration and payment is July 4th and no refunds are available after that date.
We reserve the right to cancel the seminar if there is insufficient enrollment. Enrollment is limited to 16 participants.

24 contact hours of continuing education credit for social workers is offered for full participation.

Guest speakers will share experiences with projects related to creative writing for social change, journaling for personal growth, and/or the written word as a tool for enhancing social justice.

The annual Creative Writing Seminar is coordinated by Mercedes Bern-Klug, PhD, MSW, MA. Dr. Bern-Klug is on the faculty in the School of Social Work and is Director of The University of Iowa Aging Studies Program.

Ellen Szabo, M.Ed. is the founder of Write Now, practicing and promoting the use of creative writing for personal investigation, enrichment and social change. She earned her B.A. from Harvard College, with a concentration in English and American Literature, and her M.Ed. from Columbia University Teacher’s College, in Counseling Psychology. She writes and teaches with focus on how innovation and creativity can illuminate, inspire and advocate compassionate transformation.

2014 Creative Writing Seminar participants