SSW Creative Writing Workshop: 2018

Room 332 North Hall (3rd floor)

Day 1 -  Friday July 20, 2018

10:00 – 10:30am  Registration -- coffee provided  (Consider parking in the NORTH CAMPUS ramp—right next door to the School of Social Work. Enter the ramp from Madison Street)

10:30 – 12:30  Welcome and introduction to creative writing - Ellen Szabo

12:30 - 1:30  Lunch --on your own

1:30 - 3:30  Ellen Szabo  Mini-Lecture: *Intro to Creative Writing for Social Work*
Skill: identifying context for creative writing in practice

Mini-Lecture: *Writing to Feel Better*
Skill: effective self-expression: fiction as memoir

4:00 - 5:15  Guest speaker: Iris Waichler, MSW, LCSW Patient Advocate and Author

*Role Reversal, How to Take Care of Yourself and Your Aging Parents* winner of:
- Finalist Best Book Award 2016
- Finalist Indie Excellence Award 2016
- Living Now Silver Award Winner 2017
- Honorable Mention Readers Favorite Award 2017
- Book Excellence Award 2017
- Runner Up Award Florida Book Festival 2018.

*Riding the Infertility Roller Coaster: A Guide to Educate and Inspire:*
Mom’s Choice Gold Award Winner for Best Book of the Year.
Winner of the National Parenting Publications (NAPPA) Gold Award for best book of the year.
Winner of the finalist award for Foreword Magazine 2007 non-fiction Book of the Year. [https://www.facebook.com/RoleReversal1/](https://www.facebook.com/RoleReversal1/)

Dinner today and all days, is on your own.

Note: Free outdoor music on downtown Iowa City pedestrian mall by the fountain. Consider walking past Iowa City’s legendary independently owned book store, “Prairie Lights” (15 S. Dubuque Street) (Prairie Lights is open 10am - 9pm on Monday-Sat; 10am- 6pm on Sundays. They have an upstairs coffee and pastry shop.)
Day 2 -  Saturday July 21, 2018

Room 332 North Hall

8:30 – 10:30  Write on your own.
Option to schedule 30 minute individual coaching session with Ellen Szabo

11:00 - Noon  Guest speaker: Marc Rahe: *Finding and Channeling Inspiration to Write while Holding Down a 9-5 Job in Human Services*. Marc earned his MFA in poetry from the Iowa Writers Workshop. Recurring themes in his writing include the body, loss, longing, isolation, and solace.

Noon  Group photo to be taken right before lunch 😊 CHEESE!

12:15 - 1:15  Lunch (on your own)

1:15 - 4:30  Ellen Szabo
Mini-Lecture: *Writing for Social Change*
Skill: Speculative Fiction as a tool for action and advocacy
Writing exercise to practice skill

Mini-lecture: *Flash Fiction and Non Fiction*
Skill: creating precise stories that surprise and satisfy
Writing exercise to practice skill

NOTE: Free outdoor movie on the Pentacrest—outside MacBride hall (east side of building). Open to public.
Day 3  -  Sunday July 22, 2018

Room 332 North Hall

8:30 - 10:30  Write on your own or option of scheduling a 30 minute private coaching session with Ellen

11:00 - 12:00  Guest speaker: Lisa Roberts, The Iowa Youth Writing Project is a non-profit outreach collective founded by University of Iowa Writers’ Workshop graduates in 2010 that aims to join Iowa City’s unique literary heritage with Iowa’s larger community by empowering, inspiring, and educating Iowa’s youth through language arts and creative thinking.

12:00 - 1:00  Lunch (on your own) [The River Room is not open on week-ends]

1:00 - 5:00  Ellen Szabo
Mini-lecture: Creating characters, effective dialogue
Skill: creating and sustaining the illusion of ‘real’
Writing exercise to practice skill

Mini-lecture: Openings and Endings
Skill: Identifying and ‘bookending’ themes
Writing exercise to practice skill

Mini-lecture: Creative editing, finding your bliss
Skill: attention to detail
Writing exercise to practice skill

Note: Evening option: consider going to a movie at FILM oscene—Iowa City’s nonprofit cinema located at 100 East College (on the pedestrian mall tucked down a narrow hallway!) (319) 358-2555.
### Day 4 - Monday July 23, 2018

**Room 332 North Hall**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 - 11:00</td>
<td>Write on your own or option of scheduling a 30 minute private coaching session with Ellen</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 - 11:45</td>
<td>To be decided by Ellen, based on needs of the group.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:45 - 12:45</td>
<td>Lunch (on your own) [The IMU RiverRoom café is open on week-days.]</td>
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<td>1:00 - 2:00</td>
<td><strong>Guest Speaker:</strong> <em>Lori Erickson,</em> Episcopal deacon and author who specializes in spirituality and travel (recent book, “Holy Rover: Journeys In Search of Mystery, Miracles, &amp; God”). Lori is also a volunteer with “Lover Letters” a community project sponsored by Iowa City Hospice and the <em>Honoring Your Wishes</em> advance care planning program. The Love Letters project encourages people to think and write about the themes of love, forgiveness, and gratitude within our community <a href="http://honoringyourwishes.org/love-letters/">http://honoringyourwishes.org/love-letters/</a>. Lori will talk about her involvement in this community-wide writing project and the impact the planners hope to achieve.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00 - 2:15</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:15 - 4:30</td>
<td>Ellen: <em>Optimizing the Written Word for Self-Expression and Creative Impact.</em></td>
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<td>4:30 - 4:45</td>
<td>Please complete the written evaluation form</td>
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**CONTACT LIST**

Workshop Leader, Instructor, and Writing Coach:
- Ellen Szabo  [cell: 978 559 1555](tel:9785591555)
- Email: [words@justwritenow.org](mailto:words@justwritenow.org) [www.justwritenow.org](http://www.justwritenow.org)

Guest speaker coordinator: Mercedes Bern-Klug  [319 335-1265](tel:3193351265) [mercedes-bern-klug@uiowa.edu](mailto:mercedes-bern-klug@uiowa.edu)
- Bern-Klug  [cell 319 541-3738](tel:3195413738) (texting is fine!) 

Logistics back-up: Kate Kemp  [319 335-1254](tel:3193351254) [kate-kemp@uiowa.edu](mailto:kate-kemp@uiowa.edu)