



# Adelphi *Writers* & *Readers* *Festival*

FRIDAY, APRIL 5, AND  
SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2024

Adelphi University,  
Garden City, NY

Ruth S. Harley  
University Center and  
The Performing Arts  
Center



Dear Esteemed Guests,

It is my distinct pleasure to welcome you to the 2024 Writers & Readers Festival at my alma mater, Adelphi University. Together, over the next two days, we will celebrate storytelling and the world of the imagination that can change our futures and enrich our lives.

As your host I am thrilled to help lead this inaugural event, which embodies our shared passion for the written word and for Adelphi's mission to transform lives. When we first began planning this festival for a diverse community of writers, industry insiders, and enthusiasts, our priority was to create a unique and exciting event that would affect both our dreams and our everyday lives.



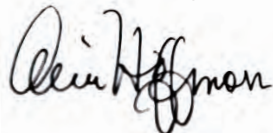
This weekend will include panel discussions that are designed to ignite your creativity, challenge your perceptions, and deepen your love for literature. From the historical to the contemporary, from brave new worlds of fantasy to realism, this diverse program promises something for every reader, writer, and dreamer among us.

I invite you to immerse yourself fully in this wonderful experience. We have brought you an incredible array of gifted storytellers, each with their own unique voice and perspective. Discover both new and veteran authors who can help us all understand our changing world with their innovative narratives and profound insights. Learn from industry experts who can help shape our understanding of the literary world, the journey we can take with the books that we already love, and the books that we discover during our time together.

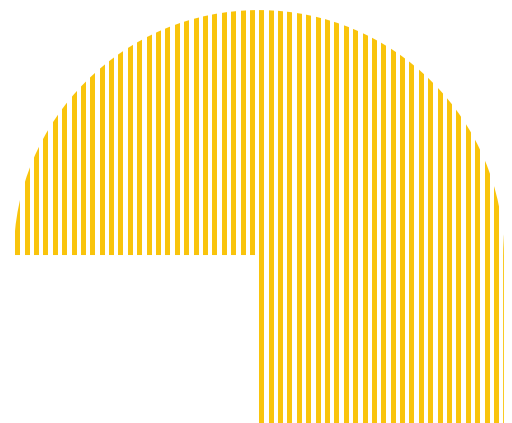
This festival is a testament to the enduring power of stories that connect us, challenge us, and change us. It is a reminder that, in the vast expanse of the human experience, we find our truest selves not in isolation but in the reflections of one another's shared narratives. As we embark on this journey together, let us embrace the magic, the mystery, and the infinite possibilities of the art of storytelling.

Thank you for being an integral part of this celebration. Your presence enriches our collective experience.

My deepest regards,



Alice Hoffman '73, '02 (Hon.)



**Friday, April 5, 2024** • All Events are in the Ruth S. Harley University Center

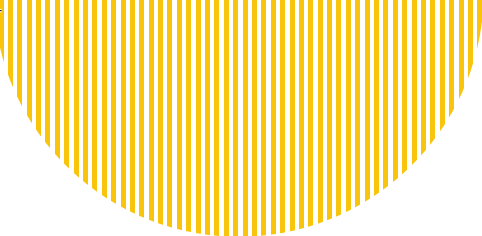
TIME	ACTIVITY
10 a.m.	<b>CHECK-IN AND NETWORKING</b> / Ruth S. Harley University Center Lobby
11 a.m.-1 p.m.	<b>OPENING LUNCH</b> / Ballroom, 2nd Floor
1 p.m.-2 p.m.	<b>Breakout Panels I</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Breaking In and Breaking Through – Rooms 113-114</li> <li>• Writing Fiction – Room 201</li> </ul>
2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.	<b>Breakout Panels II</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coaching, Mentoring and Teaching – Room 201</li> <li>• Publishing Confidential – Rooms 213-214</li> <li>• The Art of the Book Trailer – Rooms 215-216</li> </ul>
3:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m.	<b>MFA Alumni Gathering</b> / Room 115
3:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m.	<b>Networking Break and Book Signings</b> / First Floor Mezzanine
4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.	<b>Readings</b> / Rooms 113-114
5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.	<b>An Evening with Victor LaValle</b> / Room 203
6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.	<b>Reception</b> / Rooms 201-202

Authors Green Room – Room 210 • Bookstore and Book Signings – First Floor

**Saturday, April 6, 2024** • All Events are in the Performing Arts Center

TIME	ACTIVITY
9:00 a.m.	<b>CHECK-IN AND NETWORKING</b> / Performing Arts Center Lobby
10:00 a.m.-1:00 a.m.	<b>IN CONVERSATION WITH ALICE HOFFMAN '73, '02 (HON.) AND ADRIANA TRIGIANI</b> / Olmsted Theatre
11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	<b>THE ART OF MEMOIR</b> / Olmsted Theatre
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.	<b>Networking Break and Brown Bag Lunch</b> / First Floor
1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.	<b>Breakout Sessions I</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From Journalism to Books – Olmsted Theatre</li> <li>• Writing My Life in Theater – Dance Theatre</li> </ul>
2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.	<b>Breakout Sessions II</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Syllabus: Writing and Teaching – Olmsted Theatre</li> <li>• Queering Young Adult Literature – Multipurpose Room</li> </ul>
3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.	<b>Networking Break and Book Signings</b> / First Floor
4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.	<b>Long Island LitFest Presents Lauren Grodstein</b> / Olmsted Theatre
5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.	<b>Closing Reception</b> / Multipurpose Rooms, 2nd Floor

Authors Green Room – Recital Hall, Lower Level • Browsing Room and Book Signings – First Floor



Dear Festival Attendee,

Welcome to the inaugural Adelphi University Writers & Readers Festival. While doing this for the first time, this event is a natural for us, dedicated as it is to the deep pleasures and rewards of literature, the challenges and satisfactions of writing, and their essential part in education, expression and identity.

I am honored to serve as the Festival's Master of Ceremonies.

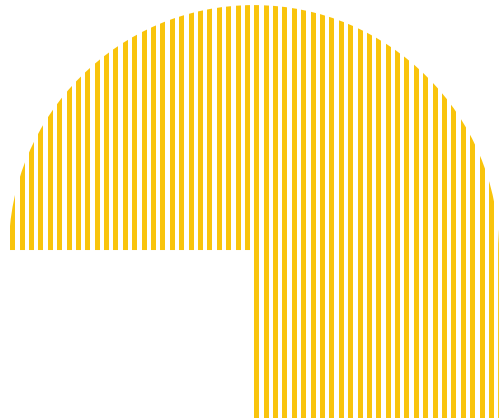
This weekend's offerings of authors, conversations, panels and workshops are rich in promise for readers and writers, to engage with luminaries and explore a wide circumference of people and matters, all designed to affirm and enlarge our mutual dedication to literature and a place in its realm.

Adelphi is rightly proud of so many facets of our academic character and achievement, and certainly shining brightly is the way our faculty and students exemplify curiosity, imagination and the pursuit of knowledge. So, too, we point to the span of perspectives on campus that supplies energy and inspiration. Our commitment to the community of learning and community service makes us proud Festival hosts.

In that regard, how happy and honored we are with the distinguished participants you will meet. We salute, especially and gratefully, Alice Hoffman, a prized novelist and our alumna, who has been so instrumental in creating the Festival.

To all those whose presence, generosity and hard work have made possible this beginning and who join us in this wonderful moment, we send thanks and warmest regards.

Steven L. Isenberg, '00 (Hon.)  
Chair Emeritus, Adelphi University, Board of Trustees



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# 2024 FESTIVAL LEADERSHIP

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Dean, College of Education  
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**Laura Zigman**

Festival Consultant



**FRIDAY, APRIL 5**

**OPENING LUNCH • 11 A.M.–1 P.M.**

**Ruth S. Harley University Center Ballroom**

**WELCOME**

**Steven L. Isenberg '00 (Hon.)**

Chairman Emeritus, Adelphi University Board of Trustees

**REMARKS**

**Alice Hoffman '73, '02 (Hon.)**

**ELAINE MARKSON '51 AWARD PRESENTATION**

**Alice Hoffman '73, '02 (Hon.)**

Elaine Markson '51 was among the first women to own a literary agency. Over the years, she championed the works of feminist authors as well as those deemed controversial. This award named in her honor is given to a publishing professional who is carrying on Markson's legacy by advocating for authors and books that portray the viewpoints and experiences of those of diverse races, religions, abilities, preferences and backgrounds that are currently underrepresented in publishing.

Presented to Lisa Lucas

**Lisa Lucas** is the SVP & Publisher of Pantheon and Schocken Books at Penguin Random House. Formerly, she was Executive Director of the National Book Foundation, the Publisher of *Guernica*, and the Director of Education at the Tribeca Film Institute.

**DONALD EVERETT AXINN WRITING AWARDS PRESENTATION**

**René Steinke,**

MFA Director, Adelphi University

A Long Island philanthropist, Donald Everett Axinn established several endowments to support the creative work of emerging authors and poets, including one at Adelphi University. We are grateful to recognize his generosity in awarding deserving individuals who exemplify his spirit with The Axinn Writing Awards at Adelphi's first annual Writers & Readers Festival.

Presented to **Jennifer Baker, Salty Brine, Kermit Frazier, Kim Coleman Foote, Robin Gow MFA '20, Ellen Hagan and Puja Shah '03**

FRIDAY, APRIL 5  
**BREAKOUT PANEL I • 1 P.M.–2 P.M.**

**BREAKING IN AND BREAKING THROUGH**

Ruth S. Harley University Center Rooms 113-114

Join the Adelphi Axinn Award Winners for a conversation on breaking through in the publishing industry. Authors discuss obstacles they have faced and have overcome to become rising stars on the contemporary literary scene.

MODERATOR



**Ellen Hagan**  
*All That Shines*

PANELISTS



**Jennifer Baker**  
*Forgive Me Not*



**Kermit Frazier**  
*First Acts:  
A Black  
Playwright  
Comes of Age*



**Kim Coleman  
Foote**  
*Coleman Hill:  
A Novel*



**Puja Shah '03**  
*For My Sister*



**FRIDAY, APRIL 5**  
**BREAKOUT PANEL I • 1 P.M.–2 P.M.**

**WRITING FICTION**

Ruth S. Harley University Center Room 201

A master class on fiction writing from three brilliant storytellers whose complex and compelling plots and characters are unforgettable.

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MODERATOR



**Laura Zigman**  
*Small World*

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PANELISTS



**Mona Awad**  
*Rouge*



**Alice Hoffman**  
**'73, '02 (Hon.)**  
*The Invisible Hour*



**Ann Leary**  
*The Founding*



**FRIDAY, APRIL 5**  
**BREAKOUT PANEL II • 2 P.M.–3:30 P.M.**

**COACHING, MENTORING AND TEACHING**

Ruth S. Harley University Center Room 201

Have a book inside of you and want to improve your writing (or make a strong debut)? In this workshop, we'll look at different options for you to get the support you need to improve your craft.

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MODERATOR



**Maya Marshall**  
*All the Blood*  
*Involved in Love*

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PANELISTS



**Jacqueline Jones  
LaMon**  
*What Water  
Knows: Poems*  
JJL Coaching.com



**Shariann Lewitt '75**  
*Interface Masque*



**Laura Zigman**  
*Small World*  
laurazigman.com/  
therapy

FRIDAY, APRIL 5

## BREAKOUT PANEL II • 2 P.M.–3:30 P.M.

### PUBLISHING CONFIDENTIAL

Ruth S. Harley University Center Rooms 213-214

An inside look into current book trends and how aspiring writers can balance the art of writing with the business of publishing.

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#### MODERATOR



**René Steinke**  
*Friendswood: A Novel*

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#### PANELISTS



**Lisa Lucas**  
SVP & Publisher  
of Pantheon  
and Schocken  
Books at Penguin  
Random House



**Stephanie  
Rostan**  
Principal, Levine  
Greenberg  
Rostan Literary  
Agency



**Valerie Frankel**  
*Bestselling author,  
ghostwriter, and  
literary agent,  
Aevitas Creative  
Management*

**FRIDAY, APRIL 5**  
**BREAKOUT PANEL II • 2 P.M.–3:30 P.M.**

**THE ART OF THE BOOK TRAILER**

Ruth S. Harley University Center Rooms 215-216

In our crowded media landscape, authors and publishers are seeking engaging ways to reach new readers. Book trailers have proven to be among the most dynamic forms of outreach. Filmmaker David Flores will share recent video shorts or “book trailers,” and discuss the dynamic interplay between text and image.

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MODERATOR



**Peggy Cassidy**  
*Children, Media, and American  
History: Printed Poison, Pernicious  
Stuff, and Other Terrible Temptations*

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PRESENTER



**David Flores**  
Photographer, filmmaker  
and educator

FRIDAY, APRIL 5

# NETWORKING BREAK, AUTHOR SIGNINGS AND MORE • 3:30 P.M.–5 P.M.

## MFA REUNION 3:30 P.M.–4 P.M.

Ruth S. Harley University Center Room 115

Meet René Steinke, the new director of Adelphi's MFA Program  
Reconnect with your faculty and fellow colleagues

## READINGS 4 P.M.–5 P.M.

Ruth S. Harley University Center Rooms 113-114

Enjoy readings from MFA faculty authors Maya Marshall, Igor Webb and Jan-Henry Gray and others.

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HOST



**René Steinke**  
*Friendswood: A Novel*

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READERS



**Jan-Henry Gray**  
*Documents*



**Maya Marshall**  
*All the Blood  
Involved in Love*



**Igor Webb**  
*Buster Brown's  
America: Recollections,  
Reveries, Reflections*

FRIDAY, APRIL 5  
**MODERATED KEYNOTE • 5 P.M.  
FOLLOWED BY RECEPTION**

**AN EVENING WITH VICTOR LAVALLE**

Ruth S. Harley University Center Ballroom

An enlightening talk by award-winning master of speculative fiction Victor LaValle, author of *The Changeling* (recently adapted as a limited series for Apple TV+), *The Ballad of Black Tom*, and *The Devil in Silver* (currently being adapted for AMC TV).



**Victor LaValle** is the author of seven works of fiction and two graphic novels. His fiction has received numerous awards, including a World Fantasy Award, multiple Bram Stoker Awards, a Whiting Writers Award and a Guggenheim Fellowship. His novel, *The Changeling*, has been adapted as a series by Apple TV+, a project in which he served as an executive producer. His most recent novel, *Lone Women*, is a national bestseller and he is adapting it for television. He teaches writing at Columbia University and lives in the Bronx with his wife, the writer Emily Raboteau, and their two children.

MODERATOR



**Jacqueline Jones LaMon** is a poet and writer. Her work has appeared in a wide variety of publications such as *POETRY*, *Prairie Schooner*, *Callaloo*, *Narrative Magazine*, *Ninth Letter*, *Mythium*, *Bellevue Literary Review* and *Crab Orchard Review*. Twice noted as a finalist for the NAACP Image Award in the category of Outstanding Literary Work, Poetry, Ms. LaMon is the recipient of fellowships from the BAU Institute at the Camargo Foundation, the Kimbilio Center for African American Fiction, the Yaddo Foundation, the Fine Arts Work Center, the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts and many others. She taught in Adelphi University's multi-genre MFA program for over a decade and served as board member and past president of Cave Canem Foundation, Inc.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

## OPENING KEYNOTE • 10 A.M.–11 A.M.

### ALICE HOFFMAN AND ADRIANA TRIGIANI IN CONVERSATION

Performing Arts Center, Olmsted Theatre

Be part of the conversation with our own Alice Hoffman '73, '02 (Hon.) and her good friend, bestselling author and book-podcaster Adriana Trigiani. Settle in with a cup of coffee and listen in on two master storytellers sharing their lives as writers.



**Alice Hoffman** is the author of more than thirty works of fiction, including *Magic Lessons: The Prequel to Practical Magic*, *The World That We Knew*, *The Rules of Magic* (a Reese Witherspoon Book Club pick), *The Marriage of Opposites*, *Practical Magic*, *The Book of Magic*, *The Red Garden*, *Here on Earth* (an Oprah Book Club selection), *The Museum of Extraordinary Things*, and *The Dovekeepers*, which Toni Morrison called "... a major contribution to twenty-first century literature."



Beloved by millions of readers around the world as one of the "reigning queens of women's fiction," (*USA Today*), **Adriana Trigiani** is *The New York Times*-bestselling author of 20 books in fiction and nonfiction, including *The Shoemaker's Wife*; *The Good Left Undone*; *Don't Sing at the Table*; and *Lucia, Lucia*. Published in 38 languages, *The New York Times* calls her "a comedy writer with a heart of gold," and her books "tiramisu for the soul." She is host of the hit podcast, *You Are What You Read*, in conversation with the great minds of our time about the books that built their souls.

#### MODERATOR



**Laura Zigman** is the author of six novels, including *Small World*, *Separation Anxiety* (which was optioned for a limited television series); *Animal Husbandry* (which was made into the movie *Someone Like You*, starring Hugh Jackman and Ashley Judd), *Dating Big Bird*, *Her*, and *Piece of Work*. She has ghostwritten/collaborated on several works of nonfiction, including Eddie Izzard's *New York Times* bestseller *Believe Me*, and been a contributor to *The New York Times*. She lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where she helps clients with their writing.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 6**  
**DISCUSSION I • 11 A.M.–12 NOON**

**THE ART OF MEMOIR**

Performing Arts Center, Olmsted Theatre

A fascinating discussion about memoir—from illustrated, to reported literary biography, to genealogical detective story.

MODERATOR



**René Steinke**  
*Friendswood: A Novel*  
MFA Director, Adelphi  
University

PANELISTS



**Ada Calhoun**  
*Also a Poet:*  
*Frank O'Hara, My*  
*Father, and Me*



**Liana Finck**  
*Passing for Human:*  
*A Graphic Memoir*



**Kermit Frazier**  
*First Acts: A Black*  
*Playwright Comes*  
*of Age*



**Julie Klam**  
*The Almost*  
*Legendary Morris*  
*Sisters: A True Story*  
*of Family Fiction*



**SATURDAY, APRIL 6**  
**BREAKOUT SESSION I • 1 P.M.–2 P.M.**

**FROM JOURNALISM TO BOOKS**

Performing Arts Center, Olmsted Theatre

Hear how three veteran magazine and newspaper reporters went from short-/long-form journalism to narrative nonfiction to tell the stories that fascinated them.

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MODERATOR



**Scott James '84**  
*Trial by Fire: A Devastating Tragedy, 100 Lives Lost, and a 15-Year Search for Truth*

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PANELISTS



**Kevin Baker**  
*The New York Game: Baseball and the Rise of a New City*



**Charles Leerhsen**  
*Down and Out in Paradise: The Life of Anthony Bourdain*



**Lisa Belkin**  
*Genealogy of a Murder*



**SATURDAY, APRIL 6**  
**BREAKOUT SESSION I • 1 P.M.–2 P.M.**

**WRITING MY LIFE IN THEATER**

Performing Arts Center, Dance Theatre



**Salty Brine**

Salty Brine is the creative force behind The Living Record Collection, a series of cabaret performances which weave together iconic, popular albums with major cultural touchstones from classic literature to opera and beyond. The LRC's artistic home is Joe's Pub at The Public Theater where Salty regularly premieres new works from the Collection. Time Out New York says, "The show is highly addictive: Once you've been dunked into Brine, you'll want to dive back..."

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**MODERATOR**



**Ennie Conner '26**

Ennie Conner is an author and sophomore English major at Adelphi University. They were raised in Houston, Texas, and have an interest in cats, writing, and sleeping... a lot. Ennie is currently working on a collection of African-American folktale inspired short stories.



**SATURDAY, APRIL 6**  
**BREAKOUT SESSION II • 2 P.M.–3 P.M.**

**SYLLABUS: WRITING AND TEACHING**

Performing Arts Center, Olmsted Theatre

Accomplished writers and teachers explore the dynamics between these two vocations. How does focused work in one craft inform the other? How can a healthy balance be maintained?

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MODERATOR



**Jacqueline  
Jones LaMon**  
*What Water  
Knows: Poems*

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PANELISTS



**Rebecca Chace**  
*Leaving Rock  
Harbor*



**Andy Powell**  
*My Heart Is  
A Public Park*



**Matt Pasca**  
*Raven Wire*

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

## BREAKOUT SESSION II • 2 P.M.–3 P.M.

### READINGS AND DISCUSSION: QUEERING YOUNG ADULT LITERATURE

Performing Arts Center, Multipurpose Room

Join poet and novelist Robin Gow and author Shariann Lewitt for readings and conversation on speaking your truth and navigating the contested terrain of contemporary young adult literature.

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#### MODERATOR



**Rob Linné**  
Professor School of Education  
and Founder of the Alice  
Hoffman Young Writers Retreat  
at Adelphi

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#### PANELISTS



**Robin Gow**  
MFA '20  
*Mothman*



**Shariann Lewitt '75**  
*Interface Masque*

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

## MODERATED KEYNOTE • 4 P.M.–5 P.M.

### LONG ISLAND LITFEST PRESENTS LAUREN GRODSTEIN, AUTHOR OF *WE MUST NOT THINK OF OURSELVES*

Performing Arts Center, Olmsted Theatre



**Lauren Grodstein** is the author of *Our Short History*; *The Washington Post* Book of the Year *The Explanation for Everything*; and *The New York Times*–bestseller *A Friend of the Family*, among other works. Her stories, essays and articles have appeared in various literary magazines and anthologies and have been translated into French, German, Chinese and Italian, among other languages. Her work has also appeared in *Elle*, *The New York Times*, *Refinery29*, *Salon.com*, *Barrelhouse*, *Post Road* and *The Washington Post*. She is a professor of English at Rutgers University-Camden, where she teaches in the MFA program in creative writing.

#### MODERATOR



**Mark Chiusano** is the author of *The Fabulist*, a George Santos biography, and the story collection *Marine Park*, a PEN/Hemingway Award honorable mention. He is a former *Newsday* columnist and his writing has appeared in places like *The New York Times*, *New York Magazine*, *Politico Magazine*, and *The Paris Review*. He teaches English at CUNY City Tech.

*This discussion will be followed by the Closing Reception and Presentation of the Alice Hoffman Writer's Advocate Award*  
Performing Arts Center, 2nd Floor



## FEATURED AUTHORS & PARTICIPANTS

Meet the authors and participants who will share their stories and insights at Adelphi's Writers & Readers Festival.



Alice Hoffman '73, '02 (Hon.)

Photo credit:  
Alyssa Peek

**Alice Hoffman '73, '02 (Hon.)**, is the author of more than thirty works of fiction, including *Magic Lessons: The Prequel to Practical Magic*, *The World That We Knew*, *The Rules of Magic* (a Reese Witherspoon Book Club pick), *The Marriage of Opposites*, *Practical Magic*, *The Book of Magic*, *The Red Garden*, *Here on Earth* (an Oprah Book Club selection), *The Museum of Extraordinary Things*, and *The Dovekeepers*, which Toni Morrison called "... a major contribution to twenty-first century literature."

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Mona Awad



Photo credit:  
Angela  
Sterling

**Mona Awad** is the author of *Bunny*, named a Best Book of 2019 by *TIME*, *Vogue*, and the New York Public Library. It was a finalist for the New England Book Award and a Goodreads Choice Award. It is currently optioned for film with Bad Robot Productions. Awad's debut, *13 Ways of Looking at a Fat Girl*, was a finalist for the Scotiabank Giller Prize, winner of the Colorado Book Award and the Amazon Canada First Novel Award. *All's Well* was longlisted for the International Dublin Award and a finalist for a Goodreads Choice Award for Best Horror. *Rouge*, her fourth novel, was just published with Simon & Schuster.

Mona earned an MFA in fiction from Brown University and an MScR in English from the University of Edinburgh, where her dissertation was on fear in the fairy tale. She completed a PhD in Creative Writing and English Literature at the University of Denver. Mona has taught creative writing at Brown University, the University of Denver, Framingham State, Tufts and in the MFA program at UMass Amherst, where she served as a visiting writer. Currently, she is an assistant professor in the creative writing program at Syracuse University and is based in Boston.



## Featured Authors & Participants



Jennifer Baker

**Jennifer Baker** is an author and editor with over 20 years' experience in book publishing. She's also the creator/host of the *Minorities in Publishing* podcast, and a faculty member of the MFA program in creative nonfiction at Bay Path University. In 2019, she was named *Publishers Weekly* Superstar for her contributions to inclusion and representation in publishing. Baker is also the editor of the BIPOC-short story anthology *Everyday People: The Color of Life* (Atria Books, 2018) and the author of *Forgive Me Not* (Nancy Paulsen Books, 2023), listed as a 2023 New York Public Library Best Book for Teens and 2023 Best of the Best by the Black Caucus American Library Association and was included on the Texas Library Association's 2024 TAYSHAS Reading List. Her fiction, nonfiction and criticism have appeared in various print and online publications.

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Kevin Baker



**Kevin Baker** is the author, most recently, of *The New York Game: Baseball and the Rise of a New City*. He has written six novels, including *The New York Times* bestseller *Paradise Alley*, and is the author or co-author of five previous histories. Other work has included writing the story for the Ken Burns documentary *The U.S. and the Holocaust*. A contributing editor at *Harper's* magazine, Baker has written for many major publications in the United States and Europe and has appeared in numerous documentaries. He is currently at work on a political and cultural history of the United States between the world wars, for which he received a Guggenheim Fellowship.



Lisa Belkin

Photo credit:  
Laura  
Vanderkam

**Lisa Belkin** is an award-winning journalist and the author of narrative nonfiction books. Her career at *The New York Times* includes stints as a national correspondent, medical reporter and contributing writer for *The New York Times Magazine*. She lives in Westchester, New York.

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Salty Brine



**Salty Brine** is a New York-based cabaret artist, playwright and actor. He is the creative force behind The Living Record Collection (LRC), a series of cabaret performances that weave together iconic, popular albums with cultural touchstones from classic literature to history and beyond. The LRC contains 21 shows and counting. *The Guardian* says Brine is, “a storyteller in total command of voice, a cocked eyebrow and his audience.” Brine has presented works at Lincoln Center, Pangea, Soho Theater and at his artistic home, Joe’s Pub, at the Public Theater. He is the recipient of a Bistro Award for outstanding creative artistry, was a member of the Joe’s Pub Working Group (2020) and was named one of Time Out New York’s “LGBTQ influencers you should know.” As a book writer, he is in collaboration with world-renowned composer Alan Menken on the sci-fi musical *ATINA: EVIL QUEEN OF THE GALAXY*. And he hosted his own theater talk show, *TeaTime with Salty Brine*, at this year’s Under the Radar Festival.



## Featured Authors & Participants



Ada Calhoun

Photo credit:  
Kathleen  
Hanna

**Ada Calhoun** is the author of *Also a Poet: Frank O'Hara, My Father, and Me*, named one of the Best Books of 2022 by *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Oprah Daily*, and National Public Radio (NPR); featured on *PBS News Hour* and the *Today* show; and longlisted for an Andrew Carnegie Medal for Nonfiction. *Times* critic Alexandra Jacobs called the book her favorite memoir of the year; Hudson Booksellers called it the nonfiction book of the year.

Her instant *New York Times* bestseller *Why We Can't Sleep: Women's New Midlife Crisis*, was an expansion of her viral story for Oprah.com about the unique circumstances faced by Generation X women. One of the Amazon Editors' Best Nonfiction Books of 2020, a Goodreads Choice Award Finalist, and an Indie Next Pick, *Why We Can't Sleep* was one of the biggest books of the season according to *The New York Times*, *Parade*, and *O* magazine. It was translated into multiple foreign languages.

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Peggy Cassidy



**Peggy Cassidy, PhD**, is professor and chair of the Communications Department at Adelphi University. Her research and teaching focus primarily on the history of media in the lives and education of children and adolescents. She is the author of *BookEnds: The Changing Media Environment of American Classrooms* (Hampton Press, 2003) and *Children, Media, and American History: Printed Poison, Pernicious Stuff, and Other Terrible Temptations* (Routledge, 2017). She has served as president of the Media Ecology Association (MEA) and the New York State Communication Association, and she is editor of the MEA journal *Explorations in Media Ecology*.





## Rebecca Chace

Photo credit:  
© Marco  
Giugliarelli  
for Civitella  
Ranieri  
Foundation,  
2021

**Rebecca Chace** has published four books, *Leaving Rock Harbor*; *Capture the Flag*; *Chautauqua Summer*; and *June Sparrow and The Million Dollar Penny*. Her novel, *Talking to the Wolf*, is forthcoming from Red Hen Press. She is also the author of plays, screenplays, and literary essays. She has written for *The New York Times*, *LA Review of Books*, *The Yale Review*, *Guernica*, *Lit Hub*, *The Brooklyn Rail*, and many other publications. Fellowships include Civitella Ranieri, MacDowell, Yaddo, American Academy in Rome (visiting artist), Dora Maar House, VCCA, and many others. She is Program Manager at the Institute for Writing and Thinking at Bard College.

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## Mark Chiusano



**Mark Chiusano** is the author of *The Fabulist*, a George Santos biography, and the story collection *Marine Park*, a PEN/Hemingway Award honorable mention. He is a former *Newsday* columnist and his writing has appeared in places like *The New York Times*, *New York Magazine*, *Politico Magazine*, and *The Paris Review*. He teaches English at CUNY City Tech.



## Featured Authors & Participants



Ennie Conner '26

**Ennie Conner '26** is an author and sophomore English major at Adelphi University. They were raised in Houston, Texas, and have an interest in cats, writing, and sleeping... a lot. Ennie is currently working on a collection of African-American folktale-inspired short stories.

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Liana Finck



**Liana Finck** is a cartoonist living in Brooklyn. She is the author of three graphic novels and a memoir, and has published several collections of her cartoons with Penguin Random House that have been reviewed and featured by *The New York Times* and *The New York Times Book Review*. Her work has been featured in many publications, including regular contributions to the *New Yorker*.

Photo credit:  
Jorge  
Colombo

She is the recipient of a Fulbright Fellowship, a New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowship and a 2023 Guggenheim Fellowship.

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David Flores

**David Flores** is a photographer, filmmaker and educator. His work can be found on the covers of *Poets & Writers*, *Scalawag* and in film festivals across the country. He is Head of Visual Arts at the DreamYard Project and teaches film at Hostos College. Recent arts residencies include ArtBuilt, GlobalWrites and Louisiana Arts Works. *Tell Me Every Lie*, his debut YA book (co-written with Ellen Hagan) is forthcoming from Bloomsbury in March 2025. David lives in Manhattan with his partner and children.



## Kim Coleman Foote

**Kim Coleman Foote** is the author of the novel, *Coleman Hill* (SJP Lit/Zando), inspired by her family's experience of the Great Migration from Alabama and Florida to Vauxhall, New Jersey, c. 1916–80s.

An award-winning writer of fiction and memoir, Kim's work has appeared most recently in *The Best American Short Stories 2022*, *Iron Horse Literary Review*, *Ecotone*, and *The Rumpus*. Major honors include writing fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, New York Foundation for the Arts, Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, Phillips Exeter Academy, Center for Fiction, Yaddo, MacDowell, and Hedgebrook. Kim grew up in New Jersey and received an MFA in creative writing from Chicago State University and a BA in sociology & anthropology, concentration in Black Studies, from Swarthmore College.

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## Valerie Frankel



**Valerie Frankel** has collaborated with celebrities, public figures and experts on more than 30 books, including two #1 *New York Times* bestsellers: *Unhinged* by Omarosa Manigault Newman, and *Melania and Me* by Stephanie Winston Wolkoff. Other bestsellers she's ghostwritten include *Stay Hungry* by Sebastian Maniscalco and *A Shore Thing* by Snooki. Before becoming a ghostwriter, Frankel, a Dartmouth grad, has been an award-winning journalist and author (she's written 21 books under her own name, novels, memoirs and self-help guides), and served as articles editor at Condé Nast's *Mademoiselle* for a decade.

Frankel joined Aevitas Creative Management to put her 35 years of editorial experience to use by helping you realize your dream of becoming an author. She's interested in nonfiction (memoir, health and wellness, business, lifestyle) and fiction (thriller, mystery, romance, YA). She's based in Brooklyn, New York, and loves cats.



## Featured Authors & Participants



Kermit Frazier

**Kermit Frazier** has been a writer, playwright, and television writer as well as a teacher of writing, literature, and theater for nearly forty years. His plays have been produced in New York and around the country. Frazier's plays include *Kernel of Sanity*, *Little Rock*, *Legacies*, *An American Journey*, *Dinah Washington Is Dead*, *Class Reunion*, *Outside the Radio*, and *Smoldering Fires*. He has written for multiple television series in various genres, including being a head writer for the popular children's series, *Ghostwriter*.

In June 2020, his career as a playwright was featured in a *New York Times* arts section article about his very first play, *Kernel of Sanity*, appearing online in Paul Vogel's Bard at the Gate series of presentations of "overlooked plays."

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Robin Gow MFA '20



**Robin Gow MFA'20**, (it/fae/he & él y elle) is a trans poet and witch from rural Pennsylvania. He is the author of several poetry collections, an essay collection, and Middle-Grade and YA novels. Fae novels include *Ode to My First Car*, *A Million Quiet Revolutions*, and *Dear Mothman*. Fae works as a community educator, calling folks into discussions around queer and disability justice. It lives with its partner Rain and their menagerie of animals.



## Jan-Henry Gray

**Jan-Henry Gray** (he/him), assistant professor of English at Adelphi University, is the author of *Documents*, winner of BOA Editions' A. Poulin, Jr. Poetry Prize (chosen by D.A. Powell) and finalist for the 2019 Thom Gunn Award. His chapbook, *Selected Emails*, was published by speCt! Books. His poems have been included in various anthologies, including *Undocupoetics: An Introduction* (HarperCollins/Harper Perennial, 2025), *Permanent Record* (Nightboat, 2024), *Essential Queer Voices of U.S. Poetry* (Green Linden Press, 2024), *Queer Nature* (Autumn House, 2022) and *Nepantla: An Anthology for Queer Poets of Color* (Nightboat, 2018). His other writings, including essays and reviews, have been featured by the Academy of American Poets, Poetry Foundation, Poetry Daily, *The Rumpus*, *The Margins*, *DIAGRAM*, *Colorado Review*, *Newcity* and *Teachers & Writers Magazine*.

He has received fellowships from Kundiman and Undocupoets as well as awards from the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation, the Juniper Summer Writing Institute and the Academy of American Poets. In 2019, he co-organized Writers for Migrant Justice, a nationwide reading and fundraiser for Immigrant Families Together. He also served as a mentor for the Asian Prisoner Support Committee, a teaching artist for City Lore (New York City) and a co-curator for Meanwhile (Chicago). Born in the Philippines and raised in California, he currently lives in New York.

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## Lauren Grodstein



**Lauren Grodstein** is the author of *Our Short History*; *The Washington Post* Book of the Year *The Explanation for Everything*; and *The New York Times*-bestseller *A Friend of the Family*, among other works. Her stories, essays and articles have appeared in various literary magazines and anthologies and have been translated into French, German, Chinese and Italian, among other languages. Her work has also appeared in *Elle*, *The New York Times*, *Refinery29*, *Salon.com*, *Barrelhouse*, *Post Road* and *The Washington Post*. She is a professor of English at Rutgers University-Camden, where she teaches in the MFA program in creative writing.



## Featured Authors & Participants



Ellen Hagan

**Ellen Hagan** is a writer, performer and educator. Her books include: *Reckless; Glorious, Girl; Don't Call Me a Hurricane*; and *All That Shines*. She has a new young adult (YA) project forthcoming in 2025 with her partner, David Flores. Hagan's poems and essays can be found in *Oprah Magazine*; *ESPNW*; *So We Can Know: Writers of Color on Pregnancy, Loss, Abortion, and Birth* (edited by Aracelis Girmay); *Creative Nonfiction*; and *Underwired Magazine*.

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Steven L. Isenberg, '00 (Hon.)



### **FESTIVAL MASTER OF CEREMONIES**

**Steven L. Isenberg '00 (Hon.)**, served as the Chair of Adelphi University's Board of Trustees, as well as Interim President, in recognition of which he was awarded an honorary doctorate.

He holds a B.A. in English from the University of California, Berkeley, and a B.A., M.A. in English Language and Literature from Worcester College, Oxford. He obtained his J.D. from Yale Law School.

Previously, he was Publisher of *New York Newsday*; Executive Vice-President, Marketing, at the *LA Times*; Chief of Staff to New York Mayor John V. Lindsay; and the Executive Director of PEN American Center. He is an Honorary Fellow at Worcester College, Oxford, and taught most recently as a Visiting Professor at the University of California at Berkeley.



## Scott James '84

**Scott James '84**, is a veteran journalist and the author of the book *Trial by Fire*, an investigation into one of America's deadliest criminal cases, The Station nightclub fire that killed 100. CBS News turned the book into an episode of 48 Hours. Since 2009 Scott's reporting has also appeared in *The New York Times*, and he is the recipient of three Emmy Awards for his work in television news. He's also the author of two bestselling novels, *SoMa* and *The Sower*.

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## Julie Klam



**Julie Klam** grew up in Bedford, New York. After attending NYU's Tisch School of the Arts and interning at *Late Night with David Letterman*, she went on to write for such publications as *O: The Oprah Magazine*, *Rolling Stone*, *Harper's Bazaar*, *Glamour* and for the VH1 television show *Pop-Up Video*, where she earned an Emmy nomination for Outstanding Special Class Writing. Currently she writes for *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post* and the magazines that haven't folded. She lives in New York City with her family and a variety of cute dogs. She is the author of six books, including *The New York Times*-bestselling memoir *Please Excuse My Daughter*; *You Had Me at Woof*; *Love at First Bark*; *Friendkeeping*; *The Stars in Our Eyes*; and *The Almost Legendary Morris Sisters*.

Photo credit:  
Jonas  
Gustavsson



## Featured Authors & Participants



Jacqueline Jones LaMon

**Jacqueline Jones LaMon** is a poet and writer. Her work has appeared in a wide variety of publications such as *POETRY*, *Prairie Schooner*, *Callaloo*, *Narrative Magazine*, *Ninth Letter*, *Mythium*, *Bellevue Literary Review* and *Crab Orchard Review*. Twice noted as a finalist for the NAACP Image Award in the category of Outstanding Literary Work, Poetry, Ms. LaMon is the recipient of fellowships from the BAU Institute at the Camargo Foundation, the Kimbilio Center for African American Fiction, the Yaddo Foundation, the Fine Arts Work Center, the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts and many others. She taught in Adelphi University's multi-genre MFA program for over a decade and served as board member and past president of Cave Canem Foundation, Inc. Currently offering private coaching and institutional consulting services, LaMon is professor emerita in the Department of English of Adelphi University in New York and former vice president of diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging.

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Victor LaValle



**Victor LaValle** is the author of seven works of fiction and two graphic novels. His fiction has received numerous awards, including a World Fantasy Award, multiple Bram Stoker Awards, a Whiting Writers Award and a Guggenheim Fellowship. His novel, *The Changeling*, has been adapted as a series by Apple TV+, a project in which he served as an executive producer. His most recent novel, *Lone Women*, is a national bestseller and he is adapting it for television. He teaches writing at Columbia University and lives in the Bronx with his wife, the writer Emily Raboteau, and their two children.





## Ann Leary

Photo credit:  
Scott M.  
Lacey

**Ann Leary** is *The New York Times*-bestselling author of the novels *The Children*, *The Good House*, and *Outtakes From a Marriage*, and the memoir, *An Innocent, A Broad*. She has written for numerous publications including *Ploughshares*, NPR, *Real Simple* and *The New York Times*. *The Good House* was adapted as a motion picture in 2022 starring Sigourney Weaver and Kevin Kline, *The Foundling* (Scribner/MarysueRucci) was recently published in paperback, and her collection of essays, *I Tried Being Nice*, is forthcoming in June 2024. She and her husband, Denis Leary, live in New York.

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## Charles Leerhsen



**Charles Leerhsen**, the author of *Down and Out in Paradise: The Life of Anthony Bourdain*, has written for *Sports Illustrated*, *Esquire*, *Rolling Stone*, *The New York Times Magazine*, *Smithsonian*, *Money*, *People*, *TV Guide* and *Seventeen*. He has been an editor at *SI*, *People* and *Us Weekly*, and spent 11 years at *Newsweek*, where, as a senior writer, he covered sports, entertainment, family stories and breaking news. At *Newsweek* he won the National Mental Health Association Award for a cover story on alcohol and the family. Leerhsen's previous books include *The New York Times* bestseller *Ty Cobb: A Terrible Beauty*; the award-winning *Crazy Good: The True Story of Dan Patch, the Most Famous Horse in America*; the groundbreaking *Butch Cassidy: The True Story of An American Outlaw*; and the highly acclaimed *Blood and Smoke: A True Tale of Mystery, Mayhem, and the Birth of the Indy 500*. He has also co-written several bestselling biographies, including *Press On! Adventures in the Good Life*, with pioneer aviator Chuck Yeager; *The Last Great Ride*, with entertainment mogul Brandon Tartikoff; and *Surviving at the Top* with Donald Trump. He is an adjunct professor at the City University of New York's Graduate School of Journalism. He lives in Brooklyn with his wife, the writer and psychotherapist Sarah Saffian.



## Featured Authors & Participants



Shariann Lewitt '75

**Shariann Lewitt '75**, is the author of seventeen novels under five different names, spanning the genres of hard science fiction, fantasy, and young adult. Her short fiction has been widely published and her story "*Fieldwork*" was selected for Thirty-Fourth Best Science Fiction of the Year, edited by Gardner Dozois. A third generation Manhattanite, Lewitt moved to the greater Boston area in 2000 and has become a proud citizen of the Red Sox Nation. She dropped out of pre-law to study evolutionary/population biology (what has since become computational biology) in college—because law school looked dismal and she was afraid of fainting in bio lab like she did in high school. She did her graduate work at Yale and never returned to live in NYC. When not writing in local coffee shops, she teaches at MIT, plays with her pet parrots, and travels as widely as possible.

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Rob Linné



**Rob Linné, PhD**, is a professor of education and cultural studies at Adelphi University. Recent creative nonfiction works have appeared in *Texas Architect Magazine*, *Southern Grit Magazine*, and *Level Deep South*. Rob is a co-founder and director of the Alice Hoffman Young Writers Retreat.



Lisa Lucas

Photo credit:  
Beowulf-  
Sheehan

**Lisa Lucas** is the SVP & Publisher of Pantheon and Schocken Books at Penguin Random House. Formerly, she was Executive Director of the National Book Foundation, the Publisher of *Guernica*, and the Director of Education at the Tribeca Film Institute.

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Maya Marshall



**Maya Marshall** (she/her) is an assistant professor of English and creative writing at Adelphi University. She is the author of *All the Blood Involved in Love* (Haymarket Books, 2022) and a co-founder of *underbelly*, the journal on the practical magic of poetic revision. She holds fellowships from several institutions, including MacDowell, Cave Canem and Vermont Studio Center. Marshall's writing has been published or is forthcoming in *Prose to the People: A Celebration of Black Bookstores* (Penguin, 2025), *Prairie Schooner*, *Boston Review*, *Crazyhorse*, *Best New Poets*, and elsewhere. She is an editor-at-large for Haymarket Books.



## Featured Authors & Participants



Matt Pasca

**Matt Pasca** is the author of two full-length poetry collections—*A Thousand Doors* (2011 Pushcart nominee) and *Raven Wire* (2017 Eric Hoffer Book Award Finalist)—and has had work appear in more than 50 publications. As a New York State Teacher of Excellence, Pasca has taught Creative Writing, Mythology and Literature since 1997 and advised his school's award-winning literary-art magazine, *The Writers' Block*, since 2003. Pasca has performed and taught at dozens of colleges and conferences, and co-hosts a monthly poetry series, *Friday Night Fire*, with his amazing wife, Terri Muuss. Pasca was named Long Island Poet of the Year by the Walt Whitman Birthplace Association in 2022.

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Andy Powell



**Andy Powell's** poetry chapbook *My Heart Is A Public Park* is out in a limited edition from Big Lucks Press. He has a video feature out with Ours Poetica from the Poetry Foundation, and has poems out with Dear Poetry, BOAAT, and elsewhere. He was a 2018 fellow to *The Poetry Foundation & Crescendo Literary's Poetry Incubator* for poets who integrate community and activism into their work, and co-founded the Rad(ical) Poetry Consortium at DreamYard. He's at work on a young adult novel and is the manager of in-school programs and special projects with *The DreamYard Project*.



## Stephanie Rostan

**Stephanie Rostan** started agenting in 2001 and became a principal at Levine Greenberg Rostan in 2014. Prior to that, she was an editor at Bantam Dell and the Book Producer for iVillage.com. About three quarters of her clients are fiction writers, including *New York Times* bestsellers Gillian Flynn, Lisa Lutz, Elle Cosimano, and Thomas Lennon as well as Laura Zigman, Colleen Oakley, Nicola Harrison, Wendy Wax and Julia Dahl. Unusual and vivid voices, genre-straddling stories and intense emotion (whether funny, creepy, warm or sad) — the things that make a book stick with you for a long time — are what she finds most appealing. She represents adult, YA and middle grade projects. In nonfiction, she loves projects that solve a problem or make us see things in a new way, such as La Leche League’s revised edition of *The Womanly Art of Breastfeeding*, Amir Levine and Rachel Heller’s *Attached: The New Science of Adult Attachment*, and Chris Santella’s *50 Places* series. She has also worked on narrative nonfiction such as *New York Times* bestseller *Miracle in the Andes* by Nando Parrado with Vince Rause and the true crime memoir *The Spider and the Fly* by Claudia Rowe.

Raised in Andover, Massachusetts, Stephanie is the daughter of a Latin and Greek teacher whose specialty is etymology (ask her dad for a definition and you’ll get a minimum of 36 hours of explanation). This early focus on language led to her obsession with crossword puzzles, a term in Germany as an exchange student and an English/Creative Writing major at Princeton. There she became familiar with the slings and arrows of critique groups and revisions, writing under teachers such as Susan Shreve, Stephen Wright and Joyce Carol Oates. Stephanie now lives with her husband and two children in the New York City area, where she is committed to raising her kids as Red Sox fans despite the hostile environs.



## Featured Authors & Participants



Puja Shah '03

**Dr. Puja Shah '03** is a visionary poet who shares her voice through written and spoken word, guided meditations, and teaching. Born in Queens, New York, to immigrant parents, she defied teachers who questioned her English skills by winning countless poetry and short story awards in her youth. With over 10 years of nonprofit experience and a long public health career, she pivoted paths to follow her passion for writing while creating a campaign aligned with girls' rights awareness causes for her multiple award-winning debut novel, *For My Sister*. She is the recipient of the International Impact Book Award in Women's Fiction, American Writing Award for Social Change, Literary Titan Fiction Book Award and Firebird Book Award for Women's Issues.

Puja's bachelor of science degree from Adelphi University led her to a D.M.D. doctorate program at Tufts University. She has completed multiple training courses in yoga, meditation and ancient wisdom. Puja teaches corporate mindfulness guided meditations, is an editor and content officer for multiple brands and currently president of her family 501c3 foundation. For more information on Puja's work, visit: [www.puja-shah.com](http://www.puja-shah.com) and [www.formysisterbook.com](http://www.formysisterbook.com).

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René Steinke



**René Steinke** (she/her) is the author of the novel, *Friendswood* (Riverhead, 2014), which was named one of National Public Radio's Great Reads and an Amazon Book-of-the-Month. Darin Strauss called it "a large-hearted, big-brained book." Steinke is the recipient of a fellowship from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation. Her second novel, *Holy Skirts* (HarperCollins, 2005), a fictionalized biography of Dada artist and poet the Baroness Elsa von Freytag-Loringhoven, was a finalist for the National Book Award. Her first novel is *The Fires* (William Morrow 1999). Her essays and book reviews have appeared in *The New York Times*, *Vogue*, *Salon.com*, *4Columns*, *Bookforum* and in anthologies. She is a Professor of English and the director of the MFA Program in Creative Writing at Adelphi University.



## Adriana Trigiani

Beloved by millions of readers around the world as one of the “reigning queens of women’s fiction,” (*USA Today*), **Adriana Trigiani** is *The New York Times*–bestselling author of 20 books in fiction and nonfiction, including *The Shoemaker’s Wife*; *The Good Left Undone*; *Don’t Sing at the Table*; and *Lucia, Lucia*. Published in 38 languages, *The New York Times* calls her “a comedy writer with a heart of gold,” and her books “tiramisu for the soul.” She is host of the hit podcast, *You Are What You Read*, in conversation with the great minds of our time about the books that built their souls.

Trigiani is an award-winning playwright, television writer/producer and filmmaker. She wrote and directed the major motion picture adaptation of her debut novel *Big Stone Gap*, adapted her novel *Very Valentine* for television and directed *Then Came You*. She wrote and directed the documentary film, *Queens of the Big Time*, winner of the Audience Award at the Hamptons International Film Festival and Audience Award at the Palm Springs International Film Festival. The film was also featured at the London and Hong Kong International Film festivals.

Trigiani grew up in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia where she co-founded The Origin Project, an in-school writing program serving over 2,700 students in Appalachia. In 2023, she was knighted with the Cavaliere dell’Ordine della Stella d’Italia by President Sergio Mattarella of Italy. She is proud to serve on the New York State Council on the Arts and lives in New York City with her family.



## Featured Authors & Participants



Igor Webb

**Igor Webb** was born in Slovakia and grew up in the Inwood neighborhood of New York City. His poems have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Poetry* (Chicago), *Stand* and *The Hong Kong Review*, among others. Among his publications are *Rereading the Nineteenth Century* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2010) and the memoir *Against Capitulation* (London: Quartet Books, 1984). His story “Reza Says,” originally published in *The Hudson Review*, was selected as a Distinguished Story for Best American Short Stories 2012. *Christopher Smart’s Cat*, a cross- or multi-genre work—part memoir, part literary talk, part fiction, lauded by the late Philip Roth—was published in 2018 by Dos Madres Press. *Buster Brown’s America*, a collection of nonfiction, including the series “This Old Writer: A Journal of a Plague Year,” appeared in the “Odd Volumes” series of *The Fortnightly Review* in Spring 2022. He is the winner of a National Endowment for the Arts Creative Writing Fellowship, a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship and a Leverhulme Fellowship. He holds a BA from Tufts University, and an MA and PhD from Stanford University.

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Laura Zigman



**Laura Zigman** is the author of six novels, including *Small World*, *Separation Anxiety* (which was optioned for a limited television series); *Animal Husbandry* (which was made into the movie *Someone Like You*, starring Hugh Jackman and Ashley Judd), *Dating Big Bird*, *Her*, and *Piece of Work*. She has ghostwritten/collaborated on several works of nonfiction, including Eddie Izzard’s *New York Times* bestseller *Believe Me*, been a contributor to *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post* and the *Huffington Post*, and was the recipient of a Yaddo residency. She lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where she helps clients via Zoom, phone and sometimes in person, with their writing. She is currently working on two new novels.

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Adrienne  
Mathiowetz



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1-Ruth S. Harley University Center-All Friday, April 5, Sessions

2-Performing Arts Center-All Saturday, April 6, Sessions

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## WIFI ACCESS FOR GUESTS

Accounts and wireless access information for visitors of Adelphi University's campus and centers.

### **How to Access WiFi As a Guest**

1. Select the wireless network "adelphi-guest"
2. Input your information
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  - Mobile carrier and phone number  
(If your carrier is not available, you can leave this blank)
  - Email address
  - Accept terms and register
3. Your login information will be emailed/texted to you
4. Select "adelphi-guest" again and log in using the information provided.  
Account access is good for one week.

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# 2024 WRITERS & READERS FESTIVAL

## RECOMMENDED READING LIST

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**Mona Awad**

*Rouge*

PUBLICATION DATE: September 12, 2023

**Jennifer Baker**

*Forgive Me Not*

PUBLICATION DATE: August 15, 2023

**Kevin Baker**

*The New York Game: Baseball and the Rise of a New City*

PUBLICATION DATE: March 05, 2024

**Lisa Belkin**

*Genealogy of a Murder: Four Generations, Three Families, One Fateful Night*

PUBLICATION DATE: May 30, 2023

**Ada Calhoun**

*Also a Poet: Frank O'Hara, My Father, and Me*

PUBLICATION DATE: April 18, 2023

**Margaret Cassidy**

*Children, Media, and American History: Printed Poison, Pernicious Stuff, and Other Terrible Temptations*

PUBLICATION DATE: October 05, 2017

**Rebecca Chace**

*Leaving Rock Harbor: a novel*

PUBLICATION DATE: 2010

**Liana Finck**

*You Broke It*

PUBLICATION DATE: January 23, 2024

**Kim Coleman Foote**

*Coleman Hill: A Novel*

PUBLICATION DATE: September 05, 2023

**Valerie Frankel**

*The Girlfriend Curse*

PUBLICATION DATE: October 13, 2015

**Kermit Frazier**

*First Acts: A Black Playwright Comes of Age*

PUBLICATION DATE: May 24, 2022

**Robin Gow MFA '20**

*Gooseberry*

PUBLICATION DATE: May 14, 2024

**Jan-Henry Gray**

*Documents*

PUBLICATION DATE: April 16, 2019

**Lauren Grodstein**

*We Must Not Think of Ourselves*

PUBLICATION DATE: November 28, 2023

**Ellen Hagan**

*All That Shines*

PUBLICATION DATE: September 05, 2023

**Alice Hoffman '73, '02 (Hon.)**

*The Invisible Hour*

PUBLICATION DATE: August 15, 2023

**Scott James '84**

*Trial by Fire: A Devastating Tragedy, 100 Lives Lost, and a 15-Year Search for Truth*

PUBLICATION DATE: October 27, 2020

**Julie Klam**

*The Almost Legendary Morris Sisters: A True Story of Family Fiction*

PUBLICATION DATE: August 10, 2021

**Jacqueline Jones LaMon**

*What Water Knows: Poems*

PUBLICATION DATE: June 15, 2021

**Victor LaValle**

*Lone Women*

PUBLICATION DATE: March 28, 2023

**Ann Leary**

*The Foundling*

PUBLICATION DATE: May 30, 2022

**Charles Leerhsen**

*Down and Out in Paradise: The Life of Anthony Bourdain*

PUBLICATION DATE: October 03, 2023

**Shariann Lewitt '75**

*Interface Masque*

PUBLICATION DATE: December 11, 2011

**Rob Linné**

"Design for Liberation: Port A's Fabled Salon on the Dunes Texas Architect"

PUBLICATION DATE: March/April 2023

**Maya Marshall**

*All the Blood Involved in Love*

PUBLICATION DATE: 2022

**Matt Pasca**

*Raven Wire*

PUBLICATION DATE: Feb. 15, 2016

**Andy Powell**

*My Heart Is A Public Park*

PUBLICATION DATE: August 12, 2022

**Puja Shah '03**

*For My Sister*

PUBLICATION DATE: October 18, 2022

**René Steinke**

*Friendswood: A Novel*

PUBLICATION DATE: May 26, 2015

**Adriana Trigiani**

*The Good Left Undone*

PUBLICATION DATE: April 18, 2023

**Igor Webb**

*Buster Brown's America:*

*Recollections, Reveries, Reflections*

PUBLICATION DATE: April 16, 2022

**Laura Zigman**

*Small World*

PUBLICATION DATE: January 10, 2023



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