

Mayborn Literary Nonfiction Writers Conference of the Southwest

Sponsored by the Mayborn Graduate School of Journalism
at the University of North Texas

2009 Conference Program Schedule



Friday, July 24, 2009

11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Registration: Hilton Lobby

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Writing Workshops for Selected Entries, Conference Rooms, 2nd Floor

3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Close Encounters of the Literary Kind, Session 1.

Optional – fee is \$50 – sign up in conference registration. See the ticket in your nametag for designated time and location. Bring your ticket and nametag. Important: Please arrive early for your 15-minute appointment with one of our literary agents.

4 p.m. to 10 p.m. Southwest Soiree at Austin Ranch (walk over from Hilton)

Reception, Dinner, Program, Lecture and Book Signing for Speakers and Conferees

Meet up with everyone at Austin Ranch and enjoy Tex-Mex. Sue Mayborn, honorary publisher of the conference and Mitch Land, director of the Mayborn Graduate School of Journalism, will welcome our writers and guests. Cash bar available.

4 – 5:30 p.m. Reception

5:30 – 7:15 p.m. Dinner

7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Keynote Address: Paul Theroux, one of America's literary lions and author of more than 47 books of travel writing, short-story collections, novels, criticism and children's literature. Theroux is widely acclaimed as the nation's most renowned travel writer - the quintessential explorer.

Lecture: "The World is Elsewhere: A Life in Search of Stories."

8:30 p.m. to 8:50 p.m. Q & A with Paul Theroux

8:55 p.m. to 9:40 p.m. Book Signing by Paul Theroux and Ten Spurs literary journal writers.



Saturday, July 25, 2009

8:00 a.m. to 10 a.m. Late Registration (Hotel Lobby)

8:00 a.m. to 8:35 a.m. Panel Discussion with rising stars Mike Mooney and Ashley Harrell of Village Voice Media.

Lecture: “Infiltrating Subterranean Subcultures: Getting in Good with Those Seedy Groups Your Mother Warned You About.”

(Auditorium)

8:35 to 8:45 a.m. Q & A with Mike Mooney and Ashley Harrell

8:50 a.m. to 9:25 a.m. Plenary Session with Bill Minutaglio, author of an unauthorized biography of George W. Bush and a number of other narrative biographies

Lecture: “Summoning Spirits”

(Auditorium)

9:25 to 9:35 a.m. Q & A with Bill Minutaglio

9:40 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. Panel Discussion with Dianne Solis, Alfredo Corchado and Sonia Nazario, Pulitzer Prize Winning Author of *Enrique's Journey*. They'll take you through the backwaters and big cities of Mexico and the United States, telling their tales of hope and heartache

Lecture: “Wasting away in Margaritaville: Where Empty Barstools Tell the Border Tale Better Than Body Counts”

(Auditorium)

10:15 a.m. to 10:25 a.m. Q & A with Dianne Solis, Alfredo Corchado and Sonia Nazario

10:25 a.m. to 10:40 a.m. Break outside La Verde

10:40 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. Plenary Session with Joy Sewing, the Houston Chronicle's fashion and beauty writer.

Lecture: “Shattering Conventional Wisdom: Long Form Storytelling Works on the Web”

(Auditorium)

11:15 a.m. to 11:25 a.m. Q & A with Joy Sewing

11:30 a.m. to 12:05 p.m. Plenary Session with Allen and Cynthia Mondell, documentary filmmakers

Lecture: Lights, Camera, Action! The Naked Truth about Documentary Story Telling

(Auditorium)

12:05 to 12:15 Q & A with Allen and Cynthia Mondell

12:15 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Lunch in Hotel Cafeteria

1:30 p.m. to 2:05 p.m. Panel Discussion with Mike Hall, an award-winning writer for Texas Monthly.. Skip Hollandsworth, executive editor of Texas Monthly, will moderate

Discussion: “Lost Causes: Finding Great Stories in the Criminal Justice System”
(Auditorium)

2:00 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. Q & A with Mike Hall

2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Close Encounters of the Literary Kind, Session 2.

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2:25 p.m. to 2: 35 p.m. Plenary Session with Stephanie Elizondo Griest, a journalist and author who enjoys mingling with the Russian Mafiya, polishing Chinese propaganda, and belly dancing with Cuban rumba queens.

Lecture: “The Accidental Memoirist: The Art and Ethics of Living Backward”
(Auditorium)

2:45 p.m. to 2:55 p.m. Q & A with Stephanie Elizondo Griest

3:05 p.m. to 3:40 p.m. Plenary session with Roger Thurow, author and foreign correspondent for The Wall Street Journal

Lecture: “Consumed by Hunger”
(Auditorium)

3:40 p.m. to 3:50 p.m. Q & A with Roger Thurow

3:50 p.m. to 4:05 p.m. Break outside La Verde.

4:05 p.m. to 4:40 p.m. Plenary session with Julia Reed, a contributing editor at Vogue and Newsweek and author of *Ham Biscuits, Hostess Gowns, and Other Southern Specialties*

Lecture: “The Art of the Narrative Essay”
(Auditorium)

4:40 p.m. to 4:50 p.m. Q & A with Julia Reed

5:00 p.m. to 5:50 p.m. Plenary Session with Roy Blount Jr., a contributing editor of The Atlantic Monthly and one of America’s wittiest writers

Lecture: “Alphabet Juice: Getting Physical With Your ABCs”
(Auditorium)

5:50 p.m. to 6 p.m. Q & A with Roy Blount Jr.

6:45 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. **Literary Lights Dinner**

Time to dress up and enjoy an elegant evening in the Hilton Ballroom.

Session Open to the Public, \$100 admission

(Note: Advance reservations only. No payments at door).

7:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Literary Lights Award Presentations

8:00 p.m. to 8:50 p.m. Keynote Address, Ira Glass, host and producer of NPR's "This American Life"

Lecture: "This American Life: The Guiding Principles of Good Storytelling"

8:50 p.m. to 9:10 p.m. *Q & A with Ira Glass*

9:10 p.m. to 9:40 p.m. Book Signings by Ira Glass and all Conference Authors (Lobby outside the Ballroom)



Sunday, July 26, 2009

8:00 a.m. to 8:35 a.m. Plenary session with Susan Warren, Texas Bureau Chief for The Wall Street Journal and author of *Backyard Giants*

Lecture: "Revealing Characters: How to Make Dull People Sparkle"

8:35 to 8:45 Q & A with Susan Warren

(Auditorium)

8:50 a.m. to 9:25 a.m. Plenary Session with Gordon Grice, a nature writer from rural Oklahoma and author of *The Red Hourglass: Lives of the Predators*

Lecture: "Once Bitten: Lessons from the Deadly Kingdom"

(Auditorium)

9:25 a.m. to 9:35 a.m. Q & A with Gordon Grice

(Auditorium)

9:40 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. Plenary Session with Michael W. Kauffman, a journalist, narrative historian and a fixture at assassination-related symposia.

Lecture: "Living History: Rowing, Jumping, and Sleeping through the Lincoln Conspiracy"

(Auditorium)

10:15 a.m. to 10:25 a.m. Q & A with Michael Kauffman.

10:30 a.m. to 11:05 a.m. Plenary Session with John Parsley, a Senior Editor at Little, Brown and Company, acquiring narrative nonfiction that focuses on science and natural history, history and current events, music, sports, business, food, and humor.

Lecture: “From Proposal to Publication: Publishing What Matters”
(Auditorium)

11:05 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. Q & A with John Parsley

11:15 a. m to 11:30 a.m. Break outside La Verde

11: 30 a.m. to 12:15 a.m. Keynote Address, Alma Guillermoprieto, Latin American correspondent for the New Yorker and the New York Review of Books and author of *Dancing with Cuba*

Lecture: “Dancing With Cuba”
(Auditorium)

12:15 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. Short Reading by Alma Guillermoprieto

12:20 to 12:25 p.m. Q & A with Alma Guillermoprieto

12:25 p.m. to 12:30 p.m. Farewell Address: Mitch Land

12:30 to 1 p.m. Book signing outside the Auditorium for Alma Guillermoprieto, Michael W. Kauffman, Gordon Grice and Susan Warren

Adios, amigos.