

writer in Residence

2014

Strathcona County Library's new Writer in Residence is **Margaret Macpherson!**



Margaret Macpherson will be joining us from January through April, bringing with her a wealth of knowledge and experience. Margaret will be offering workshops and meeting one-on-one with writers of all skill levels to hone their craft and have some fun too!

Margaret's program schedule and office hours are available on the Library's website.

Margaret Macpherson > metrowir.com > 780-240-1194

See the other side for a list of Margaret's workshops

How to Write About Your Family and Still Have One: Perspectives on Nonfiction

Jan 16, 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Join Margaret to discuss the pros and cons of truth-telling in memoir and creative nonfiction, how and when to soften the facts and what that means for both the writer and the subject. Writing exercises included.

Conflict and Catastrophes: Getting Characters in and out of Crisis

Jan 30, 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Without drama, life can be pretty dreary and that's doubly true in story construction. It doesn't matter which genre, there must be some sort of crisis, internal or external. This workshop shares methods of creating drama on the page and allowing it to unfold as it should.

This Means That: Metaphor and Metonymy at the heart of short fiction

Feb 6, 7:00 - 8:30 pm

What drives short fiction? Many would say metaphor or a metonymic device. What is this ghostly thing and how can you make it work for you? This is a hands-on writing workshop messing with metaphor.

Bring on the Blogosphere, with EPL WIR Jason Norman

Mar 13, 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Write a blog better than most people with the help of Metro Writer in Residence Jason Lee Norman. Norman will show you the advantages of writing in short form, and help you develop your blogging voice.

Point of View Wrestling Match: Omniscient vs.Third Person

March 27, 7:00 - 8:30 pm

It's a battle to the death with good old first person Point of View as the referee. Through experimental writing exercises you can figure out which point of view works best for which text. Put the gloves on because POV is not for wimps.

Mucking About

Apr 6, 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Using four different artistic mediums – words, paint, voice and clay – Margaret, who is also an expressive arts practitioner, will take participants on a journey of discovery about the power of creativity. The workshop is based on low skills/ high sensitivity. You don't have to know how to do it, you just have to do it!

Slush Piles and Rejection Slips: The Book Industry, Agents and Publishers

Apr 17, 7:00 - 8:30 pm

In a candid talk about her own experiences in the publishing world, Margaret will take you through her eight book journey with four different publishers and tell you what each publication taught her. Included will be helpful suggestions to launch or expedite your own writing career.

Polishing the Silver: Memoir and Remembering

Jun 6, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Using prompts and visual stimuli, seniors are encouraged to step back in time to preserve on paper their early memories of Alberta. Tea, talk and time to write and remember are included in this two hour workshop.

To register for any of these workshops,
visit www.sclibrary.ab.ca > Programs & Events, or call 780.410.8600