2024 Iowa Summer Writing Festival Schedule of Workshops

Weeklong Workshops June 16–21

Anna Bruno  The Meaning of Life: Discovering Philosophical Truth in Fiction
Kelly Dwyer  Writing the Popular Novel (In Any Genre)
Hugh Ferrer  The Choreography of Plot: Motivating Characters in Surprising Ways
Diana Goetsch  Overwhelming Subjects: A Workshop for All Genres
Eric Goodman  Getting It Right in Longform Fiction & Nonfiction: An Advanced Workshop
Sands Hall  Fiction Strategies for the Memoirist
Christine Hemp  Revision Tactics in Nonfiction
Kathleen Maris Paltrineri  The Art of Losing: A Poetry Workshop
Zach Savich  Ditties and Frolics and Aches: Poetry and Song
Suzanne Scanlon  Writing in Fragments: Building Your Book Piece by Piece
Carol Spindel  So You Find Yourself Teaching Writing: Using Personal Essays to Explore Any Subject and Improve Students’ Writing (And Your Own!)

Weekend Workshops June 22–23

Marilyn Abildskov  Literary Selfies: The Personal Essay
Ren Arcamone  Writing the Unreal: A Speculative Fiction Workshop
Kelly Dwyer  Plotting the Plot in a Weekend
Eric Goodman  Killer Characters in Fiction & Nonfiction
Sands Hall  Scene: The Essential Building Block of Story
Christine Hemp  Making Sense: Poems from the Body
Wayne Johnson  Finger Exercises in Fiction
Afabwaje Kurian  Fast Drafting: The Art of Speed and Imperfection
Suzanne Scanlon  Writing Grief and Loss
Leslie Schwartz  Fearless Fiction: Three Steps to Move the Big Idea into Bold and Daring Prose
Carol Spindel  Everything about My Life: Structuring Memoir through a Single Category

Weeklong Workshops June 23–28

Marilyn Abildskov  A Matter of Time: Narrative Clocks
Jennifer Colville  Embodied Stories, Unruly Narrative
Patricia Foster  Creating the Linked Story Collection
Diana Goetsch  Free-Writing Intensive: A Workshop for All Genres
Robin Hemley  Turning Life into Fiction
Wayne Johnson  Telling the Tale: A Nonfiction Workshop
Jennifer L. Knox  The Intersection of Comedy and Poetry
Amanda Montei  Home-Building: Writing Setting and Scene in Domestic Spaces
Zach Savich  Finding Your Voices: Helping Your Writing Talk (And Listen)
Leslie Schwartz  Novel Bootcamp: From Writing Prompt to Full-Fledged
Bart Yates  Narrative So Now What? Advanced Novel Workshop
**Weeklong Workshops July 14–19**

Jessica Alexander  
Mystery, Suspense, and Fascination in Fiction and Nonfiction

Mary Allen  
Spiritual Writing: Listening to Our Lives

Hugh Ferrer  
Approaching Revision: An Advanced Fiction Workshop

Charles Holdefer  
Going the Distance: From Chapter One to "The End" of the Novel

Madeline McDonnell  
Story Songs and Painted Plots: Finding Fictional Forms in Music and Visual Art

June Melby  
Summer Camp (For Your Muse)

Michael Morse  
Think Twice/Think Again: Making Poems from Inspiration & Calculation

Vi Khi Nao  
The Shapes of Queerness: A Multi-Genre Workshop

Marc Nieson  
Crafting the Travel Narrative

Caryl Pagel  
Poem as Conversation: A Workshop

Robert Anthony Siegel  
Kickstart Your Memoir

Zoe Tuck  
Dear Diary

**Weekend Workshops July 20–21**

Mieke Eerkens  
Writers Who Submit: Taking the Steps to Publication

Hugh Ferrer  
Inside-Out: The Suggestive Art of Implication

Malinda McCollum  
Under Pressure: Layering Conflict in Fiction

Madeline McDonnell/M  
Ficetry Potions! Finding Poetry in Fiction, Fiction in Poetry, and a Magical Friendship

Caryl Pagel  
between Forms

Michael Morse  
Close Reading into Enlightened Writing: Generating Sonnets after Terrance Hayes & Diane Seuss

Marc Nieson  
The Character of Place

Sarah Saffian  
Sunny Side Up: The Light Stuff of Memoir

Robert Anthony Siegel  
Go Ahead, Make a Scene! Telling Your Story through Dramatic, Vivid, Exciting Scenes

Anthony Varallo  
Flash Fiction Five Hundred: A Writer’s Workout

Bart Yates  
Why Can’t I Put This Book Down? Developing a Distinctive Narrative Voice

**Weeklong Workshops July 21–26**

Susan Aizenberg  
Making Poems: An Informal, Introductory, and Generative Workshop

Timothy Bascom  
An Enormous Eye: Writing the Contemplative Essay

Mieke Eerkens  
The Beating Heart: Developing the Central Theme that Drives Your Story, Essay, or Book

Robin Hemley  
Artifacts: A Week of Writing Prompts

Jared Joseph  
Losing “Your” Voice: The Art of Imitation in Poetry

Malinda McCollum  
Five-Day MFA: A Fiction Workshop

James McKean  
The Shape of Time in Memoir

Rachel Pastan  
Planning A Novel: Making a Map and Avoiding Monsters

Juliet Patterson  
The Art of Making a Scene: From Fact to Story

Sarah Saffian  
Rapid-Fire Memoir: A Personal Piece a Day

Anthony Varallo  
Digging In, Sending Out: A Fiction and Editing Workshop

**Weekend Workshops July 27–28**

Mary Allen  
Edit Like a Zen Master

Nancy K. Barry  
Whose Voice Is This? A Primer on Style

Mieke Eerkens  
Promptapalooza 2024: 10 Prompts to Generate 10 Beginnings in 2 Days

Jared Joseph  
“This Page Intentionally Left Blank”: The Silence of the Poem
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<td>Fear and Loathing and Sometimes Even Joy: Getting Emotion on the Page</td>
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<td>Everything You Want to Know about the Craft of Poetry (But Were Afraid to Ask)</td>
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