

Writer's Guild launches workshops

ASTORIA — The Writer's Guild, a new Astoria-area nonprofit, is pleased to announce its 2018 writing workshop schedule.

Join some of the best professional writers in the area as they teach their craft. Write, create and connect with the literary community, and support our programming to strengthen the region through the power of words.

Workshops will be held at the Fort George Lovell Showroom 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The cost is \$65, and there's a discount for Guild members. Register at thewritersguild.org or send an email to info@thewritersguild.org.

Local author and Guild founder Marianne Monson will lead the first workshop Saturday, April 21, with "Publishing and Marketing for Writers." Understand the



COLIN MURPHEY PHOTO

Marianne Monson, author of 'Frontier Grit: The Unlikely True Stories of Daring Pioneer Women'

publishing industry from a writer's perspective and learn how to approach editors, pitch your idea and market your work. Self-publishing options will also be discussed.

The Writer's Guild is dedicated to connecting writers and promoting literacy in the larger Astoria area. They meet monthly on the third Tuesday from 6 to 8 p.m. at WineKraft in Astoria for writing, drinks and an open mic. These events are open to the public.

Workshop schedule

- Saturday, April 21
Marianne Monson: "Publishing and Marketing for Writers"
- Saturday, May 19



COURTESY MARIANNE MONSON

- "Writing for Children and Young Adults"
 - Saturday, June 9
 - "Finding Your Voice"
 - Saturday, July 21
- Neil Aitken: "Fire in the Mind: Writing Memorable Images"
 - Saturday, Aug. 4
- Heather Douglas: "Poetry through List Making"
 - Saturday, Sept. 22
- Kate Deeks: "Tarot Deck as Writing Tool"
 - Saturday, Oct. 13
- John Sibley Williams: "Poetry of Place"

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Susan Banyas performs poetry at Astoria Library

ASTORIA — Experience National Poetry Month at the Astoria Library during an evening of performance poetry by multimedia artist Susan Banyas 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 24. This event is free and open to the public.

Banyas will present "Ohi-yo, the Outtakes," an original collection of spoken word monologues.

Banyas was 8 when "Negro" women and children appeared outside her third-grade classroom marching and carrying signs.

Fifty years after witnessing her first protest, she returned to Hillsboro, Ohio, to begin a 10-year investigation that resulted in two dance/theatre works: "No Strangers Here Today," which features her great-great-grandmother's Civil War diary, and "The Hillsboro Story," a poetic history of one of the first desegregation battles in the country.

The two pieces weave memories, personal voices

COURTESY ASTORIA LIBRARY
Susan Banyas

and cultural investigation into an exposé of a small town's role in American history. The monologues composing "Ohi-yo, the Outtakes" are excerpted and expanded from this body of work and from a nonfiction manuscript in progress.

Banyas has worked as a director, writer and teacher of interdisciplinary performance art since 1976, when she co-founded SO&SO&SO&SO and began to develop "Soul Stories" and "Everyday Dancing," forms that integrate movement, image and language into physical poet-

ry. She is currently co-directing, with choreographer Andrea Parson, "Finding Soul, A Constellation of Stories," a collaboration with a trio of dancers that will be presented by Coho Theatre in Portland in July.

To learn more about Banyas, visit her website: susanbanyas.com.

The Astoria Library is guided by the mission statement: "Explore ideas, engage minds, excite imagination." For information about library programs and services, contact library staff at 503-325-7323 or visit astorialibrary.org.

Savor a lofty lunch with 'Eats of Eden'

SEASIDE — Join Beach Books for a fun Lunch in the Loft with Tabitha Blankenbiller, author of "Eats of Eden," at noon, Friday, April 20.

"Eats of Eden" is a trip into the memory, stomach and heart of every woman. These essays of tasty bites, writing, coming-of-age, family, sex, self-esteem and, above all, overcoming personal odds to live your best life are complete with mouth-watering recipes and memories that will change your relationship with food forever.

"Eats of Eden" follows a year of attempting to write a novel, and the daily life, occasional revelations and passions that feed, distract, complicate and enrich that process — in the author's case, constant detours into the kitchen.

Alex Brandon, co-owner of Dough Dough Bakery, is already planning what recipe she'll pick from the book to serve for lunch!

The \$25 cost of the event includes a catered lunch and a signed copy of the book. RSVP to 503-738-3500.

COURTESY BEACH BOOKS
Author Tabitha Blankenbiller

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