

## Manzanita novelist reads at Cannon Beach Library

CANNON BEACH — Holly Lörincz, an award-winning Manzanita novelist, will read from her recently published novel “The Everything Girl,” at 2 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 8, at the Cannon Beach Library, 131 N. Hemlock.

She will also read from a crime book slated for fall publication and discuss the intricacies of collaborative authorship.

Before establishing Lörincz Literary Services in 2010 in Manzanita and becoming a collaborative literary agent with the MacGregor Literary Agency, she earned a bachelor’s degree in journalism and a master of arts in teaching from Western Oregon University.

While teaching at Neah-Kah-Nie High School, Lörincz received the Outstanding Speech, Debate and Theatre Educator of the Year Award from the National Federation of High Schools, the OSAA Speech Educator of the Year Award and the National Federation of High Schools Educator of the Year Award for Oregon.

Her experience at Neah-Kah-Nie became the basis for her novel “Smart Mouth,” which received the 2014 Bronze Independent Publishers Book Award in Popular Fiction.

Following a life-threatening illness, Lörincz resigned from teaching at Neah-Kah-Nie, but she views her current work as a collaborative editor, publishing coach and writer as an extension of her teaching career, especially through her conference and workshop presentations.

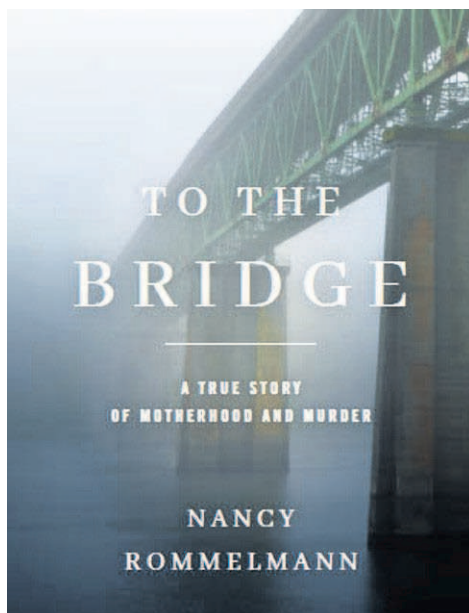
A member of the Editorial Freelancers Association, Lörincz serves on the faculty for the Profitable Authors Institute and for the Blackbird Studio for writers in Portland.



COURTESY JOSEPH BERNT

Author Holly Lörincz.

## What made a mother want to murder her children?



PHOTOS COURTESY KATHIE HIGHTOWER

The cover of ‘To the Bridge’ by Nancy Rommelmann.

MANZANITA — Author Nancy Rommelmann will read from her book, “To the Bridge: A True Story of Motherhood and Murder,” at 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 15, at the Hoffman Center for the Arts, 594 Laneda Ave.

The case was closed, but for journalist Nancy Rommelmann, the mystery remained: What made a mother want to murder her own children?

On May 23, 2009, Amanda Stott-Smith drove to the Sellwood Bridge in Portland and dropped her two children into the Willamette River. One child died, one lived. Amanda was arrested, convicted and sentenced to 35 years in prison.

Rommelmann traced the roots of Amanda’s fury and desperation through thousands of pages of records, meetings with lawyers and convicts, and interviews with friends and family who felt shocked, confused and emotionally swindled by a woman whose life was

now defined by an unspeakable crime.

Rommelmann is also the author of the novel “The Bad Mother,” the story collection “Transportation,” and “Destination Gacy” about a cross-country journey to interview serial killer John Wayne Gacy shortly before his execution. She has written articles for the LA Weekly, the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal and other publications.



Author Nancy Rommelmann

Following Rommelmann’s reading and Q-and-A, we’ll have our popular open mic where up to nine local or visiting writers will read five minutes of their original work. The suggested (not

required) theme is “I Don’t Understand You.” Admission for the evening reading is \$7. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

The Manzanita Writers’ Series is a program of the Hoffman Center for the Arts. More information is available at hoffmanblog.org, or contact Vera Wildauer at vwildauer@gmail.com.

## Writer’s Guild announces fall workshops

ASTORIA — The Writer’s Guild, an Astoria-based nonprofit dedicated to promoting literacy in the community, has announced its fall workshop schedule.

• 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 13: Poetry of place.

Poetry of place focuses not on the landscapes we know or imagine. Award-winning poet John Sibley Williams will focus on ways the mundane and sublime impact our writing through prompts, exercises and discussion.

The cost is \$65; guild members get a discount. Location is TBA. Register at [thewritersguild.org/workshops](http://thewritersguild.org/workshops).

• 7 to 10 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 3: “A Dark and Stormy Night.”

Dress up as your favorite book character and join us for music, wine and wordplay at River-Sea Gallery, 1160 Commercial St. in Astoria. All proceeds benefit the work of the Writer’s Guild.



**THE WRITER’S GUILD**

ASTORIA OREGON

COURTESY MARIANNE MONSON



COURTESY JOAN OAKEY

Astoria author and educator Marianne Monson, right, is the founder of The Writer’s Guild in Astoria. In this photo, she is working with Shahnaz Radjy during a writing retreat in Sintra, Portugal.