

# 2010 Pikes Peak Writers Conference

## Conference Info

Speakers, Faculty, Workshops, Schedule, Add-on Programs and the Cool Stuff

April 22-25, 2010

COLORADO SPRINGS, CO

### THE SCHEDULE

#### SPECIAL THURSDAY ADD-ON:

**T-3: Target Track Thursday**  
April 22, Thursday  
8:30 am to 5 pm

This full day includes tracks for Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced writers. Lunch-on-your-own Buffet onsite.

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#### THE CONFERENCE

**April 23, Friday**  
8:30 am to 9:30 pm

featuring workshops, all Read & Critique sessions, Speed Pitching, Newcomers Orientation, Flash Fiction and more. Includes our welcome lunch, and dinner with keynote speaker, Jodi Thomas

**April 24, Saturday**  
7:30 am to 11:00 pm

featuring workshops, Pitch Appointments, a special Keynote Booksigning event, a new "Discussion" series, lunch with keynote Kelley Armstrong, and our annual Awards Banquet celebrating our contest winners with keynote, Tim Dorsey

**April 25, Sunday morning**  
8:00 am to 1:00 pm

featuring workshops, a Writers Faire and brunch with Donald Maass.

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**SPECIAL SUNDAY ADD-ON:**  
**DONALD MAASS presents**  
**THE FIRE IN FICTION**

April 25, Sunday afternoon  
1:30 pm to 6:00 pm

### THE FEATURED SPEAKERS

#### Donald Maass



is the author of *The Career Novelist* (1996), *Writing the Breakout Novel* (2001), *Writing the Breakout Novel Workbook* (2004), and *The Fire in Fiction* (2009). His agency sells more than 150 novels every year to major publishers in the U.S. and overseas

Donald will present a special Sunday Add On Workshop in addition to regular conference programming. He will not be taking appointments.

#### Jodi Thomas



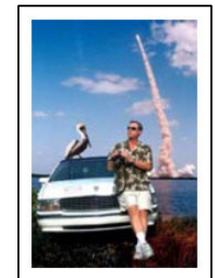
is the author of over 25 novels. *Finding Mary Blaine* (2004), won the National Readers' Choice Award. *The Texan's Reward* (2005) earned her a third career RITA award and induction into the RWA Hall of Fame in 2006. In 2009, Jodi received the National Reader's Choice Award for two of her books: *Twisted Creek* (2008) and *Tall, Dark and Texan* (2008).

#### Kelley Armstrong



spins tales of ghosts and demons and werewolves, while safely locked away in her basement writing dungeon. She's the #1 NYT bestselling author of the "Darkest Powers" young adult urban fantasy trilogy, including *The Summoning*, *The Awakening* and the forthcoming *The Reckoning*. She also writes the "Women of the Otherworld" paranormal suspense series, and the Nadia Stafford crime series.

#### Tim Dorsey



was born in Indiana but grew up in Florida. He graduated from Auburn University and became a police and courts reporter in Montgomery, Alabama. He moved to The *Tampa Tribune* as a political reporter, copy desk editor, and eventually as the night metro editor. He left the paper in 1999 to write full time. Tim has since published eleven novels in several languages. His most recent novel is *Gator A-Go-Go*, featuring the continuing character of Serge Storms.

## Schedule of Events

### T-3: Target Track Thursday (Add-on program)

Registration (T-3 only):  
Starts at 8:30 am

Session T-3 AM:  
9:00 am – 12:15 pm

Lunch on your own:  
12:15 pm – 1:30 pm

Session T-3 PM:  
1:30 pm – 4:45 pm

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### THE CONFERENCE! Friday

Registration (conference):  
Starts at 8:00 am

Session 1:  
9:00 am – 10:00 am

Session 2:  
10:15 am – 11:15 am

Welcome Luncheon:  
11:30 am – 1:15 pm

Session 3:  
1:30 pm – 2:45 pm

Session 4:  
3:00 pm – 4:15 pm

Session 5:  
4:30 pm – 5:45 pm

Dinner with Jodi Thomas:  
7:00 pm – 9:30 pm

### Saturday

Breakfast:  
Starts at 7:00 am

Late Registration:  
Starts at 8:00 am

Session 6:  
8:30 am – 9:30 am

Session 7:  
9:45 am – 10:45 am

Session 8:  
11:00 am – Noon

Lunch with Kelley  
Armstrong:  
12:30 pm – 2:00 pm

Special Booksigning:  
2:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Session 9:  
2:40 pm – 3:40 pm

Session 10:  
3:50 pm – 4:50 pm

Session 11:  
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Banquet with Tim Dorsey:  
7:30 pm – 10:30 pm

## THE FACULTY: Agents & Editors

### Agent: Gary Heldt Signature Agency

Gary started his career as an agent with the Imprint Agency in 2003, and joined Signature Agency in 2009. Gary represents authors of non-fiction and fiction. In non-fiction he is interested in history, science, popular culture, current events, narrative non-fiction, psychology, religion, and spirituality.

**Gary is looking for: literary fiction, teen fiction, history, science, biography, memoir.**



### Agent: Scott Hoffman Folio Literary Management

A refugee from the world of politics, Scott is one of the founding partners of Folio Literary Management, LLC. Prior to starting Folio, Scott was at PMA Literary and Film Management, Inc.

**Scott is looking for: literary fiction, spiritual or religious-themed fiction and non-fiction, political, historical, or science-based non-fiction, science fiction or fantasy that crosses over into literary fiction, memoirs, website or blog-based books, drop-dead funny non-fiction and first novels.**



### Agent: Sara Megibow Nelson Literary Agency

Sara has been with the Nelson Literary Agency since early 2006 and is actively accepting submissions.

**Sara is looking for: romance (all genres except category or inspirational), science fiction and fantasy, young adult, middle grade, literary fiction and commercial fiction.**



### Agent: Kristin Nelson Nelson Literary Agency

Kristin established the Nelson Literary Agency in 2002. Since then, she has sold over a 100 books to major publishers, has landed several film deals and has contracted foreign rights on behalf of her clients in many territories. She specializes in representing commercial fiction (mainstream, women's fiction, romance, science fiction, fantasy, young adult & middle grade) and literary fiction with a commercial bent.

**Kristin is not taking appointments.**



### Agent: Sarah Warner Warner Literary Group

After graduation, Sarah landed her first publishing job at St. Martin's Press in the Flat Irons Building in Manhattan. After working at the McGraw-Hill Publishing Company, she worked at Westview Press (a division of HarperCollins San Francisco) and continued at Westview during the Perseus Books Group ownership. Sarah started the Warner Literary Group to further the literary tradition in Boulder. In addition to non-fiction, she is working with fiction, television, and screen writers.

**Sarah is looking for: fiction, non-fiction, children's stories, television and feature film scripts, all categories except hard science fiction.**

### Agent: Caryn Weisman Andrea Brown Literary Agency

Caryn has been an agent with the Andrea Brown Literary Agency, Inc. since 2003, and has sold over 100 children's books, young adult and middle-grade fiction and non-fiction, chapter books, and picture books (fiction and non-fiction). Caryn's particular interests include: humorous middle-grade fiction for girls and boys; YA that falls at the intersection of commercial and literary; YA that is edgy without being gratuitous; non-institutional biography and other unique non-fiction for children and teens; and African-American and Latino-themed literature in all children's and teen age groups.

**Caryn is looking for: young adult and non-fiction.**



### Agent: Terrie Wolf Anita Kushen and Associates

Prior to joining Anita Kushen and Associates in 2009 to work on foreign rights, Terrie was an award-winning member of the international media and learned about publishing from the inside the offices of Penguin and Hobson's Press (UK). AKA Literary was born in early 2010 when Terrie and her associate, Ange Tysdal, acquired Anita Kushen and Associates.

**Terrie is looking for: fiction (inspirational-things of faith, multi-cultural, women's, children's, romance and Westerns) and non-fiction (culinary/cookbooks, humor, memoir, religion, music and nature).**



## Schedule of Events

### CONFERENCE cont'd

#### Sunday Morning

Session 12:

8:00 am – 9:00 am

Session 13:

9:10 am – 10:10 am

Brunch with Donald Maass:

10:20 am – Noon

Writers Faire:

Noon – 1:00 pm

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#### Sunday Afternoon (Add-on program)

Donald Maass  
presents

### THE FIRE IN FICTION

Registration:  
Starts at 1:00 pm

Program begins at  
1:30 pm and ends at  
6:00 pm with one break.

## THE FACULTY: Agents & Editors - cont'd

### Editor: Betsy Mitchell Editor-in-Chief - Del Rey

Betsy has been a science fiction/fantasy editor for more than 25 years. Her authors have included Terry Brooks, Octavia Butler, Michael Chabon, William Gibson, and many more. She received a World Fantasy Award for co-editing Full Spectrum 4. On the graphic novel side, she has edited projects by such authors as Dean Koontz, Diana Gabaldon, Kim Harrison, Stephen King, and Peter Straub. She and her family live in Brooklyn, New York.



Betsy is looking for: science fiction and fantasy.

### Editor: Kathleen Gilligan Thomas Dunne Books St. Martin's Press

Kathleen is looking for: mostly women's fiction, general fiction and some romance but it's not a focus.



### Editor: Allison Lyons Harlequin Enterprises

Allison is looking for: romantic suspense and anything that fits a Harlequin line.



### Publisher: Kate Gale Red Hen Press

Founded in 1994 by Mark E. Cull and Kate Gale, Red Hen Press is a non-profit literary press specializing poetry, literary fiction, memoirs and literary criticism. Red Hen has published more than 170 books and has established a significant cultural presence in Southern California and beyond. Red Hen Press is a space for writers to be celebrated.



Kate is looking for: poetry and literary fiction.

### Editor: Lisa Rector Independent Editor

Lisa specializes in late-stage story issues, sagging middles and third draft woes. She works with thrillers, suspense, mystery, historical, fantasy, YA, mainstream and literary fiction. Her company, THIRD DRAFT NYC, provides editorial services to published and advanced fiction writers.



Lisa is not taking appointments.

## THE FACULTY: Authors & Specialists

### Jodi Anderson

Jodi (aka Jodi Dawson) is a prolific writer whose work has appeared in more than fifteen languages. With a background that includes newspaper and magazine writing, as well as novels, she now works as the Program Coordinator for the Pikes Peak Writers, writes fiction and non-fiction, presents workshops for writers, and uses any opportunity to gain control of a microphone in front of a captive audience.



### Carol Berg

Carol's eleven novels have won many awards, including the Geffen, the Prism, and the 2009 Mythopoeic Fantasy Award for Adult Literature. She's taught writing in the US, Canada, Scotland, and Israel, and received reader mail from as far as the slopes of Denali and beneath the Mediterranean.



### Deb Courtney

Deb holds a degree in Fiction from the University of South Florida, where she was a Saunders Scholar in Fiction. She has had numerous short stories published and has worked as a freelance journalist. Her background includes marketing and public relations in several business sectors.



### Ronald Cree

Ronald began writing *Desert Blood 10PM/9C* in a class taught by Anthony and Agatha Award-winning author Rhys Bowen. Drawing on his relationship with his adopted son and close friendships with several popular Hollywood actors, Ronald crafted a unique mystery involving highly successful Latinos in the entertainment industry.



### Laura DiSilverio

Five years after retiring from the Air Force, Laura landed *two* three-book contracts and sold a stand-alone. *Tressed to Kill*, a "Southern Beauty Shop" mystery (by "Lila Dare") will be released in May from Berkley Prime Crime. Her other new series, starting with *Swift Justice*, comes out in the fall from St. Martin's.



### Todd Fahnestock

At the 2004 PPWC, Todd and his writing partner, Giles Carwyn, struck gold with their fantasy novel, *Heir of Autumn*, capturing the interest of New York agent Donald Maass. They landed a three-book contract with HarperCollins. Todd is currently working on an independent project, his next novel, *Wildmane*.



## THE FACULTY: Authors & Specialists cont'd

### Kirk Farber

Kirk's debut book, *Postcards from a Dead Girl* was a semi-finalist in the Amazon Break-through Novel Award contest before finding a home at Harper Perennial. Besides being an essayist, short story writer and drummer, he is also working on his second novel.



### Janet Fogg

Janet's collaborative, feature-length screenplays have been considered by director James Cameron as well as HBO and the SciFi Channel, and solicited by Hollywood Agent, Brian Dreyfuss. Her first novel, *Soliloquy* came out in January.



### Bonnie Hagan

In 2004, Bonnie attended her first Pikes Peak Writers Conference, and she hasn't missed one since. Bonnie started off volunteering as a ticket taker and is now the Pitch Coordinator for PPWC 2010. Bonnie is the proud mother of a YA urban fantasy manuscript and is raising three more novels, despite their rebellious tendencies.



### Laura Hayden

Since attending the very first PPWC, Laura has sold 14 books and four short stories to eight publishers under two names while living in six different states. Her latest gig is as a ghostwriter. She has served as PPWC Director/Co-Director six times and returns from Alabama for her seventh stint.



### Ron Heimbecher

Ron owns ChaliceMedia LLC, specializing in emerging technology publications across nearly 50 websites. Writing as Ron Chalice, he has published an illustrated poetry collection and a suspense novella. Ron is currently president of Pikes Peak Writers.



### Cicily Janus

Cicily has conducted over 400 interviews within the arts and entertainment industry. Her first book, *The New Face of Jazz*, is an oral history that highlights the voices of over 225 interviews with artists from around the country. Cicily is also the founder/owner of the internationally recognized--and award-winning--Writing Away Retreats.



### Karen Albright Lin

Karen is an editor, speaker, travel and food writer, and author of screen-plays, novels, literary cookbooks and magazine articles. She has received over 25 writing awards and her scripts have been considered by Barry Sonnenfeld, James Cameron, HBO, and the Sy-Fy Channel.



### Chris Mandeville

Chris is a writer of fantasy, science fiction and young adult novels, and is currently developing her first book-length non-fiction project, *365 Ways to Tickle the Muse: Exercises to Break Through Any Writer's Block*. She's Pikes Peak Writers' Immediate Past President and Community Ambassador, and is in her 7th year of service on the PPW Board of Directors.



### Pam McCutcheon

Author of the popular, *Writing the Fiction Synopsis*, Pam has written ten romance novels, two novellas, and six fantasy short stories. Writing as "Parker Blue", she also writes the Demon Underground series of paranormal YA novels, including *Bite Me* and the upcoming *Try Me*.



### Susan Mitchell

Susan's work has appeared in literary magazines including *George and Mertie's Place*, *Poetry Motel* and *Wordwrights*. She has written and produced projects for TLC, regional ABC, NBC and CBS affiliates. Currently she writes and produces television commercials, promotions and programs on a local level and is completing work on a darkly humorous urban fantasy novel.



### Linda Rohrbough

Linda has been writing professionally since 1989 and has more than 5,000 articles and seven books to her credit. Her most recent book, *Weight Loss Surgery* with the Adjustable Gastric Band, co-authored with Robert Sewell, M.D., was published by Da Capo Lifelong books in March 2008.



### Barbara Samuel

Barbara has written a number of highly acclaimed novels, won five RITA awards, and two Colorado Center for the Book awards. Her novels have made many "favorites" and "best books of the year" lists. Now writing as Barbara O'Neal, her book, *The Lost Recipe for Happiness*, is in its 8th printing, and her newest release is *The Secret of Everything* which was released in January.



### Angel Smits

Angel wrote her first love story when she was fifteen and began working as a nurses' aide in a nursing home when she was seventeen. She's been involved in both fields ever since. Angel has published two paranormal romance novels and a non-fiction book about Alzheimer's called *When Reasoning No Longer Works*.



**PPWC Tip #19:** Do your homework before you come. Learn more about the faculty members by visiting their websites and researching their client and/or book lists.

**PPWC Tip #31:** Use the time at meals and between workshops to learn about the industry and craft of writing from those around you.

# THE WORKSHOPS\*

## **An Agent Reads the Slush Pile**

Kristin Nelson (Nelson Literary Agency LLC) gives an honest look at how she addresses her "slush pile" of fiction submissions. Nelson reads from pages submitted by workshop attendees and provides feedback as to why she would or would not continue reading past page one. *Bring your first TWO pages!*

## **Funny is as Funny Does: Embracing Absurdity in Fiction**

Tim Dorsey has learned how to take wild situations and improbable characters and turn them into a bestselling series that engages readers and brings them back, book after book. Learn the secrets of how to flourish in a world of fictional absurdity. Laughter is mandatory.

## **Publicity, Promotion and Media Relations for Writers**

Learn everything about PR from how to create a marketing action plan to tips on self promotion. Learn how to write timely press releases and how to establish useful media relations. Using FREE Marketing Resources, you'll practice how to prepare for the BIG interview.

## **From Here to There, An Alternative to Outlining**

Learn the advantages and pitfalls of real-time plot and character development, and how to use them to enhance creativity and story development. The discussion covers story arcs, story framework, the four things an author needs to begin writing any scene, and techniques to keep moving when feeling lost.

## **What I Look for in a Manuscript**

Betsy Mitchell, editor-in-chief at Del Rey, will talk about specifics that she looks for when evaluating a submitted manuscript.

## **Writing the Fiction Synopsis**

Pam McCutcheon presents her much-demanded workshop on writing synopses based on her book of the same name.

## **Writing & Marketing Short Fiction**

Just because you tell your story in 5000 words or less, that doesn't mean it's easier to market than longer fiction. Learn more about writing short stories, how to identify viable short story markets and the ins and outs of the submission process.

## **What is This Thing Called Voice?**

Transform a character into a distinct, memorable individual by refining the character's voice. Learn how an author can subordinate his or her own narrative voice to the persona of the point-of-view character, exposing the attitudes, beliefs, and intelligence unique to that character. This workshop will involve brief writing exercises.

## **Wild Mind Tactics For Creativity**

How do you keep your creativity humming at a high level and increase your productivity no matter what else is going on in your life? Make nourishing your creativity a habit with these tricks and tactics from Barbara Samuel, a fulltime writer with 20 years under her belt. If you take care of your muses, they will take care of you.

## **Journey of a First Novel**

Come along on the Journey of a First Published Novel, from the inception to landing the big agent to holding the finished product. Todd Fahnestock, a multi-published, best-selling author shares his story "show and tell" style. Get the inside scoop on what happens when the dream of being published becomes a reality.

## **Online Architecture**

Matt Koumalats will discuss the who, how, when, where and whys of building an author website as well as strategies for online marketing using a range of media.

## **Screenwriting 101**

Screenwriting requires a different mindset and a whole different set of rules. Learn the basics about writing for the silver screen or flat-screen and the differences between the two.

## **Scare Me, I Dare You!**

Every book has an element of suspense. It's not a matter of jumping out of the shadows and screaming "Boo!" at your readers. It's a matter of knowing a secret or two dozen and slowly letting your reader figure it out. Learn techniques on how to keep your secrets and when to let your reader in.

## **Creating Your Non-Fiction Proposal**

Linda Rohrbough gives you the nuts and bolts information you need to start a career in non-fiction. At the end of the workshop, you'll have all the tools you need to put together your non-fiction own book proposal--without writing the entire book.

## **Is that a Rhetorical Question?**

Rhetorical devices can enhance your writing, enrich communication and create emotional impact. Literature is about growing cosmology through expanding the method of expressing ideas. Explore this resource of language and learn techniques that connect your readers with the deeper meaning in your manuscripts.

## **The Second Log Line**

In this interactive workshop, learn how to develop and use "the second log line" to give your book extra pizzazz when talking to agents and editors. Includes examples from published works and from movies and interactive exercises that help each attendee leaves with their own version of a second log line and a plan for using it with an editor or agent.

## **The Agent-Writer Partnership**

Literary agent, Terrie Wolf, discusses how an agent can guide you and help shape your career for long-term success.

## **I Know Nothing. Teach Me.**

A companion workshop that picks up where the Newcomers Orientation leaves off. If you're new, you don't know what you don't know. Let us help.

\*Please note these are proposed workshops, subject to change.

# THE WORKSHOPS\* cont'd

## The Art of E-Queries

Join Kristin Nelson for a discussion of the pros and cons of the fastest growing trend for authors--sending queries to literary agents by e-mail. Get the inside scoop on how to make your e-mail query stand out, what e-mail-specific pitfalls to avoid, and who are the agents who accept them.

## Story Design and Values

This is an advanced level craft workshop which uses the works/advice of Robert McKee and John Gardner as the main influences.

## Conversational Shoplifter

Let's talk...about the basics of dialogue: what it is, what it isn't, what it can do for you, and what you should never try to make it do. Understand why dialogue has to sound more real than reality, and how your best bits can be lifted from real life. Come prepared to listen and to write.

## Flash Fiction

Call it what you will--micro, flash, short-short--this fiction form is brief, tells a whole story, and occupies a growing niche in the marketplace. Learn the basics and follow the evolution of a Flash piece from concept to final product. Bonus: gain valuable insight into the PPWC On-Site Flash Fiction Contest. Bring writing materials so you can give Flash a try!

## From Query--to BEYOND

Caryn Weisman, an agent and Ron Cree, one of her very first clients, show you the process that a Young Adult book goes through, from idea to query and all the way to finished product.

## Relief Pitching

With compelling examples, award-winning author Linda Rohrbough provides principles for pitching success (including how to manage fear) along with the four things every author must know about their manuscript. Attendees get a quick primer on how to effectively talk about their work.

## The First 50 Pages

Most novelists repeat the mistakes buried in the first 50 pages, though surprisingly not the things they're doing right. Find out what is working in your manuscript, what isn't and why before you write the next draft. 2 two hour advanced workshop by Lisa Rector.

## Panel Discussions

- **Science Fiction & Fantasy:** *It's not just light sabers and elves.*
- **Romance and Women's Fiction:** *Finding the heart in fiction.*
- **Children's and Young Adult:** *It's (not) a small world after all.*
- **Spotlight on Agents:** *Who wants what, who bought what, and more.*
- **Spotlight on Editors:** *Everything you ever wanted to know about the attending editors.*
- **New Authors' Panel:** *They came, they wrote, they sold!*
- **Spotlight on Mystery Writers of America:** *Meet the murderous movers and suspenseful shakers of the Rocky Mountain chapter of MWA.*
- **Industry Climate Change:** *Forecasting changes on the publishing horizon.*

## Newcomers Orientation

Whether you're new to the profession or just new to our conference, this is a great place to start. This is the best time and place to ask all Those Questions. You know the ones--anything from "What's an ARC?" to...yeah, you find something that starts with Z. Learn the lingo, the layout and don't forget the secret handshake.

## Publishing and All That Jazz

Agent, Gary Heidt and author, Cicily Janus show you what happens after the agent reads the proposal. Learn about the journey that a non-fiction project makes on the road to publication.

## Declaring Independency

Kate Gale of Red Hen Press discusses what independent press publishers have to offer writers as well as the current trends. Participants will also explore how the process works and what they need to consider when approaching a press with a book idea or manuscript.

## Serious Talk about Series Writing

So, you're thinking about writing a series--YA, sci-fi, fantasy, mystery? Learn about the techniques you'll need to use to keep your setting consistent, how to capitalize on recurring characters, how your characters will (or won't) age and how their story arc will play out over multiple books. Give your series the edge that sets it apart and--even better--keeps it going strong over the course of three...eight...or twenty-six books.

## Step by Step: A Primer on Pacing

Slow and steady may win the race, but you may lose your readers in the process. Learn more about pacing as a plotting tool, and as a reflection of characterization. Learn when to speed things up and when to slow things down.

\* Please note these are proposed workshops, subject to change.

## What's New in 2010?

- Informal discussion groups in the Library
- Full day Programming on Friday
- Add-on Thursday workshops
- Welcome Luncheon on Friday
- Special Sunday add-on workshop
- Mystery Writers of America Meet and Greet on Saturday

## THE COOL STUFF

### READ & CRITIQUE 1-2-3 ANONYMOUS & DIVERSE

#### **What happens?**

Our moderator reads your first page aloud, keeping you anonymous. Three industry professionals--an agent, an editor, and a published author--give you immediate impressions and suggestions, giving you the benefit of three diverse points of view.

#### **What do I do?**

Sign up for R&C 1-2-3 on the registration form. Bring **ONE** copy of the **FIRST** page of your manuscript in standard manuscript format.\*

#### **Can I just sit in and listen?**

Yes. These sessions are open, and conference attendees are highly encouraged to attend.

#### **PPWC Tip #26:**

*You can learn a lot by listening to someone else's critique.*

### READ & CRITIQUE X-Treme PROGRESSIVE & PRACTICAL

#### **What happens?**

YOU read page 1 of your manuscript aloud in front of an editor or agent and other attendees. (Practice it!) This program provides a quick, practical way for you to find out if your manuscript has the "X factor"--that special something that makes an editor or agent turn to the next page.

#### **What do I do?**

Sign up for R&C X on the registration form. Bring **THREE** copies of your **FIRST** page. Copies given to the moderator and editor/agent must be in standard manuscript format.\* The page you read from can be in any format for ease of reading.

#### **Can I just sit in and listen?**

Yes. These sessions are open to conference attendees and are a great learning opportunity.

### READ & CRITIQUE AUTHORS INTIMATE & INTERACTIVE

#### **What happens?**

YOU will read in front of the author and a small number of other participants. (Practice!) You'll receive valuable feedback from the author in an intimate environment. Different from the other types of R&C, this format allows you to interact with the author, ask questions, etc. If you're not ready for primetime, this is the best place to go for feedback in a closed environment.

#### **What do I do?**

Sign up for R&C Authors on the registration form. Bring **THREE** copies of the first **TWO** pages of your manuscript. Pages for the moderator and author must be in standard manuscript format.\* The pages you read from can be in any format for ease of reading.

#### **Can I just sit in and listen?**

No. These sessions are open only to the reading participants who receive appointments.

## THE R&C FINE PRINT

### Read & Critique appointments:

- Are a benefit of attending the PPWC Conference. They are not available for participants who have signed up for Thursday or Sunday add-on programs only.
- Are offered at no additional charge.
- Are assigned first come, first served based on order of registration.
- Are limited and subject to availability. We do not guarantee that every attendee will receive an appointment due to time constraints.
- Are limited to one R&C appointment (no matter the format) per attendee.
- Will occur on Friday, April 23, ONLY.
- Can be traded/switched only at the R&C desk Friday morning. (Thursday program attendees can change theirs early, on Thursday afternoon.)

\*

### Standard Manuscript Format

- White 8.5 x 11" paper
- One inch margins
- Double-spaced
- 12-point font – Times (New) Roman or Courier (New)
- First page starts 1/3 of the way down the page
- No handwritten corrections

**IMPORTANT:** You are allowed a maximum of 16 lines of type on page one, not including the chapter title. Subsequent pages may have no more than 25 lines of type, not including a header or slug-line. You want your **writing** to stand out, not the physical manuscript, so don't use colored paper, fancy fonts or irregular formatting.

**PPWC Tip #57** *Practice reading your work aloud to help catch errors AND polish your R&C presentation.*

## FAQ

***I didn't get the pitch or R&C appointment I wanted.***

***What do I do?***

After you check in at the registration desk, go to the appointment desk and inquire about turning in or trading your appointment.

***I can only come Saturday. Can I pay half?***

Sorry, we can't break up the regular conference into individual days. But we do have the Thursday and Sunday add-on days that you can attend *à la carte*.

***I have bad food allergies. Can I come and not pay for food?***

Sorry, we don't have that option. But the hotel will do their best to accommodate your needs. Just make sure to note them on the registration form.

***Can I get more than one appointment if I wait around for an opening?***

No. This year we are instituting a firm one opportunity per customer policy for both pitch and R&C.

***I decided not to go to my appointment. That's okay, right?***

If you're not ready, you're not ready. *But don't blow it off.* Return the card to the appointment desk so that someone who did not receive an appointment has a chance.

***Why didn't I receive this brochure via snail mail?***

PPWC has "gone green." By not printing and mailing thousands of brochures, we not only save trees, we save valuable funds that can be put toward other aspects of the conference.

***Where's the registration form?***

Online at [PPWCon.org](http://PPWCon.org)

## MORE COOL STUFF

### Agent/Editor Pitch Appointments

***What do I do?***

Check out our list of editors and agents and what they're looking for. Sign up on the registration form for your first, second and third choices. You will be assigned only **ONE** appointment to occur on Saturday. Appointments are assigned in order of registration. You **MUST** have a completed manuscript in order to pitch. There is no cost for an appointment.

***What happens?***

You pitch your project to the agent or editor. You have eight minutes. No more. We have a tight schedule and a cattle prod. Draw your own conclusions.

***When will I know who I'm pitching to?***

You'll get an email approximately two weeks prior to the conference with your assignment. You'll also get the info in your registration materials.

***OMG, I don't know how to pitch!***

- ***Thursday:*** If you are attending the add-on Thursday session, we strongly recommend you attend Linda Rohrbough's pitch workshop.
- ***Friday:*** There will be pitch practice sessions on Friday set in a "speed dating" format. You will have the chance to practice your pitch several times to various experienced pitch coaches.
- ***Another option?*** Consider a Pitch Coach appointment. See below.

## THE PITCH FINE PRINT

### Pitch appointments:

- Are a benefit of attending the PPWC Conference. They are not available for Thursday or Sunday add-on only participants.
- Are offered at no additional charge
- Are assigned first come, first served based on order of registration.
- Are limited and subject to availability. We do not guarantee that every attendee will receive an appointment due to time constraints.
- Are limited to one Pitch appointment per attendee.
- Will be on Saturday, April 24, **ONLY**.
- Can be traded/switched only at the Pitch desk near registration on Friday. (Thursday program attendees can change theirs early, on Thursday afternoon.)

## PITCH COACHING (Optional)

• ***What is it?***

A chance for a one-on-one meeting with an experienced writer who can help you brainstorm, strategize, hone your log line and figure out what you want to say in your pitch.

• ***What do I do?***

Contact our Coach coordinator with your request.

• ***What does it cost?***

\$30 for a half hour or \$50 for a full hour. All monies go to our scholarship fund.

***What happens?***

The coordinator contacts you with the time, date and how to connect with your coach.

• ***Want to learn more?***

Go to: [PPWCon.org](http://PPWCon.org)

# THE EXTRAS – Add-on Programs



Pikes Peak Writers welcomes the  
the  
**Rocky Mountain Chapter of  
Mystery Writers of America**  
who are sponsoring the  
special **deadly dessert** at the  
Saturday Awards Banquet.  
Learn more about MWA at  
their Meet & Greet, Saturday  
before the banquet.

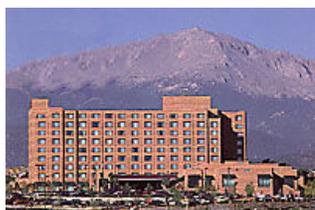
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**Bookstore services  
provided by:**



**The Reader's Cove  
Fort Collins, CO**

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Following a long tradition,  
the 2010 conference will  
be held at the Colorado  
Springs Marriott

Colorado Springs Marriott  
5580 Tech Center Drive  
Colorado Springs, Colorado  
80919  
719-550-1972



**Learn more about the  
conference at:  
[PPWCon.org](http://PPWCon.org)**

## T-3: “Target Track Thursday”

### **What is it?**

On Thursday, we feature longer workshops following three separate tracks—for Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced Writers.

- **Morning Beginner:** It’s a scary world out there and you have a story screaming to be told. Let Angel Smits help you identify the tools and skills you need to be a writer.
- **Morning Intermediate:** Now that you have a story, you need to learn how to present the idea to editors and agents. Learn and practice pitching with Linda Rohrbough.
- **Morning Advanced:** Award-winning author, Carol Berg presents an Advanced Revisions workshop for advanced writers with several manuscripts under their belts.
- **Afternoon Sessions**--choose from:
  - **Collages** with Barb Samuel where you’ll learn to conceptualize your ideas with images.
  - **Improve with Improv** with Bonnie Hagan and Chris Mandeville where you’ll learn--and experience--the benefits of "improv" writing.
  - **PPWC-TV Media Workshop** where you’ll learn about using the media to your advantage with Susan Mitchell, Ron Heimbecher, and Deb Courtney.

### **When and where is it?**

Thursday, April 22 at the Marriott. Registration opens at 8:30 am and the first workshop is at 9:00 am. No lunch is provided, but the Marriott will feature an optional \$10 buffet in the restaurant. Workshops will conclude approximately 5 pm.

### **How do I sign up?**

This Thursday-only day is open to the general public and is discounted for conference attendees. You can sign up for this program by itself or with the conference by going to our website, [PPWCon.org](http://PPWCon.org) and clicking **on REGISTER NOW**.

### **Bonus:**

T-3 attendees who also sign up for the conference will receive their registration materials early and have early access to the pitch and R&C desks for possible assignment changes.

## Sunday: THE FIRE IN FICTION with Donald Maass

### **What is it?**

In this workshop based upon his recent book **THE FIRE IN FICTION**, New York agent Donald Maass reveals how contemporary master novelists make every book great—and how participants can use the techniques of greatness in their current manuscripts. This is an intensive, hands-on workshop for advanced fiction writers. Participants should bring a work-in-progress and writing materials.

### **When and where is it?**

Sunday, April 25. Registration opens at 1:00 pm and the program starts at 1:30 pm in the Aspen Leaf Room at the Marriott.

### **How do I sign up?**

This special Sunday add-on program is open to the general public and is discounted for conference attendees. You can sign up for this program by itself or with the conference by going to our website, [PPWCon.org](http://PPWCon.org) and clicking on **REGISTER NOW**.