

# The New Mexico Writer

JULY 2026

*Supporting and connecting the literary community in New Mexico.*

A publication of **NMwriters**

## Black Writers Share Cookout Stories at Juneteenth Celebration



The voices of Black artists and creators were celebrated and amplified during Vital Spaces Santa Fe's Juneteenth celebration on the historic Santa Fe Plaza. Story lovers of all ages gathered around the gazebo for Sankofa Arts Alliance of New Mexico's "The Cookout: A Black Writers Showcase," a curated storytelling event to spotlight Black writers in New Mexico.

Modeled after storytelling formats like The Moth StorySLAM and Showtime at the Apollo's amateur night, the event created a community-centered space for Black storytellers to share five-minute original stories built around the theme "The Cookout."

The writers selected as storytellers—breana, Bryan Holdman, Christina Meyer Dzurec, Doris Fields, Gwen Triay Samuels, Tia Stevison, and Yaya Cole—worked closely with author Liza Stewart from Swan Quill West and performance artist Dani Reddick from Theater Santa Fe to develop and craft their pieces ahead of the showcase.

Hakim Bellamy, inaugural poet laureate of Albuquerque (2012–2014) and a national and regional Poetry Slam Champion, served as Master of Ceremonies for the Juneteenth story slam.

"Sankofa put on a great event. The stories were all fantastic. I enjoyed seeing stories delivered as performance, like at a poetry slam. One was poetry. One included a song. One had a heartbreaking twist. They all made me hungry for cookout food," said NM Writers Executive Director Lisa McCoy.





Judges Darryl Lorenzo Wellington and Michael Charles Davis expressed praise for all the stories before announcing the winning story: “Family Gifts: Our Interconnections” by Doris Fields. Fields’ poetry has been published in several anthologies, including the *Malpais Review*, the *Taos Review*, and all five volumes of *Scenes from the Live Poets Society: Selected Poems*. “The Cookout” story by Fields speaks of familial connections and the necessary interdependence of all things. Read the winning story [here](#).

Sankofa Arts Alliance of New Mexico is a newly established nonprofit organization that exists to celebrate and elevate Black creatives and artists by curating experiences that engage the community. Sankofa’s mission aims to challenge erasure and honor diversity by creating cultural moments that empower Black people to feel seen and represented.

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## Albuquerque Authors Speak Out for Pride Month

Pride Month was celebrated at the Rio Grande Center for Spiritual Living in Albuquerque when five LGBTQ+ authors came together for a reading, panel discussion, and book signing. The “Authors Out Loud” event featured Lynn C. Miller as the panel moderator, NM Writers board member Cynthia J. Sylvester, Gency Brown, Minrose Gwin, and Dr. PJ Sedillo.



Reading from his latest book, *If These T-Shirts Could Talk...50 Years of GLBTQ+ Pride in Albuquerque (1976–2026)*, Sedillo shared a hopeful future for Pride Day in 2076—and beyond. Sedillo, president of Albuquerque Pride for 21 years, said, “I’ve always felt that Pride is so important because it can reach that one person who is not ready to come out—and Pride saves their life.”

Gwin read from her 2025 NM Book Awards Winner *Beautiful Dreamers*. During the panel discussion, she identified the social and political upheaval of the 1950s and early 1960s as the ideal setting for her book.

Sylvester followed her reading from *The Half-White Album* by identifying the most meaningful gift that writing has given her. “Reading was a way for me to see other worlds and to feel at peace, when I didn’t otherwise feel at peace,” said Sylvester. “Writing allows me to curate my thoughts, which allows me to see where I’m coming from.”



Gency read from *Light in the Dark Forest* and *A Right Fine Life* and discussed her research efforts for accuracy and sensitivity to her subjects. “It was important to me that I was respectful,” Gency said.

Miller, host of *The Unruly Muse* podcast, read from her latest book, *The Surrogate: A Novel*. Miller talked about how her bisexual main character intersected with the plot and emotional journey of the other characters. “Writing helps us discover ourselves,” Miller said.

The Pride parade in Albuquerque has grown from an initial 25 pioneers in 1976 to one of New Mexico’s largest annual community events. Albuquerque PrideFest celebrated 50 years in June 2026 with the theme “Unity: None of us are free, until all of us are free.”

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## A Poem a Day Enchants



EDITED BY AMARIS FELAND KETCHAM & ZACH HIVELY

*A Year of New Mexico Poetry*, the forthcoming anthology from Casa Urraca Press, presents a poem a day celebrating the people, cultures, communities, landscapes, and traditions of the Land of Enchantment. This collection evokes the range of New Mexican life, from the poignant to the playful and from the historical to the contemporary.

The anthology features work from U.S. Poet Laureate Arthur Sze, New Mexico Poets Laureate Emeriti Lauren Camp and Levi Romero, and more than 180 other poets, ranging from long-celebrated authors to contributors making their debut.

Many of the anthology contributors share a connection with NM Writers and the literary community it serves. Among the contributors to *A Year of New Mexico Poetry* are NM Writers sustaining members, grantees, and a board member. Other contributors are New Mexico Book Awards winners, finalists, and judges.

“I’m proud to be part of a collection that celebrates the beauty and spirit of the state I’ve always called home,” said Dita Dow, anthology contributor and NM Writers sustaining member.

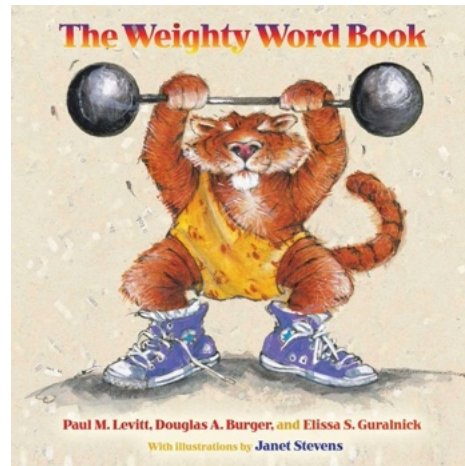
In celebration of this collection and its connections, Casa Urraca Press and NM Writers will host an Albuquerque launch event the evening of Thursday, August 13. The event will include a “perk” for the anthology contributors who are also active Sustaining Members of NM Writers: first chance at limited slots to read their poem on stage.

Casa Urraca Press is planning another launch event at the Santa Fe Southside Library on Saturday, August 15. *A Year of New Mexico Poetry* will officially release September 15, with early release copies available at these August launch events or by preorder through the press.

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## TikTok Lifts Interest in a UNM Press Children's Book

On May 9th, TikToker and author Eli McCann posted a three-minute story about the impact a children’s vocabulary book had on him in eighth grade, and the beloved teacher who had used that book in her classes. He could remember everything about the book, the illustrations, the vocabulary words, the stories, but he could not remember the title. Commenters on his viral post quickly identified it as *The Weighty Word Book*, published by the University of New Mexico (UNM) Press—almost 20 years ago. Thousands of people responded with their own stories of loving this book. On May 13th, *The Weighty Word Book* became a top-selling title on Amazon.



“It was such a beautiful book,” McCann said in a follow-up post in which he confirmed that *The Weighty Word Book* was the title he remembered. “It was a hardback...and she would not let us take these out of her classroom because she did not want a single one of them to get lost.”

*The Weighty Word Book* by Paul M. Levitt, Elissa S. Guralnick, and Douglas A. Burger, and illustrated by Caldecott Honor-winning artist Janet Stevens, introduces kids to “big words” such as “ingratiate” or “juxtapose” through a short story and color illustrations that use mnemonic devices to help readers remember the meaning of the word. The sequel, *Weighty Words, Too*, was also published by UNM Press.

McCann’s heartfelt endorsement of *The Weighty Word Book* resonated so strongly with viewers that more copies sold in the first three days following his post than had sold since the UNM Press edition was published in 2009. According to UNM Press, “It achieved a #1 position on Amazon for nearly two days and continues to sell at an

impressive pace. This phenomenon is a testament to the power of books, the lifelong impact of incredible teachers, and the community one person can build.”

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## New Mexico Writers Grantee News



2021 NM Writers Grantee **Jeanne Lyet Gassman**'s book review of Alicia Bay Laurel's graphic novella, *Eartha & Aetherias*, was published in the literary journal, *Tiferet*. Read the piece [here](#).



2022 NM Writers Grantee **Zahra Marwan** was featured in a *Pasatiempo* article about her art exhibition at Hecho a Mano in Santa Fe, on view through July 31. Read the piece [here](#).



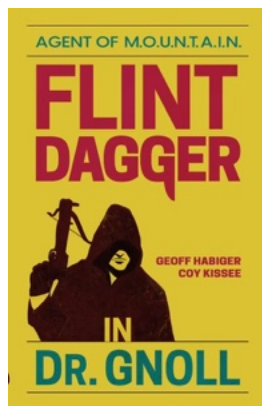
2023 NM Writers Grantee **Chris Eboch**, writing as Kris Bock, released *The Magical Cat Café and Teashop*, a cozy magical realism novel. Eboch will also be presenting at multiple workshops this year.



2023 NM Writers Grantee **Deborah Jackson Taffa** was named a 2026 Howard Foundation Fellow in the Fiction category.

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## Briefly Noted



In July, **Artemesia Publishing** releases *Flint Dagger IN Dr. Gnoll* by **Geoff Habiger** and Coy Kisse. This is the first book in the authors' new Agent of M.O.U.N.T.A.I.N. series.

**Steve Davis** announced the release of his new book *Beating Heart of the World: The Taos Art Colony, the Pueblo Resistance & the Battle for Indigenous America* (**UNM Press**).

**Jennifer Macdonald** announced the release of her children's book, *Gimme*, illustrated by **Mary Jo Kelly**.

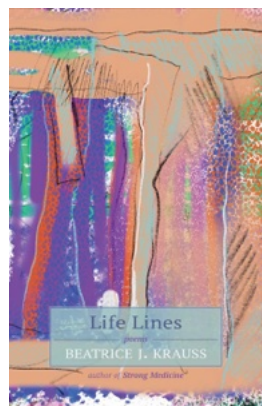
**Emily Hyland's** new collection, *My Wise Little Ghost* will be released in July. The book launch will be held at Poets House in NYC, where Emily will be in conversation with poet Lo Naylor.

**UNM Press's** recent release of *Jack Rittenhouse, A Western Literary Life* by David R. Farmer was reviewed by *Publishers Weekly*, and *Pasatiempo* featured the book in an article by Ania Hull.

**Diane Hatz** announced the release of her new book *The Journey Home*, the fourth in her *The Mind Monsters* series.

**William (Will) Murray's** new book, *Rode Hard & Never Put Up: An Untamed Life*, will be published by **Casa Urraca Press** on July 7.

In July, **UNM Press** will release *Beyond the Edge of the Known World: A Novel* by Jerry Ortiz y Pino.



*Life Lines*, poems by Beatrice J. Krauss, was released in June by **Casa Urraca Press**.

**Kit Rosewater** announced the release of her sophomore romance, *Buried Feelings*.

The Lunar Awards announced the Science Fiction Winner and Runners-Up for Round 3. See them [here](#). The Lunar Awards highlights speculative fiction, focusing on Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Horror genres, with any subgenres falling into those. **Storyletter XPress Publishing** offers the winning writers and the runner-up of each round the opportunity to sign a publishing contract.

**Caroline Starr Rose's** middle grade novel-in-verse *The Burning Season* has been selected by the New Mexico Center of the Book as the children's Great Reads title for 2026. It will represent New Mexico at the National Book Festival in August.

*Infinite and Dangerous and Bright*, the new collection of poems from **Betsy James**, received a full review from David Steinberg in the *Albuquerque Journal*. Read it [here](#).

The Mountains & Plains Independent Booksellers Association announced the 2026 Reading the West Book Awards. The awards honor the best fiction, non-fiction, and illustrated books for adults and children set in one of the states, or created by an author or artist living or working in the region. *Dream of the Bird Tattoo* by Juan J. Morales (**UNM Press**)

**Adrian Nogales** became the first American in over 23 years to receive an A2 Valencian language certification with the Spanish government. He was also named as a 2026 Premi Sambori finalist, one of the largest literary prizes in Barcelona and Valencia Spain, for his poem “Ser més llest que la fam” (“To be smarter than hunger”). He attended the award ceremony in the town of Crevillent’s Sala de Cultura. won the award for Poetry. See all award winners [here](#).

### Send Us Your News!

Having a book or article published? Doing a reading? Offering a workshop? Let us know, so we can share your news with other writers. We’re particularly interested to hear from New Mexico and greater Navajo Nation writers.

[Drop us a line.](#)

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## Upcoming Events

### July 7 at 6 p.m. [Durango Arts Center](#) (Durango, CO)

Join **Steven L. Davis** in conversation with Beth Lamberson Warren for *Beating Heart of the World: The Taos Art Colony, the Pueblo Resistance & the Battle for Indigenous America* (UNM Press).

### July 10 at 5:30 p.m. [Books on the Bosque](#) (Albuquerque)

Join **Kay Woodward** for a book signing and reading of *The Table – The Place Where Life Happens* and *Unfolding – Real Stories. Lasting Truth*.

### July 11–12 at 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. [Backyard@The ABQ Collective](#) (Albuquerque)

Attend The ABQ Collective’s Second Annual Book Fest. Day 1 vendors are all local authors, including **Ryley Banks**, **Dita Dow**, **Elizabeth Gade**, **Zach Hively**, **Saleema Ishq**, **Jordyn Kross**, **Lauren C. Tefteau**, and **New Mexico Book Association** members. Day 2 vendors will be selling all things bookish.

### July 11 at 11 a.m. [Page 1 Books](#) (Albuquerque)

Join **Kit Rosewater** for an author appearance and signing of her books.

### July 12 at 11 a.m. [Page 1 Books](#) (Albuquerque)

Join **Octavio Ramos** with *Cuentos Infernales*, illustrated by Paul Ziomek, and **Kathleen A. Hessler** with *Promise Me, Daughter* for a Weekend Showcase author appearance and signing.

### July 12 at 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. [Thrive Craft](#) (Albuquerque)

Join fellow readers for an afternoon of books, community, and cozy lounge vibes at the Elevated Book Fair featuring **Books on the Bosque**.

### July 14 at 6 p.m. [Books on the Bosque](#) (Albuquerque)

Join **Jennifer K. Lambert** for a book signing and reading of *Among the Thorns*.

**July 14 at 6 p.m. [Collected Works](#) (Santa Fe)**

Join **Maceo Carrillo Martinet** for a reading and signing of *Healing the Land Teaches Us Who We Are*.

**July 16 at 5:30 p.m. [Books on the Bosque](#) (Albuquerque)**

Join **Paloma Lopez** for a book signing and reading of *Popo el Xolo*.

**July 18 at 11 a.m. [Books on the Bosque](#) (Albuquerque)**

Join **C. C. Jirón** for a book signing and reading from four of her books.

**July 18 at 11 a.m. [Page 1 Books](#) (Albuquerque)**

Join **Tabitha Orr** and **Suzanne Schneider** for a Weekend Showcase author appearance and signing.

**July 19 at 11 a.m. [Page 1 Books](#) (Albuquerque)**

Join **Donatella Davanzo** and **Jeffery Michael** for a Weekend Showcase author appearance and signing.

**July 23 at 6 p.m. [Bookworks](#) (Albuquerque)**

Join **Tasia Young** and **Jerry Ortiz y Pino** for a reading and signing of their new books *The Changemakers: How New Mexico Became the Land of Women's Equality* and *Beyond the Edge of the Known World: A Novel (UNM Press)*, respectively.

**July 23 at 6 p.m. [Collected Works](#) (Santa Fe)**

Join **Gary Paul Nabhan** for a reading and signing of *Water in the Desert: A Pilgrimage*.

**July 25 at 1 p.m. [Books on the Bosque](#) (Albuquerque)**

Join **Hope Ferdowsian** for a book signing and reading from *The Adventures of Lucy Ghost and Sugar*.

**July 25 at 1 p.m. [Page 1 Books](#) (Albuquerque)**

Join **Loretta Hall** and **Sherri Burr** for a Weekend Showcase author appearance and signing.

**July 25 at 2 p.m. [Placitas Community Library](#) (Placitas)**

Join **Nina Amir**, author of *Change the World One Book at a Time: Make a Positive and Meaningful Difference with Your Words*, for a presentation and Q&A.

**July 30 at 6 p.m. [Bookworks](#) (Albuquerque)**

Join **Nephi Craig** for a reading and signing of his new memoir, *Our Knives Will Save Us: Dispatches from a White Mountain Apache Chef*.

**July 31 at 5:30 p.m. [Books on the Bosque](#) (Albuquerque)**

Join **Annie Hartnett** for a book signing and reading from *The Road to Tender Hearts*.

**August 1 at 11 a.m. [Page 1 Books](#) (Albuquerque)**

Join **Kellie Tinnin** for a Weekend Showcase author appearance and signing.

**August 2 at 10:30 a.m. [Chatter Sunday](#) (Albuquerque)**

Hear **Betsy James** read from her new work, *Infinite and Dangerous and Bright (Casa Urraca Press)*, as part of the full music + spoken word program.

**August 2 at 1 p.m. [New Mexico History Museum](#) (Santa Fe)**

Join **David R. Farmer** for a discussion and signing of *Jack Rittenhouse, A Western Literary Life* (**UNM Press**). Farmer will be in conversation with Tom Leech, retired master printer and paper marbler from the Press of the Palace of the Governors.

## More Opportunities for Writers

*Please note, there may be fees associated with these opportunities.*



### Romance Writers of America Conf.

The RWA2026 Annual Conference will be held in Albuquerque on **July 15–18, 2026**. The conference includes workshops, pitch appointments with agents and editors, networking events, author book signing (open to the public), awards dinner and ceremony, and a marketplace featuring vendors. Learn more and register [here](#).

### Los Alamos Writers Group

Local writers meet for a writers' group at the Los Alamos Public Library every second Wednesday. The next meeting is **July 8, 2026**. Learn more [here](#).

### DimeStories Open Mic

DimeStories, hosted by Cynthia Sylvester, is held every second Thursday at Quirky Used Books in Albuquerque. The next DimeStories event is **July 9, 2026**, with the prompt: what the 4th of July means, meant, is, was, never was, to you. Learn more [here](#).

### Prompt Nights at SOMOS

Carrie Nassif and Christine Reed are hosting Prompt Nights every second Thursday at SOMOS Salon & Bookshop in Taos. Writers of any genre are welcome, and generative writing prompts will be provided. The next Prompt Night is **July 9, 2026**. Learn more [here](#).

### Thirsty Ear Poetry

Thirsty Eye Brewing is hosting a featured poet with limited open mic every second Thursday. The next event is **July 9, 2026**. Contact [Don McIver](#) for more information.



A Place for Words  
in Taos, New Mexico

### Taos Writers Conference

The 10th annual Taos Writers Conference, sponsored by and held at SOMOS, will be held **July 24–26, 2026**. Learn more and register [here](#).

### Southern New Mexico Book Festival

The 2026 Southern New Mexico Book Festival planned by Las Cruces Writers is scheduled for **October 3, 2026**. The event will be open to the public and held again at the Doña Ana Community College. Authors from Southern New Mexico and beyond will host writing workshops, author readings, book sales, and signings. Apply to be a vendor [here](#).

### Workshop: Pacing Techniques

Chris Eboch will lead a workshop for Virginia Romance Writers on **October 3, 2026**. Details are forthcoming.

### An Evening with Hampton Sides

Collected Works, in association with Santa Fe International Literary Festival, presents an evening with Hampton Sides on history, literature, and the 20th Anniversary of *Blood and Thunder*. The event will take place at The Lensic on **October 3, 2026**. Hampton will be in conversation with Ed Roberson, conservationist, storyteller, and creator of the podcast *Mountain & Prairie*. Learn more and purchase tickets [here](#).

### Abiquiú Writers Retreat

Hosted by Casa Urraca Press, join fellow writers for an extended weekend **October 8–12, 2026** dedicated to your

### **WriteHive Annual Conference**

The 2026 WriteHive Annual Conference, a free, virtual conference for writers, will take place **July 10–12, 2026**. Learn more and register [here](#).

### **Presentation: Freelance Writing that Pays the Bills**

At the SouthWest Writers meeting in person and via Zoom on **July 11, 2026**, Nancy McGuire talk about becoming a full-time freelance writer. Learn more [here](#).

### **Workshop: American Poetry**

At the New Mexico State Poetry Society – Albuquerque Chapter monthly workshop on **July 11, 2026**, celebrate what you think is American about American poetry. Contact [Jonathan Reeve Price](#) for more information.

### **Open Mic at SOMOS**

Carrie Nassif is hosting Spoken Word Open Mic every third Thursday at SOMOS Salon & Bookshop in Taos. Writers of any genre are welcome to share poetry, prose, storytelling, a capella. The next Open Mic is **July 16, 2026**. Learn more [here](#).

### **Workshop: Cliffhanger Chapter Endings and Better Pacing**

Kris Boch will lead a workshop at the Romance Writers of America conference on **July 17, 2026**. Learn more [here](#).

### **Workshop: Prepare to Publish**

At the SouthWest Writers workshop via Zoom on **July 18, 2026**, David Hicks will help participants set up for publishing success. Learn more and register [here](#).

### **Presentation: Beta Reader & Advance Reader Matchup**

At the Write to Publish Series event on **July 18, 2026**, Quill & Quest Bookstore will host a beta reader and advance reader matchup with writers. Learn more [here](#).

### **Presentation: The IBPA Advantage: Your Roadmap to Self-**

writing in community. Learn more and register [here](#).

### **Women Writing the West Conference**

The annual Women Writing the West Conference taking place **October 15–17, 2026** in Phoenix, AZ is open for registration. The conference will feature three days of speakers, workshops, and presentations, as well as pitch sessions with editors, agents, and publishing professionals. The WILLA Literary Award, The LAURA Short Fiction Award, and The DOWNING Journalism Award will be presented. Learn more and register [here](#).

### **Retreat: Writing Into the Ocean**

Join Emily Hyland, Marie Howe, and Mark Doty in Baja, Mexico for the Writing Into the Ocean retreat **October 17–23, 2026**. Register [here](#).

### **Workshop: Jazz Poetry**

Jules' Poetry Playhouse in Placitas presents a Jazz Poetry class with John Roche on **October 24, 2026**. This writing-inspired class with time to write poems and share with the group. For more information and to purchase tickets, go [here](#).

### **SouthWest Writers Book Fiesta**

The 2026 SouthWest Writers Book Fiesta “Libros of Enchantment” will take place on **October 31, 2026**. Find information about vendor tables and ticket sale dates [here](#).

### **Blue Mesa Review Submissions**

The *Blue Mesa Review*, a publication by graduate students at University of New Mexico's MFA program, invites submissions of art, poetry, nonfiction, and fiction between **July 1 and October 31, 2026**, for publication in the Fall issue. Learn more [here](#).

### **Kauai Writers Conference**

The Kauai Writers Conference, taking place **November 2–8, 2026**, offers a selection of twenty four-day master classes on all aspects of the craft and business of writing, plus one-on-one meetings with many top literary agents

### **Publishing Success**

At the SouthWest Writers meeting via Zoom on **July 22, 2026**, Christopher Locke from the Independent Book Publishers Association breaks down the proven best practices that successful author-publishers use at every stage. Learn more [here](#).

### **Back Porch Poetry Reading**

Jules' Poetry Playhouse in Placitas presents Loren Niemi and Christine Mounts for a reading from their latest works, with a conversation to follow, on **July 22, 2026**. For more information and to purchase tickets, go [here](#).

### **Sisters in Crime Pride Award**

Submissions for the 2026 PRIDE Award for Emerging LGBTQIA+ Crime Writers are being accepted **June 1 to July 31, 2026**. Entrants do not need to be a Sisters in Crime member. Learn more [here](#).

### **WOW! Creative Non-Fiction Contest**

Women On Writing is accepting submissions for its quarterly creative non-fiction contest through **July 31, 2026**. Learn more [here](#).

### **Horizon Review Submissions**

The *Horizon Review*, a fine arts magazine based in Albuquerque, will begin accepting submissions of literature (fiction, poetry, and creative nonfiction), visual art, and open media in **July 2026** for its Spring 2027 issue. Learn more and submit [here](#).

### **Workshop: Collage Poems**

Jules' Poetry Playhouse in Placitas presents a collage art and poetry class with Jules Nyquist on **August 8, 2026**. For more information and to purchase tickets, go [here](#).

### **Back Porch Poetry Reading**

Jules' Poetry Playhouse in Placitas presents Scott Wiggerman and Jonathan Price for a reading from their latest works, with a conversation to follow, on **August 12, 2026**. For more information and to purchase tickets, go [here](#).

and editors. NM Writers members and fans may use coupon code WG789 to save on tickets. Find details and register [here](#).

### **Sandia Starforgers Writers Retreat**

The fourth annual Sandia Starforgers Writers Retreat and Workshop for science-fiction, fantasy, and horror writers is taking place **April 30 to May 3, 2027**, in Albuquerque. The instruction theme is "Characters, Conflict, and Connection." Instructors at this event include Premee Mohamed, Sarah Gailey, Mary Robinette Kowal, Geoff Habiger, and Marie Parks. For more information and to register, click [here](#). An early bird discount is available until **October 15, 2026**.

### **Backlit Submissions**

*Backlit*, an online literary magazine that offers in-depth editorial exchanges between Good Light Editors and the writers accepted for publication, is accepting submissions of previously unpublished works of all genres. Learn more [here](#).

### **Green Fire Times Submissions**

*Green Fire Times*, a platform for regional, community-based voices, invites submissions of articles about New Mexico and the Southwest. Learn more and submit articles [here](#).

### **NM Jewish Journal Submissions**

The *New Mexico Jewish Journal*, whose mission is to connect, inform, enrich, and celebrate the vibrant and diverse Jewish communities of New Mexico and the region, invites submissions of articles, art, and more. Learn more [here](#).

### **Call for Board Members**

The Leopold Writing Program is seeking nominations for Board Members. Learn more about the Board of Directors, Board Member expectations, and how to self-nominate [here](#).

### **NM State Poetry Society Workshops**

The Albuquerque Chapter of the New Mexico State Poetry Society meets monthly for a workshop on poetic forms,

### **Mesa Verde Writers Conference and Literary Festival**

The Mesa Verde Writers Conference will take place **September 2–4, 2026** in Mancos, CO, followed by the 2nd Annual Mesa Verde Literary Festival on **September 5, 2026**. Learn more and register [here](#).

### **Writing Excuses at Sea**

Sail with the hosts of the Hugo Award-winning Writing Excuses podcast from Seattle, WA to Alaska **September 3–11, 2026**. During this writing retreat, you'll hone your craft, connect with fellow writers, and make progress on your latest projects. This is the final annual cruise (for now). Learn more [here](#).

### **Workshop: Pitching**

Chris Eboch will lead a workshop on pitching for the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators – New Mexico branch on **September 22, 2026**. Details are forthcoming.

### **Back Porch Poetry Reading**

Jules' Poetry Playhouse in Placitas presents Tani Arness and Mary Strong Jackson for a reading from their latest works, with a conversation to follow, on **September 22, 2026**. For more information and to purchase tickets, go [here](#).

### **7th Annual Leopold Lecture**

Spend an evening with Joy Harjo speaking on Storytelling, Culture, and the Environment at the Leopold Writing Program's annual lecture on **September 26, 2026**. The event will be held at The KiMo in Albuquerque. Learn more and purchase tickets [here](#).

famous poets, or process. If you are interested in being a speaker, or providing a topic, for a group workshop of 20 or 25 poets on Saturdays in 2027, please contact [Jonathan Reeve Price](#).

### **Write On Four Corners Podcast**

KSJE Radio's show Write On Four Corners, hosted by DelSheree Spinner, is looking for authors to interview. In order to be considered, authors must either be located in the Four Corners Region (New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Colorado), or write on a topic related to the Four Corners region. Authors who are interested in being interviewed for the podcast should fill out this [form](#).

### **Making Comics with 7000 BC**

7000 BC, a comic creators nonprofit, holds monthly meetings in Albuquerque and Santa Fe. The organization provides opportunities for comics writers and artists to develop their personal styles and storytelling "voices," while promoting an understanding of the cultural significance of comic art through seminars and workshops. Meetings are casual events to socialize, share work, and discuss production and promotion. All those interested in making comics are welcome. Learn more [here](#).

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## **In Others' Words**

"Without Solidarity there is no Pride and without Pride there is no Solidarity. Through our collective solidarity, all is possible."

—Dr. PJ Sedillo

*Have a favorite quote about writing you'd like to share? [Send it to us!](#)*



[info@nmwriters.org](mailto:info@nmwriters.org) [NMwriters.org](http://NMwriters.org)

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