



presents its

Third Annual Poetry Writing Workshop

October 21 – 23, 2016

Black Mountain, NC



Think poetry is boring? Think again! Come spend an inspiring, relaxing weekend listening to, laughing at, learning from, and *loving* poetry in a gorgeous mountain setting. Spend time with some of Your Daily Poem's most charismatic, successful poets as they guide and encourage you in turning poetry into an uplifting and satisfying part of your life. Space is limited; register now so you don't miss out at www.YourDailyPoem.com.

What is Your Daily Poem?

YourDailyPoem.com was born in 2009 as a way to prove that poetry is *not* the dull and boring thing too many people (incorrectly!) believe it to be. Today, well over 25,000 people visit YDP each month to enjoy poems about everything from cheeseburgers and cheerleading to

activism and autism. Are you fascinated by the details and nuances of everyday life? Do honesty, wit, and introspection make you smile? Could you use a 2-minute infusion of something fresh to perk up your everyday routines? If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, come be a part of the YDP family! Whether you’re someone who wrote off poetry years ago as a waste of time, someone who doesn’t know much *about*



poetry but wonders how it might enrich your life, an aspiring poet in search of direction, or a poetry lover eager to share your passion with like-minded folk, there’s a place for you at Your Daily Poem. Learn more at www.YourDailyPoem.com.



Accommodations for our 2016 event are at the beautiful Blue Ridge retreat and conference center in Black Mountain, North Carolina. Nestled in the heart of Western North Carolina, just 15 minutes from Asheville, you’ll be just 2 miles off I-40, and conveniently located to airports in Asheville, Charlotte, and Greenville, SC.

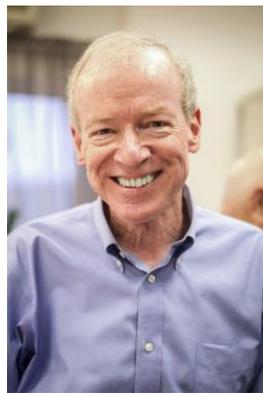
The area is home to dozens of fascinating attractions, including:

- Biltmore Estate - www.biltmore.com
- Blue Ridge Parkway - www.blueridgeparkway.org
- Carl Sandburg Home - <https://www.nps.gov/carl/index.htm>
- Cherokee Indian Reservation - visitchokeenc.com/#home
- Chimney Rock - www.chimneyrockpark.com
- Grandfather Mountain - www.grandfather.com
- Mount Mitchell - www.ncparks.gov/mount-mitchell-state-park
- Thomas Wolfe Home - wolfememorial.com

Presenters



Jan Seale was the 2012 Texas Poet Laureate. She is the author of nine volumes of poetry, two books of short fiction, three volumes of nonfiction, and nine children's books. The recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship in Creative Writing, Jan taught English and creative writing at the university level for many years and now teaches memoir and creative writing workshops all over the country. Mother of three sons and grandmother of four grandsons, Jan lives in South Texas, where she volunteers at a local environmental center.



Edwin Romond is a poet, playwright, and composer. He has written eight books of poetry, two musical plays, and was a public school teacher for 32 years in Wisconsin and New Jersey. Winner of fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the New Jersey and Pennsylvania State Councils on the Arts, his work has appeared in numerous literary journals, college text books, and anthologies. Ed currently works with the poetry program of the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, leading *Spring and Fountain* workshops for teachers and hosting events at their bi-annual poetry festivals in Newark, NJ. He lives in Wind Gap, PA with his wife and son.



Ruth Moose was on the creative writing faculty at UNC-Chapel Hill for 15 years. She's published six collections of poetry, three collections of short stories, two novels (one of which won the 2013 Minotaur Books/Malice Domestic Competition for Best First Traditional Mystery Novel), and is the recipient of a MacDowell Fellowship and the prestigious Chapman Fellowship for Teaching. During her writing career, Ruth has been a newspaper columnist, an editor, published stories in magazines ranging from *Redbook* to *The Atlantic*, and won the Carl Sandburg Prize from the National Park Service. Ruth is the mother of two sons and lives in Pittsboro, NC.



Gilbert Allen is the author of six collections of poetry and his work has been included in dozens of journals and anthologies. Originally from Long Island, Gil graduated from Cornell University and was a professor of literature at Furman University from 1977 until his recent retirement. Editor for *Ninety-Six Press*, which has published poetry by distinguished SC writers for the past 25 years, Gil has received a Literary Arts Fellowship from the SC Arts Commission, the Robert Penn Warren Prize in Poetry from *The Southern Review*, and was inducted into the SC Academy of Authors in 2014. Gil lives with his wife in Travelers Rest, SC, where he enjoys gardening and reading.

Schedule of Events

Friday, October 21

4:30 – 5:30 PM -

Registration & settling in

6 – 6:45 PM - Dinner

7 - 9 PM - Welcoming remarks; entertainment by acoustic duo, Twin Courage

(<http://twincourage.com>)



Saturday, October 22

8 – 8:45 AM Breakfast

9 – 10:30 AM **Workshop with Jan Seale: “Transforming the Personal into Poetry: the “I” of the Idea”** - Real life needs the touch of art. How do we approach our own experience so that it becomes meaningful to others in a poem? We will identify some of the pleasures and pitfalls of using personal experience as poetry material. Through examples and exercises, we will explore the art of doing what Emily Dickinson admonishes, “Tell all the truth but tell it slant.” We’ll become more aware of when we have succeeded in drawing our audience into our personal poems, bidding them join us to explore our common human condition.

10:30 – 11:00 AM: Break



11:00 – 12:30 PM: Workshop with Ruth Moose - “Who Are You? Writing the Persona Poem” - In this workshop, we’ll discuss the “voice” of a poem and look at the shape of that voice on the page. We’ll also discuss how to make a poem compelling, that critical first line, why the last line is as important as the first one, and when to call it quits.

12:30 – 3 PM: Lunch and free time for writing, rocking, napping, chatting, hiking, or exploring



3:00 – 4:30 PM: Workshop with Ed Romond: "The Poetry of Place" - Robert Frost writes of returning to a special place "in the grey disguise of years/seeking the ache of memory here." William Wordsworth's revisiting Tintern Abbey unleashed a flood of recollection that resulted in one of the great poems of British literature. For us, too, going back to a certain physical location could be an emotional catalyst for some powerful poetry. In this workshop we will examine some examples of place poetry, go on a short fantasy journey to remember one certain place in our past and all that it evokes, have some writing time, then share what we've created in a supportive atmosphere.

6– 6:45 PM: Supper

7:00 – 7:30 PM: Q&A Session with Presenters

7:30 – 9 PM: Bonus Workshop with Jan Seale – "Publicly Speaking"

If you write poetry, sooner or later you're going to have to read it—*aloud!* Come listen, learn, and unleash your inner Shakespeare as Jan shares her tips and techniques for presenting your poetry from behind a podium. Bring a short poem to practice enhancing your spotlight skills!

Sunday, October 23

8:00 – 8:45 AM: Breakfast

9:00 – 10:30 AM: Workshop with Gil Allen - "Five Enabling Thoughts about Writing Poems."

Poets develop their talent mainly through attentive reading and frequent practice over a long period of time. This process involves discovering what Gil calls "enabling thoughts": ways of approaching writing that can help a poet produce his or her best work with greater frequency and more confidence. We'll spend the first half of this seminar discussing five ETs that Gil has found particularly helpful over the years. Then we'll have the opportunity to adapt some of these ETs to our own imaginative interests as we begin drafting a short poem.

11 AM – 12:30: Poetry Reading/Open Mic Our four presenters will kick things off, then we'll enjoy listening to workshop attendees read their work. Sign-up sheet will be posted for you to claim your spot!



12:30 – 1:15: Lunch



1:30 – 2:30: Book Fair and Farewells - Are you a published poet with books to sell? Want to buy signed copies of your favorite workshop presenter's books? Here's your chance to mix, mingle, buy, and sell as we wrap things up until next year's event.

Workshop package includes:

- 2 nights lodging
- Dinner and concert on Friday night
- Breakfast, lunch, and dinner on Saturday
- Breakfast and lunch on Sunday
- A total of 4 workshop sessions
- Q&A session with presenters
- Book fair (attendees are welcome to set up a table and sell any published work)
- Open mic
- Free wi-fi, parking, access to all hiking trails.

All rooms have two double beds and a private bath. Please be aware that smoking is not permitted on the retreat grounds.

One person per room - \$375

Two people per room- \$325 each

Three people per room - \$275 each

Four people per room - \$225 each

Commuter Options

Friday supper and concert only - \$25

Saturday workshops and lunch only - \$100

Saturday supper, Q&A session, and book fair only- \$25

Sunday breakfast, workshop, and reading only - \$65

To register, please visit www.YourDailyPoem.com.

