

(prompt) **Community Writing Workshops at Powell's Books**

Write Around Portland offers a unique generative workshop called *Prompt* designed for writers and aspiring writers in the greater Portland area who want to participate in a Write Around workshop *and* support the communities we traditionally serve who might not otherwise have access to writing and community.

Based on the acclaimed Write Around Portland model, this dynamic 10-week workshop incorporates our favorite writing exercises designed to inspire the writing life, including freewriting; work with writing elements; strength-building feedback and early-draft revision. The workshop caps off with a community broadside.

Proceeds help fund Write Around Portland programs, including our free workshops in hospitals, treatment centers, schools, senior centers, prisons, low income housing buildings and homeless shelters.

Pre-registration is required and is limited to 14 adults per workshop.

NOTE: Spaces fill quickly! Call us (503.796.9224) if you have any questions and to discuss payment options.

Please scroll down to learn more about our registration, payment and cancellation policies.

2019 Sessions at Powell's City of Books - Downtown

Session 1: 10 Wednesdays, Jan 28 - Apr 1, 2019

Session 2: 10 Tuesdays, Mar 19 - May 21, 2019

Session 3: 10 Wednesdays, Sept 25 - Dec 4 (skip 11/27)

Time: 6:30 - 8:30pm

Location: Powell's City of Books

[1005 W. Burnside, downtown Portland](#)

Cost: \$300 - Payment plans available

Cost includes snacks and access to the "Bowels of Powell's."

(Accessing the "bowels of Powell's" requires climbing a flight of 12 stairs.)

Workshop facilitators listed below.

[Register online now.](#)

2019 Prompt Workshop Facilitators

Session 1: Melissa Duclos received her MFA in creative writing from Columbia University. Her work has been published in The Washington Post, Salon, Bustle, McSweeney's Internet Tendency, and Electric Literature among other venues. Her debut novel *Besotted* will be released from 7.13 Books in March 2019. She is the founder of Magnify: Small Presses, Bigger, a monthly newsletter celebrating small press books, and is at work on her second novel and a collection of humorous journals. She works in non-profit communications and lives in North Portland with her two children, a small cat, and an even smaller dog. She has been a Write Around Portland volunteer since 2013.

Session 2: Jeremy Resnick is a writer living in Portland, Oregon. He has taught writing at UC Merced and NYU and contributed writing to the Texas Review, McSweeney's Internet Tendency, and The Nervous Breakdown. Surprisingly, he's still looking for his first novel, a satiric, neo-noir mash-up of Ulysses and Don Quixote set in post-2016-election Los Angeles.

Session 3: Nevin Mays began volunteering with Write Around Portland in 2016, including as a workshop facilitator for high school students and adults living in low-income housing. After college she tutored kids in reading and later taught English in Japan. It was during that time she developed a passion for children's literature, so she eventually moved to New York City to work in children's book publishing. She worked at Penguin Random House and Scholastic before moving back to Portland to begin freelance editing. She is a bookseller and baby bard at Green Bean Books, and continues to tutor children in reading as a volunteer reader for SMART.

Prompt Frequently Asked Questions

What is the workshop like?

Prompt is a generative writing workshop. The focus is on creating new work using freewriting. The facilitator will bring in prompts, writing exercises and writing samples to explore different writing elements and styles. In later weeks the facilitator will introduce revision exercises.

Prompt is not genre or style specific. It works for people writing poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction and screenplays. Many people choose to try out different styles and genres while others stay focused on their preferred genre.

Because *Prompt* participants generate new writing, our feedback model for this workshop focuses on what is strong in the writing so people can build from their strengths. *Prompt* is not a critique group, there is no homework and the workshop focuses on writing done during the workshop rather than bringing in outside work.

There is always a range of people in the workshop and it is a great fit for new writers, people returning to writing and people with a regular writing practice.

I'm working on a writing project. Can I work on the project in the workshop?

Yes. Most people aren't working on one specific project for the workshop, but some people have definitely done this. Some people use the prompts each week to delve further into their novel, screenplay, etc.

What can you tell me about the facilitator?

Please see facilitator bios above. All *Prompt* facilitators have completed a 27-hour training on our workshop model and have led community writing workshops for Write Around Portland.

Do you have scholarships?

No. Payments for *Prompt* and our workshops at HOTLIPS Pizza are used to help fund all of our free workshops in partnership with social service agencies throughout the community. *Prompt* fees are set; HOTLIPS workshops have a sliding-scale option. We do offer a payment plan for *Prompt*. Please call our office at 503-796-9224 for more information.

What if I'm out of town or miss a week?

That's fine. Most people end up missing a week or two. If you'd like, you can ask the facilitator for the prompts you missed. We can't discount or refund any funds for missed weeks.

Can I try it out first to see if I like it?

No, unfortunately we cannot have participants try *Prompt* due to a limited number of spots available. However, if you'd like to try our freewriting and feedback model, you are welcome to join us at HOTLIPS Pizza for our sliding-scale drop-in workshops. Our *Prompt* workshops will go more in depth and you'll start to build a community with the other writers, but our workshops at HOTLIPS Pizza are a great way to get a taste of a Write Around Portland workshop.

What if I need to cancel?

Please see our Refund and Cancellation Policy below.

Prompt Registration, Cancellation and Refund Policies

How to Register

- To ensure the success of our workshops, registration is limited to 12-15 adults per workshop (depending on the workshop). These slots will be filled on a first come, first served basis.
- Your registration will not be accepted without full payment, unless special payment plan options are made in advance. See below for more information about payment plans. Registrations will be processed in the order they are received.
- After the workshop spaces are filled, we will take names on a waiting list. If space becomes available, we will contact people, in order, from the waiting list.
- NOTE: By paying for the workshop in part or in full, registrants agree to these registration, cancellation and refund policies.
- We will mail or email registrants additional information, including a map and parking instructions.

Payment Plan Options

Call us at 503.796.9224 to discuss and arrange payment options.

Cancellation Policy

Write Around Portland reserves the right to cancel any workshop. In the event of cancellation, registrants will receive a full refund (read below for exceptions regarding inclement weather and other unexpected closures). We reserve the right to substitute workshop facilitators.

Inclement Weather or Other Unexpected Closures

Write Around Portland will not issue a refund due to an unexpected cancellation outside of Write Around Portland's control. This includes closures due to inclement weather, emergencies, facilitator illness, venue/partner cancellations or another unexpected closure. Write Around Portland will attempt to reschedule the cancelled workshop session for a later date and notify registrants.

NOTE: For some workshops, a make-up date for unexpected closures may be included in the list of workshop dates at the time of registration; if so, registrants are expected to hold that date open in case of rescheduling.

Refund Policy

Write Around Portland will assess a 25% handling charge for participant cancellations received up to 5 business days prior to the first day of the workshop. Refunds minus the 25% handling charge will be issued by check.

Alternately, your payment may be applied to a future 10-week workshop in the same calendar year, contingent on availability, if you let us know 5 business days prior to the first day of the workshop for which you are registered.

No refunds or credits will be given 5 business days prior to the first meeting or thereafter.

We do not prorate the cost for sessions missed by participants and do not offer makeup sessions.

Individual Workshop Participant Needs

Write Around Portland welcomes adults (18 and older) to participate. We will make every effort to make accommodations for individuals. Please contact us at 503-796-9224 at least one week prior to the first workshop with requests for specific accommodations.

Questions? Call 503.796.9224