#### JANUARY 4 – FEB 22 INTERIM CRITIQUE WORKSHOP TAUGHT BY PAM STROTHER All ages, Mondays, 6:30-8:30 PM

Composed of participants in the Seeing Things Workshops, the Interim Critique Group meets weekly on zoom for 8 to 10 weeks in between sessions of the workshops. The group enables poets to read their work to each other and hear constructive feedback. At least once during each of the 8 -10 week terms, an established poet is invited to present a "Tiny Desk" of their work and to talk about their writing process.

**Pam Strother**, now retired, was a university teacher and practicing psychotherapist for more than thirty years. Writing poetry since first grade, she has organized poetry programs, readings, and seminars and was a reviewer of poetry collections for *Solares Hill*, a Key West, FL newspaper. She has been a featured reader at the Robert Frost Poetry Festival, Key West, FL, at Bright Hill Literary Center, Treadwell, NY, and at Community Arts Network of Oneonta, NY, as well as a judge for Poetry Out Loud. In addition, Pam is also a four decades participant and leader of sacred celebrations and women's circles. Her chapbook, *Here at the End of the Road: Key West Poems*, was published in 2007. In 2017, she was a contributor to *Like Light: 25 Years of Poetry and Prose* and in 2020, she was a contributor to *Seeing Things: An Anthology of Poetry* both by Bright Hill Poets and Writers.

### FEBRUARY 25, 7PMWORD THURSDAYS CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY<br/>MONTH FEATURING JEFFREY COLVIN

**Jeffrey Colvin**'s debut novel, *Africaville*, was awarded a 2020 Honor Fiction Prize by the Black Caucus of the American Library Association and a Hurston Wright Legacy Award. *Africaville* has been featured in *Publishers Weekly*, NPR, the *Boston Globe*, the BBC, the CBC, *The Globe and Mail*, and elsewhere. A graduate of the US Naval Academy and Columbia, Jeffrey is an assistant editor at *Narrative* magazine and was recently the Hodson Trust-John Carter Brown fellow at Brown University. He is also a 2020 Hurston/Wright Legacy Award winner in debut fiction.

#### Word Thursdays Celebrating Black History Open Mic Features

**Emmitt Houston Thrower** (Bronx, NY) Emmitt, a member of the Actors' Equity Association (AEA), began acting in 1989 and has performed the role of Duke Sr. in Shakespeare's *As You Like It*, and many historical figures such as Jesse Jackson, Muhammad Ali, Paul Robeson and Jackie Robinson. In 2005 he founded his not-for-profit production company Wabi Sabi Productions Inc in the Bronx, NY. He wrote and produced numerous plays and events including off off Broadway plays *Katrina: A Whole Lot of Water*, a hip hop multimedia musical in which he also performed. Emmitt has filmed and produced many noteworthy interviews. One was of Mobile Alabama born writer, producer, director and the founder of New Federal Theater in NYC, Woodie King. Woodie King Jr. was an important part of the Black Arts Movement from 1965-1975. He has been called the "king of black theater producers". Another of Emmitt's filmed interviews received over 750,000 views on *Youtube*. It was a series created with now deceased humanitarian, activist, comedian, and author Dick Gregory in Washington DC in 2007. Emmitt produced and directed many films including his award winning independent film

documentary *Where is Hope: The Art of Murder* released in 2015. His most recent short films in 2020 include *Silent Sellers*, about street vendors in NYC, and a collaborative docu-film with Jana Hunterova, an award winning photojournalist from Prague on her visit to NYC, titled *New Borning* about her desire to visit the Bronx and explore it for herself. In 2021 Emmitt released his short film titled *Disability and Cultural Activism* featuring disabled San Francisco poet/activist Leroy Moore Jr., founder of Krip Hop Nation. Nearing completion is his short documentary film entitled *It's Only a Number: The Abraham Journey* featuring Apostle Dr. Heloise Sulyans-Gibson exploring her relocation to Billings, Montana. Emmitt is a contributing author in the published research book titled *Occupying Disability: Critical Approaches to Community, Justice and Decolonizing Disability*. The publication includes an original poem by Emmitt around the issue, as well as his perspectives based on his experience as a disabled artist and former NYC police officer. Emmitt was the Chairman of Castillo Theater's Otto Awards for Political Theater for more than 15 years. The award was named after Guatemalan poet, activist, guerilla fighter and revolutionary Otto René Castillo (1934–1967). Emmitt was awarded the Independent Spirit Award in culture by the Castillo Theater. He is a recipient of the Katrina award (theater) and a BRIO award. Emmitt is also an Access Producer for Bronxnet public access Television in the Bronx.

**Sierra Sangetti-Daniels** (Mt. Tremper, NY) is a journalist and co-founder of People's Perception Project (P3). Sierra believes representation is the first step towards an equitable media system, and uses networking to bring representative voices into traditional newsrooms. Sierra uses her voice to stand up and speak out against injustices when she sees them, and is proud to bring that purpose into her work with P3.

**Eric Kossoff** (Mt. Tremper, NY) is an educator and co-founder of People's Perception Project (P3). Eric is passionate about integrating social justice activism into everyday learning, and works to elevate networking skills in classrooms across the country. Right now, Eric is building networking tools and resources to disrupt white dominant culture in newsrooms, classrooms and communities with P3.

### MARCH 8 – MAY 10 "SEEING THINGS" – AN INTENSIVE POETRY WORKSHOP TAUGHT BY ROBERT BENSEN All ages, Mondays, 7 - 9 PM, 10-week session

Poetry enables us to "see things": to see what is and what is not, in the domains of the senses and imagination. We develop our practice of writing by drawing upon both. Workshop participants send one or two new poems each week for the group to consider thoughtfully and respectfully with comments that encourage revision. In theory and practice, the workshop serves as an articulate, responsive audience for the poet, who learns from the members' responses to the poem. We also write in-session with various prompts and group activities. Since all artists benefit by knowing the history and achievements of their art, we read poets from many time periods and cultures. We read poets with a range of subjects and forms as models for our own practice. We exchange ideas about publishing opportunities in online and print environments. Our agenda can be adjusted depending on the experience and preferences of the poets. While we met in-person for the first two 10-week sessions, we have met since March 2020 online. We also sponsor "Tiny Desk Readings," which features poets outside the workshop whom we invite to read for 20 minutes at the beginning of a session. The workshop is conducted by Robert Bensen.

This session is now full. Please contact <u>beatrice@brighthillpress.org</u> for waitlist updates.

**Robert Bensen** (Oneonta, NY) has conducted the "Seeing Things" workshop at Bright Hill since Spring 2019. The latest of his six collections of poetry is *Before* (Five Oaks Press, 2019). His poetry has appeared in *The Paris Review, Callaloo, The Caribbean Writer, Native Realities, Jamaica Journal, AGNI, Akwe:kon, Poetry Wales, The Thomas Hardy Review, Ploughshares,* and others. He has written numerous critical essays on British, Caribbean and Native American literature, and has edited anthologies of those literatures, most recently Children of the Dragonfly: Native American Voices on Child Custody and Education. He is Emeritus Professor of English and former Director of Writing at Hartwick College, Oneonta, NY (1978-2017). He also teaches at the State University of New York—Oneonta.

Bright Hill Tiny Desk Series to be published in 2021 featuring national poets.

## APRIL 5 - 9YOUNG COLLECTORS CLUB - ZOOM WORKSHOPTAUGHT BY BERTHA ROGERS with Katharine KreisherProgram Developed with Beatrice Georgalidis

Bright Hill offers its first ever "Young Collectors Club" program (via Zoom) April 5, 7, and 9 (during BOCES Spring Break), led by master teaching artist Bertha Rogers, founding director of Bright Hill.

The program is limited to 16 children and youth in grades one through eight. The week will begin with an introduction by Katharine Kreisher, art professor at Hartwick College.

Children grades 1 through 8 will receive a kit that includes a miniature collection of prints by artists who have exhibited in the Bright Hill Word and Image Gallery; the kit will include a large shadow box frame and materials for the students to create their first ever "art collection." Students will explore art museums in upstate New York, nationally, and internationally (the Louvre, the Met), and through the portal of Bright Hill's large collection of art books (PDFs to be shared via Zoom), and learn about the importance of collecting and appreciating art.

On the first day, Bertha will demonstrate how the mini art collections can be displayed, then virtually tour with students a museum, during which time each student will select one work of art from the museum and one from the BH collection; they will also write a group poem about an artwork; then, their assignment will be to write poems about their artworks for the second session.

On the last day, April 9, students will exhibit their completed collections on Zoom and explain why they chose their art, then read one or two of their poems. Parents and guardians will be invited to the Zoom program.

Workshop Cost: \$125 (includes art collection kit)

Full Scholarships awarded to Students of Delaware Academy and Treadwell residents Full and Partial Scholarships available for students in financial need

Please inquire about scholarship opportunities via email: <u>info@brighthillpress.com</u> or by calling 607-829-5055

Facebook Event Link: https://fb.me/e/1iY4MGo2a

#### MONDAY, APRIL 5, 2021

First Session:	Grades one - three, 10 - 10:45 am;
Second Session:	Grades four to six; 11 am - noon;
Third Session:	Grades seven and eight; 1:30 - 2:30 pm.

First Session: Grades one - three

The first session assignment will be to write two poems, one about BHP art (students will write during workshop session). Each poem must have 5 lines. Final poems to be emailed to Bertha no later than April 6 at noon at <u>bkrogers@delhitel.net.</u>

Second Session: Grades four to six

The second session assignment will be to write poems of at least eight lines and email to Bertha no later than April 6 at 3 pm.

Third Session: Grades seven to ten

The third Session assignment will be to write pantoums or sestinas (they will learn how during the session) and email to Bertha no later than April 6 at 6 pm.

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7

First Session:	Grades one - three, 10 - 10:45 am;
Second Session:	Grades four to six; 11 am - noon;
Third Session:	Grades seven to ten, 1:30 - 2:30 pm.

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 9

On the last day, there will be one program for all three groups at 1:30 pm

**Katharine Kreisher** is Professor of Art at Hartwick College where she has been teaching printmaking and photography since 1982. She is a member of the Board of Directors at Bright Hill Press and Literary Center. Katharine is a co-creator of the Young Collector's Club, with Bertha Rogers and executive director Beatrice Georgalidis.

**Bertha Rogers** (Delhi, NY) is a visual artist, poet, and translator/educator. Her art has been shown in solo and group exhibits in the US and internationally. More than 500 of her poems have been published in literary journals and anthologies. Her poetry collections include *Wild, Again* (2019) and *Heart Turned Back* (2010), both published by Salmon Poetry, Ireland; *Sleeper, You Wake; A House of Corners; The Fourth Beast;* and *Even the Hemlock.* Her illustrated translation of the Anglo-Saxon epic poem Beowulf was published in 2000 (Birch Brook Press); and her illuminated translation of the 95 Anglo-Saxon Riddle-Poems from the 10th-Century Exeter Book, Uncommon Creatures, was published in 2019 (Six Swans Artist Editions). She has received grants from the MacDowell Colony, Millay Colony, Hawthornden International Retreat for Writers in Scotland, Caldera, Jentel, and others. Among

her several New York State Council on the Arts and SOS grants are awards for the interdisciplinary exhibits, *Planting Wildness* (2015) and *Wild: The Creatures of the Catskills* (2016). With her late husband, Ernest M. Fishman, she founded Bright Hill Press and Literary Center of the Catskills in 1992; her literary/art accomplishments were read into the Congressional Record in 2017. She lives near Treadwell, NY with her dog, Joya, and her two cats, Embla and Aiya.

#### APRIL 5 - 9 ARTISTIC STORYTELLING THROUGH iPHONE PHOTOGRAPHY WITH NICK KELSH ZOOM YOUTH WORKSHOP

The workshop instructor is renowned photographer Nick Kelsh, who's authored/photographed 9 books, taught thousands of amateur photographers in his online photography courses and live workshops, and has been featured multiple times on Oprah and The Today Show. Nick now lives in Treadwell, NY.

### **Course Description:**

We all know that the best camera is the one that's with you! We're constantly taking iPhone photos to share the many worlds we live in with the people we love, but in this workshop we'll stretch technically, creatively and artistically so your photography becomes a life-enriching channel for self-expression. This workshop will help you take your photos from commonplace snaps to extraordinary images that stand out and reveal something about you and how you relate to your world.

We'll start off with the fundamental concepts of basic photography, then delve into the features and capabilities of the iPhone camera specifically. We'll study exposure, composition, natural and artificial lighting, photo-editing, photo-organization and sharing. We'll cover portraits, self-portraits, group shots, landscape and nature photography, plus storytelling through multiple images. Finally, we'll consider the value of words and pictures together to create an important third effect when sharing photographs.

The photo assignments will get you outside exploring the natural world in springtime—good for you mentally and physically—and the iPhone is a perfect tool for documenting our beautiful planet. The workshop will increase your understanding of your iPhone camera technically and creatively, resulting in memorable, meaningful photographs. The skills you acquire in this workshop will keep giving for a lifetime, regardless of the photographic hardware that may come our way, and your improved photography skills can add value to many activities and projects you'll pursue in school and extracurricular activities. This workshop will enrich your body and soul, build your confidence, spark your imagination, hone your artistic eye and, above all, be fun.

We'll have daily zoom lessons, online videos, photo-assignments, personalized instructor feedback from Nick, Q&A sessions, live office hours, daily review of class assignment photos, streamed virtual exhibit for parents on final day.

The work created during the workshop will be exhibited in The Word and Image Gallery at Bright Hill (virtual exhibit unless regulations allow for in-person ) and will be available for purchase. On the final day of the workshop, we will stream the virtual exhibit on zoom for parents and students.

This virtual workshop runs Monday through Friday, 9 AM to 2:30 PM SPRING SESSION: APRIL 5 - 9 (During BOCES Spring Break) Grades 9-12 Fee: Early bird \$100 After March 15 fee: \$125

**Nick Kelsh** is a renowned photographer and author of nine books, including the bestselling *Naked Babies and Siblings* (co-authored with Pulitzer Prize winning writer, Anna Quindlen) and three how-to books for amateurs, *How to Photograph Your Baby, How to Photograph Your Family* and *How to Photograph Your Life*. He has appeared on Oprah and The Today Show, and has been featured in *Time, Life, Newsweek, National Geographic, The New Yorker, Forbes,* and *Fortune.* He illustrated Rachel Carson's classic *The Sense of Wonder*, and wrote and photographed two gift books: *How to be Santa Claus* and *How to be Dad.* He also wrote the popular column Great Shots for Creative Memories' Lasting Moments magazine.

### APRIL 8, 7 PMWORD THURSDAYS – FRED SCHNEIDERZOOM and Facebook LIVE

**Fred Schneider** (Cooperstown, NY) earned his B.A. in American Literature from SUNY Geneseo. Following an executive career, Fred now owns the Landmark Inn in Cooperstown with his wife Robin. He is a three-time novelist and a two-time invitee to Colgate University's Novel Intensive. Fred's short fiction and poetry have appeared in *Congo Lust, The Atlanta Journal Constitution, Newsday*, and *Backpacker Magazine* as well as Public Radio, where he enjoyed an extended gig as humor essayist for NCPR and where one of his essays, "The Distance of Fathers" was short-listed for national release. His novels, including his latest *Last Stop, Ronkonkoma* (October 2019) have found much critical success. Fred's current projects include a fourth novel, as well as a play titled, *The Glass Eye of James Fenimore Cooper*, based on Mark Twain's famous essay on literary offenses, which he also hopes to produce locally in 2021.

### APRIL 22, 7 PM WORD THURSDAYS – UNITY ZOOM and FACEBOOK LIVE

**Unity** (Otego, NY) is a writer and performer who lives in upstate New York with many feral cats and alter egos, including Sybil Rain, Todd Matthews and Miss Unity, the greatest Lana Del Rey impersonator in the entire hospital. Writings by Unity et al. appear or are forthcoming in *Hobart, SCAB Magazine, Expat Press, Anti-Heroin Chic* and *Misery Tourism*. Find Unity on social media @doyoumissunity

#### MAY 20 GREATER FEDERATION OF WOMEN CLUB'S ANNUAL YOUTH WRITING CONTEST (GFWC) -

#### YOUNG COLLECTORS CLUB

Winners of the GFWC and ekphrastic poems written by Young Collectors Club will be shared.

### MAY 13, 7 PM WORD THURSDAYS - V.P.LOGGINS ZOOM and FACEBOOK LIVE

**V. P. Loggins** (Annapolis, Maryland) is the author of *The Green Cup* (2017), winner of the *Cider Press Review* Editors' Prize, *The Fourth Paradise* (Main Street Rag 2010) and *Heaven Changes* (Pudding House Chapbook Series 2007). He has published one book of criticism on Shakespeare, *The Life of Our Design*, and is co-author of another, *Shakespeare's Deliberate Art*. His poems have appeared in *The Baltimore Review*, *First Things*, *The Hampden-Sydney Poetry Review*, *The Healing Muse*, *Poet Lore*, *Poetry East*, *Poetry Ireland Review*, *The Southern Review* and *Tampa Review*, among others. He has been a finalist for the T. S. Eliot Prize, the May Swenson Award, and the Tampa Review Prize. *Talking Drums*, an art exhibition and installation by sculptor and ceramicist Andrew Cooke, music by Paddy Craig, based on poems in *The Fourth Paradise*, appeared in Portaferry, Northern Ireland. His work has been featured in *A Universe of Dreams*, poetry and music performed nationally by Neal Conan of National Public Radio and Ensemble Galilei. Born in Birmingham, Alabama and raised in Illinois, V. P. Loggins holds a Ph.D. in English Renaissance literature from Purdue University and has taught most recently at the United States Naval Academy.

V. P. Loggins is the winner of the Bright Hill National Full-Length Poetry Book Competition (2018) *The Wild Severance*.

### MAY 27, 7 PM WORD THURSDAYS – MARCELA SULAK and JEANNINE OUELLETTE - ZOOM and FACEBOOK LIVE

**Marcela Sulak's** (Czech Republic) lyric memoir, *Mouth Full of Seeds* and her third poetry collection, *City of Sky Papers*, are forthcoming with Black Lawrence Press; her two previous BLP poetry titles are *Decency* (2015) and *Immigrant* (2010). She's co-edited with Jacqueline Kolosov the 2015 Rose Metal Press title *Family Resemblance. An Anthology and Exploration of 8 Hybrid Literary Genres*. Sulak, who translates from the Hebrew, Czech, and French, is a 2019 NEA Translation Fellow, and her fourth book-length translation of poetry: *Twenty Girls to Envy Me: Selected Poems of Orit Gidali*, was nominated for the 2017 PEN Award for Poetry in Translation (University of Texas Press). Her essays have appeared in *The Boston Review, The Iowa Review, The Los Angeles Review of Books, Asymptote*, and *Gulf Coast online*, among others. She coordinates the poetry track of the Shaindy Rudoff Graduate Program in Creative Writing at Bar-Ilan University, where she is an associate professor in American Literature. She also edits The Ilanot Review and hosts the TLV.1 Radio podcast, Israel in Translation.

Jeannine Ouellette (Minneapolis, MN) is the author of *The Part That Burns*, a memoir in fragments. Her work has appeared in *Calyx*, *Narrative*, *North American Review*, *Masters Review*, *Tupelo Quarterly*, *Writer's Chronicle*, among others, and in several anthologies including *Ms. Aligned: Women* 

*Writing About Men and Women's Lives: Multicultural Perspectives*. Her work has been supported by Millay Colony for the Arts and Brush Creek Foundation for the Arts. She teaches writing through the University of Minnesota, the Minnesota Prison Writing Workshop, and Elephant Rock, an independent creative writing program she founded in 2012. She is working on her first novel.

#### JUNE 4 - JUNE 30 WORD AND IMAGE GALLERY VIRTUAL EXHIBIT CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND WORKS OF SONDRA FRECKLETON

Sondra Freckleton (Oneonta, NY) was born in Dearborn, Michigan in 1936 and studied at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. She began her career as a sculptor working in wood and plastics, exhibiting under her married name, Sondra Beal. She debuted at the Museum of Modern Art in the Recent Sculpture U.S.A. ' show in 1959 and achieved her first solo show at the Tibor de Nagy Gallery in 1960. During the mid-1970's Ms. Freckelton was one of several noted abstract artists who turned to realism in their work. She began working in transparent watercolor-a logical extension of the delicate watercolor studies she had done for her transparent vacuum-formed sculptures. She had her first solo show of large-scale color saturated watercolors with the Brooke Alexander Gallery in 1976. Numerous museums, galleries and traveling shows throughout the United States have exhibited her watercolors. She has had solo exhibits at major galleries in New York, Chicago, Washington, D. C., and San Francisco. Some of the public collections that include her work are the Art Institute of Chicago; Dennos Museum, MI; Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, MI; Madison Art Center, WI; National Museum of American Art, Washington, DC; Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, VA; Oklahoma City Museum; and Oglethorpe Museum, GA. Ms. Freckelton's work and teaching philosophy are the subjects of the Watson-Guptill publication entitled Dynamic Still Lifes in Watercolor by M. Stephen Doherty. Some other publications that include her work are Contemporary American Realist Drawings, Hudson Hills Press, 1999; American Watercolor, by Chris Finch, Abbeville Press, 1986; and The Art of Watercolor, by Charles LeClair, Watson-Guptill, NY, 1994. Sondra Freckelton lived and worked near Oneonta, New York at the home and studio she and her late husband, Jack Beal, built until her passing on June 10, 2019.

## JUNE 5, 4PMSONGWRITING FUN-THE-MENTALS WORKSHOPTAUGHT BY JASON STARRAll ages, Saturday, June 5 via Zoom at 4 PM

A special fundraiser songwriting workshop with a suggested donation of \$25.00

Up to one hour will be spent discussing some of the basic techniques used in the art and craft of songwriting. Lyrics and song structures will be a jumping off point, from which we will visit chord progressions, melody, and other aspects of music theory which can help make any writing become lyrics, thereby becoming songs. A short Q&A with workshop leader Jason Starr will be offered after the workshop session.

**Jason Starr** (East Meredith, NY) Jason Starr is a guitar player and singer who has been performing in the area since he arrived in Franklin with his wife and daughter in 2010. He has played venues such as

the B-Side Ballroom, The Walton Theater, Castle on the Delaware, The Oneonta, Otego, Cooperstown, and Franklin Farmers Markets, and the Franklin Holiday Market. Playing solo and with bands of varying lineups, he plays in the genres of Bluegrass, Blues, Americana, The Great American Songbook, Motown... all of which he puts under the big genre umbrella of Folk Music. He is a Teaching Artist with the Creating Rural Opportunities Partnership (CROP) program in local schools. You can find his music here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KmezR3hrrr4&feature=youtu.be https://www.facebook.com/BarnPaintBlue https://music.apple.com/us/album/jason-starr-the-sgs/14838503

### JUNE 10, 7 PM WORD THURSDAYS – RICHARD NEWMAN, MARGOT FARRINGTON - ZOOM and FACEBOOK LIVE

**Richard Jeffrey Newman** (Jackson Heights, NY) has published two books of poetry, *Words for What Those Men Have Done* (Guernica Editions 2017) and *The Silence of Men* (CavanKerry Press 2006), as well as a chapbook, *For My Son, A Kind of Prayer* (Ghostbird Press 2016). In addition, he has co-translated three books of classical Persian poetry, most recently *The Teller of Tales: Stories from Ferdowsi's Shahnameh* (Junction Press 2011). Newman is on the executive board of Newtown Literary, a Queens-based literary non-profit and curates the <u>First Tuesdays</u> reading series in Jackson Heights, NY. He is Professor of English at Nassau Community College, where he also serves as secretary of the faculty union, the Nassau Community College Federation of Teachers (NCCFT). His website is www.richardjnewman.com.

**Margot Farrington** (Brooklyn, NY and Treadwell, NY) is a poet, essayist, and performer who has read and performed widely in the United States and abroad, in France, Great Britain, Wales, and The Netherlands. The most recent of her four poetry collections is *The Blue Canoe Of Longing* (Dos Madres Press, 2019), selected for Small Press Distribution's Recommended List. Her poems have appeared in anthologies in the U.S., including *Like Light* (Bright Hill Press, 2018) and *Other Land* (Parthian) in the U.K. Essays, interviews and reviews have appeared in *The Brooklyn Rail, The Delaware Times, Poetry Wales, ABR*, art exhibition catalogues, and a forthcoming book about the illustrator David Stone Martin. She is the recipient of fellowships from Norton Island, The I-Park Foundation, The Clock Tower, and other foundations, and a two-time Pushcart Prize nominee for poetry. Farrington is founder and director of Writers At The Eyrie, a residency program for poets and writers.

### JUNE 24, 7 PM WORD THURSDAYS – DENISE B. DAILEY and ALICE PETTWAY

**Denise B. Dailey** (Walton, NY) a teacher-writer of French-Chilean origin, holds a BS from McGill University and an MFA from Columbia University. She travels to the seven continents with her husband and children which inform much of her writing. Publications include short stories in *The Sink*, The Catskill Literary Journal, *Who Knew?* and *The Walton Writers' Works;* a travel journal, *Listening to Pakistan: A Woman's Voice in a Veiled Land*; a biography of the Czech painter, Jan Emmerich Mikeska, *Riko: Seductions of an Artist,* for which she won a Kirkus starred review and "Best Books of 2018". In May of 2019, she published her memoir, *Leaving Guanabara,* about her life as a child in

Brazil during the Second World War. She has lectured on Pakistan at the NY State University in Oneonta, at the Cosmopolitan Club and at the National Arts Club, both in New York City, and on WSKG, National Public Radio's affiliate. She reads from her work at the New York Society Library and at libraries, the Bright Hill Press, and at roundtables in the Catskills. She was interviewed by Bill Jaker on his WSKG "Off the Page" about her book on Pakistan, and has a blog regarding her writing of *Riko: Seductions of an Artist,* at <u>www.po0dcastone/episode/Christopher-Goffard</u>. Denise divides her time equally between New York City, and Walton, N.Y. with her husband, Tom. They have three children, five grandchildren, all of them travelers, some of them writers. Her web page is <u>http://denisebdailey.com/author</u>

Alice Pettway (Seattle, WA) is the author of *The Time of Hunger* (Salmon Poetry, 2017), *Moth* (Salmon Poetry, 2019) and *Station Lights* (forthcoming 2021). Her poetry has appeared or is forthcoming in *AGNI*, *The Bitter Oleander*, *The Colorado Review*, *Poet Lore*, *Rattle*, *River Styx*, *The Southern Review*, *The Threepenny Review* and many others. She is a former Chulitna Artist and Lily Peter fellow.

### JULY 8, 7 PMWORD THURSDAYS – NANDINI BHATTACHARYAZOOM and FACEBOOK LIVE

Nandini Bhattacharya (Houston, TX) was born and raised in India and has called the United States her second continent for the last thirty years. *Love's Garden*, published in 2020, is her first novel, and a work of women's historical fiction in a tumultuous twentieth-century India. Her work has been published or will be in the *Saturday Evening Post*, *The Bombay Review*, *The Bangalore Review*, *Storyscape Journal* and more. She has attended the Bread Loaf Writers' Workshop and been accepted for residencies at the Vermont Studio Center. She was first runner-up for the Los Angeles Review Flash Fiction contest (2017-2018), long-listed for the Disquiet International Literary Prize (2019 and 2020), and received Honorable Mention for the Saturday Evening Post Great American Stories Contest, 2021.

She's currently working on a second novel about love, minorities, racism, and Hindutva politics in India and xenophobic mentalities, and other mysteries in Donald Trump's America, titled *Homeland Blues*. She loves (and reads) Jhumpa Lahiri, Megha Majumdar, Amitav Ghosh, Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni, Jose Saramago, Salman Rushdie, and last but not least, Chimamanda Adichie. She lives outside Houston, Texas, and teaches English Literature and Writing at Texas A&M University.

### JULY 22, 7 PMWORD THURSDAYS - MILLICENT BORGES ACCARDI and<br/>ELIZABETH MAXEY

**Millicent Borges Accardi** (Topanga Canyon, CA) is the author of three poetry books, most recently, *Only More So* (Salmon Poetry 2016). She has received fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, Fulbright, CantoMundo, California Arts Council, Barbara Deming, Foundation for Contemporary Arts (NYC), Fundação Luso-Americana (FLAD). Find her @TopangaHippie (Twitter and IG).

**Libby Maxey** (Amherst, Massachusetts) is a senior editor at *Literary Mama*. Her poems have appeared in *Emrys, Pirene's Fountain, Stoneboat* and elsewhere, and her first poetry collection, *Kairos*, won Finishing Line Press's 2018 New Women's Voices Chapbook Competition. Her nonliterary activities include singing classical repertoire, mothering two sons, and administering the Department of Classics at Amherst College.

### AUGUST 2021 YOUTH WORKSHOP TBD

Summer youth workshop offering will be determined based on pandemic regulations.

### AUGUST 1 & 8, 3-5 PM COMEDY WRITING WORKSHOP LED BY SU YATES

### "So, You Think You're Funny: Let's Write It"

This comedy writing workshop, taught by Su Yates, will cover topics such as: a brief history of comedy, the different types of comedy writing with examples of each type (performed live with social media), and breaking down how to write comedy (choosing a premise, different styles for different types, keeping it interesting and to the point). Assignments will be written in class and have a week to revise and bring back to the class. Workshop taught via Zoom until further notice.

Workshop Registration: 2 Sundays, Fee: \$20.

Su Yates was born in Buffalo, N.Y., but managed to overcome that adversity to rise to stellar heights of mediocrity in writing, performing, dancing and comedy. She has appeared in comedy clubs around the country first doing improvisational comedy and then stand-up comedy. She began her underwhelming career by writing and performing solo and ensemble comedy sketch pieces, her preferred comedy style. More recently, Su has been writing and performing stories and Spoken Word pieces. She is working on her autobiography, Memoirs of an Insignificant Baby Boomer. She performed improv and stand-up comedy in Honolulu, Hawaii, for several years and in another international hub, the Oneonta and Delaware County area of New York State. She has attempted to dazzle crowds in Palm Springs, Berkeley and Bishop, California; Sarasota, Florida; Portland, Oregon and a slew of misbegotten locations. Su has also studied and performed Brazilian dance, clog dancing, Irish dancing, taiko drumming and hula. In addition to a fitness regimen, this allowed her to develop a physical style of comedy embellished by accents and physical characteristics from different cultures. Su attributes much of her skill to studying character development with Lanny Harrison of West Kortright Centre. Incredibly, Su has a master's degree in Public Health and a Bachelor's degree in Community Health Education. She has worked seriously in this field in Hawaii and New York. Most recently, she is developing her own grant writing business.

AUGUST 12, 7 PM

### WORD THURSDAYS – FEATURING SEEING THINGS CHAPBOOK SERIES POETS: DAVID BACHNER, VICKI WHICKER - ZOOM and FACEBOOK LIVE

**David Bachner** is a retired college dean and professor. A graduate of Bates College, he studied in Japan, served in Korea in the Peace Corps, worked at the University of Hawaii, earned a PhD from Case Western Reserve University, and was a dean at Hartwick College and scholar-in residence at American University's School of International Service. His research, teaching, and program administration focused on international education and intercultural relations, fields in which he has authored three books and a number of articles. His poetry has recently been published in the chapbook *Capital Ironies: Washington, DC Poetry and Prose* (Woodland Arts Editions), *Seeing Things: An Anthology of Poetry* (Woodland Arts Editions), and the literary journal *Poetry and Places*. New work is forthcoming in the literary journal *Sequestrum*. David lives in Washington, DC and is a frequent visitor to upstate New York.

**Vicki Whicker**, poet and art photographer, is a member of the Los Angeles Poets and Writers Collective and Bright Hill Press Poets. Her poetry has been published by *Mo+th*, *12 Los Angeles Poets*, *Big City Mantra*, *Literary Mama*, and others. Her poetry and art photography are featured in the anthology *Seeing Things* (Woodland Arts Editions, 2020), her poem "Fire Starter" was published in both English and Spanish with La Presa (Embajadoras Press), and her debut collection of poems *Caught Before Flight* was published by Woodland Arts Editions, all in 2020.

Her iPhoneography has been the focus of shows on both coasts. She exhibited solo at Cherry Branch Gallery, Bank Gallery, and Lovely Gallery. Recent group shows include exhibits at The Smithy, Cherry Branch Gallery, Art Garage, CAA, Broad Street, The Empty Spaces Project and more. Her show, *Bucolia*, presented byThe Word and Image Gallery at Bright Hill Press, debuted in 2020.

## AUGUST 26, 7 PMWORD THURSDAYS – FEATURING SEEING THINGS<br/>CHAPBOOK SERIES POETS LYNNE KEMEN, JULENE<br/>WAFFLE - ZOOM and FACEBOOK LIVE

**Lynne Kemen** writes: "I was born in Bath, NY, then lived in Hartwick, NY, Rutland, VT, Crawfordsville, IN, then came to Ithaca in 1960, as my father's government job required. My mother refused to unpack many boxes of books. After they died there, I donated the books to the local library. I lived in Ithaca through grad school in 1975, but I was afraid to own it. Franklin and Meridale, where I spent every weekend with my failing grandparents, were always my rocks. I think I was imprinted on the hills as a child. After completing an MA in theater at Cornell, where I was also married, I worked in theater in Princeton and New York City, later as General Manager of the Phoenix. Then I established the Center for Dance Medicine and managed a medical clinic for 26 years. I went back to school and got a PhD in biopsychology from Hunter College, which led to a teaching career as well as being department advisor to 3000 students. Back in 1978, we started visiting a friend at her place in upstate NY that we would never have heard of: Franklin, NY. We spent every summer and every Christmas Eve with her from that year forward. I always felt at home in Delaware County, so we bought a house here in 2004. My mother told my aunt, who said that the house we bought had been her aunt's house.

So many coincidences! I retired from Hunter in 2016 with a husband and three cats. I have always felt that this was home."

**Julene Waffle** is a teacher in a rural NYS public school, a business owner, a wife, a mother of three boys, and writer. She has degrees from Hartwick College and Binghamton University. Her work has appeared in *La Presa*, *The English Journal*, *The English Record*, *River*, *Blood*, and *Corn: Literary Journal*, *A Community of Voices*, *The Daily Star*, anthologies of poetry entitled *Civilization in Crisis* (FootHills Publishing, 2020), and *Seeing Things: Anthology of Poetry* (Woodland Arts Editions, 2020), and her chapbook entitled *So I Will Remember* (Woodland Arts Editions, 2020). She finds inspiration in nature and her family which includes her dogs. One may purchase her chapbook at The Green Toad in Oneonta, NY, or at Julene's webpage: www.wafflepoetry.com.

### SEPTEMBER 9, 7 PMWORD THURSDAYS – MELODY DAVIS & SHARON<br/>RUETENIK ZOOM and FACEBOOK LIVE

**Melody Davis** (Albany, NY) a writer and art historian, is the author of four poetry collections. *Ghost Writer* is her latest volume, published by Broadstone Books in 2019. The collection has been nominated for a Pulitzer prize, and a selection of its poems has been nominated for a Pushcart prize. Here is an interview of Davis speaking about the book: <u>New Poetry Book by Professor Melody Davis Now Available</u>. Davis' work in art history has been published in several studies. "Sentiment and Irony, the Stereoscopic Treasures of F. G. Weller" is an electronic book published on the Scalar platform: <u>http://scalar.usc.edu/works/fg-weller-/index</u>. *Women's Views: The Narrative Stereograph in Nineteenth-Century America* (New Hampshire University Press, 2015) was the first critical study of the stereoscopic genre scene and its popular success among women. Davis has held writing fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, The Pennsylvania Council of the Arts, and the Henry Luce Foundation. She was awarded the Susan Warren Beatty Faculty Research Award in 2019 at the Sage Colleges, where she is an Associate Professor. Davis is a frequent feature in upstate New York poetry events.

**Sharon Ruetenik** (Delhi, NY) was the international student adviser, writing center coordinator, and a part-time instructor in composition and literature at SUNY Delhi, until her recent retirement. Her poetry chapbook, *The Wooden Bowl*, (Bright Hill Press, 2009) illustrates the role of women from Eve to Dorothy. Ruetenik's work has appeared in print and on-line journals, most recently the anthologies *Like Light* and *Three Line Poetry*, the on-line journal *Frost Valley Review*, the print journal *Iconoclast*, and *The Catskill Mountain Region Guide*. She particularly enjoys sharing her work, most recently at Brain Storms: Hudson Valley New Year's Day Spoken Word Extravaganza and an outdoor reading at the Hunter Tavern. She has been a featured reader at SUNY Delhi and at Word Thursdays several times. Ruetenik was awarded a fellowship at the Saltonstall Foundation for the Arts and Platte Clove. She has taught poetry classes for Writers in the Mountain and at local libraries as a facilitator for the New York Council for the Humanities. In addition, for the Council she has led discussions on WWI, the Muslim Journey, and the Politics of Food. Sharon Ruetenik has an abiding interest in what ifs and a natural proclivity for incongruities evidenced by her love for mob movies and all things Victorian. She

lives in Delhi with an electrician, a gentle Great Pyrenees cross, a disgruntled Corgi cross, and several indolent cats.

### SEPTEMBER 23, 7 PM WORD THURSDAYS FEATURING SEEING THINGS V. POETS ZOOM and FACEBOOK LIVE

Poetry enables us to "see things": to see what is and what is not, in the domains of the senses and imagination. We develop our practice of writing by drawing upon both. Workshop participants who participated in the Seeing Things Workshop with Robert Bensen will share their work.

**Robert Bensen** (Oneonta, NY) has conducted the "Seeing Things" workshop at Bright Hill since Spring 2019. The latest of his six collections of poetry is *Before* (Five Oaks Press, 2019). His poetry has appeared in *The Paris Review, Callaloo, The Caribbean Writer, Native Realities, Jamaica Journal, AGNI, Akwe:kon, Poetry Wales, The Thomas Hardy Review, Ploughshares,* and others. He has written numerous critical essays on British, Caribbean and Native American literature, and has edited anthologies of those literatures, most recently Children of the Dragonfly: Native American Voices on Child Custody and Education. He is Emeritus Professor of English and former Director of Writing at Hartwick College, Oneonta, NY (1978-2017). He also teaches at the State University of New York—Oneonta.

# SEP 30, 7 PMSPECIAL EDITION: WORD THURSDAYS FEATURING<br/>RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS JOURNAL WRITERS<br/>& THE KINDNESS IS CONTAGIOUS PROJECT<br/>(IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ANDES CENTRAL SCHOOL)

In February 1999, Jennifer Finkle, a teacher at Andes Central School (1990 - present) wrote on the first page of an empty journal: Kindness Chain Key:

Remember, you as a human being are very powerful; remember, challenges teach us about the elasticity of the human spirit. Use this journal to record a random act of kindness that you do for someone else. Pass the journal to the recipient and ask them do the same. I hope you'll be surprised to see how good random kindness can feel and hope it will continue within our school community.

The first of hundreds of entries by faculty and staff followed, filling two large journals by 2019. Finkle had been inspired by an episode of the Oprah Show during which Oprah spoke of random kindness and how it can be just as fulfilling to the giver as it is to the receiver. The journals contain small, heartfelt, and uplifting acts of random kindness in written form. A retired administrator received the book and was so moved that he encouraged Finkle to get it published as "a lasting tribute to our unique school and all the people who work so hard to make Andes Central School such a special place."

Finkle partnered with Bright Hill Press to begin planning for the publication and circulation of The Andes Central School Faculty and Staff Kindness Journal, as well as the partner program "Kindness is

Contagious Project." Bertha Rogers, Editor-in Chief, is editing the manuscript and Beatrice Georgalidis, Executive Director, is producing the project and promotional campaign with associate producer Sophie Bille.

(500) copies of the Andes Central School Faculty and Staff Kindness Journal will be printed; one copy will be mailed to each of the 46 schools in the Delaware County and Otsego County BOCES school districts as well as a blank journal and a letter detailing the "Kindness is Contagious Project." The hope is that every school will begin their own kindness journal and archive the kindness of their respective faculty and staff for years to come. A video, email, and social media campaign will launch to promote the project.

**Jennifer L. Finkle** was born in Southampton, NY, where her father was a NYS Conservation Officer and her mother worked at Southampton College. They moved to Andes, when her father transferred to the NYS Police when Jennifer was three years old. She attended Andes Central School from Kindergarten through graduation. She received an AD in nursery education from SUNY Cobleskill and went on to obtain both a BA and MA in elementary education from SUNY Oneonta. Her teaching career, since receiving her BA and MA has been spent at Andes Central School, where she is presently in her 31st year of teaching kindergarten and first grades in stand-alone and combined classes. She also directs the after-school/summer CROP Program.

Jennifer married her junior high-school sweetheart, Dwayne, and they have a beagle named Daisy. In their spare time they manage a small farm business. They have 30 colonies of bees for honey sales, laying hens for egg sales, shitake mushrooms growing in the woods in the summer for farmer's markets, turkeys for Thanksgiving and a huge garden. During the pandemic they finished an outdoor wood-fired pizza oven, complete with discarded slate roof tiles from Andes Central School, in which they make pre-baked pizza crusts for the markets. Jen's Jam and Jelly business has also taken off, so many hours are spent picking fruit and making jam and jelly. Hunting, fishing, and foraging wild mushrooms are other favorite activities of the couple; they reap rewards by catching, harvesting, and processing their own foods for their own use and sharing with others.

### OCTOBER 14, 7 PM WORD THURSDAYS – JAY ROGOFF and JOELLEN KWIATEK ZOOM and FACEBOOK LIVE

**Jay Rogoff** (Saratoga Springs, NY) has published seven books of poetry, five with Louisiana State University Press. His new book, *Loving in Truth: New and Selected Poems*, draws on his previous six collections as well as offering forty-four new poems. Born in New York City, he has lived his adult life in upstate New York, teaching at Syracuse University, LeMoyne College, and Skidmore College. His awards include the Washington Prize for his first book, *The Cutoff*, the Robert Watson Award for his chapbook *Twenty Danses Macabres*, and a Pushcart Prize for his poem "Wear," featured in *Loving in Truth*. His poems and criticism have appeared in many journals, and he serves as dance critic for *The Hopkins Review*. He lives in Saratoga Springs, New York.

**JoEllen Kwiatek** (West Valley, NY) is a poet and former Associate Professor in the English and Creative Writing Department at SUNY Oswego. Her first book, *Eleven Days Before Spring*, was

published by HarperCollins. Her second book, *Study for Necessity*, won the University of Iowa's Poetry Prize. Among Kwiatek's awards are a Pushcart Prize and a Constance Saltonstall Grant. Her poems have appeared in such places as *The Antioch Review*, *The Indiana Review*, and *The American Poetry Review*, where in 2000 she was the featured poet, appearing on its cover. Kwiatek has a Bachelor of Arts in Creative Writing from Syracuse University, and a Masters from The Writing Seminars at Johns Hopkins.

### OCTOBER 28, 7 PM WORD THURSDAYS – CAROLYNE WRIGHT and LYNN LEVIN ZOOM and FACEBOOK LIVE

**Carolyne Wright's** (Seattle, WA) most recent books are *This Dream the World: New & Selected Poems* (Lost Horse Press, 2017), whose title poem received a Pushcart Prize and appeared in The Best American Poetry 2009; and the ground-breaking anthology, *Raising Lilly Ledbetter: Women Poets Occupy the Workspace* (Lost Horse, 2015), which received ten Pushcart Prize nominations. Her (and Eulene's) *Mania Klepto: the Book of Eulene* (Turning Point, 2011) is "a tour-de-force in which an unforgettable protagonist takes us through an energetic romp through her vision." A Contributing Editor for the Pushcart Prizes and Translation Editor for Artful Dodge, Carolyne has also published five award-winning volumes of poetry translated from Spanish and Bengali. She teaches for Seattle's Richard Hugo House. https://carolynewright.wordpress.com

Lynn Levin's (Seattle, WA) most recent poetry collection, *The Minor Virtues* (Ragged Sky, 2020) is listed as one of Spring 2020's best books by The Philadelphia Inquirer. Her previous collections include *Miss Plastique, Fair Creatures of an Hour*, and *Imaginarium*. She is the translator, from the Spanish, of *Birds on the Kiswar Tree* by Odi Gonzales and co-author of *Poems for the Writing: Prompts for Poets*. Her poems have appeared in *Boulevard*, *Artful Dodge*, *Rattle*, on *Garrison Keillor's The Writer's Almanac*, and other places. She teaches at Drexel University. Her website is lynnlevinpoet.com

### NOVEMBER 11, 7 PM WORD THURSDAYS – ELIZABETH POWELL and MARY KAY RUMMEL - ZOOM and FACEBOOK LIVE

**Elizabeth A. I. Powell** (Lyndonville, VT) is the author of three books of poems, most recently *Atomizer* (LSU Press). Her second book of poems, *Willy Loman's Reckless Daughter: Living Truthfully Under Imaginary Circumstances* was named a "Books We Love 2016" by The New Yorker. Her novel, *Concerning the Holy Ghost's Interpretation of JCrew Catalogues* was published in 2019 in the U.K. Her work has appeared in the *Pushcart Prize Anthology, American Poetry Review, Harvard Review, Missouri Review, Ploughshares*, and elsewhere. She is Editor of *Green Mountains Review* and Professor of Creative Writing at Northern Vermont University.

**Mary Kay Rummel's** (Ventura, CA) ninth poetry book, *Nocturnes: Between Flesh and Stone*, has just been published by Blue Light Press of San Francisco. Her first book, *This Body She's Entered*, won a Minnesota Voices Award from New Rivers Press. *The Lifeline Trembles* won the Blue Light Award

from Blue Light Press and *Love in the End* was a chapbook from Bright Hill Press. Blue Light Press published *Cypher Garden* in 2017. She is co-editor of *Psalms of Cinder & amp; Silt, poems about experiences with fires in California* (Solo Novo Press). Mary Kay has read her poems in many venues and festivals in the US, England and Ireland. She is professor emerita from the University of MN and retired from California State University, Channel Islands. She and her husband, Tim, divide their time between Minneapolis and Ventura, CA where she is a former Poet Laureate of Ventura County. She is a founding member of the nonprofit, Ventura County Poetry Project

### NOVEMBER 18, 7 PM WORD THURSDAYS – JEN KARETNICK and JENNIFER K. SWEENEY - ZOOM and FACEBOOK LIVE

**Jen Karetnick** (Miami, FL) fourth full-length poetry collection is *The Burning Where Breath Used to Be* (David Robert Books, September 2020). She's also the author of *Hunger Until It's Pain* (Salmon Poetry, forthcoming spring 2023) and *The Treasures That Prevail* (Whitepoint Press, September 2016), finalist for the 2017 Poetry Society of Virginia Book Prize, as well as five poetry chapbooks, including *The Crossing Over* (March 2019), winner of the 2018 Split Rock Review Chapbook Competition. Her poems have been awarded the 2020 Tiferet Writing Prize for Poetry, the Hart Crane Memorial Prize, the Romeo Lemay Poetry Prize, the Anna Davidson Rosenberg Prize, and two Dorothy Sargent Rosenberg Prizes, among others. Her work appears recently or is forthcoming in *Barrow Street, The Comstock Review, December, Michigan Quarterly Review, Terrain, Under a Warm Green Linden*, and elsewhere. Co-founder and managing editor of SWWIM Every Day, Jen is currently a Deering Estate Artist-in-Residence.

Website/social: Find her on Twitter @Kavetchnik and Instagram @JenKaretnick, or see jkaretnick.com.

**Jennifer K. Sweeney** (Redlands, CA) is the author of four books of poetry, most recently *Foxlogic*, *Fireweed*, winner of the Backwaters Prize from Backwaters Press/University of Nebraska. Her other collections are *Little Spells* (New Issues Press, 2015), *How to Live on Bread and Music* (Perugia Press), and *Salt Memory* (Main Street Rag). She is the recipient of many awards, including the James Laughlin Award from the Academy of American Poets, the Perugia Press Prize, and a Pushcart Prize. She teaches poetry workshops at the University of Redlands in California, and is known for a decade-long practice of private instruction and manuscript critique.

Website/social: Find her at www.jenniferksweeney.com or on Twitter @jksweeneypoet.

SCHEDULING TBD

### TBDWORD AND IMAGE GALLERY EXHIBITFRANGESCO PIAZZOLA

## TBD iPHONE PHOTOGRAPHY INTENSIVE WORKSHOP (ADULTS) WITH NICK KELSH Summer/Fall 2021

The workshop instructor is renowned photographer Nick Kelsh, who's authored/photographed 9 books, teaches thousands of amateur photographers in his online photography courses and live travel workshops, and has been featured multiple times on Oprah and The Today Show. Nick, now local to our region, lives in Treadwell, NY.

Details to be released upon Covid regulation updates.

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