

----- January 2009 -----

Springfed Arts - Metro Detroit Writers

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Find Your Muse in Workshops

by Mary Sitto

Springfed Arts – Metro Detroit Writers Creative Writing Workshops is an excellent way for writers of all ages and experience levels to arouse their imaginations through the inspiration, support and encouragement of fellow writers. Workshops offered include Intermediate, Advanced and Contemporary Poetics.

Poet Dawn McDuffie teaches the Intermediate Poetry class at the historic Scarab Club, where you will “enter into a splendid world of creative expression” and “stimulate your senses.” McDuffie has been teaching the workshops since the fall of 2000

when she retired from her teaching job at Detroit’s Mumford High School, where she taught English and Creative Writing and edited a literary magazine. “I loved having an on-going connection to teaching writing.” McDuffie said.

McDuffie’s workshop focuses on creating new work, with an exercise or a specific technique to try each week. Her material includes the work of successful and contemporary poets and continually prompts the writer to think about a particular aspect of poetry. “Every handout is a mini anthology of really good poetry.” McDuffie said.

A workshop participant can expect positive

feedback and suggestions from McDuffie and fellow poets. “I like the challenge, I like writing lesson plans.” McDuffie said. “I want to show the possibilities that exist with really good metaphors.”

Beth Langelier has been a participant in several of McDuffie’s workshops. “Dawn gave me the inspiration to keep writing when I wasn’t sure if I could or should write. She is the most encouraging teacher I know and looks for the positive in every author’s work.” Langelier said. “I’ve always had fun in Dawn’s classes and met a lot of interesting people there.”

Springfed Arts - Metro Detroit Writers Winter Writing Workshops

The Creative Writing Workshops for 2009 start in February. You must register for the class before the first session. Registration form below.

Advanced Poetry with Dawn McDuffie

At the *Scarab Club*, 217 Farnsworth & John R., Mondays, February 2, 9, 16, 23, March 2 & 9, 7-9 pm. All writers welcome at this workshop.



Dawn McDuffie

In this workshop, writers will examine the work of successful contemporary poets and will carry their techniques into their own new work. Since poets thrive in an atmosphere of respect, concentration and challenge, every session will include time for positive feedback. Class exercises will encourage new skills and flights of imagination, and the assignments will cover topics from poetic forms to revision techniques. All writers

interested in strong, engaging poems are welcome. Dawn McDuffie has taught Creative Writing at the Scarab Club since 1999. Her poems have appeared in *Rattle*, *Feminist Studies*, *The MacGuffin*, and *The CT Review*. Her chapbook, *Carmina Detroit*, was published by *Adastra Press* in 2006.

Advanced Poetry Workshops with Mary Jo Firth Gillett:

Tues. nights, Feb. 3-March 10, 7-9 p.m., Jane Addams School, R.O., **FULL**
Wed. afternoons, Feb. 4-March 11, 1-3 p.m., Birmingham’s Baldwin Library
Wed. evenings, Feb. 4-March 11, 7-9 p.m., Jane Addams School, R.O.

If you’re interested in a class, whether as a new or returning poet, please contact Mary Jo, mjfirth@aol.com Poets new to the classes, please send three sample poems in the body of the email.

Creative Nonfiction and Fiction Writing Workshop with Margo LaGattuta:

Mondays, February 6 – March 20 (skip March 13), 10 a.m. – noon, Borders Books, on Rochester Rd. in Rochester. Margo LaGattuta is a poet, prose writer and winner of the 2005 Mark Twain Award. Participants will explore the art of writing stories, true and invented, as well as the personal essay. Work will be shared for group response.

The fee is \$100 per workshop for members and \$140 for non-members. Financial aid available. We must have 12 pre-registered students for a workshop to run. You **MUST** register before workshops begin. Make checks out to **Springfed Arts**.

Please fill out the form below and send to: John D. Lamb, Director- Springfed Arts, PO Box 304, Royal Oak, MI 48068-0304.

Title of Workshop _____

Fee _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone & e/mail _____

IMPORTANT: MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO SPRINGFED ARTS

Please register for this class by sending a check to Springfed Arts, PO Box 304, Royal Oak, MI 48068-0304. The class fee is \$100.00 for members of Springfed Arts and \$140.00 for those who are not yet members. Financial aid is available. The class will be limited to the first 14 people who enroll.

The All New Downtown Poetry Series for 2009

The 2009 Downtown Literary Arts Series is all set and ready to rock for 2009. Please plan to attend these events that fill the Scarab Club each month between January and April. We have a great, unique and interesting line up of local, national and international poets for this season. All readings are free and open to the Public. They are all held Sundays at **The Scarab Club** locat-

ed at 217 E. Farnsworth at John R in the heart of the Cultural Center / Wayne State University Campus. The Scarab Club is directly behind the Detroit Institute for the Arts. We have our own free, safe, and close parking area. For Directions (313) 831-1250

The 2009 Downtown Poetry Series @ The Scarab Club Features



Diane DeCillis

January 25, Sunday 2-4pm



Airee Dee Matthews

Mary Ann Wehler (Widely published poet, workshop leader & author of several books)

Diane DeCillis (Acclaimed poet & owner of The Print Gallery in Southfield)

Airee Dee Matthews (Published performance poet from New Jersey)

John D. Lamb (Michigan singer songwriter, director of Springfed Arts)

February 22, Sunday 2-4 pm

Eddie Bell (Woodstock, NY Poet)
Diamond Dancer & Friends (Detroit Performance Poet)

Maria Costantini (MDW Master Level Workshop Poet & Author)

Jeff Vande Zande (Michigan novelist, poet and author of a new novel from Bottom Dog Press)



Eddie Bell

March 29, Sunday 2-4 pm (ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S MONTH READING)

Allison Adelle Hedge Coke (Native American, Award Winning Poet from Nebraska)

Jan Beatty (Pitt Poetry Series Poet and Public Radio Poetry Host from Pittsburgh)

Terry Blackhawk (Poet and Director of Detroit's InsideOut Literary Arts Program)

Jill Darling (Wayne State University Poet and Teacher)

Judy Adams (Detroit Public Broadcasting Legend & Piano Recitalist)



Allison Adelle Hedge Coke

April 19, Sunday 2-4 pm

Elizabeth Volpe (Winner of 2007 Robert Watson Poetry Prize & nominated Best New Poet)

Rebecca Rank (Winner 2008 Permafrost Midnight Sun Chapbook Contest)

Sophia Rifkin (Award winning MDW Poet and author of a new 2009 collection of her poems)



Elizabeth Volpe



Rebecca Rank



Ted Greenwald

Cultural Evening with City Poets at MOCAD

by Mary Sitto

Ted Greenwald and Dennis Teichman read their poetry at the Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit on November 20. The evening opened with Teichman's enjoyable reading from his books of poetry, "Edge to Edge" and "V-8." Teichman, a native Detroiter and publisher of Past Tents Press, is an essential part of Detroit's literary community. His distinctive poetry investigates the human condition with an ironic flair.

Ted Greenwald, "from New York forever," has a considerable influence in the tradition of the New York Language poets. His poems are conversational, rooted in everyday dialogue. He takes the common talk of America and weaves it into a rhythmic beat. When Greenwald reads he pulses in a repetitive jazz-like tempo. But, Greenwald insists his poems aren't lyrics. "I don't think of music, I write poetry," Greenwald said. "The words are part of the American language, they're here, they're in the newspaper every day and books, they're all over the place, they're with you and me talking here."

The first few lines in "Speaking Of" from "In Your Dreams:"

"On your way back
Get me a coffee
Remember me to friends

On your way back
Remember me to friends
Think of me often

On your way back ..."

This poem embodies Greenwald's short lines of street talk stitched in a melodious repetitive pattern. "They [words] come from just passing on the street, buying a pack of cigarettes or a pack of gum, you know, those close transactions are conducted with words, so you try and get those on to the page," Greenwald said. "That's a harder thing to do than most people realize."

Springfed Arts: Detroit Tonight Live at The Music Hall's Jazz Café

Get Ready to kick off our 3rd Season of poetry, music, comedy, dancing bears, puppets, clowns and plate spinners as M.L. Liebler emcees the all new **2009 Detroit Tonight Live** program on **January 8, 7pm-9pm**. Join M. L. Liebler as he hosts Oakwood Poet **Lisa Rutledge, James Hart III, The Big**



Lisa Rutledge



The Big Shorty Band
Frankie the K (left) &
James Hart (right)

Shorty Blues and R&B Band (with Frankie the K, James Hart and

Caroline Maun) and a very special Open Mic with Poets from M.L.'s **St. Clair Shores Public Library Monthly Workshop and his Oakwood Hospital Workshop Poets**. All Detroit Tonight Live Programs are at **Detroit's Jazz Café at The Music Hall for the Performing Arts** located at **350 Madison Detroit, MI 48226 – (313) 887-8501**— in the heart of Detroit's newly developing Theater District near The Detroit Opera House, The Gem Theater, Comerica Park and Ford Field. Nearby lighted, secure parking. **Free admission. Open to all.**



Lamb's Songwriters Showcase, November 30, 2008, l-r Lamb, Kitty Donohoe, Kirby, Stacia Petrie, Tom Butwin, Jen Sygit and Chris Badynee.

Lamb's Songwriter's Showcase

Sunday, January 25, 8:30 p.m.

Featuring: Jeff Scott, Nick Pivot, Vito Marchione, host John D. Lamb and more TBA.

Memphis Smoke

Royal Oak, 248-543-4300

Ongoing Calendar

Sunday, 11:30-1 pm 4th Street Writer's Workshop meets every other Sunday alternating between downtown Royal Oak and Novi. Considering prose only. Please contact Kim Haas at kimhaasdesign@sbcglobal.net For more details please see:
www.4thstreetwriters.blogspot.com

Sunday, 9:30 pm Sunday Night Poetry meets at Trixie's Café on the SW corner of Frazho & Gratiot in Roseville, 16 yrs and over, 1 drink minimum. Hostess Alyssum. Info: www.trixiescafe.com, 586-242-8889

2nd Sunday, 1:30-3:30 pm Your Poetry Group meets in the Friends Room at the Dunning-Hough Library, 223 S. Main St., Plymouth. Entrance and parking at the rear of the building behind Penn Theater. Poetry and short short stories. Info: Sarolina Chang, sarolinachang@gmail.com

2nd Sunday, 5-8 pm Spirit Spit Second Sundays at 1519 Martin Luther King Blvd, SW corner of Trumbull and MLK Blvd. Re-defining hip; hope inspired poetry, spoken word, rap, folk. Open mic. All ages all welcome. \$3 donation asked, not required. Info: 313-598-3720; website www.myspace.com/spiritofhope

2nd Sunday, 5-7 pm Horizons In Poetry (HIP), critique workshop meets at home of Wardell Montgomery Jr., 7800 E. Jefferson Ave. #1512, Detroit (1 block W of Van Dyke), 313-821-8660 (call first-use apt. # at security gate).

3rd Sunday, 1:45-4 pm Notch Poets and Master Storytellers meets at Cactus Pete's, 9735 Conant Ave., Hamtramck, between Caniff and Holbrook.

3rd Sunday, 2 pm The Broadside Press Poet's Theater meets at 440 Burroughs St., Tech One Bldg. Between Cass and Second Ave., Detroit. Featured poets and open mic. Info: 313 371-0948 or 313 896-8921, www.broadsidepress.org, carutherfo@hotmail.com or auroradet2@yahoo.com

3rd Sunday, 3-5 pm Musing Poetry and Music Venue, at Pure Concepts Center for Creative Expressions, 23023 Orchard Lake Rd., Building C, Farmington. Orchard Lake and Shiawassee just north of Grand River. Collaborative expression and open mic. Hosted by Ann Holdreith. Info: 248-583-7765

2nd Monday, 5-8 pm Poetry on the River at Rumors on the River (restaurant/bar, comics welcomed), 8900 East Jefferson, Detroit, 48214, contact Sarella Johnson, 313-615-0545, poetryontheriver@yahoo.com

Every Tuesday, 6 pm Open Mic at Trixie's Café, 25925 Gratiot by Frazho in Roseville. Sign up list, starts promptly. Info: www.trixiescafe.com or 586-776-9002

Every Tuesday, 8:30-11 pm BYTETHIS Poetry Series at Beans & Bytes Cafe, 4200 Woodward Ave, Detroit. Poetry, comedy, monologues, and music/singing. \$5 admission. Info: Nandi Comer nandicom@hotmail.com or Christina Archer carcher@detroitpoetry.com

1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 7-9 pm Poets & Playwrights group meets at Wyandotte City Hall, 3131 Biddle, 2nd floor, Wyandotte. Info: mono60@comcast.net or 313-492-3080.

1st Tuesday, 7 pm Ann Arbor Poetry Slam meets at Heidelberg Restaurant, 215 Main Street. \$5 cover public; \$4 slammers. Info: 810-231-5435.

3rd Tuesday, 7-9 pm Poets & Writers Night at Borders, 4135 Miller Road off I-75. Featured and community writers. Info: Nancy Tucker. tucker@attglobal.net

1st Wednesday, 7 pm "The Write Characters" fiction, non-fiction writers and poets. Bloomfield/Royal Oak area. Info: Karen Hildebrandt, 248-417-2915, kshil@sbcglobal.net.

3rd Wednesday, 7:30-9 pm Poetry Discussion Group at Barnes & Noble, Saginaw on Tittabawassee across from Meijer's. Bring 10 copies of poems. Info: 517-790-4062.

3rd Wednesday, a literary arts magazine, seeks good poetry, short fiction (1500 words, max), and b/w artwork or photography. Google the magazine at thirdwednesday.org or submit via the Internet at submissions@thirdwednesday.org.

4th Wednesday, 7-9 pm The Rampant Writers meet at Livonia Civic Center Library, 3rd floor conference room, 32777 Five Mile, W of Farmington Rd., Livonia (Apr '07 will be on 3rd Wed.) Free, all welcome. Info: rampant_writers@yahoo.com or Marian 248-890-7838

Every Thursday, 8 pm Main Stay Poetry in the Garden Series, at the Old Miami Bar, 3930 Cass at Alexandrine near Wayne State. Plenty of parking. Free. Featured poets and open mic. Hosted by Malika Odesa Davis. Info: 313-831-0835 or Old Miami at 313-831-3830

1st Thursday, 6-8 pm Pages, Poetry and Scribes meets at Southfield Public Library. Open mic series. Host Berhenda with DJ Andre Royster, 248-910-5402 or berhenda_williams@yahoo.com

2nd Thursday, 7-10 pm (except July) Rochester Writers' Group meets at Barnes & Noble, Rochester Rd. N of Auburn. Fiction, non-fiction & poetry.

3rd Thursday, 7-9 pm Troy Writers Workshop meets for prose manuscript critiquing and publishing support. For info on the group and its application process: smmacd@gmail.com.

3rd Thursday, 6:30 pm American Christian Writers meet at True Vine Christian Book Store, 26441 Southfield Rd., Southfield. Info: Pam Perry 248-426-2300

3rd Thursday, 7:30-9:30 pm The Gathering of Writers meets at Plymouth Coffee Bean, Info: Annie Horvath poetanne40@aol.com

4th Thursday, 7:30 pm Live Poets Society meets at Rose Room/Vanier Hall, Wyandotte at the Huron Church, Windsor, Sept-June. Info: Irvine Barat 519-969-5174

Friday, 12-2 pm Ridgewriters meets at Welcoming Center in Heritage Park, Farmington Road between 10 and 11 Mile Rd. Workshop group, all genres, bring 10 copies. Info: 313-255-5048

3rd Friday, 7 pm Open Mic Poetry meets at Black Star Community Bookstore, 19410 Livernois Ave., Detroit. Info: Ebony Roberts 313-863-2665

4th Friday, 6:30-9:30 pm The Poets Follies meets at Grosse Pointe Artists Association Art Center, 1005 Maryland Ave. at Jefferson. Reading and discussion group. Info: Mariela Griffor 313-821-1848.

2nd Saturday, 11 am/1 pm The new Detroit Writer's Guild meets at the United Methodist Church, 18600 Conant Avenue, Detroit. Board of Directors meet at 11:00 am, general membership at 1:00 pm. Annual dues begin at \$50. Info: Herb Metoyer 248-425-0987 or www.DetroitWritersGuild.com

4th Saturday, 10 am - noon Novi Writers meet at the Novi Public Library, 45275 W. Ten Mile (almost one mile west of Novi Rd.). Aspiring as well as working writers welcome. A smaller monthly MS critique session on Tuesday evenings is currently open. Info: Kathy Mutch, 248-224-4211 or see novilibrary.org calendar of events.

Your Editor appreciates being notified of any additions, deletions, or changes to the Ongoing Calendar. Send updates to: johndlamb@ameritech.net

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