



fishtrap.org

Fishtrap
Writing and the West
PO Box 38
Enterprise, OR 97828

Mark your calendar!
38th Summer Fishtrap Gathering of Writers
July 7-13, 2025 - Wallowa Lake, Oregon

**Join us for a weeklong experience like no other.
You'll generate new work, take risks with your writing,
and connect with a community of writers and instructors —
surrounded by the stunning scenery of Wallowa County.**

Is this the year you finally write your book? Fishtrap's Yearlong Writing Workshop provides personalized instruction and mentorship over the course of 13 months. This popular intensive distance-learning program begins and ends with a week in person at the Summer Fishtrap Gathering of Writers. Learn more and apply at **fishtrap.org**.

Adult Workshop Registration includes five days of small-group morning instruction, plus access to panel discussions, craft talks, open mics, wilderness exploration, evening readings, and a keynote address on this year's theme of "Home" by author **Beth Piatote**.

Registration for Summer Fishtrap 2025 workshops is \$975, \$875 for Fishtrappers. *Meals and lodging not included.*

You can reserve a room or cabin at the historic Wallowa Lake Lodge by contacting them by phone 541-432-9821 or email at info@wallowalakelodge.com. There are many additional lodging options in the area that fit most any budget.

Visit **fishtrap.org** to learn more.



With a **sustaining monthly donation** of \$5 or more, you'll support workshops, scholarships, fellowships, rural youth writing programs, and more! Sign up at fishtrap.org/fishtrapper.



Summer Fishtrap Faculty and Workshops

July 7-13, 2025

Learn more and register at [FISHTRAP.ORG](https://fishtrap.org) - 541-426-3623

ERICA BERRY - Nonfiction

Writing Yourself Home - A Creative Writing Workshop in Nonfiction

A writer is, first and foremost, an observer – not only of the world, but of how they inhabit and move through it. In this nonfiction workshop, we'll explore writings that look intimately at both internal and external landscapes, rooting the 'I' in a place shaped by societal, political, and environmental forces. We will talk about how to write scenes of memory and lived experience as well as how to weave in observation and research about history, culture, and the natural world. Looking to memoir, lyric journalism, travelogues, and even 'hermit crab' essays that take inventive forms, we will explore how writers bring readers into their own shoes, and their own homes (natural and built!). This generative workshop requires no previous experience, only a willingness to experiment, explore, and be inspired. We will spend the time primarily with writing exercises, readings of short published works, and craft discussion around how writers capture their own life and surroundings on the page. There will also be opportunities for optional feedback on your writing, both 1×1 with me and in a supportive, nourishing group environment.



JaNAY BROWN-WOOD - Children's Books

Home As Inspiration—Utilizing Your Experiences to Craft Good Books for Children - A Creative Writing Workshop in Children's Books

Writing for children is more challenging than many may even realize. As children's authors, we must use words sparingly to capture the attention of young listeners and readers, captivating them with story while subtly weaving in important messages and themes for them to internalize. This is no easy feat! In this workshop we will explore the world of children's literature and familiarize ourselves with information writers need to know to craft good books for children. We'll review the basics of picture books through middle grade novels (format, type, word count, etc.), as well as elements of a story that move the reader through a strong narrative arc. Then, we'll delve into our own histories, experiences, and passions as inspiration for stories to craft for young readers. Finally, we will analyze our own work, offer critiques, and begin revising and strengthening our manuscripts. Attendees are asked to bring up to five pages each of 1-2 work-in-progress manuscripts printed out and ready for revision, and/or 1-2 of their own ideas for books to begin drafting or writing. This workshop is geared at helping attendees understand the value good children's literature offers to children and the world, as well as an opportunity to craft and revise work centered on experiences that make us who we are!

CHARLES GOODRICH - Poetry

Refuge and Reciprocity: Writing Poems that Ground Us in Place and Widen Our Circles of Belonging -A Creative Writing Workshop in Poetry

What if we think of home not as something we have, but something we do, a way of working and playing in the place we find ourselves, actively embracing both our inner lives and the wider world? In this workshop we'll practice homing, writing from our personal sense of home toward more reciprocal relationships with the soil, the rain and rivers, the birds, insects and mammals, the grasses, shrubs, and trees, and the fellow humans with whom we share our beloved Earth. This is a generative workshop. There will be daily writing prompts, craft lessons, and plenty of sharing, discussion, and feedback. We'll prowl our Wallowa Lake surroundings and revel in the aspens and the mountain air. We'll consider our kinship with all the creatures and processes of the planet. We'll encourage one another's efforts while protecting our vulnerabilities, helping each other deepen our writing, and widen our circle of care. My hope is that we'll all leave the workshop energized and inspired, heading home with a bundle of draft poems and fresh ideas about homing and being in the world.

STEPHANIE ELIZONDO GRIEST - Memoir/Nonfiction

At Home in the World- A Creative Writing Workshop in Memoir/Nonfiction

What does "home" mean in this ever-changing world? Is it geographical or corporeal, ancestral or circumstantial? Through writing prompts, mind-mapping, and sensory experiences, we will compose literary atlases about the places that feel vital to our lives. We will also debate the ethical considerations inherent in this genre as we strive to portray our families and communities with dignity. Together, we will wander both the wilderness of memory and the bewilderment of the latest headlines. We'll be excavators of our homes' interiors. We'll elevate the stories of our lives into art.

NINA McCONIGLEY - Fiction

HomeWord Bound- A Creative Writing Workshop in Fiction

Home base. There's no place like home. Home is where the heart is. A person's home is their castle. Take me home, country roads. The concept of home has been examined by writers and artists forever – but what is home? Is it a place? Is it where you're living? Where you run to after third base? How long do you have to be somewhere before it becomes home? Is it a house or a person? Using home as the base for our fiction writing, we will write about home in all its forms – from where one lives to where we feel most at home. This generative workshop aspires to give you the conversations, community, craft, and courage needed to approach your work as a writer and to invoke the kaleidoscopic array of experiences of home, from places, planets, people, and things. We'll write about home in all its configurations.

ANIS MOJGANI - Poetry

Homing in on the poem - A Creative Writing Workshop in Poetry

How are the ways a poem may be a home? Or us become a home to the poem by way of writing it? The idea, intention, actuality of, what we believe a home to be and what it serves or offers to us, when we are inside of one we name as ours. This generative workshop will seek to give space and create pathways towards exploring this idea, of letting the page be the hearth that warms us, the mantel we decorate, the door that welcomes us in—being less about communicating something with others and more about what our heart might give to itself, where we might have shelter from what falls upon us and the place whose walls stand to draw us closer to ourself. What is home, our home? Its smells, its color and light? What do we keep inside it, when we are gone, with what do we return to it?

BETH PIATOTE - Prose

The Shed: Real and Imagined- A Creative Writing Workshop in Prose

The shed is where the animals live. That's a statement of fact and also a saucy metaphor, full of possibilities. The shed, architecturally speaking, is the adjunct to the home, the extension of domesticity but also its excess. As a verb, shed describes the release of that which is outgrown or unnecessary or pent up. Sometimes to shed is to protect, in the way that a raincoat sheds water. In this prose-based, generative workshop we will explore the theme of home by working through its annex, the shed, and examine moments of shedding for the messiness and growth that feed our work with complexity, honesty, and beauty.

JOE WILKINS - Cross-Genre

Difficult Magic: Writing Our Way Home - A Cross Genre Workshop on the Craft of Revision

The word "home" conjures all kinds of associations, faces, joys and hurts and confusions, distant and near places. Home is, surely, one of the most powerful, most magical words we might utter. And, like all magic, home can be difficult to contend with, let alone contain and wield and ever truly, fully explain. In this generative workshop, intended for writers of fiction and nonfiction, we'll do lots of reading about home, and we'll think together and share ideas and our own creative work as we try our hand at casting various spells of home.



REGISTRATION OPENS FEBRUARY 25, 2025