



## DETROIT WORKING WRITERS

### NEWSLETTER

Welcome to your November 2017 DWW newsletter! Our 117 year old organization's mission is to encourage creative writing of the highest professional standard.

#### DWW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT: Roberta Brown  
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NEW MEMBERSHIP CHAIR: Iris Underwood

HISTORIAN: Iris Underwood

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR: Cindy Hampel

CRITIQUE GROUP AND MENTOR CHAIR: Roberta Brown

#### ANNOUNCING THE DWW ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY!

Sunday, December 3, 2017

at the home of

Iris Underwood

3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Please RSVP to Iris at  
[irisunderwood@sbcglobal.net](mailto:irisunderwood@sbcglobal.net)  
by November 26, 2017  
to confirm your attendance,  
confirm Iris' address,  
and sign up  
for what dish  
you will be bringing to pass



## OUR DWW MEMBERS

### CONTEST WINNERS, AWARDS, AND PUBLICATION CREDITS!

**Our DWW members have been racking up the awards:**

**Nancy Owen Nelson's book "Searching for Nannie B." was selected as a semi-finalist for the 2017 Kindle Book Award in the Nonfiction category; the book is also a 2017 Book Excellence Awards winner.**

**Darlene House's book "The City Shining" is the second book for Stellar Novellas A True Hero Imprint. House's book expounds on her vision of the Cosmopolitan Metropolis of the 21st Century using re-surg-ing Detroit as the template for all American cities. The "blue-books," as they are called for their matching cover motif, are the first True Hero imprints of the Stellar Novellas book line of Stellar Scholars.**

**Angela Amman was awarded First Place for "Survival" in the Microfiction category of the Rochester Writers' Writing Contest. Christian Belz also won an Honorable Mention for "Start Again at 60" in the Milestone Memoir category of the same Writing Contest.**

**Dorene O'Brien's short story, "Eight Blind Dates Later," has been published in the Baltimore Review.**

**Diane Shipley DeCillis recently read from her poetry collection "Strings Attached" at the First Unitarian Universalist Church in Detroit - you can listen to her reading here:**

**<http://firstuudetroit.sermon.net/main/main/21034745>**

**Her poem, La Familia, was also featured in Gingerbread House Literary magazine.**

**Pam Houghton's essay on Cooking (which was critiqued by the DWW Critique Group) has been published in the November issue of MetroParent magazine.**

**The New Engagement Literary Journal has nominated Nadia Ibrashi's short story, "The Prisoner I and II" for a Pushcart Prize.**

### DWW CRITIQUE GROUP CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 2017 THROUGH DECEMBER 2018

All meetings are on the second Saturday of the month at Lukich's Restaurant in Troy.

DECEMBER 9

2018

JANUARY 13  
FEBRUARY 10  
MARCH 10  
APRIL 14  
MAY 12  
JUNE 9  
JULY 14  
AUGUST 11  
SEPTEMBER 8  
OCTOBER 13  
NOVEMBER 10  
DECEMBER 8

Watch your email for your invitation to submit your work for critiquing!



**We want to promote you and your writing! Please let us know your latest writing awards/credits/publications! Email your information to Roberta Brown at**

**[President@detworkingwriters.org](mailto:President@detworkingwriters.org)**

### **LEARNING VIA MOOCs**

**Massive Open Online Courses, or MOOCs, are gaining in popularity as a way to learn new skills and concepts. Coursera is one of the best known MOOC online education platforms. I have signed up for “Sharpened Visions: A Poetry Workshop” by Douglas Kearney of the California Institute of the Arts; courses range from free to \$\$\$ depending on the amount of feedback/certificates/credit you want. There are other writing courses on the Novel, Plot, Character Development, and more. Let me know if any of you have participated in a Writing MOOC and how it did or did not benefit your work!**

### **GHOSTWRITING OPPORTUNITY**

**We have received another ghostwriting request; if interested, please contact**

**Louel Bernal <[louel@e-allies.com](mailto:louel@e-allies.com)>**

**directly:**

**The book is a business book and its about 225 to 250 pages (Maybe around 50000 words). It is already outlined and we will only consider ghosts with a published business book (must be able to share the title). Pay is commensurate with the experience. We can handle everything else including editing and have decided publishing route as the book needs to be finished. A good match for this is someone who can spend 3 days with Leo in person and who can capture his voice. The timeline is 3 months. If you need more info about Leo, you can visit [Leorastogi.com](http://Leorastogi.com).**

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## NOTES ON AN EXCEPTIONAL DEBUT BOOK OF POETRY

**The Virginia State Colony for Epileptics and Feeble-minded by Molly McCully Brown is a stunning debut collection of poems; this collection is the 2016 Lexi Rudnitsky First Book Prize Winner.**

**The title refers to an actual place, a government run institution that opened in 1938 and did forced sterilizations of its patients because they were considered “defective.” Brown’s own cerebral palsy informs her writing; it is not without irony that she realizes had she been born during the 1930s, this is where she might have lived, as she grew up 15 miles from this Colony.**

**Brown’s writing will put you in the hearts and minds of her fictional patients; her insights will remain with you long after you have finished this collection of poems.**

**If you have read this collection, let me know what you think!**

**[rlbrown417@gmail.com](mailto:rlbrown417@gmail.com)**

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