



DETROIT WORKING WRITERS
JANUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER



DWW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT: Roberta Brown
rlbrown417@gmail.com
248-854-2375

VICE-PRESIDENT: Michelle Morouse

SECRETARY: Laura Hedgecock

TREASURER: Cindy Hampel

PROGRAM CHAIR: Barb Rebbeck

NEW MEMBERSHIP/
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR: Joyce Harlukowicz

CRITIQUE GROUP
COCHAIRS: Roberta Brown and Pat Gibson

WEBSITE/NEWSLETTER
CHAIR: Roberta Brown

SOCIAL MEDIA
COCHAIRS: Terry Hojnacki and Richard Stiennon

BOOK AND AUTHOR
CHAIR: Theresa Nielsen

HONORARY DIRECTOR: Kathleen Ripley Leo

Welcome to your January 2021 newsletter! Our 120 year old organization's mission is to encourage creative writing of the highest professional standard.



The next DWW Board Meeting will be on Saturday, January 9, 2021, from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. via Zoom.

Please contact Roberta Brown at rlbrown417@gmail.com if you wish to attend via Zoom no later than Monday, January 4, 2021.



SAVE THE DATE FOR A SPECIAL

DWW ZOOM EVENT:

SATURDAY, MAY 15, 2021

2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Pulitzer Prize winning poet and memoirist

Natasha Tretheway

Readings, Interview, and Questions and Answers

Registration details soon!





ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULED/NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN!

DWW's Annual Meeting will be held via Zoom on

Saturday, April 10, 2021

9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Elections for Board Offices and Directors will be held during this meeting. A Nominating Committee consisting of Roberta Brown, Michelle Morouse, and Theresa Nielsen has been working to produce a slate for the April 10 election. As of the writing of this newsletter, DWW Established Writers who have been nominated and have accepted the nomination are as follows:

President - Cindy Hampel

Vice-President - Michelle Morouse

Secretary - Laura Hedgecock

Treasurer - Michael Kitchen

Honorary Director - Kathleen Ripley Leo

Please note that more than one person can be nominated for each office/directorship. If you have someone you wish to nominate, they must accept your nomination in order to be on the ballot.

The office of President has very specific requirements as outlined in the DWW Constitution:



1. The President must have served on the Board in another capacity as an Officer, Honorary Director, or Committee Chair for at least one year.
2. The President (and all Board Members) must observe the DWW Constitution and Bylaws in all DWW matters.
3. The President shall attend at least seventy-five percent of DWW Board meetings.

If you have someone you would like to nominate for an office and they accept your nomination, please email one of the committee members:

Roberta Brown rlbrown417@gmail.com

Michelle Morouse memorouse@hotmail.com

Theresa Nielsen skipcharlie210@gmail.com



DWW MEMBERS' LATEST AWARDS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PUBLICATION CREDITS

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Diane Shipley DeCillis says, "I'm very honored to learn my poem "The Home Shopping Network Waxes Poetic" has been nominated for this year's Pushcart Prize! Thank you [The MacGuffin!](#)"  
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Cindy Hampel's book *Acting "As If"* received a Five Star Review from the [Readers' Favorite Book Reviews and Award Contest](#) in December.
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Congratulations to three DWW poets on the publication of their work in the Fall 2020 issue of the MacGuffin:

Diane DeCillis for "Misophonia"

Linda Nemec Foster for "The Poem Written in Our Hearts," "Self-Portrait of My Sister," and "Before, During, After: Day and Night in Syria."

Nadia Ibrashi for "Sestina for Yaseen."  
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Pam Houghton's article starting on page 21 of the December 2020 issue of Metro Parent is titled: "Surviving a Tough Childhood: The Impact is has on Parenting, Good and Bad."

<https://cdn.coverstand.com/62779/683874/9bd-b3d1f062fcf8bab80dbc0a5657906201f7bc8.pdf>



Diane DeCillis also has a new poetry collection releasing April 2021: "When the Heart Needs a Stunt Double" (Made in Michigan Writers Series), which is available for preorder on Amazon.



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

PLEASE PUT DWW WRITING/PUBLICATION NEWS IN THE SUBJECT OF YOUR EMAIL ;-)
at

rlbrown417@gmail.com

I would also like to invite members to share their publication news/reading news to our Detroit Working Writers Facebook page, as many times you have events scheduled after this monthly newsletter comes out! Please, your writing-related events only.



HOW TO HAVE YOUR BOOKS LISTED ON OUR DWW WEBSITE

Please take advantage of our website to list all of your published books! Click on "About Us," then go to the "Members Only" section and enter your super secret password. Scroll down to Member's Books and fill out the required information. Once you have completed all the sections, click Submit, and let our webmistress work her magic.





PREVIEWS OF COMING ATTRACTIONS

Since we are still not able to meet indoors or outdoors due to social distancing and masking requirements, our Program Director Barb Rebbeck has been busy organizing the following Zoom workshops/activities for us:

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 2021

2:00 P.M.

From Family to Fiction.

Using family history to write historical fiction.

Barbara Rebbeck will retrace the journey she made to turn WWII family history into her new suspense novel, *The Girl from the USO*. From artifacts like her dad's RAF uniform to her mom's original USO membership card, she will show how she mixed reality and research with fiction to recreate 1941 Detroit, Michigan; Pensacola, Florida; and Cornwall, England.

Free for DWW members; \$25.00 for nonmembers.

Click here to register:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/from-family-to-fiction-tickets-107287592076>



Calling all DWW Authors!

The February Zoom event, **Love in the Time of Covid** on February 20, 2021, has been cancelled as not enough DWW members responded.

However, we do have enough members to hold the March event! All DWW authors who have published or won competitions or received honors for their works in the past two years (2019-2020) are invited to share their work at a Zoom event, **Hats Off and Hurrahs** on March 20, 2021 at 2 pm. We will burst with pride to share our talents. Don't be shy, this is our time to brag. Please email Barb at

barbararebbeck@gmail.com

This event will be scheduled through Eventbrite.

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Kresge Arts in Detroit is now accepting applications for Literary and Visual Arts Fellowships. Completed applications are due by end of day January 14, 2021. Click here for more details:

[kresgeartsindetroit.org](http://kresgeartsindetroit.org)



## Social Media News

### A Reminder: **For Facebook and LinkedIn posts:**

- Keep your submissions short and sweet. (I can do some editing, but if it's too time intensive, I'll do what the old fashioned newspaper editors did and only share the top of the story. Who, what, when, where, and why.)
- Include the link to your event or where your book can be purchased.
- If you'd like to include an image, attach it in your email. (JPG format only)
- Upcoming events should be submitted a minimum of 2-3 weeks prior to the event.
- Please email your news to: [socialmedia4dww@gmail.com](mailto:socialmedia4dww@gmail.com)

(This email will be checked every 7 to 10 days so please be aware of your time-line for book launches and events.)

If you're a do-it-yourselfer, you are always welcome to share appropriate posts on DWW pages.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to help promote our organization and our members. If you have any suggestions you'd like to share, I'm open to the assistance.

Remember –

**Follow** DWW on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/detroitworkingwriters>, on LinkedIn at <https://www.linkedin.com/company/15953515>, and on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/DetWkgWriters/>.

Happy Writing,  
Terry Hojnacki  
DWW Social Media Co-Chair





## TWITTER

Twitter Wrangler Richard Stiennon reminds us that @Det-WkgWriters is DWW's Twitter handle. Richard asks that you supply him with your Twitter handle so he can add you to the curated list of DWW members. He will use that to elevate your Tweets. Email him at

[richard@it-harvest.com](mailto:richard@it-harvest.com)



**Check at**

**[bookandauthor.org](http://bookandauthor.org)**

**to register for the following author talks via Zoom from the Metro Detroit Book and Author Society:**

Thursday, February 4: Mary Doria Russell, *The Women of the Copper Country*

Monday, February 15: Rochelle Riley, *That They Lived: African Americans Who Changed the World*

Monday, March 15: Brad Taylor, *American Traitor*



## **DWW CRITIQUE GROUP CALENDAR 2021**

All Critique Group meetings are scheduled for the second Saturday of the month and will be held via Zoom during the COVID 19 pandemic. Print out and post on your refrigerator!

2021

January 9

February 13

March 13

April 10

May 8

June 12

### **DWW SATURDAY ZOOM ROOM SILENT WRITING DATES AND TIMES**

**FOR JANUARY 2021  
ALL ON SATURDAYS  
10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.**

**January 2**

**January 9**

**January 16**

**January 23**

**January 30**

**If you are not already on the regular attendees list and are interested in joining in, email Roberta Brown at**

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



**Just a reminder of what has been emailed to us by Inkshares:**

Hello,

My name is Sarah and I am the Assistant Director of Marketing at Inkshares, an award-winning book publisher and author community.

We'd love to invite your group to join fellow novelists in submitting your partial or finished manuscripts to the Inkshares All-Genre Manuscript Contest, open November 7th through February 28th, 2021. There is no fee to enter the contest. Inkshares will select at least three authors to grant publishing deals (and representation in TV/film, audiobook, and foreign rights). The top three books will be determined through a combination of community engagement, our proprietary technology, Story Machine, and independent evaluation by the Inkshares Story Board.

Novels we've published over the past few years from similar contests have been praised by every major review including the New York Times and reached the top of Amazon's charts. They've been licensed by the major houses in every single major foreign territory and are being adapted at the best studios and networks: Warner Brothers, Lionsgate, Amazon, and Showtime, amongst others. We believe that the most talented storytellers of tomorrow are unknown today.

Link to contest: <https://www.inkshares.com/contests/2020-all-genre-contest>

Any questions? Please email [hello@inkshares.com](mailto:hello@inkshares.com).

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