



DETROIT WORKING WRITERS

MARCH 2021 NEWSLETTER

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DWW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT: Roberta Brown  
[rlbrown417@gmail.com](mailto: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 March 2021 newsletter! Our 120 year old organization's mission is to encourage creative writing of the highest professional standard.**

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

**Election of Officers, whose terms will run from June 1, 2021, through May 31, 2023, will be held.**

**Please contact Roberta Brown at [rlbrown417@gmail.com](mailto:rlbrown417@gmail.com) if you wish to attend via Zoom no later than Monday, April 5, 2021.**

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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 coming later in March!



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

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### **Other Website/Facebook Groups of Interest**

Here are a few Facebook/websites that you may find to be of interest:

1. **Facebook: Writer's Relief Cafe**
2. **Facebook: Hudson Valley Writer's Center**

web page: [www.writerscenter.org](http://www.writerscenter.org)

**YouTube - subscribe to HVWC channel and watch writers such as Jane Hirshfield, Paul Muldoon, and Carolyn Forché discuss their work!**

3. **Facebook: A Rally of Writers, specifically, Writer's Rap**



## DWW MEMBERS' LATEST AWARDS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PUBLICATION CREDITS

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Linda Nemec Foster's new poetry book, *The Blue Divide*, will be published by New Issues Press in April, but it has already garnered great reviews, including one that recently appeared in *Publishers Weekly* (<https://www.publishersweekly.com/978-1-936970-72-8>). PW is highly selective and reviews less than 10% of the books it receives. The collection has also been praised by such poets as Jim Daniels, Robert Fanning, Laurel Blossom, and Cecilia Woloch. Linda will be doing online programs, readings, and book launches throughout this year (e.g. March 5 reading at 3:00 pm--an off-site event in conjunction with the AWP Conference). Visit Linda's website for more information about *The Blue Divide* (www.lindanemecfoster.com).

Linda's new poetry and micro-fiction has been published or is forthcoming in *Crosswinds*, *MacQueen's Quinterly*, *The MacGuffin*, and the *Paterson Literary Review*.

And, last but not least, her poem "City of Stone, City of Trees," was selected to be produced as a video/film poem with water-color animation by Matvey Rezanov (artist involved with the production of the Oscar-nominated film, *Coraline*) and original music by Lena Orsa.

Linda's piece was screened at the REELpoetry International Video/Film Festival sponsored by Public Poetry in Houston. The festival was streamed online to an international audience last month--February 24-28.

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Diane Shipley DeCillis will be reading from her latest book and then presenting a workshop through the Royal Oak Public Library on Tuesday, April 20 at 7:00 PM. Register through the ROPL.

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Michael Kitchen tells us, "It is official. I have had a senryu published in Prune Juice: Journal of English Senryu & Related Forms, Issue 33."



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.

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### **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.**

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Linda Sienkiewicz started an interesting Facebook thread about the cost to submit writing for possible publication. One of the replies to her initial post was a link to Trish Hopkinson’s No Fee Fast Response list:

<https://trishhopkinson.com/2018/07/16/88-no-fee-fast-response-literary-magazines-journals-to-submit-to-2/>

I would also add Michigan’s own MacGuffin to this list - free to submit your work for publication consideration!



Hats Off and Hurrahs!

Come join us for an afternoon with 18 DWW authors.

An invitation to hear DWW writers read from their works.

About this Event

These talented DWW writers have all published and/or received recognition for their work in the past 2 years. What a treat to hear them read from these works. This all-star roster includes: Roberta Brown, Barbara Rebbeck, Angela Rochon, Linda Nemeč Foster, Michelle Morouse, Cindy Hampel, Linda Sienkiewicz, Theresa Nielsen, Christian Belz, Dianne DeCillis, Diana Dinverno, Jean Alicia Elster, Nancy Owen Nelson, Veronica Dale, Lynne Cobb, Pat Gibson, Annemarie Schiavi Pedersen, and Alexander Morgan.

Attendees will receive a Zoom invitation via email at 1:45 p.m. on the date of the event.

Date & Time: Sat, Mar 20, 2021 2:00 – 4:00 PM

The Zoom link for this program will be emailed to all registered participants @ 1:45 p.m. the day of the event.

**To reserve a free DWW member ticket from Eventbrite,
[click here](#)**



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
(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

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**Check at**

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

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

Monday, March 15:

Brad Taylor, American Traitor

Theresa Nielsen, our MDBA representative, shares the following from the last MDBA Board Meeting:

The board would like to have at least three guests for the Spring series, and go through the summer into the Fall where perhaps there will only be two in a series. If someone great becomes available they will plan for it. Beyond that they will have to stay with just two.

Everything will continue to be virtual.

They are trying to work out an agreement with pricing for Book-Beat.

Ticket sales are going well.



## **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

March 13

April 10

May 8

June 12

July 10

August 14

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

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

**March 6**

**March 13**

**March 20**

**March 27**

**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)**



## RESOURCES

From time to time, I include requests from publishers/journals/contests , etc., asking for submissions. It is always up to us as writers to thoroughly check out such listings before submitting our work. Here are some places to start in the vetting process:

1. Vernie Dale tells us about Writer Beware; here are some links:

Victoria Strauss

Author Website: <http://www.victoriastrauss.com/>

Writer Beware: <http://www.writerbeware.com/>

Writer Beware Blog: <http://accrispin.blogspot.com/>

Vernie contacted them about the Inkshares information shared in a previous newsletter; the response she received was indeed Writer Beware!

Another publisher to be wary of is Global Summit House. I have received emails and phone messages from them saying they have read my book and would like to talk with me. Problem is, I don't have a book out there yet!

Ditto for Universal Breakthrough; they emailed me to tell me that they had read my book, were very impressed, and asked for me to send them my files including pictures!

As writers, then, we must practice our due diligence. The publishing world is like the Wild West!



## Two items that will require proper investigating if you are interested:

This information was sent to us via Facebook message to our DWW page:

Hello

I'm writing to ask if there is a way to get a news item in your newsletter. I'm the director of ThinkingFunny21, at [www.thinkingfunny.com](http://www.thinkingfunny.com) . On April 3, 2021, starting at 9 am Pacific Time, we'll be having a humor-writing and comedy workshop. Topic areas include sessions with experts in humor-columns & novels, comedic memoirs, stand-up, funny folk music, and how animators plan and execute stories. An agents and business-session ends the day at 4:30-5:30 pm. Earlybirds with a coupon code of "30-off" get a 30% discount off the \$100 cost through March 31. The lineup is available at [www.thinkingfunny.com/thinkingfunny21](http://www.thinkingfunny.com/thinkingfunny21) . Questions? Email [info@thinkingfunny.com](mailto:info@thinkingfunny.com)

Thanks for your time.

Robb Lightfoot  
[robb@robblightfoot.com](mailto:robb@robblightfoot.com)



**The following information was sent to us through our website:**

Good Morning,  
I'm excited to share a new call for submissions that will be of great interest to members and supporters of Detroit Working Writers:

Hindsight is a collection of stories about 2020, written by people just like you. We're seeking nonfiction stories from around the world that capture what it was like to wake up every day to a new normal — whether that means navigating emergencies as a first responder or tying the knot over Zoom. We're particularly interested in material that gets up close and personal with the struggles of 2020, rather than headlines or commentary on current events.

Hindsight is an independent, one-time publication. Content will be made available in two forms: Some stories will be shared on our website; the very best submissions will be compiled into a print anthology, which will be published in 2021.

Submission fee: None

Length: Up to 2,000 words

Deadline: Rolling

Compensation: Writers whose work is selected for the print anthology will receive a complimentary hard copy of the book, as well as a digital file.

To learn more, please visit our website: [www.hindsight-book2020.com](http://www.hindsight-book2020.com).

Thank you for your time,

Steven Fowler

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The Editorial Team at Hindsight