Dear Conference Participant,

Welcome to our second annual Rutgers-New Brunswick Writers’ Conference, dedicated to helping writers hone their craft and publish their work.

We have assembled an amazing roster of established authors, as well as publishers, editors, and agents to challenge, inspire, and support you in pursuit of your literary goals.

You may also find that other conference participants can be a resource to you. Writing can be a solitary, even lonely, occupation. Finding peers with whom you can share ideas, drafts, and dreams throughout the year can be a great gift that will sustain you, long after the conference ends.

To help you keep in touch with other writers, we offer a Facebook group page just for individuals who have registered for this conference. You can use this throughout the year to keep in touch with other writers.

We hope that you will complete the conference evaluation form you’ll find in your tote bag, and let us know what you liked, what you didn’t, and what we can do to improve the event for 2019. If you would be interested in helping us plan next year’s program, please add a note on the evaluation form, along with your name and email address.

Thank you for joining us for this very special event.

Cordially,

Elizabeth H. Beasley
Director, New Brunswick Summer & Special Projects
### TRACKS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Writing Fiction</th>
<th>Genre Fiction</th>
<th>Writing Creative Nonfiction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 - 9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Registration/Continental Breakfast</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 - 10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Keynote Presentation: Alice Hoffman “Creating a Fictional World”</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:10 - 11:10 a.m.</td>
<td>Intro to Writing Short Fiction Alex Dawson</td>
<td>Writing Thrillers, Crime Novels, and Mystery Clay McLeod Chapman</td>
<td>Writing for Broadcast David Bianculli</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:15 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch &amp; Pitchapalooza: David Henry Sterry &amp; Arielle Eckstut</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:10 - 2:40 p.m.</td>
<td>Creating a Book of Linked Short Stories Alice Hoffman</td>
<td>Writing Genre Fantasy Michael Swanwick</td>
<td>Getting a Great Interview Mark Dawidziak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:50 - 3:50 p.m.</td>
<td>The Essence of Character Alice Dark</td>
<td>Writing True Romance Sarah MacLean</td>
<td>Researching Tools, Tricks, and Treks Gina Gold</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00 - 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Mark Twain on Writing Sarah MacLean</td>
<td>Mastering the Art of Creating Conflict</td>
<td>Editing, Revising, and Polishing Your Work Sean Hoen</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:10 - 7:30 pm</td>
<td>Reading/Signing Event featuring Alice Hoffman, Chris Bohjalian, Michael Swanwick, and Pablo Medina</td>
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<td>Revising for Plot Alice Dark</td>
<td>Science Fiction</td>
<td>World-Building Michael Swanwick Magnolia</td>
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<td>11:45 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Publishing Panel Presentation</td>
<td>Fiction</td>
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<td>1:10 - 2:40 p.m.</td>
<td>Hooking Your Readers from the First Page – and Why It Matters Chris Bohjalian Red Oak</td>
<td>Writing for Children Alex Dawson Magnolia</td>
<td>Getting Personal: Navigating the Opportunities and Challenges of the Personal Essay <em>Advanced</em> Onnesha Roychoudhuri Sequoia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:50 - 3:50 p.m.</td>
<td>Truth and Lies: Autobiography and Autobiographical Fiction Lisa Zeidner Mulberry</td>
<td>Writing for Young Adults Beth Kephart Sequoia</td>
<td>Writing Memoir Sean Madigan Hoen Sycamore</td>
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<td>4:00 - 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Open Mic Event</td>
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- 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.: Open Mic Event

**Tracks**

- Fiction
- Genre Fiction
- Creative Nonfiction

**Agent Pitch**

- 10-minute meetings with agents, editors, and publishers

**Writing for Performance**

- What is an Author Brand and How Can I Get One? Claire McKinney Sequoia
- Shaping the Surface to Find Depth *Advanced* Pablo Medina Sycamore
- The Art and Craft of Oral Storytelling Onnesha Roychoudhuri Maple

**Poetry**

- Getting Personal: Navigating the Opportunities and Challenges of the Personal Essay *Advanced* Onnesha Roychoudhuri Sequoia

**The Writer’s Life**

- Writing Comedy Stephen Rosenfield Sycamore
- A Fresh Break for Your Writing: Viewing a Poem’s Line Breaks as Possibilities, Not Endings *Advanced* BJ Ward Magnolia
- Performing Your Own Work Stephen Rosenfield Maple

**Writing Commentary, Critiques, and Blogs**

- What Does an Agent Do & How do You Know If You Need One? Susanna Einstein Red Oak
ALICE HOFFMAN
Alice Hoffman has been called “America’s literary heir to the Brothers Grimm,” and her luminous and remarkable “fables of the everyday” have enchanted readers since the publication of her first novel, Property Of, in 1977. More than 30 years later, with numerous acclaimed and bestselling novels including Practical Magic and The Dovekeepers, as well as two short story collections and many books for young adults, Hoffman continues to seduce readers into her vividly imagined world. Her books have been translated into more than 20 different languages, and her short fiction and nonfiction have appeared in The New York Times, The Boston Globe Magazine, and many other magazines.

PABLO MEDINA
Cuban-born Pablo Medina is the author of eighteen books including the The Island Kingdom, The Cigar Roller, and Exiled Memories: A Cuban Childhood. Medina's work has appeared in various languages and in magazines and periodicals throughout the world. Winner of many awards for his work, including fellowships from the Rockefeller Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Guggenheim Foundation, The Cintas Foundation, the state arts councils of New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and others, Medina is Distinguished Writer-in-Residence at Emerson College in Boston.

CHRIS BOHJALIAN
Critically acclaimed novelist Chris Bohjalian’s works explore contemporary social issues and the ways in which they play themselves out in the lives of ordinary people. His writing covers such controversial topics as midwifery, gender reassignment surgery, animal rights, homelessness, domestic violence, human trafficking, and the personal, moral, and ethical dilemmas that arise from them. He is the author of numerous bestselling books, including Midwives and The Sandcastle Girls. His work has been translated into over 30 languages, and three of his books have become movies.

MICHAEL SWANWICK
Michael Swanwick is the author of ten novels including Stations of the Tide and Chasing the Phoenix, over a hundred and fifty short stories including The Edge of the World and The Mongolian Wizard, and countless works of flash fiction. He has been nominated for numerous awards and has won the Nebula, Theodore Sturgeon, World Fantasy and Hugo Awards. His latest novel, The Iron Dragon’s Mother, will be published by Tor Books in 2018. In addition to science fiction, Swanwick has also published essays, a monograph, a short literary biography, and is a prolific contributor to the New York Review of Science Fiction.

The Writers’ Open Mic is the final event of the conference, an opportunity for attendees to read their original works to a live audience of their peers.

Please note, reading slots have been reduced to two minutes due to high demand. To accommodate as many readers as possible, please respect the two-minute limit.
Writing in America: Literary Landmarks from Walden Pond to Wounded Knee

Shelley Fisher Fishkin

“A vibrant and thoughtful guide through American literary history.” – Chicago Tribune


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3rd Annual
Rutgers University–New Brunswick Writers’ Conference.

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ruwriterscon.rutgers.edu

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