

NightScripts



January 2024

Connie Palmer Dodson, Editor



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Writing Prompt:

Does this scene inspire a story for you?

Write a short story of 1000 words or less and get it to me by the end of this month. The winning entry will be printed in the next issue and edited by Ally Robertson from Wild Rose Press.

One entry per member.

Don't forget to title your story. Put Writing Prompt in the subject line and submit it to: editor@tulsanightwriters.org Full details on page 3.

You can also just use the image to spark a scene or a story for your personal writing journey.

WRITE ON

Planning for 2024

By our President, Merle Davenport



By any measure, 2023 was an outstanding year for Tulsa NightWriters. It has truly been a year of growth and development for our group. For example, last January, we set the membership goal at 150 members. We had just crossed the 100-member threshold and had high hopes of setting a new record of 150 members. I'm pleased to announce that we ended the year with 170 members!

We also hoped that our Craft of Writing conference would far exceed previous years in attendance. To prepare for this, we partnered with OSU and decided to charge attendees a minimal fee so we could offer more than we were able to in the past. We offered a pitch room for the first time and provided lunch on site to encourage conversations with fellow authors. In addition, we offered more seminar choices than in the past. As a result, we had 146 in attendance, nearly triple the number of attendees of the previous year.

It's also important to mention that we offered several one-day seminars last summer. These seminars focused on one topic for a more in-depth look. All those who attended gave enthusiastic reports on the seminars and are already looking forward to our next ones.

Below are some of the goals for 2024:

1. **Membership** – Since we are already at 170, hitting 200 should not be a problem. Let's set the goal a little higher and see if we can reach 225.

2. **Monthly meeting attendance** – Currently, a typical monthly meeting is around 35 members and guests. An average of 40 – 45 would be awesome! Remember, this is a time for us to gather together to share ideas and learn more about the craft of writing. The more, the merrier.

3. **Funding** – Because of our size, it is vital that we find grants and other funds to provide the best resources and opportunities possible. This includes finding financial support for seminars, speakers, and offsetting conference costs. J.B. Hunt is doing an excellent job of seeking out grants. If you would like to lend a hand, contact me or any board member.

4. **2024 Craft of Writing Conference** – Last year was our first attempt at providing an expanded conference on the OSU campus. It was a resounding success with 146 attendees. This year, we plan to use that success to provide an even bigger and better conference. Our goal is to have 175 attendees or more. To do this, Ana Maddox has agreed to put together a conference committee that will organize various aspects of the conference. If you want to be a part of this committee, contact Ana or anyone on the board.

5. **Celebrate new publications** – This year, we want to go a step further to celebrate your published book. In the month of publication, we will have a table available for you to offer it for sale to other members. We are all in this together and want to support each other in any way we can.

One final note, this is not an exhaustive list of the dreams we have for Tulsa NightWriters in 2024. Come and see what else develops throughout the year.

COVER CONTEST UPDATE

By our Editor, Connie Dodson

We are adding an exciting change to the monthly cover prompt writing contest in 2024.

Beginning with this month's cover, I will be partnering with Ally Robertson from Wild Rose Press. She and I will work together to determine the

winner for the entries each month in 2024. Ally will then provide edits for the winning entry and it will be returned to the author. See below for rules.

I look forward to meeting your imaginations. Happy writing, and Happy Writing in 2024.

Contest Rules

Use the cover photo as a prompt to write a short story of 1000 words or less. Entry is due by the end of that month. The winning entry will be printed in the next issue. Please make sure your entry is free of typos and is as polished as possible. As with most contests, edits will not be made to your entry prior to publication.

You must be a member of Tulsa NightWriters to enter. One entry per member. Your entry must have a title.

2024 National Excellence in Storytelling (NEST) Contest

GREAT PRIZES!!

JUDGED BY READERS NOT VOTES!

LOW ENTRY FEE!!

Now Open for Entries

Sponsored by Central Region Oklahoma Writers (CROW)



~ *Prizes: First place winners will receive...*

- * *A lovely customized engraved award*
- * *Your book/win shared to Facebook, Twitter and Instagram*
- * *Featured in a 'winner' trailer that will be shared on Social Media and on this website*
- * *Winners and finalists will receive certificates.*

Ten categories with two winners in each category-- one for novels and one for short stories/novellas.

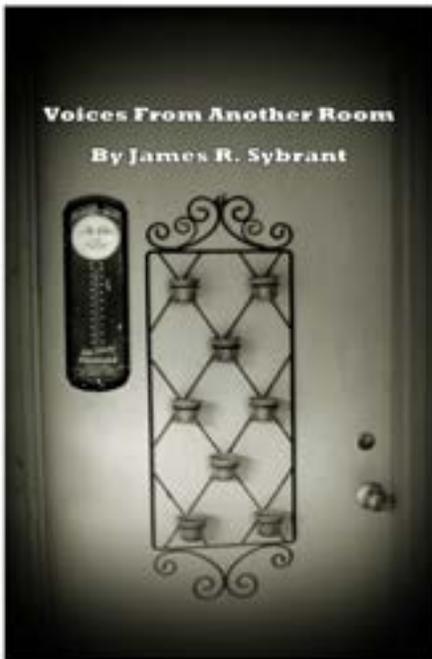
***** 3 New Categories: Cozy Mystery, Horror, Women's Fiction**

If you have a fiction novel or short work published in 2022 or 2023 you are eligible to enter!! (Entries must have an original publication date of and must have been for sale in 2022 or 2023)

***** Judged by readers, not votes!**

For More Information and to find entry form [Click Here](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS



A Collection of Short Stories
Available on Amazon.com
Kindle and Paperback



Beyond The Tomb: May's Story

Tulsa Spotlight Theater is proud to re-present Ann Hargrave-Knight in her One Act Play "Beyond the Tomb" on Friday, February 9. Doors open at 6:15PM and a catered dinner from Ed's Cajun Restaurant will include one free drink.

Come hear the true stories of this eccentric Grand-Mere who embraced a passion for New Orleans through love, heartbreak, humor, betrayal and redemption in the early days of the 20 th century.

Ann's portrayal will touch all hearts, whether or not you come from French decent or southern upbringing. You will be captivated by the emotional portrayal of this fascinating story.

\$50 Admission. Limited Seating. Tickets online at

www.tulsaspotlighttheater.com

Time to Renew your
Membership
in
Tulsa NightWriters

Renew Online [Here](#)

BULLETIN BOARD

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Contact Julie Kimmel-Harbaugh

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In 2024

“Read, read, read.
Read everything--trash,
classics, good and bad,
and see how they do it.
Just like a carpenter who
works as an apprentice
and studies the master.
Read! You'll absorb it.
Then write. If it's good,
you'll find out. If it's not,
throw it out of the
window.”

--William Faulkner

NightScripts Submission Guidelines and Wants

From Members: Currently accepting ads (for books and services), articles, short stories (500-1000 words), poetry, and event information.

Submit To:	editor@tulsanightwriters.org
Deadline:	Last Day of the Month
Specifications:	Please format your text as follows: Times New Roman, 12 pt Single Spaced Attach as a doc or pages Attach graphics and / or photographs

From Non-Members: Paid Ad Space Available,
contact editor@tulsanightwriters.org

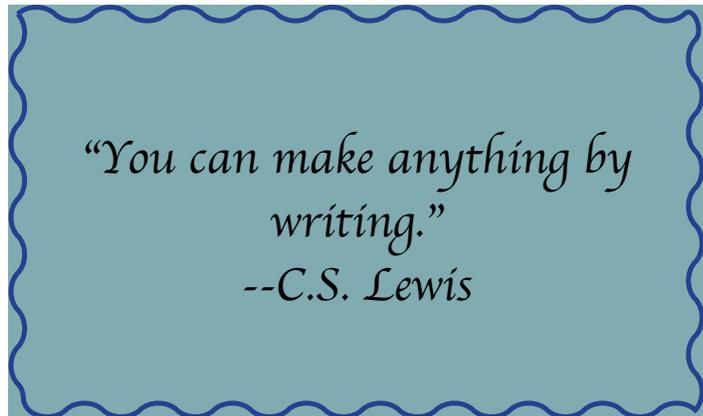
2023 TNW Board & Meeting Information

Merle Davenport
President
President@tulsanightwriters.org



Tulsa NightWriters will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, January 16, 2024, location information below.

Heather Westover
Vice President
VicePresident@tulsanightwriters.org



Linda Berrey
Treasurer
treasurer@tulsanightwriters.org



Directions

Cheyenne Pauls
Hospitality Director
hospitality@tulsanightwriters.org



Take the I-244 to downtown Tulsa, and exit on Detroit. If you are coming from the west, the exit for the OSU campus is on the LEFT.

From Detroit Ave., turn right onto JH Franklin Road. You will see the Auditorium and Conference Center (North Hall) on the left. You can park in Lot E (first parking lot on left), or across the street in Lot D. We meet in Room 150. Look for signs posted at both entrances.

Parking is free and open to the public. It is a very short walk, and handicapped accessible. Campus security patrols the parking lots regularly.

Ana Maddox
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