

## Chicago Writers Association Speakers Bureau



## 2011-2012 Program Menu

### Compelling Speakers at Your Fingertips.

[www.chicagowrites.org](http://www.chicagowrites.org)

### CHICAGO

#### **“The Path to On the Job: Murder, Reflection, and Where TV Cop Shows Fail” by Daniel P. Smith**

Author, journalist, and lifelong Chicagoan Daniel P. Smith guides audience members into the closed-door society that is the Chicago Police Department. Sharing never-before-told stories of the tolls the job exacts on the officers, their families, and their lives while interweaving a discussion of Chicago’s criminal landscape, police department culture, and history, Smith discusses the unique personal experiences that led him to pen his debut work, *On the Job: Behind the Stars of the Chicago Police Department*. (Adults; 60-75 min.; \$100-200 negotiable with permission to sell books)

**References:** Cindy Kline, Indian Prairie Public Library, (630) 887-8760, [klinec@indianprairielibrary.org](mailto:klinec@indianprairielibrary.org); Jeannine Kacmar, Palos Park Public Library, [jkcacmar@palosparklibrary.org](mailto:jkcacmar@palosparklibrary.org), (708) 448-1530

**Website:** [www.onthejob-smith.blogspot.com](http://www.onthejob-smith.blogspot.com)

**Contact:** [smithwriting@gmail.com](mailto:smithwriting@gmail.com), (773) 775-1306

#### **NEW!** “Giants in the Park: A Guide to Portrait Statues in Chicago’s Lincoln Park” by Krista August

Located just two miles north of Chicago’s downtown, Lincoln Park remains both a neighborhood and a park, a big-city playground proudly hosting sixteen vintage portrait statues. Author and artist Krista August guides audiences through the heroes and monuments in her latest work, *Giants in the Park*. For curious locals and interested tourists, August combines biography, Chicago history, and sculpture content as well as seven missing statues. (Adaptable to all ages; 20-60 min.; \$100-200 with permission to sell books)

**References:** William Tyre, Glessner House Museum, (312) 326-1480, [williamtyre@sbcglobal.net](mailto:williamtyre@sbcglobal.net); Mary Holloway, University Club of Chicago, (312) 696-2208, [Holloway@ucco.com](mailto:Holloway@ucco.com)

**Website:** [www.lincolnparkstatues.com](http://www.lincolnparkstatues.com)

**Contact:** [august.kb@lincolnparkstatues.com](mailto:august.kb@lincolnparkstatues.com), (773) 320-5737

**NEW!** “Wrigley Field’s Last World Series: The Wartime Chicago Cubs and the Pennant of 1945” by Charles N. Billington

Author and sports historian Charles Billington discusses the Chicago Cubs as an athletic, business, and social institution ingrained into Chicago’s cultural fabric. Billington explores the Chicago Cubs’ domination during the team’s first 70 years of existence (1876-1945) and the profound effects World War II had on baseball. Billington’s program includes rare film footage of the 1945 World Series alongside 1940’s music dealing with the war and baseball. (Pre-teens to adults; 100 min.; \$175 negotiable)

**References:** Christy Eyre, Brookfield Public Library, (708) 485 6917; Richard Dawidowicz, Buffalo Grove Knights of Columbus, (847) 478-9419

**Contact:** (773) 351-5871, cnb1148@sbcglobal.net

**NEW!** “Wrigley Field’s Last World Championship: The 1963 Chicago Bears and the fall of the House of Halas” by Charles N. Billington

Sports historian Charles Billington discusses one of sport’s most dominant and colorful teams—the 1963 Chicago Bears championship squad. Playing at the start of pro football’s “modern age” under legendary owner/coach George Halas, the 1963 Bears put an indelible stamp on their profession; yet, their success sparked Halas’ downfall. The Bears’ contribution to the social and economic fabric of Chicago is also discussed along with analysis of rare film footage of the 1963 season. (Pre-teens to Adults; 100 min.; \$175 negotiable)

**References:** Peggy Hamill, Glencoe Public Library, (847) 835-5056; Karen Black, Glenview Public Library, (847) 729-7500

**Contact:** (773) 351-5871, cnb1148@sbcglobal.net

**NEW!** “Comiskey Park’s Last World Series: The Go-Go White Sox and the Pennant of 1959” by Charles N. Billington

The 1959 Chicago White Sox were the South Side’s first pennant winners in 40 years, but their success played in front of a tragic backdrop: one of Chicago’s first families locked in a bitter legal battle for control of a prized heirloom, the team itself. Sports historian Charles Billington delves into this history, which includes a film analysis of the 1959 World Series as well as a legal and

business history of the 1950s-era baseball industry. (Pre-teens to Adults; 100 min.; \$175 negotiable)

**References:** Karen Balck, Glenview Public Library, (847) 729-7500

**Contact:** (773) 351-5871, cnb1148@sbcglobal.net

## HISTORY

**“Finding Hallowed Ground: America’s Civil War Historic Sites Today” by Michael Weeks**

While many Civil War historic sites are preserved as national or state parks, many others are not. Yet, even the smallest sites are easy to find and hold incredible stories. Experiencing these sites firsthand remains the most memorable and enjoyable way to learn about the historic war and provides tangible ties to our not-so-distant past.

Michael Weeks, author of the *Civil War Road Trip* series of books, exhibits the nation’s premier Civil War sites as well as hidden gems, demonstrating how seeing history with our own eyes directly connects us to our past. (All ages; 60 min.; Free, travel reimbursement requested with permission to sell books)

**References:** Tom Haushalter, The Countryman Press, (802) 457-4826, thaushalter@wnnorton.com

**Website:** www.civilwarroadtrip.com

**Contact:** (773) 547-3475, michael@civilwarroadtrip.com

**NEW!** “The Journey of Mollie’s War” by Cyndee Schaffer

Author Cyndee Schaffer discusses her mother’s WWII experiences as a member of the Women’s Army Corps in *Mollie’s War*, a memoir describing the life of a woman who followed troops into England, France, and Germany. Using excerpts from Mollie’s letters written home, Schaffer provides a glimpse into the life of a woman in uniform during this crucial time in history. Presentation includes WAC recruiting movie, photos, letters, medals, and memorabilia. (Teens and adults; 60 min.; \$100 to \$150 negotiable with permission to sell books)

**References:** Ryan Springer, Sedgebrook, rspringer@sedgebrook.net, (847) 876-2373; Jim Floyd, Rotary Club of Glencoe, jim.floyd@harrisbank.net, (847) 835-6282

**Website:** www.mollieswar.com

**Contact:** cyndeeschaffer@gmail.com, (847)917-4125

**NEW!** “Illinois Fights the Civil War” by Robert I. Girardi

Award-winning historian and author Robert I. Girardi provides an overview of Illinois’ pivotal role in the American Civil War. Though no major battles were fought on Illinois soil, Illinoisans were at the forefront of the armies. The state provided the Union with its president and 53 generals. Illinois also supported the war from the home front, providing vital social, political, and material aid. (All ages; 60 min.; \$100-150 with permission to sell books)

**References:** Kathy Hussey, Wilmette Historical Museum, (847) 853-7666, husseyk@wilmette.com; Bill Furry, Illinois State Historical Society, (217) 525-2781, wfurry@sbcglobal.net

**Website:** www.robertgirardi.com

**Contact:** (773) 693-7387, CvlWarGuy@aol.com

**NEW!** “Exploring the Civil War” by Robert I. Girardi

Award-winning historian and author Robert I. Girardi explores the Civil War through the words and artifacts of its participants. Between 1861-65, the nation struggled with divisive political and social issues, waged war, but ultimately saved the Union at the expense of a martyred president and 620,000 lives. Using artifacts and soldiers’ recollections, Girardi discusses the nature of the conflict, what soldiers experienced, and why the war still fascinates us 150 years later. (All ages; 60 min.; \$100-150 with permission to sell books)

**References:** Kathy Hussey, Wilmette Historical Museum, (847) 853-7666, husseyk@wilmette.com; Bill Furry, Illinois State Historical Society, (217) 525-2781, wfurry@sbcglobal.net

**Website:** www.robertgirardi.com

**Contact:** (773) 693-7387, CvlWarGuy@aol.com

## TRAVEL

**“Waltzing Australia” by Cynthia Clampitt**

From sophisticated cities to rugged outback, desert to rainforest, the Great Barrier Reef to ancient inland ranges, the land Down Under offers a surprising kaleidoscope of memorable experiences. Though writer-photographer Cynthia Clampitt has visited Australia several times, this presentation focuses on places visited during the six-

month, 20,000-mile journey that is the subject of Clampitt’s award-winning book, *Waltzing Australia*. (Teens and adults; 60-90 min.; \$100–\$150 with permission to sell books)

**References:** Judy Bock, Geographic Society of Chicago, judyil@aol.com, 847-223-7627; Bridget Bittman, Tinley Park Public Library, b\_bittman@tplibrary.org, 708-845-5719

**Website:** www.worldplate.com

**Contact:** caclampitt@att.net, (847) 537-7915

**“Travel Savvy” by Cynthia Clampitt**

Travel broadens one’s horizons, but it brings with it risks, costs, hassles, health issues, and other considerations. Every stage of the trip contributes to the ultimate outcome of the adventure: planning, packing, flying, touring, and returning home. Learn cost-saving, hassle-reducing travel tricks, guidelines, and resources from international traveler, author, and photographer Cynthia Clampitt. (Adults; 60-90 min.; \$100–\$150 with permission to sell books)

**References:** Linda Atkins, Oak Lawn Public Library, latkins@olpl.org, 708-422-4990; Vicky Edwards, Chicago-area Mensa, AChicVic@aol.com, 630-629-8385

**Website:** www.worldplate.com

**Contact:** caclampitt@att.net, (847) 537-7915

**NEW!** “Mongolia: The Farthest Horizon” by Cynthia Clampitt

Author-photographer Cynthia Clampitt guides you on a trip through Mongolia, from Lake Khuvsgul in the north to the Gobi in the south and across the vast expanses of the central plains, where Ghengis Khan once marshaled his Golden Horde. Learn about the surprising impact of the “Pax Mongolica.” See yaks and reindeer, towering sand dunes, the first milking of the mares, the opening of the Nadaam Games, and much more. Even take home a Mongolian recipe. (General audience, 60 min.; \$100–\$150 with permission to sell books)

**References:** Judy Bock, Geographic Society of Chicago, judyil@aol.com, 847-223-7627; Scott Warner, Culinary Historians of Chicago, swarner@cmsdocs.org

**Website:** www.worldplate.com

**Contact:** caclampitt@att.net, (847) 537-7915

## CURRENT EVENTS & CULTURE

### **“Climate Change and Renewable Energy: The Rest of the Story” by Steve Goreham**

National and local governments are implementing policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, often requiring the forced adoption of renewable energy. But are these policies necessary and effective? Learn the real story about global warming and renewable energy and the policy impacts for your community from Steve Goreham, Executive Director of the Climate Science Coalition of America and controversial author of *Climatism! Science, Common Sense, and the 21st Century's Hottest Topic*. (Teens and adults; 60 minutes; fee negotiable with permission to sell books)

**Website:** [www.climatism.net](http://www.climatism.net)

**Contact:** (815) 462-8924, [gorehamsa@comcast.net](mailto:gorehamsa@comcast.net)

### **NEW! “Take Me to Your Reader: Writing and Publishing Speculative and Science Fiction” by Mark R. Brand**

Got a cerebral day-after-tomorrow tale or rip-roaring sci-fi adventure in you? Award-winning author and editor Mark R. Brand hosts a discussion about the current cutting edge of speculative and science fiction. Hear how Brand goes about forging stories of the future with ideas and concepts from everyday life. Learn pointers for writing a fresh, effective manuscript that will stand out from the submission pile and keep readers glued to the page. (Adults; 60min.; \$100-150 negotiable with permission to sell books)

**References:** Jason Pettus, Chicago Center for Literature and Photography, [ilikejason@gmail.com](mailto:ilikejason@gmail.com); Jason Behrends, ChicagoNow/Orange Alert Reading Series, [orangealert31@gmail.com](mailto:orangealert31@gmail.com).

**Website:** [www.markrbrand.com](http://www.markrbrand.com), [www.silverthought.com](http://www.silverthought.com)

**Contact:** (224) 406-1959, [mark\\_r\\_brand@hotmail.com](mailto:mark_r_brand@hotmail.com)

### **NEW! “Vampires’ Most Wanted: The Top 10 Book of Bloodthirsty Biters, Stake-Wielding Slayers, and Other Undead Oddities” by Laura Enright**

Now considered sexy, the vampire was at one time often regarded as vermin or a metaphor for the plague. The vampire’s role in society depended upon the culture in which it appeared. An ancient

bogeyman, by turns, has become a romantic figure, superhero, or teen dream. Enright, author of *Chicago’s Most Wanted*, examines the vampire and the lore surrounding it in history, fiction, and a wide range of mediums. (Teens and Adults; 90 min.; \$150 negotiable with permission to sell books)

**References:** Janet Windeguth, Crystal Lake Public Library, (815) 459-1687, [jwindeguth@crystallakelibrary.org](mailto:jwindeguth@crystallakelibrary.org); Shannon Galton, Vernon Area Public Library District, (847) 634-3650 ext. 137, [sgalton@vapld.info](mailto:sgalton@vapld.info)

**Contact:** [lenr291307@aol.com](mailto:lenr291307@aol.com), (847) 384-0361

### **NEW! “Joining Forces to Understand Military Families Hardships and Happiness through Literature” by Lisa Mallen**

Author Lisa Mallen shares her proud devotion of her own military family experience, and those of the millions of men and women who serve our country for freedom, through her new children’s chapter book, *Joining Forces with Glory*. An “Army Brat,” Mallen reveals the inspiration that prompted both her story and its title. (All; 35-45 min.; \$100-\$150 negotiable with permission to sell books)

**References:** Rosie Clark, Moneta Smith Mountain Lake Library, (540) 425-7004; Maureen Garzaro, Fountaindale Public Library, (630) 759-2102 ext. 4176, [mgarzaro@fountaindale.org](mailto:mgarzaro@fountaindale.org)

**Website:** [www.lisamallenauthor.com](http://www.lisamallenauthor.com)

**Contact:** [lrmallen@gmail.com](mailto:lrmallen@gmail.com), (630) 460-0102

### **NEW! “But I Play One on TV” by Barbara Barnett**

Our favorite television medical shows reflect our society. What do our favorite medical shows tell us about us? And how have they affected our view of health care? Barbara Barnett, author of *Chasing Zebras: The Unofficial Guide to House, M.D.* and Executive Editor of Blogcritics Magazine, explores this timely subject with audiences. (Adults; 60 min.; \$150 negotiable with permission to sell books)

**References:** Linda Naru, University of Illinois Library-Alumni Authors Program, [lnaru@uic.edu](mailto:lnaru@uic.edu),

**Website:** [www.barbarabarnett.com](http://www.barbarabarnett.com)

**Contact:** [sasmom1@gmail.com](mailto:sasmom1@gmail.com), 847-302-0895

## WRITING

### **Poetry Workshops with Susanna Lang**

Poetry instructor Susanna Lang leads a poetry workshop beginning with a brief presentation on an aspect of the poet's craft, such as form (e.g., the line), tool (e.g., the image), or theme (e.g., poetry of witness). Participants then try an exercise related to the presentation during a period of quiet writing time. In the longest part of the session, participants share and critique each other's work. (adaptable to teens or adults, limit of 12 participants; 90-120 min.; \$75 with permission to sell books to adult audience)

**References:** Jan Oblinger, Fremont Public Library, (847) 918-3239; Kathy Umlauf, Northwest Cultural Council, (847) 991-7966, northwestculturalcouncil@yahoo.com

**Website:** www.susannalang.com

**Contact:** (773) 456-9485, slang12@yahoo.com

### **NEW!** "Writing for Magazines and Newspapers" by Daniel P. Smith

Professional freelance journalist Daniel P. Smith, who has over 1,500 clips to his credit, leads a hands-on, two-day workshop on getting published in magazines and newspapers. On Day 1, Smith discusses finding a market for your work and the current publishing marketplace. On Day 2, 1-2 weeks after the first encounter, Smith offers practical tips for query letter writing and the ways to distinguish yourself from the pack. Includes handouts. (Adults and teens; two 60 min. sessions; \$300-400 negotiable).

**Contact:** smithwriting@gmail.com, (773) 775-1306

### **NEW!** "Doing it By the Book" by Libby Fischer Hellmann

Award-winning crime fiction author Libby Fischer Hellman explores the writing process, with an emphasis on crime thrillers. Hellman discusses how she got started, what obstacles she overcame, and how her work and strategies have evolved over time. Includes a discussion of e-books vs. traditional publishing. (Adults; 60 min.; \$150-200 with permission to sell books)

**References:** Deb Hoffman, Gurnee Library, dhoffman@wnpl.info; Monique Flasch, Glenview Library, mflasch@glenviewpl.org

**Website:** www.libbyhellmann.com

**Contact:** (847) 441-9194

### **NEW!** "Anatomy of Crime Writing: Body Parts" by Libby Fischer Hellmann

Award winning crime author Libby Fischer Hellman presents ONE of the following writing workshops: how to build suspense; dialogue, plot, and setting; revisions and editing; e-book vs. traditional publishing and promotion. Each workshop includes in-class exercises and take home materials. (Adults; 60 min.; \$300)

**References:** Deb Hoffman, Gurnee Library, dhoffman@wnpl.info; Monique Flasch, Glenview Library, mflasch@glenviewpl.org

**Website:** www.libbyhellmann.com

**Contact:** (847) 441-9194

### **NEW!** "Got Writer's Block?" by Dr. Serena Wadhwa

Have you experienced a sense of "stuckness" with your writing? Feel like it's a struggle to move forward even though the desire is there? Dr. Serena Wadhwa explores 10 "blocks to change" that affect writing goals. Wadhwa unveils several strategies to help "unblock" your path to moving forward, including using the mind, body, and spirit to manage, reduce, or even eliminate writer's block. (Adults; 60 min.; \$250 with permission to sell books and manuals)

**References:** Mark Sanders, Governors State Univ., Onthemark25@aol.com

**Website:** www.triqualiving.com

**Contact:** drserenawadhwa@gmail.com, (773) 368-4363

### **NEW!** "Your First Writing Residency: Where They are, How to Apply, and What to Expect from Your First One" by Dina Rabadi

Have you envisioned writing your first novel in Paris or working on a book of poetry near the Oregon Coast? If so, it's time to apply for your first writing residency. Dina Rabadi, whose work has appeared in *The Boston Globe* and the *Los Angeles Times*, provides an overview on writing residencies as well as a handout with contact information for the top 20 national and international writing residencies. (Adults; 60 min.; \$400)

**References:** Farouk Mustafa, University of Chicago, (773) 702 7473, f-mustafa@uchicago.edu

**Website:** www.dinarabadi.com, www.GlobalAllianceArtists.org

**Contact:** (312) 213-9913, DRabadi2002@yahoo.com

**NEW!** “From Blogger-Mom to Published Author” by Barbara Barnett

Barbara Barnett, co-executive editor of Blogcritics Magazine and author of *Chasing Zebras*, shares her story of becoming a published author. Starting with a personal blog and a desire to write, Barnett began her path toward her lifelong goal. Persistence and a little luck led Barnett to an agent, book deal, and more. She details her story and offers insight into how aspiring writers may also find their dream. (Adults; 60 min.; \$150 negotiable with permission to sell books)

**References:** Jennifer Wilkov, Your Book is Your Hook Radio Show, yourbookisyourhook@gmail.com

**Website:** www.barbarabarnett.com

**Contact:** sasmom1@gmail.com, 847-302-0895

“It’s Not Where You’re from . . . It’s Where You’re at” by Teen Writers and Artists Project

TWAAP Executive Director Diana Zwinak and a group of teen poets discuss writing and being heard along with the value of self-expression. Tailored to the needs of a given audience, workshop program can address poetry, fiction, or creative non-fiction. Spoken word performances are included. (Teens; 60-90 min.; \$100-\$200 negotiable with permission to sell books)

**References:** Sarah Strahl, ELA Area Public Library District, sstrahl@eapl.org

**Website:** www.TWAAP.org

**Contact:** Dlzwinak@aol.com, (630) 677-8735

“Golden Microphone: A Spoken Word/Open Mic/Workshop for Teens” by Teen Writers and Artists Project

TWAAP Executive Director Diana Zwinak and spoken word poets from Teen Writers and Artists Project partner with a published author/performer to present a writer’s workshop and open mic night. Participants learn literary techniques, have the opportunity to present their original work, and participate in a reading by the featured author. (Teens; 90-120 min.; \$100-250 negotiable with permission to sell books)

**References:** Sarah Strahl, ELA Area Public Library District, sstrahl@eapl.org

**Website:** www.TWAAP.org

**Contact:** Dlzwinak@aol.com, (630) 677-8735

“What About the Moody Kid in Black? Growing and Fostering Teen Creativity” by Diana Zwinak

Author, teacher, and Teen Writers and Artists Project Executive Director Diana Zwinak directs a program for all those who have creative teens in their lives and wish to encourage their artistic expression. Zwinak addresses the difference between pushing and encouraging, keeping creative teens safe from negative influences, and when behavior might be worth worrying about. She also discusses how tapping into creative potential will aid in navigating a teen’s emotional landscape and assist the teen in the future workplace and new adult job market. (Adults; 45-60 min; \$100-200 negotiable with permission to sell books)

**References:** Sarah Strahl, ELA Area Public Library District, sstrahl@eapl.org

**Website:** www.TWAAP.org

**Contact:** Dlzwinak@aol.com, (630) 677-8735

**NEW!** “Taking the Giant Leap to Publishing Your Book” by Cyndee Schaffer and Pat Lee

You may have a strong written idea about what you want your book to be, have an outline, or even several completed drafts, but do you know what to do with it next? Published authors Cyndee Schaffer and Pat Lee guide you through the publishing world. Using their varied experiences, Schaffer and Lee share the good, the bad, and the ugly about traditional publishers, trade publishers, self-publishing, and e-books. (Adults; 90-120 min.; \$200-300 negotiable with permission to sell books)

**References:** Donna Hicks (for Cyndee Schaffer), Northbrook Library (retired), hicks.donna63@gmail.com; Laura Bleiler (for Pat Lee), Alzheimer’s Association, (312) 335-5893

**Website:** www.mollieswar.com, www.patleebooks.com

**Contact:** cyndeeschaffer@gmail.com, (847)917-4125; pat\_alma\_leezzjm@yahoo.com, (312) 208-8416

**NEW!** “Marketing for Writers: Get a Publishing Contract and Sell Your Book by Selling Yourself” by Keith Ecker

Have you written a manuscript that’s collecting dust or self-published a novel that has yet to take off? In today’s competitive publishing world, marketing should be a priority for any writer. How you position yourself and your book can spell the difference between amateur and professional. Writer Keith Ecker, a principal at Hungry Eyes Marketing, shares easy-to-execute marketing tips that can help raise your profile and sell your words. (Adults; 75-90 min.; \$200)

**References:** Scott Whitehair, This Much Is True Reading Series, swhitehair@gmail.com; Scotty Zacher, Chicago Theatre Beat, scott\_zacher@yahoo.com

**Website:** hungryeyesmarketing.wordpress.com

**Contact:** keithecker@gmail.com, (573) 289-3558

“A Writer’s Guide to Tech Tools” by Helen Gallagher

Success is just around the corner for writers who seek publication, but succeeding today requires sharp tech skills to understand and participate in the online world of publishing and book sales. Helen Gallagher, author and national speaker on publishing and technology, brings together the tools and skills you need to gain visibility for your writing and publishing. Includes an exploration of blogs, social media sites, e-books, and other digital options. (Pre-teens to adults; 60-90 min. lecture or 90-min. morning workshop with advance registration; \$300 negotiable with permission to sell books)

**References:** Mira Temkin, Midwest Writers Association, miratemkin@gmail.com; Dick Davidson, Off-Campus Writers Workshop, radmarinc@yahoo.com

**Website:** www.releaseyourwriting.com

**Contact:** (847) 998-6240, Helen@releaseyourwriting.com

**RESEARCH**

“Getting Started in Genealogy” by Grace DuMelle

Itching to explore your family history after you’ve seen those celebrity genealogy shows? Get off on the right foot with the help of award-winning author and researcher Grace DuMelle (*Finding Your*

*Chicago Ancestors*). DuMelle explains genealogy’s top 10 concepts and principles: working backwards, talking to relatives, using the U.S. Census, and more. Includes handouts, Q&A. (Adults; 60 min.; \$125 with permission to sell books.)

**References:** Terri Meyer, Ela Area Library District, (847) 438-3433, tmeyer@eapl.org

**Website:** www.hhrs1872.com

**Contact:** hhrs1872@ameritech.net, (312) 842-8933

**NEW!** “Unlocking the Doors to Your Home’s Past” by Grace DuMelle

Satisfy your curiosity about your own home or one in the family. Learn techniques for dating a residence, discovering the architect, and unearthing old photos and plans. You can also find out who lived there, what they did for a living, and other fascinating tidbits, just as genealogist Grace DuMelle has done for many clients. *Note: Presentation is customized for each community and requires librarian to supply information about local sources such as newspapers and building permits.* (Adults; 60 min.; \$175 with permission to sell books.)

**References:** Pamela Lessner, Chicago Ridge Public Library, (708) 423-7753, plessner@chicagoridge.lib.il.us

**Website:** www.hhrs1872.com

**Contact:** hhrs1872@ameritech.net, (312) 842-8933

“Writing Your Family’s Story” by Daniel P. Smith and Grace DuMelle

Quotable quotes and juicy anecdotes liven any type of writing and are especially welcome when writing the history of your family. How do you get page-turning stories AND the facts to back them up? In this tag-team program, journalist and author Daniel P. Smith provides key interviewing techniques to solicit the personal stories and voices necessary to create an engaging human portrait while genealogist Grace DuMelle shares 10 tips from her award-winning *Finding Your Chicago Ancestors* on sourcing the details you’ve gotten from your subjects, including newspapers and public records. Includes handouts, Q&A. (Adults; 75-90 min.; \$200 negotiable with permission to sell books)

**References:** Cindy Kline, Indian Prairie Public Library, (630) 887-8760, klinec@indianprairielibrary.org  
**Website:** www.hhrs1872.com  
**Contact:** (Daniel) smithwriting@gmail.com, (773) 775-1306

### SELF-HELP & INSPIRATIONAL

**NEW!** “Identity: Its Role in Your Health and Wellness” by  
**Bikram S. Dhillon**

Your identity influences the choices you make. Dr. Bikram S. Dhillon, founder of Physicians Total Wellness in Schaumburg and author of *The Diamond Rule*, specializes in preventive medicine with a focus on wellness that bridges medical and alternative treatments. Dhillon discusses how choices determine the state of an individual’s health and the available opportunities to enhance personal well-being. (Adults; 60 min.; \$200 with permission to sell book)

**References:** Dr. Michael Green, LightCare Medical, (773) 255-4545, drgreen@lightcare.net; Avind Gakhal, Punjabi Cultural Society of Chicago, pgakhal@cclfcicago.org, (847) 202-7915

**Website:** www.thediamondrule.com

**Contact:** (847) 701-5447, bikdhillon@gmail.com

**NEW!** “Happiness Can Be Learned” by **Kelly Epperson**

Author, speaker, and happiness coach Kelly Epperson teaches simple, but not always easy techniques that can be applied to everyday life to create a new way of being. Becoming a realistic optimist is not naive, Pollyanna, or saccharine. Happier people attract better health, wealth, and relationships. Epperson, founder of the Happiness Club of Loves Park, IL, is the author of *365 Day of Joy: How to be Happy Every Single Day* and *When Life Stinks, It’s Time to Wash the Gym Clothes*. (Adults; 60 min.; \$500 negotiable with permission to sell books)

**References:** Tammy Lewis, Center for Learning in Retirement, t.lewis@rockvalleycollege.edu, 815-921-3930; Gale Ketteler, Womanspace, gale@womanspace-rockford.org, 815-877-0118.

**Website:** www.kellyepperson.com

**Contact:** 888-637-3563; kelly@kellyepperson.com

**NEW!** “Pleasing Your Partner” by **Toneal Jackson**

Toneal Jackson, author of *Pleasing Your Partner*, tackles common relationship issues (financial hardship; infidelity; lack of communication, etc.) by implementing the H.A.P.P.I.N.E.S.S. acronym, which provides the traits necessary to successfully survive any relationship. (Adults; 90 min.; \$100-\$200 negotiable with permission to sell books)

**References:** Nicole Harris, Woodlawn Children Promise Community, cherise74@yahoo.com, (773) 739-1034

**Website:** tonealsto-dos.org

**Contact:** authortjmba@gmail.com, (773) 440-2004

**NEW!** “The Power of Appreciation” by **Mike O’Mary**

Mike O’Mary, author of *The Note* (Best Gift Book of 2011) leads an inspiring program that focuses on the power of appreciation and how a simple note can change a person’s life. O’Mary covers the “what, why, who, and how” of appreciation (including numerous examples and anecdotes), and then helps attendees write a short note of appreciation that they can send to people in their lives. (All ages; 60 min.; \$100 negotiable with permission to sell books)

**References:** Michelle Schulz, Kar-Fre Flowers, (815) 895-6558; Janine Idstein, Olson Funeral Home, (815) 963-6521

**Website:** www.michaelomary.com

**Contact:** mike@michaelomary.com, (847) 321-1390

**NEW!** “Make Your Dream Your Life” with **Kim Strickland**

Airline pilot, author, and mother Kim Strickland tells how she made her dreams into her dream life and how you can do it, too. Strickland, who flies 767’s for a major airline and blogs at www.ChicagoNow.com/acitymom, had her first novel, *Wish Club*, published by Three Rivers Press, a division of Random House, in 2007. (Pre-teens to Adults; 45-90 min.; \$500 negotiable)

**References:** Sybil Phillips, University of Illinois Institute of Aviation, sybilp@illinois.edu, (217) 244-8646; Linda Howe, Director of The Center for Akashic Studies, linda@lindahowe.com, (708) 771-5830

**Website:** www.kimstrickland.com

**Contact:** kim@kimstrickland.com, (773) 220-6832

**NEW!** “Goal Tending: Five Easy Steps to Get Where You Want to Be” by Jerilyn Willin

Having a goal is just the first step. Goals don't achieve themselves; they require attention and focus. Tending. Business consultant Jerilyn Willin shares steps to help individuals move toward the life and career outcomes they desire. Learn how to develop a SMART goal, take steps toward it every day, and remove obstacles. (Adults; 60 min.; \$150 with permission to sell books)

**References:** Juli Schatz, Author-Author, Bibliocat36@gmail.com, (847) 372-6222

**Website:** www.jwillinconsulting.com

**Contact:** Jerilyn@jwillinconsulting.com, (630) 924-8565

### MIND & BODY

**NEW!** “Using Humor to Maximize Living” by Mary Kay Morrison

Include some fun in your day! Mary Kay Morrison encourages the practice of humor, not only as a personal tool to optimize a healthy lifestyle, but to maximize the benefits of humor for healthy living. Participants complete a humor-styles inventory and practice increasing their individual sense of humor. (Adults; 1-3 hours; \$1,500 plus expenses)

**References:** Chip Lutz, Association for Applied and Therapeutic Humor, (262) 960-2034, cwltutz@gmail.com; Jean Smith, Illinois Principals Association, (217) 525-1383, jean@ilprincipals.org

**Website:** www.questforhumor.com

**Contact:** marykay@questforhumor.com, (815) 885-2373

**“Got Stress? Get Less!” by Serena Wadhwa**

Ever felt you were on a never-ending, accelerating treadmill? Wish you could manage the responsibilities of work and family, your thoughts, your emotions, and your actions more effectively? There are over 350 specific ways to prevent, manage and reduce stress. This interactive, skill-building workshop provides tools to identify and work through stress. A doctorate in clinical psychology, Wadhwa helps audience members assess how they currently manage

stress and teaches various strategies for optimal stress management. (Adults; 60 min.; \$250 with permission to sell books and manuals)

**References:** Mark Sanders, Governors State Univ.,  
Onthemark25@aol.com

**Website:** www.triqualiving.com

**Contact:** drserenawadhwa@gmail.com, (773) 368-4363

**“Elements of Personal Power: Creating Magic to Battle Destructive Forces” by Dr. Serena Wadhwa**

Dr. Serena Wadhwa, director of TriQual Living Center, leads this interactive, skill-building workshop providing strategies for individuals to develop and implement a plan of empowerment. Participants gain knowledge and skills to create and strengthen personal power, which define what empowerment is, recognize what the lack of power may look like, and develop the knowledge and skills to empower oneself. (Adults; 60 min.; \$250 with permission to sell books and manuals)

**References:** Mark Sanders, Governors State Univ.,  
Onthemark25@aol.com

**Website:** www.triqualiving.com

**Contact:** drserenawadhwa@gmail.com, (773) 368-4363

**“Commit To Get Fit: The Secret To True and Everlasting Weight Loss” by Laura Dion-Jones**

Pro-health activist, radio show host, and motivational speaker, Laura Dion-Jones motivates guests to overcome common fitness hurdles to reach the best shape of their lives. Dion-Jones' high-energy presentation teaches the basics of daily walking, meditation, positive mind-set, and finding the right diet for lifelong change. Dion-Jones, who successfully lost 150 pounds, is the author of *Commit to Get Fit: The Secret to True and Everlasting Weight Loss*. (All ages; 60-90 min.; \$150 with permission to sell book)

**References:** Donna Newberg, Elgin Comm. College, (847) 214-7569, dnewberg@elgin.edu; Mimi Lytle, Gail Borden Library, (847) 608-5027, mlytle@gailborden.info

**Website:** www.lauradionjones.com

**Contact:** dionjones@aol.com, (312) 933-7325

**NEW!** “Karma and Reincarnation – Reality or Myth” by Rachel Madorsky

Award-winning author Rachel Madorsky presents interpretations of karma and reincarnation in the modern society as related in her books, *Symphony of Your Karma* and *Maestro*. Madorsky says karma can be viewed as a spiritual and material cause-and-effect cycle that leads the human soul through one or more embodiments. (Adults; 60 min.; Free with permission to sell books)

**References:** Donna Hicks, Northbrook Public Library, dhicks@northbrook.info, (847) 272-6224

**Website:** www.RachelMadorsky.com

**Contact:** (847) 279-8065, quasimur@yahoo.com

**NEW!** “Living an Extraordinary Life: A Story about Healing Entirely” by Suzanne Clores

Author of *Memoirs of a Spiritual Outsider* and instructor at Northwestern University’s Summer Writing Workshop, Suzanne Clores describes the mental imbalances suffered by creative people and touts the benefits of using both medication and spiritual tools as solutions. Clores’ engaging and dynamic story emphasizes the connection between health and creative functionality, and embraces various modalities from yoga asanas to anti-depressants for their extraordinary healing potential. (Adults and teens; 60 min.; \$100-\$150 negotiable with permission to sell books.)

**References:** Amy Davis, The Writers Workspace, amy@writersworkspace.com; Kathleen Bigsby, The Canyon at Peace Park Substance Abuse and Treatment Center, Kathleen.Bigsby@FRNmail.com

**Website:** www.suzanneclores.com

**Contact:** suzanne@suzanneclores.com, (773) 368-8826

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**NEW!** “How to Make a Presentation Without Passing Out” by Jerilyn Willin

Public speaking is the #1 fear of adults. Noted speaker and business coach Jerilyn Willin presents skills to better interview, network, and make formal presentations, including: tools to help you think on your feet; confidently handling questions; physical/mental techniques to turn nerves into positive energy; what to do with your hands; and how to keep audiences engaged. (Adults; 60 min.; \$150 with permission to sell books)

**References:** Debbie Beller, Electrology Assoc. of Illinois, (847) 308-9020, remover1@comcast.net

**Website:** www.jwillinconsulting.com

**Contact:** Jerilyn@jwillinconsulting.com, (630) 924-8565

**Have questions or comments about the  
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Please contact CWA Speakers Bureau  
Director Daniel P. Smith at  
smithwriting@gmail.com or (773) 775-1306.**