

ADULTS WRITE FOR CHILDREN

Creating Your Book for Children:
Shape it, Submit it, See it in Print*Peter Mandel*

Having a children's book published in today's tough market may seem like an impossible dream. But, in reality, getting your book idea into shape and into print can hinge on just the right advice from a pro. Do you need an agent? Should you connect with an artist? What about self-publishing? In a DC-area exclusive one-session workshop, nationally-known author Peter Mandel will pass on the insider's tips writers need to know in order to create a marketable first book and get it into the hands of exactly the right gatekeepers in the publishing world.

1 Monday	7-9:30 p.m.	1/22
Bethesda	All Levels	\$50

Introduction to the Picture Book

Mathangi Subramanian

Are you a storyteller able to keep kids entertained for hours? Are you an artist who wants to find a way to put words to pictures? Then this course is for you! Explore the art of writing picture books that are fun and entertaining for both adults and children. Participants will leave with at least two manuscripts-in-progress, along with plenty of ideas for more stories.

4 Weeks	N/A	2/5-2/26
Online	Beginner/Intermediate	\$195

Creating Memorable Characters For
Young Readers*Jacqueline Jules*

While a good plot may intrigue, readers only become absorbed when they connect with the main character. How do you create a fictional character who will engage young readers from the first page? How can you make dialogue reveal your character's personality? Explore the elements of crafting fictional characters, both realistic and imaginary, with the award-winning author of two character-based series, Zapato Power and the Sofia Martinez series. The first session will be writing exercises and discussion. The second session will discuss the business of children's publishing and provide an opportunity for participants to share their own work.

2 Tuesdays	7-9 p.m.	2/20-2/27
Bethesda	Beginner/Intermediate	\$80

FICTION

Plotting Your Novel

T. Greenwood

Whether participants are planners or writers who fly by the seats of their pants, a novel still needs structure. In this four week online workshop, participants will study the architecture of a novel and devise plans for plotting their novels. Required texts: *Hooked* by Les Edgerton and *Plot and Structure* by James Scott Bell.

4 Weeks	N/A	12/1-12/22
Online	All Levels	\$195

4 Weeks	N/A	4/6-4/27
Online	All Levels	\$195

Writing the Horror Story

Alex Smith

Generate fear and tension in your work, while daring your reader to plunge forth into the darkness you create! Participants will read and discuss three selected stories in the first session, considering the elements of horror, attending to suspense, character, violence, and fear. In the following meetings, writers will workshop their newly written or in-progress scary stories, returning to and building on the understanding of the genre. With some luck and determination, participants will leave this workshop well on their way to a completed horror story.

5 Wednesdays	6-8 p.m.	1/10-2/7
Bethesda	Intermediate/Advanced	\$195

Intro to the Novel

T. Greenwood

This workshop will clarify the process of writing a novel. It will focus on everything from generating ideas to developing characters to establishing point of view. Participants will discuss many elements of fiction (dialogue, scene, etc.) but the emphasis will be on discovering the writing process that works best for each writer.

8 Weeks	N/A	1/12-3/2
Online	All Levels	\$360

Introduction to Writing Romance

Shari Garmise

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1/4 Page Horizontal Ad

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3.325" high

Who doesn't love a little romance? On day one of this introductory two day workshop, participants will learn the basics of the romance story (novel and novella) including plot, character, and the protagonists' emotional and physical journeys. On day two, writers will go through an exercise to develop their hero and heroine to maximize conflict, then end with publishing options.

2 Saturdays	10 a.m.–12 p.m.	1/13–1/20
Bethesda	Beginner	\$80

Writing the Spy Novel

Gina Hagler

Clancy, Ludlum, Le Carre, Follett -- These authors write books with tension that barely eases from beginning to

end. Their characters often play to type, but that doesn't keep them from being memorable. How do these authors do it? In this six-week class participants will take an up-close look at published spy novels, then create some characters and tricky situations of their own.

6 Thursdays	7:30–9:30 p.m.	1/18–2/22
Bethesda	Advanced	\$215

Fiction I

Con Lehane

This workshop is designed to help find the stories you were meant to write, and to begin to develop the craft you'll need to tell them. Where do stories come from? To begin with, they come from memories, associations, and concerns within you. We'll do some exercises to help you uncover these germs of an idea for a story, and turn them into fiction. The basic format of the class will be a workshop. Participants will be asked to write a lot, through a notebook, stories, and exercises. At the end of the course, participants will have written at least one draft of a story, most likely more than one, or made progress on a novel, and become familiar with the basic elements of story writing.

6 Wednesdays	7–9:30 p.m.	1/17–2/21
Bethesda	Beginner	\$270

The Extreme Novelist

Kathryn Johnson

Can't find the time/energy/inspiration to get your novel written? This popular course, developed by the author of the book by the same name, will help you complete a

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Jacqueline Jules

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WORKSHOPS

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Vertical Ad**

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6 Wednesdays Bethesda	7-9:30 p.m. Beginner	1/17-2/21 \$270
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The Extreme Novelist

Kathryn Johnson

Can't find the time/energy/inspiration to get your novel written? This popular course, developed by the author of the book by the same name, will help you complete a rough draft in just eight weeks. Writers will receive the encouraging guidance of professional writing coach Kathryn Johnson (author of over 40 published novels). Each participant will commit to an aggressive writing schedule and learn the tricks pros use to create a productive working environment and meet their deadlines, despite life's distractions. Classes will include troubleshooting discussions, a brief lecture and handouts from the instructor, in-class writing time, and the opportunity to submit portions of the work-in-progress to Ms. Johnson for individual feedback and guidance. Note: No meeting on February 28.

8 Wednesdays Bethesda	7-9:30 p.m. All Levels	1/17-3/14 \$360
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Fiction II

Jennifer Buxton

This intermediate workshop is a place for you to share your work and see how it's landing. The workshop leader will emphasize clear, useful feedback, nuts-and-bolts advice, and sharpening conflict and clarity for revision. Participants will read some outside stories but the primary focus of discussion will be on everyone's work.

8 Wednesdays Bethesda	7-9:30 p.m. Intermediate	1/17-3/7 \$360
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Your First (Or Next) Novel

Kathryn Johnson

Writing a novel takes commitment, but it doesn't need to be daunting. Learn how to generate a handful of plots from which to choose, methods for effectively planning your story, and simple hacks for fine tuning your basic fiction skills. Participants will initiate a flexible writing plan that will keep their writing flowing. This is a great half-day session for the beginning long-form fiction writer, or for the more experienced author in need of a quick strategy brush-up.

1 Saturday Bethesda	10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. All Levels	1/20 \$50
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Writing Literary Science Fiction

Michael Sheehan

Works of fiction are often identified as either literary or genre, but this class will consider them both/and. Writers will identify what makes fiction "genre" or "literary," and look at contemporary short stories that combine aspects of science fiction with a literary aim. Participants will focus on an example and an aspect of craft each week. By the end

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