Geneva Writers' Conference 2023

Thank you for registering for the 13th Geneva Writers' Conference – a weekend of inspiration, discussion, and networking. We are very happy to have you join us.

Here is some information to get you oriented. We are doing our best to go paperless this year, so check the <u>conference page</u> on our website where you can find the full list of workshops, instructor bios, panel descriptions, the conference schedule and pages to sign up for Meet the Agent pitch sessions. If you can't find the answer here, or there, feel free to email your question to <u>genevawriters@gmail.com</u>. During the conference, you can always ask one of the Steering Committee members or other volunteers who will be marked by name tags.

Looking forward to seeing you soon.

Caroline, Christine, Quade, Rosalind, Sarah, Steve, Sue, and Ximena

The Geneva Writers' Conference Steering Committee

EVENT: READING AND APERO

Friday November 3, 2023 Drinks: 18h30 | Reading: 19h00 – 21h00

Come meet and mingle with your fellow conference participants and get to know our award-winning instructors in the best way possible – by listening to their work. The evening is **free** and open to all conference participants and guests.

The Library in English <u>Rue de Monthoux 3</u>, Genève

DIRECTIONS: Ten minute walk south from Cornavin station in the direction of the lake. Please note: street parking can be difficult to find; the nearest paid parking is at the Fairmont Grand Hotel car park or the Parking des Alpes at Rue Sigismond-Thalberg 12.

EVENT: CONFERENCE

Saturday and Sunday November 4 – 5, 2023 8h45 – 18h00 +

Webster University <u>Route de Collex 15</u>, Bellevue

DIRECTIONS: Take a train to Genthod-Bellevue Station from Cornavin Station (4 stops) or Secheron Station (3 stops). You can also take bus #20 from Cornavin Station. Download the Geneva transit system <u>TPG app</u> or visit <u>tpg.ch</u> for timetable information. You can visit also <u>sbb.ch</u> (trains only). From Genthod-Bellevue Station it is less than 5 minutes walk to the Webster campus. Go to the main door and follow the signs. Due to extensive roadworks in the area, Webster University strongly advises against driving.

When you arrive on Saturday morning please check in at the Reception table and pick up your name badge. Please note: youth registrants will be asked to show their ID on Saturday morning to confirm their age.

Workshops



Registration gives you access to all workshops. There are four sessions per day, and each session has four workshops to choose from. There is no need to register in advance for specific workshops; you can select as you go.

Each workshop is offered twice (with the exception of the two workshops co-lead by Katie Hayoz and Olivia Wildenstein) to give everyone the best chance to attend the ones they want. You can always find the schedule on the <u>conference page</u> of the website.

PLEASE NOTE: Jonathan Myerson's workshop, "Story Making: An Insight into Creating a Drama" is based on his notes while writing the BBC podcast series *That Was Then*. If you are planning to attend, it would be useful to listen to some of the episodes beforehand. You can access them <u>here</u>. The script is also available <u>here</u> if you would like to read it.

Lunches



Complimentary tea, coffee, and light refreshments will be offered throughout the conference. There are **no restaurants at Webster** and not much in the surrounding area so please bring a packed lunch.

Panel discussions



The panel discussions are designed to bring everyone together at the end of each day for a thought-provoking discussion on two topics that touch on most genres of writing. They will be held in the Common room.

Apéros



On Saturday everyone is warmly welcomed to stick around after the panel ends (18:15) to enjoy a few drinks and nibbles and get to know one another. On Sunday, we will combine the apéro and the panel discussion (17:15 - 18:15) in order to wrap up the conference in time for people to catch trains and planes.

Conference bookshop



All participants are welcome to sell their own books in the conference bookshop. Authors are responsible for bringing their books on Saturday morning and taking away any unsold books at the close of the conference. The bookshop will be open during lunches and breaks. GWG volunteers will manage the bookshop and sell the books on behalf of the

authors. Please write the price (in CHFs only) in pencil inside the front cover of each book. Within two business weeks of the end of the conference the GWG will provide an accounting of books sold and pay the authors by bank transfer, less 5% to cover our transaction costs. There will be a book signing table at the Saturday evening apero.

Meet the Agents

This year, <u>April Eberhardt</u> and <u>Kate Walsh</u> are offering free one-on-one pitch sessions to conference participants. You will have 10 minutes to pitch a project. If there is mutual interest, the agents will arrange a follow-up Zoom session to critique an excerpt of your project. The sessions are available first come, first served. Registration will be on the GWG website. To give everyone an equal chance, **registration will open at 9:00 am CET on Tuesday October 24th.**

April Eberhardt, a literary change agent and author advocate, is passionate about helping authors be published in the most effective and satisfying way. She serves as a consultant to new publishing startups, on the Advisory Council for The American Library in Paris, and is a reader for the Best American Short Stories series published annually by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

Sign up for one of April's pitch sessions:

Saturday, November 4:	Sunday, November 5:
Session 1: <u>11:00 - 11:10</u>	Session 4: 09:15 - 09:25
Session 2: <u>15:15 - 15:25</u>	Session 5: <u>11:00 - 11:10</u>
Session 3: <u>17:00 - 17:10</u>	Session 6: <u>15:15 - 15:25</u>

Kate Walsh joined United Agents in 2015 and is actively building her own predominantly non-fiction list. She's on the lookout mainly (although not exclusively) for commercial non-fiction, with a particular interest in music titles, history, and broad-spectrum popular science, and anything that feels like a fresh and original way of looking at the world. She is especially drawn to 20th and 21st century affairs and welcomes anything from anyone willing to speculate on what comes next.

Sign up for one of Kate's pitch sessions:

Saturday, November 4:	Sunday, November 5:
Session 1: <u>11:00 - 11:15</u>	Session 4: 09:15 - 09:30
Session 2: <u>15:15 - 15:30</u>	Session 5: <u>11:00 - 11:15</u>
Session 3: <u>17:00 - 17:15</u>	Session 6: <u>15:15 - 15:30</u>

Feedback



We want to hear your feedback. Each workshop will have a feedback form and we would be grateful if you would fill them out for all your workshops. You are also welcome to reach out anytime to us at <u>genevawriters@gmail.com</u>.