

Writers' Retreat in Manzanita, OR

June 2-4, 2017



Join us in beautiful Manzanita! And reward yourself with an inspiring and constructive retreat. The Writers' Retreat is an opportunity to meet and learn from authors Jennie Shortridge and Megan Kruse, gain a deeper understanding about the craft and business of writing, and best of all, have fun in one of the most magical places on the Oregon Coast—Manzanita.

TIME	FRIDAY, JUNE 2
7:30 pm	<p>Meet & Greet at Vera's house</p> <p>Start off the weekend with a casual evening at one of our organizers' home—just a block from the beach. Sip beverages and snack on hors d'oeuvres while you get to know instructors Jennie Shortridge and Megan Kruse, as well as your fellow students.</p>
TIME	SATURDAY, JUNE 3
9 am OPTIONAL	<p>Movement for the Writing Life</p> <p>Kathie Hightower</p> <p>Kathie takes you through a series of stretches and movements focused on the typical trouble spots writers often experience.</p>
10 am	<p>Workshop: Conflict's Little Sister, Tension</p> <p>Jennie Shortridge</p> <p>You've heard it before: every story must have conflict. Along with the big story problems, though, there's always room for more tension to keep your reader turning the pages. In this session, we'll explore and discuss the many ways to incite friction and discord, create micro-conflicts, and ratchet up the tension in even a quiet story. Come ready to brainstorm, and leave with new ideas to begin using immediately.</p>
11 am	<p>Workshop: The Stuff of Place</p> <p>Megan Kruse</p> <p>What makes a place distinctive on the page? What makes it feel real? In this hour, we'll talk about the transformative power of setting and how the actual objects around us—the "stuff" of our lives—carry meaning and define place.</p>
Noon	Visitor's Center Sponsored Lunch at Bread & Ocean
1 pm	Free Time: Hike or nap or whatever
3 pm	<p>Prompt-O-Rama</p> <p>Megan & Jennie</p> <p>An hour of 5 minute prompts to get us energized and inspired.</p>

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TIME	SATURDAY, JUNE 3 cont'd
4 pm	<p>Panel: The Business Side of Publishing</p> <p>Jennie, Megan, Rhonda Hughes, Kathie Hightower</p> <p>In this session, you'll get an overview of the publishing business—learn about pitching to the big houses, small presses, self-publishing, as well as options for local publication.</p>
5 pm	<p>Tips on Reading to an Audience</p> <p>Kathie Hightower</p> <p>Now that you've polished your piece or published your book, learn some helpful tips and techniques for reading your work in front of an audience.</p>
5:30 pm	<p>Dinner on your own or with friends</p>
7 pm	<p>Open Mic (Open to the Public)</p> <p>Jennie and Megan, reading from their published work, followed by participants reading their best pieces.</p> <p>Cloud & Leaf Book Store will be on hand, selling Jennie's and Megan's books</p>
TIME	SUNDAY, JUNE 4
9 am	<p>Finding Metaphor: Inspirational beach walk with Jennie & Megan</p> <p>Metaphor helps you communicate emotions and concepts in a visceral way—and you can find them everywhere. Join Jennie and Megan for a walk on the beach to find possibilities in nature.</p>
10 am	<p>Panel: Committing to the Writing Life</p> <p>Megan, Jennie, Vera from the Hoffman Center for the Arts (to cover local supports)</p> <p>Now that you've invested time into your craft, learn about some tools to help you keep going.</p>
11 am	<p>Wrap-Up:</p> <p>Sharing the best things we learned...</p>

Included in the Writers' Retreat will be a tote bag for you to carry your materials plus a variety of offers and coupons from participating businesses in Manzanita.

Visit exploremanzanita.com to find out more about Manzanita and lodging.