



TRANSFORMATIVE LANGUAGE ARTS NETWORK



Online Class Catalogue

Fall 2017 - Summer 2018

Transformative Language Arts Classes

The TLA Network offers online classes to help you deepen your understanding of Transformative Language Arts, explore the craft of various genres and arts related to TLA, and develop your livelihood, community work, and service related to TLA.

Designed and taught by leading teachers, transformative language artists and activists, and master facilitators, these classes offer you ample opportunities to grow your art of words, your business and service, and your conversation with your life work.

The online nature of the classes allows you to participate from anywhere in the world (provided you have internet access) at any time of the day while, at the same time, the intimate and welcoming atmosphere of the classes helps students find community, inspiration, and greater purpose. All classes include hands-on activities (writing, storytelling, theater, spoken word, visual arts, music and/or other prompts), plus great resources, readings, and guidance.

Enrollment Cost

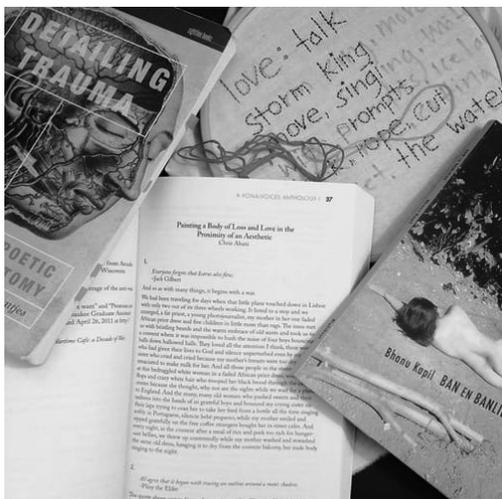
Classes are priced by the number of weeks they run. Members pay \$35/week, non-members pay \$40/week. Most classes run for 6 weeks, so members would pay \$210 and non-members would pay \$240.

How to Enroll

Simply visit www.tlanetwork.org/classes and click on the link of the class you wish to register for. We accept CC, PayPal, and checks. Payment plans are negotiable — email director@tlanetwork.org

Teach a Class

The TLA Network seeks experienced transformative language artists to teach online classes for us. We currently offer 12+ classes each year, and will be expanding offerings over the future. The TLA Network is an Equal Opportunity Employer and welcomes proposals and applications from individuals of color, LGBTQ people, people living with serious illness or disability, and others marginalized at times in our culture. www.tlanetwork.org/teach



Wound Dwelling: Writing the Survivor Body(ies)

Sept 6 - Oct 17, 2017

6 weeks

In this workshop we will engage with work written by a wide range of writers, generate our own body of work through interrogating the roots of trauma and how it manifests in the body, and explore how

body-based writing can help support us as we write into the wound. The trauma doesn't have to just live in our body; it can be moved from living within our skin and be rewritten onto paper. We will focus on surviving and survivorhood; what it looks and feels like to live beyond traumatic experiences. The dominant narratives about the survivor body— oft pathologized as disembodied, disassociated and unwell— will be turned on their heads. We can never actually leave our bodies, as hard as we might try (and as wise as we are in our reasons for trying) and are therefore always already embodied.

Jennifer Patterson is a grief worker who uses words, threads, and plants to explore survivorhood, body(ies) and healing. She is the editor of *Queering Sexual Violence: Radical Voices From Within the Anti-Violence Movement* (2016), facilitates trauma-focused writing and embroidery workshops, and has had writing published in places like *OCHO: A Journal of Queer Arts*, *The Establishment*, *Handjob*, and *The Feminist Wire*. Recently, she finished a graduate program with a thesis focused on translating embodied traumatic experience through somatic practices and critical and creative nonfiction. You can find out more at ofthebody.net



Your Memoir as Monologue: How to Create Dynamic Dramatic Monologues About Healing & Transformation

Sept 6 - Oct 17, 2017

6 weeks

There's beauty and meaning to mine from your life story, and this workshop will help you artistically express what you've overcome and achieved, and creatively share your experience to benefit others through the medium of theatre. You'll learn how to write successful dramatic monologues based on your life that are personally meaningful, emotionally satisfying, and relevant and engaging for an audience. In class, through thematic writing prompts and creative exploration, you'll develop your ordinary and extraordinary life experiences into powerful, dramatic monologues that can be performed – by you or an actor – with universal appeal. In class meetings will present elements of dramatic structure and explore the artistic qualities necessary for an effective dramatic



monologue. We'll explore the role of conflict, plot, communicating subtext, voice,

Kelly DuMar is a poet, playwright, and expressive arts workshop facilitator who loves leading new and experienced writers through dynamic writing exercises

and meaningful sharing. Kelly's award winning plays have been produced around the US and Canada. Kelly has been a leader of new play development in the Boston area for over a decade, and she founded and produces the "Our Voices Festival of Women Playwrights" at Wellesley College, now in its 10th year. She's a certified psychodramatist and a playback theatre artist. Her website is KellyDuMar.com



Changing the World with Words: TLA Foundations

Oct 18 - Dec 5, 2017

6 weeks (holiday week off)

This thorough introduction to Transformative Language Arts (TLA) encompasses the personal and the global, the contemporary and the historic, and how TLA can be practiced through writing, storytelling, performance, song, and collaborative, expressive and integrated arts. Each week includes short readings, a lively discussion, and invigorating writing prompts to help you articulate more of your own TLA callings.

Joanna Tebbs Young is a *Writer and Transformative Writing Facilitator and Coach*. She holds a *Masters degree in Transformative Language Arts from Goddard College* and is a *certified instructor through the Center for Journal Therapy*. *Joanna writes weekly columns for two local newspapers and offers workshops at her writing center in Rutland, VT. Her blog and coaching information can be found at wisdomwithinink.com.*

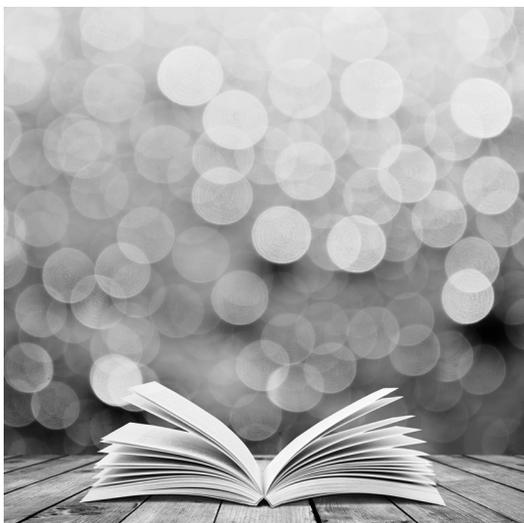


Writing Our Lives: The Poetic Self & Transformation

Oct 18 - Dec 5, 2017

6 weeks

(holiday week off)



Poetry offers a unique opportunity to deepen and broaden our sense of self, of others, and our place in the world. It provides a unique way for us to explore the raw

material of our lives—the taboo, the unspoken, and the painful and beautiful truths of our existence. In this class, we will explore reading poetry as transformative engagement and writing poetry as transformative practice. This class will focus on three main areas: explore our own responses to reading of a variety of contemporary poets' writings on themes such as childhood, grief and death, adolescence, and love and intimacy; elements of the craft, including diction, metaphor, voice, style, imagery; and generating a new body of work.



Dr. Liz Burke-Cravens is a poet, educator, writing coach, passionate scholar and determined optimist. As an educator she is committed to critical and transformative approaches to teaching and learning. Her writings have appeared in *Ireland and the Americas: Culture, Politics, and History: A Multidisciplinary Encyclopedia*, Volume 2, *The Irish Herald*, *Soulstice: A Feminist Anthology* Volume II, and *Sandy River Review*. She lives in

Oakland, California with her wife, Amber, and their two dogs, Schmoopie and Mr. Bits.

Truth to Power: Poetry for Our Times with Poets Laureate

*Opens Jan 2018
Self-paced*



A self-paced poetry class that combines innovative writing prompts, inspiring essays and videos on the craft and passion of writing powerful poetry, and written discussions on the history and possibilities of poetry that speaks to social transformation. Each unit highlights a state poet laureate past or present, including a writing prompt and writing craft or writing life discussion from that poet, some of the poet laureate's poems with writing prompts, a discussion of a poet from the past or present who crafts poetry for social transformation, and exciting links to interviews, essays, and videos. By the end of the 12-unit class, students will have written 24-36 new poems, learned more about poetry as a craft and way of life, and interacted with the writing and poetics of at least 24 past and present American poets.



Caryn Mirriam-Goldberg, Ph.D., the 2009-13 Kansas Poet Laureate is the author of two dozen books, including the recent *Miriam's Well*, a novel; *Following the Curve*, poetry; and *Everyday Magic*, a collection of beloved blog posts and personal essays. Founder of *Transformative Language Arts* at

Goddard College where she teaches, *Mirriam-Goldberg* also leads writing workshops widely, particularly for people living with serious illness and their caregivers. With singer *Kelley Hunt*, she co-leads writing and singing retreats. www.CarynMirriamGoldberg.com



TRANSFORMATIVE LANGUAGE
ARTS NETWORK

RIGHT
LIVELIHOOD
PROFESSIONAL
TRAINING

Discover, clarify, and manifest Transformative Language Arts work -- writing, storytelling, performing, coaching, facilitation, and more -- to follow your passion, earn a living income, and serve your community. Working with experienced teachers and participants as committed as you are, and guided by Right Livelihood -- the Buddhist term for doing work that serves your calling and community -- you'll unearth and develop best practices for ethical paid work and community service, and craft a strategic business plan. You'll also create a sustainable marketing plan, explore funding and partnership opportunities, practice ongoing self-care, and find community support through fellow practitioners and mentors. Unlike cookie-cutter career programs, this visionary training guides you toward what constellation of vocation works best for you now, and when the path meanders, whether you're leaping into a new career or form of service or developing your new work while keeping your current job.

This 110-hour training **begins June 7-10, 2018 with a long weekend workshop** at Unity Village in Kansas City, MO., and **continues June - September with online study** and community support, video conferences with entrepreneurs and leaders in the field, and individual consultations with Laura and Caryn, all **culminating October 12, 2018 in a day-long seminar** in Vermont. Upon completion, you'll be granted a certificate, presented at the Power of Words conference at Goddard College in Plainfield, Vermont Oct. 12-14, 2018. The training also includes special discounts and a toolkit of resources for planning, marketing, further training, and next steps.

Topics Include:

- Your Callings for Right Livelihood
- Ethics and Values Inherent to Your Work
- Your Sustainable and Strategic Business Plan
- Resilience, Self-Care, and Community On the Journey
- Revising Your Work Story
- Connecting with Community, Businesses, & Institutions
- Talking About Your Work
- Ethical and Soulful Marketing and Authentic Branding
- Funding and Revenue Streams
- Integrative Finances
- Transitioning When You're Ready
- When the Path Changes
- Assessments and Next Steps



Caryn Mirriam-Goldberg, Ph.D., the 2009-13 Kansas Poet Laureate is the author of two dozen books. Founder of TLA at Goddard College where she teaches, Mirriam-Goldberg also leads writing workshops widely, particularly for people living with serious illness and their caregivers. She also is a writing and right livelihood coach, working with people to bring

what wants to be written and lived into being. Born hard-wired to make something, Caryn's long-time callings include writing as a spiritual and ecological path, yoga, cultivating a loving marriage, family, and community, and helping herself and others make and take leaps into the miraculous work of their lives. www.CarynMirriamGoldberg.com

Laura Packer has been performing, coaching, writing, consulting, and leading the storytelling field for almost 25 years. When she isn't performing, Laura is the sole proprietor of thinkstory, llc, one of the nation's foremost organizational consulting firms. Laura considers her whole life her calling, including the depth and breadth of her storytelling and writing work, building and growing healthy relationships, and trying to live as authentic and engaged a life as possible. You can learn more about her storytelling and coaching work at laurapacker.com, her organizational work at thinkstory.com, and read some of her writing at truestorieshonestlies.blogspot.com.





Fantastic Folktales & Visionary Angles to Transform Our Stories

Jan 10 - Feb 20, 2018
6 weeks

We will play with writing concepts from fantastic folktales, visions and odd

visionary angles, quotations, verse, and literature, developing our own collection of narrative and non-narrative writing that guides us toward a comfortable point of view about the realities of who we are. We'll share the weekly wordings of our collections, with no restrictions beyond the requirements of each week's prompts and no judgment, in printed format as well as spoken word if possible. Through this process, we will approach both a personal and communal awareness of the playful and cleansing power of language, in keeping with the Jewish proverb: "As soap is to the body, so laughter is to the soul."

Lynette (Lyn) Ford, a fourth-generation, nationally recognized Affrilachian storyteller and Ohio teaching artist, has shared programs and workshops on telling and writing stories with folks of all ages for more than twenty-five years. Lyn's work is published in several storytelling-in-education resources, as well as in her award-winning books: *Affrilachian Tales*; *Folktales from the African-American Appalachian Tradition*; *Beyond the Briar Patch: Affrilachian Folktales, Food and Folklore*; *Hot Wind, Boiling Rain: Scary Stories for Strong Hearts* (2017 *Storytelling World Award* winner, also a creative-writing resource), and *Boo-Tickle Tales: Not-So-Scary Stories for Ages 4-9*, written with storytelling friend, Sherry Norfolk and recently nominated for an Anne IZARD Award. Lyn is also a Certified Laughter Yoga Teacher, and a great-grandmother.



Claiming Desire: Erotic Writing as Resistance

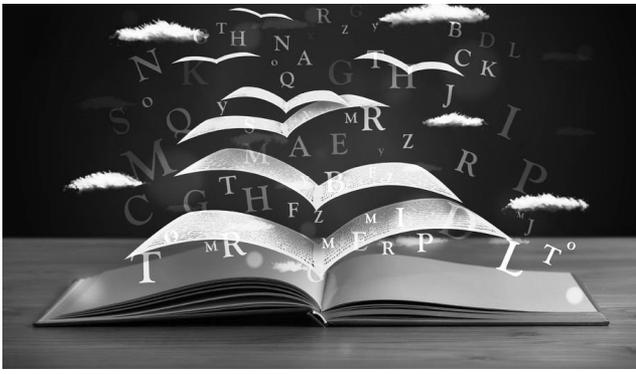
Jan 10 - Feb 20, 2018
6 weeks

How can erotic writing enact resistance? Many of us (at least I know I did) have some assumptions when we hear the phrase “erotic writing,” many of which may not include the possibility of social change or individual transformation – however, this workshop is going to challenge that (mis)apprehension! I have found that when we have a wider access to erotic language and sexual expression – that is, a more wholistic connection to our erotic power – we are less easy to control and manipulate. In this writing workshop, we’ll try our hand at some explicit writing, and engage more critically and imaginatively with the messages we all have received (both directly and indirectly) about such things as sexual identity, body image, sexual desire, sexual practice, and more. We will lay claim to our complicated and messy desires, and wonder why we would ever again require any less of ourselves than our erotic fullness.



Jen Cross has facilitated sexuality and sexual trauma survivors writing workshops for over a decade. In 2003, Jen founded *Writing Ourselves Whole*, an organization that offers transformative writing workshops for sexual trauma survivors and others. Jen is the author of *Writing Ourselves Whole: Using the Power of Your Own*

Creativity to Recover and Heal from Sexual Trauma (Mango Media, forthcoming Summer 2017) and the co-editor of *Sex Still Spoken Here: An Erotic Reading Circle Anthology* (CSC Press, 2014). Jen received her MA in Transformative Language Arts from Goddard College in 2003, and she is currently an MFA candidate in Creative Nonfiction at San Francisco State University. For more information, visit www.writingourselveswhole.org.



Writing for Social Change: Redream a Just World

Feb 21 - Apr 3, 2018
6 weeks

We'll explore the profound connection that the act and art of writing has to the work of increasing social justice and transforming self and community. This workshop offers concrete tools to support our coming to voice—an intrinsic part of the process of overthrowing personal, group, and societal censors and tyrants to recover what has been silenced, and empower each writer in their creative approaches. Through a series of writing explorations, and the inspiration of authors who have grappled with writing that makes an impact, this course offers ideas for and practice in ways of writing for social change that expand your writing craft and creativity. We go further, examining what is at the heart of writing that can break the social silences, recover peoples' histories, reveal connections among all things and beings, and re-dream a just world in your writing and community.

Anya Achtenberg is an award-winning writer whose publications include novel *Blue Earth*, novella *The Stories of Devil-Girl*, and poetry collections, *The Stone of Language*, and *I Know What the Small Girl Knew*, with many pieces of poetry and prose published internationally.



She just completed poetry chapbook, *Advice to Travelers*. Nonfiction includes articles on creative writing, including the relationships between trauma, placelessness, narration, and language. Anya teaches creative writing workshops around the U.S.; online around the world; and consults with writers individually.

Funding Transformation: Grant Writing for Storytellers, Writers, Artists, Educators, & Activists

Feb 21 - Apr 3, 2018

6 weeks

The process of seeking a grant can seem daunting, but it doesn't have to be. In this class, poet and grant-writer Diane Silver provides



an insider's understanding of the grant process, gives you the resources you need to identify the perfect grant to target, and supplies feedback on your application draft. The primary purpose of this six-week class is to enable you to produce a finished or nearly finished grant application.

Diane Silver, poet, journalist, and political activist, often pays her mortgage by working as a grant-writer and in fundraising. In her career, Diane has helped two universities raise hundreds of millions of dollars and written proposals that have won funding for a variety of clients. Her online course, "Grant Writing and Fundraising Communications", and her fundraising writing win high praise.



Diane's most recent creative work is a four-volume series of poetry called Your Daily Shot of Hope — Meditations for an Age of Despair, published in January 2017; Meditations for Awakening, coming July 2017; Meditations for Transformation, September 2017; and Meditations for Joy, November 2017.



Becoming Undone: Unpacking Life's Weight with Writing & Poetry

Apr 4 - May 1, 2018
4 weeks

This workshop has been designed for those who feel overwhelmed by life's challenges or those who feel too stuck to make a plan for something more. Each week, participants will be given a poem and prompts that will gently guide them in journaling and poetry writing exercises (and optional "supporting exercises" for those who want to go deeper into the work). By using creativity of writing, participants will begin to identify what weight needs to be unpacked and how, and begin to re-pack what is most important and meaningful to them.

Jacinta V. White is a published poet and a 2017 recipient of the Duke Energy Regional Artist grant. She has been facilitating group and individual poetry writing sessions -- using poetry as healing -- for more than 15 years, through her company, *The Word Project*. Just three years ago, Jacinta launched *Snapdragon: A Journal of Art & Healing* -- an international online journal publishing poetry, creative nonfiction, and photography. Knowing from personal experience the healing balm poetry provides, Jacinta is committed to assisting others and expanding the conversation on art and healing. Read more at jacintawhite.com.





TRANSFORMATIVE LANGUAGE ARTS NETWORK

Change the World with Words

www.tlanetwork.org

We bring together and lift up individuals and organizations that promote forms of the spoken, written, and sung word as a tool for personal and communal transformation.

- **Online classes** in writing, storytelling, songwriting, poetry, narrative medicine, right livelihood, and more (see this catalogue!)
- **Annual conference**, the Power of Words: Transformation, Liberation, & Celebration Through the Spoken, Written, & Sung Word — next one in Plainfield, Vermont, October 11-14th, 2018
- **Right Livelihood Professional Training** to help participants discover, clarify, and manifest TLA work to follow their passion, earn a living income, and serve their community (see centerfold)
- **Certification in TLA Foundations** to give an introduction to TLA in theory and practice with opportunities for reflecting and acting on ethical work, community networking, and TLA in Action
- **Chrysalis Journal**, an online, peer-reviewed journal dedicated to the publication of TLA research and reflection
- **Free tele-conferences**, Sparks! with Kelly DuMar interviewing notable TLA artists on their work, and an open mic!
- **Membership** discounts & public listing in the TLAN Directory
- **Blog** to help practitioners share, reflect, question, and grow

What is Transformative Language Arts?

Transformative Language artists envision a merger of the the language arts with individual and collective liberation: writing, storytelling, theatre, and music can work towards community-building, cultural and ecological restoration, and personal development. TLA artists, scholars, facilitators, and consultants facilitate creative and language arts in many venues, including community centers, schools, prisons, health centers and hospitals, businesses, research facilities, and retreat centers.



TRANSFORMATIVE
LANGUAGE ARTS
NETWORK

www.tlanetwork.org