**The Veteran’s Writing Workshop**

Overview:

The Veteran’s Writing Workshop, Nebraska Warrior Writers, is a community of writers from diverse backgrounds and levels of expertise who come together during a series of workshops to develop their work through free writing, peer workshopping, and revision, and to explore a variety of writing styles designed to expose participants to a number of styles, genres, approaches, and forms. Warrior Writers are veterans of the armed services and members of their families who seek community-building through writing and share an earnest desire to improve their writing through practice, accountability, and feedback. Each week’s session provides time for writing, guided instruction, and peer feedback. We provide a supportive environment for writers who seek the opportunity to develop and share stories, to be held accountable for producing work, and to explore both the process and the product of the written work with like-minded individuals. The six-session workshop provides a nurturing and constructively critical place for people to get to know and trust each other, to discover new approaches to writing, to share their work in a safe and supportive community, and to provide feedback as we seek collectively to improve our ability to share stories on paper.

Genre and instructional focus includes: Supportive Responses

Creativity Writing Fiction

Narrative Nonfiction and Memoirs Publishing

Author’s Notes and Revision Interests of Participants

Syllabus:

**March 3, 2018 Topic: Starting Point** Presenters: Sara Hollcroft, Tom Seib, Bev Hoistad

Participants will receive an overview of the workshops and writing supplies.

Topics will include:

1. Responding to what is holding us back and how to move forward
2. Writing to explore your creativity with less fear
3. Setting personal goals participants wish to achieve during the workshops
4. Using author’s notes effectively
5. Morning Pages/ Poetry

Resources: The Artist’s Way by Julia Cameron

*Homework for March 17, 2018*

1. Read “Recovering a Sense of Safety” pgs. 25-40 in The Artist’s Way and be prepared to discuss the Check-In questions on page 40.
2. Bring 3 copies of a piece of writing for your small group.
3. Write your personal goal in front of your notebook (this can be the same or different from the last session)

**March 17, 2018 Topic: “What Is Your Enemy Within to Keep You from Writing?”** Presenter: Steve Langdon

*Homework for April 7, 2018*

1. Read Chapter 2 “Recovering a Sense of Identity” pgs.41-59 in The Artist’s Way

and be prepared to discuss our creativity, how we view it and how others view it.

2. Bring 3 copies of a piece of writing for your small group.

**April 7, 2018 Topic: “How do we find our creativity; how do others view us as writers?”**  Presenter: Maggie Christensen

*Homework for April 21, 2018*

1. Read Jody Keisner’s Power Point handout: “Straddling Two Worlds.”
2. Bring 3 copies of a piece of writing for your small group.

**April 21, 2018 Topic: “Exploring the Narrative Persona”**

Presenter: Jody Keisner

*Homework for April 28, 2018*

1. Read “Recovering a Sense of Power” pgs. 61-75 in The Artist’s Way and be prepared to discuss how you deal with criticism.
2. Bring 3 copies of a piece of writing for your small group.

**April 28, 2018 Topic: “The Memoir”** Presenter: Todd Robinson

*Homework for May 5, 2018*

1. Bring what you consider your best or favorite or most improved piece of writing that you would like to share with the whole group. Please be mindful of the time so everyone can present. If you want your pieces published online, send/bring them to Sara.

**May 4, 2018 Spring Gathering for NWP at UNL**

Consider what piece of writing you would like to share with the group. Or, just come and support the readings of your fellow writers and the creative pieces of students (music, slam poetry). There will be plenty of refreshments prepared by UNL.

**May 5, 2018 Topic: Celebration of Writing/Publishing** Presenter: