



NORMANDALE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

14th annual

NORMANDALE
WRITING
FESTIVAL



NOVEMBER 8, 2023

PRESENTED BY
THE NORMANDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT



NORMANDALE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

ABOUT OUR FESTIVAL: This festival, our fourteenth annual, is organized by the English Department to expand the Department's mission to help students with all facets of their writing. Today, we celebrate the many ways students and the broader Normandale community use and enjoy writing.

We thank everyone—presenters, helpers, support staff, administrators—who helped make this annual festival possible.



FESTIVAL AT-A-GLANCE

<p>10:00 to 10:50</p>	<p>WRITE NOW! INTERACTIVE PROSE AND POETRY ROOM: Kopp-0432 PRESENTERS: HEIDI CZERWIEC, STEVE WOODWARD</p>	<p>WHY WRITING ABOUT DEATH CAN BRING LITERATURE ALIVE: TOLSTOY AND JOYCE COMPARED ROOM: Kopp-1450 PRESENTER: PATRICK O'DONNELL</p>
<p>11:00 to 11:50</p>	<p>MAPPING THE TERRITORY: A WRITE NOW! INTERACTIVE PROSE AND POETRY SESSION ROOM: Kopp-1450 PRESENTER: TOM MALTMAN</p>	<p>FACULTY AUTHORS READING I ROOM: Kopp-0432 PRESENTERS: HEIDI CZERWIEC, MATT MAUCH, LYNETTE REINI-GRANDELL</p>
<p>12:00 to 1</p>	<p>KEYNOTE SPEAKER: TY CHAPMAN Kopp Center Garden Room</p>	
<p>1:00 to 1:50</p>	<p>PATHS TO PUBLISHING ROOM: Kopp-0432 PRESENTERS: MATT MAUCH, LYNETTE REINI-GRANDELL, STEVE WOODWARD</p>	<p>FACULTY AUTHORS READING II Kopp Center Mezzanine PRESENTERS: KRIS BIGALK, JOYCE LEE, ANNA GEORGE MEEK</p>
<p>2:00 to 2:50</p>	<p>IDEOLOGIES OF OUTRAGE: HOW TO WRITE A MANIFESTO ROOM: Kopp-1450 PRESENTER: DAN DARLING</p>	<p>THE ART OF WRITING ABOUT FOOD (WITH FREE SNACKS!) Kopp Center Mezzanine PRESENTER: NORMAN DALE CREATIVE WRITING CLUB</p>



FESTIVAL SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

10:00-10:50 A.M.

Write Now!

Interactive Prose and Poetry

ROOM: Kopp-0432

PRESENTERS: HEIDI CZERWIEC, STEVE WOODWARD

In this panel, we will work in groups to read examples and use prompts to generate the starts of poems and literary prose. No experience needed! Just bring yourself and something to write with.

Why Writing About Death Can Bring Literature Alive: Tolstoy and Joyce Compared

ROOM: Kopp-1450

PRESENTER: PATRICK O'DONNELL

Both Leo Tolstoy, the great Russian spiritual master, and James Joyce, the great Irish prose modernist, recognize that Death offers an opportunity to ultimately question the depth of meaning in a person's life in their unsettling but brilliant novella-length stories, 'The Death of Ivan Ilyich' and 'The Dead.' This talk will compare both works to how Death brings literature alive.

11:00-11:50 A.M.

**Mapping the Territory:
Geography of Stories and Poems
(A Write Now!
Interactive Creative Writing Session)
ROOM: Kopp-1450**

PRESENTER: TOM MALTMAN

Jumpstart your creativity with a morning session featuring interactive stations to inspire new stories and poems! Deepen your knowledge of poetic craft, map out unexplored territory with your fiction, and experience firsthand how prose and poetry speak to each other across genre divides. Each station will awaken new ideas about writing, teach techniques to strengthen your stories and poems, and embolden your imaginative explorations. Come Write Now! Come Write With Us!

**Faculty Authors Reading I
ROOM: Kopp-0432**

PRESENTERS: HEIDI CZERWIEC, MATT MAUCH, LYNETTE REINI-GRANDELL

Award-winning authors Czerwiec, Mauch, and Reini-Grandell will read their poems and nonfiction about everything from fluid states, to flyover country, to a trans glam punk rock love story. Interactive Q & A to follow, time permitting.

NOON – 1PM

KEYNOTE: TY CHAPMAN
Kopp Center Garden Room (K0462)

FOOD & REFRESHMENTS: The keynote presentation will be in the Kopp Center Garden Room adjoining the cafeteria. Guests may bring food into the Garden Room during the presentation.



Ty Chapman is an author and poet based in Minnesota. He is the author of *Sarah Rising* (Beaming 2022); *Looking for Happy* (Beaming 2023); *Stokes*, written with John Coy (Lerner 2024); and *Tartarus* (Button Poetry 2024). Ty was a 2022 Center for Arts + Social Justice Fellow; an award used to support a speculative work in progress with social justice themes. He was also a Mirrors & Windows fellow, as well as a Mentor Series fellow. He was a finalist for Tin House's 2022 Fall Residency, Button Poetry's 2020 Chapbook Contest, and Frontier Magazine's New Voices Contest. He is currently an MFA candidate in creative writing for children and young adults at Vermont College of Fine Arts.

1:00-1:50 A.M.

Paths to Publishing

ROOM: Kopp-0432

PRESENTERS: LYNETTE REINI-GRANDELL, MATT MAUCH, STEVE WOODWARD

Lynette Reini-Grandell will talk about the ups and downs of her journey publishing two collections of poetry (Holy Cow! Press) and the memoir *Wild Things: A Trans-Glam-Punk-Rock Love Story* (Minnesota Historical Society Press). Matt Mauch will share his experiences with the very different ways his five books have been published and will discuss his views on publishing paths and opportunities in the current landscape. And Steve Woodward will share insights on agents, editors, and the publishing process gathered from twelve years as a senior editor at Graywolf Press.

Faculty Authors Reading II

ROOM: Kopp Center Mezzanine

PRESENTERS: KRIS BIGALK, JOYCE LEE, ANNA GEORGE MEEK

Award-winning and dynamic performers Bigalk, Lee, and Meek will present their poems about everything from strong feelings, to squirrels, to cabinets of curiosity, to the fight for justice. Interactive Q & A to follow, time permitting.

2:00-2:50 P.M.

Ideologies of Outrage: How to Write a Manifesto

ROOM: Kopp-1450

PRESENTER: DAN DARLING

Ever felt powerless, oppressed, enraged, or otherwise passionate about the state of our world? Learn to write a manifesto! This genre channels your passion into a proclamation of what's wrong with the world and how we can fix it.

The Art of Writing About Food

Kopp Center Mezzanine

PRESENTER: NORMANDALE CREATIVE WRITING CLUB

Indigenous rights activist Winona LaDuke once wrote that, “Food for us comes from our relatives, whether they have wings or fins or roots. That is how we consider food. Food has a culture. It has a history. It has a story. It has relationships.” In this session, sponsored by Normandale’s Creative Writing Club, participants will eat good snacks and explore through examples and journal prompts how food is a doorway into memory and narrative. Join us for the snacks, write food-inspired ideas for your stories and poems, and leave with your journal pages full.

ABOUT OUR NORMANDALE FACULTY ORGANIZERS & PRESENTERS

KRIS BIGALK is a writer and professor based in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Her second collection of poetry, *Enough*, was released in the fall of 2019 from NYQ Books, and was a finalist in the Housatonic Book Award competition; her first collection, *Repeat the Flesh in Numbers*, was released in 2012 from NYQ Books. Bigalk has published poetry in many literary magazines and anthologies, and also regularly publishes creative nonfiction and reviews. She has won two Minnesota State Arts Board Individual Artist grants in poetry. Kris founded and now directs the groundbreaking AFA in Creative Writing program at Normandale. During the 2022-23 school year, Kris assisted in the coordination of *Write Like Us*, which brings equity-based creative writing programming to five Twin Cities community colleges. Since 2017, she has served on the Board of the Association of Writers and Writing Programs, chairing several committees and currently serving as Secretary. In January of 2023, Kris assisted Trio House Press in its move to Minnesota, and was installed as the Executive Director of the press. She lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota with her family.

Essayist and poet **HEIDI CZERWIEC** is the author of the lyric essay collection *Fluid States*, the forthcoming *Crafting the Lyric Essay: Strike a Chord*, and the poetry collection *Conjoining*, and is the co-editor of *The Rose Metal Press Field Guide to Writing the Lyric Essay* and editor of *North Dakota Is Everywhere: An Anthology of Contemporary North Dakota Poets*. She writes and teaches in Minneapolis, where she is a Senior Editor for *Assay: A Journal of Nonfiction Studies*. Visit her at heidiczerwiec.com

DAN DARLING is the chair of English at Normandale and is the author of the novel *Archaeopteryx*. Before becoming a writer, Dan made a living as a circus performer, bartender, pencil factory worker, IRS agent, and magician.

SONIA GREENFIELD (she/they) is the author of two recent collections of poetry, *All Possible Histories* (Riot in Your Throat, December 2022) and *Helen of Troy is High AF* (Harbor Editions, January 2023). She is the author of *Letdown* (White Pine Press, 2020), *American Parable* (Autumn House, 2018) and *Boy with a Halo at the Farmer's Market* (Codhill Press, 2015). Her work has appeared in the 2018 and 2010 *Best American Poetry*, *Southern Review*, *Willow Springs* and elsewhere. She lives with her family in Minneapolis where she teaches at Normandale College, edits the *Rise Up Review*, and advocates for both neurodiversity and the decentering of the cis/het white hegemony.

Poet and performer, **JOYCE LEE** Joyce Lee has toured the United States and been featured at the Nuyorican Poetry Café, Yoshi's of San Francisco, 1st Annual Oakland Gay Pride Parade, and many other spoken word events. She is the winner of the 2009 and 2010 Oakland Grand Slams. With over a decade of teaching experience of many kinds, she currently teaches English at Normandale.

THOMAS MALTMAN's first novel, *The Night Birds*, won an Alex Award, a Spur Award, and the Friends of American Writers Literary Award. In 2009 the American Library Association chose *The Night Birds* as an "Outstanding Book for the College Bound." *Little Wolves*, his second novel, was a finalist for the Minnesota Book Award and won the All Iowa Reads selection in 2014. He teaches at Normandale Community College and lives in the Twin Cities area with his wife, a Lutheran pastor, and his three daughters. His third novel, *The Land*, was published by Soho Press in October, 2020.

MATT MAUCH is the author of five books of lyrical prose and poetry, including *A Northern Spring*, *We're the Flownover*, *We Come From Flyoverland*, *Bird~Brain*, *If You're Lucky Is a Theory of Mine*, as well as the chapbook *The Brilliance of the Sparrow*. He founded the Great Twin Cities Poetry Read and the journal *Poetry City*, and has organized and hosted many other poetry readings and events. Mauch's work has been recognized by the Minnesota State Arts Board and as a finalist for National Poetry Series and other national and international contests. His work has appeared in numerous journals, including *Conduit*, *The Journal*, *DIAGRAM*, *Willow Springs*, *The Los Angeles Review*, *Forklift*, *Ohio*, *Sonora Review*, *Water~Stone Review*, and on the *Poetry Daily* and *Verse Daily* websites. Mauch lives in Minneapolis and teaches in the AFA in Creative Writing program at Normandale Community College.

ANNA GEORGE MEEK (she/her) has published in *Poetry*, *The Kenyon Review*, *The Yale Review*, and dozens of other national literary journals. She is the recipient of a \$25,000 National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship, and two Minnesota State Arts Board grants. She has three nationally prize-winning books of poetry, *Acts of Contortion*, *Engraved*, and *The Genome Rhapsodies*, and her novel is currently being considered for representation by the literary agent of freakin' F. Scott Fitzgerald, which kinda blows her mind. Having taught creative writing for 30 years at homeless shelters, domestic violence shelters, juvenile detention centers, schools, and non-profits, Meek is currently faculty at Normandale and Hamline University. She also: sings professionally for the VocalEssence Ensemble Singers; has played violin for more than 200 weddings; can operate a backhoe; leads wilderness canoe trips; and lives in South Minneapolis with her family and an exuberantly affectionate pitbull named Camille.

Originally from Ireland (a long time ago), **DR. PATRICK O'DONNELL** has been teaching in a variety of capacities at NCC since 1999. He has taken students to Ireland twice and is enthusiastic about Global Travel. He is currently the Chair of the revived Richard Brown Colloquium Series having contributed many talks during its heyday from 2006-2018. He is very active outside NCC at Celtic Junction Arts Center as a teacher, writer, editor, and speaker.

LYNETTE REINI-GRANDELL is the author of the memoir *Wild Things: A Trans Glam Punk Rock Love Story*, (Minnesota Historical Society Press, 2023) from which she will read in the Faculty Authors Reading. It's the story of how her spouse came out as trans in 1988, went public through fronting the rock band All the Pretty Horses beginning in the 1990s, and how they navigated an often-hostile, anti-trans environment. Above all, it's a love story of two people navigating the changes in their lives to remain committed to each other. She is also the author of the poetry

collections *Wild Verge* (Holy Cow! Press, 2018); *Approaching the Gate* (Holy Cow! Press, 2014), winner of the 2015 Northeastern Minnesota book award for poetry. She teaches English and creative writing at Normandale Community College and the Loft and has received support for her work from the Finlandia Foundation and the Minnesota State Arts Board. A multidisciplinary collaborator, she performs at spoken word venues with the Bosso Poetry Company and the jazz collective, Sonoglyph, and her poetry is part of a permanent installation at the Carlton Arms Art Hotel in Manhattan. She lives in Minneapolis on the ancestral homeland of the Dakota people.

STEVE WOODWARD is an editor and teacher with fifteen years of experience in the publishing industry. He got his start at Milkweed Editions and later became a senior editor at Graywolf Press, where he acquired and edited *New York Times* best sellers, winners of the Booker Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award, and finalists for the Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award. In addition to his work at Normandale, he teaches creative writing and publishing at Macalester College and Hamline University.



Normandale's AFA in *Creative Writing*

Are you a dreamer, inventor, world-builder, wordscaper?
Do you like writing poem and stories? Plays? Memoir?
Do you like creative writing?

The Associates of Fine Arts in Creative Writing is waiting for you.

In the AFA in Creative Writing, you'll have the opportunity to:

- study with some of the most published and awarded faculty in Minnesota
- meet other creative writers
- complete all the regular general courses while also focusing on the craft of creative writing
- study in advanced workshops
- undertake an independent writing project or internship under the guidance of a faculty mentor

and as an NCC student you can

- get hands-on editing and designing experience at *The Paper Lantern*, Normandale's literary journal
- enter the Patsy Lea Core Living Memorial Award competition for prize money
- be part of the Creative Writing Club

Check out our webpage:

<http://normandaleafacw.wordpress.com>

and contact Kris Bigalk, Director of Creative Writing:
kris.bigalk@normandale.edu

What Can You Do with an AFA in Creative Writing?

**ANYTHING
YOU WANT.**

Our graduates go on to work as publicists, writers, professors, teachers, managers, lawyers, psychologists, and more.

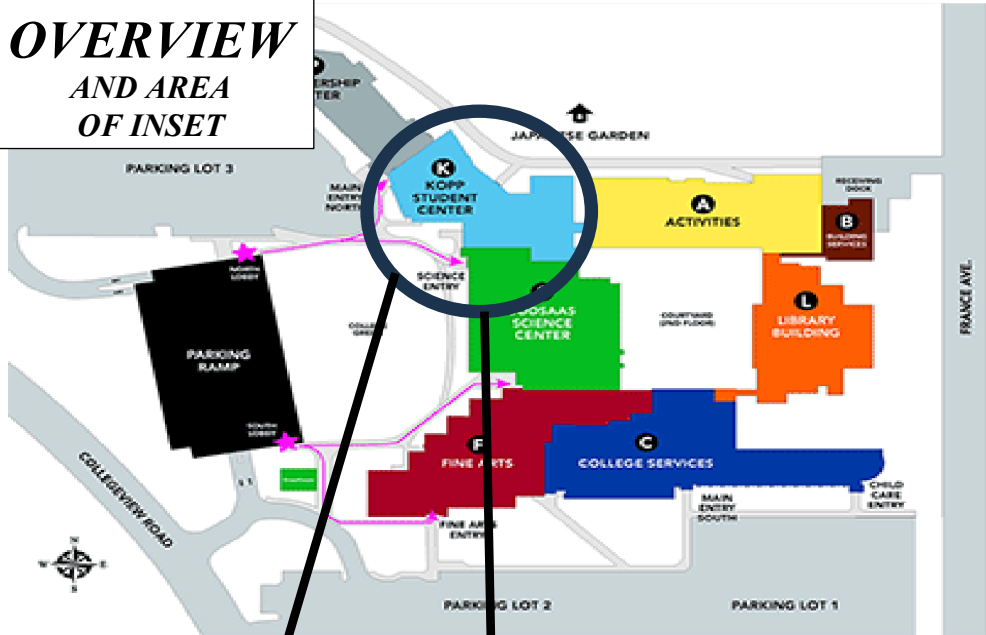
They've published books and magazine articles and worked on films in L.A.

And the Normandale AFA has transfer agreements with local and national colleges and universities, *plus* most of our graduates receive significant financial aid at their transfer schools.



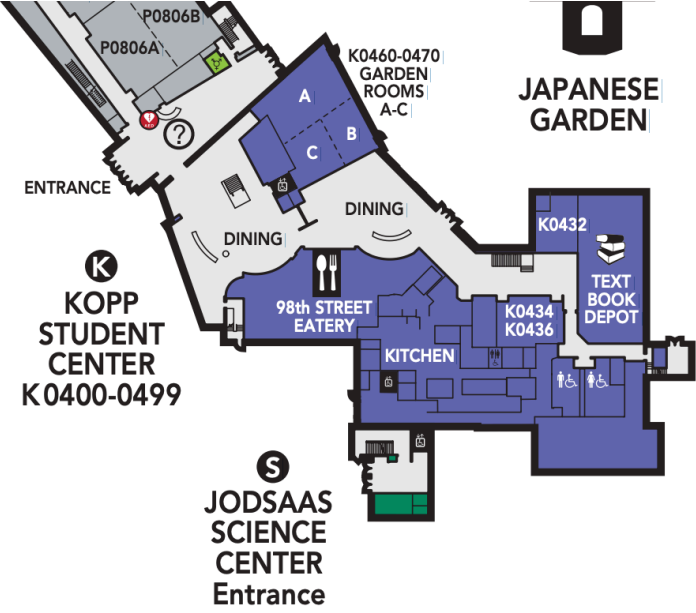
NOTES PAGE:

**CAMPUS
OVERVIEW
AND AREA
OF INSET**

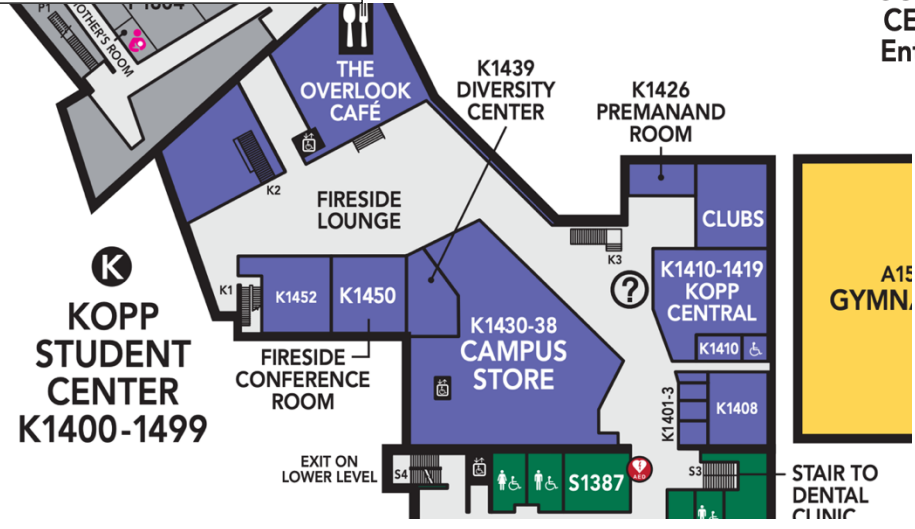


**NORMANDALE
WRITING
FESTIVAL
MAPS**

**GROUND
FLOOR**



**FIRST FLOOR
(upper level)**





Thank you for attending today's festival!

Would you like to ensure future Writing Festivals?

The Writing Festival, offered to students, faculty, staff and the greater community without charge, requires a certain amount of money to put on. If you are interested in helping with the cost of future festivals:

- 1) Drop a gift into our secure **donation box** at the keynote address.
- 2) You can make tax-deductible donations directly to the Normandale Foundation:
 - a) **By mailing a check to:**
 - Normandale Foundation, 9700 France Avenue South, Bloomington, MN, 55431
(be sure to put “Writing Center/Writing Festival” in the memo line) or
 - b) **Through our website:** <https://www.normandale.edu/why-normandale/foundation/give/index.html>
 - click on the “Give Now” button.
 - On the first screen of the donation form, type “Writing Center/Writing Festival” in the box for “other.”

Our thanks

The English Department gratefully acknowledges the assistance of the following for their help in putting on this year's festival: The Normandale AFA in Creative Writing Program, Creative Writing Club, Normandale Foundation, Normandale Reading Series, President's Diversity Council, The Normandale Marketing Staff, our wonderful donors, and everyone else who helped make this year's festival a success.

