



Mystery Writers of America

New York Chapter

Summer already???

Dear Fellow MWA-NY Chapter Members,

The year is speeding by, and I know I can't be the only one who feels lost and slightly insane. As chapter president, it's my job to remind you periodically to slow down and take a breath. Take a day off. Go to the beach. Go to the park. Recharge your batteries. A rested writer is a happy writer. And if taking time for yourself makes you feel guilty, carry a notebook and make notes on what you see—you never know when you'll use it in a story!

We have a lot of excellent opportunities for you for promotion and participation (some of which are mentioned in this newsletter), and we're always out there looking for more, so if you hear of some, let us know. Don't forget to [sign up for the Yahoo group by email](#) if you haven't already, so our awesome Administrative Director **Margery Flax** can add you. That's where you will hear about all the cool stuff the chapter is doing between *Noose* mailings and where you can sign up if something interests you.

Our next couple of meetings (June & September) will be on the reverse schedule, which means that they start at 5:30 p.m. for meet-and-greet and cocktails, and the program itself starts at 6 p.m. Dinner will be afterwards, and if you want to have it at Salmagundi, you'll need to make a reservation. The cost of the meeting is a mere \$10 (and includes the standard drink ticket, as do all our meetings). We are hoping that the earlier time and lower cost will encourage some of our members who often cannot make meetings.

I hope to see you on June 1!

Laura K. Curtis
President, MWA-NY



Moderator **Tricia Vanderhoof**, **Jeff Markowitz**, **John Altman**, and **Sheila York** share anecdotes on how to craft an engaging mystery novel. (Photo: Somerset County Library System of New Jersey)

'Making a Murder' Panel Knocks Audience Dead

On Tuesday, April 5, the Hillsborough Library Branch at Somerset County Library System (Central Jersey) hosted "Making a Murder: Behind the Scenes with Mystery Writers." **Sheila York**, **Jeff Altman**, and **Jeff Markowitz** shared behind-the-scenes experience and anecdotes of how they create an engaging mystery novel. **Tricia Vanderhoof** moderated.

The afternoon event launched the 10-branch library system's Lunch & Learn series at its three largest locations. The next event is scheduled at their main branch in Bridgewater on Thursday, June 23, at 11:00 a.m.

Throughout the moderated discussion, panelists engaged the audience, which included 35 registered attendees, plus walk-ins and library staff. A Q&A session

followed, as did a raffle of prizes that included autographed books from the panelists and an MWA mug.

Special thanks go to Carolann DeMatos, Shelwa Shamy, Marcela Dunham, Shannon Hurley, Karen Pifher, Ziyang Wang, and Terri Coss.



Upcoming Author Opportunities

- **KGB Bar Reading (MANHATTAN).** Join us on Thursday, June 30, from 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. at KGB Bar in the Village, at 85 East 4th Street. If you're interested in reading at this (or a future) event, [contact Scott Adlerberg by email](#).
- **Culinary Mysteries (WESTCHESTER COUNTY).** The Eastchester Public Library is hosting an adult reading game that focuses on culinary mysteries. They're looking for mystery writers in this sub-genre to take part in a program/book signing this summer.
- **Super Summer Reading (CENTRAL JERSEY).** Gannett in Central Jersey sponsors an annual Super Summer Reading Program, which culminates at Patriots Field in Somerset, N.J., in mid- to late August.

If you're interested in either the Westchester County or the Central Jersey

opportunity, [send Laura Curtis an email](#) *by June 10*.

Now Accepting Applications for the Leon B. Burstein/MWA-NY Scholarship

The Leon B. Burstein/MWA-NY Scholarship for Mystery Writing offers financial support to aspiring mystery writers. Awarded in the range of \$500 - \$1,000, the scholarships may be applied toward classes, conferences, or research for a mystery work in progress. It was named for avid mystery fan Leon B. Burstein, to create new works in his favorite genre.

Associate and affiliate members of MWA are eligible to apply; active MWA members are ineligible. Non-members may apply if they do not meet the [criteria for active MWA membership](#). Applicants must live in Connecticut, Delaware, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, or West Virginia.

Applications will be accepted until August 3, 2016. Two scholarships will be awarded in 2016, announced on November 2. For more information, see the [full details on the MWA-NY website](#).

Reach Out to the Outreach Committee

The Outreach Committee supports organizations and activities that promote reading and writing across the region. One such organization is Books at Home, which puts books in the hands of inner-city youth in Trenton, N.J. In 2015, the chapter held a book drive to support Books at Home, distributing books to seven community-based organizations in Trenton, as well as directly to children and their families.

MWA-NY members volunteer their time and talent in a variety of ways. If you're involved with organizations and activities that promote reading and writing in your community, [contact the Outreach Committee](#).

Upcoming Events

MWA-NY Meeting: Graphic Content – A Look at Comics and Crime Fiction

June 1, Wed., 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Featured guests: Alex Segura (moderator), **Jason Starr**, and **Alison Gaylin**

Crime fiction has always had a home in comic books, and in recent years graphic novels have allowed writers to tell more complex crime stories. Learn about today's crime fiction comics and how to break & enter this growing field.

Salmagundi Club
47 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10003

Cost: \$10! (Includes one drink)

[Click here to RSVP.](#)

* * *

Author Panel: Plot Twists and Red Herrings

June 4, Sat., 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

How does a mystery author keep you hanging from page to page? Authors and MWA-NY members **Michael Stephen Daigle**, **Jeffrey Somers**, and **Michael Ransom** discuss how they keep readers guessing until the very end.

Parsippany Main Library
449 Halsey Road
Parsippany, NJ 07054

Cost: Free

[Click here to RSVP.](#)

* * *

Sherlock Holmes: 125 Years of Perfection in Detection

June 14, Tues., 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Featured guests: Susan Rice (moderator), **Lyndsay Faye**, **Otto Penzler**, and **SJ Rozan**. More TBA.

Celebrating the lasting power of the iconic detective, this panel also marks the anniversary of the publication of the first Sherlock Holmes story, "A Scandal in Bohemia," in *The Strand Magazine*.

Mid-Manhattan Library
455 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10016

Cost: Free

[Click here to RSVP.](#)

* * *

Library Panel: Behind the Scenes with Mystery Writers

June 23, Thurs., 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Featured guests: John Altman, **Jeff Markowitz**, **Kira Peikoff**, **Michael Ransom**, **Wallace Stroby**, and **Sheila York**

How do you commit a murder . . . mystery? Crime fiction authors share their experiences and tell you how to research and create an engaging mystery novel.

Bridgewater Library
1 Vogt Drive, Meeting Room A
Bridgewater, NJ 08807

Cost: Free

[Click here to RSVP.](#)

For a full list of upcoming events, [click here](#).

Ellery Queen Turns 75

Columbia University's Butler Library will present an exhibition and symposium celebrating the diamond anniversary of *Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine*.

The exhibition starts September 26 and continues until December 23 in the Rare Book and Manuscript Library of the Butler Library, 6th Floor East.

The 75th Anniversary Symposium will take place on September 30, in Room 203 of the Butler Library.

The exhibition and program are free and open to the public, with seating available on a first-come basis.

Copyright © 2017 Mystery Writers of America, New York Chapter, All rights reserved.

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

MailChimp

Good Noose

Books

- **Carol Bugge**, *The Star of India*, Kugil Publishing Ltd., May 2016

Short Fiction

- **Richard Ciciarelli**, "The Curse," *Woman's World*, March 24, 2016

Have good news? Email [Mistina Bates](#).