



# **Long Island Authors Group**

# **Book Talks and Presentations**

Long Island Authors Group

**Your neighbors...**

**Your local authors...**

**Your resource for speakers!**



Ever since our first book fair event in 2008, the Long Island Authors Group (LIAG) has been promoting reading and writing throughout Nassau and Suffolk Counties. Many LIAG members are award-winning authors, and some have had books on *The New York Times* bestseller list.

Members of the Long Island Authors Group are more than just authors—we also look to share our knowledge to enrich our communities. As a not-for-profit organization, the LIAG sponsors an annual high school writing contest, conducts monthly presentations at various venues, and represents our organization at assorted community fairs.

This catalog contains book talks, writing workshops, and children’s programs presented by our members and offered to libraries, bookstores, historical societies, and other community organizations. To learn more, visit us at

[www.instagram.com/longislandauthorsgroup/](https://www.instagram.com/longislandauthorsgroup/)  
[www.facebook.com/groups/liauthorsgroupcommunity](https://www.facebook.com/groups/liauthorsgroupcommunity)  
[www.LongIslandAuthorsGroup.org](http://www.LongIslandAuthorsGroup.org)

### How to use this Catalog:

If you are interested in engaging Long Island Authors, select a presentation and contact the author directly via the provided emails to make arrangements. Confirm the date, time, honorariums, book signings, book sales, and other terms with the author. Each author interaction will be handled with the utmost professionalism. The presentations are organized by genre, and there is a separate section for Creative Writing Workshops as well as a collection of programs designed specifically for children.

Ask us about a LIAG series of presentations for your institution or organization. Contact Dan Mariani, President of the Long Island Authors Group, at either [dansart7@gmail.com](mailto:dansart7@gmail.com) or (516) 581-0524. Thank you in advance for your consideration!

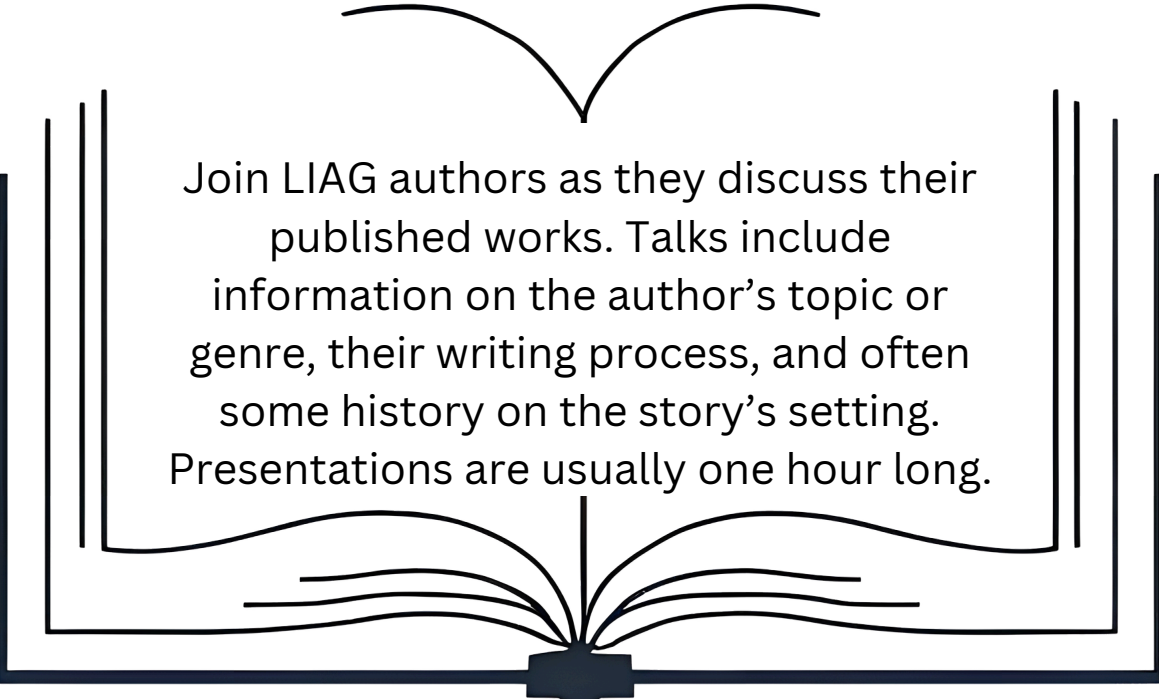
Artwork/graphics created by Crissy Maier

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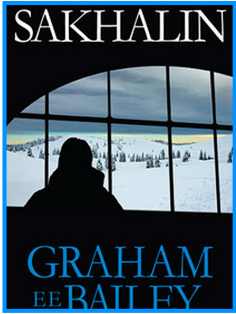
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# *Author Book Talks*

A decorative graphic of an open book with multiple pages, rendered in dark blue outlines. It frames the text below.

Join LIAG authors as they discuss their published works. Talks include information on the author's topic or genre, their writing process, and often some history on the story's setting. Presentations are usually one hour long.



## *Sakhalin: Reality to Fiction*

Author Graham E. E. Bailey discusses the genesis, process, and influences for her novel, *Sakhalin*. Nominated for Long Island Reads, this fast-paced and suspenseful tale of adventure is inspired by the author's travels to Sakhalin Island on the eastern coast of Russia. During this talk, Bailey presents her fascinating journey as a traveler and writer.

**Contact Graham E. E. Bailey at [grahameebailey@gmail.com](mailto:grahameebailey@gmail.com)**



Graham E.E. Bailey



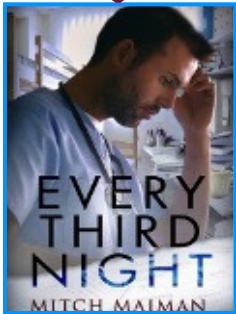
## *Travels with Jim: Illusion, Perception, and Reality*

In Jill Evans' novel, Jim and Sorrie travel across America hopping freight trains. Jim searches for the rock star father he's never met while Sorrie longs to taste the freedom she's been denied. Together, they prevail against the road's grittiness but can't escape the destiny that awaits them.

**Contact Jill at [jille3832@hotmail.com](mailto:jille3832@hotmail.com)**



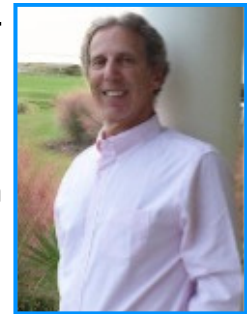
Jill Evans



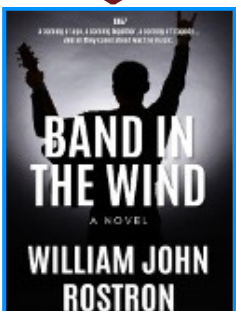
## *The Dirty Little Secrets of Medical Training*

*Every Third Night* is set in a busy and dehumanizing hospital. Dr. Maiman exposes the world of medicine with limited supervision and brutal hours through young physicians' stressful conflicts and volatile relationships. He highlights the intricacies and limitations of medical training and the delicate balance between a fictional story and one's semi-autobiographical experiences.

**Contact Dr. Mitch Maiman at [mitch.maiman@gmail.com](mailto:mitch.maiman@gmail.com)**



Dr. Mitch Maiman



## *Using Reality to Create Fiction*

The novel *Band in the Wind* immerses the reader in the lost, yet somehow lingering days of 1960s American culture. This story of love and loyalty, memories and mayhem, racism, revenge, and rock 'n' roll has found an audience on five continents and all 50 states. Author William John Rostron reveals the unique process involved in creating this almost true story.

**Contact William John Rostron at [rostron1@aol.com](mailto:rostron1@aol.com)**



William John Rostron



## *What is Dark Academia?*



David Mammina

Would you believe you've been reading and watching dark fantasy without even realizing it? Why do we enjoy the dark, cozy environments of reading nooks? Spend an hour with author David Mammina as he brings you into his world, one where true freedom and hope await you in the darkest corners of your inner shadows. David will guide you through the intoxicating genre that has changed his life - and may change yours, as well.

**Contact David Mammina at [d.mammina@yahoo.com](mailto:d.mammina@yahoo.com)**



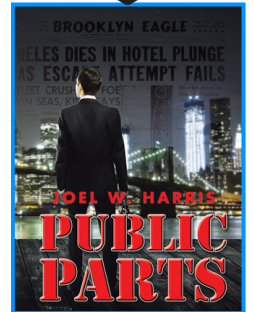
## *An Old Murder Mystery is Solved in Public Parts*



Joel Harris

When hit man Abe "Kid Twist" Reles went out a window, the case against Lepke Buchalter, Bugsy Siegel, and Albert Anastasia went with him. An accident, failed escape, or mob hit? A mystery never solved. Thirty years later, someone is talking. Larry Levine takes over mob-dominated PUBLIC AUTO PARTS when his father leaves for Florida to avoid questions about his old friend, Reles. What happens next is the story.

**Contact Joel Harris at [jharrisite@aol.com](mailto:jharrisite@aol.com)**



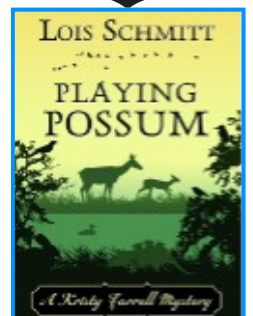
## *Everyone Loves a Mystery*



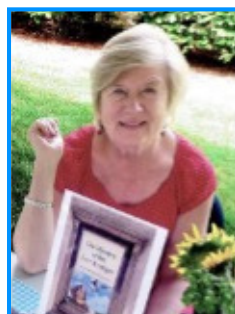
Lois Schmitt

Why are mysteries so popular? It's the only book genre in which the reader is an ACTIVE participant. In a mystery, the reader tries to solve the crime (usually murder) before the detective. Author Lois Schmitt examines how a writer keeps the reader engaged in this game of cat and mouse. You will look at opening hooks, cliffhanger chapter endings, foreshadowing, red herrings, and hiding clues in plain sight.

**Contact Lois Schmitt at [loisschmitt@hotmail.com](mailto:loisschmitt@hotmail.com)**



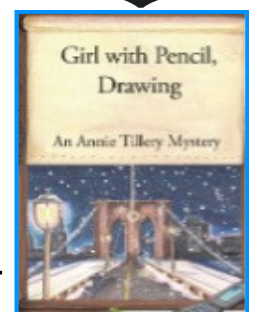
## *Art, Not Art: Which are the Fakes?*



Linda Marie Frank

Author Linda Marie Frank delves into the lucrative world of art crime with fascinating stories of lost, stolen, or forged art. She'll explain how art is authenticated by scientific methods and the expertise of the art historian; the significance of a provenance; and the difference between fake, forgery, and restoration. Linda discusses successful and unsuccessful forgeries and thefts and the Nazi artwork atrocities during WWII.

**Contact Linda Frank at [lmf217@hotmail.com](mailto:lmf217@hotmail.com)**

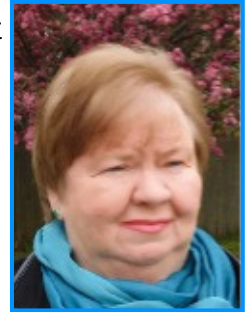




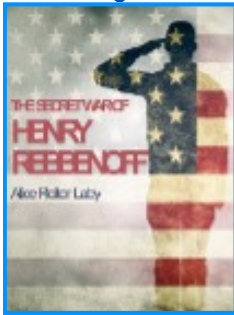
## *Justice for Stella*

Join author Mary Korpi for an entertaining and historical look at Stella Prince, the only woman to serve as a lighthouse keeper at Horton Point Lighthouse in Southold, New York. Mrs. Korpi discusses researching and writing her book, *The Lady Lighthouse Keeper*, followed by her struggle to secure Stella's rightful place in history, with amusing anecdotes along the way. She will share historical photos during the presentation.

**Contact Mary Korpi at [maryko50@gmail.com](mailto:maryko50@gmail.com)**



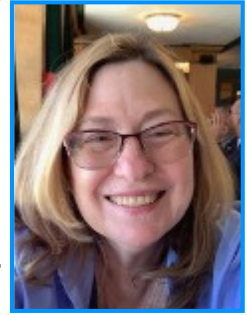
Mary Korpi



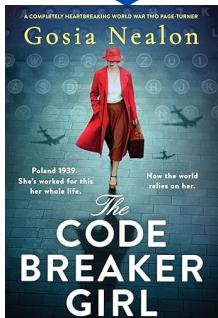
## *The Secret War of Henry Rebbenoff*

Author Alice Laby reveals what drove her to write this novel, who compelled her to investigate her family's Eastern European history, and how she found answers to the puzzle of her grandparents' lives in Kovel, Poland (now Ukraine). Henry Rebbenoff, a Cantor from a Reform Synagogue in Charleston, South Carolina, journeys from loving husband and father to his unusual war experiences, including a stint in British intelligence.

**Contact Alice Laby at [alicelaby@gmail.com](mailto:alicelaby@gmail.com)**



Alice Laby



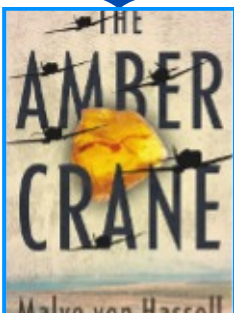
## *Blending a Fictional Love Story with Real Historic Events*

Author Gosia Nealon's World War II novel, *The Codebreaker Girl*, shares the extraordinary story of Polish mathematicians who first cracked the Enigma code of the German cipher machine. In 1939, the Poles told their secret to the French and British, shortening the war by two years. Gosia discusses blending fictional elements with history, and how love and emotional connections give strength during times of hardship.

**Contact Gosia Nealon at [gnea1826@gmail.com](mailto:gnea1826@gmail.com)**



Gosia Nealon



## *History Matters: The Lure of Amber*

Malve von Hassell explores the inspirations for *The Amber Crane*, a young adult time-slip novel set in two wars 300 years apart and steeped in the lore and legends of amber from the Baltic Sea shores. This includes the Thirty Years War, the role of amber in the local economy, and the chaotic evacuation at the end of World War II. Malve addresses the importance of history in a region where much of the local history has been erased.

**Contact Malve von Hassell at [malvevonhassell01@gmail.com](mailto:malvevonhassell01@gmail.com)**



Malve von Hassell



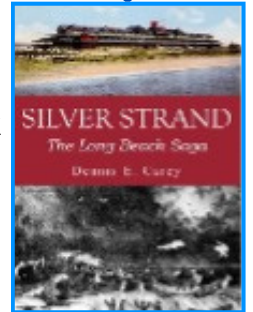
## *The Long Beach Saga*



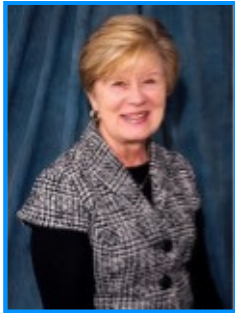
Dennis E. Carey, MD

Physician, author, and historian Dennis E. Carey, MD, brings to light the fascinating history of Long Beach, New York. In *Silver Strands*, Dr. Carey weaves the tale of a fictional survivor of the 1837 shipwreck of the *Mexico* and the lost staff of Saint Patrick through nearly 200 years: the Gilded Age at the 1880 Long Beach Hotel, the birth of the city by the sea, Roaring Twenties bootlegging, right up to the catastrophe of Superstorm Sandy.

**Contact Dr. Dennis Carey at [dcarey47@optonline.net](mailto:dcarey47@optonline.net)**



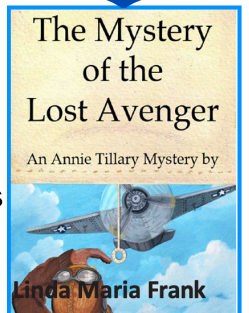
## *Not Exactly James Bond, But...*



Linda Marie Frank

The stories of women's contributions to America's war efforts are some of the most interesting in the world of espionage. Women have acted as spies since Biblical times. Their ability to blend into the natural commerce of human affairs allows them the anonymity required by espionage. Author Linda Marie Frank's lecture deals with women's involvement in spydom from the American Revolution to the present day.

**Contact Linda Frank at [lmf217@hotmail.com](mailto:lmf217@hotmail.com)**



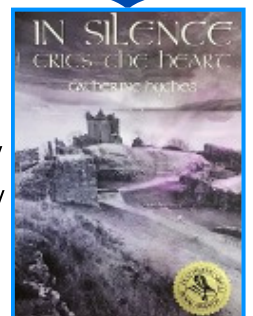
## *Swept Away by Historical Romance*



Catherine Hughes

Weaving together past and present, author Catherine Hughes examines the enduring and transformative power of love in her novel set in 17<sup>th</sup> Century Scotland. Inspired by a true but tragic story, she traces the intense passion shared by Donal and Mary that seemingly conquers time itself. Hear how travel, specifically a visit to Urquhart Castle, inspired the book's creation.

**Contact Catherine Hughes at [catherinehughesauthor@gmail.com](mailto:catherinehughesauthor@gmail.com)**



## *PERIOD RUSH: Tales of the Fighting 21<sup>st</sup>*



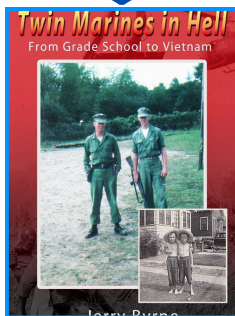
M.X. Kane

What happens when modern American Civil War reenactors are kidnapped and forced to live through the Battle of Gettysburg?

A mix of historical & science fiction, this trilogy follows *The Fighting 21* beginning with their anniversary reenactment of Gettysburg (Part 1: Basic Training), getting hijacked to the eve of battle (Part 2: Conscription), and finally living through the Battle of Gettysburg itself (Part 3: Seeing the Elephant).

**Contact M.X. Kane at [mxkane@optonline.net](mailto:mxkane@optonline.net)**





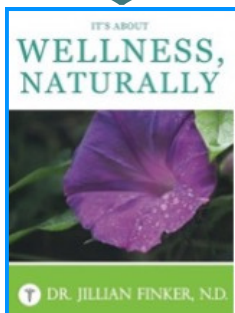
### *Twin Marines in Hell*

Author and Veteran Jerry Byrne entered Marine boot camp at 17 years old with his twin brother. His powerful story is about the bond and experience of identical twins from the age of innocence to the harsh realities of war. It is a unique perspective revealing the insanity of being a Marine Corps grunt fighting in the jungles of Vietnam. The hardship of war and how veterans are treated after returning home is a memory that will always be with them.

**Contact Jerry Byrne at [jbyrnerealtor@byrneandbyrne.net](mailto:jbyrnerealtor@byrneandbyrne.net)**



Jerry Byrne



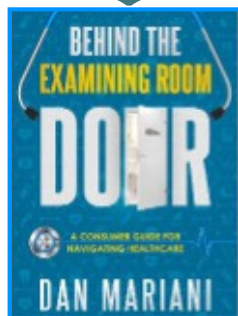
### *The Naturopathic Journey*

Dr. Finker's book, *It's About Wellness, Naturally*, discusses her naturopathic medicine journey, which was profoundly influenced by her health as a youth. Insights into natural therapeutics will show how natural medicine may be the right choice for certain individuals. See what patients can expect from a naturopathic doctor. You'll leave inspired to take action to transform your life.

**Contact Dr. Jillian Finker at [drfinker@drfinker.com](mailto:drfinker@drfinker.com)**



Dr. Jillian Finker



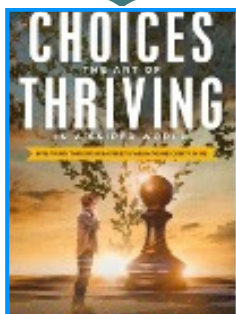
### *The Healthcare Puzzle: Navigating the Healthcare Landscape*

You've probably wondered what happens behind closed doors in doctors' offices, how the healthcare community perceives you, and how drug selection actually works. Retired pharmaceutical account manager and author Dan Mariani offers insights into how the healthcare system operates. He will describe behind-the-scenes machinations with detailed insights into how you, as a consumer, can make better choices to bolster your health.

**Contact Dan Mariani at [dansart7@gmail.com](mailto:dansart7@gmail.com)**



Dan Mariani



### *Choices - The Art of Thriving in a Sniper World*

To uplift our lives, we must be more mindful of how our attitude and our moves matter, like those on the chessboard. Reset your thinking to realize expectations and optimize mental and physical health. Author Dan Mariani provides tools to overcome barriers based upon unwarranted fears and self-constructed impediments. Dan's solution of rebalancing and deprogramming our minds has led to more joy and synergies in relationships.

**Contact Dan Mariani at [dansart7@gmail.com](mailto:dansart7@gmail.com)**



Dan Mariani



## *A Multi-Componential View of Wellness: A Children's Wellness Series*



Dr. Angela Parrino

Dr. Angela Parrino founded GP's Honey Tomes indie books to address children's health literacy. Her series and activity book themes use animal narratives to reflect the contemporary view that physical well-being is influenced by emotional, mental, interpersonal, environmental, and spiritual states that manifest in physical form. She contrasts old and new wellness views and describes six principal areas of wellness.

**Contact Dr. Parrino at [gphoneytomes@yahoo.com](mailto:gphoneytomes@yahoo.com)**



Glenn Poveromo

## *The Power of Positive Thoughts and Emotions*

Glenn Poveromo, author of *Simple Thoughts About Life & Living*, explains how you can use your mind and emotions to create more peaceful moments when life offers us many challenging situations throughout our journey. You'll discuss some of his 500 insights for inner strength and happiness.

**Contact Glenn Poveromo at [creatingstrength@aol.com](mailto:creatingstrength@aol.com)**



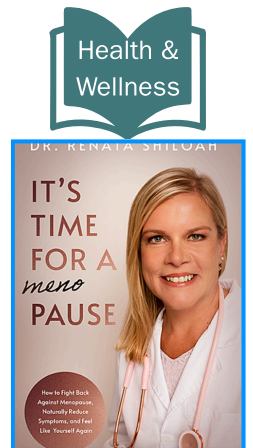
Dr. Renata Shiloah

## *It's Time for a Pause*

Reclaim your vitality and thrive during menopause. Unlock the secrets to stop menopausal symptoms and embrace the life you deserve. Midlife women face numerous life obstacles, yet positive change is achievable. *It's Time for a Pause* offers solutions for menopausal symptoms, saving time and money.

Obtain understanding, cause, and relief methods from therapeutic foods, yoga, and meditation.

**Contact Dr. Renata Shiloah at [drrenata@nutritionist4u.com](mailto:drrenata@nutritionist4u.com)**



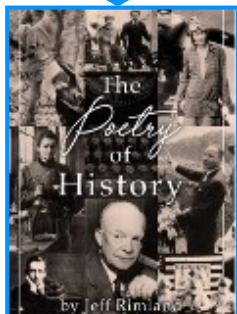
Christine Maier

## *Bucket List to Book: Exploring the World and Yourself*

When Christine started writing, she thought she was writing fiction. Through the process, she discovered she was telling her story through her characters' eyes. Whether reading or writing, books take us on journeys. This vulnerable presentation explores places you've never been, emotionally and physically. Learn about closing old wounds and sharing your story through writing.

**Contact Christine Maier at [ChristineMaierAuthor@gmail.com](mailto:ChristineMaierAuthor@gmail.com)**

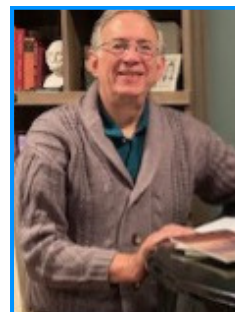




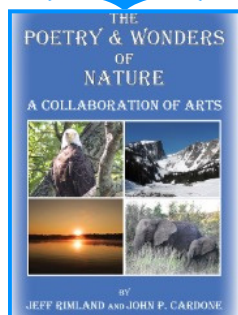
## *Poetry's Meaning and the Poetry of History*

Author Jeff Rimland explains the meaning and types of poetry and discusses works by well-known and emerging poets. Like his book, *The Poetry of History*, his presentation is unique. It contains historical photographs and descriptions alongside his free-verse poetry of select historic figures and events. The photographs and descriptions are authentic, and the poetry is the author's interpretation of the events.

**Contact Jeff Rimland at [jeffrimland@msn.com](mailto:jeffrimland@msn.com)**



Jeff Rimland



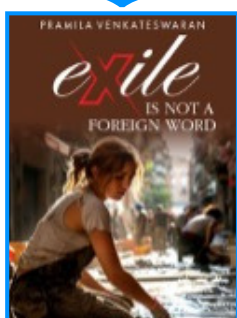
## *The Poetry and Wonders of Nature*

This book talk and presentation, *The Poetry and Wonders of Nature*, features Jeff Rimland's free verse poetry and the late John P Cardone's prose & photography in a true collaboration of the arts. Written to inform and touch your emotions, you'll find poems and descriptions of nature subjects with color photographs, from prismatic rainbows and magical forests to inquisitive turtles and majestic mountains.

**Contact Jeff Rimland at [jeffrimland@msn.com](mailto:jeffrimland@msn.com)**



Jeff Rimland



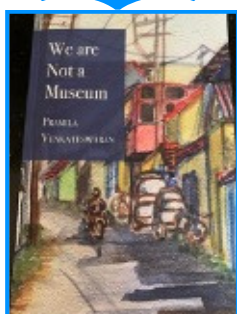
## *Exile is Not a Foreign Word: A Peace Manifesto*

What kinds of borders have you seen in your part of the world? Does a changing border affect people living in and around it? Using personal and historical examples, encapsulated in poems in Pramila's book, *Exile is not a Foreign Word*, she will talk about divisions we create and how they affect us psychologically.

**Contact Pramila Venkateswaran at [pramilavenkateswaran@gmail.com](mailto:pramilavenkateswaran@gmail.com)**



Pramila Venkateswaran



## *Singing in Exile: The Vibrant Culture of Kerala Jews*

Pramila Venkateswaran describes the migration of Jews to India.

The poems in her book illustrate the history of the Jews in Kerala as a vibrant part of Indian culture. Her talk highlights Jewish customs and holidays centered around the synagogue and offers a historical example of peaceful coexistence in a diverse country.

**Contact Pramila Venkateswaran at [pramilavenkateswaran@gmail.com](mailto:pramilavenkateswaran@gmail.com)**



Pramila Venkateswaran





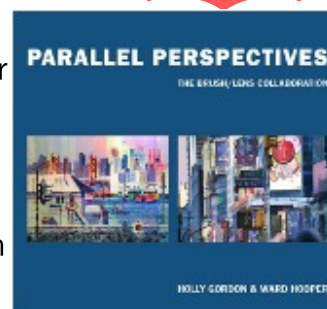
## *Long Island Landscape Inspires Real-Life Fairy Tale*



Holly Gordon

Collaboration started in 2014 between Holly Gordon and Northport watercolorist Ward Hooper, resulting in a tender friendship and an amazing collaboration. Their debut exhibition in 2016 planted the seeds for this book, *Parallel Perspectives*, which is filled with art inspired by the Long Island landscape and narrative that becomes an intimate conversation with the reader.

**Contact Holly Gordon at [hollygordon@icloud.com](mailto:hollygordon@icloud.com)**



## *Understanding Pickleball Fundamentals*



Dan Mariani

Get an overview of the game of Pickleball: the rules, players, basic strategies, and benefits of playing. Author Dan Mariani discusses why the game became so popular, getting “pickled,” avoiding injuries, and how it compares to games like tennis, golf, and other paddle sports. The talk is based on an amusing and informative book by Dan, *Is There Pickleball in Heaven?* Have a fun romp about the Pickleball phenomenon.

**Contact Dan Mariani at [dansart7@gmail.com](mailto:dansart7@gmail.com)**



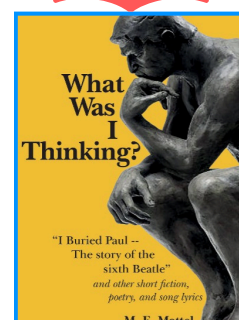
## *What Was I Thinking?*



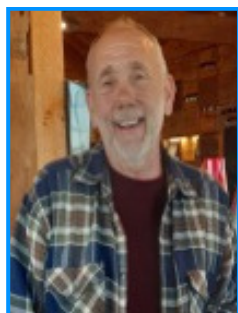
M.E. Mattel

In this popular cultural discussion, M.E. Mattel examines the various theories on who had a profound enough influence on the Beatles to have some historians consider them the fifth or sixth Beatle. There were many candidates for this prestigious position, including Brian Epstein and George Martin. Mr. Mattel examines the various personalities that influenced the Beatles, including a character from his book *What Was I Thinking?*

**Contact M.E. Mattel at [mikemattel@yahoo.com](mailto:mikemattel@yahoo.com)**



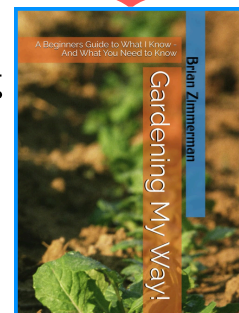
## *Gardening My Way! A Beginner's Guide to What I Know & What You Should Know*



Brian Zimmerman

Fifty-five percent of households participate in some form of gardening. That number needs to increase! Brian Zimmerman, author of *Gardening My Way*, discusses how to create a thriving garden with a little knowledge and guidance. Learn the importance of a garden and the physical and mental benefits it provides. You can start a garden in a bucket, on a bench, or in the ground. Tap into Brian's 40 years of experience!

**Contact Brian Zimmerman at [brianz1@msn.com](mailto:brianz1@msn.com)**





## *The Power of Story:*

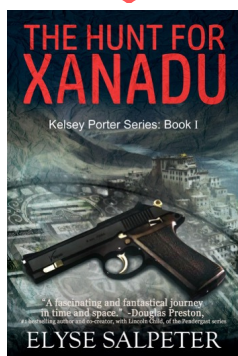
### *Why Storytelling is Intrinsic to Our Human Nature*

Join award-winning and best-selling author Valerie Nifora as she delves into the captivating power of storytelling. Have you ever wondered why we're drawn to entertainment, whether through film, television, or books? Discover how our minds are naturally wired for story and why storytelling is essential to our human development.

**Contact Valerie Nifora at [valerie@valerienifora.com](mailto:valerie@valerienifora.com)**



Valerie Nifora



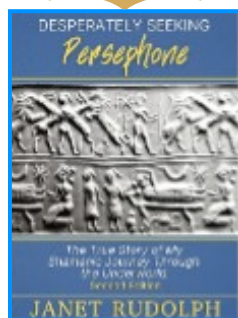
## *Selling Your Books by Selling Yourself*

This session is informative for both readers and authors. Author Elyse Salpeter discusses how a reader may find an author because of a particular style, type of prose, and genre. Authors can use this information to promote themselves. Elyse will talk about how to set up tables at events so they are approachable and engaging. With an interactive discussion, the audience will see how easy it is to promote your book.

**Contact Elyse Salpeter at [elysesalpeterww@gmail.com](mailto:elysesalpeterww@gmail.com)**



Elyse Salpeter



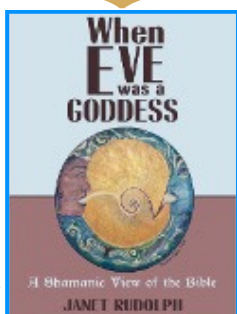
## *Desperately Seeking Persephone*

What is the shamanic pathway, and how can we use it in our everyday lives? Janet Rudolph, who has earned two shamanic initiations, will share personal stories of her own esoteric quests. She will share the core of such a journey and how to use it for healing, enrichment, and fun. *Desperately Seeking Persephone* is a real-life adventure story that reveals many of the tools of the shaman era.

**Contact Janet Rudolph at [jandelion@aol.com](mailto:jandelion@aol.com)**



Janet Rudolph



## *When Eve Was a Goddess*

*When Eve Was a Goddess* and *When Moses was a Shaman* uncover hidden gems of ancient knowledge from the Hebrew Bible. Author Janet Rudolph uses ancient languages and forensic analysis to uncover the Bible's original earth-based teachings. Eve was a Great Goddess in ancient Semitic culture. In Hebrew, Eve means "life," so the "Tree of Life" was named after Her. It was Her tree and Hers to bestow. Learn how such knowledge can change ingrained perceptions about the world.

**Contact Janet Rudolph at [jandelion@aol.com](mailto:jandelion@aol.com)**



Janet Rudolph

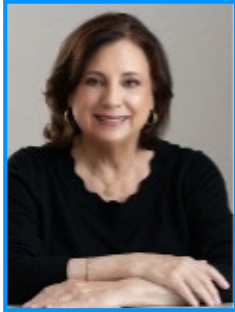


## *Pioneering Through the Unfathomable*

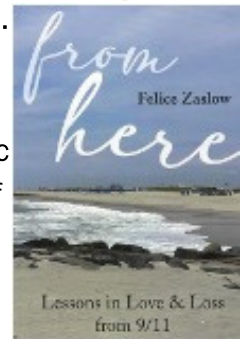
Felice and Ira's love story spanned almost four decades, from the beaches of Far Rockaway to the south shore of Long Island.

Then came September 11, 2001. Through the months that followed, Felice suffered unfathomable trauma, on a path she had to forge herself. Felice shares how she moved from a tragic loss to a thriving life, with inspirational stories for each step of the way. Her memoir is relevant in today's world and includes examples of how to move from grief to healing.

**Contact Felice Zaslow at [felicie@optonline.net](mailto:felicie@optonline.net)**



Felice Zaslow



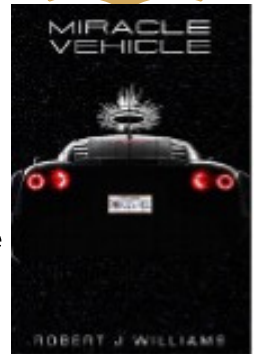
## *How the Book Miracle Vehicle Came to Be*

Sometimes a tragedy can inspire an author's words. Also, the missteps of a broken heart can lead you down a path of destruction. But fortunately, author Robert Williams decided to evolve from his errors and write this book full of his small moments. At times, they were dark but quite inspirational. Williams shares moments of frustration, conquering substance abuse, and how one survives a near-death experience.

**Contact Robert Williams at [cta716@gmail.com](mailto:cta716@gmail.com)**



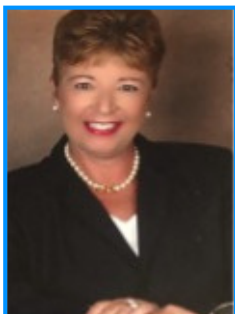
Robert Williams



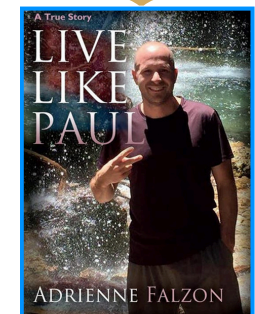
## *Live Like Paul*

Grief after the passing of a loved one is difficult, but the grief after losing a child is incomprehensible. *Live Like Paul* is not only the sharing of the amazing life of author Adrienne Falzon's dear son Paul, but it's what the author learned in the process of trying to heal her broken heart.

**Contact Adrienne Falzon at [alfsangel@aol.com](mailto:alfsangel@aol.com)**



Adrienne Falzon



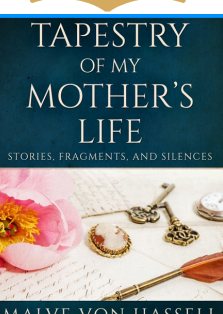
## *Tapestry Of My Mother's Life: Stories, Fragments, And Silences*

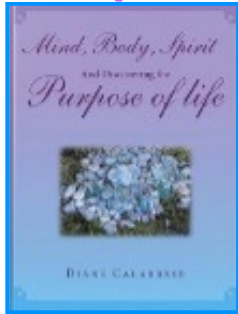
This biography of Christa von Hassell, a woman coming of age in Germany during World War II, focuses on memory and its impact on subsequent generations. Retelling Christa's life sheds light on the process whereby children learn about their parents who lived through traumatic times and are now challenged to come to terms with the fragmented stories handed down, along with the veil of silence that hovers over many aspects.

**Contact Malve von Hassell at [malvevonhassell01@gmail.com](mailto:malvevonhassell01@gmail.com)**



Malve von Hassell





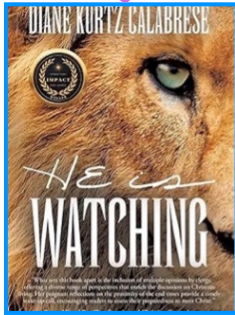
## *Mind, Body, Spirit and Discovering the Purpose of Life*

Author Diane Calabrese will share holistic healing modalities that she used in practice as a recreational therapist, including the mind-body-spirit connection, Reiki healing, aromatherapy, the use of crystals, and guided meditation. She will also implement a short, guided meditation, followed by a brief introduction to Reiki self-healing.



Diane Calabrese

**Contact Diane Calabrese at [langrec2@gmail.com](mailto:langrec2@gmail.com)**



## *He is Watching*

In a thought-provoking presentation, author Diane Calabrese shares details from clergy interviews, applicable scripture, peer research, and her own insights into an in-depth exploration of the values, morals, and crimes of humanity.



Diane Calabrese

**Contact Diane Calabrese at [langrec2@gmail.com](mailto:langrec2@gmail.com)**



## *Soulmates, Cellmates, and Twim Flames: Understanding the Ladder of Love*

Not all love is created equal. In this workshop, relationship expert Cindi Sansone-Braff will explain the truth about soulmates. Do we have more than one? Why don't soulmate relationships always end up "Happily Ever After?" What are Twin Flames? Why are toxic relationships so hard to break away from? You will also learn how to manifest and keep a higher love.



Cindi Sansone-Braff

**Contact Cindi Sansone-Braff at [cindisansonebraff@gmail.com](mailto:cindisansonebraff@gmail.com)**



## *Everything You've Ever Wanted to Know About Life After Death*

Join Cindi Sansone-Braff for an enlightening and entertaining presentation in which she shares what she has learned about life, love, and the Hereafter from talking with the dead. Learn how to hone your psychic skills and receive messages and signs from the Other Side. You'll leave feeling peaceful, knowing that death ends a life but not a relationship.



Cindi Sansone-Braff

**Contact Cindi Sansone-Braff at [cindisansonebraff@gmail.com](mailto:cindisansonebraff@gmail.com)**



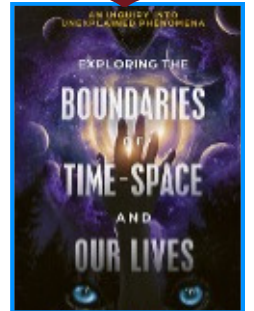
## *Haunted Long Island Mysteries*



Kerriann  
Flanagan Brosky

Award-winning author and historian Kerriann Flanagan Brosky discusses her fascinating research and investigations with medium/paranormal investigator Joe Giaquinto. Kerriann shares her personal encounters with spirits she connected with during her adventures with Joe and through writing her book. When accompanied by Joe Giaquinto, he will play EVP ghost box recordings for the audience.

**Contact Kerriann Flanagan Brosky at [kbrosky@aol.com](mailto:kbrosky@aol.com)**



## *Exploring Consciousness and the Universe*

Are we being poked and prodded by unknown forces in the universe, experiencing figments of the imagination, or entering a life that resembles science fiction? Author Dan Mariani believes there is more behind the curtain than is being told. During this talk, Dan reviews a range of anomalous subjects like UFOs, Bigfoot, and the paranormal, and tries to make sense of them.

**Contact Dan Mariani at [dansart7@gmail.com](mailto:dansart7@gmail.com)**



Dan Mariani

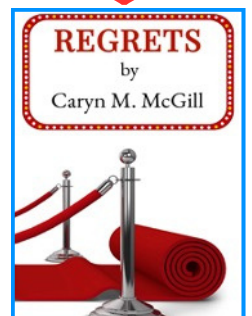
## *Romance Writing*

Boy gets girl, boy loses girl, boy gets girl back. But there's so much more. The romance genre is a billion-dollar industry, with romance readers being the largest demographic in the reading world. Best-selling author Caryn McGill, aka Kendra Greenwood, discusses the romance genre and the release of her 8<sup>th</sup> novel, *REGRETS*. Learn the elements of a steamy sex scene and get self-editing tips to make your writing shine.

**Contact Caryn McGill at [caryn.mcgill@gmail.com](mailto:caryn.mcgill@gmail.com)**



Caryn McGill



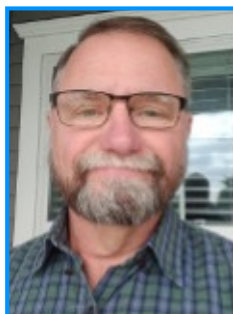
## *The Art of Political Satire:*

### *Making Us Laugh When We Should Cry*

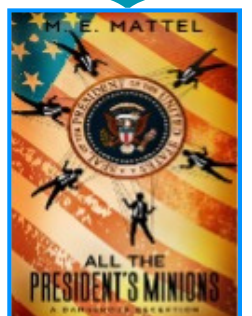
M.E. Mattel takes you through a brief history of Political Satire.

He defines Satire and, by extension, Political Satire. Hear examples from cartoons, essays, and books that are entertaining and thought-provoking. Hear excerpts from his book, *All the President's Minions: A Dangerous Deception*, that show the power of satire to expose hypocrisy, corruption, and misinformation that litter our political landscape.

**Contact M.E. Mattel at [mikemattel@yahoo.com](mailto:mikemattel@yahoo.com)**



M.E. Mattel









# *Creative Writing Workshops*

Workshops are generally two hours long and, in addition to didactic information, often include writing exercises. The workshop programs work very well as a series and can be scheduled as a weekly or monthly offering.



## *Using Sensory Detail in Fiction and Memoir Writing*



Author of  
*Travels With Jim*

Learn to focus on the use of sensory detail (touch, sight, hearing, taste, smell) and how to incorporate it into both fiction and memoir writing. Workshop attendees will have voluntary weekly assignments, and all are encouraged to share their work in a supportive, non-judgmental atmosphere.

Lessons will focus on each sense and how it relates to description, mood, and tension in your piece. We will also discuss examples of sensory detail in famous works. The class is open to both beginner and experienced writers.

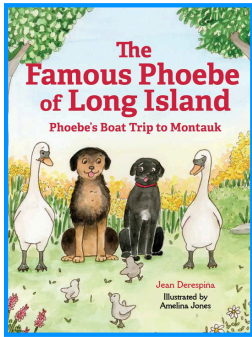
**Contact Jill Evans at [jille3832@hotmail.com](mailto:jille3832@hotmail.com)**



Jill Evans  
Instructor

## *You Can Write the Perfect Picture Book*

Do you have a story you'd like to share with children? This workshop will help you discover that although writing a picture book is not as easy as many think, with a little knowledge, you can do it! Picture book author Jean Derespina will share some of the insights she learned while writing *The Famous Phoebe of Long Island* series. You'll discuss the story arc, layouts, illustrations, word choices, and more. We'll talk about your book ideas, so you'll be ready to start writing your story as soon as you get home.



Author of  
*The Famous Phoebe of Long Island*

**Contact Jean Derespina at [jeand.tmg@gmail.com](mailto:jeand.tmg@gmail.com)**

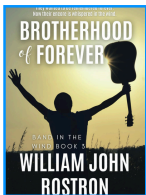
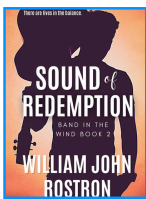
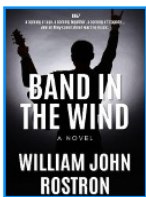


Jean Derespina  
Instructor

## *Using Reality to Create Fiction*

In this workshop, William John Rostron discusses how to use real-life experiences to write fiction, non-fiction, and a hybrid of both. "Write what you know" is a commonly used cliché among writers. However, perhaps what you know is just not quite interesting enough? How do you enhance the stories that you want to tell? Some points covered include: using music to remove a writer's block, brainstorming, writing in the first and second person to create emotion, and much more.

**Contact Bill Rostron at [Rostron1@aol.com](mailto:Rostron1@aol.com)**



Bill Rostron  
Instructor



## *Introductory Creative Writing Workshop*



Dan Mariani  
Instructor

This workshop is designed to be either an introduction to creative writing fundamentals or a series of workshops that are tailored to a new creative writer. Ideally, it can be covered in six sessions, including exercises on building strong characters and setting, crafting engaging plots, mastering dialogue and voice, editing and revising, and publishing and sharing your work. Classes are interactive, where participants discuss and share their work, receive constructive criticism, and are motivated to improve their writing style.

**Contact Dan Mariani at [dansart7@gmail.com](mailto:dansart7@gmail.com)**



## *Beyond Beginnings: A Conversational Course on Plot and Story Arc*



Margreit  
Maitland  
Instructor

In this presentation, we will focus on methods to create a plot that will charm and dazzle your readers. Techniques include understanding how to develop characters that forward your plot, identifying and escaping the traps of info-dumping, and avoiding clichés and predictable plots. The end result is creating an in-depth story arc that has your readers gripping the cover of your novel.

**Contact Margreit Maitland at [margreitm@gmail.com](mailto:margreitm@gmail.com)**



Author of  
*The Sea Series*

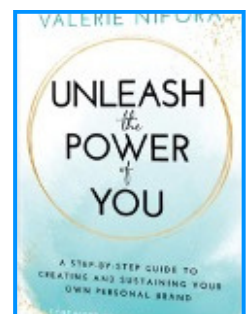
## *Crafting a Personal Brand in a Changing Workplace*



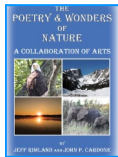
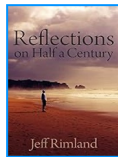
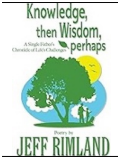
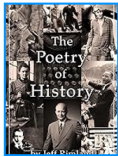
Valerie  
Nifora  
Instructor

Unlock your unique value and build a personal brand that transcends job titles. Based on *Unleash the Power of You*, this workshop guides you step-by-step to craft an authentic narrative, boost confidence, and create a lasting impact—professionally and personally. Stand out, get clear, and own your story with purpose.

**Contact Valerie Nifora at [valerie@valerienifora.com](mailto:valerie@valerienifora.com)**



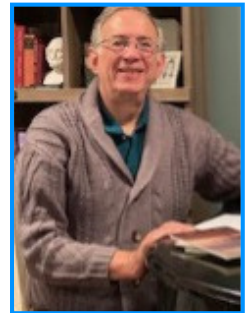
Author of  
*Unleash the Power in You*



## Writing Free-Verse Poetry

Jeff Rimland, a six-time published poet, will discuss poetry and how he started writing it. He'll explain the different types of poetry and review the works of select poets. With several readings of Jeff's free verse poems as examples, you can see how poetry can be motivational and how it can serve as a healer. Participants will have the opportunity to write and read their own poems using prompts from artwork, historic photographs, and other suggested themes.

**Contact Jeff Rimland at [jeffrimland@msn.com](mailto:jeffrimland@msn.com)**

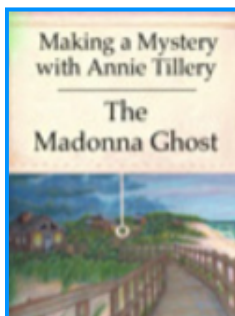


Jeff Rimland  
Instructor

## I think I Can Write a Book, Maybe a Mystery

How does one go about writing a book? This workshop explains the process. From inspiration, idea sources, research, and the art of writing, Linda Frank gives advice and anecdotes on how the *Annie Tillery Mystery Series* came about. Learn the three ways to publish, what is entailed in book to movie or TV, and how social media can promote your book. It's a personal story, chock full of information gleaned by Linda in her journey. She describes the process for her latest book, *Making a Mystery with Annie Tillery: The Madonna Ghost*.

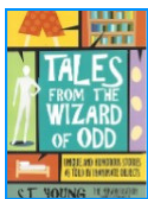
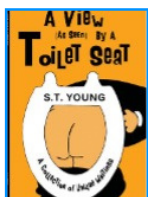
**Contact Linda Frank at [lmf217@hotmail.com](mailto:lmf217@hotmail.com)**



Author of  
*Making a  
Mystery  
with Annie  
Tillery*



Linda Frank  
Instructor



## The Personification Workshop

Personification is Tom Young's chosen vehicle for the literary world. He brings life and voice to the inanimate by having them (drains, medicines, Thanksgiving turkeys, handcuffs, boxer shorts, a dozen eggs, etc.) come alive and off the page to tell a story, often with humor. It is fun writing without boundaries, challenging one's imagination and sense of literary adventure. Prior to the workshop, attendees will write three pieces on assigned subjects and will have a chance to read their writing. Tom will read his to compare and contrast.

There is no secret formula but to have fun!

**Contact Tom Young at [burrder@aol.com](mailto:burrder@aol.com)**



Tom Young  
Instructor



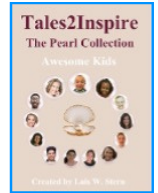
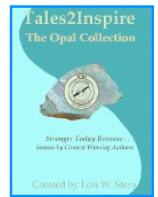
## Writing the Stories of Your Life



Lois Stern  
Instructor

Lois W. Stern, author, editor, and creator of *Tales2Inspire*®, an “Authors Helping Authors” project, presents this memoir writing workshop to share ideas and techniques for preserving your precious stories in a most engaging way. You will receive a detailed Memoir Planner to help you recall some of your long-forgotten memories. Lois demonstrates ways to enliven your sentences in order to engage your readers with hands-on practice. Participants will write a brief opening paragraph and, optionally, read their work for feedback from other participants.

**Contact Lois Stern at [tales2inspire2@gmail.com](mailto:tales2inspire2@gmail.com)**



Author of the  
*Tales2Inspire*  
series

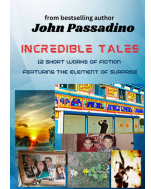
## Theater Games: A Springboard for Creativity and Intuition



John  
Passadino  
Instructor

John Passadino, a versatile writer of short story books, plays, and articles, as well as an improviser and theater director, uses his decades of training in theater games to craft engaging material. His easy-to-play games nurture intuition, which is essential for inspiring creative thinking, navigating everyday life, and, most of all, laughing. This interactive session will guide you through exercises designed to jump-start your creativity. Join John to live and laugh mindfully and leave with a fresh perspective on life and creativity.

**Contact John Passadino at [john@johnpwrites.com](mailto:john@johnpwrites.com)**







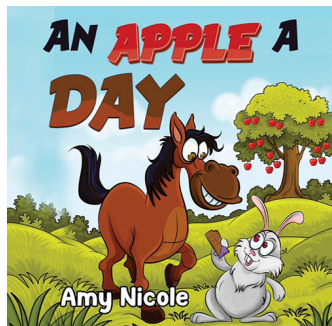


# *Children's Programs*

Bring storytime fun to the children in your life with an author book reading. Other programs have interactive conversations on various topics of interest to children. Many events are accompanied by a take-home craft.



## *An Apple a Day: Storytime & Creative Writing Session*



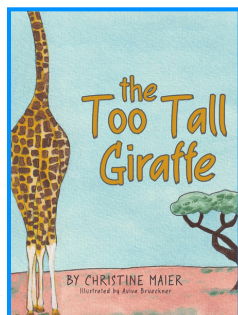
At 12 years old, Amy Nicole wrote and illustrated a book for a school project. Unbeknownst to her, Amy's mother saved the book. Years later, as a published author, Amy saw potential in the story that became her most recent release, *An Apple A Day*. Children will enjoy storytime and a writing session where they will discuss using inspiration to write their own take-home story.

**Contact Amy Nicole at [amy.nicole@myyahoo.com](mailto:amy.nicole@myyahoo.com)**



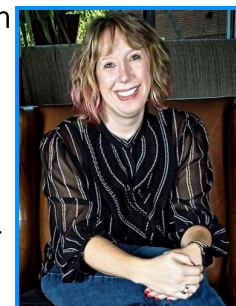
Amy Nicole

## *The Too Tall Giraffe*



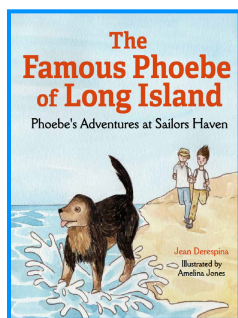
Being seen as different is hard. By teaching children that their differences are their superpowers and to embrace differences in others, we reduce bullying and change lives. This workshop begins with reading *The Too Tall Giraffe*, a book about looking different, fitting in, and finding your superpower. Through the lens of *The Too Tall Giraffe*, author Christine Maier will guide children to explore and reframe differences to understand their value and how to include others in their activities.

**Contact Christine Maier at [ChristineMaierAuthor@gmail.com](mailto:ChristineMaierAuthor@gmail.com)**



Christine Maier

## *Take a Boat Trip With The Famous Phoebe of Long Island*



The Famous Phoebe of Long Island enjoyed boat trips with her forever family. Join her at Sailors Haven on Fire Island, New York, and in Montauk at the tip of Long Island. This fun-loving pup made friends wherever she went, both on land and at sea. Phoebe's adventures will delight 4 to 8-year-olds as they learn about the natural beauty of Long Island as told by Phoebe herself. Storytime is followed by a take-home craft.

**Contact Jean Derespina at [jeand.tmg@gmail.com](mailto:jeand.tmg@gmail.com)**



Jean Derespina

## *Me & You Together Forever*



Children will enjoy this enchanting story and activity book introducing Lucy, a curious little girl with eyes as bright as the sky, and her grandma, Tata. Through the magic of reading, Lucy and Tata embark on a heartwarming journey filled with imagination and love. This educational series grows alongside your child, highlighting the bond between a grandchild and a grandmother.

**Contact Dr. Renata Shiloah at [drrenata@nutritionist4u.com](mailto:drrenata@nutritionist4u.com)**



Dr. Renata Shiloah



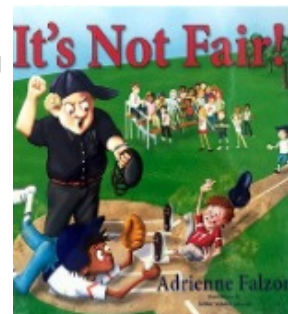
## *It's Not Fair! Turning Things Around for Peace of Mind*



Adrienne Falzon

We can all agree that in life, we experience situations that are truly not fair. Author Adrienne Falzon will help you understand how you can turn things around for peace of mind. Based on her book, *It's Not Fair*, Adrienne speaks to both children and adults. So, parents and grandparents, bring the children in your lives to learn strategies for when life is not fair.

**Contact Adrienne Falzon at [alfsangel@aol.com](mailto:alfsangel@aol.com)**



## *I Want to Be a Nurse. Do You?*



Dr. Angela Parrino

To interest children in a nursing career, this book covers necessary nursing skills. It uses a whole language approach technique: what we **K**now, what we **W**ant to know, and what we have **L**earned. Children will explore medical bag tools, including a stethoscope and blood pressure cuff. They will learn to take their heart rate and see how it changes post jumping jacks vs. sitting still. There's an activity book task at the end of the session.

Appropriate for grades K-3.

**Contact Dr. Parrino at [gphoneytomes@yahoo.com](mailto:gphoneytomes@yahoo.com)**



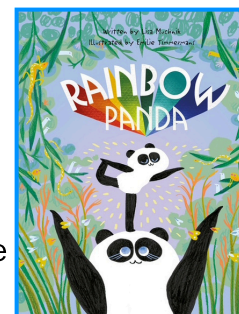
## *Little Panda Discovers His Radiant Inner Beauty*



Lisa Muchnik

*Rainbow Panda* is a story of finding inner beauty with yogic and social emotional learning themes. The program includes storytime, a kid's yoga flow, and a mindfulness activity. Author Lisa Muchnik is a nurse anesthetist, mother of two, and certified yoga instructor with a specialty in aerial yoga. Her lifelong desire to write for children and her love for yoga and the chakras made a natural combination for her debut book.

**Contact Lisa Muchnik at [lisag79@aol.com](mailto:lisag79@aol.com)**



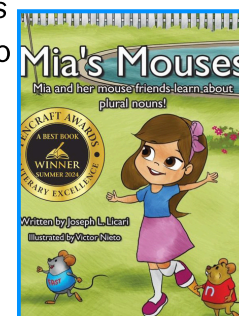
## *Mia's Adventures - A Children's Workshop on Plural Nouns and Homophones!*



Joe Licari

Spark laughter and learning with word-filled adventures. In *Mia's Mouses*, readers are introduced to plural nouns as Mia learns to call her friends "mice" and not "mouses." In *Mia's Marvelous Farm Adventure*, Mia experiences the wacky world of homophones. Children giggle over "pairs of pears," a "hoarse horse," and even a "bare baby bear!" Author Joe Licari brings grammar to life with a read-aloud, hands-on word searches, coloring pages, and worksheets. For children ages 5-9.

**Contact Joe Licari at [joe6strings@optonline.net](mailto:joe6strings@optonline.net).**





## *Rhyming Books: Ways to Teach Children About Life*

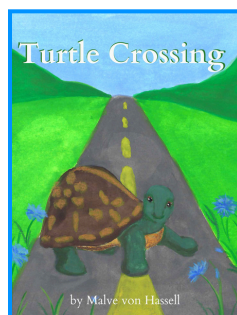
Paula Groothuis, a certified pediatric speech therapist, teaches children about life topics such as dentist visits, eating healthy, safety, recycling, and self-esteem. Paula's rhyming books are her vehicle to teach—knowing that poems are entertaining. She also helps children build a better vocabulary and shares home exercises with parents and grandparents. Her colorful, beautifully illustrated books are especially helpful to special needs children.

**Contact Paula Groothuis at [paulagroo@gmail.com](mailto:paulagroo@gmail.com)**



Paula Groothuis

## *Turtle Crossing*



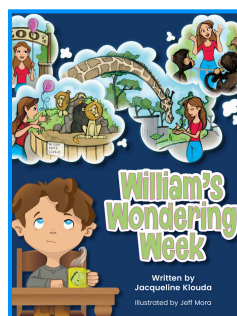
Moving from home is hard. It is even harder for young children who cannot imagine a world beyond the one they have always known. Follow the adventures of Oliver the box turtle as he experiences this and learns an important lesson in the process. For inquiring minds, some interesting facts about turtles are included to answer questions the reader might have.

**Contact Malve von Hassell at [malvevonhassell01@gmail.com](mailto:malvevonhassell01@gmail.com)**



Malve von Hassell

## *Williams Wondering Week*



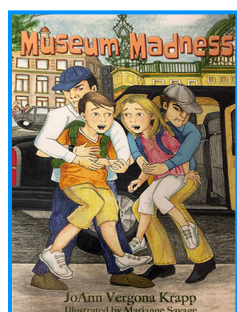
What is William's mom really doing all day while he's at school? Going to the park? Watching movies? Playing with his toys?! What will his runaway imagination think of next? Children will find author Jackie Klouda's book amusing, and parents will appreciate how it touches on open communication. Bring your 3 to 7-year-olds to this fun storytime event.

**Contact Jackie Klouda at [williamswonderingweek@gmail.com](mailto:williamswonderingweek@gmail.com)**



Jackie Klouda

## *WHAT IF? A Blending of Fact and Fiction*



Every town, every city has a story to tell. When I travel, I discover an interesting fact about its past history and ask, "What if" three children on vacation become involved in an adventure concerning the past? Author JoAnn Krapp reads excerpts from her Fire Island stories or the beginning of *Museum Madness*.

This is recommended for children in grades 3 - 5.

**Contact JoAnn Krapp at [jkrapp1940@aol.com](mailto:jkrapp1940@aol.com)**



JoAnn Krapp

# *Special Dedication*

This catalog of community presentations is dedicated in memory of John P. Cardone, Founder of the Long Island Authors Group. John founded the Long Island Authors Group in 2008, then served as President and President Emeritus of the Long Island Authors Group. John was also a current member of the Long Island Authors Group, coordinator of our Catalog and Author Talks, Nature Photographer, Naturalist, Author of 7 books, and a Publisher under the Waterviews imprint. He will be terribly missed, but his memory will be alive in our hearts and in the hearts of his readers.

This catalog is also dedicated in memory of Russell Moran and Phil Krawchuck, two special friends of the Long Island Authors Group. Russell was a member of the LIAG for many years, serving on the Board of Trustees, helping members with reviews and comments as they were writing new works, and presenting writing workshops to aspiring authors. While Phil was not an official member, he befriended a number of LIAG members, attended numerous First Wednesday meetings with his wife and author Dorothy McPartland, and inspired many of us with his love of books. We feel the loss for their families and miss them both.





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