



## Spring Writes 2019 Programming: Request for Proposals (RFP) Event is: Thursday, May 2 through Sunday, May 5

### **Community Arts Partnership**

Robin Schwartz, Program Director  
programs@artspartner.org  
artspartner.org

### **Spring Writes Artistic Director**

Kathryn Henion  
henionk@gmail.com

### **About Spring Writes Literary Festival**

The Community Arts Partnership's (CAP) Spring Writes Literary Festival takes place in downtown Ithaca annually during the first weekend in May and features over 35 literary-themed events over four days. The Festival is focused on featuring Finger Lakes region writers.

Events include panels and workshops geared towards emerging and established writers - and events such as readings, performances, and play readings that are also of interest to the general public. Now in its 10th year, the Festival has evolved into an impressive array of events. Visit [www.SpringWrites.org](http://www.SpringWrites.org) to download year's line up.

CAP organized the first Spring Writes Festival in 2009 at the request of New York State Council on the Arts. Staff at NYSCA knew that there was a wealth of writers in our region, but no formal writing organization to apply to NYSCA for funding. The resulting festival retains its original mission to celebrate and showcase local (Finger Lakes region) writers.

Local writer Kathryn Henion is the 2019 Artistic Director. [www.kathrynhenion.com](http://www.kathrynhenion.com).

### **2019 Dates**

Deadline for RFP	Friday, February 1, 5pm
Accept/Deny Communication	February 15
Deadline for final blurbs, participants bios	March 1
Spring Writes Publicity	late March, April
Event	Thursday, May 2 to Sunday, May 5

### **Details for RFP**

Spring Writes 2019 seeks proposals from local (Finger Lakes region) writers for readings, panels, workshops, and/or demos about writing, the art, craft and/or profession of writing, or the business of publishing. In the past we have also had theatre performances, music by MFA students, storytelling events, literary jeopardy, a murder mystery cocktail party, workshops on letterpress and book binding, spoken word and dance, and all sorts of wonderful events with a literary theme.

The goal is to introduce local writers to audiences.

Presentations are generally 1 to 1.5 hours in length.

The Spring Writes program committee encourages proposals from Finger Lakes writers who are diverse in their backgrounds, cultures, pursuits, ages, and in different stages of their careers. For panel discussions, an ideal panel will consist of participants who represent a broad range of perspectives and experiences.

Please note that past participation is no guarantee of future participation due to; a) space and time limitations, and; b) the desire to present a diverse, varied, and new slate of offerings each year. In 2018 there were over 85 proposals. 45 were chosen. In 2019, we will feature no more than 35 events.

**In the Request for Proposals, you can indicate whether you have:**

1. **Interest in being part of a reading** (that is organized by someone else). The Spring Writes Artistic Director will organize at least two group readings. Selection will depend on the above factors.
2. **Interest in being an “Event Organizer.”** You can propose an event that you will organize and present - such as a workshop, panel, reading, performance, etc. Once a proposal is selected, the “Event Organizer” has two weeks to supply the Artistic Director with information about the other participants to include name, e-mail, website, street address, and 25 word bio. A format will be provided.

**Type Of Events**

**PANEL:** As an Event Organizer, you can propose that you will organize and moderate a panel session on a particular subject of interest to writers or the general public. We believe that three to four people is a good number for a panel.

**WORKSHOP :** You can propose a workshop that you will organize and present.

**READING:** You can either organize and moderate a reading, or indicate that you would like to be part of a thematic or work-in-progress group reading. For the former, you would invite other writers and manage the reading.

**OTHER:** Music, theatre, dance - all is up for discussion if it has a literary theme.

**(Additional participants for your proposal):** If you would like to be an Event Organizer, you can list people you would like to be part of your event on the RFP. Note that you will have two weeks if your event is accepted to confirm your participants and get the Spring Writes organizers information about each writer.

**Possible Venues, Dates and Times:**

If chosen, we will select a venue, date and time for your event with consideration of your preferences. Scheduling 35 events concerns many factors, so we can't guarantee any particular venue or time/date.

Possible venues include the Tompkins County Public Library, the Community School of Music and Arts (Sunday, May 5 only), Buffalo Street Books, Cinemapolis (Saturday, May 4 before 1:30). The History Center and the CAP ArtSpace will have a new location on the Commons and are also possibilities.

We prefer spaces that are handicapped accessible.

A proposal CAN include another space that you organize if it is in downtown Ithaca.

## **Microphones and Projectors**

If a venue isn't inherently noisy (like a bar), we believe microphones are not needed, as most spaces are small. Having said that, Cinemapolis and the Borg Warner Room West in the Tompkins County Public Library have microphones. CAP has one microphone that can be available. It is important to note that we do not have microphones for all events. There is a place on the RFP to indicate your need for a mic.

Projectors: In previous years, we have had a number of events that had technical problems with participant devices not working with provided projectors. Unfortunately, the number of events and locations means that may be no technical support available if a problem arises. For this reason, we encourage those who need projectors to consider the option of locating or borrowing one and bringing it with you. This way you can ensure that your device works with the projector ahead of time. Note: The library has a projector which has an unfortunate history of not working, and CAP has one projector that can be in one location TBD throughout the festival. Indicate on the RFP if you need a projector and whether you can bring one.

### **Questions:**

Questions about event possibilities: Kathryn Henion. [henionk@gmail.com](mailto:henionk@gmail.com)

### **Payment:**

Honorariums are available, ranging from \$30 for being part of a professional reading to \$200 to lead a workshop. Note that for some events, we can pay per writer. For events with more than 5 people, there might be a capped amount for the event. Payment amounts depend on how many participants are chosen, and results of grants that CAP applies for.