



Spring Writes 2021 Programming:  
Call for Proposals  
Event Dates: May 5 to May 16

**RFP Deadline: Wed, March 10, 2021**

Community Arts Partnership  
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**About the Spring Writes Literary Festival**

The Community Arts Partnership (CAP) organized the first Spring Writes Literary Festival in 2009 at the suggestion and support of the literature department of New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA). Now in its 13th year, the festival retains its original mission to celebrate and showcase local (Finger Lakes region) writers, and provide professional development opportunities.

The 2021 Spring Writes Literary Festival will take place entirely virtually (just like our November 2020 event!) and will feature about 85 regional writers in over 30 literary-themed events. Readings, panels discussions, performances and other literary themed events will be presented via zoom from May 5th to May 16th, 2021, with writing workshops continuing throughout the year. All events are free to the public, with zoom registrations required.

The virtual November 2020 event was extremely successful! While the 2019 downtown Ithaca live event had 820 attendees (estimated to be about 400 unique individuals), the 2021 event had over 1500 registrations, representing about 750 unique individuals. 4% of the audience in 2019 was from out of town (neighboring counties), while 33% of the 2020 audience was from other counties, states, and countries. Although we hope to return to some live events in 2022, we envision a future that is a combination of live streamed events and entirely virtual events. To see the full lineup of participating local writers and events (taped!) from 2020, visit [www.SpringWrites.org](http://www.SpringWrites.org).

**Honorariums**

CAP has honorariums for participants from about \$40 for being part of a professional reading or panel to \$150 for leading a workshop. Payment amounts depend on the number of participants and CAP's budget for Spring Writes (from potential grants and sponsorship income). Checks are mailed after the event.

**About the Call for Proposals**

Spring Writes 2021 seeks proposals from local and Finger Lakes region writers for participation in group readings organized by SpringWrites, and/or to organize thematic readings, panels, workshops, performances, or any other fun literary themed events.

Along with readings, panels and workshops, past Spring Writes events have included staged play readings, actors reading local author's work with music, storytelling events, Literary Jeopardy, workshops on letterpress and book binding, spoken word, and dance. All had a literary theme of interest to both writers and the literary loving public.

We prefer that artists appear live for our virtual readings, workshops, and panels, although taping ahead of time is an option. Showing performance videos for our virtual events is also a great idea.

The Festival's line-up is juried and curated by Artistic Director Jennifer Tennant. Jen was also Artistic Director for the 2020 event, and she is a local nonfiction author and economics professor at Ithaca College. Her essays and op-eds have been published in *Pleiades*, *The Smart Set*, *A Velvet Giant*, *Hoxie Gorge Review*, and *Inside Higher Ed*. Her website is [www.jennifertennant.com](http://www.jennifertennant.com).

### **The Call for Proposals**

is on online google form found at <https://forms.gle/ozZjNaqYVqKCKwMh7>

*Recommended: Since the form cannot be saved and later retrieved, we recommend perusing the questions and compiling narratives elsewhere to cut and paste when ready.*

### **2021 Dates**

Deadline for Open Call:	<b>Wednesday, March 10, midnight</b>
Accept/Deny Communication:	March 18
Deadline for Complete Event Details:	April 2
Festival Dates:	Wednesday to Friday, May 5 - May 7, 6:30 -8:00 Saturday & Sunday, May 8 - May 9, 2:00 to 8:00 Thursday to Friday, May 13- May 14, 6:30 -8:00 Saturday & Sunday, May 15 - May 16, 2:00 to 8:00

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

**1. Interest in being part of a group reading (that is organized by someone else).**

**2. Interest in being an "Event Organizer."** As an event organizer, you can propose an event that you will organize and present, such as a group reading, panel, workshop, reading, or event/happening.

*If you have multiple ideas for events, please fill out one form for each.*

### **Types of Events/Participation**

*Presentations are generally 1 to 1.5 hours in length.*

- **Participation in a Group Reading:** The Festival organizers will schedule group readings comprised of writers selected from the Open Call. Please note: Because of the number of authors interested in Spring Writes participation and the desire to include as many as possible, proposals for solo readings will not be accepted.
- **Organize a Thematic Reading:** Event Organizer can propose a group reading with local or regional authors they choose.

- **Organize a Panel Discussion:** Event Organizer can propose, organize, and moderate a panel with local or regional artists on a particular subject of interest to writers or the literary loving public.
- **Propose a Workshop:** Event Organizer can propose a workshop.
- **Plan an Event or Happening:** Event Organizer can propose organizing an event such as literary themed music, dance, storytelling (or any fun literary themed idea).

### **“Climate Change” and “Social Justice/Politics”**

Two themes that we’d like to explore are “Climate Change” and “Social Justice/Politics,” There is a question in the google form asking if you would like to read something you have written (or will write) that fits those themes. Jen Tennant will be in touch!

### **The Spring Writes program committee is particularly interested in**

**Writers who are diverse in their backgrounds, cultures, pursuits, and ages.** If you have any suggestions for individual or groups we can reach out to, please e-mail Robin!

### **Selection Process**

*Please note that past participation is not a guarantee of future participation.* The Community Arts Partnership’s goal is to present a diverse, varied, and new slate of offerings each year. In 2020 there were over 85 proposals, and about 30 were chosen.

### **Event Organizer Responsibilities**

If an event is selected, the Event Organizer will be contacted for the following information and will have two weeks to provide it: Confirmed names of all participants, their street addresses, e-mails & websites, a 25-word bio for all participants, and final event title and description.

### **Questions or Brainstorming:**

Feel free to contact Jen or Robin to brainstorm, ask questions, discuss possibilities.

**THANK YOU!!!!!!**