



## NEWS RELEASE

### School of Continuing Education *Marketing*

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Issued by Anne O'Meara at 414-227-3311, or [aomeara@uwm.edu](mailto:aomeara@uwm.edu)

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### UWM SPRING WRITERS FESTIVAL COVERS STAGES OF WRITING PROCESS

MILWAUKEE – The three-day Spring Writers Festival, at the UWM School of Continuing Education, returns April 16-18, and features an impressive roster of writers and editors who also are adept at teaching.

According to festival organizer Anne O'Meara: "We are fortunate to have an amazing collection of professionals leading workshops for us this year." O'Meara says that the faculty consists of "nationally and regionally known authors and editors who will share insights on the craft and business of writing. We try to cover the entire spectrum from beginning writers to those more accomplished."

The festival also features a manuscript review and critique service. "Writers have the opportunity to meet with professionals for individual critiques of writing samples," O'Meara says.

The review panel includes Sharon Hart Addy, Children's Author; Rane Arroyo, Poet/Playwright; Jack Byrne, Agent/Owner, Sternig & Byrne Literary Agency; Anne Czarniecki, Executive Editor, Graywolf Press; Kurt Chandler, Senior Editor at Milwaukee Magazine, and others. The manuscript review, O'Meara says, is done for a fee additional to the conference registration fee. "Manuscripts for review are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis," O'Meara notes. "A one-on-one, 25-minute critique session will be scheduled for each writer. Manuscripts must be received by Wed., March 24 to be considered."

Other professionals rounding out the workshop presenters for the festival include Carolyn Kott Washburne, freelance writer/editor, Adjunct Professor of English, UWM; Mary-Jeanne Smoller-Phillips, Novelist, UWM English Department; Marilyn Taylor, Milwaukee's Poet Laureate 2004-05; Elfrieda Abbe, editor of "The Writer" magazine; Jerry Apps, Professor Emeritus at UW-Madison and author of more than 35 books; Martha Bergland author of "A Farm Under A Lake" and "Idle Curiosity;" John Fennell, editor of Milwaukee Magazine since 1992; Ron Kovach, senior editor of "The Writer" magazine; and others.

A special feature of this year's festival is a Saturday evening special outing to see the Milwaukee Repertory Theater's performance of "True West," the Pulitzer Prize-winning play by Sam Shepard. The evening, optional and at an additional fee of \$29, includes a special "Rep In Depth" pre-show discussion by members of the Rep's artistic staff.

The UWM Spring Writers Festival is at the UWM School of Continuing Education, 161 W. Wisconsin Ave., in downtown Milwaukee. The registration fee for the three-day festival is \$259. A special early-bird fee of \$234 is available until March 19, 2004. Advance registrations are accepted only until 4:30pm, Fri., Apr. 16. On-site registration will be available for \$270 Fri., Apr. 16, 5:30-8pm, and Sat., Apr. 17, 8-9:30am. Festival fee includes Opening Dinner on Friday, Continental breakfast and Buffet Luncheons on Saturday and Sunday and Saturday Reception.

To learn more, contact Anne O'Meara at 414-227-3311, email [aomeara@uwm.edu](mailto:aomeara@uwm.edu), or visit [www.sce.uwm.edu](http://www.sce.uwm.edu).