

New Year, New Instructors, New Classes!

1 message

The Writer's Well <messages+ml9wqgb36hqj@squaremktg.com>

Sun, Jan 11, 2026 at 6:34 PM

Reply-To: The Writer's Well

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To: amber@atlasvirtualagency.com

Have questions? Reply to this email and we'll respond as soon as possible.



Dear Writers,

The Shenandoah Valley is full of remarkable visionaries and creatives. This winter, we're excited to welcome two of them to the Writer's Well faculty: **Dr. John Casteen of UVA's English Department**, who will share his insights into the personal essay, and **Davey White of The Off-Center** in Staunton, who will share what it means to "wright" for the stage and lead participants in a staged reading of their work.

Together with our other winter offerings, their classes give local writers the chance to learn from professionals with deep knowledge of their craft in a way that fits busy schedules. Join us and expand your creative horizons in 2026.

Keep writing,
Bonner



Meet the Instructors: January and February Classes



Linda Ankrah-Dove

Inspiring Your Poetic Voice

Single-afternoon poetry workshop

Sunday, Jan. 18

2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

at Stone Soup Books

in Waynesboro

Exploring the Poetic Imagination

Four-week writing class

Sundays, Jan. 25 - Feb. 15

4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

at Parentheses Books

in Harrisonburg

“ Whether you're just beginning your journey as a poet or seeking to expand the horizons of your work, these workshops will open new pathways into your creativity. ”
 – Linda

Ruth Ellen Porter

Journey Through the Universal Story: Fiction, Life, and the Hero's Path

Eight-week class

Sundays, Jan. 25 - March 15

1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

at St. John's Episcopal Church in Waynesboro



“ Over our eight weeks together, we will analyze the Hero's Path alongside modern narratives, map it onto real-life change, and create original work that uses it as a structural and reflective tool. ”
 – Ruth Ellen



J. Scott Price

Journey Through Genres: Unlock Your Creative Voice Across Forms

Eight-week class

Wednesdays, Jan. 28-March 18

6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

at Stone Soup Books in Waynesboro

"Scott was fantastic! Smart, supportive, and great at creating a genuinely safe space to work."

— Molly Goldsmith

“ Most of us are drawn to one genre over another, but you might also be genre-curious: interested in trying your hand at something new, but just not sure where to begin. We'll explore the basics of short stories, creative nonfiction, poetry, flash fiction, and collaborative writing, then give each a whirl. ”
 – Scott

Samar Farah Fitzgerald

Experiments in Fiction

Four-week class

Sundays, Feb. 1-22

1:00-3:00 p.m.

at Stone Soup Books in Waynesboro

"Samar was very knowledgeable and so tuned into what each of us was saying in our writings."

— Mike Rabinowitz



“ We'll read flash fiction for inspiration, experiment with writing prompts, and talk about what it means for a writer to 'get away with it'. A great chance to jump start your most wild ideas. ”
 – Samar



John Casteen

Thinking on the Page: The Art of the Personal Essay

Five-week nonfiction-writing class

Wednesdays, Feb. 4-March 4

6:00-8:00 p.m.

at Parentheses Books

in Harrisonburg

“

Creative nonfiction gives a writer space to think on the page, discovering thought through the act of writing. We'll read and discuss essays that show the breadth and range of the form, and develop a critical toolkit to clarify the essays we're writing.

– John

”

[REGISTER TODAY >>](#)



Join the Writer's Well at the 2026
Virginia Festival of the Book

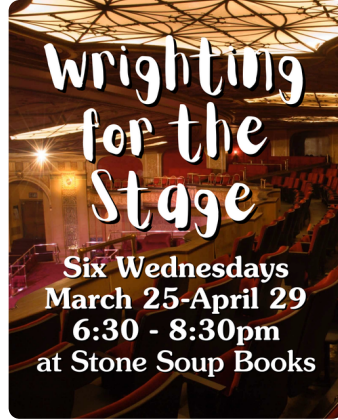
March 20-22 in Charlottesville

Samar Farah Fitzgerald will be leading a one-hour Writer's Well workshop at the 2026 Virginia Festival of the Book this March! Keep an eye out for more details coming soon.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT THE FESTIVAL >>](#)



Plan ahead:
March and April Classes



Wrighting for the Stage

Six-week playwriting class
with [Davey White](#)
Wednesdays, March 25-April 29
6:30-8:30 p.m.
at [Stone Soup Books](#)
in Waynesboro



This workshop will equip you with the tools to write and write actable, evocative, and playful theatre. We will explore the specific challenges of time, space, and character while maintaining reverence for individuality in the art form.



– Davey

Writing to Heal: Memory, Meaning, and Renewal

Eight-week writing class
with [Ruth Ellen Porter](#)
Sundays, April 5 to May 24
1:00-2:30 p.m.
at St. John's Episcopal Church
[473 S Wayne Ave](#) in Waynesboro



We will integrate classic and contemporary works with reflective writing practices, helping you engage deeply with your own stories, emotions, and creative inner resources.



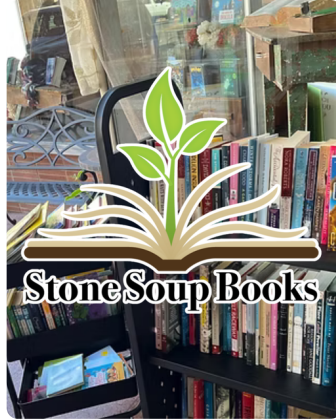
– Ruth Ellen

[LEARN MORE AND REGISTER >>](#)



We love our bookstore partners!

The Writer's Well is honored to partner with two extraordinary book shops in the Shenandoah Valley to host our classes and events. Next time you're out, stop by one of these cozy community spots to purchase your next read!



Stone Soup Books

Stone Soup Books has been bookselling in the Shenandoah Valley since 2006. Last year, they moved into their largest store front yet at **402 W Main Street** in downtown Waynesboro. Their book specialties include farming, nature writing, and sustainable living. Children's literature, history, fiction, and books by local authors also fill their shelves, as well as gently used books and a curated antiquarian collection. Be sure to check out their monthly events!

[VISIT THE STONE SOUP WEBSITE >>](#)

Parentheses Books

Parentheses Books at **76 W Gay Street** is Harrisonburg's independent bookstore. Located in the Liberty Street Mercantile, their welcoming shop is filled with books of all kinds, including many stock requests from local authors. They also offer regular literary events, like readings, family-friendly craft days, and a quarterly book club.



[VISIT THE PARENTHESES WEBSITE>>](#)



Join us at our monthly
feedback forum

NEXT SESSION: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Thank you to those who attended the January meeting of the **Well Writers Group**! We hope to see you again, as well as many new faces, at next month's meeting on Feb. 3 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at **Stone Soup Books** in Waynesboro.

The Well Writers Group is a monthly feedback forum for writers of all genres and experience levels, facilitated by **Ady Dewey**. The group meets on the **first Tuesday of each month**. You can register for a single session or purchase a six-session pass that never expires. Visit our [website](#) to learn more!

[JOIN US FOR WRITERS GROUP >>](#)

Have questions or class suggestions?
Email us at hello@writerswellva.com