

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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What: Writers Workshop
Who: Midland County Public Library
When: September 18 & 19
Where: Centennial Library & Midland College

Midland Library to Host Regional Writers Workshop

MIDLAND, TX – The Midland County Public Library is hosting the first professional writers’ workshop in the Permian Basin in recent memory. Sponsored by the Midland County Public Library Foundation, the Permian Basin Writers’ Workshop (#PBWW) will feature 4 presenting authors, agents and editors from around the country during the day and half workshop. The workshop is an opportunity for West Texas authors to engage in high level professional development, and networking, without traveling too far from home.

Permian Basin Writers’ Workshop presenters include keynote speaker Sarah Cortez with: Kay Ellington & Barbara Brannon, Seth Fishman, and Stephen Graham Jones. Participants will be able to choose from a diverse set of breakout sessions including: How to Write a Query Letter and Find an Agent, Circles of Desire: Six Steps to the Heart of a Stronger Story, Metadata Madness: How to Make Sure Your Book is Discoverable in a Digital World, and First Lines: Creating a Killer First Page just to name a few.

Sarah Cortez, is a Councilor of the Texas Institute of Letters, winner of the PEN Texas Literary Award in poetry, recipient of an International Latino Book Award, and recognized by the Border Regional Librarians Association with the Southwestern Book Award.

Kay Ellington & Barbara Brannon – Kay Ellington, a native West Texan, has worked in newspapers from New York to California to the Carolinas—and back again to her home state. Barbara Brannon, formerly led the Publishing Laboratory at the University of North Carolina Wilmington, but got to Texas as soon as she could.

Seth Fishman - Seth Fishman is a native of Midland, Texas and a graduate of Princeton University and the University of East Anglia in Norwich, England. He spends his days as a literary agent at The Gernert Company, and his nights (and mornings) writing.

Stephen Graham Jones - Stephen Graham Jones, a Stanton Texas native, has over 24 books, and a couple hundred short stories published. He has been an NEA Fellow, a Texas Writers League Fellow, and has won the Texas Institute of Letters Award for Fiction and the Independent Publishers Multicultural Award.

A full schedule of events can be found at www.permianbasinwritersworkshop.org. Advanced registration is required, and a fee of \$35 is being charged to cover the cost of a dinner and lunch. Or, for more information call the library’s Education and Program Coordinator, Edward McPherson at (432)742-7438.

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Great Interviews

In addition to being an award winning author and editor, Sarah Cortez is a police officer in Houston, TX. She’s articulate, inspiring, and has combined two incredible passions. (713)304-8969 cortez.sarah@gmail.com

Homegrown native Seth Fishman, made it big working as an agent on the east coast, and currently represent a number of authors. He also just signed a 3 book deal with HarperCollins. (212)838-7777 sfishman@thegernertco.com