

Unveiling the Literary Legacy: A Comprehensive History of the St. Louis Writers Guild



The History of St. Louis Writers Guild: Celebrating a Century by Brad R. Cook

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

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Welcome to the captivating annals of the St. Louis Writers Guild, a literary haven that has fostered the talents and ignited the imaginations of countless writers for over a century. This comprehensive history embarks on an enchanting journey through the vibrant tapestry of stories, authors, and events that have shaped the literary landscape of St. Louis and beyond.

The Genesis: A Literary Awakening

The seeds of the St. Louis Writers Guild were sown in 1904 amidst a burgeoning literary scene in the heart of the Midwest. A group of dedicated writers, driven by a shared passion for the written word, banded together to

form a community where they could nurture their craft and inspire one another.

Among the founding members were prominent figures such as William Marion Reedy, editor of the influential Reedy's Mirror, and Zoe Akins, a Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright. Their vision was to establish a platform where writers could connect, learn, and support each other's literary endeavors.



**Be Part of the Legacy,
Join St. Louis Writers Guild**

SLWG Member Benefits - full list online

- Monthly Workshops for Writers
- Recordings of Workshops for Writers
- Quarterly Open Mic Night
- Writing Contests
- Here's News! – free monthly e-newsletter
- Appear in SLWG Anthologies
- Member's Resource Page
- Discounts on SLWG and other lit group events
- Critique Groups – find a writing partner
- Networking – meet other writers
- Special Events
- Writers in the Park, Editing Extravaganza, Guest Speakers

Membership
Adults: \$45
(18 yr or older)

Students/Seniors:
\$30
(Students must be currently enrolled,
and Seniors must be 65 or older)

sign up online, at SLWG events, or
mail payment and membership form

stlwritersguild.org

A Haven for Literary Minds

Over the decades, the St. Louis Writers Guild has served as a sanctuary for writers of all backgrounds and genres. Its monthly meetings, workshops, and readings have provided a nurturing environment for writers to hone their skills, share their work, and connect with fellow wordsmiths.

The guild's membership has boasted a diverse array of literary luminaries, including Pulitzer Prize-winning poets Howard Nemerov and John Ashbery, National Book Award winner William Gass, and acclaimed novelist Thomas McGuane. Their presence has enriched the guild's literary legacy and inspired generations of aspiring writers.

- **Howard Nemerov:** A renowned poet who won the Pulitzer Prize in 1978 for his collection, "The Collected Poems of Howard Nemerov."
- **John Ashbery:** A celebrated avant-garde poet who received the Pulitzer Prize in 1976 for "Self-Portrait in a Convex Mirror."
- **William Gass:** An experimental novelist and essayist who was awarded the National Book Award for his novel, "The Tunnel."
- **Thomas McGuane:** An acclaimed novelist, short story writer, and screenwriter known for his works such as "The Sporting Club" and "Ninety-Two in the Shade."

Literary Landmarks and Accomplishments

The St. Louis Writers Guild has played a pivotal role in shaping the literary landscape of St. Louis. In 1947, the guild established the prestigious St. Louis Literary Award, which recognizes outstanding literary achievements by St. Louis authors.

Past recipients of the award have included:

- **William Least Heat-Moon:** For his travelogue, "PrairyErth"
- **Bobbie Ann Mason:** For her collection of short stories, "Shiloh and Other Stories"

- **Charles Bukowski:** For his novel, "Post Office"
- **Terry McMillan:** For her novel, "Waiting to Exhale"



The guild's contributions extend beyond its membership. It has organized literary festivals, hosted writing workshops, and established scholarships to support aspiring writers. Through these initiatives, the guild has fostered a vibrant literary community that continues to thrive today.

A Literary Legacy that Inspires

The St. Louis Writers Guild stands as a testament to the enduring power of literature and the transformative impact it can have on a community. For over a century, the guild has nurtured writers, celebrated literary excellence, and inspired generations of readers.

This comprehensive history offers a captivating glimpse into the guild's rich literary legacy. It is a testament to the enduring spirit of creativity, collaboration, and the transformative power of the written word.

As you delve into these pages, may you find inspiration in the stories of the writers who have graced the guild's halls and may you be inspired to embark on your own literary journey.



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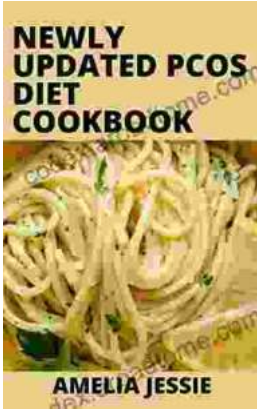
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