

10% OFF ADMISSION

THE FIRST MUSEUM OF ITS KIND IN THE NATION!

# AMERICAN WRITERS MUSEUM

Celebrating American Writers Past & Present



Through innovative and dynamic state-of-the-art exhibitions, as well as compelling programming, the American Writers Museum educates, enriches, provokes, and inspires visitors of all ages.

180 N. Michigan Avenue • Chicago, IL 60601  
312.374.8790 • [americanwritersmuseum.org](http://americanwritersmuseum.org)



For tickets visit [americanwritersmuseum.org](http://americanwritersmuseum.org).  
**10% OFF ADMISSION** with code **WRITERS**. Expires 12/31/17.

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# AMERICAN WRITERS MUSEUM

Celebrating American Writers Past & Present

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## A BEAT JOURNEY: JACK KEROUAC'S ON THE ROAD

*"I shuddered after as I've been doing all my life after  
people who interest me, because the only people for  
me are the mad ones, the ones who are mad to live,  
mad to talk, mad to be saved, dazed of everything  
at the same time."*

—Jack Kerouac, *On the Road*

See Jack Kerouac's original  
manuscript scroll for *On the Road*.

May 16

October 27

This manuscript and accompanying digital file are on loan from the collection of James S. Irsay.  
© Estate of Anthony G. Sampatacacus and the Estate of Jan Kerouac.

## PALM

All Awake in the Darkness

An immersive installation inspired  
by the life and poetry of W.S. Merwin

SAYLER / MORRIS

in collaboration with  
IAN BOYDEN



2017

MAY 16

OCTOBER 6

### HOURS

Daily 10am–5pm

Thursday 10am–8pm • Closed Mondays

### ADMISSION

Adults \$12, Seniors (65+) \$8

Students (with valid ID) \$8

Children (ages 12 & under) FREE

SPECIAL  
EXHIBITS  
FREE

with paid  
admission.

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Connect with us on social media!



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## BECOME A MEMBER

### Membership Levels & Benefits

Join online at [americanwritersmuseum.org](http://americanwritersmuseum.org)



#### Individual: \$40

- Unlimited free admission to the AWM
- 15% discount on AWM retail purchases
- Subscription to e-newsletter
- Member previews of new exhibits
- Invitations to members-only events such as author readings and lectures

#### Couple: \$70

- Same benefits as Individual, for two people in the same household

#### Family: \$90

- Same benefits as Individual, for two adults and all children under 18

## VOLUNTEER

Support the American Writers Museum by joining our Storyteller Volunteer Program. AWM Storytellers interact with guests and assist with programs and special events.

If you are interested in becoming a Volunteer Storyteller, contact us at [volunteer@americanwritersmuseum.org](mailto:volunteer@americanwritersmuseum.org).

## DONATE

Be part of the American Writers Museum story! Your tax-deductible contribution will support exhibitions and programs that teach, surprise and inspire the reader and writer in all of us.

Donors of \$250 and up receive special benefits such as invitations to special events, author readings, lectures and exhibit previews.

Donate online at [americanwritersmuseum.org/donate](http://americanwritersmuseum.org/donate).

Stay up-to-date on news, events and more by connecting with us on social media.



AMERICAN  
WRITERS  
MUSEUM

## Public Programs

July • August 2017

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# Program Calendar

## July

**11 Children's Author Storytime:** On the second Tuesday of each month, AWM welcomes a new children's author in its children's gallery. Meet your favorite books' creators and illustrators, get your book signed, and hear a story from some of the most inspiring and creative children's authors writing today. *Presented in partnership with the Society of Children's Book Authors and Illustrators.*

**July 11: Ilene Cooper**, author of *A Woman in the House (and Senate): How Women Came to the United States Congress, Broke Down Barriers, and Changed the Country*, the *Absolutely Lucy* series and *Jake's Best Thumb*, among other books.

*For preschool-age children with a caregiver. Free. Museum admission not included.*

**12 Reading/Signing: Identity Unknown: Rediscovering Seven American Women Artists** Who hasn't wondered where—aside from Georgia O'Keeffe and Frida Kahlo—all the women artists are? In many art books, they've been marginalized with cold efficiency, summarily dismissed in the captions of group photographs with the phrase "identity unknown" while each male is named. Donna Seaman brings to dazzling life seven of these forgotten artists, among the best of their day: Gertrude Abercrombie, with her dark, surreal paintings and friendships with Dizzy Gillespie and Sonny Rollins; Bay Area self-portraitist Joan Brown; Ree Morton, with her witty, oddly beautiful constructions; Lois Mailou Jones of the Harlem Renaissance; Lenore Tawney, who combined weaving and sculpture when art and craft were considered mutually exclusive; Christina Ramberg, whose unsettling works drew on pop culture and advertising; and Louise Nevelson, an art-world superstar in her heyday but omitted from recent surveys of her era.

*Wednesday, July 12th, 5:30pm, Readers Hall. \$5 suggested donation.*

**13 University of Chicago Writer's Studio Master Series; Searching for It in Jack Kerouac's On the Road** With its propulsive force and thrumming momentum, *On the Road* has long been heralded (and occasionally reviled) for its spontaneous prose style, a seemingly effortless translation of thought to the page. Beneath that surface is a hard-scrubbed effort, a mining of mind and craft that provides valuable lessons on the writing process and the struggles that define it. Through close reading, discussion, and in-class prompts, we will probe Kerouac's use of point of view; commanding and sensory details; intimate and imagistic descriptions; and spontaneous prose. Mining his work challenges us to reach beyond what we *think* to get at what we *really think*, to discover the less evident, often uncomfortable mysteries that fuel writing which resonates and shimmers on the page. **Thursday, July 13, Readers Hall, 6-9pm. Cost: \$100...includes museum entry.**

*In preparation for class, please read the first chapter and 6-10 in Part III of On the Road. For a digital copy, please contact [writersstudio@uchicago.edu](mailto:writersstudio@uchicago.edu).*

**About the Instructor:** *Writer's Studio* instructor Lauren Cowen is the author of three essay collections, including the *New York Times* bestseller *Daughters and Mothers*, and a host of pieces in publications such as *Chicago* magazine. Her work has also been featured on NPR.

**About the Writer's Studio:** *The University of Chicago Writer's Studio* in downtown Chicago is a creative home to adult writers of all genres and ambitions. We offer open-enrollment, non credit classes designed to inspire and challenge as well as manuscript consultations and free community events. Learn more at [grahamsschool.uchicago.edu/write](http://grahamsschool.uchicago.edu/write).

**20 Workshop: Publishing:** In today's crowded media landscape, how do you sell your book or short story? How do you make your mark with your writing? In this one-day workshop author David Berner (*October Song: A Memoir of Music and the Journey of Time*, Roundfire Press 2017) teaches you how to find your way through the complicated process of getting your words out.

*Thursday, July 20, Readers Hall, 7pm. \$50 per person.*

**22 Immigrant Writing in America** At a time when immigrants are perceived as a threat to society, particularly from the Arab world, a space for them to deliver their own story is desperately needed. Join **Deepak Unnikrishnan**—author of the critically acclaimed novel *Temporary People*, about guest workers in the United Arab Emirates' capital Abu Dhabi—in conversation with **Ilan Stavans**, internationally renowned cultural critic and publisher of *Restless Books*, as well as Lewis-Sebring Professor in Latin American and Latino Culture at Amherst College. *The dialogue, followed by a Q&A, will explore the role the literature of immigration in the United States plays in our conception of pluralism and tolerance.*

*Saturday, July 22, Readers Hall, 2pm. Free with museum admission.*

**27 The Swiss Army Knife of Plants: A History of the Palm:** The Horticulturist from the Chicago Park District conservatories discusses the history of palms, their botanical uses, and the palms in the historic Garfield Park Conservatory Palm House.

*Thursday, July 27, Meijer Gallery, 5pm. General public. \$5 suggested donation.*

## August

**1 Reading/Signing: Dipika Mukherjee - Shambala Junction** Iris is visiting India from the U.S. for the first time with her fiancé, and not enjoying it. When she steps off the train for a water at Shambala Junction, little does she know her life is about to undergo a radical change. Along the way, she finds real friendship, learns what counts and grows to love the country.

*Tuesday, August 1, Readers Hall, 5pm. General public. \$5 suggested donation.*

**3 Reading/Signing: Curators: Behind the Scenes of Natural History Museums** After three decades as a natural history curator, author Lance Grande found that he still had to explain to people what he does. This book is the answer—and, oh, what an answer it is: lively, exciting, up-to-date, it offers a portrait of curators and their research like none we've seen, one that conveys the intellectual excitement and the educational and social value of curation. Grande uses the personal story of his own career—most of it spent at Chicago's storied Field Museum—to structure his account as he explores the value of research and collections, the importance of public engagement, changing ecological and ethical considerations, and the impact of rapidly improving technology.

*Thursday, August 3, Readers Hall, 6pm. General public. \$5 suggested donation or free with museum admission.*

**8 Children's Author Storytime:** On the second Tuesday of each month, AWM welcomes a new children's author in its children's gallery. Meet your favorite books' creators and illustrators, get your book signed, and hear a story from some of the most inspiring and creative children's authors writing today. *Presented in partnership with the Society of Children's Book Authors and Illustrators.*

**August 8: Janet Nolan**, author of *Seven and a Half Tons of Steel*, *The Firehouse Light*, *PB&J Hooray* and other books.

*For preschool-age children with a caregiver. Free. Museum admission not included.*

**19 Chicago Literary Hall of Fame Induction of Roger Ebert** Beloved film critic Roger Ebert will be inducted into the Chicago Literary Hall of Fame. Reception begins at 6pm, with the ceremony starting at seven. A score of old colleagues and friends will give tribute to Ebert as part of his induction into the CLHOF's seventh class. His widow, Chaz Ebert, will be on hand to accept the statue. **Saturday, August 19, 6pm, Readers Hall. General public. \$5 suggested donation to AWM and CLHOF.**

Complete listings for all of our programs can be found at [americanwritersmuseum.org](http://americanwritersmuseum.org).  
*Programs subject to change without notice.*



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