



The Portable Writer's Conference: Your Guide to Getting and Staying Published

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It's 8:24 a.m. on a rainy Ohio Saturday. Jamie Fergusson, attorney and mother of two, shakes the water from her umbrella, crosses the carpeted foyer to the eight-foot banquet table serving as a registration desk and joins the tens of thousands of writers and would-be writers who attend one of more than 400 writers' conferences held in the United States each year. Jamie will learn not only something of the craft of writing but also such things as first serial rights, self-publishing, literary agents, query letters and royalties: the elements that constitute the business side of writing.

These conferences, depending on venue, number of workshops, who the workshop leaders are and various other factors, traditionally cost anywhere from \$65 to \$3000. Now, however, Ms. Fergusson can take advantage of one of the most comprehensive writers' conferences ever produced 47 workshops presented by a host of distinguished agents, authors and editors for less than \$20. And this conference doesn't require travel time or expense; the workshops may be taken in any order she wants and she may repeat them again, in their entirety, whenever desired. That's because this writers' conference is a conference in a book: *The Portable Writers' Conference: Your Guide to Getting and Staying Published*, edited by Stephen Blake Mettee.

The workshops are about evenly split between craft and business, fiction and nonfiction. Warner-Aspect Books' Editor-In-Chief Betsy Mitchell explains how to sell yourself in a query letter without offending the prospective editor. Literary agent Natasha Kern reveals how to find the right agent for you. Self-help book author Eric Maisel offers a twelve-step program for non-Ph.D's who want to write a self-help book. Suzanne Forster, recipient of Romantic Times Magazines's Career Achievement Award in Sensuality, tells how to write love scenes that sizzle. Novelist Marilyn Meredith shows how to turn your genealogy into fictional stories. Sara Ann Freed, executive editor, Mysterious Press, shares her seven secrets to creating memorable characters. Attorney-author John D. Zelezny deals with copyright.

More than 45 chapters called workshops in the book provide instruction on the writing craft and the business of getting published.

Here's just a sample:

"Slice Yourself a Piece of Mud Pie!: Writing for the Children's Market" by children's literary agent Andrea Brown.

"Surfing the Internet for Facts: Tips for Researching Your Nonfiction Book, Novel or Article Online" by Judith Broadhurst, publisher of *Freelance Success* and author of *The Woman's Guide to Online Services* (Houghton-Mifflin)

"How to Write the Dynamite Love Scene: Sizzle Sells More Than Just Steaks, Learn How to Add Steam to Your Novel or Short Story" by novelist Suzanne Forster, recipient of the "Career Achievement Award in Sensuality" from *Romantic Times Magazine*.

"So You Want to be a Columnist?: Learn What Periodical Publishers Look for and How to Supply It" by Frances Halpern, LA Times columnist and co-host of National Public Radio's "Beyond Words" literary talk-show.

"Running a Home-Based Writing Business: Tips, Tools & Techniques" by Terri Lonier, author of Working Solo: The Real Guide to Freedom & Financial Success With Your Own Business (Portico Press)

"Listen!: How to Use Dialogue to Light Up Your Characters Until They Attract Readers Like Moths to a Flame" by award-winning novelist Parke Godwin, author of many novels including Firelord, Beloved Exile, and Camelot.

The contributors are all experts in their particular field in the publishing industry. They include: Sybil S. Steinberg, interviews editor, Publishers Weekly, Katheryn Falk, editor and publisher of Romantic Times Magazine, self-publishing guru Dan Poynter, Betsy Mitchell, editor-in-chief, Warner-Aspect Books, James Frey, author of How to Write a Damn Good Novel (St. Martins), attorney Jonathan Kirsch, author of Kirsch's Handbook of Publishing Law (Acrobat) and Sara Ann Freed, executive editor, Mysterious Press.

Interest in writers' conferences, with over 400 presented across the nation annually, is growing. This is the only "portable" writers' conference.

Collectively, the editor and the 47 contributors present workshops or talks on writing and publishing over 200 times a year, making exposure for this book both continuous and extensive.

Includes a thorough, annotated resources section listing writers' associations, magazines and other publications for writers, World Wide Web sites for writers, books on writing and publishing, sample magazine and book publishers' guidelines, software for writers and other helpful resources.

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Sandra Phillips:

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Omar Hinojosa:

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Wilson Gonzalez:

The Portable Writer's Conference: Your Guide to Getting and Staying Published can be one of your beginner books that are good idea. All of us recommend that straight away because this publication has good vocabulary that may increase your knowledge in language, easy to understand, bit entertaining however delivering the information. The article writer giving his/her effort to set every word into enjoyment arrangement in writing The Portable Writer's Conference: Your Guide to Getting and Staying Published however doesn't forget the main position, giving the reader the hottest as well as based confirm resource info that maybe you can be one of it. This great information can drawn you into new stage of crucial contemplating.

Steven Simon:

In this era globalization it is important to someone to receive information. The information will make anyone to understand the condition of the world. The fitness of the world makes the information simpler to share. You can find a lot of personal references to get information example: internet, magazine, book, and soon. You can view that now, a lot of publisher this print many kinds of book. The particular book that recommended for you is The Portable Writer's Conference: Your Guide to Getting and Staying Published this guide consist a lot of the information on the condition of this world now. This particular book was

represented how can the world has grown up. The words styles that writer value to explain it is easy to understand. The actual writer made some study when he makes this book. Honestly, that is why this book ideal all of you.

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