Chattanooga Writers’ Guild

Supporting the Creative Spirit

Our Purpose:

To promote, encourage, and support writing and to create a supportive, caring environment for writers in the Chattanooga community by providing monthly readings by published authors, sponsoring writing contests, publishing a monthly newsletter, holding regular writing workshops, developing and encouraging independent writing groups, and sponsoring writing-related community events.

Our Vision of Services:

With the funds collected through the annual membership dues, along with private donations collected from community sources and future funds secured through grant funding (once non-profit status is established), we will provide the following services, as well as expand on or change services offered in response to community interests:

- **Monthly Meetings**: At the Guild’s monthly meetings (day of week and location to be determined) we will provide a reading by a local or regional published writer or other writing related events in response to community interest. Before the reading/event begins, we will briefly make announcements about upcoming literary events in the community, recognize members who have been published, and share other related guild information.

- **Independent Writers’ Groups**: We will organize, encourage, and promote writers’ groups who will meet independently to discuss and critique each other’s work. Writing groups will be genre focused and will independently establish meeting schedules, depending on their own needs.

- **Monthly Newsletter**: Each month, we will publish a newsletter to keep members updated on writing competitions, announce members’ publications, publish community writers, provide writing tips, announce local writing contests, and highlight guild activities. Members can choose to receive the newsletter through the mail or opt to read the newsletter online (to help cut down the publication and mailing costs).

- **Guild Website**: We will provide a supportive website that will provide a plethora of information to support the writing community, including announcements of published members, a calendar of guild events, monthly meeting activities, project updates, writing tips, and writing resource links. We will also feature members’ writing and post the newsletter online (some website services will be members-only accessible).

- **Writing Workshops**: We will hold genre based writing workshops for members and interested community members.

- **Writing Contests**: The Guild will sponsor local writing contests for the community and members. Members will receive discounts on contest fees.
Writing-Related Events: In addition to the monthly Guild meetings, we will support and sponsor local readings and other writing-related events.

Guild Publications: Through money collected through dues and additional funds (secured through donations and/or grant funds) we will publish books which will include the work of community writers and guild members. (This service is part of our long-term vision).

Community Projects: We will work to design community projects (supported through grant funds) to encourage and support writing for all age groups and interests. (This service part of our long-term vision).

How Can You Be Involved?

Become a member of the Guild and take advantage of all of the wonderful services the Guild will offer!

Spread the word—if you know anyone interested in writing and supporting the arts, let them know about the Guild!

Be involved in the planning activities—let us know if you’d like to help us plan for future activities or if you have any ideas!

Upcoming Events:

Poetry Monday: August 20, 2001, 8-10 p.m., UTC University Center (Signal Mountain Room). We will have a featured reader and an open mic reading!

First Official Guild Meeting: September 11, 2001. We are still working to establish a permanent meeting place, but we’ll let you know!

The Poetry of Earl Braggs, River Arts Gallery: September 18, 2001. River Arts Gallery, Bluff View Art District (near the Hunter museum). Earl Braggs is a local, published poet and Professor of English at UTC.

Contact Information:

If you have questions about the Guild or need further information or a membership form, contact:

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