

AWP's Twenty-sixth Tweet Chat: #AWPMentorship
November 27, 2018 from 2:00-3:00 p.m. ET



AWP @awpwriter

Don't forget! This Tuesday, November 27, we are celebrating [#GivingTuesday](#) with our annual tweet chat at 2:00 p.m. EST, hosted by [@DianeZinna](#), Director of Membership Services. Learn more about our Writer to Writer program, and chat with past and current mentors and mentees! [#W2W](#)



#W2W

Join us for #GivingTuesday.
Learn more about our Writer
to Writer program, and chat
with past and current
mentors and mentees!

November 27, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. EST



[AWP @awpwriter](#)

Donate this hour and you will be entered into a drawing to win one of these five books from [@joemilazzo94](#), Jennifer Perrine, Doug Ramspeck, [@DrAminaGautier](#), and [@AndrewBourelle](#).
[#writerslovewriters](#) [#AWPMentorship](#)
[https://www.awpwriter.org/store/donations_givingtuesday ...](https://www.awpwriter.org/store/donations_givingtuesday...)



ASSOCIATION OF WRITERS
& WRITING PROGRAMS



Win one of these signed books by
donating to AWP for #GivingTuesday.



Writer to Writer
AWP'S MENTORSHIP PROGRAM



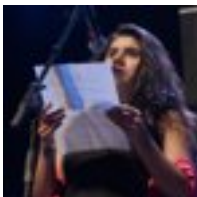
[Andrew Bourelle @AndrewBourelle](#)

I was previously mentored in AWP's Writer to Writer Mentorship Program. Today, my novel *Heavy Metal* is one of five books you could be eligible to win if you donate to [#AWPMentorship](#) for [#GivingTuesday](#). Thanks [@DianeZinna](#) for including my book!



AWP @awpwriter

Today is the day! Donate to [#AWPW2W](#) and help us pair thirty seasoned mentors with a new batch of emerging writers. Celebrate [#GivingTuesday](#) and help [#WritersLoveWriters](#).
[#AWPMentorship](#) [https://www.awpwriter.org/store/donations_givingtuesday ...](https://www.awpwriter.org/store/donations_givingtuesday...)



Natalia Reyes @NataliaDReyes

Working with [@normaelia](#) as part of [#AWPW2W](#) has been wonderful. Having her insight and kindness in my corner has made the difficult practice of writing just a little more rewarding, more possible. I definitely recommend [#AWPMentorship](#)



AWP @awpwriter

Thank you [@NataliaDReyes](#)!



Annette Wong @StrnglyWrddLTR

Happening now! [#W2W](#). The writing life can be notoriously solitary. The [#awpmentorship](#) makes it markedly less so. Thankful for [@neil_aitken](#)'s guidance, insight & support & this season's incredible cohort of fellow emerging writers. Much gratitude to [@awpwriter](#) & [@DianeZinna](#).



Olivia Katrandjian [@okatrandjian](#)

Connecting with this season's wonderful group of all women mentees has been a real treat. Building a writing community is yet another reason for authors and emerging writers to apply to the 10th season of the [#AWPMentorship](#) program! [#AWPW2W](#)



Helen Armstrong 📖 🌈 [@hkawrites](#)

The [#AWPW2W](#) program has been so amazing to participate in - my mentor [@dirtroadsndogs](#) is a joy to work with and [@DianeZinna](#) has truly poured her heart and soul into this. It's a lovely community. [#WritersLoveWriters](#) [#AWPMentorship](#)



Tom Stern [@tomsternwrites](#)

This truly is a wonderful program. Wish I had known about it years ago as I made every stupid mistake there is to make as a writer. Honored to be a Fiction Mentor this Fall to share my experiences with others. [#AWPMentorship](#)



Olga Livshin @OlgaLivshin

Today, in a few minutes--from 2-3 EST--I'm here with other mentors and mentees answering questions about the amazing [#AWPMentorship](#) program, which begins its 10th season in February. Join me! [#AWPW2W](#) [#AWPMentorship](#)



AWP @awpwriter

Thanks for tuning in to our [#GivingTuesday](#) tweet chat with the wonderful [@DianeZinna](#), our Director of Membership! [#WritersLoveWriters](#) [#AWPMentorship](#)



AWP @awpwriter

[#GivingTuesday](#) is a national day of giving. A movement to share and spread the love—just like our mentorship program, Writer to Writer. [#AWPMentorship](#)



AWP @awpwriter

So today, for [#GivingTuesday](#), we are going to highlight Writer to Writer and tell you all the great things about it! [#AWPW2W](#) [#AWPMentorship](#) [#WritersLoveWriters](#)



Olga Livshin @OlgaLivshin

If you care about writing and writers "on the outside, looking in," especially those whose lives did not previously allow sustained attention to writing, please consider donating to [#AWPW2W](#) today, this Giving Tuesday. [@DianeZinna](#) has helped so many of us transform our lives.



AWP @awpwriter

Thank you [@OlgaLivshin](#)!



Diane Zinna @DianeZinna

Hi, Everyone! I'm AWP's membership director and over the next hour I'll be answering your questions about our program, Writer to Writer! [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



Caroline Bock [@cabockwrites](#)

Best thing of 2018 for me -- being a mentor in this program to another writer!!
[#awpmentorship](#)



Diane Zinna @DianeZinna

We're also joined today by many, many, many current and past mentors and mentees who have helped make W2W what it is! They are here to answer your questions and give their perspectives, too. [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



Megan DeMatteo @megdematteo

Hey emerging writers! Learn how to enroll in [@awpwriter](#)'s mentorship program. LIVE Tweet Chat begins now! Bring your questions to [@awpwriter](#) ! [#writerslovewriters](#) [#AWPMentorship](#) [#GivingTuesday](#)



AWP@awpwriter

Thank you @megdematteo, it is true. Ask questions with #AWPW2W mentors and mentees and Director of Membership @DianeZinna. #AWPMentorship



Helen Armstrong 📖 🌈 @hkawrites

The #AWPW2W program has been so amazing to participate in - my mentor @dirtroadsndogs is a joy to work with and @DianeZinna has truly poured her heart and soul into this. It's a lovely community. #WritersLoveWriters #AWPMentorship



Hilary Zaid @hilaryzaid

Echoing @hkawrites on the mentor side. It's a joy to mentor a rising queer novelist through #awpmentorship . Thanks, @DianeZinna !



R.L. Maizes @RL_Maizes Nov 27

What is #AWPMentorship? A great community of established writers supporting a wonderful community of emerging writers. Need a writing mentor? Apply for February's session. @AWPWriter @DianeZinna



Rachel King @rachelkingpdx

I had never heard of this, thank you.



Diane Zinna @DianeZinna

Diane Zinna Retweeted Rachel King

We hope you will apply for our Spring 2019 season, Rachel--it's free to apply and free to take part. The only requirement is that you be a member of AWP.

[#AWPMentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



Jennifer Wholey @TheWholeyTruth

I didn't don't really know what I was getting into when I was selected for an [#AWPMentorship](#).

Spoiler: it helped me solidify what the heck I wanted out of my writing life! [@DianeZinna](#)

[@awpwriter](#) [#WritersLoveWriters](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



AWP @awpwriter

Thank you [@TheWholeyTruth](#). We are happy to have you part of [#AWPW2W](#) family!

[#awpmentorship](#)



Diane Zinna @DianeZinna

While W2W is open to all members, we especially encourage apps from writers of color, writers with disabilities, LGBTQ writers, and those who don't have an MFA. [#awpmentorship](#)

[#AWPW2W](#)



Helen Armstrong 📖 🌈 @hkawrites

This session's group of mentees is so wonderfully diverse! It's great to have so many perspectives. [#awpmentorship](#)



Jennifer Wholey @TheWholeyTruth

The best part is the community. And this year the mentees are entirely an amazing group of WOMEN! 🥰



Caroline Bock @cabockwrites

I'd also add writers of any age -- you don't have to be a kid to need a mentor!!
[#awpmentorship](#)



R.L. Maizes @RL_Maizes

So true!



Diane Zinna @DianeZinna

That is so true! We have people of all ages and all levels of experience. We have even had creative writing professors apply to explore other genres.
[#AWPMentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#).



Jennifer Steil @jfsteil7

This is a fabulous [#mentorship](#) program for [#writers](#) and I am thrilled to be part of it. Happy to answer any questions! [#AWPMentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



Jarika @JarikaJohnson

The [#AWPMentorship](#) has truly changed my experience as a writer for the better. The program seeks to uplift those who haven't quite found their way. That's me and so many others! It's worth the membership and the time to apply. I'm thankful for this program! [#AWPW2W](#)



Lauren K Carlson @LaurenK_Carlson

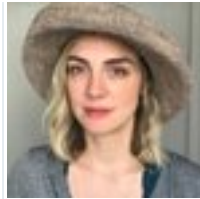
I knew I'd be meeting with a mentor during the [#awpmentorship](#) but I've been introduced to an amazing group of women writers during this process. My fellow mentees have been wonderful supporters and encouragers too. I wouldn't be where I am without them. [#AWPW2W](#)



Dr. Regina Chiuminatto @RChiuminatto

Replying to [@LaurenK_Carlson](#)

Here here! I'll add: while I sometimes feel I am falling behind the pace of what has become a very vibrant community (there's that old entrenched habit of berating oneself), the group has always been welcoming and supportive whenever I find some time to connect. [#awpmentorship](#)



Lauren K Carlson @LaurenK_Carlson

Yes, we all deserve to be cherished for writing at our own pace.



Elyse Durham [@durham_elyse](#)

Early this year, I realized I couldn't be a writer on my own. @AWPwriter showed me that I didn't have to. #AWPW2W #awpmentorship



R.L. Maizes [@RL_Maizes](#)

Many writers wish for a mentor. Here's your chance! [#AWPMentorship](#) [@awpwriter](#)
[@DianeZinna](#)



AWP [@awpwriter](#)

Good point @RL_Maizes! #AWPMentorship



Amy Nastase [@AmyN_writer](#)

Receiving mentorship from a wise and established writer was such a gift. The program is officially 12 weeks, but the advice & encouragement I got from my mentor will last for my entire writing life. [#AWPMentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



Caroline Bock [@cabockwrites](#)

The best of 2018 for me? Working with my talented mentee and @DianeZinna and everyone at the @awpmentorship program #awpmentorship !! #WritersLoveWriters . Inspiring.



Elyse Durham [@durham_elyse](#)

Thank you, [@nbakopoulos](#), for introducing me to [@awpwriter](#)! Because of you, I was able to be part of this year's [#AWPW2W](#) program, and I've grown by leaps and bounds. [#awpmentorship](#)



Diane Zinna [@DianeZinna](#)

Being involved with the program all along the way is personally rewarding to me and helps me better understand our members. [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



Diane Zinna [@DianeZinna](#)

We don't just match people and step away! We check in regularly and provide space for participants to connect & share with one another. [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



Elyse Durham [@durham_elyse](#)

This is so true! [@DianeZinna](#) and [@awpwriter](#) have come right alongside us during the [#AWPW2W](#) program and offered so much support. Y'all are amazing.



Jennifer Wholey [@TheWholeyTruth](#)

[@DianeZinna](#) is seriously a goddess.



AWP [@awpwriter](#)

Well, we were trying to keep it a secret... 😊 [@TheWholeyTruth](#)
[#AWPMentorship](#)



Laura Laing [@llaingwriter](#)

I have been so surprised by the one-on-one support from AWP, as well as from my mentor. The bi-weekly modules give our discussions structure, plus there is room for us to develop our own way through the mentee/mentor relationship



AWP [@awpwriter](#)

We are happy to have you part of the [#AWPW2W](#) family!
[#AWPMentorship](#) [@llaingwriter](#)



Jarika [@JarikaJohnson](#)

It really is the BEST support you could ask for. I gained this amazing opportunity but also an incredible community and support system. Like, overnight! There's nothing like [#AWPMentorship](#)



AWP [@awpwriter](#)

Thank you [@JarikaJohnson](#), there is nothing like kind words, that is the BEST when we love the support we are able to provide. [#awpmentorship](#)



Elyse Durham [@durham_elyse](#)

If you're a writer looking for community, mentorship, and overall skill-sharpening/mind-boggling support and encouragement, look no further. [@awpwriter](#) [@DianeZinna](#) [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



Megan DeMatteo [@megdematteo](#)

Skill sharpening and mind-boggling seem like opposites but my how they go together! Writing is magic, and and so is mentorship. [#awpmentorship](#) [@awpwriter](#) [@DianeZinna](#)



Diane Zinna [@DianeZinna](#)

Many of our mentors were inspired to apply to the program because of great mentors they have had. [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



Elyse Durham [@durham_elyse](#)

[@DianeZinna](#) Applying to be a mentor someday is #1 on my writing bucket list now! This program has given so much to me, and I can't wait to give back. [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#) [@awpwriter](#)



Romanalorga [@Romanalorga](#)

And mine! 😊



Diane Zinna @DianeZinna

Oh wow. This means so much. Thank you, Elyse. [#AWPMentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



Diane Zinna @DianeZinna

This season, our amazing mentee [@JarikaJohnson](#) offered to match the mentees up with one another so everyone could have a peer critique partner, too! [#matchmaking](#) [#AWPW2W](#) [#AWPMentorship](#)



Jessica Wilbanks @creativenonfic

I'll be spending my lunch break today chatting with @DianeZinna, @awpwriter, and a bunch of mentees and mentors about [#AWPMentorship](#)'s awesome Writer to Writer program. If you have questions about the program, send them my way. [#AWPW2W](#)



AWP @awpwriter

Haha [@creativenonfic](#), we're enjoying lunch with you to answer questions!



AWP @awpwriter

Thank you [@creativenonfic](#)! [#AWPMentorship](#)



Diane Zinna [@DianeZinna](#)

Writer to Writer modules help you answer essential questions about being a writer. How will I support myself? How do I develop my process? What do I do when I lose focus or inspiration? [#AWPW2W](#) [#awpmentorship](#)



Jennifer Steil [@jfsteil7](#)

Talking with my mentee [@okatrondjian](#) is always a highlight of my week. Her novel is significant and provocative. It's a deep pleasure to be a part of her process. Our conversations always spark my brain and I return to my own work inspired. [#AWPmentorship](#) [@DianeZinna](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



Diane Zinna [@DianeZinna](#)

Our mentors volunteer their time, and there is no charge for the Writer to Writer mentorship. It's free! The only requirement is that you're an AWP member. [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



Elyse Durham [@durham_elyse](#)

[#AWPW2W](#) has given me the support I needed to decide that yes, it IS time to call myself a writer at last, to put out those grad apps, to start sending out work for publication. [#MFA2019](#), here I come! [@awpwriter](#) [@DianeZinna](#)



Aaron Caycedo-Kimura [@AaronCK](#)

My mentor provided a truly safe place for me to be vulnerable and ask all my "dumb" questions. I learned so much and now love poetry even more. [#AWPMentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)
[@DianeZinna](#) [@awpwriter](#)



Olga Livshin [@OlgaLivshin](#)

At one point in my [#AWPMentorship](#), I would escape to the roof to talk on Skype with my mentor. We had a cramped apartment in Cambridge, MA, and my son took a nap--this was the only time. Leaves, snow accumulated, and Janet laughed. It was a tough time. We overcame it together!



Elyse Durham [@durham_elyse](#)

I've wanted to get an MFA for ages, but family obligations dictated otherwise. This was the first year in nearly a decade I was able to put writing first. Thanks to [@awpwriter](#) and [#AWPW2W](#), I've been able to hone in on my vocation, sharpen my skills, and find community at last.



Diane Zinna [@DianeZinna](#)

We look for mentors who will, above all, be supportive, responsive, and open to learning from the experience themselves. [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



[**Jessica Wilbanks @creativenonfic**](#)

In honor of [@GivingTuesday](#), I'm donating a signed copy of my new book, When I Spoke in Tongues, to anyone who makes a donation of \$10 or more to [@awpwriter](#) by midnight central time on 11/27. Please support the [#AWPMentorship](#) program, which has made 498 writers a lot less lonely.



[**Jessica Wilbanks @creativenonfic**](#)

To participate, please RT and then send me a direct message. If you're selected, I'll email you and asked for a screenshot of your donation receipt. [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



[**Jessica Wilbanks @creativenonfic**](#)

Oops, I realize I phrased this badly! One person will be selected to receive a free book...but since it was my mistake, I'll pick three people instead.



[**Jessica Wilbanks @creativenonfic**](#)

Wish I could send every single person who donates to [@AWP](#) a copy! [#LifeGoals](#) [#MaybeNextYear](#)



[**Megan DeMatteo @megdematteo**](#)

Thank you [@creativenonfic](#) !!! [#AWPMentorship](#)



Hélène Cardona @HeleneCardona

Mentorships create bridges between writers. I loved Mentoring [@awpwriter](#) [#AWPMentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#) [@dianezinna](#). What an enriching, transformative experience! [#WritersLoveWriters](#) This [#GivingTuesday](#) when you donate to AWP you can win one of their signed books!



Laura Laing @llaingwriter

Hey you writers! If you need a mentor or if you want to be a mentor, check out AWP's Writer to Writer program. [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#). Craft. Publishing. Writing communities. I've talked about it all with my mentor [@ericatrabold](#). You should apply.



Elyse Durham @durham_elyse

The most unexpected joy of [#AWPW2W](#) has been our mentees-only Facebook group. Such awesome community! Such laughs! Such genuinely helpful suggestions and ideas! It makes the writing life a little less lonely and a hecka more fun. [@awpwriter](#) [@DianeZinna](#)



Romanalorga @Romanalorga

Totally agree! And the best thing is, the way it's going, our community will continue to thrive when the current session is over!



Diane Zinna [@DianeZinna](#)

Writers of genre-bending or unique work: apply! Our pairings often find striking commonalities—and grow through differences. We have a new favorite phrase this season: [#genrepromiscuous](#) [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



Tom Stern [@tomsternwrites](#)

[#AWPMentorship](#) facilitates a unique type of dialogue, a very human conversation between two people striving towards similar goals and reflecting upon their experiences from different points of a continuum. It's not a classroom or a writer's group but something very singular.



Diane Zinna [@DianeZinna](#)

When pairing people, we like to think there is a bit of magic at work. [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



Dr. Regina Chiuminatto [@RChiuminatto](#)

Magic is a great word! In conversation with my mentor [@jasonmgray](#) I have been discovering so many points of connection and have gotten to see how lives and communities are shaped through and with poetry. I knew I wanted to find community, but now I understand why. [#awpmentorship](#)



Aaron Caycedo-Kimura [@AaronCK](#)

There's also keen perception involved in considering personalities, writing samples, and views of the writing life. The [#awpmentorship](#) team is so amazing at what they do!



Margaret Grant [@MargaretGrant22](#)

This mentorship was a turning point in my life as a writer. My writing improved, my confidence grew, and a story was published! [#AWPMentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#) [@DianeZinna](#) [@VirginiaPye](#) [#amwriting](#)



Margaret Grant [@MargaretGrant22](#)

I encourage writers all the time to apply to the [#AWPMentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#) My outstanding mentor [@VirginiaPye](#) and I are still in touch reading and supporting each other nearly two years later. [#amwriting](#) [@DianeZinna](#)



Virginia Pye [@VirginiaPye](#)

Such a rewarding way to get to know other writers! Join [@awpwriter](#) [#AWPmentorship](#). I'm grateful for [@MargaretGrant22](#) and her brilliant book!



Elyse Durham [@durham](#) [elyse](#)

Writers of the world, if you're looking for a way to support the literary community this [#GivingTuesday](#), look no further than [@awpwriter](#). Writer-to-Writer gives new and experienced writers the chance to connect and share what they've learned. Trust me--you want in on this.



Elyse Durham [@durham_elyse](#)

And if you can't give financially, consider applying to be a [#AWPW2W](#) mentor. Through this [@awpwriter](#) program, you can help introduce a new writer into the world. We're all only here because somebody showed us the way. Why not give that same gift to someone else?



Diane Zinna [@DianeZinna](#)

Sometimes apps from people of color express a desire for a mentor with the same background & those mentors aren't there. [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



Annette Wong [@StrnglyWrddLTR](#)

That my mentor [@neil_aitken](#) & I both have the experience of being Asian American, trans-national & multilingual has so enhanced our conversations abt. writing & the themes that speak to us. I hope other writers of color will have a similarly enriching experience [#awpmentorship](#)



Diane Zinna [@DianeZinna](#)

When looking at mentee apps, we tend to set aside those from writers looking for a fast path to publication. [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



Diane Zinna [@DianeZinna](#)

W2W is about relationship building between two writers and their mutual growth. Mentors often say they learn just as much. [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



Jarika @JarikaJohnson

My mentor [@tomsternwrites](#) has given me insight into his writing journey along with encouragement & guidance. & sometimes, we just chat about family, work, and the like, bc it's all apart of the writer experience. So glad my exp now includes this program. [#AWPMentorship](#)
[#AWPW2W](#)



Olivia Katrandjian @okatrاندjian

I'm so thankful for the guidance I've received from my mentor [@jfsteil7](#) through [#AWPMentorship](#). She inspires me to be a better writer. I've gained not only professional support but also a friend and role model. Thank you [@DianeZinna](#) and [@awpwriter](#) for this opportunity! [#AWPW2W](#)



Jennifer Steil @jfsteil7

Also, it's just so much fun! (I am sorry for the slowness of my Tweets - I am on a train between Bournemouth and London with intermittent Internet!) But yay [#AWPMentorship](#)!



Clare @clr_sanders

The AWP Writer to Writer program has been a dream come true! I've learned more about craft these past three months than I have in all the rest of my writing years combined. [@DianeZinna](#)
[#AWPMentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



[Elyse Durham @durham_elyse](#)

Clare, it's so true! If the writing life were like Mario Kart, [#AWPW2W](#) is like running into a super-turbocharged line of bananas that explodes your writing off into the sunset...



[AWP @awpwriter](#)

[#besttweetever](#) [#AWPMentorship](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

To the mentees and mentors who are with us today—what advice would you give to future participants? [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



[Aaron Caycedo-Kimura @AaronCK](#)

Facetime or Skype. It makes a HUGE difference. It's bonding. I know it doesn't happen this way with every pair, but my mentor and I have continued to Facetime every two or three weeks, trading poems. [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



[Romanalorga @Romanalorga](#)

Yes! Introducing our children and pets can help, too!



Aaron Caycedo-Kimura [@AaronCK](#)

:D



lisa nikolidakis [@lisanikol](#)

Sometimes you need not to write. And that's okay, too.



Romanalorga [@Romanalorga](#)

Take yourself seriously--you're a writer if and when you write. Show up at your workplace (writing desk/cave, library, coffee shop, etc.) ready for the greatest adventure of your day.



Margaret Grant [@MargaretGrant22](#)

To mentees - take responsibility for the success of your menteeship. Great support is available from [@DianeZinna](#) but it is up to you to be clear about what you need and work with your mentor to make it great. [#AWPW2W](#) [#AWPMentorship](#)



Jennifer Wholey [@TheWholeyTruth](#)

Ask all the questions that pop into your head, even (and especially!) the "stupid" ones. You are in a wonderful cocoon and can do no wrong, except hold back.



Sassafra Lowrey [@sassafra_lowrey](#)

my #1 piece of advice for writers thinking of applying to [#AWPW2W](#) is to be *very* honest with yourself and with your application materials about what kind of writing you want to do, what your goals are and what you hope to get out of the program-don't write what you think we want



Sassafra Lowrey [@sassafra_lowrey](#)

My other piece of advice for folks considering applying to [#AWPW2W](#) is just apply! Don't be a perfectionist! When I read applications I'm not looking for a perfect writer I'm looking for a passionate writer



Megan DeMatteo [@megdematteo](#)

Love this advice. Perfectionism kills genius! Thanks [@sassafra_lowrey](#) for your dedication and sight for passion & potential. [#awpmentorship](#)
[#writerslovewriters](#)



Elyse Durham [@durham_elyse](#)

[@DianeZinna](#) I would advise future [#AWPW2W](#) applicants to be 100% themselves. The more honest they are in their statement and sample, the better the match will be--and that makes all the difference.



[R.L. Maizes @RL_Maizes](#)

A writing mentor you can ask all those scary questions: Can you make a living as a writer? How does one get an agent? Can I borrow \$100? (kidding!) [#AWPMentorship](#) [@awpwriter](#) [@DianeZinna](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Our mentors and mentees find community with one another as well. Facebook groups and group calls help this along. [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

To the mentors who are chatting with us today: what made you choose your mentee? [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



[Tom Stern @tomsternwrites](#)

[@JarikaJohnson](#)'s application made it clear that she was ambitious, imaginative, and grounded. Her imagination was off in the stratosphere and her mind was trained intently on being a better writer. Perfect combo for me and for [#AWPMentorship](#)



[Hélène Cardona @HeleneCardona](#)

I love Laura Braverman's poetry!



[**Erica Trabold @ericatrabold**](#)

There were so many cool metaphors and experiments my mentee wanted to try in her nonfiction, and I couldn't wait to read more!!



[**Erica Trabold @ericatrabold**](#)

As I read apps, I thought a lot about my strengths and who I could best serve. Laura was looking for a mentor who knew nothing about abstract math (that's me!) and could encourage formal experiments (my fave!). In her app, I saw needs I could uniquely meet.



[**Jessica Wilbanks @creativenonfic**](#)

I chose my mentee, Shannelle Mills, because I was blown away by the gorgeous language in her sample essay. Sentence by sentence, her work is stunning. Plus, we're both interested in nonfiction that integrates research while also remaining deeply personal. [#AWPW2W](#) [#AWPmentorship](#)



[**Diane Zinna @DianeZinna**](#)

Mentees take time to consider the mentor's work before accepting their place in the program. That way, when the mentor and mentee begin the program, they are doing so having chosen each other. [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



[**Elyse Durham @durham_elyse**](#)

I still maintain you guys use a Sorting Hat in this magical process.



Diane Zinna [@DianeZinna](#)

We actually make wishes on this Harry Potter plushie and ceramic Niffler.

[#HarryPotter](#) [#AWPMentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



Elizabeth Zertuche [@WriterEZertuche](#)

Meeting and hanging out with my Fall 2017 AWP Writer to Writer Mentor [@jennyleeSD](#) was the highlight of my AWP 2018 experience! Thank you, [@DianeZinna](#).

[#awpmentorship](#)
[#AWPW2W](#)





Diane Zinna @DianeZinna

When submitting your 10-page writing sample, be sure to submit current work. You want someone who will read your work and say, "I can help this person with THIS project."

[#AWPW2W](#) [#awpmentorship](#)



Diane Zinna @DianeZinna

We send 3 or 4 applications, along with writing samples, to each mentor. The mentor then chooses the 1 person they want to work with. [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



Diane Zinna @DianeZinna

Mentors don't tend to look for the best or most accomplished writer. They look for the person they think they can best help. So don't try to be impressive. Be open and honest in your answers to the application questions. [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



Soniah Kamal @SoniahKamal

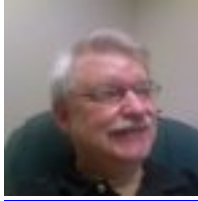
Being an AWP mentor was a pleasure! Gift yourself the gift of teaching and learning [@awpwriter](#) [@DianeZinna](#) [#AWPmentorship](#)



Margaret Lazarus Dean @mlazarusdean

It's really satisfying to give the advice and encouragement you wish you'd gotten.

[#AWPMentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



Michael Wells [@stickpoet](#)

A big thank you to [@DianeZinna](#) and her [#W2W](#) [#AWPMentorship](#) staff for making [#W2W](#) such a successful program that so many benefit from.



Diane Zinna [@DianeZinna](#)

[#AWPMentorship](#) is trending on Twitter! [#AWPMentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



Kathleen Driskell [@kathdriskell](#)

Nearly every good thing in my life has come about through a connection with another writer. Maybe you feel the same? Please consider giving a donation today of \$5 or more to [@awpwriter](#) Writer to Writer program. Our fundraising link is [https://www.awpwriter.org/store/donations_givingtuesday ...](https://www.awpwriter.org/store/donations_givingtuesday...) [#AWPMentorship](#)



Diane Zinna [@DianeZinna](#)

To those who have applied, or are thinking of applying: what do you hope to gain from the program? [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



Diane Zinna [@DianeZinna](#)

To our mentors and mentees—share your collaborations and projects that were inspired or helped along by your [#awpmentorship](#) experience. [#AWPW2W](#)



[Jennifer Savran Kelly @savranly](#)

My mentor [@amylizwrites](#) helped me navigate through a novel ms with a complex structure. Through candid feedback and multiple discussions, she helped me identify the where the strengths were and reset my goals and intentions. It was a tremendous learning experience.



[Helen Armstrong 📖🌈 @hkawrites](#)

We've both been doing a lot of pure creation - free writes in the morning! It's been great. [#AWPMentorship](#)



[Romanalorga @Romanalorga](#)

My mentor, [@ErinHoover](#) is helping me re-envision my whole manuscript. It's so incredible to have another writer look at my work seriously, with care and compassion for the little neurotic writer that I am.



[Erin Hoover @ErinHoover](#)



[Diane Zinna @DianeZinna](#)

Last season we selected about 50% of the people who applied to serve as mentors to participate. [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



Margaret Grant [@MargaretGrant22](#)

In the application you are asked what you hope to get out of the program, so the matching is with someone who will help you with your stated goals. [#AWPW2W](#) [#AWPMentorship](#) [@DianeZinna](#)



Clare [@clr_sanders](#)

AWP's Writer to Writer program is incredible for those who are searching for community and craving feedback from a more experienced writer. It's a beautiful opportunity to feel more supported and less alone as a writer! [@DianeZinna](#) [#AWPW2W](#) [#AWPMentorship](#)



Ann E Feldman [@AnnEFeldman11](#)

[#awpmentorship](#) - So, if you're on the fence about applying to [#AWPW2W](#) ask yourself the question I asked myself - "Why not? What's the worst and best that can happen?" For me the best happened.



Diane Zinna [@DianeZinna](#)

Before choosing our mentors, we look at all of the mentee applications first to see what that round's applicants are wanting. [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



Diane Zinna [@DianeZinna](#)

We want our mentors to have pure intentions, too. If it's clear they are doing it to promote a new book, we set the app aside. [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



Diane Zinna @DianeZinna

We celebrate our mentors and mentees in our social media and at the AWP conference. Sometimes it's the first chance for a pairing to see each other face to face. [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#).



Diane Zinna @DianeZinna

Though we didn't expect this, about 1/3 of our mentors have come back to us asking to serve again. [#awpmentorship](#). [#AWPW2W](#)



Diane Zinna @DianeZinna

Thinking about being a mentor? You need to be an AWP member in good standing and have at least one published book. [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



Margaret Grant @MargaretGrant22

My mentor [@VirginiaPye](#) is so knowledgeable and experienced in writing, publishing, and marketing. I have learned so much from her. [#AWPW2W](#) [#AWPMentorship](#) [@DianeZinna](#) [#amwriting](#)



Diane Zinna @DianeZinna

Many of our mentoring pairs told us that they planned on keeping in touch once their session ended. [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



Andrew Bouelle [@AndrewBouelle](#)

I still keep in touch with my mentor, the terrific writer Evan Morgan Williams. He just emailed me yesterday and said he wanted to send me a book he'd read that reminded him of what I'm working on. [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



Sassafras Lowrey [@sassafraflowrey](#)

Authors: considering ways to give back to literary communities? Check out the [@awpwriter](#) [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#) program! I've had a wonderful experience mentoring queer writers! [#LGBTQ](#) [#writing](#) [#onwriting](#) [#mentoring](#)



Diane Zinna [@DianeZinna](#)

To the mentees who are with us today—how has the [#awpmentorship](#) program affected the writing goals that you have set? Any new goals? [#AWPW2W](#)



Helen Armstrong 📖🌈 [@hkawrites](#)

I came in not sure if I should pursue a creative writing degree, but now I'm almost finished applying!



Elyse Durham [@durham_elyse](#)

[#awpmentorship](#) showed me that yes, I do need to take my writing seriously and no, I'm not crazy for considering an MFA. More than anything, though, it showed me how amazing it is to be part of the literary community.



[Helen Armstrong](#) 📖🌈 [@hkawrites](#)

This!!



[Margaret Grant @MargaretGrant22](#)

My goal was to write beautifully and it still is. But with the [#AWPW2W](#) [#AWPMentorship](#) I began to believe in further possibilities of finding an agent and being published. And the program has helped with both!



[Aaron Caycedo-Kimura @AaronCK](#)

The [#awpmentorship](#) program made me realize that my writing goals/dreams are actually possible! I feel like I'm continuing to grow as a writer.



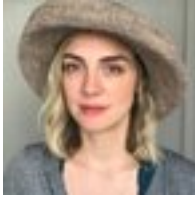
[Romanalorga @Romanalorga](#)

I'm having the same experience! I've been in arm-pinching mode since September.



[Jack El-Hai @Jack ElHai](#)

Thank you for writing "affected" instead of "impacted."



[Lauren K Carlson @LaurenK_Carlson](#)

My mentor and I are working on a collaborative poem. I haven't done something like this before and am looking forward to building some new creative muscles.



[Caroline Plasket @CarolinePlasket](#)

I learned so much from my mentor—and she's still there for me! I had no idea what the process of putting all of these separate parts together as one cohesive collective looked like. A W2W mentor is kind of like a writing doula, you know, the mentees are birthing their work...❤️



[Romanalorga @Romanalorga](#)

I have a better idea of what I need to do with my manuscript--what poems will take more work, what poems are almost there, and what poems will serve as load-bearing walls for the whole structure of the book.



[Laura Laing @llaingwriter](#)

I applied to the program to learn more about breaking form, and my mentor, [@ericatrabold](#) has introduced me to a few exercises in revision to help me write against type (so to speak). It's been so inspiring, and now revision has taken on a brand new meaning. [#awpw2w](#)



Elyse Durham [@durham_elyse](#)

My [#AWPW2W](#) mentor has been showing me what the writing life is like. Early on, you've got so many questions. Am I really a writer? How do start a daily practice? If I can only write for five minutes, does that "count"? (Answers: YES! Commit! Sure does!) [@awpwriter](#) [@DianeZinna](#)



Preeti Parikh [@PreetiSParikh](#)

I remain thankful for how deeply invested my mentor [@ShikhaMalaviya](#) has been in the conversations we've had during (and even after) the program. Thank you, [@DianeZinna](#) and [#AWPW2W](#) for facilitating this wonderful connection!



Megan DeMatteo [@megdematteo](#)

Love this story. Thank you, [@PreetiSParikh](#). [#AWPmentorship](#) is an investment in human connection.



Ann E Feldman [@AnnEFeldman11](#)

[#awpmentorship](#): Oops! [@drocklin](#) is my MENTOR EXTRAORDINAIRE. Can you tell that I'm a Twitter newbie?



Elyse Durham [@durham_elyse](#)

My [#AWPW2W](#) mentor, Zeke Jarvis, has gone out of his way to give me feedback, advice, reading recs, and encouragement--all just because he wants to give back. [@awpwriter](#) [@DianeZinna](#)



Diane Zinna [@DianeZinna](#)

We want to hear from you! What are you looking for in a mentorship experience?
#awpmentorship #AWPW2W



Diane Zinna [@DianeZinna](#)

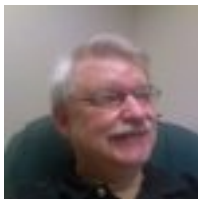
Mentee applications for our 10th season are welcome January 1–12. Mentor applications are welcome now. [#awpmentorship](#) <https://awp.submittable.com/submit> [#AWPW2W](#)



Lauren RIOT! [@ell_emm_dee](#)

Lauren RIOT! Retweeted Diane Zinna

Seriously, friends. You want to apply for this!! [#AWPmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



Michael Wells [@stickpoet](#)

[#AWPWriter2Writer](#) program introduced me to a number of awesome writing friends. My mentor Ken Waldman was most gracious with his time and assistance. [#W2W](#) may be the best-kept secret for emerging writers so we need to spread the word!



billykilgore [@billydkilgore](#)

So grateful for my time in [#AWPMentorship](#). My mentor introduced me to many helpful resources that improved my writing. Thankful for [@beoliu](#)'s support and the work of [@DianeZinna](#).



Preeti Parikh [@PreetiSParikh](#)

[#awpmentorship](#) Can't wait to meet [#AWPW2W](#) folks in person at AWP19!



Elyse Durham [@durham_elyse](#)

I almost didn't open the email telling me I'd been selected as a [#AWPW2W](#) mentee. I'd been rejected from so many things and was really discouraged, and I didn't want more bad news. But it was good news! I shrieked in a coffeeshop. People stared. [@DianeZinna](#) [@awpwriter](#)



Shikha Malaviya [@ShikhaMalaviya](#)

So happy to have had the opportunity/privilege to be a mentor three times through [#AWPW2W](#) program. Thank you [@DianeZinna](#) and her amazing team [@awpwriter](#)! Please consider supporting AWP's mentorship program on this [#GivingTuesday](#)



Diane Zinna [@DianeZinna](#)

We also have received applications from individuals who feel geographically isolated from other writers and writing communities. [#awpmentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



Diane Zinna [@DianeZinna](#)

Thank you ALL for taking the time to Tweet with me! This was so much fun! Prospective mentors and mentees, please reach out to me with any questions at diane@awpwriter.org. We welcome mentee applications January 1-12 and mentor applications right NOW!

[#AWPMentorship](#) [#AWPW2W](#)



Elyse Durham [@durham_elyse](#)

[@DianeZinna](#) This hour has gone by so fast! Thank you for giving us the chance to brag about how awesome [#awpmentorship](#) is. And thank you, [@awpwriter](#), for making us part of this community!



AWP [@awpwriter](#)

Thank you all for your participation in today's tweet chat! Thank you [@DianeZinna](#) for being our host and all [#AWPW2W](#) participants! [#AWPMentorship](#)



AWP [@awpwriter](#)

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[#AWPMentorship](#)



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Head over to Facebook as we continue to give away signed books to those donating this [#GivingTuesday](#)! [#AWPMentorship](#) [#Writerslovewriters](#)