



Association of Writers
& Writing Programs

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AWP's 2016 Los Angeles Conference & Bookfair (March 30–April 2) features 2,000 Presenters and 550 Literary Events!

Fairfax, VA, March 17, 2016 — Now the largest literary conference in North America, the 2016 AWP Conference & Bookfair will take place March 30 to April 2 at the Los Angeles Convention Center and J.W. Marriott Hotel. More than 12,000 people are expected to attend. The conference will highlight over 2,000 authors, editors, teachers, and publishers.

AWP's Keynote speaker is Claudia Rankine, the author of five collections of poetry including *Citizen: An American Lyric* and *Don't Let Me Be Lonely: An American Lyric*. She received the National Book Critics Circle Award in the poetry category for *Citizen*, the first book to ever be named a finalist in both the poetry and criticism categories. *Citizen* also won the Los Angeles Times Book Prize, the PEN Open Book Award, and the NAACP Image Award, and it was a finalist for the National Book Award.

Additional featured presenters include many of contemporary literature's best authors, including Rabih Alameddine, Elizabeth Alexander, Richard Bausch, Eula Biss, Peter Ho Davies, W.S. Di Piero, Geoff Dyer, Percival Everett, Jonathan Franzen, Francisco Goldman, Rigoberto González, Linda Gregerson, Rachel Eliza Griffiths, Juan Felipe Herrera, Edward Hirsch, Leslie Jamison, Laura Kasischke, Douglas Kearney, Phil Klay, Jonathan Lethem, Robin Coste Lewis, Ada Limón, Kelly Link, Helen Macdonald, Emily St. John Mandel, Domingo Martinez, Heather McHugh, Elizabeth McKenzie, Maggie Nelson, Marilyn Nelson, Naomi Shihab Nye, Joyce Carol Oates, Susan Orlean, Ruth Ozeki, Gregory Pardlo, D.A. Powell, Roger Reeves, Roxana Robinson, Luis J. Rodriguez, Richard Siken, Héctor Tobar, Natasha Trethewey, Ellen Bryant Voigt, Jess Walter, and Amy Wilentz. The complete schedule can be viewed at

https://www.awpwriter.org/awp_conference/schedule_overview

"We are thrilled that AWP's conference continues to grow in size and stature, allowing us to showcase such a diverse gathering of wonderful writers, editors, publishers, teachers, and literary arts professionals," noted Executive Director David Fenza.

Onsite registration will open on Wednesday, March 30 at the Los Angeles Convention Center, 1201 S. Figueroa Street in Los Angeles: \$200 for members and \$300 for nonmembers. Registration includes admission to AWP's bookfair, an exhibit area featuring over 800 independent and university presses; print and online literary magazines; trade publishers; writers' conferences, centers, and retreats; national literary organizations; and creative writing programs.

We are pleased to announce that our 2016 Premier Sponsor is USC Dornsife Department of English and PhD in Creative Writing & Literature, and our Presenting Sponsor is BOA Editions, Ltd. Major Sponsors include the Jackson Center for Creative Writing at Hollins University, Adelphi University,

Antioch University Los Angeles, Chapman University, Graywolf Press, the Poetry Foundation, Otis College of Art & Design, and the University of Tampa. Corporate support includes BrilliantWriter.com, Patreon, and write.ink.

Our Literary Partners include the Academy of American Poets, American Literary Translators Association, Author's Guild, Blue Flower Arts, Cave Canem Foundation, Center for Fiction, Copper Canyon Press, Community of Literary Magazines & Presses, Grove/Atlantic Press, Hugo House, Kundiman, National Book Critics Circle, Penguin Random House Speakers Bureau, Poetry Society of America, Poets House, Red Hen Press, and Writers in the Schools.

AWP's conference is made possible in part by grants from the City of Los Angeles, Department of Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts.

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The mission of AWP is to foster literary achievement, to advance the art of writing as essential to a good education, and to serve the makers, teachers, students, and readers of contemporary writing. Founded in 1967, AWP supports nearly 50,000 writers, over 550 college and university creative writing programs, and 150 writers' conferences and centers.