



UCLA Extension

WE ARE THE **WRITERS**. WE ARE CAPTIVATED BY WORDS, NEW BEGINNINGS, AND POWERFUL ENDINGS. WE ARE THE STORYTELLERS. WE BREATHE LIFE INTO CHARACTERS, INFUSE DIALOGUE WITH TENSION, CREATE EMOTION THROUGH SCENE. BECAUSE EVERY ONE OF US HAS A STORY TO TELL, AND WE ARE COMPELLED TO TELL IT. WE ARE THE WRITERS, AND THIS IS THE BEGINNING OF A GREAT STORY. **YOURS. UCLA EXTENSION WRITERS' PROGRAM**

3 What is the Writers' Program? 4 The Courses 5 The Instructors
6 Mentorships and Consultations 7 Certificate Programs 8 Writers Studio
9 In the Community 10 Beyond the Classroom 12 Student Success Stories

IMAGINE LEARNING WRITING FROM GREAT WRITERS: NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHORS; EMMY AND PUSHCART PRIZE WINNERS; LUMINARIES BEHIND SOME OF TODAY'S — AND THE PAST DECADES' — TOP-GROSSING MOVIES AND TV SHOWS. IF THAT'S THE KIND OF WRITING INSTRUCTION YOU'RE LOOKING FOR, YOU'VE COME TO THE RIGHT PLACE. THE WRITERS' PROGRAM IS WHERE WRITERS GO FROM START TO FINISH. FROM PRACTICED TO PUBLISHED. FROM NOTEBOOK SCRIBBLE TO BIG SCREEN. IT IS A WELCOMING, CHALLENGING, AND INSPIRING ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH TO HONE YOUR CRAFT. **YOUR STORY IS PART OF OUR STORY. WELCOME TO THE UCLA EXTENSION WRITERS' PROGRAM**

YOU ARE...

CRAFTING YOUR FIRST STORY,

YOUR FIFTH STORY.

SITTING ON THE NEXT BIG SCREENPLAY.

LOOKING FOR THAT FINAL TWIST.

IN NEED OF INSPIRATION,

AN HONEST CRITIQUE.

YOU ARE A WRITER.

AND YOU'VE COME TO THE RIGHT PLACE.



WRITE YOUR NEXT CHAPTER HERE AT THE **UCLA EXTENSION** **WRITERS' PROGRAM.**

The cover of this stunning new Writers' Program brochure is a manifesto, a statement of the power of writers and the written word, and our promise to nurture and serve both. This is our mandate and passion.

Inside these pages, you will discover the many ways Writers' Program helps creative people take their writing dream and turn it into novels, screenplays, poems, memoirs—and possibly, into a new career. The depth of our curriculum; credentials of our professional writer-instructors; supportive and rigorous learning environment and full-time advising staff; certificate program options; unparalleled access to scholarships, competitions, and literary prizes; and flexibility of format: all are designed to honor your writing goals and assist you in achieving them.

Writers' Program marks its 50th anniversary in 2016. Over the last five decades, we have trained Academy Award and Emmy award winners, *New York Times* best-selling authors, Pushcart Prize recipients, and yes, even a Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning playwright. We celebrate our past but exist to create the writers of the future.

Write here, write now, and become part of our legacy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda Venis". The script is fluid and cursive.

Linda Venis, PhD

*Director, Department of the Arts
Program Director, Writers' Program*

"Any awards I've been fortunate enough to win, and any skill I've developed as a writer and an editor, I can trace back to the lessons I learned at the Writers' Program."

- J. RYAN STRADAL | author whose book, *Kitchens of the Great Midwest*, was a *New York Times* Bestseller and a winner of the Pirate's Alley Faulkner Prize

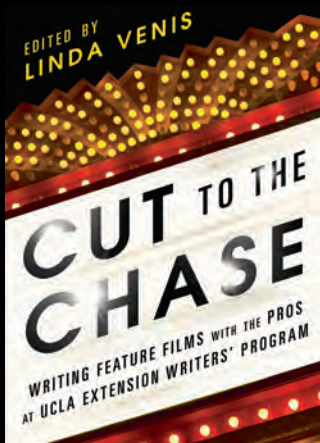
“Signing up for the Writers’ Program was a crucial step in taking my writing to the next level.”

- GRETA HEINEMANN | staff writer on *NCIS New Orleans*; CBS Writers Mentoring Program; winner of the Humanitas Prize’s New Voices Initiative; 1st place winner in the TV Specs category and 2nd place winner in the TV Pilots category, UCLA Extension Screenplay Competitions.

WHAT IS THE WRITERS’ PROGRAM?

The UCLA Extension Writers’ Program is the largest and most comprehensive creative writing and screenwriting program in the world. **We offer more than 400 open-enrollment courses annually, adaptable to individual schedules, learning styles, and writing goals.** Taught by more than 200 professional writers, we offer a full array of online and onsite courses (evening and daytime), weekend workshops, certificate programs, a four-day Writers Studio, nine-month Master Classes, and one-on-one consultations and mentorships. Our goal is simple: to let you chart your own writing path, work at your own pace, and enjoy a rigorous and supportive environment in which to start, finish, or refine a piece.

No matter where you are in your story, the Writers’ Program can help you take it to the next level.



NOVELS. MEMOIRS. SCREENPLAYS. AND MORE.

Design Your Own Writing Education

The Writers' Program offers you hundreds of courses to choose from each year — spanning genres, craft issues, industries, and interests. Because you can take an “à la carte” approach, selecting whatever course (or courses) work for you at a given time, you’re able to home in on and fast track your individual writing goals. A full slate of beginning, intermediate, and advanced courses are offered year-round.

See where expert instruction and wild imagination can take your story!

Here are just a few of the topics offered at the Writers' Program.

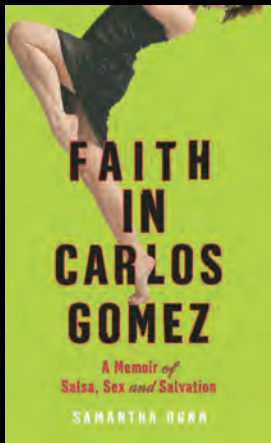
Creative Writing

- Novel
- Short Fiction
- Memoir
- Personal Essay
- Poetry
- Writing for the Youth Market
- Publishing

Screenwriting

- Feature Film
- Animation
- One-Hour TV Drama Spec
- Half-Hour TV Comedy Spec
- Creating the TV Pilot
- Creating a Web Series
- The Business of Screenwriting

For a course catalog, visit:
uclaextension.edu.



TEACHERS WHO WRITE. WRITERS WHO TEACH.

Learn from Professional Writers Who Teach

As a Writers' Program student, you have the distinct advantage of developing your art and craft under the guidance of professional writers as well as key influencers, including literary agents, studio executives, and managers. In addition to our Los Angeles-based instructors, the Writers' Program draws upon the talents of accomplished writers from around the country — and the world — to teach in our online virtual classrooms.

With an instructor corps of more than 200 writer-instructors, with thousands of published and produced credits, rankings on the *New York Times* Bestseller List, Emmy awards, and Pushcart Prizes, you have access to the knowledge, skills, and credentials you need to grow as a writer — and just maybe to convert your passion for writing into a new way of life.

"The Writers' Program courses at UCLA Extension offer the best of both worlds: academic excellence and the real-world experience of accomplished screenwriters."

- STUART BEATTIE | screenwriter, *Tarzan* (2016); *G.I. Joe: the Rise of Cobra*; *Australia*; *Pirates of the Caribbean: Curse of the Black Pearl*; *Thirty Days of Night*; *Collateral*



GET ONE-ON-ONE FEEDBACK THROUGH OUR MENTORSHIP AND CONSULTATION SERVICES

Do you have a project that would benefit from one-on-one coaching? If so, the Writers' Program offers two excellent services to choose from.

Mentorships in Creative Writing and Screenwriting

A mentorship in creative writing or screenwriting gives you access to a Writers' Program instructor Monday through Friday for four full weeks. This service is ideal for writers who have a novel-in-progress, a completed draft of a novel, or at least one finished screenplay or teleplay, and/or some previous training.

You receive:

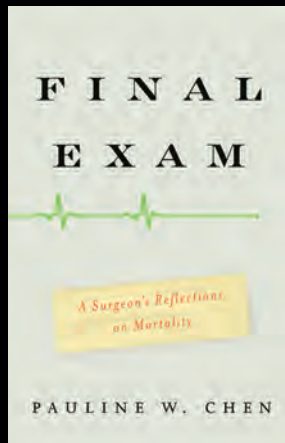
- A personalized approach to learning based on your level of experience and writing goals
- Targeted instruction and both written and verbal feedback as new pages are developed
- Guidance on specific craft issues and writing challenges you want to address

Consultations in Creative Writing and Screenwriting

Consultations provide in-depth feedback on your project from a Writers' Program instructor, with the opportunity to request a particular writer with whom to work. This service is designed for writers who have a complete draft of their manuscript (long and short fiction, poetry, nonfiction, plays, or children's books) or a screenplay treatment, TV spec or pilot, or feature film script.

You receive:

- Comprehensive written feedback on your project
- Additional feedback through a phone conversation with the instructor
- Feedback to ensure your work is up to industry standards before seeking representation or applying to competitions, fellowships, or MFA programs



BUILD A PORTFOLIO OF WORK WITH OUR CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

Certificate Programs are structured courses of study that guide you to build a solid portfolio of work. If you're a creative writer, you complete at least 250 pages of a novel, short fiction, personal essays, or memoir. If you're a film or TV writer, you complete one to three full-length scripts.

There are five certificate programs to choose from:

Certificate in Fiction

Certificate in Creative Nonfiction

Certificate in Feature Film Writing

Certificate in Television Writing

Certificate in Film and TV Comprehensive

(qualifies for 1-20/F-1 Visa Status)

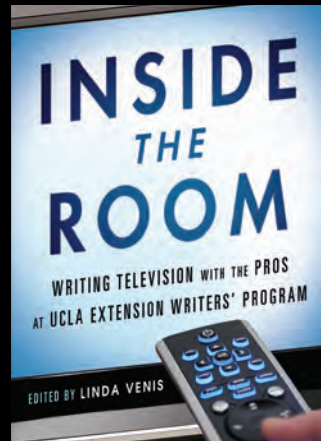
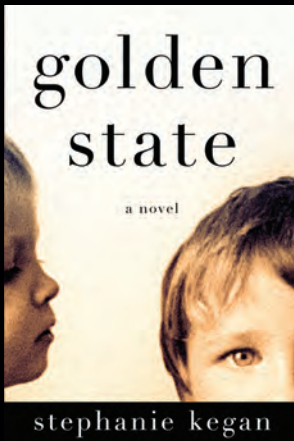
With each certificate program, you receive:

- Advance notice of upcoming Writers' Program courses and the chance to enroll before the general public

- A 30-minute, one-on-one goal-setting consultation with a Writers' Program advisor who helps you chart your certificate program curriculum based on your current level of experience, interests, and goals
- A complimentary one-on-one consultation on 100 pages of your creative writing manuscript or your film or TV script with a Writers' Program instructor (value of \$775 to \$1,000; must be redeemed within six months of coursework completion)
- An invitation to participate in a UCLA Extension-wide graduation ceremony at UCLA's historic Royce Hall, and receive a certificate bearing the UCLA gold seal
- Free membership in the UCLA Alumni Association which includes access, for a nominal fee, to the UCLA Library and UCLA Recreation, plus discounts on future Extension courses

"The Fiction Writing Certificate has provided me with exciting writing challenges, a weekly due date, inspiring teachers, and passionate fellow students to share my journey with. It's been a blast."

- CECILE CALLAN | Writers' Program certificate graduate



IT'S TRANSFORMATIVE. IT'S INTENSE. IT'S THE ANNUAL FOUR-DAY **WRITERS STUDIO!**

If you're short on time — and high on energy and commitment — the four-day Writers Studio, offered once a year every February, may be the ideal place for you. Called a “creative pressure cooker,” and “writing workshops on steroids,” the Writers Studio brings together a community of writing students to workshop with some of Southern California’s most accomplished writers and teachers.

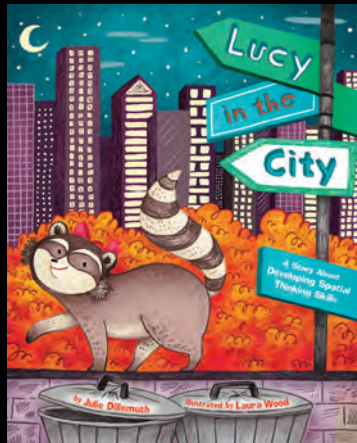
You choose one of 10 workshops offered, and work closely with a professional writer and dedicated peers to generate new ideas, skills, and the forward momentum you need to WRITE.

“The Writers Studio let me do in four days what would normally take 10 weeks. I was able to take the first draft of an existing screenplay and learn in just a few days how to make it 100% better! I left with a renewed excitement for my work.”

- LIZA OLSON | Writers’ Program Certificate Student who now works as a professional story analyst in her own company, Synoptic Media.

“If it wasn’t for the focus, motivation, and confidence I gained, I would not have come as far as I have. The Writers Studio helped me successfully query an agent and become a published author.”

- VICTORIA DENAULT | author of *One More Shot*, *Making a Play*, and *The Final Move*



OUT AND ABOUT **IN THE COMMUNITY**

In addition to a free annual Publication Party where instructors read from their recently published works of fiction, creative nonfiction, and poetry, the Writers' Program participates in many community events of interest to writers. Look for us at AWP, Story Expo, LitCrawl, Comic Con, and at several film festivals throughout L.A.

The Writers' Program enjoys an association with writing allied organizations such as International Black Writers & Artists, Inc., 826LA, The Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators, WriteGirl, KCRW, PEN Center USA, and the Writers Guild of America, all of whom share a common goal of promoting writing in Los Angeles and beyond.

"Since making it to the semifinalist round of the UCLA Extension Screenplay Competition, I won the Academy Nicholl Fellowship, made The Black List, signed with great representation, and wrote several studio projects, including an adaptation of a New York Times bestseller for Warner Bros."

- MICHAEL WERWIE | UCLA Extension Screenplay Competition semifinalist for *The Lottery*

“IT’S AN **INCUBATOR** FOR TALENT, A CREATIVE **COMMUNITY**, A SYMBOLIC SHOULDER FOR SHUDDERING WRITERS TO CRY ON — AND A **PRIMARY CATALYST** FOR LOS ANGELES’ THRIVING LITERARY SCENE.”

– SAMANTHA DUNN, *UCLA MAGAZINE*, ABOUT THE WRITERS’ PROGRAM

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM: MFA PREPARATION, SCHOLARSHIPS, PRIZES, COMPETITIONS, AND CONNECTIONS TO HELP TURN YOUR WRITING DREAMS INTO REALITY

Only at the Writers’ Program can students who aren’t in traditional degree programs receive superior training for graduate school, take nine-month Master Classes with a guaranteed read by an agent, enter film and TV writing competitions judged by industry professionals, compete for literary prizes that include cash awards, and have access to two scholarship programs.

The First Stop on Your Way to an MFA

Considering an MFA? The Writers’ Program is one of the best places to fine-tune your writing sample, with more than 50 creative writing courses offered each quarter, all taught by published writers, many of whom have an MFA of their own.

“I received a scholarship from the Writers’ Program and those classes helped me shape the manuscript that I eventually submitted for my MFA applications. So thank you. I’m stoked, and grateful.”

– LEO RÍOS | Writers’ Program Scholarship recipient who was fully funded for the MFA Program in Creative Writing at Cornell University

Scholarships That Provide Access and Award Talent

PHYLLIS GEBAUER SCHOLARSHIP IN WRITING

This needs-based scholarship program is funded by the late Phyllis Gebauer, a beloved Writers’ Program instructor who was passionate about providing learning opportunities for those who lack access. Up to 10 scholars are named annually, and each of the recipients is given the opportunity to enroll in three full-length Writers’ Program courses during a one-year period.

CLAIRE CARMICHAEL SCHOLARSHIP IN NOVEL WRITING

UCLA Extension Distinguished Instructor Claire Carmichael created this scholarship to provide an opportunity for promising novelists to study their craft in a supportive educational environment. Up to six scholars are named annually, and each scholar selects three full-length Writers’ Program courses to be taken during a one-year period. Scholars then submit their work and compete for a two-month one-on-one mentorship with the benefactor.

Unprecedented Opportunities for Students to Gain Professional Notice

COMPETITIONS

Three exclusive opportunities recognize the highest levels of screenwriting students’ skill and craft: the UCLA Extension Feature Film Competition and the UCLA Extension Television Writing Competitions (Spec and Pilot). All three competitions are designed to provide winners with one-on-one mentoring and invaluable Hollywood-industry exposure.

LITERARY PRIZES

The James Kirkwood Literary Prize and the Allegra Johnson Prize in Memoir and Novel Writing are instructor-nominated awards that recognize exceptional student writing. Winners are honored by the benefactors at a celebratory luncheon or dinner, and receive cash awards in recognition of the excellence of their work.

MASTER CLASSES

Dynamic and rigorous master classes are available in novel writing, feature film writing, and television writing for students who are serious about revising and polishing their work and getting published or produced. Ranging from six-to-nine months, and held either onsite or online/low residency, these courses are focused on process and results, and allow for intensely individual instruction and peer critiques. Novel excerpts and scripts are read and considered by an agent, manager, or producer who gives written feedback on the work.



The Writers' Program's numerous success stories include:

Allison Abner, screenwriter/producer, *Narcos*; *Hawaii Five-O*; *Without a Trace*; *The West Wing*

Stuart Beattie, screenwriter, *Tarzan*; *Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl*; *Collateral*

Karen E. Bender, fiction writer, *Refund: Stories* (National Book Award finalist)

Tucker Cawley, screenwriter/producer, *The Odd Couple*; *The Mindy Project*; *Everybody Loves Raymond*; *Parks and Recreation*

Pauline W. Chen, memoirist, *Final Exam: A Surgeon's Reflection on Mortality*

Bryan Cogman, screenwriter/producer, *Game of Thrones*

Eric Jerome Dickey, novelist, *Naughtier than Nice*; *One Night*

Lee Eisenberg, screenwriter, *Hello Ladies: The Movie*; *The Office*; *Bad Teacher*; *Year One*

Doug Ellin, screenwriter, *Entourage*

María Amparo Escandón, novelist, *Esperanza's Box of Saints*; screenwriter, *Santitos*

James Franco, short fiction writer, *Palo Alto: Stories*

Cristina Garcia, novelist, *Dreaming in Cuban* (National Book Award finalist)

Jim Gavin, fiction writer, *The New Yorker*; *Middle Men: Short Stories*; *The Golden Age of Chrome and Nicotine: A Novel*

Tod Goldberg, fiction writer, *Gangsterland: A Novel*; *Living Dead Girl*; *Burn Notice*

Al Gough and Miles Millar, screenwriters *Spider-Man 2*; *Shanghai Noon*; *Smallville*; *Lethal Weapon 4*

Sue Grafton, mystery novelist and creator of the Kinsey Millhone series

Drew Z. Greenberg, screenwriter/producer, *Dexter*; *Smallville*; *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*; *The O.C.*

Alice Greenway, novelist, *White Ghost Girls* (winner of the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize for First Fiction)

Gavin Hood, screenwriter/director, *Tsotsi* (Academy Award winner, Best Foreign Film); *Ender's Game*

Tara Ison, novelist, *Stories*; *A Child out of Alcatraz* (Los Angeles Times Book Award finalist)

James Kirkwood, novelist and Pulitzer Prize- and Tony Award-winning playwright, *A Chorus Line*

Laila Lalami, fiction writer, *The Moor's Account* (Pulitzer Prize finalist)

Shanna Mahin, novelist, *Oh! You Pretty Things*

Melissa Rosenberg, screenwriter, *Twilight*; *Boston Public*; *Jessica Jones*

Randi Mayem Singer, screenwriter, *Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Road Chip*; *Mrs. Doubtfire*

Earl W. Wallace, screenwriter, *Witness* (Academy Award winner for Best Original Screenplay)

Kevin Williamson, screenwriter, *Scream*; *Dawson's Creek*

Iris Yamashita, screenwriter, *Letters from Iwo Jima* (Academy Award nominee for Best Original Screenplay)

WE ARE THE WRITERS.

WE ARE A PRODUCT
OF OUR EXPERIENCES,

AND WE ARE
READY TO BEGIN

**THE NEXT CHAPTER
OF OUR STORY.**

Questions? We Have Answers

Our offices are open Monday through Friday. Call **(310) 825-9415**, or email writers@uclaextension.edu to find an advisor in your area of interest. Writers' Program advisors will help you find the right course for your goals and can assist with course and certificate requirements.

Join Our Writing Community

Our website and social media pages are your up-to-the-minute sources for articles on writing-related issues, Q & As, links to courses, instructor bios, important deadlines and dates, writing competitions, and a weekly dose of success stories. Also, you'll find links to the many events we host or attend throughout the year.

writers.uclaextension.edu

twitter.com/writersprogram

facebook.com/writersprogram

pinterest.com/writersprogram

How to Enroll

ONLINE

Enroll online 24 hours a day at uclaextension.edu. We accept American Express, Discover, JCB, MasterCard, and VISA.

PHONE & IN-PERSON

Mon-Fri, 8am - 5pm

(800) 825-9971

10995 Le Conte Ave., 1st Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90024

UCLA Extension Writers' Program

10995 Le Conte Ave., #440
Los Angeles, CA 90024-1333
(310) 825-9415
writers@uclaextension.edu

Book jackets and stills represent the variety and depth of published and produced work by Writers' Program instructors and students.

UCLA Extension