

What is the Geneva Writers' Group?

Started in 1993, the Geneva Writers' Group brings together over 240 English-language writers from 30 countries. Its objective is to encourage all forms of creative writing in English.

Membership is open to all who wish to develop their creative writing skills. Support is given to both beginning and published writers.

Meetings are held monthly from September to June at the Geneva Press Club, with a program of writing workshops, critiquing sessions, and master classes.

Since 1998 the group has held the biennial Geneva Writers' Conferences at Webster University in Bellevue, welcoming 200 writers from around the world, with acclaimed instructors, editors, and agents. The 11th Geneva Writers' Conference will be held in March 2018.

Alternating with the conferences are "Meet Agents and Editors" weekends of presentations, readings, and consultations.

The GWG publishes *Offshoots*, *World Writing from Geneva*, a biennial collection of prose and poetry. Volume 14 will appear in fall 2017.

Other activities include the annual GWG Literary Prizes, a network of small writing groups, a mentoring service, public readings, and recently complementary workshops for teenagers.

The GWG is a non-profit association with links to International PEN, the Writers' Residence at the Château de Lavigny, the International Women's Writing Guild, and the Paris Writers Workshop.

geneva writers conference

Swiss Cachet

The shores of Switzerland's famous Lake Geneva and the snow-capped Alps beyond, provide the backdrop for a unique gathering of writers: the Geneva Writers' Conference, held biennially in early February.

Judged by scenery alone, this conference wins the gold medal every time, but its literary merits far outweigh the venue's natural beauty. The Geneva Conference is one of the very few professionally oriented writing workshops operating in Europe.

A forum for published writers and beginners, participants and instructors from across Europe, and from as far away as North America, New Zealand, Egypt, Vietnam and Israel. Many of the participants are active translators; many also write in more than one language.

This cosmopolitan milieu is only enhanced by the spirit of Geneva itself, with its history as a center of international dialogue. For the more than 175 writers and faculty who assemble for the Geneva Conference every two years, the accent is on the sharing of ideas and resources . . .

LINDA LAPPIN, ROME
Excerpted from *Poets & Writers*

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2016–17 Workshop Schedule

September 17	Witnessing with Words— Writing the Effective Essay Instructor: Susan Tiberghien
October 15	Short Story Instructors: Jason Donald and Susan Tiberghien
November 19	Poetry Workshop (all day) Guest Instructor: Laura Kasischke
November 20	Poetry Master Class
December 10	Pursuing Your Images— Stars and Stones Instructor: Susan Tiberghien
January 21	Theater Topic (all day) Guest Instructor: Shaun McCarthy
February 18–19	Meet Agents and Editors
March 18	Fiction Topic (all day) Guest Instructor: Petina Gappah
March 19	Fiction Master Class
April 15	Lyrical Prose and Prose Poetry Instructor: Susan Tiberghien
May 20	Memoir Instructor: Wallis Wilde Menozzi
May 21	Memoir Master Class
June 10	Dialogue—Spoken and Hidden Instructor: Susan Tiberghien Annual General Meeting End of the Year Celebration GWG Literary Prizes

Workshop Program

10:00 – 12:30	Morning session
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 16:30	Afternoon session

Morning session includes instruction, hand-outs, guided writing exercises, announcements.

Afternoon session focuses on critique and is limited to 8 readers (1,400 words maximum or 2 poems, sign-up in advance, bring 20 copies to session). Other participants are welcome.

WORKSHOP FEES

All fees are in Swiss francs, with a CHF 10 reduction for fulltime students and AVS.

Full day 40 members / 50 non-members
(morning and afternoon sessions)

Guest instructors

Full day 50 members / 60 non-members
(morning and afternoon sessions)

Susan Tiberghien—writer, teacher, editor—leads the workshops. Her books include *Looking for Gold*, *Circling to the Center*, *One Year to a Writing Life*, *Side by Side*, and *Footsteps: In Love with a Frenchman*.

Guest instructors give Master Class weekends.

Unless otherwise noted, workshops are held at the Geneva Press Club, Villa la Pastorale, 106 Route de Ferney, Geneva. The Press Club can be reached by taking TPG Bus 5 to the Hotel Intercontinental stop.

CONTACT

gwg.infodesk@gmail.com and
gwg.workshops@gmail.com

About the Saturday Workshops

I felt very isolated as a writer until I found the GWG. I now have many wonderful and supportive friends around the world who also write. I owe much of this to the confidence I gained from the warm welcome of the GWG. PETINA GAPPAH, ZIMBABWE

After joining the GWG, I moved from being a writer to a published writer—a result of the inspired teaching and the creative energies generated by the group. The mixture of examples from great writers and bursts of our own writing works well to broaden the scope. MARCUS FERRAR, UK

The GWG workshops helped me to get past my journalistic way of writing and weave more poetry and imagery into my work. Kudos for the terrific organization, including the master classes.

PAMELA TAYLOR, USA

About Offshoots

Offshoots—a splendid showcase for writing from the international community in Geneva—is a worthy inheritor of the tradition of expatriate writing, proving it's as vibrant and vital as ever.

PETER HO DAVIES | *THE UGLIEST HOUSE IN THE WORLD, EQUAL LOVE*

Members of the Geneva Writers' Group gather rather like Chaucer's pilgrims . . . They bring their threads of the world together and weave them into rich tapestries—magic carpets.

KEN STEVEN | *IONA, WILD HORSES, COLUMBA*

Offshoots is an original, astonishing array of daring and intelligent voices. It is a joy to read!

FRED LEEBRON | *IN THE MIDDLE OF ALL THIS, SIX FIGURES, OUT WEST*



For further information please visit
www.genevawritersgroup.org