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Women Writers Converge on Muhlenberg College for an Immersive Writing Experience

Allentown, PA [May, 27, 2018] -- [The International Women's Writing Guild](#) (IWWG), a nonprofit organization for women writers, announces that it will host its 41st Annual Summer Writers Conference from July 6-13, 2018 at Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Pennsylvania.

The weeklong conference is one of the longest-running conferences in the United States that is focused on women writers. With *Connect, Create, Collaborate* as its theme, this year's conference includes 25 workshops led by experienced instructors spanning seven genres of writing, multimedia open studios, a playwriting "lab", plus the IWWG's signature All Voices Open Mic readings and two book fairs. Often described as a holistic, jubilant summer retreat for the mind, body, and soul, The Guild offers women an open and collaborative environment to explore their writing lives and share their work with like-minded writers.

"We are excited to be continuing our mission to empower women through the written word, both personally and professionally," said Judy Huge, President of the Board of Directors. "We continue to extend our reach globally, and invite women around the world to gather together to find their voices, share their work and experience and celebrate story."

Countless writers and longtime members (including top-notch, highly accomplished writer-instructors) have attended the conference for decades. Asked what makes this conference so enriching and meaningful, attendees often reference a sense of belonging in the diverse IWWG community. The Guild is a global community where every voice matters, regardless of experience and background.

The conference is an immersive, multi-genre writing experience. Attendees are invited to sample the handful of workshops offered daily during each of the five 75-minute sessions, exploring and finding the workshop that is right for them at that moment. To be a part of this conference is to ignite (or re-ignite) why writing matters in our lives, to paraphrase Play Lab instructor Kelly DuMar. Among this year's workshops are *Feasting with Form: A Food-Inspired Workshop on Lyric Essay*; *Our Bodies, Our Selves: Unlocking the Stories Our Bodies Hold*; and *Memoir Is Still Nonfiction: Why Some Memoir Books Sell, Others Don't, and How to Tip the Scales in Your Favor*.

IWWG encourages writers of all levels and all genres to attend the conference. “We literally have conference attendees from 17 to 90!” notes Conference Coordinator Dixie King. Past participants frame the impact of the conference in life-changing terms: “I realized how rare it is to see so many women standing on their own, without partners/spouses/children, telling their own stories, not the stories of their families, not representing someone or apologizing for something, but standing in their own experiences, being artists.” Another past attendee noted, “‘Words Matter’ has become my new mantra. The whole week convinced me once again of the power of women’s words.”

Since 1976, The Guild has provided a safe space for women to connect, write and share their stories. During this era of #MeToo and other social movements, The Guild is still strikingly relevant—and necessary—today. This year’s conference is an ideal introduction to experiencing the organization’s impact firsthand. One can choose from among a variety of registration packages to attend the conference, starting at \$125 for the day as a commuter, and ranging from \$1375 to \$1875 for the whole week plus room and board. To learn more and to register online, go to <http://www.iwwg.org/summer-conference>.

About IWWG:

The International Women’s Writing Guild was founded in 1976 to provide a place where all women writers feel welcome, inspired, and empowered by new skills, resources, and mentoring. The Guild has served as a support system for women writers in over 60 countries. To learn more, see <https://www.iwwg.org/>