

A top-down view of a wooden desk with various writing-related items. In the top center is a teal typewriter with a wooden keyboard. To its left is a closed green notebook. To its right is an open, blank, cream-colored notebook. In the bottom left, a pair of black-rimmed glasses lies on the desk. In the bottom right, a small orange box labeled 'COLOR SLIDES' is visible. A pinecone is on the left side, and a cinnamon stick is on the right side. The text 'WRITER IN RESIDENCE' is centered in a large, bold, black serif font.

WRITER IN RESIDENCE

FAQ



highplains
Library District
FOUNDATION

What is Writer in Residence?

- The Writer in Residence program supports the creative process of one (1) writer during a nine-month time-period so they may complete a manuscript with the intent to publish.
- Residents receive a \$1,000 per month stipend, for a total of \$9,000 throughout the residency.



Laura Brashear, 2019 Writer in Residence

Programming Team

- The programming team works with residents to implement programming throughout the District.
- Programs are completely free, and open to all libraries in the District.
- Last year the team worked with Laura Brashear to implement programs like:
 - Teen Journaling, Fort Lupton Public & School Library
 - NaNoWriMo Write-ins, Carbon Valley Regional Library



2019 Writer in Residence Program Teen Journaling Class
Ft. Lupton Public & School Library



2019 Writer in Residence Program NaNoWriMo Write-in
Carbon Valley Regional Library

Foundation

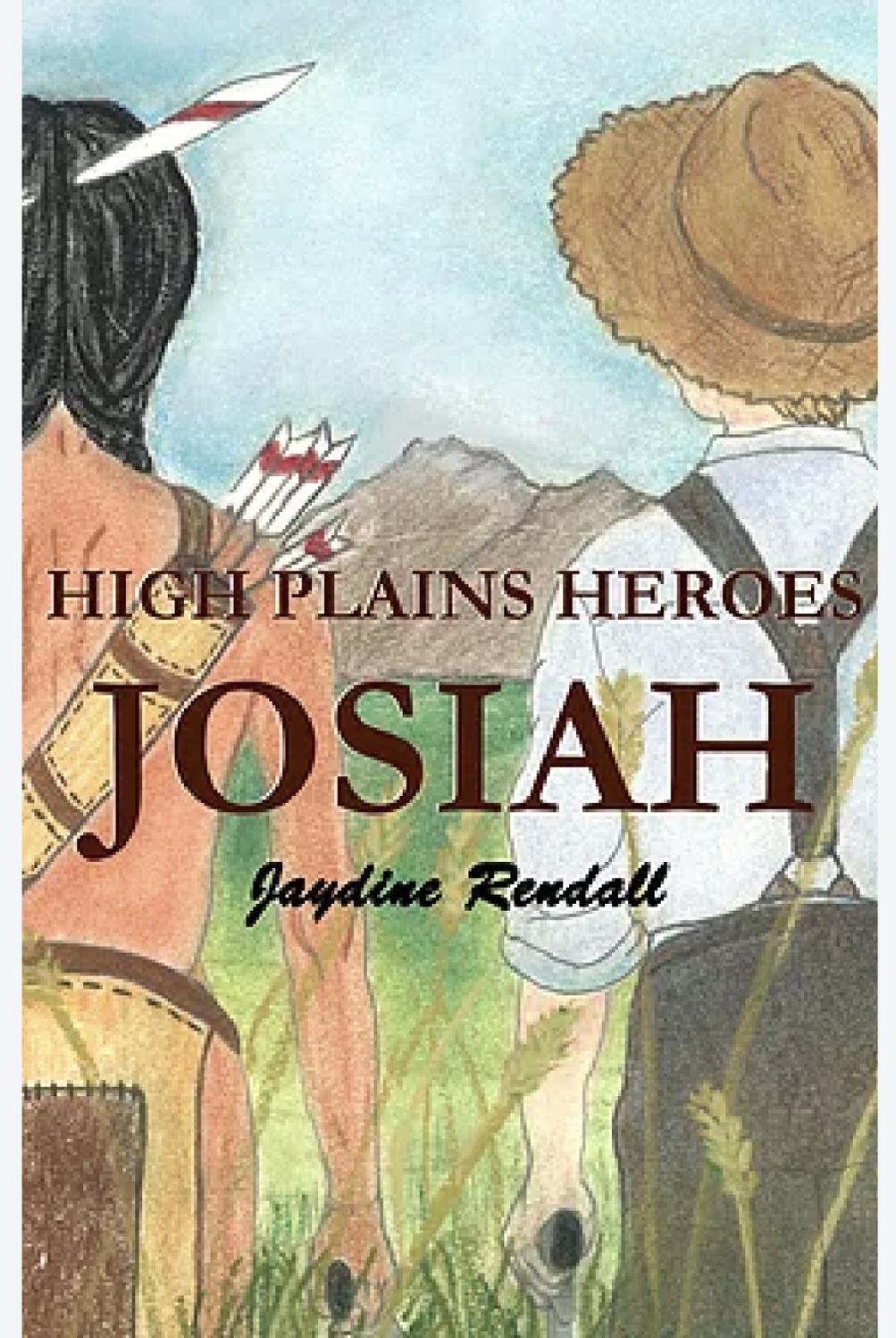
- Foundation staff:
 - Raise funds for the resident's stipend and programs.
 - Oversee the application and selection process.
 - Advertise the program with CRM.
 - Liaise between the programming team and resident as needed.
 - Work with resident to create posts for social media and messages for newsletters.
 - Work with the resident on special events like the Greeley Arts Picnic, Meet the Resident and Signature Author Series fundraisers.
 - Oversee the Writer in Residence Consortium so that past and present residents can meet and connect.



Meet the Resident 2019, WeldWerks
Left to Right: Laura Brashear, Chris Muscato, Jaydine Rendall, Julia McSherry

Program Parameters

- The following parameters were set by the Foundation Board of Directors:
 - The resident's work can be of any style or genre but must be related in some fashion to the High Plains Library District service area in subject matter.
 - Applicants must reside within the High Plains Library District boundaries.
 - Applicants must be an HPLD cardholder (or become a cardholder).
 - Applicants must be at least 18 years of age.
 - Applicants must be willing to commit to all associated duties of the residency.
- The High Plains Library District boundary as specified in establishment documents is coterminous with the Weld County boundary plus the Town of Erie (including the portion in Boulder County) and excluding the Windsor RE-4 school district (Clearview Library District), and the City of Dacono.



How is the resident selected?



Christopher Muscato, 2017 Writer in Residence
Chris has served on the Writer in Residence Selection
Committee since 2018.

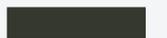
- Each Writer in Residence is selected in a four step blind judging process.
 - One: Writer submits application.
 - Two: Selection committee reviews/grades applications.
 - Three: Selection committee meets to select finalists.
 - Four: Selection committee interviews finalists and selects new resident.
 - The application and selection process is anonymous (until final interview).
 - The selection committee is made up of community volunteers, including local authors.
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Can HPLD staff serve on the selection committee?

- HPLD staff may not serve on the Writer in Residence selection committee. HPLD staff may apply to the program.
- This is done to preserve applicant anonymity and prevent potential conflicts of interest during the selection process.



Julia McSherry, 2018 Writer in Residence
Julia served on the 2019 Writer in Residence
Selection Committee



How is it funded?

Generous Community Donations

- Monthly donors
- Colorado Gives Day
- End of Year Giving
- Employee Giving
- Community Partners
- Event Sponsors



Dinner with Dianna, 2016



Meet the Resident 2019 Community Partners, WeldWerks



Colorado Gives Day 2019



Special Screening of *The Art of Racing in the Rain*



Alignment with HPLD Strategic Plan

- ASPIRATION
 - Strategy: Create programs and services that result in changed lives and a better community.
 - Tactics:
 - Select and focus on targeted segments of the population to design programs and services to create positive outcomes in their lives.
 - Offer and moderate programming that encourage crucial conversations and civil discourse.



Alignment with HPLD Foundation Strategic Plan

- Funding Priority: Writer in Residence and the literary arts
- Strategy: Continue to expand Foundation programs and Foundation-supported District programs.
- Tactic:
 - Explore options to engage diverse populations through the residency and share the wide array of stories in our community
 - Add publishing component to the Writer in Residence program





Writer in Residence History

JAYDINE RENDALL, 2016

HIGH PLAINS HEROES: JOSIAH, LAUGHING WOLF, BETHY

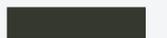
Jaydine completed the first book in her High Plains Heroes series during her 2016 residency. The young reader fiction novels are set in the plains of Northern Colorado during the late 1800s. After being used as school curriculum, the first two books in the series had discussion questions added and are now in second editions. The third book in the series came out in the fall of 2018. Rendall is currently working on the fourth book in the series, Lukas. She has recently retired from teaching in order to pursue writing as a full-time endeavor. Visit Jaydine at www.jaydinerendall.com for more information.



CHRISTOPHER MUSCATO, 2017

SAM (THE MIGHTY)-UNPUBLISHED

Chris an adjunct professor at AIMS and the University of Northern Colorado. He is also a contract writer for Study.com, creating online lessons about history, architecture, art, music, and literature. Chris's project deals with our popular obsession with superheroes, as a late-20s Greeley science teacher finds himself suddenly imbued with superpowers but no idea what to do with them. The story deals with competing ideologies and asks: are we obligated to use our power in certain ways, or do we have the freedom to choose what to do with our gifts? When not writing, teaching, or grading, Chris spends time with his wife Kristin and his dog Buddy enjoying all that colorful Colorado has to offer.



JULIA MCSHERRY, 2018

CATCH AND DEVOUR-UNPUBLISHED

Julia is a freelance writer based in Greeley, originally from Louisiana. She loves to cook and is passionate about slow food and fast (fresh) ingredients. Julia is currently working on her memoir/cookbook, titled Catch and Devour, about her relocation from New Orleans to Greeley after Hurricane Katrina. She loves the West and hopes to capture some of the charm afforded by the unique agriculture, high plains and mountain landscape of northern Colorado. The narrative before and after recipes will tell stories related to cooking, farm life, sustainability, healthy growing and eating and slow rather than fast food. Visit Julia's website for excerpts and blog posts at www.juliamcsherry.com

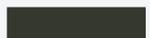


LAURA BRASHEAR, 2019

MOVING BEYOND HALLWAYS-UNPUBLISHED

Laura is a lifelong resident of Colorado and has lived in the Fort Lupton area for over thirty years, where she and her husband raise their three children and train horses. She loves the freedom reading and writing allows, from creating characters to conveying life truths. Laura used the nine-month residency to complete a nonfiction project about her husband's unexpected journey with leukemia and the profound impact their family's love of horses had on his recovery. Laura's goal is to let others with the disease know they are not alone and help share the vital role animals can play in the healing process.

Follow Laura at www.laurabrashear.com



2020 Writer in Residence

- The 2020 Writer in Residence program will continue to follow our current format.
- Applications closed on March 9.
- The 2020 Writer in Residence will be announced on April 1. A Meet the Resident event will be held in May.



2021 Residency

- Thank you to those who completed the Writer in Residence survey. Your feedback is invaluable to the program's success.
- Foundation staff and Board members will utilize the Change Management Process while determining how to improve the program.
- Next steps will be determined during the Q4 Foundation Board Meeting.



Julia McSherry, 2018 resident. Cooking in her home.

Programming Questions?

Please feel free to contact the Writer in Residence programming team if you have any questions regarding resident programming or joining the team.

CONTACT

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970-506-8489

Erin Shores

eshores@highplains.us

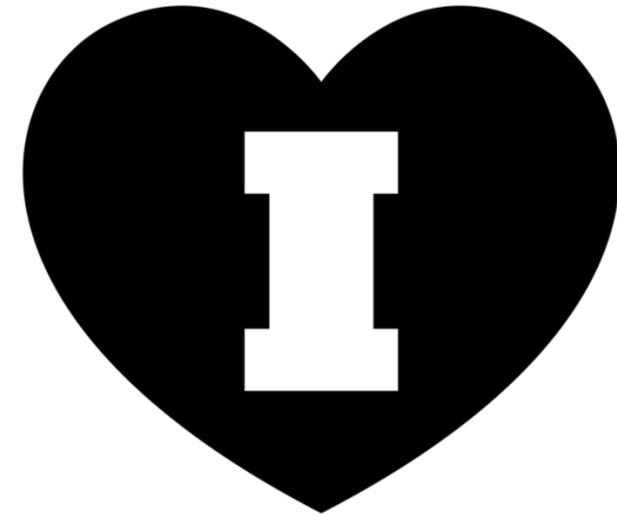
970-302-2512

Foundation Questions?

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions about the Foundation, its projects or funding initiatives. We're always happy to help!

CONTACT

foundation@highplains.us
(970) 506-8565



My Library



mylibrary.us