Integrating oneself into a new group of people can be a daunting task for anyone. Whether that group is your in-laws, a cult, or a group of co-workers there are traditions and shared information that make those people part of a group.

In my folklore class this semester, we discussed the type of lore that goes into different groups. Knowing the traditions, proverbs, inside jokes, etc. is like knowing a secret language.

You can learn a lot about groups of people and what their beliefs are by looking at they act. Take, for example, a family that sings and plays music when they get together for Christmas. That tradition tells us that they hold certain beliefs about the way music, family, and religion are interwoven and form a part of their identity as a family unit.

When you are thrown into a new group, learning all this can take time and can be an arduous process. The newbie has to learn the ways the group works in order to be a part of it. What I learned from watching these people is this:

The people that make up the group I now belong to, the CWC, are students, teachers, volunteers, and writers of all backgrounds and experience levels. These people make the center what it is today. Whether it is the staff, the coaches, or the mentors, the people of the CWC are ready to help those who want to better themselves.

Whenever someone sets foot into the Center, they do their best to help that person reach his or her goals and be successful, however they define success. To some, it is getting that part of the poem just right or writing that resume that is going to get them that job they want so bad. To others it is learning something new or writing about something important to them.

In all groups there are beliefs and values that are central to that group. It is these beliefs and values that tie them together.

What makes me proud to say that I belong to the CWC is the way they act. The way they are willing to sit down with anybody that comes in and give them their full attention. They look at the people who come for help and see themselves. So they try to impart the wisdom they’ve salvaged through the years and pass it on. It is this sense of community that really makes this writing center such a valuable place to work with and to be a part of. You can see it is this belief, the belief in our community that shines through all our actions. Our folklore.

—Nic Contreras
Writing Assistant, Volunteer Coordinator, Special Projects Coordinator
SPOTLIGHT ON: COMMUNITY WRITERS

Takara Truong, Salt Lake Teens Write Program 2013-2014

“I have struggled with writing essays and constructing papers throughout my entire life. This program paired me up with the most helpful and incredible writer who guided me as I wrote numerous literary works. I am sincerely thankful to the staff of this program who accepted and matched me with a first class tutor. Thank you SLCC Community Writing Center!”

Ariel Gracy, Non-Fiction

“With the dedicated assistance of the coaches at the SLCC Writing Center, I turned my research into Save Me, I’m Yours,” which was published in 2014. I won the Iron Pen in Non-fiction in 2013. They have provided an opportunity to improve and rediscover a love of writing.”

Shuk-Han Lui, Personal Statements

“I have never found a good writing center until I came to this place when I decided to apply for graduate schools. The staff writers have helped me from personal statement to fellowship writing. They are professional and competent in what they do. The most extraordinary things about them are: they do it with passion and thoughtfulness. I still cannot believe this place and people exist right here in downtown SLC.”

Joe Bradshaw, Memoir

“It is a great gift to have a Community Writing Center; the services they provide assist so many people in so many ways. Through my personal experiences, the staff and programs of the Community Writing center are an asset the community is fortunate to have. Those that could not write or read were helped to do so, and in so doing, their lives have been forever changed for the better.”

DIVERSE CITY WRITING SERIES

Copper Quill
Magna Senior Center
9228 West 2700 South
2nd and 4th Tuesdays 1:00-2:30 p.m.

Gay Writes
SLCC Community Writing Center
Library Square Plaza, 210 East 400 South, Suite 8
2nd & 4th Mondays 6:30-8:00 p.m.

King’s English Group
King’s English Bookshop
1511 South 1500 East
2nd & 4th Wednesdays 7:00-8:30 p.m.

The Literacy Action Center
Housing Authority 3595 S Main Street
1st & 3rd Thursdays 5:00-7:30 p.m.
1st & 3rd Fridays 3:00-5:30 p.m.

Millcreek Group
Millcreek Library – Study Room B
2266 East Evergreen Avenue (3435 South)
1st & 3rd Tuesdays 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Mount Olympus Senior Center
1635 Murray Holladay Road
2nd and 4th Tuesdays 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Silver Pen
SLCC Community Writing Center
Library Square Plaza, 210 East 400 South, Suite 8
1st and 3rd Wed. 12:00-2:00 p.m.

OFF-SITE WRITING COACHING

Columbus Library
2530 S. 500 E.
Monday, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Day Riverside Library
1575 W. 1000 N.
Monday, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Thursday, 4:00-6:00 p.m.

UNP/Hartland
1578 W. 1700 S.
Tuesday, 3:00-5:00 p.m.
Thursday, 5:00-6:30 p.m.

West High School
Family Resource Center
241 N. 300 W.
Wednesdays, 2:30-3:30 p.m.
WRITE NOW

NANOWRIMO: WRITE A NOVEL IN A MONTH:
Techniques for writing a 50,000 word Novel draft in just 30 days.

Focus on Character Development
A well developed character can be a writer’s best asset and can even help you get past moments when you feel “stuck” with plot. Try filling out a character profile sheet and answering some questions about your character. Don’t try to force yourself to include every little detail in your final story, but use it as an exercise to make your character as vivid and realistic as possible. Get to know what you love about them, what you hate about them, and how they are when they are alone.

Write Without Looking Back
One of the biggest pitfalls writers experience is getting stuck in a “revision loop” wherein they write something and rehash the same material until it’s “perfect,” whatever that is. Often this just means working on the same 1000-5000 word section until, quite frankly, it doesn’t have the same oomph as it once had when initially written under the glow of inspiration.

One suggestion is to start writing and just don’t look back. Plow through your plot outline and fill in the details of the whole story. There is plenty of time afterwards to go back and spend any amount of time refining the finished product. By then, you will have a finished draft, and not just a well polished fragment.

Try Writing Exercises to Keep Your Writing Fresh
There is an incredible wealth of writing exercises that a writer can use to experiment with their process in hopes of perfecting it. Here are a few examples:
• Try to write for as long as you can without starting a sentence with the same word twice. For more of a challenge, try not to start any sentences with the main pronoun (I, He, She, You, They).
• Experiment with sentence lengths to tell your story with a lot of variety. Write a sentence that is 5 words, then one that is 25 words, then one containing a parenthetical. Challenge yourself.
• Go to www.slcc.edu/cwc/resources for more writing prompts.

INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE?

Participate in our upcoming workshop:
NaNoWriMo: Write a Novel in a Month
A 5-part workshop, Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29 (Sa),
1-3 p.m. Cost: $60.
Registration is required.

Visit www.slcc.edu/cwc to register or call 801-957-2192
COMMUNITY VOICES

DIVERSECITY WRITING SERIES
FALL READING

Come and share your voice with the community! It’s time for the annual DiverseCity Writing Series Fall Reading. The DiverseCity Writing Series is SLCC Community Writing Center’s longest running program. The series aims to create an environment that allows all members of the community to meet and collaborate on writing, tell a story, and find a voice in the community. The DiverseCity Writing Series bridges the Salt Lake community’s diverse social, economic and educational backgrounds through writing, collaboration and dialogue, and challenges stereotypes and assumptions about writing and writers. By allowing all voices to be heard, writers in the DiverseCity Writing Series help to dispel stereotypes with stories from the entire community.

The DiverseCity Writing Series consists of writing groups around the Wasatch Valley. The DiverseCity Writing Series is open to all members of the community and all are encouraged to participate in writing groups, submit to the annual DiverseCity Writing Series anthology, the sine cera, attend annual celebrations at the readings and the launch of the sine cera each Spring.

The DiverseCity Writing Series schedule can be found on Page 2.

The next DiverseCity Writing Series reading will be held on Thursday, October 23rd from 6:00PM-8:30PM at the Urban Arts Gallery, 137 S. Rio Grande St, SLC, UT 84101.

SALT LAKE TEENS WRITE
PUBLICATION CELEBRATION

Salt Lake Teens Write commemorated another year of success with our final celebration, publication debut, and public reading on May 31, 2014. Teens, mentors, parents, CWC staff, and our Salt Lake City Public Library community partner came together to award each teen with a special recognition certificate. We proudly premiered this year’s anthology: You Are Me and I Am You. We are honored to announce this program was competitively selected as one of the ten finalist winners in the Instructional Programs and Services category for the prestigious Bellwether Award from the Community College Futures Assembly in 2014.

What is most remarkable about Salt Lake Teens Write is how we’ve grown and diversified, allowing teens and mentors from many backgrounds to come together with reciprocity, respect, and creative joy. A special thanks to our mentors and teens! This program has roots and wings because of you.

Salt Lake Teens Write Program needs more mentors for 2014-2015 year!
Apply now at www.slcc.edu/cwc/salt-lake-teens-write/aspx
THE CWC AT UTAH ARTS FESTIVAL

A Partner since 2006

EVENTS

THE CWC AT UTAH ARTS FESTIVAL

Poetry workshop with Poet Laureate Lance Larsen

Ultra Iron Pen
Adult—1st Prize
Andrew Writt, “The Drive South”

Youth—1st Prize
Aubrey Nyberg, “I’m Still Lost”

Poetry Iron Pen
Adult—1st Prize
Rachel White, “Desert Sonnet”

Adult—Honorable Mention
Trish Hopkinson, “A Man Misplaced”

Fiction Iron Pen
Adult—1st Prize
Jessica Payne, “A Brief Affair with Lonnie Anderson”

Adult—Honorable Mention
Ian “Sparky” Cummings, “The Final Journal of Everett Ruess”

Youth—1st Prize
Mia Schmidt, “Capture the Beauty”

Non-Fiction Iron Pen
Adult—1st Prize
Diane Lockard, “Monument Valley Woodcut—Everett Ruess Mystery”

Magnetic Poetry Wall

Ultra Iron Pen
Adult—1st Prize
Andrew Writt, “The Drive South”

Youth—1st Prize
Aubrey Nyberg, “I’m Still Lost”

Poetry Iron Pen
Adult—1st Prize
Rachel White, “Desert Sonnet”

Adult—Honorable Mention
Trish Hopkinson, “A Man Misplaced”

Fiction Iron Pen
Adult—1st Prize
Jessica Payne, “A Brief Affair with Lonnie Anderson”

Adult—Honorable Mention
Ian “Sparky” Cummings, “The Final Journal of Everett Ruess”

Youth—1st Prize
Mia Schmidt, “Capture the Beauty”

Non-Fiction Iron Pen
Adult—1st Prize
Diane Lockard, “Monument Valley Woodcut—Everett Ruess Mystery”

Wasatch Iron Pen Literary Marathon

During the 2014 Utah Arts Festival, the SLCC Community Writing Center hosted the Wasatch Ironpen Literary Marathon. Provided with a visual prompt, “Monument Valley Woodcut,” by Everett Ruess, contestants were given 24 hours to create a poem, short story or essay.

Here are this year’s winners. Congratulations!

Ultra Iron Pen
Adult—1st Prize
Andrew Writt, “The Drive South”

Youth—1st Prize
Aubrey Nyberg, “I’m Still Lost”

Poetry Iron Pen
Adult—1st Prize
Rachel White, “Desert Sonnet”

Adult—Honorable Mention
Trish Hopkinson, “A Man Misplaced”

Fiction Iron Pen
Adult—1st Prize
Jessica Payne, “A Brief Affair with Lonnie Anderson”

Adult—Honorable Mention
Ian “Sparky” Cummings, “The Final Journal of Everett Ruess”

Youth—1st Prize
Mia Schmidt, “Capture the Beauty”

Non-Fiction Iron Pen
Adult—1st Prize
Diane Lockard, “Monument Valley Woodcut—Everett Ruess Mystery”

Read the winning pieces at http://www.slcc.edu/cwc/publications.aspx
WORKSHOPS

Writing for Change: Community Writing Event
Does change in democracy require civic dialogue? If so, where is it and who gets to talk? OR write? Join the CWC, the Salt Lake City Public Library, and guests to learn techniques of writing for change. Come with a concern or topic for upcoming elections or events and stay to write a letter with the help of CWC writing coaches. Cost: Free, but registration is required.

Day-Riverside Library
1575 W 1000 N
1-part workshop
September 9 (T), 6-9 p.m.

Utah Pride Center
255 East 400 South, Suite 200
1-part workshop
October 8 (W), 6-9 p.m.

Web Writing 101: Creating an Online Sensation
2-part workshop
September 16 & 23 (T), 6-8 p.m.
Have you ever googled your name? What does your online presence say about you? The image you present online can be the initial impression for employers, clients and personal connections. Join our CWC workshop on writing for blogs, articles for online newsletters, social media and online content (including search engine hits) to explore ways to create the persona you want to present to the online world. Cost: $20. Registration is required.

Show Me a Story: Digital Storytelling
3-part workshop
September 11, 18, & 25 (H), 6-8 p.m.
In this digital age, writing can take on multiple forms. Come join the CWC to learn how to craft and showcase a digital story of your own. Using written text and photos or video with narration, you can turn a written work into a dynamic story to be shared in a variety of platforms. Cost: $45. Registration is required.

College-Bound: Writing Scholarship Essays
2-part event
September 20 & 27 (S), 1–3 p.m.
No matter what grade you are in, it is never too early (or too late) to start on college scholarship essays. Join the CWC as we explore what it takes to make your application essay stand out. Participants may bring an essay in progress or begin one in the workshop. Cost: $20. Registration is required.

Tales of Terror: Horror Writing
2-part workshop
October 11 & 25 (S), 1-3 p.m.
Discover methods of dealing with the fantastic and supernatural in your writing while causing fright in this horror writing workshop. You’ll learn about techniques to create suspense, sinister characterization and scary scenes. Cost: $30. Registration is required.

The Power of One: Writing and Performing a One-Person Show
2-part workshop
October 22 & 29 (W), 6-8 p.m.
Ever wanted to write and perform your own story? This lively workshop will start with the fundamentals of writing, storytelling, stage presence and acting technique as each participant creates and performs their own monologue. Cost: $30. Registration is required.

Register by Phone or Online:

801-957-2192 or
www.slcc.edu/cwc/workshops.aspx
DiverseCity Writing Series Fall Reading and Reception
Reading at Urban Arts Gallery, 137 S. Rio Grande St.
October 23 (H), 6-8:30 p.m.
Join the SLCC Community Writing Center as we celebrate the writers of the DiverseCity Writing Series. Come hear members of your community share their thoughts, ideas and stories at this public reading. Cost: Free.

NaNoWriMo: Write a Novel in a Month
5-part workshop
Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29 (S), 1-3 p.m.
November is National Novel Writing Month! Join us for this fly-by-the-seat-of-your-pants approach to novel writing. We’ll explore techniques for writing 50,000 words in 30 days and attempt to end the month with a finished product. Don’t worry about mistakes; that’s part of the process. Coaching sessions will also be available during the week. Cost: $60. Registration is required.

Jump Start Your Story: Using Objects as Writing Prompts
2-part workshop
November 5 & 12 (W), 6-8 p.m.
Have you ever used an object to launch a story? Bring an old photo, a paragraph from a favorite book, a newspaper clipping or small object to the CWC. We’ll join SLCC English Professor Benjamin Solomon to explore ways to use serendipity and unexpected details to get started on a compelling story. Cost: $30. Registration is required.

Make It Personal: Journals as Gifts
1-part workshop
December 3 (W), 6-8 p.m.
Do you ever struggle with that perfect holiday gift for your writer-friends or family? Create a personal journal for someone dear using your own writing prompts, such as favorite memories together or experiences you’ve shared, favorite foods, photos, etc. Join us for this one-day workshop to craft memorable holiday gifts. Cost: $20. Registration is required.

Feel Like Making a Difference?
Come to one of our volunteer trainings and learn how you can get involved.
Call (801) 957-2192
or visit
www.slcc.edu/cwc/how-you-can-help/index.aspx

Monthly Volunteer Training Dates:
1st Saturday from 11:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
3rd Wednesday from 4:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

All of our volunteers are invaluable to our programs.

Alicia Parry
Ana Bonilla (Leslie Whitehed)
Ben Berger
Beth Ernstsen
Brooke Cramblitt
Chris Chambers
Claire Thixton
Cyndi Lloyd
Dave Goodale
Dawn Boardman
Debbie Leasure
Deborah Young
Diane Lockard
Douglas Woodall
Fran Crookston
Grace Froh
Heather Nowlin
Helen Droitsch
Jamie Cowen
Jim Kelley
José Bonilla
Katherine Torres
Kecianne Shick
Kelly Albrecht
Madhav Ranjan
Mary Garrity
Meg Burke
Melissa Rasmussen
Michael Cook
Mike Scott
Nikki Hammer
Paola Loya
Paula Calborn
Peggy Kadir
Peter Muller
Sarah Rose
Shirley Fifer
Tracey Gibson

Thank you so much for all that you do!
Support the CWC!

Just go to http://www.slcc.edu/cwc/ Click “How You Can Help” and follow the links to make an easy donation.

EVERYONE CAN WRITE!

ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE ACCORDING TO CURRENT TAX LAWS.

HERE’S WHY...

There’s a good chance that you’re reading this newsletter because you are interested in writing. Whether you like to write or are intimidated by it, you are still curious. You read, listen, observe, and you are interested in the world around you. Written words may have been important in your life from an early age and still are.

Every year since 2001, the SLCC Community Writing Center has assisted thousands of writers like you at all stages in the writing process. We’ve partnered with hundreds of nonprofits and offered rich experiences through workshops and writing groups. We at the CWC continually strive to keep our programs free or low-cost. Though the Salt Lake Community College is the major funder of CWC programs, the CWC is responsible for raising external funds for a portion of its operating and program costs.

If you value writing and the programs we offer, please make a donation. We hope that you will consider supporting the CWC in this way. You can contribute online at www.slcc.edu/cwc/how-you-can-help/index.aspx or by mailing a donation to SLCC Community Writing Center, 210 East 400 South, Suite 8 Salt Lake City, UT 84111. Your contribution will help foster Salt Lake City’s growing community of writers.

SLCC COMMUNITY WRITING CENTER
210 EAST 400 SOUTH, SUITE 8
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84111
WWW.SLCC.EDU/CWC
801.957.2192

THE CWC NEWSLETTER IS ONLINE AT WWW.SLCC.EDU/CWC/NEWS/INDEX.ASPX