

**Public Readings 2023**

*The* [*New York State Summer Writers Institute*](https://www.skidmore.edu/summerwriters/index.php) *will offer evening readings by an extraordinary line-up of distinguished writers this June and July. Except where noted, the readings, which are free and welcome the public, will begin at 8 pm in Davis Auditorium, Palamountain Hall on the Skidmore College campus.*

June 26: Poet **Vijay Seshadri** (Pulitzer Prize, *3 Sections*) & Novelist **Steve Stern** (Guggenheim Fellow; *The Village Idiot*)

June 27: Novelist **Garth Greenwell** (*What Belongs to You; Cleanness*) & Poet **Carl Dennis** (*Practical Gods*)

June 28, 7 PM: Going to the Movies with **Phillip Lopate** (Screening of Rohmer’s “The Marquise of O” followed by discussion)

June 29: Novelist **Claire Messud** (*The Woman Upstairs; The Emperor’s Children*) & Memoirist **Honor Moore** (*Our Revolution: A Mother and Daughter at Mid-Century)*

June 30: Poet **Gregory Pardlo** (Pulitzer Prize, *Digest*) & Novelist and Memoirist **Elizabeth Benedict** (*Rewriting Illness: A View of My Own)*

July 3: Memoirist **Phillip Lopate** (*Portrait Inside My Head: Essays*) & Poet **Campbell McGrath** (*Nouns & Verbs: New and Selected Poems*)

July 4: Novelist and Memoirist **Mary Gordon** (*Pearl*; *Payback*) & Poet **Rosanna Warren** (*So Forth: Poems*)

July 5: Poet **Katha Pollitt** (*Learning to Drive and Other Life Stories)* Panel with **Mary Gordon**, **Robert Boyers** and Writers Institute Students: The Writer & The Culture of Censorship

July 6: Novelist **Mary Gaitskill** (*The Mare; Veronica*) & Novelist **Calvin Baker** (*A More Perfect Reunion: Race, Integration*, *and The Future of America)*

July 7: Poetry & Jazz²: An Evening with former US Poet Laureate **Robert Pinsky** and Grammy Award-winning musicians **Todd Coolman** (bass) & **Bill Cunliffe** (piano) at [Caffe Lena](https://www.caffelena.org) (tickets available [here](https://www.caffelena.org))

July 10: Fictionist **Amy Hempel** (*Sing to It: New Stories*) & Poet **Chase Twichell** (*Things as It Is*)

July 11: Novelist **Binnie Kirshenbaum** (*Rabbits for Food*) & Poet **Peg Boyers** (*To Forget Venice; Hard Bread; Honey With Tobacco)*

July 12, 6 PM: A Film Night: Screening of “TAR” (with Kate Blanchett) followed by discussion with **Susan Kress, Edward J. Delaney** and **Robert Boyers**

July 13: American linguist **John McWhorter** (*Woke Racism: How a New Religion Has Betrayed Black America*) & Author **Thomas Chatterton Williams** (contributing writer *The Atlantic; Self-Portrait in Black and White)* in A Conversation on “Writing About Race”

July 14: Novelist **Rick Moody** (*The Ice Storm*; *Hotels of North America*) & Novelist **Adam Braver** (*November 22, 1963; Rejoice the Head of Paul McCartney* ) at [Caffe Lena](https://www.caffelena.org) (tickets available [here](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/an-evening-of-new-fiction-with-adam-braver-and-rick-moody-tickets-641487836387))

*cont.*

July 17: Fictionist **Francine Prose** (*The Vixen*)

July 18: Novelist **Joyce Carol Oates** (*Zombie; Blonde; The (Other) You: Stories*) & Poet **April Bernard** (*The World Behind the World: Poems*)

July 19: **Remembering Novelist Russell Banks** (*Foregone; Affliction; The Lost Memory of Skin*) with **Joyce Carol Oates**, **Nicholas Delbanco** (*It is Enough*; *What Remains*), **Tom Healy** (*Getting Great in the Door: The Ultimate Guide for Fraternity Recruitment; What the Right Hand Knows)*, **Adam Braver** and **Robert Boyers**, Payne Room, Tang Museum, Skidmore College

July 20: Novelist **Marilynne Robinson** (Pulitzer Prize, *Gilead)* andPoet **Henri Cole** (*Blizzard: Poems*; *Nothing To Declare*)

July 21: Pulitzer Prize-winning Novelist **William Kennedy** (*Very Old Bones*; *Legs*; *Ironweed*) & Novelist-memoirist **Danzy Senna** (*Caucasia; Where Did You Sleep Last Night*)

For thirty-six summers, the [New York State Summer Writers Institute](https://www.skidmore.edu/summerwriters/index.php) has offered aspiring students the opportunity to learn from a distinguished faculty of award-winning authors led by director Robert Boyers. Originally an offshoot of the [New York State Writers Institute](https://www.nyswritersinstitute.org/) created by Albany native and Pulitzer Prize-winning author William Kennedy, the program has become widely known for its small classes offering individualized attention in a supportive environment.

