



Saturday, June 17th
Story Catcher Festival
Mari Sandoz High Plains Heritage Center Atrium
Chadron State College
Free & Open to the Public

MORNING SESSIONS

9 to 10 AM: Check-In & Continental Breakfast

9:30 to 11:00: PANEL PRESENTATION

- This panel will begin with a short reading from our emerging writers, followed by a discussion with our distinguished writers as they share successful strategies for embracing an active writing life and answer questions from the audience.

AFTERNOON SESSIONS

12:30 to 1:45: *Dreaming the Self*

Featuring the Mari Sandoz Emerging Poet Natalie Taylor

In this workshop, writers will plumb their own dreams to source deep and potent ideas. Then, we'll honor the peculiar language of the unconscious by using those unexpected images and pairing unrelated concepts to create authentic magic. Writers will learn how to suspend logic in favor of discovering new linguistic landscapes infused with strange and surprising messages from the subconscious.

2:00-3:15: *Writing with a Knife: The Art of Cutting Things Out*

Featuring the Mari Sandoz Emerging Prose Writer Alec Osthoff

This workshop will focus on one of the final steps of revision: making your writing efficient by trimming off excess words, sentences, or even whole paragraphs. We will also examine how what is left unsaid in a piece of writing is just as important as what is expressed on the page. As this workshop is focused broadly on the craft of revision, it is open to the three primary genres—poetry, nonfiction, and fiction. Participants will need to bring a piece that they are interested in revising along with the chosen implements for notetaking and freewriting.

3:30 to 4:45 OPEN MIC

Writers will have an opportunity to share their work from the retreat. Audience members may also sign up to read short pieces.

5:00 to 6:00: Reception

Light Refreshments Served

6:00 to 7:30 PM Special Reading With Mark Halliday

- Sometimes wry, sometimes heartbreaking, Mark Halliday's poems remind us that the human experience is never easy. In his keynote reading, Halliday will read from his most recent collection, *Thresherphobe*, along with other works from his distinguished career.

Book signing to follow



2016 General Workshop: Sandoz Emerging Poet L. Cal Hitzrot leads a session in the Sandoz Atrium on the CSC Campus

Workshop Faculty



2017 Poet in Residence: Mark Halliday

Mark Halliday is a noted American poet, professor and critic. He is author of six collections of poetry, most recently *Thresherphobe* (University of Chicago Press, 2013) and *Keep This Forever* (Tupelo Press, 2008). His honors include serving as the 1994 poet in residence at The Frost Place, inclusion in several annual editions of *The Best American Poetry* series and of the Pushcart Prize anthology, receiving a 2006 Guggenheim Fellowship, and winning the 2001 Rome Prize from the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

Halliday's poetry is characterized by close observation of daily events, out-of-the-ordinary metaphors, colloquial diction, references to popular culture, and uncommon humor. The poet David Graham has described Halliday as one of the "ablest practitioners" of the "ultra-talk poem," a term said to have been coined by Halliday himself to describe the work of a group of contemporary American poets who frequently write in a wry, exuberant, garrulous, accessible style.

Halliday earned his B.A. (1971) and M.A. (1976) from Brown University, and his Ph.D. in English literature from Brandeis University in 1983, where he studied with poets Allen Grossman and Frank Bidart. He has taught English literature and writing at Wellesley College, the University of Pennsylvania, Western Michigan University, Indiana University. Since 1996, he has taught at Ohio University, where, in 2012, he was awarded the rank of distinguished professor.



2016 Fiction Writer in Residence: Lisa Sandlin

Lisa Sandlin is from the Gulf Coast oil town of Beaumont, Texas, and she holds degrees from Rice University and Vermont College. Her work has appeared in *Shenandoah*, *Southwest Review*, *Crazyhorse*, *StoryQuarterly*, *Mississippi Review*, *The New York Times Book Review*, and elsewhere.

Her books are *The Famous Thing About Death; Message to the Nurse of Dreams*, which won the Violet Crown and Jesse H. Jones Awards; *In the River Province*, a finalist for the Jones award; and *You Who Make the Sky Bend*, a collaboration with New Mexican retablo artist Catherine Ferguson. *The Do-Right*, published 2015, received a PWA Shamus Award and the Hammett Prize from the International Association of Crime Writers. She teaches at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

Alec Osthoff: Mari Sandoz Emerging Writer--Prose

Alec Osthoff is originally from Ely, Minnesota, where his parents ran a sled dog kennel. He has been a professional horse rider and a singer in a metal band, but now he just writes.

He is a recent graduate from the University of Wyoming's Master of Fine Arts program in fiction. He received his Bachelor's in English from the University of Minnesota. His writings have appeared in *Atticus Review*, *Midwestern Gothic*, and as winner of *Blue Mesa Review's* 2016 fiction contest. He has work forthcoming from *Western Confluence* and is currently drafting his first novel.



Natalie Taylor Mari Sandoz Emerging Writer: Poetry

Natalie Taylor earned a BFA in English with a creative writing emphasis from the University of Utah.

She is the author of the poetry chapbook, *Eden's Edge* and her work has been published in *Rock & Sling*, *Talking River*, the *Helicon West Anthology*, and *Brain, Child*. She won first place in the 2016 Utah Original Writing competition.

Acknowledgements

Mari Sandoz High Plains Heritage Society and the Esther and Raleigh Pilster Endowment

<http://www.marisandoz.org>

Organizational support and primary funding for the Story Catcher Workshop and Festival has been provided by the *Mari Sandoz High Plains Heritage Society* and through a generous grant made possible through the *Esther and Raleigh Pilster Fund*, administered by the Society. Membership to the society is \$50 per year, and can be completed online at the website above.

Special thanks to *Elizabeth Chase*, Executive Secretary, for all her efforts in setting up the website, promoting the workshop, completing the contracts for the workshop and minding the budget; *J.L. Schmidt*, Public Relations Coordinator, for all the great news releases, newsletter items and publicity; and *Dianna Hoffmann*, board member, for helping with planning, registration and funding.

English and Humanities at CSC

The English and Humanities Department at Chadron State College has provided funding for portions of the workshop and the guiding vision and organization through our Planning Committee and our Departmental Staff:

- *Dr. Matthew Evertson*, Professor, Workshop Director
- *Dr. Steven Coughlin*, Assistant Professor, Workshop Director

Get Outside Yourself with English and Humanities at CSC! (www.csc.edu/english)

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Mari Sandoz High Plains Heritage Center

<http://www.sandozcenter.com/>

In addition to providing a beautiful meeting place for our workshop, *Sarah Polak*, Director, and the staff of the center have provided invaluable support through planning, gathering materials and setting up the welcome packets, and promoting and publicizing the workshop.

Chadron State College

A very special thanks goes out to the College Relations staff, including Tena Cook and Alex Helmbrecht for promoting our event. Thank you to CSC Conferencing for helping to publicize our workshop and for helping with registration. Conferencing, Housing, and Dining Services at CSC have helped coordinate our comfort at the workshop, and kept us well-fed!

Finally, we appreciate very much the support from the present leadership on campus including President *Dr. Randy Rhine* and Vice President for Academic Affairs, *Dr. Charles Snare* and Dean of Liberal Arts *Dr. James Margetts*.

And Others

Thanks go out to all who have volunteered to help, promoted or supported our workshop this year!

Story Catcher Summer Workshop



2015 Retreat Participants at Camp Norwesca near Chadron State Park

See you next June
(date and location TBD)

For more information about the workshop, updated schedule and registration information, please visit us at www.storycatcherworkshop.org or www.marisandoz.org or email mevertson@csc.edu
(Follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/storycatcherworkshop)