

# Cascade Christian Writers Summer Conference 2026

**Date:** Sunday, June 14 to Wednesday, June 17, 2026

**Location:** Canby Grove Christian Center, 7501 S Knights Bridge Rd, Canby, OR 97013

**Director:** Christina Nelson [christinasuzann@gmail.com](mailto:christinasuzann@gmail.com)

**Assistant Director:** Amy Earls [amy@cascadechristianwriters.org](mailto:amy@cascadechristianwriters.org)

## SCHEDULE

### Sunday

**12:00–4:00 PM:** Conference Registration Check In (Riverfront Lodge)

**2:00–2:30 PM:** First Time Attendee Orientation (Mt. Hood)

**2:30–3:00 PM:** Welcome Event (Mt. Hood)

**3:10–4:30 PM:** Editor and Agent Panel (Mt. Hood)

**4:45–5:45 PM:** Coaching Classes\* (locations TBD)

**6:00–7:00 PM:** Dinner (Cascade Lodge)

**7:15–8:45 PM:** Worship and Keynote: Cher Gatto (Mt. Hood)

**8:50–9:15 PM:** Sign Up for Appointments with Editors, Agent and Mentors (Tabernacle)

**9:00–9:45 PM:** Evening Bonus Campfire (outside of Tabernacle)

### Monday

**7:30–8:45 AM:** Breakfast (Cascade Lodge)

**9:00–9:30 AM:** Morning Devotions and Worship (Mt. Hood)

**9:45–12:00 PM:** Coaching Classes (locations TBD)

**11:00–12:00 PM:** Writing Center for Editor, Agent, and Mentor Appointments  
(Tabernacle)

**12:30–1:30 PM:** Lunch (Cascade Lodge)

**1:30–4:30 PM:** Writing Center for Editor, Agent, and Mentor Appointments (Tabernacle)

**2:00–3:00 PM:** Workshop A (locations TBD)

**3:30–4:30 PM:** Workshop B (locations TBD)

**4:45–5:45 PM:** Crafts?? Nature Walk with Ranger Bear and Karen Barnett?? (location TBD)

**6:00–7:00 PM:** Dinner (Cascade Lodge)

**7:15–8:45 PM:** Worship and Keynote (Mt. Hood)

**8:45–9:45 PM:** Evening AI Discussion (Mt. Hood)

## **Tuesday**

**7:30–8:45 AM:** Breakfast (Cascade Lodge)

**9:00–9:30 AM:** Morning Devotions and Worship (Mt. Hood)

**9:45–12:00 PM:** Coaching Classes (locations TBD)

**10:00–12:00 PM:** Writing Center for Editor, Agent, and Mentor Appointments  
(Tabernacle)

**12:30–1:30 PM:** Lunch (Cascade Lodge)

**1:30–4:30 PM:** Writing Center for Editor, Agent, and Mentor Appointments (Tabernacle)

**2:00–3:00 PM:** Workshop C (locations TBD)

**3:30–4:30 PM:** Workshop D (locations TBD)

**4:45–5:45 PM:** Autograph Party (Fireside)

**6:00–7:00 PM:** Dinner (Cascade Lodge)

**7:00–9:00 PM:** Cascade Awards Presentations and Dessert Reception (Tabernacle)

## **Wednesday**

**9:00–10:30 AM:** Worship and Keynote (Mt. Hood)

**10:30–11:30 AM:** Brunch (Cascade Lodge)

\*Coaching classes are conducted as a series with ongoing support from the teacher, while workshops are standalone sessions. In coaching classes, participants usually select a specific teacher or topic and attend that series throughout its duration.

## **COACHING CLASS DETAILS**

- Secrets of Scriptwriting: From Page to Screen — Leann Barna
- Build It: Structuring Your Nonfiction Book— Janet McHenry
- Indie Publishing Your Children's Book — J. Todd McMillan
- Writing Retreat & Life Theme — Jesse Rivas
- What I Learned About Being on an Author Panel — Nick Harrison and Andrew
- More Than Memoir: Your Story, God's Glory, and a Path to Healing — Mary Pero

## **WORKSHOP DETAILS**

### ***Workshop A***

- Story Threads: Seat-of-the-Pants Writing — Karen Barnett
- Writing the Invisible: The Art of the Unsaid, Part 1 — Cher Gatto
- World Building: Creating an Unforgettable Home for Your Story — Kandi J Wyatt & Karen Grunst
- The Nuts & Bolts of Compelling Flash Fiction — Teddi Deppner
- The Heart of Branding — Cara Grandle, Marilyn Furumasu, Jesse Rivas

### ***Workshop B***

- Write Whether It's for You or Your Imaginary Friends — Blythe Danie
- Writing the Invisible: The Art of the Unsaid, Part 2 — Cher Gatto
- Point of View in Fantasy: Crafting an Immersive Reader Experience — Karen Grunst
- How to Ask Good Questions: When the Five W's are Not Enough — Linda Hartwig
- Running Your Writing Business — Steven Rogers

### ***Workshop C***

- What I Learned About Being an Indie Author: Panel— Kandi J Wyatt, Teddi Deppner, Amy Earls, and Christina Nelson
- Who Do We Write For? — Steven Rogers
- Common Fiction Mistakes That Hold Manuscripts Back — Karen Barnett
- Writing a Meditation for *The Upper Room* — Andrew Breeden
- Juicing Your Ideas — Sherri Langton

### ***Workshop D***

- What's in a Proposal (and What's Not) — Blythe Daniel
- Weasel Words Changed My Life — Steven Rogers
- Character Development: Making Memorable Characters — Kandi J Wyatt
- Demystifying the Technical Side of Author Marketing — Teddi Deppner
- Don't Just Self-Publish When You Can Publish Like a Pro — Kendy Pearson

## **ADDITIONAL DETAILS**

- Prayer will be available in the Prayer Room (located in Tabernacle) throughout the day. Times TBA.
- Water stations are available in Mt. Hood, Cascade Lodge, and Mt. St. Helens. Please bring your water bottle.
- Coffee and tea will be in the Riverfront Lodge every morning.
- Public restrooms are available in the Riverfront Lodge and near the Activities Area.
- The conference ends on Wednesday at 11:30 AM. Please be prepared to leave directly after as the conference center will need to make preparations for another group coming in after us.
- The autograph party will be in the bookstore on Tuesday at 4:45 PM. All faculty will be available to autograph books.

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# CAMPUS MAP

