One-on-One
30 Minute Critique Sessions
with an Expert Editor

During the 15th Annual CityLit Festival

Do you have a memoir, story, screenplay, or poetry sitting in a drawer or deep in your hard drive that shows promise?

For $10, you have an opportunity for a professional author, editor, poet to sit down with you for a 30-minute, one-on-one in-depth critique. Editors will read your work, offer comments, suggestions, and answer any questions you have to take your work to the next level.

“Making love to me is amazing. Wait, I meant: making love, to me, is amazing. The absence of two little commas nearly transformed me into a sex god.”

Dark Jar Tin Zoo, Love Quotes for the Ages. Specifically Ages 19-91

EDITOR BIOS

LAURA BALLOU is a teacher, writer, military wife, and mother from Northern Virginia. Her screenplays have placed as a Second Round Winner at the Austin Film Festival Screenplay Competition and a quarter finalist in the Page International Screenplay Competition, among other honors. She has written movie reviews for the Examiner.com, and writes screenplays when she isn’t teaching eighth graders English at Francis Scott Key Middle School.

BETSY BOYD is a fiction writer, journalist, and copywriter. She is a faculty member in the Creative Writing and Publishing Arts MFA program at the University of Baltimore, and is the recipient of a Maryland State Arts Council award, an Elliott Coleman Writing Fellowship, a James A. Michener Fellowship, and others. Betsy’s fiction has been published most recently in Sententia, Shenandoah, Eclectica, Del Sol Review, and Loch Raven Review. Her short story “Scarecrow” received a Pushcart Prize. She edits a creative nonfiction series at Baltimore Fishbowl.


KAREN HOUPPERT is the author of Chasing Gideon: The Elusive Quest for Poor People’s Justice, about the country’s troubled public defender system, Home Fires Burning, chronicling a year in the life of military wives with husbands deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan, and The Curse, which examines the culture of concealment surrounding menstruation. Her reporting has appeared in publications, including The Washington Post Magazine, Newsday, The Nation, The New York Times, Salon, Slate, Mother Jones, Ms and The Baltimore Sun. Former staff writer for The Village Voice, she has been a reporter for Urbanite and The Washington Post Magazine and an editor of Baltimore City Paper. She is the Associate Director of the MA in Writing Program at Johns Hopkins University.

BRET MCCABE has been an arts and culture reporter, critic, and a freelance features writer and editor over the past 20 years. His work has appeared in the Baltimore City Paper, Dallas Observer, BmoreArt, Fort Worth Star-Telegram, among other magazines, newspapers, and websites. He was a 2010 finalist for the Nieman Foundation for Journalism Arts & Culture Fellowship and a 2010 fellow at the NEA Arts Journalism Institute in Classical Music and Opera at Columbia University. He is the senior humanities writer at the Johns Hopkins Magazine.

April 14, 2018
University of Baltimore
William H. Thumel Sr. Business Center
11 W. Mount Royal Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21201

10:00 am 11:00 am
10:30 am 11:30 am

Laura Ballou
Prefers reading manuscripts by email or during session
Screenwriting

Betsy Boyd
Prefers having the manuscripts by email
Fiction & Memoir

celeste doaks
Prefers having the manuscripts by email
Poetry & Fiction

Karen Houppert
Prefers reading manuscripts during session
NonFiction & Memoir

Bret McCabe
Prefers having the manuscripts by email
NonFiction, Memoir & Fiction

$10 per session
Tax-Deductible Online Donation *

Guidelines
Five pages of poetry OR
Five pages of prose:
- Double-spaced
- 12 pt. font
- 1 inch margin
- Numbered pages
- Name must be included

(If you are feeling ambitious, please know only the first five pages will be critiqued!)

* Registration Required! Go to www.CityLitProject.org

Follow links to make a $10 donation. In the comment section, add your requested editor and genre. If required, let us know the expected date of your submission. (Email submissions by April 6th to: info @citylitproject.org... Subject line should read “One on One”)