



SPECIAL
EVENTS

• Contest •

2 0 1 8

fiction & poetry workshops

WRITE-TO-READ

The Writers Studio Tucson teachers are excited to announce our 2018 Write-to-Read contest, featuring guest judge Alice Hatcher. Past and current students are invited to submit a short story, creative nonfiction piece, or 3-5 poems in response to a special prompt provided by Alice

Winners will read their entries during a special event hosted by The Writers Studio Tucson in January of 2019.

HOW IT WORKS

Alice has crafted a special writing prompt just for our contest. Entries will be read blind, and judged based on how well the writer achieves the goals of the prompt and the overall quality of the writing and the narrative voice.

WHO CAN SUBMIT

Current students of The Writers Studio Tucson and students who have taken a class (including online) within the past five years (2013-2018). You may submit fiction, poetry, or creative nonfiction for your entry.

PREPARING YOUR SUBMISSION

- Your entry must be 5,000 words or less, or 3-5 poems.
- Word or PDF documents (.doc, .docx, .pdf).
- Please use 12 point, easy-to-read font. Prose submissions should be double-spaced.
- Include the title and the page number in the header at the top of each page.
- Do not include your name anywhere in your entry.

SUBMIT

- Email your submission as an attachment to PhillIvory@writerstudio.com by **Friday, December 7th, at midnight AZ time.**
- The name of your attachment should be the title of your submission (example: `The_Red_Fox.doc`). Please use the subject line "Write-to-Read Contest Submission" so we don't miss it.
- In the body of your email, please include your first and last name, the title of your submission, your most recent Writers Studio Tucson class (example: Fall 2014 Intermediate), your email address and your phone number.
- Your submission must follow the guidelines above in order to be considered, so please read them carefully.

2018 WRITE-TO-READ PROMPT

Write a story or poem(s) in which your narrator reveals a long-kept secret to another person. You can decide whether the listener is a stranger or trusted confidante. The secret can be one the narrator has carried in the spirit of joy, or a secret wrapped up in guilt or fear. The main thing is that, in sharing the secret, the narrator tells a story about something that happened in the past. In that sense, this is a classic frame story grounded in the present but focused on the past. Both the narrator and those featured in the narrator's confessional story (these might include the narrator's younger self or third parties from the past) should be well-developed characters with desires and arcs.

You can decide how to weigh the past and present elements in the piece and how to tack back and forth between moments in time. You might present multiple flashbacks, employ a three-part frame story structure, or embed nested narratives in the form of letters, diary entries, and other personal ephemera, etc. The older narrator should have a motive for confiding in the listener, but you can decide how much or little to make the listener part of the story. Hire a narrator with personality and have fun!

About Alice Hatcher

After graduating from 28th grade at the University of Michigan, Alice Hatcher turned her attention from footnotes to fiction, and has since published short stories, creative nonfiction and poetry. To the immense relief of everyone who knows her, she finally completed the 3,475th draft of her first novel *The Wonder That Was Ours*, winner of the 2017 Dzanc Books Prize for Fiction. She is thrilled beyond description and grateful to those who supported her while she wrote a novel narrated by a collective of cockroaches. Many thanks to the members of RAW (Readers as Writers) and Write Wednesday, two groups that have helped make Tucson the dusty SOHO of the SW.