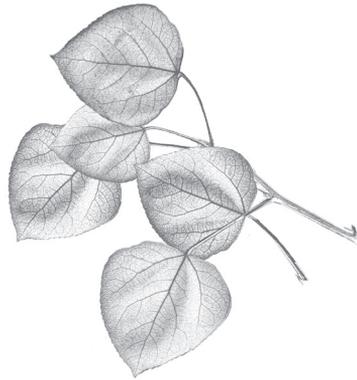


Program

CROSSING TO SAFETY



SUN VALLEY WRITERS' CONFERENCE
July 12 – July 15, 2016

P.O. Box 957 • Ketchum, ID 85540 • (208) 726-5454

*Office: 520 Leadville Avenue North, Ketchum
svwc.com • info@svwc.com*

SVWC is a 501(c)(3) Idaho nonprofit corporation

PROGRAM CHANGES

AS OF JULY 7, 2016

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13

5:45 – 6:45 PM

*Pavilion
and Lawn*

A Celebration of Yeats

TERRY DONNELLY will be substituting for
CHARLOTTE MOORE.

FRIDAY, JULY 15

12:00 – 1:15 PM

Pavilion

Exodus: The Crisis of the World's Refugees

DAVID MILIBAND will address the plight of the refugees and will then be joined by **LIAQUAT AHAMED** and **STROBE TALBOTT** for a panel discussion about the BREXIT referendum followed by a 15-minute Q&A.

1:15 PM

Lodge Terrace

Farewell lunch with full conference pass holders and guest writers.

Actress **TERRY DONNELLY** has been a member of the National Theatre of Great Britain, London and the Abbey Theatre, Dublin. Her stage work with the Irish Rep has included roles in their best-known productions.

DAVID MILIBAND, former British Foreign Secretary and Labour Party MP, currently heads the International Rescue Committee, which oversees humanitarian relief operations in more than 30 war-affected countries.

LIAQUAT AHAMED, author of the 2010 Pulitzer Prize-winning *LORDS OF FINANCE: THE BANKERS WHO BROKE THE WORLD*, was formerly a World Bank economist as well as a trustee of the Brookings Institution.

STROBE TALBOTT, president of the Brookings Institution and former Deputy Secretary of State, has had a career that spans the highest levels of journalism, government service, and academia.

CROSSING TO SAFETY

TUESDAY, JULY 12

10:00 AM
Big Tent

Registration Opens

Tuesday Matinees (*Check location at Info Desk*)

1:30 – 3:30 PM
*Limelight
B and C*

- Film: SPOTLIGHT
Winner of the 2016 Academy Award for Best Picture, as well as for Best Original Screenplay, SPOTLIGHT relates the true story of how a team of *Boston Globe* reporters exposed the Boston Archdiocese clergy sex abuse scandal, a conspiracy that included both the criminal abuse of children and its cover-up, which had reverberations for the entire Catholic Church. The film screening will be followed by a panel discussion on investigative journalism with Pulitzer Prize-winning journalists **WALTER ROBINSON**, editor of *The Globe's* Spotlight team that brought the scandal to light, and **DAVID E. HOFFMAN**, author of *THE BILLION DOLLAR SPY* and a contributing editor at *The Washington Post*. Also joining the panel will be **STEVEN LEE MYERS**, *New York Times* correspondent and author of *THE NEW TSAR: THE RISE AND REIGN OF VLADIMIR PUTIN*. Public radio journalist and host **NEAL CONAN** will moderate.

3:30 – 4:30 PM
*Limelight
B and C*

For those who did not choose the film, there may be a limited number of seats available for the panel discussion.

2:00 – 3:00 PM

- VOICES IN THE OCEAN: Dolphins and Their World
One day while swimming off the coast of Maui, author **SUSAN CASEY** was surrounded by a pod of spinner dolphins. It was such a profoundly transporting experience that it inspired her to embark on a two-year-long global adventure to explore the nature of these remarkable beings and their complex relationship to humanity. In her talk, Casey will explore the many truths and myths about dolphins and humankind's feelings about, fascination with, and treatment of these beguiling animals.

TUESDAY, JULY 12 *continued*

2:00 – 3:00 PM

- New Voices

At a conference where we listen to and celebrate authors who are often well into their careers, we like to turn the focus in this session toward those more recently out of the starting gates, young award-winning writers whose work is exciting and original. We want you to meet them so you can follow them in the years ahead. Come hear **CLAIRE LOMBARDO**, **WILLIAM PEI SHIH**, **MADHURI VIJAY**, and **CLAIRE VAYE WATKINS**. They will read from their fiction and talk about their work, their lives, their breakthroughs, and the uncertainties of the writing life.

4:00 – 6:00 PM

Upper Green

Come join old friends and new for a no-host cocktail reception before the evening talk.

5:30 – 6:30 PM

Pavilion

Salman Rushdie: Public Events, Private Lives

Join **SALMAN RUSHDIE**, one of the world's most widely celebrated writers, as he speaks to **PAUL HOLDENGRÄBER** about his memoir **JOSEPH ANTON**, about freedom of speech and the role of novelists in the public sphere, and about storytelling and his most recent novel, published last fall, **TWO YEARS EIGHT MONTHS AND TWENTY-EIGHT NIGHTS**.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13

8:00 – 9:00 AM Continental Breakfast
Lodge Terrace

9:00 – 10:00 AM Breakout Sessions (*Check location at Info Desk*)

- Q & A with DAVID BENIOFF and D.B. WEISS
This is a rare opportunity for *Game of Thrones* fans to ask the program's co-creators and showrunners their most urgent questions about the Emmy Award-winning drama and the creative process that has gone into making it.
- HOW DOGS LOVE US
Losing his beloved pet pug Newton sent Emory University neuroeconomics professor **GREGORY BERNS** on a search into the workings of the canine brain. He knew what he had felt for Newton, but he wanted to know what Newton had felt for him. Thus the question: Do dogs love us, and can it be scientifically proven? Berns spent months training dogs, including his remarkable pound-pup Callie, to tolerate MRI brain scans so that he and his colleagues could observe which parts of the dogs' brains light up in response to various smells and hand signals. The result: his book **HOW DOGS LOVE US**. If you have ever looked into your dog's eyes and wondered what he or she is thinking, you will not want to miss this.
- WITNESS TO THE REVOLUTION: 1969/1970
Full of surprises and woven together from over a hundred original interviews, **CLARA BINGHAM's** oral history of the end of the Sixties provides a firsthand narrative about the moment America turned on, tuned in and dropped out, at the same time it was careening to the brink of a civil war at home and fighting a long, futile conflict abroad. Bingham will reveal the wild depths of a truly extraordinary time in history, one that appears more relevant than ever, now that the country is once again entangled in racial turmoil, extended wars overseas, and a pervasive distrust of government, the Establishment, and the entire status quo.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13 *continued*

Breakout
Sessions
(*continued*)

- Why THE GREAT GATSBY Still Captivates
In her exhilarating recent book, *SO WE READ ON: HOW THE GREAT GATSBY CAME TO BE AND WHY IT ENDURES*, *Fresh Air* critic **MAUREEN CORRIGAN** revisits Fitzgerald's American classic. She says it is both the greatest American (and the greatest un-American) novel, largely for the way it places class issues in the foreground, something that was lost on many of us when we read the novel in high school primarily as a tragic love story. Here Corrigan offers a corrective and tells a fascinating story about how Fitzgerald's masterpiece came back from oblivion to captivate readers around the world.
- The New Girl in America
In her funny and deeply felt new novel for young adults, *IT AIN'T SO AWFUL, FALAFEL*, writer **FIROOZEH DUMAS** goes right to the heart of what it means to be the new girl on the block. In this case, that new girl isn't just moving from one American town to another, but coming all the way from Iran to Southern California. Focusing on the difficulties of trying to fit in, Dumas spins an autobiographical tale about the immigrant experience and about the welcome mat that was laid out for her and her family. Now living in Germany, Dumas will also share her thoughts about how that country is dealing with its current mass influx of refugees.
- 200 Words a Day: A Fiction Master Class
What does it take to make a writer – talent or sheer tenacity? Join Man Booker Prize-winning novelist **ANNE ENRIGHT** for her own personal take on the writing life. For Enright, that life consists of 200 words a day, give or take. Not sound like a lot? Oh, it is! She will explain why, in her typically earthy, glinting way. For the rest, you must come listen to her.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13 *continued*

- Is That a Fact
Where is the decisive boundary between nonfiction and fiction, and why does it matter? Many current nonfiction writers take tremendous license in their work: writing imagined dialogue, creating composite characters, and the like. Is the use of such novelistic devices legitimate in pursuit of fact-checkable truth? Or is something more at stake, especially now, in a time of growing suspicion that reality is not a matter of fact, but of whom you choose to believe – a suspicion reflected in our intensifying social and political polarization? Join *New Yorker* staff writers **LARISSA MACFARQUHAR** and **PHILIP GOUREVITCH** for a spirited discussion of all of this, including an inside look at the famed (and occasionally hilarious) *New Yorker* fact-checking process.
- The Sportswriter
Pulitzer prize-winning reporter **DAVID MARANISS** has written books on Presidents Obama and Clinton and, more recently, on his hometown of Detroit. He also loves sports. In his biographies of Green Bay Packers coach Vince Lombardi, *WHEN PRIDE STILL MATTERED*, and of baseball great Roberto Clemente, *CLEMENTE: THE PASSIONS AND GRACE OF BASEBALL'S LAST HERO*, Maraniss offers rich, complex portraits of two sports legends. He will talk about the place of sports in American life, and in his own life, including insights into the current controversies dogging professional football.
- A Naturalist Goes Fishing
Marine biologist **JAMES B. MCCLINTOCK** is a passionate fisherman as well as one of the world's leading experts on climate change in the Antarctic. Join him as he tells stories about his fishing adventures in some of the world's most breathtaking waters, from the Gulf of Mexico to New Zealand – stories that not only entertain, but also illustrate how sea-level rise, land erosion, pollution, water acidification, and overfishing are all affecting the present and future of our planet.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13 *continued*

10:30 – 11:30 AM

Pavilion

DAVID
HALBERSTAM
MEMORIAL
LECTURE

JUST MERCY

There are books that seem to spring from the soul of the country. So it is with **BRYAN STEVENSON**'s **JUST MERCY**, which goes right to the heart of our inequitable justice system and the strains of racism that continue to haunt our democracy. Stevenson was an idealistic young lawyer when he founded the Alabama-based Equal Justice Initiative, a move that put him on the front lines of a battle to free dozens of people, mostly poor and black, from wrongful or excessive imprisonment. He will talk to us about his work, his book, and about how we can work to overcome injustice at a time when both the left and the right in this country agree that our broken system must be fixed.

12:00 – 1:00 PM

Pavilion

McGuane's Montana

TOM MCGUANE is the prose laureate of the West and specifically of Montana, his home base for many years. His new collection of stories, **CROW FAIR**, is an elegantly spare but big-hearted and often humorous look at the land he loves. He writes of disaffected wives and devoted sons, fishing buddies and cattle breeders, trying to get by and to make peace with one another (or not) against the beauty of Big Sky Country. The author of ten novels, as well as three books of stories and six collections of essays, McGuane will talk about his work, his love of fishing, and the long arc of his writing life. Perhaps he can answer this: does the writing, not the fishing, get easier or harder with the years? He will be joined in conversation by poet **ARLO HASKELL**, executive director of the Key West Literary Seminar.

1:00 – 2:30 PM

Lower Green

Lunch

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13 *continued*

2:30 – 3:30 PM

Breakout Sessions (*Check location at Info Desk*)

- Waging War

Who gets to decide when and how America wages war? The Commander-in-Chief? The U.S. Congress? In his forthcoming book, **DAVID BARRON**, a federal appellate judge and longtime Harvard law professor, explicates the often fraught relationship between these two branches of government during wartime. Concerns over the executive's imperial reach threatened to scuttle the Constitution before it was even ratified. Since that time, whether Lincoln's tenure during the Civil War, FDR's during World War II, or Obama's during the War on Terror, presidents have had to accommodate or find ways to maneuver around Congress while simultaneously striving to prevail on the battlefield.

- Law and Literature

Join Justice **STEPHEN BREYER** in conversation with **ANNE TAYLOR FLEMING** about the books, plays and movies that have informed his value system and judicial reasoning. From Shakespeare to Proust, from *OTHELLO* to the movie *GROUNDHOG DAY*, he will talk of the thematic through lines that have captivated him and helped anchor his understanding of the world. What works have stayed with him through the years and what is he reading now? Be prepared to hear a little Shakespeare, a little French and perhaps a Broadway show tune (the Justice knows many).

- The Beauty, Mystery, and Terror of Giant Waves

For her book *THE WAVE*, author **SUSAN CASEY** traveled the globe, as she says, "in pursuit of rogues, freaks and giants of the ocean." Her companions were surfers and scientists looking to conquer and understand the most massive and powerful oceanic forces in the world. Join Casey as she shares extraordinary portraits of human beings confronting nature at its most ferocious.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13 *continued*

Breakout
Sessions
(*continued*)

- THE LATTER DAYS
JUDITH FREEMAN has written about Western and Mormon themes in her novels **RED WATER** and **THE CHINCHILLA FARM**. But until now, with the recent publication of her memoir **THE LATTER DAYS**, she has never dealt directly or explicitly with her own personal story. Join her as she discusses the path she took – sometimes unwittingly, always bravely – from her Mormon upbringing in Utah through a thicket of profound personal challenges to become the writer and the person she is today.
- Rwanda: Writing in the Aftermath
In 1994, close to a million Rwandans were murdered by their fellow citizens, and the world refused to bring the killing to a stop. More than two decades after the genocide, killers and survivors live again as neighbors, grappling with the burdens of memory and forgetting. Now with a new book nearing completion, his second on the subject, **PHILIP GOUREVITCH** will share with us a deeply informed reckoning of humanity betrayed, as well as his thoughts about the hard bargains of personal and political forgiveness.
- Where (My) Poems Come From
Join award-winning poet **TERRANCE HAYES** for an intimate hour of discussion, including some free-ranging Q & A, about the myriad, oftentimes mysterious sources for poems – his own and those of others. Not only does Hayes write poems, but he is also an acclaimed teacher. This is a chance for those of us who love the art of poetry to get up close to its music and light in a way we are only able to on very rare occasions.
- THE BILLION DOLLAR SPY: A True Story of Cold War Espionage and Betrayal
Join Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and author **DAVID E. HOFFMAN** as he tells the riveting story of the spy who cracked open the Soviet military research establishment, as well as offers us an eye-opening account of the CIA's Moscow station, an outpost of daring espionage in the last years of the Cold War.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13 *continued*

- A Conversation with Jamaica Kincaid
Since 1976 when she became a regular contributor to *The New Yorker*, the Antiguan-born writer **JAMAICA KINCAID** has been a singular and important voice in contemporary literature and one of Caribbean literature's pivotal figures. Whether in novels such as *ANNIE JOHN*, *LUCY*, or the recent *SEE NOW THEN*, or in her nonfiction writing about gardening, her work is intensely personal, unstintingly honest, and always lyrical. She will be in conversation with **JENNY EMERY DAVIDSON**, executive director of The Community Library in Ketchum.
- When Emotional-Support Pigs Fly
New Yorker humor writer **PATRICIA MARX** took a snake to Chanel to buy a matching python pocketbook, a turkey to Katz's deli for a turkey sandwich, an alpaca on a tour of a historic home, and a pig on a plane. Why did she do these things? Because she's an oddball might be a good answer, but there is another, more interesting explanation.
- Wonder Tales
Join Booker Prize-winner **SALMAN RUSHDIE** for a thought-provoking discussion of the fabulist tales of the East and the folktales of the West as essential sources for later works of literature. He will also explore the relevance of these ancient stories for the modern world.

4:00 – 5:00 PM

Pavilion

THE BRAIN: The Story of You

What is reality? Who are "you"? How do you make decisions? Why does your brain need other people? How is technology poised to change what it means to be human? In considering these and other questions, neuroscientist and author **DAVID EAGLEMAN** will guide us through the world of extreme sports, criminal justice, facial expressions, genocide, brain surgery, gut feelings, robotics, and the search for immortality, all the while offering us a clearer picture of how our brains shape our lives and how our lives, in turn, shape our brains.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13 *continued*

5:45 – 6:45 PM

*Pavilion
and
Lawn*

A Celebration of Yeats

“I want all my poetry to be spoken on a stage . . . or sung.” So said the Irish poet William Butler Yeats, and we do his bidding tonight, courtesy of New York City’s **IRISH REPERTORY THEATRE**. Performers will bring their spoken and musical talents and their love of Yeats to the stage on the centenary of the 1916 Easter Rising, an event immortalized in one of Yeats’ most famous poems. But he wrote too of first love, fading love, and old age in words that continue to pierce the heart. The founders of the Irish Rep, **CIARÁN O’REILLY** and **TERRY DONNELLY**, substituting for **CHARLOTTE MOORE**, will be joined by actors and musicians **GABRIEL DONOHUE**, **CIARÁN SHEEHAN** and **GREGORY HARRINGTON**, as well as novelist **ANNE ENRIGHT**.

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THURSDAY, JULY 14

8:00 – 9:00 AM

Lodge Terrace

Continental Breakfast

9:00 – 10:00 AM

Breakout Sessions (*Check location at Info Desk*)

- HOW DOGS LOVE US

Losing his beloved pet pug Newton sent Emory University neuroeconomics professor **GREGORY BERNS** on a search into the workings of the canine brain. He knew what he had felt for Newton, but he wanted to know what Newton had felt for him. Thus the question: Do dogs love us, and can it be scientifically proven? Berns spent months training dogs, including his remarkable pound-pup Callie, to tolerate MRI brain scans so that he and his colleagues could observe which parts of the dogs’ brains light up in response to various smells and hand signals. The result: his book **HOW DOGS LOVE US**. If you have ever looked into your dog’s eyes and wondered what he or she is thinking, you will not want to miss this.

THURSDAY, JULY 14 *continued*

Breakout
Sessions
(*continued*)

- Climate Change as a National Security Threat
Join Harvard professor, homeland security official, and CNN analyst **JULIETTE KAYYEM** in a timely conversation about how climate change is affecting our world. Many people think of the warming planet as only an environmental issue. But there is a growing sense in national security circles that climate change is a threat to our global stability because a world affected by water shortages, rising sea levels, mass migrations, and conflicts over limited resources can only be a more volatile and dangerous place.
- The Dark Country of No Ideas
Author **ERIK LARSON** will describe for us the tortuous process of finding ideas for his books, a process that his friend once described as a disappearance into “the dark country of no ideas.” Finding a new subject is a long process that often takes him the better part of a year and drives his wife and daughters to the brink of banishing him from the house to a very remote island. (Please don’t ask him what he’s working on next.)
- Fear and Fiction
Writer **ALEXANDER MAKSİK**, whose first two novels, **YOU DESERVE NOTHING** and **A MARKER TO MEASURE DRIFT**, garnered a great deal of praise, as well as their share of controversy and criticism, knows well the gauntlet of publication. His third novel, **SHELTER IN PLACE**, will be published this September. Join him for an intimate talk about writing in the face of fear: fear of critics, professional and amateur; fear of publishers and editors; fear of failure; and the importance of getting through those feelings and the necessity of doing so in order to do the work one believes in.

THURSDAY, JULY 14 *continued*

Breakout
Sessions
(*continued*)

SAM MOTT
MEMORIAL
FELLOWSHIP

- The Art of the Short Story
The short story is having another of its moments. Many of our finest writers have offered up recent collections, none more compelling than **TOM MCGUANE**'s *CROW FAIR* and **CLAIRE VAYE WATKINS**' debut collection *BATTLEBORN*. These two friends, separated by decades in age, will converse about the form, about what makes a great short story, about all that must be left out to make it work, and about the Western landscape with its lonesome highways and weather-beaten towns in which their writing is so firmly rooted.
- The State of American Journalism
WALTER ROBINSON has worked as a reporter and editor at *The Boston Globe* since 1972. Robinson led *The Globe's* coverage of the Catholic Church's sexual abuse scandal, for which the newspaper won the 2003 Pulitzer Prize for Public Service and which was the subject of the Academy Award-winning Best Picture *SPOTLIGHT*. Join him for his analysis, informed by decades-long experience, of the current state of American journalism. He will talk about where it has been and where it is going, online and otherwise, and why threats to its vitality and independence are threats to the effective functioning of our democratic institutions in a world that has never been more complex, more secretive, and perhaps, paradoxically, more wide open.
- Dealing with Race
BRYAN STEVENSON, founder and executive director of the Alabama-based Equal Justice Initiative, is a man on a quest to help move this country closer to racial equality and fairness. As anyone who has read his book *JUST MERCY* will know, his intention is not to polarize with intemperate rhetoric, but rather to make peace and bring people together. Stevenson will share with us the details of his new projects aiming to do precisely that as he talks about the lay of our land – racial and otherwise – gathered from his travels around America.

THURSDAY, JULY 14 *continued*

- The Mexican Maid
When the author of *DEEP DOWN DARK*, the harrowing account of the 33 trapped Chilean miners, turns his hand to fiction, you can expect the same kind of intense and empathetic storytelling, which is precisely what **HÉCTOR TOBAR** delivers in his novel *THE BARBARIAN NURSERIES*. At the heart of this funny-smart story is the prickly Mexican maid Araceli, who is left in charge of two young boys when their sparring parents go AWOL. As she leads them on a search for their grandfather, she takes them from the quiet suburban streets of Orange County to the teeming neighborhoods of Los Angeles. Join Tobar as he talks about the difference between writing fiction and nonfiction, and about his big-risk novel and its captivating and willful heroine.
- From Frantz Fanon to “Che”: The Physician as Revolutionary
In a famous essay, the British historian Hugh Trevor-Roper disparaged the historical tendency of physicians to remain aloof from politics and its concerns. In this presentation, doctor, writer and Stanford University medical professor **ABRAHAM VERGHESE** will share stories about some extraordinary exceptions: Frenchman Joseph-Ignace Guillotin, U.S. Founding Father Benjamin Rush, Mexican Mariano Azuela, Frantz Fanon during the Algerian War of Independence, and the Argentine-born Cuban guerilla leader Che Guevara. Vergheese will talk about how these famous revolutionaries risked their lives, in part as an extension of their medical consciences and the projection of their profound sense of personal responsibility, to help alleviate human suffering.

10:30 – 11:30 AM

Choose 1 of 3
*Check location
at Info Desk*

The Critic’s Corner

Come hear the instantly recognizable voice of NPR’s *Fresh Air* book critic **MAUREEN CORRIGAN** as she takes us into the mysteries, responsibilities and traditions of her craft. A devotee of such earlier greats as H. L. Mencken and Susan Sontag, she approaches her work with great seriousness, but her reviews shine with a perceptive humanity. She will talk about the role of the critic, about the tone she strives for, and about the books new and old that she loves, including the recent *Naples Quartet* by Elena Ferrante.

THURSDAY, JULY 14 *continued*

10:30 – 11:30 AM
(continued)

STRANGERS DROWNING: The Price of Idealism

There are individuals in the world who devote their lives, at great personal cost, to helping strangers. As she does in her brilliant new book *STRANGERS DROWNING*, *New Yorker* staff writer **LARISSA MACFARQUHAR** will investigate stories of extreme altruism to ask: How far is too far? We honor high ideals, but when we call people “do-gooders,” there is skepticism in it, even hostility. How much should we help others, and how much can we help? Should we focus on helping people locally or those in often-more-deeply-impooverished far-off lands? The answers to these and other questions may change not just how you see the world but how you live in it.

The New Tsar

Just who is Vladimir Putin, that poker-faced, sometimes bare-chested Russian leader? Where did he come from? And, after his push into Ukraine and Syria, where will he go next? *New York Times* correspondent **STEVEN LEE MYERS**, based for seven years in Moscow and author of the gripping biography *THE NEW TSAR*, will trace Putin’s trajectory from his impoverished Leningrad childhood up through the ranks of the KGB to the presidency. To help explain why Putin has turned back the clock in Russian behavior, Myers will be joined in conversation by Brookings Institution President **STROBE TALBOTT**.

12:00 – 1:00 PM
Pavilion

Disputed Territory

Ireland is a country made of stories. Its move to independence was led by writers, poets, and playwrights, who imagined a nation and fought for it; ever since, Irish artists have both shaped and dissented from the country’s idea of itself. What does it feel like to grow up in a place so steeped in literature’s glory and actually become a celebrated writer? Not to mention, a celebrated *woman* writer? What territories, histories, myths, languages, feuds, families and stories make up the fabric that one is cloaked in by mere dint of one’s birth? Join Man Booker Prize-winning author **ANNE ENRIGHT** as she takes the multi-generational story at the center of her latest novel, *THE GREEN ROAD*, and uses it as the springboard for a literary investigation into her own life as a writer in the “disputed territory” she calls home.

THURSDAY, JULY 14 *continued*

1:00 – 2:30 PM

Lower Green

Lunch

2:30 – 3:30 PM

Choose 1 of 3

*Check location
at Info Desk*

The Price of Genius

In his capacious and heartbreaking new novel, *A DOUBTER'S ALMANAC*, **ETHAN CANIN** gives us an irascible genius who unsettles and beguiles us in equal measure. With his usual incandescent prose and sentences that stop you cold with their loveliness, Canin tells the story of Milo Andret, a mathematical savant and emotional naïf whose obsessions bring torment not only into his own life but into the lives of those around him. In conversation with **ANNE TAYLOR FLEMING**, Canin will talk about the book – seven years in the making – and about his deep affection for the brilliant, damaged man at its center.

Are We Safe?

CNN security analyst and former Assistant Secretary at the Department of Homeland Security **JULIETTE KAYYEM** has been front and center in the fight against terrorism. She will address ongoing threats in Europe and the threats we face here at home. Kayyem will take a hard look at our strengths and vulnerabilities and share with us the practical advice she offers in her new book *SECURITY MOM: AN UNCLASSIFIED GUIDE TO PROTECTING OUR HOMELAND AND YOUR HOME*. A mother of three, Kayyem will talk about how we can protect our families without yielding to irrational fears.

2:30 – 3:30 PM

ONCE IN A GREAT CITY: A Reporter's Ode to His Hometown

In his elegiac and richly detailed book about Detroit, reporter **DAVID MARANISS** evokes a rollicking American metropolis in its exuberant heyday. It is 1963, the year the auto industry invented the Mustang, Martha and the Vandellas had their first Motown hit, and Martin Luther King, Jr. spoke at the city's Great March. We meet the visionary leaders Henry Ford II and labor leader Walter Reuther, Motown founder Berry Gordy and the Reverend C. L. Franklin and his daughter Aretha. Maraniss will talk about the once-great city and about the kind of dogged research and reporting a nonfiction writer must employ in his search for the truth.

THURSDAY, JULY 14 *continued*

4:00 – 5:00 PM

Pavilion

The Court and the World

In his bold and timely new book, Supreme Court Justice **STEPHEN BREYER** examines American law and its relationship to an increasingly interconnected world. Globalization has made it impossible, he says, for this country to remain aloof from knowledge of foreign laws. After all, Americans are daily engaged in cross-border issues – matters of security, trade, human rights, even child custody battles. In a conversation with **STROBE TALBOTT**, Justice Breyer will roam the world and enlighten us about new realities facing not only American jurists but all of us.

5:45 – 6:45 PM

Pavilion

and

Lawn

Television and the Art of Storytelling: *Game of Thrones*

Since its HBO debut in 2011, *Game of Thrones* has grown to be one of the most popular and critically acclaimed series on television. Join its Emmy Award-winning co-creators and showrunners **DAVID BENIOFF** and **D.B. WEISS** as they talk to PBS *NewsHour's* **JEFFREY BROWN** about the extraordinary challenges of adapting George R.R. Martin's fantasy novels and about what the process has taught them about writing, storytelling . . . and, yes, dragons.

FRIDAY, JULY 15

8:00 – 9:00 AM Continental Breakfast
Lodge Terrace

9:00 – 10:00 AM

Choose 1 of 3

*Check location
at Info Desk*

The Poetry of Terrance Hayes

A recipient of both the National Book Award for poetry and a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship, **TERRANCE HAYES** is one of the most exciting and talked-about poets in America. Of his work, one critic has said: “First you’ll marvel at his skill, his near-perfect pitch, his disarming humor, his brilliant turns of phrase. Then you’ll notice the grace, the tenderness, the unblinking truth-telling just beneath his lines, the open and generous way he takes in our world.” Come listen to him read his electric poems, and find out for yourselves just how precisely accurate this tribute is.

Let’s Be Less Stupid: An Attempt to Maintain Mental Faculties

Former *SNL* writer and *New Yorker* staffer **PATRICIA MARX** tackles troubling conundrums such as this one: If there are more neural connections in your brain than stars in the Milky Way, then why did you just put the butter dish in your nightstand drawer? Marx’s quest to get smarter – or at least to stay as smart as she once was – includes wildly divergent tactics: learning Cherokee, popping pills (not the good kind), and, in this instance today, testing her own conclusions about her aging brain on neuroscientist **DAVID EAGLEMAN**.

DEEP DOWN DARK

Let Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist **HÉCTOR TOBAR** take you down into the Chilean mine where, in the summer of 2010, 33 men were trapped for 69 days. It was a moment when the world became a collective audience, all of us tethered by news coverage to the men below and those waiting above. When the miners were finally rescued, Tobar was given exclusive access to their stories, and his book **DEEP DOWN DARK**, the basis for last year’s feature film **THE 33**, offers us riveting human portraits of these men and their families.

FRIDAY, JULY 15 *continued*

10:30 – 11:30 AM

Pavilion

DEAD WAKE and the Art of Bringing History Alive

With meticulously researched and grippingly told books that employ the techniques of a novelist to tell true stories from history, **ERIK LARSON** has cemented his reputation as one of this country's most widely read authors. His new book, *DEAD WAKE*, transports us to the year 1915 and puts us aboard the luxury passenger ship RMS Lusitania in the days leading up to May 7, when the liner was torpedoed and sunk by a German U-boat and 1,198 passengers and crew were killed. As with all of Larson's literary endeavors, the book is about far more than just the events it describes. Join him for a talk about the art and trials of crafting nonfiction suspense and the aspects of this incident that drew him to the Lusitania story. He'll also reveal his single most stunning, really all-time favorite discovery. Prepare to be surprised, and perhaps a bit shocked.

12:00 – 1:15 PM

Pavilion

Exodus: The Crisis of the World's Refugees

To close the conference, **DAVID MILIBAND**, the president of the International Rescue Committee, will address the plight of the 50 million refugees around the globe (half of them women and children) and, in particular, the massive exodus from the Middle East that threatens the survival of the European Union. As the leader of one of the foremost nongovernmental organizations addressing the world's humanitarian crises, and as a former British Foreign Secretary, Miliband is uniquely positioned to expand our understanding of a great and urgent global problem, and what we, as citizens, can do to help.

DAVID MILIBAND will then be joined by **LIAQUAT AHAMED** and **STROBE TALBOTT** for a panel discussion about the BREXIT referendum followed by a 15-minute Q&A.

1:15 PM

Lodge Terrace

Farewell lunch with full conference pass holders and guest writers.