

## **THURSDAY**

**Registration 2:30 PM - 4:30 PM**

**Evening Activities**

**3:00 PM - 4:30 PM**

**Early Bird Session**

**Gary Rodgers & Kim Vernon**

**Location: HICKORY**

**Topic: Keep the Fun in Writing**

**6:30 PM - 9:00 PM**

**Meet & Greet!**

Enjoy appetizers while you visit with old friends & make new friends! A cash bar will be available from 6:30 - 8:30.

**7:30 PM - 9:00 PM**

**Open Mic**

**Location: HICKORY**

**Description:**

Share your work with us!

**Please Note:** Strict time limit: **5 minutes**. Sign up will be available at the registration desk from 2:30-7:00 p.m.

**Host:** Lonnie Whitaker

## **FRIDAY**

**Morning Sessions**

**ON SITE REGISTRATION OPENS AT 8:30**

**Coffee and tea will be served throughout the day.**

**9:00 AM - 9:15 AM**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Location: WILLOW**

**Note: This is a new location downstairs. An elevator is available for those who cannot manage the stairs.**

**Registration is open from 8:30 AM - 9:00 AM & throughout the day during scheduled breaks.**

**9:15 AM - 10:15 AM**

**Steven James**

**Location: WILLOW**

**Topic:**

**Fall in Love with the Wonder Again**

**10:15 AM - 10:30 AM**

**Session Break**

**Be sure to visit the author tables & check out their books!**

**10:30 AM - 11:30 AM**

**Steven James**

**Location: WILLOW**

**Topic: Throw Your Hat Over the Wall**

**11:30 AM - 1:30PM**

**Break for Lunch**

**Please note: Lunch is on your own**

## **Breakout Sessions I**

### **Choose one breakout session**

#### **1:30 PM - 2:30PM**

1. **Susan Keene**  
**Location:** OAK  
**Topic:** How to Write a Cozy Mystery
2. **J.C. Fields**  
**Location:** WILLOW  
**Topic:** Artificial Intelligence for the Indie Author
3. **David Williams**  
**Location:** HICKORY  
**Topic:** Drop the Pen!

#### **2:30 PM - 2:45 PM**

### **Session Break**

**Be sure to visit the author tables & check out their books!**

## **Breakout Sessions II**

### **Choose one breakout session**

#### **2:45 PM - 3:45 PM**

1. **Steven James**  
**Location:** WILLOW  
**Topic:** How to Write Your Way Out of a Corner
2. **Johnny Boggs & Micki Fuhrman**  
**Location:** HICKORY  
**Topic:** Interview with a...?
3. **Ellen Withers**  
**Location:** OAK  
**Topic:** Magic Words: How to Enchant Judges and Conjure Contest Wins

## **Evening Activities**

**Open: 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

Happy Hour (Cash Bar)

**6:30 PM - 8:00 PM**

Barbeque Banquet

**Location: Maple & Walnut**

**7:30 PM - 8:00 PM**

Entertainment: Please join us even if you do not come to dinner!

**Enjoy music by JON CHANDLER!**

## **SATURDAY**

### **Morning Sessions**

**ON SITE REGISTRATION OPENS AT 8:30**

**Coffee and Tea will be served throughout the day**

**9:00 AM - 9:15 AM**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Location: WILLOW**

**Registration is open from 8:30 AM till noon.**

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**9:15 AM - 10:15 AM**

**Stuart Rosebrook**

**Location:** WILLOW

**Topic:** Don't Quit Your Day Job: Is There a Future in Writing Western History and Fiction?

**10:15 AM - 10:30 AM**

**Session Break**

**Be sure to visit the author tables & check out their books!**

**10:30 AM - 11:30 AM**

**Stuart Rosebrook**

**Location:** WILLOW

**Topic:** Future Shock: The Future of Writing Western History and Fiction. How Will We Adapt to the Future?

**11:30 AM - 1:30PM**

**Break for Lunch**

**Please note: Lunch is on your own**

**Breakout Sessions I**

**Choose one breakout session**

**1:30 PM - 2:30PM**

1. **Susan Keene**

**Location:** OAK

**Topic:** Crafting Characters No One Will Forget

2. **J.C. Fields**

**Location:** WILLOW

**Topic:** Digging Deeper Into Amazon Ads

3. **David Williams**

**Location:** HICKORY

**Topic:** They Lie, You Smile: Interview and Interrogation Techniques that Work in the Real World

**2:30 PM - 2:45 PM**

**Session Break**

**Be sure to visit the author tables & check out their books!**

## **Breakout Sessions II**

### **Choose one breakout session**

#### **2:45 PM - 3:45 PM**

1. **Jon Chandler**

**Location:** WILLOW

**Topic:** The Story Song: The Melding of Literature and Music

2. **Linda Apple**

**Location:** OAK

**Topic:** Writing Your Dash: Drawing Inspiration from Life

3. **Sharon Kizziah-Holmes**

**Location:** Hickory

**Topic:** Elements of Romance

#### **3:45 PM - 4:00 PM**

### **Session Break**

**Be sure to visit the author tables, meet authors & check out their books!**

#### **4:00 PM ~ 5:00 PM**

**Sessions Wrap-up with Chrissy & Linda  
Our OCW family gathering!**

**Location:** WILLOW

During this time together Chrissy and Linda want to answer any questions you may have about the conference. We'd also like to hear your suggestions for next year.

This is also your opportunity to brag! We want to hear about your accomplishments since we met last! Finally, let us know what you hope to achieve in 2025.

**We appreciate you being a part of us here at OCW!**

### **Evening Activities**

#### **Open: 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM**

Happy Hour (Cash Bar)

#### **7:00 PM - 10:00 PM**

Awards Banquet (Awards to be presented at 8pm. You may attend the awards even if you do not attend the banquet)