

Middletown Thrall Library - Local Authors & Illustrators Showcase

October 20, 2018, 10:30 – 3 PM

Biographies of Our Participants



Bryan Collier

Bryan Collier graduated in 1989 with a B.F.A from Pratt Institute. Bryan became a volunteer at the Harlem Horizon Art Studio, a not-for-profit painting studio serving children of the Harlem community, where he became the assistant director and then the director of the program. During this time, Collier shopped his portfolio around to all the publishing houses for seven years in New York city in search of a book deal. In 1999, Bryan Collier published his first book *Uptown*, which he both wrote and illustrated, and won the Coretta Scott King Award and the Ezra Jack Keats Award. Collier has since received five CSK Awards for *Rosa*; *I, Too, Am America*; *Dave the Potter*; *Trombone Shorty*; and *Knock, Knock*, as well as three CSK Honors for *Martin's*

Big Words; *Visiting Langston*; *Freedom River*, and four Caldecott Honors for *Martin's Big Words*; *Trombone Shorty*; *Rosa*, and *Dave the Potter*. His latest books are *5'oclock Band* written by Troy Andrews and *Between the Lines: How Ernie Barnes Went from the Football Field to the Art Gallery*.



Marina Cramer

Born in postwar Germany into a family of refugees from the Soviet Union, Marina Antropow Cramer has enjoyed the benefit of lifelong ties to the Russian expatriate community on both sides of the Atlantic. She holds a BA degree in English from Upsala College in East Orange, NJ. Her work has been performed by Roselee Blooston's Short Story Theater, as part of the non-profit Tunnel Vision Writers' Project, which showcased spoken word, music, and visual art projects. A short story, "Pear," appeared online in Blackbird Literary Journal in 2009; another story, "Grave," came out in the Fall 2009 online issue of Istanbul Literary Review. The digital journal Wilderness House Literary Review published "In Case of Fire" in the Winter 2010 issue, and "Half the Bed" in Winter 2012. She lives in New York's Hudson Valley. *Roads* is her first novel.



Lee Forman

Lee Andrew Forman is an author from Middletown, NY. In addition, he works as an editor for Sirens Call Publications. His work has been published in numerous magazines, anthologies, websites, and podcasts. His debut novella, *Zero Perspective* is available on Amazon and other retailers. He also has a collection of flash fiction available on Amazon, *Fragments of a Damned Mind*. A full list of publications can be found on his website:

www.leeformanauthor.com

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Jason Gehlert

Jason Gehlert is a horror author from the Hudson Valley and has expanded his library to include not only novels such as *Contagion*, *Quiver* and *Red Triangle*, but short stories as well. His latest is *Cinema*, a blend of stories and poetry. He can be found at www.facebook.com/jason.gehlert



Tammy Gehlert

Tammy Gehlert is a teacher and mother of six children and lives in Dutchess County, with family roots in Long Island. Her library is growing with short stories in *Ghost Prints*, *Demon Revolver*, *Read Us or Die* and *Fata Arcana*. Her debut novel is *Spirit of Love*, a mix of romance and the paranormal. Visit her at www.facebook.com/tammy.gehlert



William Lemanski

Author William E. Lemanski is a Tuxedo resident. He has published three books, various magazine articles and he has spent five years as a freelance writer for the Straus News Company in the Hudson Valley. He recently wrote a one-act play for the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival which was performed this summer in Garrison, New York.



Marianne Sciucco

Marianne Sciucco is not a nurse who writes but a writer who happens to be a nurse. A lover of words and books, she dreamed of becoming an author when she grew up but became a nurse to avoid poverty. She later brought her two passions together and writes about the intricate lives of people struggling with health and family issues. Her debut novel, *Blue Hydrangeas, an Alzheimer's love story*, is a Kindle bestseller, IndieReader Approved, a BookWorks featured book, a Library Journal Self-e Selection, and a 5-star Readers Favorite. Her latest novel, *Swim Season*, is based on her 10-year experience as a Swim Mom. She has also published several short stories. She

is a creator and administrator for the website AlzAuthors.com, providing carefully vetted books and blogs on Alzheimer's and dementia. She lives in Middletown.

Websites: mariannesciucco.blogspot.com and www.facebook.com/marianne.sciucco.1

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Carole Weaver Lindsay

With a doctorate in English and a lifetime of adventure in travel, matrimony, single parenting, and fund-raising--and a few side trips into performance art--Carole Weaver offers her varied skills in this saga of survival through meditation on beauty, oddness, and the work of love that is art. In her early 60s, with her kids grown and gone, she has sold her big house and moved into a tiny apartment. While still raising money for a woman's college, she's really hoping for some bit parts on Broadway. Then fate deals her two hands: a fascinating new boyfriend and breast cancer. There are complications, especially with the cancer; but somehow her resilience, her passion for the man, and even her overly educated mind pull her through. This is a Cinderella story for an aging

feminist in the 21st century. Website: www.caroleweaverlinsner.com



Michael J. Worden

Michael Worden is a police sergeant and author who has redefined the genre of true crime with his new book, *The Murder of Richard Jennings*, by delving into the case with a unique, fresh approach. He began researching several true historical crimes in the fall of 2009 and has demonstrated an almost obsessive need to obtain information. Michael is also the author of the 2009 book *Ghost Detective*, which is about his experiences as a paranormal researcher. Michael resides in Orange County, NY, with his wife and three sons. He is obsessed with the band Joy Division, and is an avid traveler, and his favorite place to visit, of course, is Finland. He's been there eight times and is planning number nine! His

most recent adventures were in the summer of 2018, visiting Scotland and Ireland – making sure to include a trip to the Scottish Highlands to visit Loch Ness and hunt for the elusive Nessie. Michael has been learning the art of Special FX Makeup over the past few years – maybe in anticipation of a retirement career?



Linda Zimmermann

Linda Zimmermann lives in Chester, NY and is the award-winning author of over 30 books on science, history, the paranormal, and fiction. She was named “Best Author in the Hudson Valley” by Hudson Valley Magazine in 2017 and was also named Best Author twice by the Times Herald Record. She has made numerous appearances on TV and radio and starred in an award-winning film based on one her books. Linda’s most recent publication is her first true crime book, *Hudson Valley Homicide*. Website: www.gotozim.com