

WRITING AS WORSHIP

Dear 2017 Writers Conference Registrant,

Your registration has been received, and we are excited you're planning to join us at Mount Hermon April 7-11, 2017.

There's nothing quite like a Mount Hermon Christian Writers Conference. The community, instruction, critiques, networking, worship, inspirational setting, great food, and laughter are all part of what has made Mount Hermon the premier Christian writers conference in the country.

Here are some tips to help you prepare for this exciting event.

FIRST TIMERS

If you've never been to a Mount Hermon writers conference, or if it's been a few years since you've come, check out the First Time Preparation Packet, which includes lots of helpful information and tips. Taking the time to go through everything in this section of the website will help you be more prepared for the conference. Being better prepared will enable you to get even more out of the experience.

Did you see that we're offering a Pre-Conference Next Level Clinic April 5-7? These small mentoring groups are designed to give new to intermediate writers an opportunity to focus on and move toward the next step in their writing journey. Learn more about that at <http://writers.mounthermon.org/program/next-level>.

You won't want to miss the First-Timers Orientation on Friday, April 7, at 1:45. This is a great way to familiarize yourself with everything the conference has to offer you.

On Friday evening at 9:00, our session on "Preparing for the Appointment" will get you ready for the meetings you'll have with faculty members throughout the conference.

ARRIVAL TIMES

If you're signed up for a Pre-Conference Next Level Clinic, you'll need to arrive on Wednesday, April 5. Room keys and conferee packets will be available after 10:00AM in the Administration building (left of the post office, up the stairs). Dinner starts at 6:00, followed by the first meeting at 7:30.

If you're attending only the main conference, plan to arrive on Friday, April 7, between 8:00 and noon. Lunch is at 12:45. The conference kicks off at 1:45 with our First-Timers Orientation for newcomers and a Returners Reunion for those who have attended in the past. This will be followed by a Faculty Meet & Greet at 3:00, where you can meet and chat with our faculty members and fellow conferees.

If you drive to the conference, park in front of the post office and walk up the stairs of the Administration building on your left to get your registration packet, map, and keys.

mounthermon
**CHRISTIAN
WRITERS
CONFERENCE**



If you'll be flying in for the conference, you can arrange for a Mount Hermon shuttle from Mineta San Jose International Airport (and back after the conference). Please check the Airport Shuttle page of the website for important details on scheduling your flight times.

FREE MANUSCRIPT CRITIQUES OR EDITORIAL REVIEWS

As a paid registrant, you may submit two manuscripts in advance of the conference for (a) critique by a published author or (b) editorial review by an acquisitions editor or agent. Please see the Manuscript Review section of our website for submission guidelines, submission forms, and the Editorial Needs charts that list what each faculty member is looking for. This will help you decide who you want to submit your work to. Please follow the directions carefully. Submissions must be received in our office no later than April 3.

Getting Your Manuscripts Back

Saturday after lunch you may come to the Hospitality Center to see if the manuscripts you submitted have been returned by the faculty members who received them. Some faculty members will require more time, so if you don't get yours on Saturday after lunch, check back later.

There will be a form inside the envelope containing your submission that provides feedback. This form may contain a request from the faculty member to meet with you during the conference, or suggestions for other faculty members to connect with. You will need to find that faculty member to confirm the appointment.

Additional Submissions

During the conference, you may talk to a faculty member who asks to see your manuscript. Request a signed form from the faculty member and then take that form and your submission to the Manuscript Retrieval team in the Hospitality Center. The team will get your submission to the faculty member. After the faculty member has turned in the pre-conference submissions, he or she can start on the extra submissions. Be sure to check back between conference activities to see if the faculty member has returned your submission.

SCHEDULE

The Conference Schedule can be found on the website. Here's a brief overview of the details:

Mornings

Breakfast will be served at 8:00 on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday. (Thursday and Friday, too, for Next Level participants.) If you're an early riser, you may want to consider these optional activities:

- *Hike to Cross (Sunday, leaving at 6:00)*
- *Kayaking in the Santa Cruz Harbor (Sunday and Monday, leaving at 6:00)*
- *Prayer & Praise (Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, starting at 7:15)*

Advance sign-ups are required for kayaking. Check the Recreational Options page of the website for details.



After breakfast, you will have the option to attend a Major Morning Track or a Morning Mentoring Clinic. Visit the web pages for details. Note that Mentoring Clinics are for writers with some publishing experience, by application only, for an additional cost. Choose one track or clinic for all three mornings.

Sunday morning at 11:00 is our Palm Sunday service—a wonderful time of spiritual refreshment and celebration of our Savior’s sacrifice for us, including communion for those who choose to participate.

On Tuesday morning, breakfast is at 7:30, with a closing ceremony at 8:00.

Afternoons

On Friday from 3:00–4:00, faculty members will be at designated tables in the common area for a Faculty Meet & Greet. This is not a time to pitch your projects. However, you can “put faces to names” here, introduce yourself to faculty members, and request appointments for private consultations during the conference.

During the Meet & Greet, Mount Hermon’s professional photographers will be scheduling appointments with conferees for Head–Shot Photos.

On Saturday, Sunday, and Monday afternoons, we offer Workshops on a variety of topics taught by established professionals in the Christian publishing industry. Some of the Major Morning Tracks will have afternoon critique groups or individual appointments with the instructors.

The Critique Team will be available in the Hospitality Center for one-on-one consultations with select faculty members on a first-come, first-served basis. The Critique Team is an extremely valuable resource of the Mount Hermon Christian Writers Conference. Stop in on a break or during any of the workshop times for a 15–minute one-on-one meeting with a faculty member. No appointments are made; just come by whenever is convenient for you. As many times as you wish. No matter what type of writing you do or what stage of writing you’re in, you will benefit from a personal meeting with one of these industry professionals.

The Prayer Team will be in the chapel on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday for those who’d like to spend some quiet time with a prayer partner.

On Saturday and Sunday, Table Massages from a certified massage therapist will be available for those who sign up. A light, relaxing Swedish massage is being offered for \$60/hour. Deeper massage or injury-specific pain work, \$10 extra.

No workshops are scheduled on Sunday afternoon from 3:15 to 5:30. You have numerous options for how to spend this break. Schedule appointments with faculty members during this time. Visit the Critique Team. See the Prayer Team in the chapel. Enjoy a walk among the beautiful redwoods that surround the conference center. Take a nap in your room to refresh and rejuvenate.

Check the Recreational Options page of the website for more alternatives, many of which are provided to conferees for no additional charge or a reduced fee. Some require advance sign-up, so check the details on the website so you don’t miss out on something fun!

Evenings

After dinner on Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, our General Sessions will include music, fun, and inspirational messages from our keynote speakers. Saturday and Sunday will feature “Night Owls”—additional training in a more casual setting.

Monday evening is our Awards Ceremony. After that, we’ll have an Autograph Party, where you can get signatures on the books you purchase during the conference (or bring with you).

Meals

At every lunch and dinner, faculty members will be at tables with their names on them. They are at this conference to connect with writers and help them achieve the goals God has placed on their hearts. If there are faculty members you’d like to meet, sit with them at their tables during any lunch or dinner.

CLASS OUTLINES

All outlines for the Major Morning Tracks and Afternoon Workshops will be available on the website starting March 1. Print the pages you’d like to have during the conference and bring them with you. Or download the entire set onto your laptop or tablet and bring it to the conference. A copy of each handout will be available at Hospitality for your perusal. However, handouts will not be provided at the conference.

PRIVATE APPOINTMENTS

If you’re interested in meeting one-on-one with faculty members for private consultations, you can request appointments during the Friday afternoon Faculty Meet and Greet or during meals and breaks. If you send in a manuscript submission prior to the conference, the author, acquisitions editor, or agent who reviewed it may request a consultation with you.

CONFERENCE BOOKSTORES

The permanent Mount Hermon Book Shop carries clothing items, CDs, Bibles, Christian books, and some sundries (toothpaste, aspirin, postcards, etc.).

Our separate Writers Conference Bookstore stocks writing resources and books authored and/or recommended by faculty and registrants. Books are sold throughout the conference, and you can get the authors to sign your purchases during the autograph party on Monday evening.

Visa and MasterCard are accepted in both stores.

Registrants may bring books they’ve written to put on consignment at our Writers Conference Bookstore. Check the Book Consignments page of our website for details.

PERSONALIZE YOUR SCHEDULE

We’ve planned an extensive conference schedule jam-packed with opportunities for education, training, networking, fellowship, fun, inspiration, and divine appointments.

We want this conference to fit your needs at this point in your writing journey. So personalize your schedule by prayerfully considering what options work best for you during each part of the conference. For example, it’s perfectly okay to skip an afternoon workshop (or portion thereof) to have a one-on-one appointment with a faculty member, visit the Manuscript Critique Team or Prayer Team, or take a break to process what you’ve learned.

You could make part or all of your time at Mount Hermon a writing retreat. Come to meals, participate in any conference offerings that appeal to you, and spend the rest of your time writing and seeking God's direction for your work and your life. The Mount Hermon conference center, nestled in the beautiful California redwoods, provides an amazing atmosphere for prayerfully proceeding with the next step of your writing journey.

The General Sessions, Major Morning Tracks, and Afternoon Workshops will be professionally recorded and available for purchase at the conference. So if you skip any of them to do something else, you can take the recordings home with you!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

If you didn't pay in full at the time of registration, please remember to send the balance due by March 18 to guarantee your reservation. You may charge your deposit and/or balance due over the phone, online, or by mail. We accept Visa and MasterCard.

SOCIAL MEDIA

We'd love for you to connect with us and your Mount Hermon writers' community online at:

Website: writers.mounthermon.org/

Blog: www.mounthermon.org/blog/writers/

Facebook: www.facebook.com/christianwritersconference

Twitter: twitter.com/MH_Writers

You'll find us on Pinterest too!

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If, after reading all the material on the Mount Hermon website, you still have questions about housing, meals, travel, shuttle sign-up, or payment details, call the Registration Office toll-free at 888.MH.CAMPS or e-mail Keri Lippman, Writers Conference Registrar, at keri.lippman@mounthermon.org.

If you have mobility issues or special housing or transportation needs, please let the Reservations Office know as soon as possible. Some housing units have showers and others have tubs; some have private bathrooms and others are shared. You can reach a registrar by e-mailing info@mounthermon.org or calling 888.642.2677.

If you have other questions, feel free to e-mail me at kathy.ide@mounthermon.org.

The Mount Hermon staff and the writers conference faculty and resource team are all praying for you as you prepare for the conference. We appreciate your prayers for us as well.

We look forward to seeing you at the conference!

Kathy Ide, Director
Mount Hermon Christian Writers Conference
kathy.ide@mounthermon.org

mounthermon
**CHRISTIAN
WRITERS
CONFERENCE**