

APRIL 2023

Pat Canterbury Is Key to Success of Literacy Fundraiser—and Capitol Crimes

by Claire Booth

Several Capitol Crimes authors participated in last month's Authors on the Move, a fundraiser for the Sacramento Literacy Foundation. One of them, however, is more than just a writer. Pat Canterbury has been a part of the foundation's event since it began 21 years ago. That inaugural year, one of her early children's books had just come out and she was asked to be one of the authors. Organizers also knew she was born and raised in Sacramento and knew a lot of people.

She's been involved ever since and now serves on the foundation committee that recommends authors for the event. "I always try to have one or two mystery authors every year, because I like mystery authors and my friends are very prolific," she said during this year's event. Her friendly phone calls beforehand are either a wonderful tutorial for newbie authors, or a warm and caring check-in for veteran attendees who look forward to her call every year they have a book out.

Her work with the Foundation is one of the many ways Pat has been a mentor in the Sacramento literary community. As many of us know, she's also one of the founders of Capitol Crimes, helping to start the chapter in 1995. Her foundational work—along with that of others

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James L'Etoile and Pat Canterbury at the 2023 Authors on the Move gala.

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including Jacqueline Turner Banks, Terris McMahon Grimes, Gabrielle Guedet, and Geri Spencer Hunter—brought California’s capital a much-needed place for crime writers to find support. Their determination helped our group survive some lean years two decades ago, when we had only a few Sisters, and they’re a key reason why today we are a thriving and creative chapter with more than 110 members—both Sisters and Misterys. A grateful Capitol Crimes gave Pat a Shining Star Award in 2020.

And Pat doesn’t stop with SinC. She also is a member of ZICA Creative Arts and Literary Guild, a group for creators of color in multiple disciplines, where she has welcomed many more people with her friendship and counsel. In addition, she’s a multi-award-winning author of adult fiction, short stories, children’s books, and poetry.

Pat Canterbury with her Shining Star Award.



Upcoming Events



MEET THE AUTHOR with KEENAN POWELL

Tuesday, April 11, 2023
7:00 PM (PT) • Zoom

BUILDING A COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE FOR WRITERS with KAREN ODDEN

Saturday, April 15, 2023
1:00 PM (PT) • Zoom

CAPITOL CRIMES WRITERS WORKSHOP with YASMIN ANGOE

October 26-29, 2023
Mercy Center Auburn, 535 Sacramento Street, Auburn CA

Visit www.CapitolCrimes.org for details and to register.

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Chapter News

MEET THE AUTHOR with Keenan Powell

Tuesday, April 11, 2023 • 7:00 - 8:30 PM (PT) • On Zoom

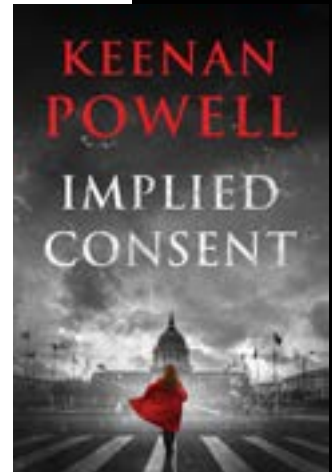
Please join us as Keenan's discusses her latest book, IMPLIED CONSENT.

Lawyer Maureen Gould has a dark secret and a need to prove herself. When a young woman walks into her office with a Hollywood #metoo case, Maureen spots the chance for redemption.

Enter the opponent: Maureen's father, Frank Gould, a man as evil as the movie producer he defends. While Frank pulls every dirty trick known inside the courtroom, someone behind the scenes is engineering Maureen's defeat. Doors are slammed in her face. Disturbing photographs are "discovered." A witness dies mysteriously. Clearly someone means to silence her.

Will Maureen muster the strength to free herself from the past, reveal the truth, and win justice for her client?

[Register here.](#)



BUILDING A COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE FOR WRITERS with Karen Odden

Saturday, April 15, 2023 • 1:00 - 3:00 PM (PT) • On Zoom

Please join us for USA Today Bestselling author Karen Odden's newest workshop: "Finding your People: Developing your Community of Practice as an Author."

As the publishing industry has changed this past decade, authors are increasingly required to handle their own community outreach, including marketing, PR, their website, book launches and zoom events, and social media. Furthermore, Covid forever altered the way authors connect to readers, to libraries, to bookstores, to professional groups, and to each other.

With personal anecdotes and industry knowledge, Karen shares her journey toward discovering a "writing community mindset" and discusses some specific, professionally productive and emotionally fulfilling ways to engage with the writing community, to both find support and give back.

Karen's first novel, *A Lady in the Smoke*, was a USA Today bestseller and *A Dangerous Duet* and *A Trace of Deceit* have won awards for historical mystery and historical fiction. *Down a Dark River* introduces readers to Inspector Michael Coravan, a former thief and bare-knuckles boxer. The sequel, *Under a Veiled Moon*, is a 2023 nominee for both the Lefty and Agatha awards.

For more information about Karen go to www.karenodden.com or connect with her on Twitter @karen_odden and Facebook @KarenOddenWriter

[Register here.](#)



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Chapter News

WRITERS RETREAT WITH YASMIN ANGOE

October 26-29, 2023

Mercy Auburn Center, Auburn California

FULL - WAIT LIST AVAILABLE

Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity! Developmental editor and bestselling author of *HER NAME IS KNIGHT* and *THEY COME AT NIGHT* Yasmin

Angoe will be visiting from South Carolina to spend three packed days with writers. This is your chance to go in-depth on your pages through group AND individual sessions with Yasmin, as well as spend uninterrupted time writing in a beautiful setting with fellow crime writers.

The Capitol Crimes Writing Retreat is limited to 15 attendees. Don't delay! Participants will receive individual critiques of up to 10 pages from Yasmin, an individual consultation with her about the work, five in-depth craft sessions, and time to write and share work with fellow attendees.

Lodging and meals are included at the beautiful Mercy Auburn Retreat Center. [Learn more here.](#)

THREE DAY IN-DEPTH
WRITERS RETREAT WITH
**Yasmin
Angoe**
Bestselling author and
developmental editor
**CAPITOL
CRIMES**
Oct. 26-29, 2023

In case you missed it, we had a great turnout for Crime Time at The Pleasant Pheasant bookstore in Woodland, hosted by Chris Dreith.

[The Pleasant Pheasant](#) • 1059 Court Street, Suite 109, Woodland, CA 95695

Be sure to support your indie bookstores!



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Member News

BOUCHERCON 2023 ANTHOLOGY ANNOUNCES AUTHORS

Kathleen L. Asay is honored and excited to announce that her short story "Buy the Farm" was accepted for inclusion in the Bouchercon 2023 anthology, which will be available at the end of August at Bouchercon in San Diego. 180 stories were submitted and only 17 were chosen. Cap Crimes member Holly West is the anthology editor. Kathleen was particularly thrilled to be able to inform chapter members at the Crime Time event at the Pleasant Pheasant on March 26.



A graphic with a blue background and yellow vertical stripes on the left and right. At the top, the word "CONGRATULATIONS" is written in large, bold, yellow capital letters. Below it, "BOUCHERCON 2023 ANTHOLOGY AUTHORS!" is written in white capital letters. A list of 17 authors' names is centered in white capital letters. To the right of the list is a small image of the anthology cover, which features a sailboat on the water and the text "Bouchercon SAN DIEGO Aug 30-Sep 3 2023" and "Murder at the Marina Hear the Crime Writer". On the left side, there is a green, scalloped-edged circle containing the text "COVER REVEAL coming soon" in a white, handwritten-style font. At the bottom center, there is an illustration of an open book with white pages.

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Member News

From Catriona McPherson –

Anthology Acceptance – I am thrilled to announce that I'm going to be included in Down and Out Press's BRUTAL AND STRANGE, an anthology of shorts inspired by the songs of Elvis Costello, alongside stories by Gary Phillips, Meg Gardiner, Alex Segura, Raquel Reyes, George Pelecanos, and many more. My short story is "Tramp the Dirt Down."

Award News – Catriona McPherson's IN PLACE OF FEAR, the first in a new series set in 1940s Edinburgh, has been shortlisted for the Agatha Award for best historical mystery at Malice Domestic.

Facebook: [Catriona McPherson Author Page](#)

Twitter: @CatrionaMcP



From Cindy Sample –

Cindy will be participating in the Placerville Shakespeare Club's Annual Author Day event along with Claire Booth on Sunday, April 30th. For more information go to: <https://www.placerville-shakespeare.com/about.htm>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CindySampleAuthor>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/CindySample1>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/cindysampleauthor/>

From Michelle Corbier –

Book Release Announcement: MURDER IN GEMINI

When she's not busy running her private medical practice, Dr. Myaisha Douglas writes mysteries. When the twin sister of a Greensboro Women of Color Writing Group member suddenly dies, Myaisha suspects murder. Her writing group investigates the case, hoping to publish a true crime story.

But the investigation becomes deadly when Myaisha uncovers an important secret behind a necklace. With the police prepared to arrest her friend, Myaisha enlists the help of the Greensboro Women of Color Writing Group to solve the crime before a third murder occurs.

<https://books2read.com/u/bzVMrG>

Twitter: @MrsDoctorwrites



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Member News

From Jim L'Etoile-

James L'Etoile joins Sisters in Crime Central Virginia along with Mark Begin, and Jeffrey James Higgins talking about moving from **Crime Fighter to Crime Fiction**. It's a virtual event on April 13 at 7 PM Eastern. [You can register here.](#)

James L'Etoile will attend **Malice Domestic** in Bethesda, MD and will appear on the **Small Town Cops Panel** with Marcy McCreary, Sarah Bewley, Dana King, and Justin Kiska on Saturday afternoon on April 29th at 1:00 pm.



From Bruce Borgos-

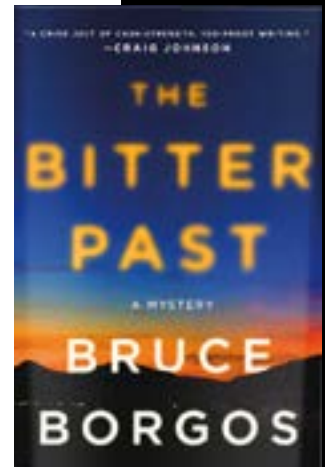
Book Release News

THE BITTER PAST (Minotaur Books), Bruce's debut mystery novel, will be released on July 18! Lincoln County, Nevada Sheriff Porter Beck works to solve a gruesome murder which leads him back to the dawn of the atomic age and the hunt for a Soviet spy that was left behind all those years ago. Craig Johnson calls it "A Crisp Jolt of Cask-Strength, 100 Proof Writing." Preorders are available now: <https://read.macmillan.com/lp/the-bitter-past/>

Facebook: [Author Bruce Borgos](#)

Twitter: @bruceborgos

Instagram: @bruceborgos



From Lorie Lewis Ham-

I am a guest on Debbi Mack's website where I talk about how I ended up writing my mystery novel "One of Us" and I will be on an episode of her podcast Crime Cafe on March 26: <https://www.debbimack.com/blog/crime-cafe/guest-post-and-book-giveaway-by-lorie-lewis-ham/>

Facebook: [Lorie Lewis Ham](#)

Twitter: @mysteryrat

Instagram: @krlmagazine



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In Other News

Grand Canyon Writers - April 8 - **Boost Your Writing Skill, Income and Name Recognition—Crafting Short Stories That Sell!!** with Art Taylor. [For details click here.](#)

Coastal Cruisers - Anatomy of a Murder Investigation with Patrick O'Donnell on April 15 at 10:30 AM. Find out how a murder investigation really works. A 25-year veteran of one of the largest police departments in the country, O'Donnell operates the great crime writer resource Cops and Writers podcast and writes books of his own. [To register, click here.](#)

Malice Domestic - April 28 - 30, 2023 - Bethesda North Marriott Hotel & Conference Center in Bethesda, Maryland. [Click here for more information.](#)

Bay Area Book Festival - Berkeley, May 6-7, 2023. [Click here for more details.](#)

NorCal SinC Spring Author Showcase - Saturday, May 20, 2023 from 1 – 3 pm, Orinda Books, 276 Village Square,, Orinda CA 94563. In-person and Zoom event. (Zoom invite to come.) [Click here for more information.](#)

California Crime Writers Conference - June 10 & 11, 2023. [Click here to go straight to the Registration page.](#)

Save the Date: **SleuthFest 2023** will be July 6-9, 2023. [Click here for info.](#)

Book Passage Mystery Writers Conference 2023, July 21–23, Corte Madera, California. [Click here for info.](#)

Willamette Writers Conference 2023, August 2-6, online and in-person at the Crowne Plaza in Portland, OR. The Saturday Evening Keynote is New York Times Bestselling Author Cheryl Strayed. [Click here for more information.](#)

Killer Nashville Writers' Conference, August 17-20, 2023 - Franklin, TN at the Embassy Suites Nashville South / Cool Springs hotel. [Click here for more details.](#)

Bouchercon 2023: "Murder at the Marina" August 30 to September 3, 2023 at the Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina, California. [For details click here.](#)

The Elk Grove Writers Guild Writers Conference, Saturday, September 23, 2023, 7am - 5pm. City of Elk Grove, 8230 Civic Center Drive, Elk Grove, CA 95757. [Click here for more information.](#)

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Visit www.CapitolCrimes.org for details.

GOT CONTENT?

Send your press-ready article to: CapitolCrimes@gmail.com
Put "Newsletter" in the subject line. Due by the third week of the month.
We will publish the first Monday of the following month.

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