

Local Author Fair

Something special is coming to your library on December 19 – the first ever Local Author Fair co-sponsored by the Bartholomew County Library Associates and the Bartholomew County Writers Group.

The Fair will be held on the library's lower level from 1-4:00 p.m. You will have the chance to meet and talk with over 20 published authors. Book selections will range from fiction to non-fiction and will include children's books. A new book on the 2008 flood will be available as well as poetry books, Christian romances, mysteries and more!

As you read this you may be thinking—hey, I bet I could write a book too! Or, maybe you've always wanted to write a book but did not know how to get started. If you have the writing bug your library can help! From cookbooks to comedy, poetry to screenplays, children's books to mysteries, romances and more – your library can get you started in the right direction.

A fun place to start is *How to become a famous writer before you're dead: your words in print and your name in lights* by Ariel Gore, The publisher bills the book as, "an irreverent yet practical guide that combines solid writing advice with guerrilla marketing and promotion techniques guaranteed to launch you into print—and into the limelight."

In the book *A writer's workbook: daily exercises for the writing life* the author Caroline Sharp acts as a cheerleader for aspiring writers with her collection of exercises meant to inspire, encourage and jump-start anyone who writes.

Those interested in poetry writing should check-out *The ode less travelled: unlocking the poet within* by Stephen Fry. Publishers Weekly wrote of the book, "Fry leads the reader through a series of lessons on meter, rhythm, and rhyme and stanza length and reveals the structural logic of every imaginable poetic form, including the haiku, the ballad, the ode and the sonnet."

How to write fiction like a pro: a simple-to-savvy toolkit for aspiring authors by Robert Newton Peck is located in our Teen section. Peck, known for his teen and children's books, has written his book in a straightforward manner so teens may be inspired to, "write from their own lives and their own strengths."

The youngest of aspiring writers should check out, from our Children's Department, *Show me a story: writing your own picture book* by Nancy Loewen. The book provides the young author with the steps necessary to write and illustrate a picture book.

Many individuals turn to *The Writer's market* after, or during their writing process. The book contains contact information and submission guidelines for market listings including literary agents, book publishers, magazines, greeting card companies and more. The publishers of *Writer's Market* claims they have, "helped countless writers transform their love of writing from a hobby into a career," and the book is a staple in libraries across the country.

If you are an author wannabe or just like to read we would love to see you at the Local Author Fair on December 19. This will provide you the opportunity to purchase gifts and to support the local economy by buying locally!

Mary Clare Speckner is the Adult Programming Services Coordinator and a reference librarian at the Bartholomew County Public Library