

# MISSION STATEMENT:

The purpose of the Writer's Group is to support writers in their creative process. Please share information obtained from a magazine, newspaper, online article or class. We are here to learn, to share and to support. We meet once a month at the Library, a safe and neutral setting to encompass the safety and anonymity of our personal lives. Any contact outside of the group must be a mutual understanding. Please limit email contact as well, as we all have lives outside of the group and cannot always read or respond to email. If you have something to share with the group as a whole, please email it to me and I will distribute it to the group.

At each group meeting, we handout 2-10 pages of a short story or longer work of fiction. Please refrain from bringing anything longer than 10 pages at a time. These papers will be taken home and read. Please either write comments on the paper handed out or on a separate sheet of paper.

The group will come back together to share what they critiqued at the next meeting. If you missed a meeting or will miss a meeting and would like to offer your critique, you can send a short email to the author or, as preferred, save the papers until the next meeting. Please do not email someone critiquing a current paper. Please save those comments for the next group meeting.

Participants in this writer's group are asked to make only supportive, positive, and encouraging statements. Negative feedback is discouraged. Each person in the group can mention something he or she liked or did not like about the writing. Specific statements and comments are the most helpful. Style is unique and comments on how the style is written will not be considered unless the author chooses to open a discussion about it. What will be considered is clarity, tenses, word usage such as missing words or misplaced words, and grammar. (See check list)

In our Writer's Group, we have simple rules to follow:

1. We respect each other and the type of writing we do
2. We don't criticize each other destructively
3. We try not to interrupt each other when speaking in a group setting
4. We try to be positive and encouraging at all times
5. Do your best to make the group a safe environment to learn the craft of writing

Anyone who cannot follow these rules and guidelines will be asked to leave and to not return.

# A Reading Check-list:

When looking at someone's writing, please take into consideration the following points:

- Structure
- Spelling
- Grammar issues
- Punctuation
- Tenses
- Vocabulary
- Clarity
- Readability
- Characterization
- Dialogue
- Pacing
- Descriptions
- Tone
- Potential legal issues (Capitalizing Brand names such as Kleenex, Kool-aid...)
- Contradictions
- Inconsistencies