

Saturday, November 14, 2026

SATURDAY DAY PASS GUIDE

www.manor-mill.com/events/writers-retreat

IMPORTANT DETAILS

- **Getting here:** Oldfields GPS destination is **1500 Glencoe Rd, Sparks Glencoe, MD 21152**. Enter at the **Service Entrance** on Glencoe Road (the "lower" road with a Welcome banner on the fence rail, not the main signpost entrance). *We recommend that you print the campus map and review it before travel.*
- **Parking:** Park in the **Rodney lot**, the first lot on your right, marked **P** on the campus map (see last page), then follow the marked path to check-in at Rodney Hall.
- **Meals:** Continental breakfast & coffee (8:00 a.m.) and lunch (12:00 p.m.) are served on Saturday in the **Library**, with vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free options available. Dinner is not included. *Delicious food provided by Panache Fine Catering.*
- **Sessions** run 9:00 a.m. – 3:45 p.m. Each track has a dedicated room: Presses & Platforms in **Room 121**, Craft in **Room 124**, Community in **Room 134**, Poetry in the **Boardroom**. Escape From The Library! meets in the **Library stacks**, and the Quiet Writing Session in the **Library carrels**.
- The campus has many stairs and inclined walkways — **bring good walking shoes.**
- Cell phone coverage can be limited on campus, so switch your phone to wifi calling if you can.
- **No smoking allowed anywhere on campus.**

NEED ASSISTANCE?

Email retreats@manor-mill.com
Tiffany Koch 917-318-1453
Administrator on Duty (AOD) for Emergencies: 443-690-1207

WIFI

Network: **OS Guest**
Password: **Welcome2OS1867!**
(letter O, not zero)

Saturday, November 14

DAY PASS

All Friday and Saturday sessions will be held in the Library wing of Rodney.

TRACKS: PRESSES Presses & Platforms · **Room 121** CRAFT Craft / Review / Edit · **Room 124** COMMUNITY Writing & Community · **Room 134** POETRY Practice of Poetry · **Boardroom**

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.		Continental breakfast & coffee · *Library*
9:00 – 10:15 a.m.	PRESSES	Could a Small Press Be the Right Home for Your Book? · *Beth Ford*
	CRAFT	Stories in Miniature: The Spare Beauty of the Micro-Essay · *Jennifer Kinard*
	COMMUNITY	Social Media as a Writing Tool · *Mary McCarthy*
	POETRY	Good Morning, Good Night: The Aubade and the Nocturne · *Matt Hohner*
10:30 – 11:45 a.m.	PRESSES	Picking Your Path: Options for Publishing · *Kerry Graham*
	CRAFT	Bring History to Life in Fiction · *Constance Hays Matsumoto*
	COMMUNITY	From Page to Stage: The Craft of Reading Your Words · *Emily Decker*
	POETRY	Sticking the Landing: Playing With Last Lines of Poems · *G. H. Mosson*
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.		Lunch · *Library*
1:00 – 2:15 p.m.	PRESSES	The Human Experience: Create Compelling Settings for Fiction and Nonfiction Travel Narratives · *Theresa Pickett*
	CRAFT	Thinking Deeply About World-Building · *Moriah Richard*
	COMMUNITY	Fun with Collaborative Writing · *Alexandra Hewett*
	POETRY	Quiet Writing Session LIBRARY CARRELS
2:30 – 3:45 p.m.	PRESSES	One Size Does Not Fit All: Finding the Right Home for Your Short Stories and Poems · *Will Remains*
	CRAFT	Raise the Stakes · *Barbara Morrison*
	COMMUNITY	Escape From The Library! · *Rita Baker-Schmidt* LIBRARY STACKS
	POETRY	Share & Care: Poetry Readings and Review
4:00 – 5:00 p.m.		**Gather & Gab** · *Library*
		End-of-day conversations & a chance to exchange contact info as the retreat ends

SUGGESTED ITEMS TO BRING

- ☐ Refillable water bottle
- ☐ Favorite writing materials
- ☐ Charger(s)
- ☐ Cash or credit card for purchasing books
- ☐ Business cards / contact info to share
- ☐ Comfortable walking shoes
- ☐ Sweater (and if rain is predicted, an umbrella)

Session Overviews

SATURDAY · NOVEMBER 14

9:00 – 10:15 A.M.

PRESSES **Could a Small Press Be the Right Home for Your Book?** / *Beth Ford* ROOM 121
Finding reputable small presses, querying, contracts and launching — and whether a small press fits your goals.

CRAFT **Stories in Miniature: The Spare Beauty of the Micro-Essay** / *Jennifer Kinard* ROOM 124
A working session on the micro-essay, a form between prose and poetry where every word counts. Write your own.

COMMUNITY **Social Media as a Writing Tool** / *Mary McCarthy* ROOM 134
Use reels, hyperlinking and more to drive book sales or bring new readers to your Substack.

POETRY **Good Morning, Good Night: The Aubade and the Nocturne** / *Matt Hohner* BOARDROOM
A generative workshop on two poetic forms of morning and night, with writing time and supportive feedback.

10:30 – 11:45 A.M.

PRESSES **Picking Your Path: Options for Publishing** / *Kerry Graham* ROOM 121
Traditional, independent or small press: the most common paths to publication, with resources for each.

CRAFT **Bring History to Life in Fiction** / *Constance Hays Matsumoto* ROOM 124
Ground fiction in research and weave in just enough detail to heighten tension and emotion.

COMMUNITY **From Page to Stage: The Craft of Reading Your Words** / *Emily Decker* ROOM 134
A hands-on masterclass on reading your work aloud: pacing, emphasis, breath, tone and presence.

POETRY **Sticking the Landing: Playing With Last Lines of Poems** / *G. H. Mosson* BOARDROOM
Strategies for ending poems, then a generative workshop. Bring two copies of a draft poem or flash fiction.

1:00 – 2:15 P.M.

PRESSES **The Human Experience: Create Compelling Settings for Fiction and Nonfiction Travel Narratives** / *Theresa Pickett* ROOM 121
Move beyond a list of features to tell the story of a place only you can tell.

CRAFT **Thinking Deeply About World-Building** / *Moriah Richard* ROOM 124
The world-building basics every writer needs, in any genre, with dos, don'ts and exercises.

COMMUNITY **Fun with Collaborative Writing** / *Alexandra Hewett* ROOM 134
Improv, movement and group writing. Limited to 20; dress comfortably and bring a notebook and pen.

POETRY **Quiet Writing Session** LIBRARY CARRELS
Dedicated time to write quietly on your own.

2:30 – 3:45 P.M.

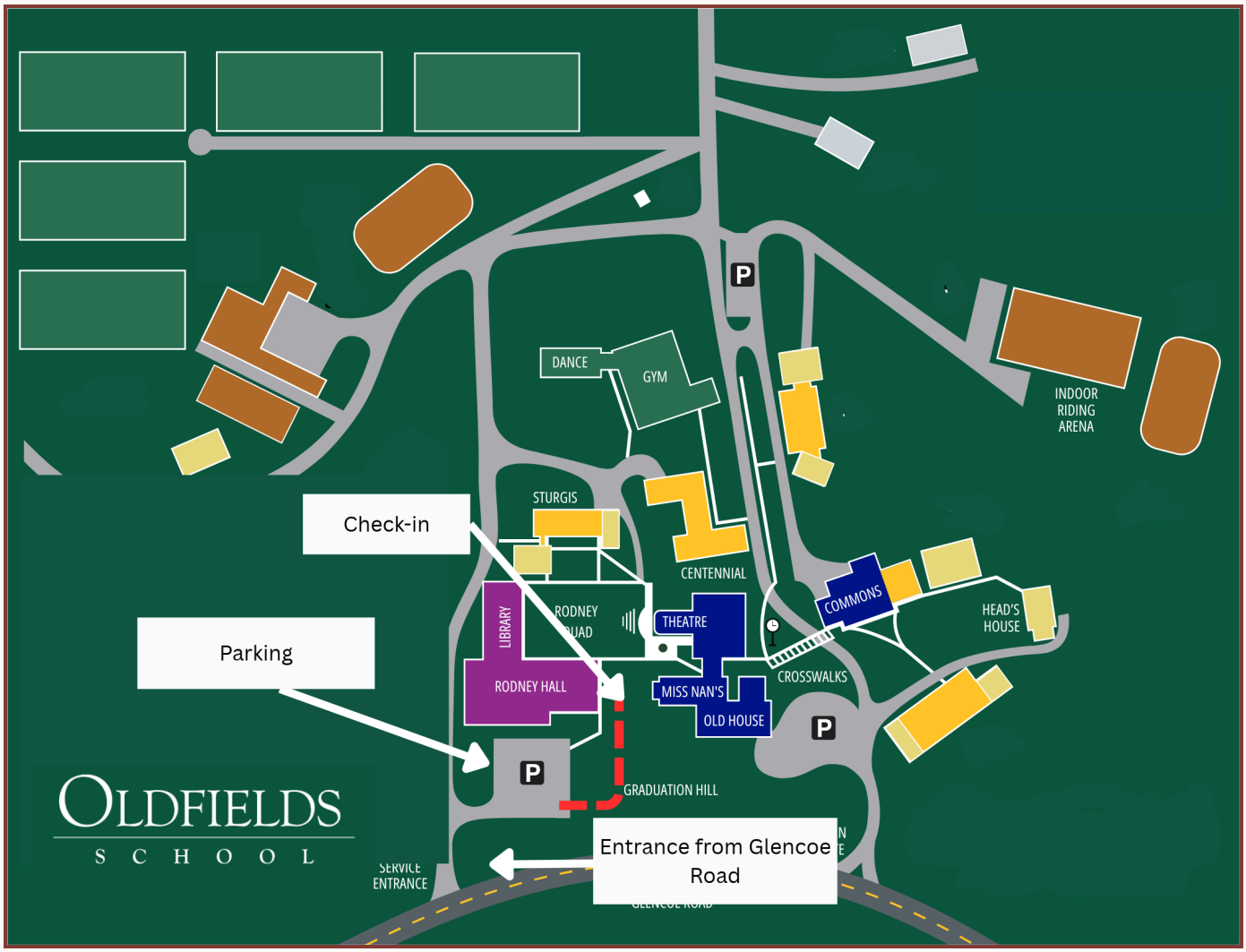
PRESSES **One Size Does Not Fit All: Finding the Right Home for Your Short Stories and Poems** / *Will Remains* ROOM 121
The do's and don'ts of submitting short stories, essays and poems to literary magazines, with practical advice for presenting your work, and yourself, in the best possible light.

CRAFT **Raise the Stakes** / *Barbara Morrison* ROOM 124
Make your story more engaging by increasing the risks and rewards for your protagonist.

COMMUNITY **Escape From The Library!** / *Rita Baker-Schmidt* LIBRARY STACKS
Join fellow writers for a challenging and fun exercise working together to solve a Library Mystery! We'll sort you into groups where you and your team will test your skills to find clues and solve puzzles related to five literary greats. This fun, interactive "escape" is a great way to wrap up your day — and to connect with new writer friends! *Note: this session is expected to last 40 minutes, and will be repeated again in this same time slot.*

POETRY **Share & Care: Poetry Readings and Review** BOARDROOM
Share your poetry and give and receive feedback in a supportive group.

OLDFIELDS CAMPUS MAP



CHECK-IN
Rodney Hall: follow the dotted line from the Rodney lot.

PARKING
Enter at the Service Entrance; park in the Rodney lot.

LIBRARY
Continental breakfast, coffee & lunch (next to Rodney Hall).