Amanda Skenandore
Literary Arts: Fiction
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Amanda Skenandore is the author of Between Earth and Sky, a historic novel, chosen as one of Publishers Marketplace’s Buzz Books 2018 Spring/Summer. She has also penned several works of short fiction. She loves the power fiction has to transport readers to new worlds—be they contemporary, historical, or completely imagined. An avid learner, she has studied the craft of writing through numerous courses and workshops taught all over North America. She’s an active member in her local writers’ group and the Southern Nevada writing community at large. Her second novel, The Undertaker’s Assistant, comes out August 2019.

When teaching, Amanda focuses on the artist’s journey—a varied path and rewarding in its own right. She seeks to empower and inspire writers, to help them grow their craft and expand their horizons. She has been a presenter for various community organizations including the Las Vegas Book Festival, the Las Vegas Clark County Library District, and the Writer’s Block Book Shop.

Amanda’s topics, depending on class size, provide lecture, Q&A, group discussion, oral & written exercises, reading, critique, and hands-on application.

**Community Programming**

**Historical Research For Your Novel:** Authentic details are a key component to creating a rich, believable story world. But historical research can be daunting and laborious. Come discover tricks and strategies on where to look for material and how to incorporate it effectively into your writing.

**Editing Your Book:** Whether you intend to self-publish or go the traditional route, self-editing your work is essential to creating a polished manuscript. From story arc to sentence structure, there’s a lot to consider. Come learn where to start, what to tackle, and how to make the process quick and fun.

**Imitation Workshop:** Like artists of other disciplines, writers can learn much about style and form through study and imitation. We’ll start by mimicking the masters—Hemingway, Faulkner, Woolf—and progress to an individual exploration of our own writing heroes. Come prepared to write, discuss, and share. Bring a copy of your favorite novel, essay, or poem to dissect and emulate.

**Using Scrivener to Power Your Book:** Scrivener is a software program for writers that aids in the creation, organization, composition, and formatting of any project, from fiction to nonfiction to screenplays. Learn how this software can enhance and streamline your writing.

**Plotting Your Book** - Want to write a book but don’t know where to start? Creating an outline can help you navigate your way from beginning to end, while ensuring you include all the important turning points of a satisfying story arc. Come learn a variety of plotting techniques to set you on the path toward a complete and cohesive book.