

Write Action

August 2021

Dear Write Action Friends,

We need your help. Our operating revenue has not recovered from two years without the Lit Fest Cafe, which had provided over half of our annual operating budget. An all-volunteer organization, Write Action did not qualify for Covid support funds.

Write Action is run by volunteers who are passionate about writing and community. We very much appreciate your past donations, which have enabled us to keep going these past years, most especially in 2020. See below for details. We are celebrating our 20th anniversary as a 501c3 organization (our actual anniversary was 2020) and looking forward to another twenty!

While there is great need in our society and a wrenching disparity in security of food and shelter, writing—to inform, to entertain, to provide insight into the human condition, our shared mind and heart—fulfills a need as well, and perhaps as urgent.

You may donate via the Paypal button on the WA website writeaction.org, or by sending a check made out to Write Action, to PO Box 822, Brattleboro, VT 05302.

Thank you!

The Write Action Board

Andy Burrows
Arlene Distler
Barbara Morrison
Toni Ortner

Honorary Board Members

Mary Mathias
Rolf Parker-Houghton
Tom Ragle
Charlene Wakefield

Significant new projects:

* Write Action was the lead organization on the *Print Town* book project, a deep dive into Brattleboro's printing, publishing, and literary history.

- * Write Action instituted the first Poems Around Town during this past April's National Poetry Month, where downtown businesses engaged with our writing community.

What your donation supports:

- * The Write Action newsletter with local literary events, writers' announcements and requests, calls for submissions and other opportunities; and a place to share a poem or short prose.
- * Write Action's events for local writers at the Brattleboro Literary Festival: the "Spotlight Reading" for annual contest winners and those who have had a book published within the past year; the Open Reading on Saturday evening; Lit Fest Cafe, serving coffee and refreshments; a table in the book sellers' venue where writers based locally may sell their books.
- * The Brattleboro Union High School senior writing awards: The Marty Jezer Award for Excellence in Journalism, and the Write Action Creative Writing Award
- * Write Action's participation in town-wide celebrations and events
- * Collaboration with other arts disciplines—dance, visual arts, etc.—as well as non-art organizations, to present unique creative performances and exhibits
- * The Write Action Radio Hour on WVEW, with interviews and other literature-related programming
- * The annual writing contest (currently on hiatus)
- * Participation in National Poetry Month
- * Sponsoring and organizing workshops
- * The annual picnic: a casual gathering where we can come together, hear one another's recent writing, and meet new members of the writing community.
- * The Lyn Harris-Seares Writers Emergency Fund, a modest emergency fund for writers. Recipients are brought to the attention of the WA board by the recommendation of a local writer, and voted on by the board.
- * Open readings: an open reading was how we started, back in 1999, and is intrinsic to our mission. These readings, low-key and supportive, will be re-instituted when the right person and right venue are available.
- * Periodic publication of writing from Brattleboro area poets and prose writers: *Best of Write Action* anthologies #1 and #2, several other themed small collections, and the planned *Poems in the Time of Covid*.