



Dear Educator,

Teachers grades 6-12 are invited to apply for 40 creative writing workshop scholarships, sponsored by the Alabama Book Festival in conjunction with the Alabama Writers' Forum. The workshop takes place Friday, April 18, at Troy University, Montgomery Campus, prior to the book festival on Saturday, April 19. Extended deadline for registration is April 10, 2008.

English and language arts teachers, as well as counselors who work with at-risk youth, are invited to attend the one-day workshop. During the two sessions teachers will take part in writing lessons and gain skills for better writing that they can take back to their classrooms. Scholarships include a \$60 substitute pay reimbursement to the school, lunch and workshop materials.

The workshop takes place from 9:45 a.m. to 3 p.m. and a certificate of attendance for 8 contact hours of professional development will be provided. People may also apply for CEU (Continued Education Unit) Credit with Auburn University. Lunch will be served after the morning session, and books by the presenters will be available for purchase between 3 and 4 p.m.

The application form and biographical materials about our guest teachers are attached. Please print a copy, fill it out and fax it back to 334 265 7828 or email your completed form to [writersforum@bellsouth.net](mailto:writersforum@bellsouth.net)

For further information, contact Nancy Hutcheson at the Alabama Writers' Forum at 334 265 7728. Places will be awarded on a first come basis beginning immediately and teachers who have previously participated may attend.

We hope you will take advantage of this wonderful opportunity!

Sincerely,

Jeanie Thompson

Executive Director, TheAlabama Writers' Forum.

Support the Arts License Tag Funds underwrite the 2008 Alabama Book Festival creative writing workshop.



## Creative Writing Workshop for Teachers Grades 6 -12

April 18, 2008

Troy University, Montgomery Campus

Morning Session, 9:45 – 11:45

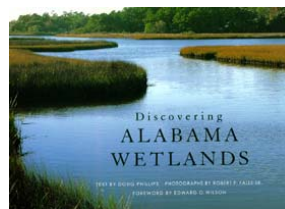
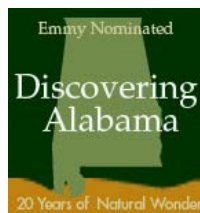
Study poetry writing and the blues as springboards to better writing overall with [Priscilla Hancock Cooper](#), poet, playwright, and teaching writer in the Alabama Writers' Forum's program [Writing Our Stories](#).



Ms. Cooper is a multi-media artist who has toured the stage adaptation of her book, *Call Me Black Woman*, around the country. Her works have appeared in *The Dark Woods I Cross*, *Black Alabama* and *The Storytellers*, and in *Teaching Zora Neal Hurston*. She has received an Individual artist Fellowship in Literature from the Alabama State Council on the Arts. She is Vice President of Institutional Programs at the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute which received a Coming up Taller Award for the Birmingham Cultural Alliance Partnership, an after-school program which she coordinated. Her play, "Back to the Dream," produced by SummerFest Musical Theater in Birmingham, created dynamic community dialog around issues of family secrets and race. Cooper has taught in the Writing Our Stories program since 1998 at the all-girls facility on the Chalkville Campus, Sequoyah School. Always at home helping teachers understand how language – and poetry in particular – is the key to unlocking the student within, Ms. Cooper will lead teachers through several innovative lessons that can be replicated with great success. **LUNCH WILL BE SERVED FOLLOWING THE MORNING SESSION**

Afternoon Session, 12:45 – 2:45

Learn how to use Alabama's diversity to teach writing with [Dr. Doug Phillips](#), author and host of the Emmy-nominated APTV program [Discovering Alabama](#).



Dr. Phillips is known for his pioneering work with "Discovering Alabama," a program that began on Alabama Public Television in 1980 and has grown to be one of the most beloved programs of teachers, children and all Alabamians. Dr. Phillips, who is associated with the University of Alabama's Museum of Natural History, has published *Discovering Alabama Wetlands* and *Discovering Alabama Forests*. Other books in this series are underway. Teacher guides to accompany "Discovering Alabama" are used in classrooms across the state and are available at [www.discoveringalabama.org](http://www.discoveringalabama.org). Much in demand as a speaker and often in the field filming or studying, Dr. Phillips will lead teachers to a better understanding of using the rich diversity of Alabama's flora and fauna as a creative subject for writing, as well as help them understand that writing is a means to teach a variety of subjects from biology to economics.



## Registration Form

Alabama Book Festival Creative Writing Workshop for Teachers  
April 18<sup>th</sup>  
Troy University, Montgomery Campus  
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

**Teachers will be notified of their acceptance in the workshop by email.**

**FAX OR EMAIL BACK BY APRIL 10, 2008 to:** Nancy Hutcheson, AL Writers' Forum  
**FAX:** 334 265 7828  
**EMAIL:** [Writersforum@bellsouth.net](mailto:Writersforum@bellsouth.net)

If questions, please call Nancy at 334 265 7728.

*Duplicate this form as needed for each teacher.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Grade and subject area \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

School's mailing address

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Contact person to receive substitute reimbursement check

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_