

SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

Sonoma writers festival

schedule

All events are free of charge and open to the public

Thursday

APRIL 23

7PM

Reading

Jane Dykema & Rick Barot

at Sonoma Valley Room, 2nd floor Student Center

after the reading

Reception

at OVERLOOK, 3rd floor Student Center

Friday

APRIL 24

1 - 2:45PM

Craft Talks and Generative Writing

Rick Barot (poetry), Jane Dykema (fiction), and Lawrence Weschler (creative non-fiction) will give individual talks and lead students in writing exercises in Valley Conference Rooms, 2nd floor Student Center

3 - 4:30PM

Burning Issues: Gender, Race & the Anthropocene in 21st Century Writing

Panel with Jane Dykema, Gillian Conoley, Rick Barot and Lawrence Weschler, moderated by Anne Goldman in Ballroom, Student Center

5 - 7PM

Reception

at Prelude, GREEN MUSIC CENTER

after the reception

Reading

Gillian Conoley & Lawrence Weschler

at Prelude, GREEN MUSIC CENTER

welcome

Please join us for Sonoma State University's third annual Writers Festival. This year, we're excited to present four poets and writers, Rick Barot, Gillian Conoley, Jane Dykema and Lawrence Weschler.

They will read from their work, talk about craft, getting published, and professional challenges. We'll foster a festive, joyous celebration of the art of writing and the pleasures of creating community.

Organized by Gillian Conoley & Stefan Kiesbye

Sponsors

Instructionally Related Activities, SSU

The Sitting Room

School of Arts & Humanities

SSU English Department

Want to support the festival?

Contact Stefan Kiesbye at: 707.664.2140 or kiesbye@sonoma.edu

Learn more

english.sonoma.edu/sonoma-writers-festival

our guests

Rick Barot



Rick Barot has published three volumes of poetry: *The Darker Fall* (2002), *Want* (2008), which was a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award and won the 2009 Grub Street Book Prize, and *Chord* (2015), all published by Sarabande Books. *Chord* received the UNT Rilke Prize, the PEN Open Book Award, and the Publishing Triangle's

Thom Gunn Award. It was also a finalist for the *LA Times Book Prize*. His work has appeared in numerous publications, including *Poetry*, *The New Republic*, *The New York Times Magazine*, *Tin House*, and *The New Yorker*. He has received fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, and

Stanford University. He lives in Tacoma, Washington and directs The Rainier Writing Workshop, the low-residency MFA program in creative writing at Pacific Lutheran University. He is also the poetry editor for *New England Review*. His fourth book of poems, *The Galleons*, will be published by Milkweed Editions in early 2020.

Gillian Conoley



Gillian Conoley received the 2017 Shelley Memorial Award for lifetime achievement from the Poetry Society of America. She was also awarded the Jerome J. Shestack Poetry Prize, a National Endowment for the Arts grant, and a Fund for Poetry Award.

Her most recent collection: *A Little More Red Sun on the Human: New and Selected Poems* is just out with Nightboat Books. She is the author of ten previous books, including *PEACE*, an Academy of American Poets Standout Book and a finalist for

the Los Angeles Times Book Prize. Conoley's translations of three books by Henri Michaux, *Thousand Times Broken*, appeared in 2014 with City Lights. Conoley is Poet-in-Residence and Professor of English at Sonoma State University where she edits *Volt*.

Jane Dykema



Jane Dykema's fiction and nonfiction have appeared in *Guernica*, *Electric Literature*, *No Tokens*, *Fanzine*, *VOLT*, the anthology *Cover Stories*, and elsewhere. She's a 2016 Massachusetts Cultural Council

Fellow and holds an MFA from UMass Amherst. She teaches writing at Clark University and Grub Street, and is a Program Coordinator for the Disquiet International Literary Program.

Lawrence Weschler



Lawrence Weschler is a non-fiction writer whose irrepressible sense of wonder has led him to explore an extraordinary range of subjects, whether art, exile, medicine, mysticism, or political upheaval. He is the author of nearly twenty books, including: *Seeing is Forgetting the Name of the Thing One Sees*, a life of the artist

Robert Irwin; *Mr. Wilson's Cabinet of Wonder*, about the Museum of Jurassic Technology; *A Miracle, A Universe, Settling Accounts with Torturers*; *Vermeer in Bosnia*; and his newly published memoir about the neurologist Oliver Sacks, *And How Are You, Dr. Sacks?* Having been a long-time staff-writer for *The New Yorker*, he now

contributes regularly to such venues as the *New York Times Magazine*, *Vanity Fair*, *McSweeney's*, and NPR. Though his roots are in California, for many years he has lived near New York City, where he is Director Emeritus of the New York Institute for the Humanities at New York University.