Chera Hammons is the Writer-in-Residence at West Texas A&M University. She is a graduate of the MFA in Creative Writing program at Goddard College. Her work has appeared or is forthcoming in journals such as Beloit Poetry Journal, Connotation Press, Foundry, Rattle, Ruminant, Sugar House Review, Tar River, The Penn Review, THRUSH, Tupelo Quarterly, and Valparaiso Poetry Review. The Traveler’s Guide to Bomb City (Purple Flag Press) was the winner of the 2017 PEN Southwest Book Award in poetry. Another poetry book, Maps of Injury, is forthcoming from Sundress Publications. Her debut novel, Monarchs of the Northeast Kingdom, will be published in May 2020 by Torrey House Press. Chera’s personal struggle with chronic illness is reflected in her work. She lives in Amarillo, TX, with her husband, six horses (including a BLM mustang), a dog, three cats, a donkey, and a rabbit.

Workshop: True Confessions of The Unreliable Narrator

An unreliable narrator can be a powerful device, allowing writers to shape their stories in unexpected ways. But when and how should you use an unreliable narrator? Chera will discuss considerations of developing a protagonist who is both believable and unreliable—someone who will keep your readers turning the page.

Jessica Powers is author of nine books for children and young adults (under the name J.L. Powers). She is also publisher at Catalyst Press, which focuses on books by African writers and about Africa, and Director of Editorial and Foreign Rights at Cinco Puntos Press. She lives in California’s Bay Area.

Title of Workshop: All About Publishing

Workshop: All About Publishing

In this workshop, we will explore the different paths to publication, with a Q&A format.
## Workshop Presenters

**Leo Barron**

Works for Titania Solutions Group as an instructor of military intelligence officers for the U.S. Army at Fort Huachuca, Arizona. He holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in history and has served with the 101st Airborne. Barron has seen two tours of duty in Iraq as an infantry and military intelligence officer. He is the award-winning author of several books, including: *No Silent Night: The Christmas Battle for Bastogne; Patton at the Battle of the Bulge; High Tide in the Korean War* and *Silent Night*. He has a B.S. in creative writing and psychology from Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut; and an MPA (Master of Public Affairs) from the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs of the University of Minnesota.

**Ahmed Ismail Yusuf**

The author of three books: *The Lion’s Binding Oath, High Tide in the Korean War*, and *Patton’s Mirage*. He has a B.S. in creative writing and psychology from Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut; and an MPA (Master of Public Affairs) from the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs of the University of Minnesota.

## Writing Contest Guidelines

Celebration participants are invited to enter a writing contest in three categories: poetry, short story (fiction) and memoir (non-fiction). In addition to cash prizes, first-place winners of the writing contest have their work published in Cochise College’s Mirage Literary and Arts Magazine.

1. All submitted writing must be the original, unqualified work of the person entering the contest. There are three contest categories:
   - Poetry: Each poetry entry may include up to three poems for a total of up to five pages, typed on standard white paper in black ink, single or double spaced.
   - Short Story: Limited to 10 double-spaced pages per entry, typed on standard white paper in black ink.
   - Memoir: Limited to 10 double-spaced pages per entry (about 3,000 words), typed on standard white paper in black ink.
2. The author’s name should not appear on the manuscript as entries will be judged anonymously. Each entry must include a separate title page bearing: title(s) and category of entry — author’s name, address, phone number and email address.
3. Each entry is $5. Authors may enter more than one category, but a separate fee of $5 must accompany each entry.
4. All contest entries, registration forms and fees must be received by April 20, 2020. All contestants must be registered for the Writing Celebration. Entries will not be accepted until all registration forms and fees are received.
5. Electronic copies of contest submissions should be emailed to creativewriting@cochise.edu. Pay entry for contest entry fees by adding the appropriate amount to your cart below. Online registration for the Celebration is available by clicking here.
6. Hard copies of entries with registration form and check to include registration and contest entry fees can be mailed to Cochise College Center for Lifelong Learning, 901 N. Colombo Ave, Sierra Vista, AZ 85635.
7. Winners will be announced and cash prizes will be awarded as part of Celebration events on Saturday, April 18. Authors may include a stamp, self-addressed envelope for return of manuscripts or they may pick up entries and judges’ critiques at closing ceremonies on April 18.

## Registration Form

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>City/State/Zip</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Two Day Registration</td>
<td>$49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Day Registration</td>
<td>$29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student/Senior Citizen Registration (One or Two days)</td>
<td>$25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per contest Entry (see guidelines for more info)</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Make checks payable to Cochise College. Registration fees are nonrefundable. Registration deadline for the writing contest is April 6, 2020. Mail-in registration deadline for the Celebration is April 11, after that, register at the door. For more information, call 520-515-5402, visit www.cocte.edu/wrt, or email creativewriting@cocte.edu.

Mail to: Cochise College, Center for Lifelong Learning 901 N. Colombo Ave Sierra Vista, AZ 85635

## Celebration Schedule

### Friday, April 17 — Cochise College, Sierra Vista Campus

- 9 - 9:30am: Registration and continental breakfast, Student Union
- 9:30 - 10am: Opening remarks
- 10:15 - 11:45am: Writing Workshops
  - 12 - 12:30pm: Presenter Q & A with author reading
  - 12:30 - 1:15pm: Brown Bag: Lunch on your own, book signing

Student Union Cafe will be open.

### Saturday, April 18 — Cochise College, Sierra Vista Campus

- 9 - 9:30am: Registration and continental breakfast, Student Union
- 9:30 - 10:15am: Nuts and Bolts of Writing: Writing Compelling Scenes in Memoir
- 10 - 10:15am: Break
- 10:30am - 12pm: Writing Workshops
  - 12 - 12:45pm: Brown Bag — Lunch on your own, book signing, Student Union
  - 1 - 2:30pm: Writing Workshops
  - 2:30 - 2:45pm: Break
- 2:45 - 4pm: Contest winners announced, readings by winners, and prize drawing

Student Union

---

Whitetail Deer, the art for this publication was used with permission from Marcelo Luban. Marcelo’s art, born out of pure joy, is an attempt to create visually stimulating images through the use color and form. She signs her paintings Luban, her mother’s last name, to honor the women in her family who came before her. These tenacious females and their anonymous but epic stories are a continuous source of inspiration for Marcelo.