

## MWA University – Faculty Biographies



Called a hard-boiled poet by NPR's Maureen Corrigan and the "noir poet laureate" in the *Huffington Post*, **Reed Farrel Coleman** is a former executive vice president of Mystery Writers of America. He has published sixteen novels, as well as short stories, poems, and essays. He is a three-time recipient of the Shamus Award for Best PI Novel of the Year and is a three-time Edgar Award nominee. He has also won the Macavity, Audie, Barry, and Anthony Awards. Reed is an adjunct instructor of English at Hofstra University and is a founding member of MWA U. He lives with his family on Long Island.



The author of twelve published mysteries in four series under three names (long story), Laura DiSilverio is the President of Sisters in Crime. She has three more books coming out in 2015, including her first suspense standalone, *The Reckoning Stones*, and two books in the new Readaholics Book Club series. Before becoming a full-time writer, she spent twenty years as an Air Force intelligence officer, received a graduate degree in English from the University of Pennsylvania, and taught writing and literature at the United States Air Force Academy. She is a frequent guest speaker and teacher at writers conferences and other events, and contributor to *Writer's Digest* and *The Writer* magazines. She plots murder and parents teens in Colorado, trying to keep the two tasks separate.



Hallie Ephron writes suspense novels she hopes readers can't put down, including the best-selling *Never Tell a Lie* (made into a Lifetime Movie Network movie) and *There Was an Old Woman*. She is a three-time finalist for the Mary Higgins Clark Award and an award-winning book reviewer for the Boston Globe. Her new novel *Night Night, Sleep Tight* was published in March, 2014. She wrote the Edgar-nominated *Writing and Selling Your Mystery Novel: How to Knock 'Em Dead with Style*.

Find her on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/hallie.ephron> or on the web <http://hallieephron.com>.



Kathleen George lives in Pittsburgh, where she is a professor of theatre and writing at the University of Pittsburgh. She has been granted fellowships at artists' colonies, including the VCCA and MacDowell. Her short fiction has appeared in journals and magazines which include *Mademoiselle*, *Cimarron Review*, *North American Review*, *New Letters*, and *Alaska Quarterly Review*. She has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize, and one of her stories was listed among the Distinguished in *Best American Short Stories*.

George is the author of the acclaimed novels *Taken*, *Fallen*, *Afterimage*, *The Odds* (nominated for an Edgar® Award), *Hideout*, *Simple*, and *A Measure of Blood*. All seven of these titles are part of her procedural thrillers set in Pittsburgh. In 2014 she will release *The Johnstown Girls*, a non-series novel about the Johnstown Flood. George is the editor of *Pittsburgh Noir*, a collection of short fiction, the author of her own short story collection, *The Man in the Buick*, and of scholarly theatrical books and articles.



**Jess Lourey** is the author of the Lefty-nominated, comic caper Murder-by-Month mysteries featuring amateur sleuth Mira James. *January Thaw*, the ninth in the series, was released January 2014. Jess also writes young adult fantasy, magical realism, and historical fiction. In addition to writing, Jess is a tenured English and Sociology professor at a Minnesota community college. When not raising her wonderful kids, teaching, or writing, you can find her gardening, traveling, and navigating the niceties and meanities of small-town life. She is a member of Sisters in Crime, The Loft, and

MWA, and is one of the founding members of MWA-University.



**R. Narvaez** was born and raised in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. He received his master's degree from the State University of New York at Stony Brook and attended the Humber School for Writers on a scholarship. He currently teaches creative writing and composition at New Jersey City University and the Borough of Manhattan Community College.

His literary and crime fiction have been published in *Mississippi Review*, *Murdaland*, *Indian Country Noir*, *Long Island Noir*, *Hit List: The Best of Latino Mystery*, and *Plots with Guns*. His short story "Hating Holly Hernandez" in *You Don't Have a Clue: Latino Mystery Stories for Teens* was called "[h]ilarious and memorable" by Kirkus Reviews. His first book of short stories, *Roachkiller and Other Stories*, was released in March 2012. *King of the Chicanos* author Mario Acevedo called it "an excellent collection. . . . I could not shake some of the images . . . . The writing is that intense." The collection contains the short story "Roachkiller," which was selected as a Distinguished Mystery Story in *Best American Mystery Stories 2008*, edited by George Pelecanos.



MWA Grand Master **Sara Paretsky's** seventeen books featuring her acclaimed detective V I Warshawski have been translated into thirty languages. She has also published two general novels, a book of essays, and numerous short stories. Credited with helping change the role of women in the contemporary crime novel, Paretsky founded the advocacy group Sisters in Crime in 1986 and is the recipient of numerous awards, including the Cartier Diamond Dagger and *Ms. Magazine's* Woman of the Year. Paretsky's work supports programs in the arts, sciences, education and human rights.



**Hank Phillippi Ryan** is the on-air investigative reporter at Boston's NBC affiliate. Her work has resulted in new laws, people sent to prison, homes removed from foreclosure, and millions of dollars in restitution. Along with her 32 EMMYs, Hank's won dozens of other journalism honors. The author of seven crime fiction novels, she has won three Agathas, as well as the Anthony and Macavity awards. *The Other Woman* won the Mary Higgins Clark Award, and was also nominated for the Anthony, Agatha, Daphne, Shamus and Macavity. Her current thriller, *The Wrong Girl*, won the Agatha for Best Mystery, and is a Daphne and Anthony nominee. National reviewers call her "a gifted storyteller" and a "master at creating suspense." Hank is 2013 president of national Sisters in Crime and a founding instructor at MWA-U. Her new book, *Truth Be Told*, is coming from Forge Books on October 7.



**Daniel Stashower** is a three-time Edgar winner whose most recent book is the New York Times nonfiction bestseller *The Hour of Peril*. His previous nonfiction books include *The Beautiful Cigar* and *Teller of Tales: The Life of Arthur Conan Doyle*. He is also the author of five mystery novels, the most recent of which is *The Houdini Specter*. His articles have appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Smithsonian Magazine*, *National Geographic Traveler*, and *American History*. His short stories have appeared in numerous collections, including *The Best American Mystery Stories*.

Dan holds an MFA in Creative Writing from Columbia University, and has taught creative writing and freshman composition courses at various universities for more than 20 years. Dan has also won the Anthony and Agatha awards, and is a recipient of the Raymond Chandler Fulbright Fellowship in Detective and Crime Fiction Writing.



**Stanley Trollip** and his co-author, Michael Sears, are the Barry-Award winning writing team known as Michael Stanley. Both were born in South Africa. Both have been professors and have worked in academia and business. Stan was an educational psychologist, specializing in the application of computers to teaching and learning, and a pilot. Michael is a mathematician, specializing in remote sensing. On a flying safari to Botswana, they watched a pack of hyenas hunt, kill, and devour a wildebeest, eating both flesh and bones. That gave them the premise for their first mystery, *A Carrion Death*, which introduced Detective 'Kubu' Bengu of the Botswana Criminal Investigation Department. Kubu's second adventure, *The Second Death of Goodluck Tinubu (A Deadly Trade outside North America)*, was in the north of the country, bordering Zimbabwe with its checkered history. Their third book, *Death of the Mantis*, is set in the Kalahari Desert and features the Bushman peoples of the area. It won the Barry award for Best Paperback Original and was shortlisted for an Edgar award. Their latest book *Deadly Harvest* is set against the pervasive belief in witchcraft and the power of witch doctors in southern Africa. It was shortlisted for the International Thriller Writers Best Paperback Original award. *Death in the Family* will be published in 2015.

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