

MWA University – Faculty Biographies



Megan Abbott is the Edgar award-winning author of seven novels, including *Dare Me*, *The End of Everything* and *The Fever*, which won the International Thriller Writers Award for Best Novel and was chosen one of the Best Books of the Year by Amazon, National Public Radio, the *Boston Globe* and the *Los Angeles Times*. Her stories have appeared in anthologies including *Detroit Noir*, *Queens Noir* and the *Best American Mystery Stories of 2014*. She is also the author of *The Street Was Mine*, a study of hardboiled fiction and film noir. She has taught at NYU and the New School University and was the John Grisham Writer-in-Residence at the University of Mississippi. Her next novel, *You Will Know Me*, comes out in July 2016.



USA Today and international best-selling author **Alison Gaylin** has written received Edgar nominations for her first book *Hide Your Eyes* and for her most recent book, *Stay With Me*. Her Shamus Award-winning novel, *And She Was* was also nominated for the RT award, as well as the Thriller and Anthony awards. Her ninth novel, a standalone called *What Remains of Me*, will be out in 2016 from HarperCollins.



Susan Larson is the host of *The Reading Life*, a weekly radio show on WWNO, New Orleans' NPR affiliate, and the author of *The Booklover's Guide to New Orleans*, which has appeared in two editions. She is the founding president of the Women's National Book Association of New Orleans, a former member of the boards of the New Orleans Public Library and the Tennessee Williams/New Orleans Literary Festival, as well as a two-time chair of the jury for the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction. She served as the book review editor for *The New Orleans Times-Picayune* for 22 years.



Bill Loeftelm is the author of the Maureen Coughlin/NOLA crime fiction series from Sarah Crichton Books/FSG. The third installment, *Doing the Devil's Work*, was published in January 2015. Bill's other novels include *The Devil She Knows* (2011), Maureen's debut, and the second Maureen Coughlin novel, *The Devin in Her Way*, *Strand Magazine's* 2013 Novel of the Year. He is also the author of the Staten Island, NY set stand-alones *Bloodroot* and *Fresh Kills*. He lives in New Orleans with his wife, AC Lambeth, a writer and yoga instructor, and their two dogs. Look for *Let the Devil Out*, the new Maureen Coughlin novel, in July 2016.



Laura Lippman is the New York Times bestselling author of more than 20 books, including the award-winning Tess Monaghan series and eight stand-alones. She lives in Baltimore and New Orleans.



Erica Spindler is the New York Times and International Chart bestselling author of thirty-two novels and three eNovellas. Published in twenty-five countries, she has been called the "The master of addictive suspense" and "Queen of the romantic thriller." A Romance Writers of America Honor Roll member, she received a Kiss of Death Award for her novels *Forbidden Fruit* and *See Jane Die*, won the prestigious Daphne du Maurier Award for excellence for her novel *Bone Cold* and is a four-time RITA® Award finalist. In 1999, *Publishers Weekly* awarded the audio version of her novel *Shocking Pink* a Listen-Up Award, naming it one of the best audio mystery books of 1998. Her newest novel, *The First Wife*, is out now. Erica lives just outside of New Orleans where she is putting the finishing touches on *The Final Seven*, the first book in her seven book series, *The Lightkeepers*.