Written by Marjorie Hudson
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NC WRITERS' NETWORK SPRING CONFERENCE FEATURES "THE WRITER'S LIFE"

CARRBORO, N.C. - The North Carolina Writers' Network will hold its 2006 Annual Spring Conference on Saturday, May 20 at Peace College in Raleigh, N.C. from 8:30 am. until 6:30 pm.

A Writer's Life: Blank Page to Book Tour will include workshops to help writers find inspiration for new material, refine their work, get published and promote their writing. Panels will include well-known writers and poets who will offer tales of challenges, tips on problem-solving, and wisdom on how to balance the writing life with family and other work. The conference features workshops with accomplished writers of fiction, creative nonfiction and poetry. A special feature is a workshop on poetic sequences with master poet James Applewhite. The conference also features a panel of booksellers, promoters, and agents who will give insight into the business side of writing.

"This conference takes you through a day in the life of a writer," says Cynthia Barnett, Executive Director of the North Carolina Writers' Network. "From writing new pages in the morning, to conferring with fellow writers, to getting advice on the business of publishing and coaching on reading out aloud. This year's program offers more than ever."

The day-long conference features books for sale by Writers' Network members and conference faculty, publishers, open mike sessions, and a raffle drawing. The day will conclude with one-on-one critiquing sessions with Bridgette Lacy, feature writer for the *News & Observer*; Carol Henderson, teacher and author of critically acclaimed
Losing Malcolm: A Mother's Journey Through Grief
; playwright and poet Howard Craft, recipient of the North Carolina Arts Council Playwriting Fellowship and two-time winner of North Carolina Central University's New Play Project; and Lynn York, author of novels
The Piano Teacher
and
The Wine Maker
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Registration for the conference is $120 for Writers' Network members and $145 for non-members. One-on-one manuscript critiquing sessions are $75, arranged in advance.

For more information, please visit www.ncwriters.org , call (919) 967-9540, or email the Network at mail@ncwriters.org .

Founded in 1985, the nonprofit North Carolina Writers' Network is reportedly the largest statewide literary arts organization in the country. The mission of the North Carolina Writers' Network is to connect, promote, and lead emerging writers and established writers through workshops, conferences, and other programs and services. The Network builds audiences for literature, advocates for literacy and the literary arts and provides information and support services for writers at all levels.