

About Clarion West

Clarion West, an intensive writing workshop for those intending to pursue careers as professional science fiction or fantasy writers, is held each summer in Seattle. Every week a new instructor — each a well-known writer chosen for the quality of his or her work and for professional stature — teaches the class, bringing a unique perspective on speculative fiction.

The core of the workshop is science fiction, and short stories, not novels, are the focus. During the fifth week, the workshop is taught by a professional editor.

The workshop is legendary for being both exhausting and exhilarating. It is highly regarded within the science fiction, fantasy, and horror fields, and many well-known writers have attended or taught it.

At Clarion West, students write their own stories every week while also preparing critiques of all the other students' work for classroom sessions. This gives participants a more focused, professional approach to their writing.

Students come away from the workshop with essential tools for improving their writing: a strong understanding of how to critique, the ability to evaluate critiques from others, good writing habits, and a set of friendships and professional contacts that can last a lifetime.

"Six Summer Evenings of Science Fiction" brings each week's instructor into the community to read from recent work and answer questions about his or her career.

Clarion West sponsors another series of readings during the winter. To be notified about them, sign up at the table where you handed in your ticket.

In addition, Clarion West is associated with Potlatch, a West Coast convention dedicated to the intelligent discussion of written science fiction and fantasy. The convention includes a benefit auction for Clarion West, and mini-Clarion West workshops for writers wanting feedback on their stories. The next Potlatch will be held in February; for information, call the Clarion West office at (206) 322-9083.

Clarion West is a nonprofit organization that relies on members' donations of time, money, and skills. If you would like to volunteer, become a member (memberships start at \$20.00), or make a larger donation, please speak with one of the people staffing the readings.

Information about next year's workshop is available through *Clarion West*, 340 Fifteenth Avenue East, Suite 350, Seattle, WA 98112. Office phone: (206) 322-9083. The Clarion West Web site is at www.clarionwest.org.

Six Summer Evenings of Science Fiction



Clarion West Writers Workshop

This event is co-sponsored by the Seattle Arts Commission.

Six Summer Evenings of Science Fiction

June 25 **Paul Park** is a favorite of fabulists everywhere for his seductive language and illuminating insights. Park's daring science fictional takes on sexuality, politics and religion reframe the current world's injustices in challenging new contexts. His novels include the Starbridge Chronicles (*Soldiers of Paradise*, *Sugar Rain*, and *The Cult of Loving Kindness*) and *Celestis*, which was nominated for a Nebula Award as best novel. His new story collection is *If Lions Could Speak And Other Stories*, and his novel *Three Marys* will be published in July.

July 2 **Kathleen Alcalá** explores, in her award-winning novels and stories set in Mexico and the Southwest, the imaginative life of the individual, the role of the family, and the region's complex entwining of Spaniards, Indians, Jews, and Anglos. Her writing has deep clarity and a sensual specificity that moves effortlessly between the real and the fantastic. She is a co-founder of the multicultural literary magazine *The Raven Chronicles*.

July 9 **Pat Cadigan**, celebrated as the Queen of Cyberpunk, is also hailed as the Empress of Attitude. Her witty, pyrotechnic novels and stories explore the area where the cruelties of the powerful and the vengeance of the powerless intersect. She is a frequent nominee for the Hugo and Nebula awards, and has twice received the prestigious Arthur C. Clark award, for her novels *Synners* and *Fools*.

July 16 **Gardner Dozois**, a respected author, renowned editor, and generous critic, is well known for recognizing and encouraging new and interesting writers. Editor of *Asimov's Science Fiction* and the influential anthology series *The Year's Best Science Fiction*, he has accumulated enough Hugos to launch an attack, and sufficient Nebulas to present a substantial defense.

July 23 **Joe Haldeman** is a giant in the SF field, using his knowledge of science, his skill in storytelling, and his own harrowing life experiences to create fiction that expands the genre. He is the author of 14 novels, including *The Forever War* and *The Forever Peace*, plus two short-story collections, a book of poetry, and numerous other works. He has collected a raft of awards, including five Hugos and four Nebulas.

July 30 **John Crowley** is one of science fiction's most respected writers. His works often concern the effects of unseen laws and authority; loss and melancholy pervade his stories, many of which are set in the United States of the future. He is best known for the fantasy novels *Little, Big* and *Egypt*, and the science fiction novels *The Deep*, *Beasts*, and *Engine Summer*. Crowley's most recent novel, *The Translator*, set during the Cuban Missile Crisis, has attracted much critical acclaim.

Tuesday Evenings
7:30 p.m.