

January 2024

Bi-Monthly Newsletter

The Window



From the Desk of the President



Dear Members and Friends,

2024 kicked things off with a blast here in the Texas Panhandle. I hope you all are watching the majesty of nature (trying to stay positive here) while keeping warm and healthy.

It's a great honor to begin my seventh year serving on our board and my second term as President. I want to offer profound thanks and gratitude to Katie Boehs, Rick Treon and Donna Rosson for their service. All three stepped up in the last few years to fulfill vital roles on the board.

We are excited to begin this year with much needed focus on meeting *your* needs, as expressed in surveys, the suggestion box, and participation in 2023's workshop and critique partner speed dating. Your board is also looking ahead to fill the void of author opportunities in the Panhandle.

Our 2024 Goal

Increase paid membership to 60 members, coordinate implementation of a fall weekend workshop in 2025, create a writing resources web page, and prepare a fundraising plan to launch in 2025 by December 31, 2024.

This industry changes fast! Whatever your personal goals are, whatever publication path you choose, your voice and author identity matter, and we MUST be open to learning about ourselves, learning about the industry and adapting to these changes.

With that in mind, we have decided on a program focus for 2024.

Finding your identity as a writer. How do you want your audience to perceive you? Your words on the page, your agent, your marketing, your branding, your online presence and more contribute to your identity as a writer. The programs and workshop held by THPW during 2024 will aid you in discovering who you want to be and be seen as a writer.

Thank you, Summer Baker and Karen Benckentsein, for bringing their non-profit experience and fresh perspectives to the board, especially in a post-pandemic world, where honestly, we were caught flatfooted and floundering.

I/we are committed to doing better for *you* going forward. My challenge to you is to bring an open mind, enthusiasm, and a passion for writing and this organization into 2024.

Warmest regards,

Kristine Brorman

thank you for supporting Texas High Plains Writers

Dues are
due!

Annual \$40

Students \$20

texashighplainswriters.com

Membership with the Texas High Plains Writers not only gains you access to networking with local industry professionals such as other writers, editors, publishers, and agents, but also opportunities for publication in the annual anthology, a platform for selling and advertising your work, education from writing experts, and access to member-suggested resources. All for the low price of \$40 in annual dues or \$20 for students.

Pay Dues



Victoria Wynn

Marketing Expert and CEO

January

Guest Lecture

As a marketing expert and CEO of her own fine art supply company, Victoria has learned that small businesses are best driven through community, whether it's online or in person. Additionally, she'll share tricks to branding and social media posting. She loves to answer questions and open dialogue.

Jan 20, 2024
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

FirstBank Southwest Tower Edward
Davis Room 9th Floor 600 S. Tyler
St.

Upcoming Programs

- **Mar** — Tim Lewis, WTAMU Professor and Author
- **May** — 2024 Speed Networking for Critique Partners

Cost of Attendance

Members — Free!

Non-Members — \$10

Invited Guests — Free for first visit!

Meetings Schedule

Board of Directors Meeting

8:45 - 9:30 a.m.

Check-In and Meet & Greet

9:30 - 10:00 a.m.

Business Meeting

10:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

Program/Presentation

10:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

Critique Session

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Your Board of Directors is working diligently to bring great programs that meet the needs and desires of our members. Please let us know if you have any program ideas or requests. We always welcome input from our members!

Announcing 2025's Anthology Theme: How Time Flows

In a drawing held during the November Writers' Social, 'How Time Flows' was selected as the theme for the 2025 anthology! Thank you to guest Shiloh for your theme submission. We look forward to seeing your entry in the collection.

Scroll down for anthology submission details. And get to writing!

Critique Sessions at Every Meeting

Bring 500 words of writing you want critiqued to every meeting for an hour-long opportunity to break out into feedback sessions with your fellow writers after the program. Gain insight, improve your craft, and maybe even form a critique partnership or group in 2024!

2024 Anthology Available

Our 2024 anthology is available for purchase! Scroll down for details on how you can collect your copy in paperback or digital. Support your fellow writers with your purchase and be sure to tell the authors how much you liked their work!

Bring Your Suggestions

We want to hear from you! Drop your suggestions in the drop box, available at every meeting. Can't make it? Scroll down to give us your feedback!

Share the Buzz

We want your stories! Tell us what you've got going on in writing, publishing, contests, and events by filling out our Buzz Notes form. We'll feature you here in our next newsletter or in a special missive!

Share

Reminders



Serve on the Board

We're still looking for an Events and Workshops Director to finish a one-year term in 2024!

Consider serving in 2025 as President-Elect, Secretary, Programs Director, Publicity Director, or Membership Director.



Serve on a Committee

We need our members to serve on fundraising, events, workshops, and nominating committees!

Ask a board member how you can help.



Sell Books at Meetings

Bring your books to sell at our bi-monthly meetings!

Find new readership in your fellow members.

Contact the Board

2025 Anthology Theme



How Time Flows

Haven't you ever wanted to see your work in print? Of course you have.

Every year, Texas High Plains Writers accepts short stories and poems for publication in our themed anthology. Get out your writing pen and submit before the deadline to see your words published online and in print! You keep all your rights, receive publication accolades, and your submission helps raise money to support local writers. Win!

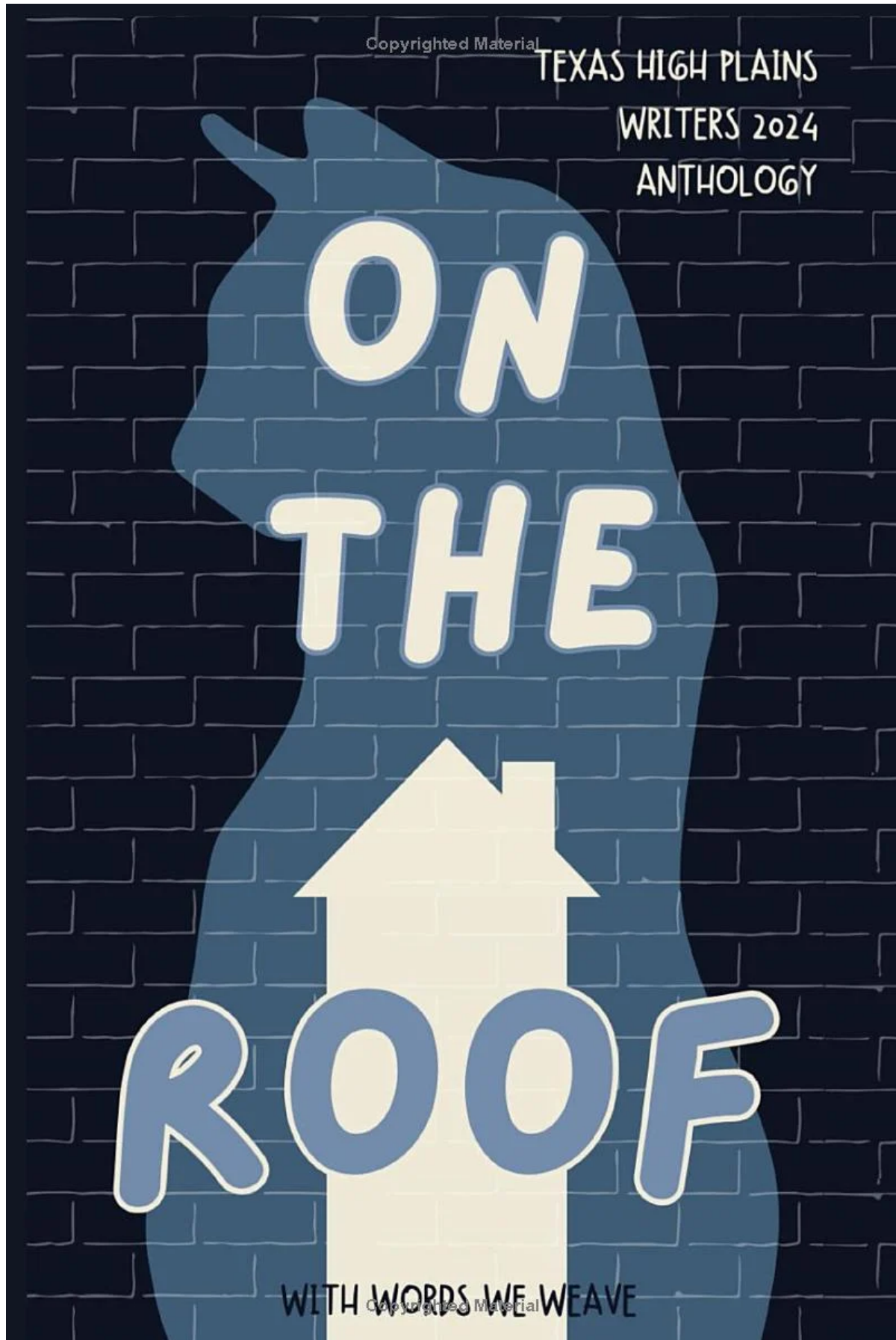
Current members pay just \$10 per submission! Non-members who pay \$50 for the first submission and \$10 for additional pieces receive membership for the rest of the year.

Check out this year's anthology submission rules, submit your piece, and pay your fee(s). Hurry! Go!

Rules

Submit

2024 Anthology



On the Roof

Getting a jump on your New Year's reading challenge? Check out our latest anthology! Available in paperback and digital.

The stories these walls could tell have nothing on those collected by roofs. In With Words We Weave: On the Roof, members of the Texas High Plains Writers invite you upward—to the roof, to the world, to the sky.

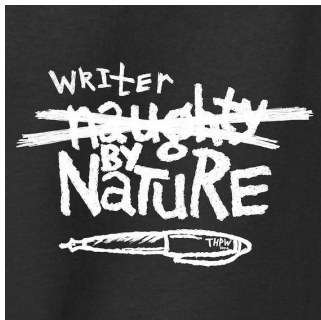
\$10

Purchase

Merch

Wouldn't you like some writerly swag? Shopping for gifts for the other writers in your life? Check out our designs below! These and more available from [CafePress](#) as shirts, stickers, mugs, and many others.

Your purchases are donated directly to the organization and go toward educating and supporting local writers!



Writer by Nature

Designed by Jon Traves

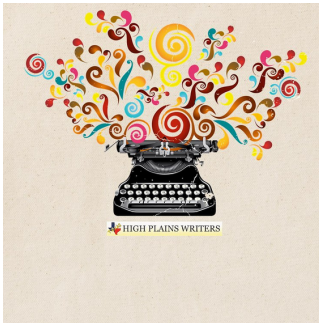
Shop



THPW Texas Word Cloud

Designed by Kristine Brorman

[Shop](#)



Blooming Typewriter

Designed by Kristine Brorman

[Shop](#)

Past Programs

If you couldn't make it to our last meeting, you missed out on the fun and laughter and weirdness of hanging out with other writers. But! You don't have to miss the program itself. Check out our recording of the latest business meeting and program!



Thank you to Mike Akins for your dedication to keeping us in recordings for the education of those who come after us.

Watch More

Hey. We miss you.

If you're signed up for our newsletter but haven't made it to a program in a while, we'd love to see you again. Got a particular reason why? Please let us know below. We'd love to hear from you so we can make our organization a welcoming place for all writers and related industries!

In the meantime, be sure to follow us on socials so we can still be together in spirit.



Feedback? Feedback.

Help us improve our organization by submitting your suggestions for programs, events, and improvements!

I Have a Suggestion





Donate Today!

learn more at texashighplainswriters.com/donate

Donations Appreciated

Our organization would be nowhere without generous folks like you who believe in the importance of supporting local writers. We are a charitable organization, so all proceeds pay for education and opportunities for our members. Thank you!

Donate



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[Unsubscribe](#)

