

CREATIVE WRITING WITH YOUR STUDENTS: APRIL 20, 2018

A COMPLIMENTARY WORKSHOP FOR ALABAMA 6-12 TEACHERS TO LEARN, SHARE AND INSPIRE WITH ACCOMPLISHED AUTHORS AT TROY UNIVERSITY MONTGOMERY CAMPUS

The **Alabama Writers' Forum (AWF)** recognizes and celebrates teachers, schools, and nurturing young talent in creative writing in high schools across Alabama. As part of this on-going initiative, AWF is pleased to invite you to spend a special day focusing on creative writing. Exceptional and accomplished authors **Jerriod Avant**, **Marlin Barton** and **P.F. Kluge** will be leading workshops during the morning and afternoon. Special guest and poet **James E. Cherry** will read from *Loose Change* and new work during lunch. **To register, send your name, school, and email address to: writersforum@bellsouth.net with "Teacher Workshop" in the subject line, or return the registration form. Participation is by pre-registration only. Deadline to register is Monday, April 16, 2018.**

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

REGISTRATION: 8:45 – 9:25 AM

WORKSHOP I: 9:30 – 11:10 AM:

"Writing Our Stories" with Alabama Hall of Fame Authors

The award-winning program for at-risk youth, *Writing Our Stories*, turned 20 this year! In celebration of that, teaching writers **Jerriod Avant** and **Marlin Barton** will debut new *Writing Our Stories* curriculum lessons based on the works of Alabama Writers Hall of Fame authors. These lessons were created with grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Alabama State Council on the Arts in conjunction with Alabama 200. Barton and Avant will take teachers through several lessons in poetry and prose, explaining the derivation of them, how the prompts were chosen, and how to engage students with these lessons. They will share student examples and participants will write. These lessons cross from writing to Alabama history so can be used in conjunction with Bicentennial projects.



Jerriod Avant



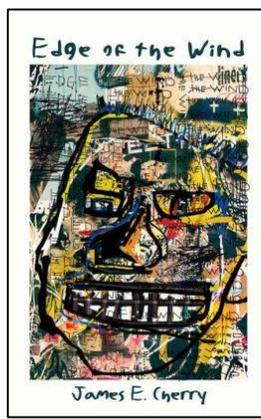
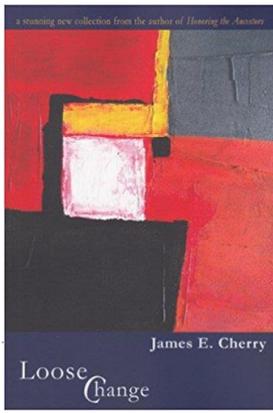
Marlin Barton



LUNCH PROVIDED: 11:20 - NOON

With special guest and poet James E. Cherry reading from "Loose Change" and new work

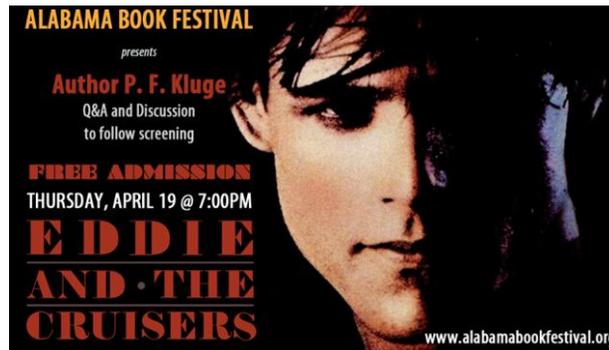
James E. Cherry is the author of a poetry chapbook, two full collections of poetry, a collection of short fiction and two novels. His novel, *Edge of the Wind* was a 2016 Foreword Review Book of the Year Finalist for Fiction. He has been nominated for an NAACP Image Award, a Lillian Smith Book Award and was a finalist for the Next Generation Indie Book award. Cherry has an MFA in creative writing UTEP and resides in Jackson, Tennessee with his wife, Tammy. Read more at www.jamesecherry.com



WORKSHOP II: 12:30 – 2:15 PM:

Accomplished writer P.F. Kluge shares tips and techniques for inspiring creativity

At once a former Peace Corps volunteer, journalist, editor, novelist, and teacher, P. F. Kluge has served on the faculty of his alma mater, Kenyon College, for more than thirty years as writer in residence. His influence has shaped some of the leading fiction writers of our day, including John Green of *The Fault in Our Stars* fame. One of Kluge's early contributions to *The Saturday Evening Post* was adapted into the classic movie *Dog Day Afternoon*. One of his novels, *Eddie and the Cruisers*---widely considered one of the greatest novels about rock 'n' roll---was made into the cult 1980s film. In the years since he has written several other novels, some about his Peace Corps years, some about his home state of New Jersey, and some about his alma mater. For this workshop, he'll be offering creative writing teachers tips and techniques for inspiring creativity and generating original ideas from students.



WRAP UP: 2:20 – 3:00 PM

Complete evaluations and receive certificate of participation for 8 contact hours

Authors' books will be available for purchase and signing courtesy of Alabama Book Festival.

FUNDING FOR THE ALABAMA BOOK FESTIVAL TEACHER WORKSHOP IS MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH GENEROUS SUPPORT FROM:



Continue celebrating creative writing at the 13th Annual Alabama Book Festival on Saturday April 21, 2018 at Old Alabama Town, Montgomery. Visit www.alabamabookfestival.org for more information.