Amanda Skenandore
Literary Arts: Fiction

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Amanda Skenandore is an award-winning author of historical fiction and a registered nurse. Her debut novel, Between Earth and Sky, was a Publishers Marketplace Buzz Books selection and winner of the American Library Association’s Reading List Award for Best Historical Fiction. Her third novel, The Second Life of Mirielle West, was named an Apple Best Books of the Month and a Hoopla Book Club Pick. An avid learner, Amanda has studied the craft of writing through numerous courses and workshops taught all over North America. She’s an active member of her local writers' group and the Southern Nevada writing community.

When teaching, Amanda focuses on the artist's journey—a varied path and rewarding in its own right. She seeks to empower and inspire writers, to help them grow their craft and expand their horizons. She has been a presenter for various community organizations, including the Las Vegas Book Festival, the Las Vegas Clark County Library District, the Las Vegas Writers Conference, and the Writer's Block Book Shop.

Amanda’s programming can be scaled to fit groups of any size, and tailored to provide lecture, Q&A, group discussion, oral and written exercises, reading, critique, and hands-on application.

**Community Programming**

**Less is More: Weaving Research into Your Writing:** Authentic details are key to creating a rich, believable story world. But research can be daunting and laborious. Discover tricks and strategies about where to look for material and how to incorporate it effectively into your writing.

**Editing for Creative Writers:** Whether you intend to self-publish or go the traditional route, self-editing is essential to creating a polished manuscript. From story arc to sentence structure, there’s a lot to consider. Learn where to start, what to tackle, and how to make the process quick and fun.

**Capturing the Muse – Creative Writing for Older Adults:** This multisession workshop immerses older adults in the art of creative writing through content-generating exercises, discussion, and critique. Participants will learn writing fundamentals while gaining the skills and confidence to share their work and offer feedback to others.

**Mastering Mood:** What is mood, and how does it affect your story? To answer that question, this class will examine the techniques masterful authors use to create atmospheric, engaging prose. It will explore how other story elements such as pacing, syntax, and dialogue, can enhance mood, and what the overall effect is on the reader.

**Plotting Your Book:** Want to write a book but don't know where to start? Creating an outline can help you navigate from beginning to end while ensuring you include all the important turning points of a satisfying story arc. Learn a variety of plotting techniques to set you on the path toward a complete and cohesive book.