2025 Warren Wilson/Goddard MFA Program for Writers Alumni Conference Macalester College, St. Paul, MN July 19-26, 2025

June 3, 2025

Hello, Wallies! Welcome to another Wally Camp.

With the registration period for the 2025 conference in St. Paul now closed, it's time to go over some of the details. We are 33 strong for the week, including six commuters and five short-stays.

- Where to find everything. I'm attaching a preliminary schedule and roster.
 Visit this <u>public folder</u> for everything you need to know: the latest schedule,
 class handouts, reading schedule, workshop groupings, volunteer
 assignments, and anything else that comes up. Links to these files will also
 be posted to the Wally website <u>schedule page</u>.
- Workshop groups. I will notify each group today so you can begin discussing deadlines and protocols. Be sure to distribute your workshop material promptly to ensure everyone has ample time to prepare.
- **Volunteers.** Thanks to everyone who volunteered to assist. I will reach out this week to confirm assignments.

Macalester College

Upon your arrival, check in at our dormitory, <u>Wallace Hall</u>. If you plan to arrive before noon or after 5 pm on July 19, please let me know.

A campus map can be found <u>here</u>. And here's a pretty <u>PDF</u>.

Please note that Grand Ave. is expected to be <u>closed for construction</u> during our stay. As the road separates our dorm from the main campus, we may have to cross at the Grand/Snelling intersection. Parking is available at the lot on the SW corner of campus, or on local streets where available.

Another note about the college, lads and lasses: the Minnesota Scottish Fair and Highland Games will take place at Macalester on the day of our long-stay arrival, July 19. There will be additional traffic in the area and activity taking place on campus (bagpipe competitions! men in kilts! haggis?). A majority of the activity is outdoors and will have wrapped up by the evening.

What to Bring

- If you're leading a class or facilitating a caucus that requires a handout, upload your files to our <u>public folder</u> no later than June 15.
- Bring copies of your books to sell! We'll have something set up in the dorm for merchandising.
- Bring items to donate for the silent auction for FOW and money to pay for the many things on which you will no doubt bid. Checks are probably preferred.
- It will be hot and humid, so bring your patience (and your deodorant!). Box fans will be provided for each room as available, along with bed linens and towels.
- Smoke from Canadian wildfires is likely to impact our air quality, so please plan accordingly.

Auction

As you probably know, at each conference, alumni organize a silent auction to raise money for scholarships for MFA Program students and alumni through <u>Friends of Writers</u>. This year, for example, several alumni received awards to defray the cost of attending the conference.

We hope you're able to donate something tantalizing for the auction. Past items include: retreat space in a spare room or guest house, coaching/editing services, signed copies of books (yours or others), homemade jewelry, etc.

Dance

The dance will take place in The Loch, located at the lower level of the <u>Campus Center</u>. This is also where we will have our dinners and readings. Michael Jarmer is putting together a playlist. Many of you have already indicated song preferences in your registration form, but please email Michael (<u>michael@michaeljarmer.com</u>) and let him know if you have any other dance tune preferences.

Miscellaneous

We will have access to the **<u>Dewitt Wallace Library</u>** (110 S. Macalester St.). Summer hours are:

M - TH: 9:00am - 4:30 pm, Fri: 9:00 am - Noon, Sat/Sun: Closed Library hours are subject to change. Up to date hours can be found here. Please note, the entire first floor of the library and part of the third floor will be under construction this summer.

We will also have access to the **Leonard Center Athletic Complex**. Summer hours are:

<u>Monday - Friday</u>

Building - 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Pool - 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Closed Saturday/Sunday

Facility hours are subject to change depending on staffing availability. Up-to-date hours can be found https://example.com/hours-are-lifeguard-dependent-and-could-change-at-any-time-with-little-notice.

Rideshare

If you need a ride to or from the MSP airport, or can offer a ride, post it in this rideshare spreadsheet.

Questions?

I'm sure I've forgotten something (or someone). If so, contact me at neallulofs@gmail.com.

See you in St. Paul!

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