

Write Around Portland
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writearound.org
Tax ID: 84-1482706



Writing Matters

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

2024
AGENCY
PROGRAM BY
THE
NUMBERS

556

Writers

30

Writing Groups

16

Writing Circles

2

Books
Published

Our **AGENCY PROGRAM** hosts multiweek writing groups in partnership with nonprofits, hospitals, assisted living, prisons, and other agencies. Programming takes place in two seasons (spring or fall) and culminates in the publication of an anthology.



"I'm a published author now"

Thanks to you, a nurse discovered healing in writing



Oregon Burn Center Nurse Matt Shamrell (pictured left) wrote with current and former patients at our Oregon Burn Center writing group last fall.

THANKS TO YOUR SUPPORT, Write Around Portland's program has become an integral part of the healing journey at Oregon Burn Center.

For years, facilitators have entered the Oregon Burn Center to provide supportive, facilitated writing groups with burn and wound survivors, as well as healthcare professionals at OBC who would like to join.

Last fall, nurse Matt Shamrell joined the group, eager to get to know patients outside of the hospital setting. And he found it inspiring to see people move on after their injuries.

For his part, Matt found himself writing about the emotions that accompanied his

recent divorce after 18 years.

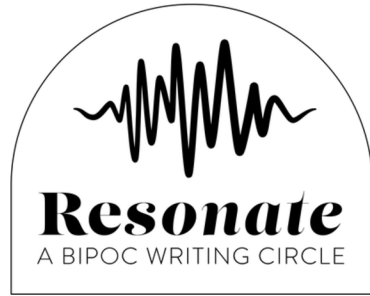
He said, "The was a great outlet for all the stress. For two hours, I got to just focus on writing."

Your support helped us publish two books in 2024, and Matt was published in our fall edition.

Matt told us, "It's an uplifting experience, being published. It changed my life - I'm a published author now. There are people who have my words in their homes."

Matt's published work was inspired by one of his children.

And, better yet, he was able to hand our anthology to his kids to read.



2024
RESONATE
BY THE
NUMBERS

353

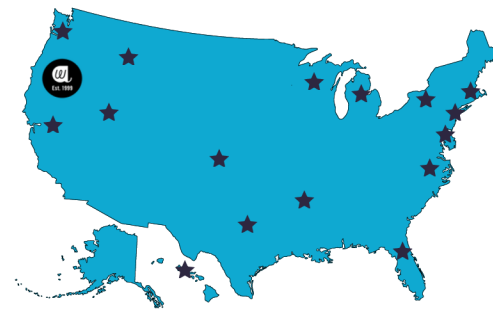
Writers

28

Writing Circles

RESONATE OFFERS Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) an affinity space to write together and support each other. Resonate writing circles do not result in publication or build on each other, and the program is open to writers at any level who identify as BIPOC. The program occurs virtually - drawing a national (and sometimes international!) audience - and locally in occasional in-person circles throughout the region.

LOGGING IN ACROSS THE COUNTRY



Resonate writers joined us from 15 states (and Canada!)

"Free and unencumbered"

Your support provided a space for discovery and community



TAMUPUWA (HE/THEY) was searching online for community when he found our Resonate program.

He said, "It was a blessing. I hadn't come across a consistent writers group for people of color." He signed up enthusiastically.

As a speculative fiction writer, Tamupuwa found his favorite part of the program was listening to other people's writing.

He's been influenced by others' styles and genres, and now has been exploring writing queer romance, magical realism, fantasy, and literary fiction.

He said, "Resonate is a really safe space.

"Every time I'm in Resonate, my writing is free and unencumbered. I can talk about things that wouldn't be safe to talk about elsewhere."

Tamupuwa reflected, "The space is needed, I believe. There are so many things happening in the world that are terrible, so having the space where you're with likeminded people - people who also love their craft - that space is important, especially during such tumultuous times."



Thank You, Volunteers!

106

Volunteers

1,771

Volunteer Hours

Special thanks to the volunteer facilitators who made our programs possible in 2024:

- Kelsey Allen
- Asha Appel
- Michael Battle
- Brandy Bell
- Lara Bjork
- Mei Bose
- Abby Braithwaite
- Stacy Brewster
- Dominique Brillanceau
- Jenny Chu
- Hannah Dierdorff
- Linda Drach
- Becky Ellis
- Pamela Fiehn
- Maya Friedman
- Hadara Goldsmith
- Vix Gutierrez

- Ed Kline
- Ruth Leibowitz
- Astra Lincoln
- Ari Lombardi
- Luke Mattheis
- Arabelle May
- Daniel McArthur
- Tyler McCray
- Sandy Naing
- Omar Ordoñez
- Briseida Pagador
- Jewels Pedersen
- Juliana Posada
- Luna Prado
- Chelsea Querner
- Kirk Read
- Kristin Romaine

- Gina Rose
- Sarah Rushford
- Susan Russell
- Jane Salisbury
- Sage Stanton
- Shari Staten
- Katie Steele
- Armin Tolentino
- Holly Trusiak
- Bess Turner
- Amelie Welden
- Patty Wentz
- Quinn Wilson
- Jessica Yen
- Carly Rae Zent
- Audrey Zunkel DeCoursey

Writing isn't food, but it sustains

A letter from the Executive Director

DEAR FRIENDS,

It's not really a new question. In the midst of chaos and crisis, when so many of our neighbors can't access basic needs, can creative writing do...anything?

But it sure rings different in 2025.

One thing I have learned in this job is to lean on others in moments of doubt.

So that's why I'm always so thankful for your contributions, whether in money or time. Your energy kept us going during a challenging year for so many.

Our writers continue to show up

amidst circumstances more trying than most of us could imagine. Writing isn't food, but it sustains. That also rings different now.

My deepest gratitude for you. By giving and caring, you are a warrior of respect and community.

Thank you.



With you in the fight,

Chris McDonald
Executive Director

2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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- Hana Layson**
Portland Art Museum
- Johanna Magaña**
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2025 STAFF

- Lilly Do**
Program Manager
- Elisabeth Geier**
Volunteer Coordinator
- Chris McDonald**
Executive Director
- Dani Slyman**
Administrative Specialist



2024 Financial Report

	2024	2023
YOUR SUPPORT OF WRITE AROUND PORTLAND		
Contributions from Individuals	\$208,561.09	\$194,230.06
Grants	\$144,843.00	\$172,149.76
Agency Partner Fees	\$16,256.46	\$18,502.32
Contributions from Businesses	\$13,848.47	\$17,871.69
Tickets and Other Sales	\$12,927.34	\$22,582.29
Interest	\$688.56	\$474.62
Total Revenue	\$397,079.92	\$427,239.91
OUR SUPPORT OF THE COMMUNITY		
Agency Program	\$168,737.91	\$211,393.66
Resonate Program	\$25,253.31	\$31,011.04
Ticketed Programs	\$24,434.33	\$30,624.71
Development	\$154,892.12	\$132,577.92
Administration	\$57,702.24	\$73,472.76
Total Expense	\$431,019.91	\$479,080.08
Change in Net Assets	-\$33,939.99	-\$51,840.17

Please refer to our financial statement for presentation in compliance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). This financial report has not yet undergone an outside financial review.

Write Around Portland is recognized as a charitable organization under Internal Revenue Code, Section 501(c)(3). All donations are tax deductible as allowable by law. Federal tax ID 84-1482706