

## Mission/Description

- Memoir: A nonfiction work that a person writes about their own experiences.

*In this class, we will*

- Provide a safe and comfortable environment conducive to sharing life experiences where each of us has an opportunity to learn something about different ways to tell our story.
- Discover one's personal writing style, voice, and effectiveness. We represent a mix of writing skills, techniques, and approaches.
- Support one another.

## Protocols/Guidelines/Requirements

- Please create a memoir in MS Word and email the document to me no later than **4:00 PM Monday** afternoon.
- Please bring one copy of your memoir to class for your use when sharing with the group.
- Memoir submissions shall be targeted at 800-words, which usually takes about five-minutes to read. Longer pieces must be divided into two or more parts to be read in successive weeks.
- Topics for memoirs are essentially unlimited. You are asked to please be mindful of language and potentially sensitive issues.

## Protocols/Guidelines/Requirements

- Feedback to each author shall be gentle and positive. Consider what you like about the author's work and how effectively they communicated feelings, thoughts, and ideas.
- Memoirs shall be treated as *private and personal* within our classroom. Please do not share without permission of the author.
- Understand your audience and why you are writing.
- Please focus comments on the writing. Discussion of individual personal experiences, while humorous, fall short of offering insight into something we can all learn from.

## Class Format

- Class starts promptly at 11:00 AM on Tuesdays
- Please arrive on time
- Class ends at 12:30 PM
- Atmosphere of mutual respect
- What's shared here, stays here