



***April 27, 2020***

Due to safety concerns surrounding the current pandemic, VCFA has decided that the 2020 Novel Retreat will be held remotely via Zoom. While this certainly presents challenges, we are confident we can host an event that will provide intense learning and inspiration. In addition to abundant writing time, see below for a preview of what to expect:

- Recorded talks by faculty about books they love. These replace the morning breakfast talks because due to time zone challenges, we can't gather as a single group in the mornings.
- A morning Zoom Room in which at least one faculty member and a graduate assistant will be present so you can pop in to chat about anything, including--most importantly--your writing.
- Two staggered lunch sessions—one for Eastern and Central time zones and one for Mountain and Pacific time zones—in which, with faculty, we will discuss various aspects of writing—craft, publishing, motivation, discipline, and more.
- Writing prompt sessions, panel discussions, faculty readings, participant readings, sessions by our literary agent-in-residence Jeff Kleinman, and more.
- Late afternoon small group meetings led by faculty members in which you can share your writing, troubleshoot problematic passages, gain advice from peers and faculty, and more.
- Our final day is normally a departure day with no events. But because this is a remote retreat, we will use it as a half-day writing day with readings and a panel discussion in the early afternoon.
- Evening "nightcap" discussions.
- All Manuscript Mentorships remain in place with one-on-one meetings with your mentors.
- IT support from the college.

Our retreat tuition has been reduced to \$700. Our Manuscript Mentorship fees remain the same. For the first time, participants who wish to not take part in the retreat can still take advantage of our Manuscript Mentorship program. For more information, contact Retreat Director Connie May Fowler at [novel.retreat@vcfa.edu](mailto:novel.retreat@vcfa.edu). Registration closes May 8.