

From blank page to bestseller,
your indie author journey starts here.

Indie Author Retreat

October 18 and 19, 2024

The Beverly Hilton, Los Angeles



The Indie Author Retreat Agenda

Each session is carefully curated to address specific needs and interests. Whether you're honing your writing skills, crafting your publishing strategy, or mastering the art of marketing your book, there's something for everyone.

Be sure to review the event schedule and plan your itinerary to maximize your learning and networking opportunities at the Indie Author Retreat.

FRIDAY SCHEDULE*

	MAIN ROOM	CLASSROOM A	CLASSROOM B
8:00 AM - 9:30 AM	Coffee and Registration		
9:30 AM - 10:15 AM	Welcome by Amy Collins and Keynote by Amber Vilhauer		
10:30 AM - 11:20 AM	<p>AMY COLLINS, PETER RUBIE, and PAULA MUNIER</p> <p>How Do Publishers Work?</p> <p>Panel discussion on the inner workings of a publishing house and how they make the decisions they do</p>	<p>PETER RUBIE, MIFFIE SEIDEMAN, and CONNOR SMITH</p> <p>How to Write Compelling and Highly Readable Non-fiction</p>	<p>DAVID HANCOCK</p> <p>Stop Wasting Time and Money and Start Selling Your Work and Building Lasting Relationships</p>
11:30 AM - 12:20 PM	<p>GREGG GONZALES</p> <p>From First Idea to Draft</p> <p>A step-by-step process to bring your story to life, transforming weeks, months, or even years of work into achievable minutes and days within a nurturing creative space</p>	<p>GEORGIA HUGHES and PAUL LEVINE</p> <p>Polishing Your Work</p> <p>Editors. How many different kinds are there? Do you need them? What do they do? What is a Beta reader? How do you find them?</p>	<p>GEORGIA HUGHES, AMY COLLINS, and DEVRIE DONALSON</p> <p>Platform, Following, and Fans</p> <p>Panel discussion on social media and its impact on your career</p> <p>Is fame the only path to success for authors? How can writers build the platform agents demand, and does it truly matter?</p>
12:30 PM - 2:00 PM	Lunch on Your Own		
2:00 PM - 2:40 PM	<p>AMY COLLINS, PAULA MUNIER, and MATT MISETICH</p> <p>How to Pitch Your Book</p> <p>Panel discussion on the best practices for pitching a memoir, novel or non-fiction book at a conference, on the phone, or in a pitch session</p>	<p>PETER RUBIE</p> <p>Voice</p> <p>If you want to get published there's a secret you need to know. It's a secret few writing teachers speak about, and fewer still teach. What is this secret? Voice.</p>	<p>MIFFIE SEIDEMAN</p> <p>The Grim Reader</p> <p>Realistic murders, deaths, ODs, drug scenes and the right and wrong way to kill your characters</p>
2:50 PM - 3:50 PM	<p>AMBER VILHAUER</p> <p>Bestseller Book Launch Workshop</p> <p>Amber Vilhauer shares the systems and strategies she's used to create over 1,000 bestselling authors. She'll walk through her nine-month book launch process, including how to create a platform, grow it, utilize strategic partnerships, and pull everything together in the two months leading up to launch.</p> <p>Get ready to go beyond strategy and dive deep into the actual systems, methods, and tactics of a successful book launch.</p>		
4:00 PM - 5:20 PM	<p>GEORGIA HUGHES, AMY COLLINS, PETER RUBIE, CONNOR SMITH, MATTHEW MISETICH, STEVE HUTSON, PAULA MUNIER, and PAUL LEVINE</p> <p>Pitch Sessions with Agents and Editors</p>		
5:30 PM - 7:00 PM	Reception with Keynote by Nancy Levin		

- LEGEND:**
- Keynote Presentations
 - Writing Craft Sessions
 - Panel Discussions
 - Pitching Sessions



SATURDAY SCHEDULE*

	MAIN ROOM	CLASSROOM A	CLASSROOM B
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM	Breakfast Served		
9:30 AM - 10:15 AM	Welcome by Amy Collins and Keynote by Devrie Brynn Donalson		
10:30 AM - 11:20 AM	<p>CONNOR SMITH and PAUL LEVINE</p> <p>First Page Critique Panel</p> <p>Watch in real time as agents explain what works and what does not in first pages submitted by authors at the conference.</p>	<p>DAVID HANCOCK and ROBIN CUTLER</p> <p>Self-Publishing, Hybrid Publishing, and Traditional Publishing</p> <p>What does it take to go out on your own? What are the options out there? What is the right path for you?</p>	<p>GREGG GONZALES</p> <p>From First Idea to Draft</p> <p>A step-by-step process to bring your story to life, transforming weeks, months, or even years of work into achievable minutes and days within a nurturing creative space</p>
11:30 AM - 12:20 PM	<p>DAVID HANCOCK</p> <p>Stop Wasting Time and Money and Start Selling Your Work and Building Lasting Relationships</p>	<p>ROBIN CUTLER</p> <p>Practice Your Pitches</p> <p>Open mic panel where you pitch and get feedback so that you can polish your pitch</p>	<p>PAULA MUNIER</p> <p>Follow the Rules</p> <p>What rules novelists need to know about commercially successful fiction</p>
12:30 PM - 1:45 PM	Keynote by Paula Munier - Lunch Served		
1:50 PM - 2:50 PM	<p>NANCY LEVINE</p> <p>The Art of Reinvention</p> <p>For authors, reinvention is returning to the essence of who you truly are as a creative person. Learn how to consciously curate what you choose to bring into your life and your work—as well as what you choose to release. Experience what's possible for your dreams and career as an author when you give yourself permission to prioritize your own needs and stand center stage in your own life.</p>		
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM	<p>GEORGIA HUGHES, AMY COLLINS, PETER RUBIE, CONNOR SMITH, MATTHEW MISETICH, STEVE HUTSON, PAULA MUNIER, and PAUL LEVINE</p> <p>Pitch Sessions with Agents and Editors</p>		
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Closing Reception hosted by David Hancock		

*DISCLAIMER: Schedule may be subject to change.

ABOUT THE EVENT

From draft to bestseller, the path is clearer with Indie Author Retreat—a transformative experience that provides the road map you need to navigate the exciting yet complex world of publishing and marketing.

Our exclusive weekend of workshops and master classes features a lineup of industry experts who will guide you through the entire journey.

From honing the craft of writing to mastering the intricacies of publishing, marketing, and pitching your book, you'll gain the actionable strategies needed to turn your writing into a bestseller.

The Indie Author Retreat goes beyond education. It fosters a supportive and collaborative environment where you can pitch your book to agents and editors, connect with fellow authors, share experiences, and build lasting relationships that will propel you forward on your journey.

Join us and turn your blank page into a bestseller!

