Fall 2021

The Columbia Public Writing Series



Distinguished writers discuss the craft and strategy of writing to change minds and the world. In each session, renowned writers join academic leaders from across the university in spirited conversation to examine the art of writing for public audiences. From sentence-level analyses of craft, to wider discussions of how a specific piece of writing addresses critical issues of the day, such as incarceration, climate change, and refugee crises, the sessions share tactics and tools to produce compelling and persuasive storytelling. As a result, participants learn to think like professional writers and to build specific skills necessary for their work to reach national and international audiences.

All members of the Columbia community are welcome; Columbia email required for registration. To benefit most from each event, read the featured article in advance, linked on the website, or available upon request.

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Thursday, October 21 A Series of Introductions: Selected Excerpts from Public Writers

Featuring **Eric Hayot**, Penn State University

Thursday, October 28 The Exoneration of Yutico Briley

Featuring **Emily Bazelon**, The New York Times Magazine

Thursday, November 11 Critical Race Theory and Writing for the General Reader

Featuring **Jelani Cobb**, Columbia Journalism School

Wednesday, December 8 Writing Friendly Criticism in a Partisan Age

Featuring **Paul Sabin**, Yale University

Monday, December 13

It Matters Now: Emergencies and Public Writing

Featuring **Viet Thanh Nguyen**, University of Southern California

RSVP & Learn More About the Series

For questions, please contact sps-events@columbia.edu.