

# The 16th Lewes Creative Writers' Conference

## Presenter Bios

### Jamie Brunson



Jamie Brunson, named a New Voice in American Theatre, Edward Albee Theatre Conference (Alaska,) is a recipient of the 2022 Delaware Division of the Arts Established Fellow in Literature: Playwriting. In her work as a writer, performer, and producer, Brunson sees herself as “A true child of America’s Civil Rights’ struggle, then and now.” She has produced over 200 live, virtual, and cinematic storytelling events. Her most recent project was serving as executive producer for *Trigger* (2021) a gun violence intervention film, in partnership with the City of Philadelphia Department of Behavioral Health and We Breathe. We Live. Brotherly Love Protest Stories, which aired on WHYY-TV (2021). Brunson is also a featured podcast host, private story coach, speaker and workshop leader. For more information, go to [Jamie J Brunson](#).

### Anne Colwell

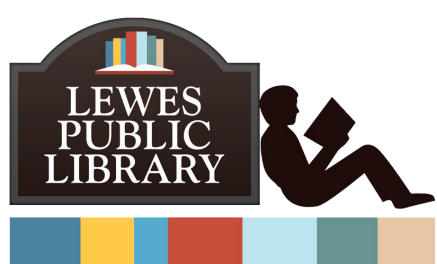


writes poetry, fiction, and nonfiction. She is a professor of literature and creative writing at the University of Delaware and has published two books of poems, *Believing Their Shadows*, (Word Poetry 2010) and *Mother’s Maiden Name* (Word Poetry 2013). She received both Emerging and Established Artist Awards in fiction, poetry and nonfiction from the Delaware Division of the Arts. Her poems, short stories, and essays have appeared in several journals, including: *Bellevue Literary Review*, *California Quarterly*, *Southern Poetry Review*, *Brooklyn Review*, and *The Madison Review*. She has been a member of the staff at Bread Loaf Writer’s Workshop and a visiting professor at the University of Granada in Spain.

### Caleb Curtis



Caleb Curtis is a poet from the Midwest. His poems, essays, fiction, and visual erasures have appeared in *New England Review*, *Beloit Poetry Journal*, *Image*, *American Short Fiction*, *the Southern Review*, a chapbook published by Black Lawrence Press, and elsewhere. In September of this year, Sundress Publications will print his debut collection, *Age of Forgiveness*. Curtis is a 2022 Delaware Division of the Arts Established Arts Fellow; he lives in New Castle County and teaches writing at the University of Delaware.





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### Maribeth Fischer

Maribeth Fischer is the author of three novels, *The Language of Goodbye* (Dutton 2001), *The Life You Longed For* (Simon & Schuster, 2007), and *A Season of Perfect Happiness* (Dutton, forthcoming August 2024). Maribeth has received three Delaware Division of the Arts Fellowships for fiction and nonfiction, has published essays in such journals as *The Iowa Review*, *The Yale Review*, *Creative Nonfiction* and *Fourth Genre*, and has received two Pushcart Prizes for her essays. Maribeth founded the Rehoboth Beach Writers' Guild (RBWG) in 2005, where she currently serves as Executive Director.



### Allyson Rice

Allyson Rice is the author of the award-winning novel, *The Key to Circus Mom Highway*. "Fans of family drama, road trips, and non-stop laughs will love this cross-country adventure."—*BookLife/Publisher's Weekly*. She is an award-winning mixed-media artist; a producer with Atomic Focus Entertainment currently working on a documentary feature about book bans; and, she spent decades as an actress on stage and on television, her longest role being seven years as Connor Walsh on *As the World Turns*. The comedic rap music video she wrote/directed/produced/performed in, "Fine, I'll Write My Own Damn Song" won numerous awards in the film festival circuit. [www.AllysonRice.com](http://www.AllysonRice.com)

### Billie Travalini

Billie Travalini's work has been published in *The Moth*, *Another Chicago Magazine*, *Lakeview International Journal of Literature and Art*, as well as numerous anthologies, including, *The Road not Taken: a Global Short Story Journey* (2023). Her recent flash fiction stories, *Never Again* and *Peachy*, were short-listed for the Ventral Review Award for Short Fiction and the International Bath Flash Fiction Awards, respectively. Her memoir, *Blood Sisters*, was a finalist for the Breadloaf Prize and won the Lewes Clark Discovery Prize. Her edited work includes: *On the Mason-Dixon Line: An Anthology of Contemporary Delaware Writers*, *Teaching Troubled Youth: A Practical Pedagogical Approach*, and *No Place Like Here: An Anthology of Southern Delaware Poetry and Prose*. She received the Governor's Award for the Arts, the Delaware Division of the Arts Masters Award in Literature, and the National Federation of Press Women Communicator of Achievement Award. She teaches creative writing at Wilmington University, advocates for at-risk kids and the mentally ill, and co-founded and coordinates the Lewes Creative Writers Conference, now in its 16th year. [www.btravalini.com](http://www.btravalini.com)

