

CALLALOO CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP (CCWW)

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How many participants per leader are accepted to the workshop?

A: Fiction and Creative Nonfiction workshops typically consist of 5-7 participants. Poetry workshops typically consist of 8-10.

Q: How many hours per day can I expect to be in class?

A: Workshop classes are scheduled Monday-Friday for three hours per day. Participants may also request a one-to-one meeting with his or her workshop leader(s) during the week(s) of the CCWW. Attendance at all CCWW scheduled activities is mandatory for all workshop participants.

Q: What kind of benefits do I get for participating?

A: Accepted participants can expect an intensive one- or two-week period of reading, writing, discussion, and critique with a diverse group of emerging and developing writers, consisting mostly of poets and fiction writers in the African Diaspora. Several workshop participants are already published writers, and, certainly, some former participants have gone on to publish widely—Jericho Brown, Tiphonie Yanique, Jamaal May, and Tommy Mouton, just to name a few.

Q: Will my work be considered for publication after the workshop?

A: *Callaloo* often publishes special sections of the journal documenting past CCWWs which include photo spreads, reflections by the workshop leaders, and selected workshop manuscripts and poems written by workshop participants. Selections of pieces for publication in *Callaloo* are made at the editor's discretion.

Q: What cost is covered by *Callaloo*?

A: *Callaloo* is a nonprofit organization and therefore cannot cover participants' expenses. The registration fees for accepted participants are: \$200 for the one-week workshops in the Caribbean and UK and \$400 for the two-week workshop in the USA. All other expenses, including accommodations, travel, meals, and incidentals, are not included in the workshop.

Q: What kinds of accommodations are available for participants?

A: Applicants should plan to secure accommodations on their own. However, CALLALOO will make every effort to arrange for the options of on-campus housing at a reduced rate for workshop participants in each location. In the event that this is an option for this year's participants, we will include information about lodging options in the information packet sent to all registered workshop participants.

Q: Are fellowships or scholarships available for the workshop?

A: *Callaloo* cannot provide funding for workshop attendees, unfortunately. However, some former participants who were enrolled in colleges and universities have successfully requested funding from their academic departments and sponsoring institutions.

Q: Should I submit already finished or completed work? Or should my submissions be work that I want help finishing?

A: Given the highly competitive nature of workshop admission, we encourage applicants to submit their very best work for consideration when applying. Accepted applicants may opt, then, to submit less polished pieces for feedback and critique in their workshop classes. Accepted applicants may also be expected to develop new pieces during the CCWW.

Q: How far in advance will accepted applicants be notified?

A: Applicants will be notified of their acceptance within two months after application deadlines. At that time, a deadline will be set for accepted applicants to pay the required, nonrefundable CCWW registration fee. Workshop applicants on our wait list will be extended invitations (at the editor's discretion) in the event that an accepted applicant either declines his or her invitation or does not pay the required fee by the registration deadline.

Q: Can I apply in both the poetry and fiction workshop sections?

A: We ask that applicants for the CCWW apply in one genre only. Due to the large number of applications we receive for each CCWW, we must take measures to limit the number of manuscripts our evaluators must review. Please note that the manuscripts of writers applying in both poetry and fiction for any given workshop will be discarded.

Q: Can I apply to more than one workshop location?

A: Applicants may apply to more than one CCWW, but should restrict their applications to just one genre per location. Please note that the manuscripts of writers applying in both poetry and fiction for any given workshop will be discarded.

Q: How are applicants chosen?

A: Applications undergo a rigorous evaluation process by selected readers and by *Callaloo's* editor. Invitations are offered to applicants at the editor's discretion.

Q: **Will the manuscript I submit with my application be the manuscript developed in the workshop?**

A: Not necessarily—given the highly competitive nature of workshop admission, we encourage applicants to submit their very best work for consideration when applying. Accepted applicants may opt, then, to submit less polished pieces for feedback and critique in their workshop classes. Accepted applicants may also be expected to develop new pieces during the CCWW.

Q: **Do the leaders work with my specific submission?**

A: Accepted participants can expect individualized feedback from workshop leaders on their piece(s) submitted for consideration during the workshop. Workshop leaders may (at their discretion) also refer to pieces submitted with participants' applications when providing feedback on an individual's work.