

# KCWC 2018

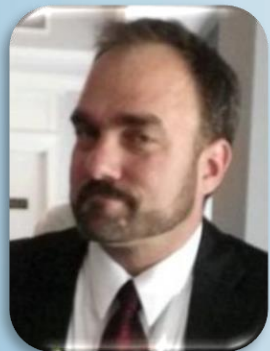
## Meet the Faculty



### Lauren Brandenburg

Lauren H. Brandenburg is a speaker and advocate for home education, as well as author of the middle-grade series The Books of the Gardener and creative writing curriculum, The Engaged Writer. Her novels are recognized as a "Top Safe Read" and "Top Read Aloud" for young readers in the homeschool community. As a former English teacher and now homeschooling mom, Lauren combines her love of "the what if" with her spirit of adventure and faith to delight and encourage readers young and old. She currently teaches creative writing in her homeschool community and to young writers nationwide.

Although Lauren and her husband, Jamie, live in Nashville, Tennessee with their children Kensington and Jackson, she will always consider Kentucky her home. Visit Lauren at [www.laurenbrandenburg.com](http://www.laurenbrandenburg.com)



### Gregg Bridgeman

Gregg began operating Olivia Kimbrell Press in 2011 acting as Editor-in-Chief. Then as now, he operates the press as a ministry. The primary objective remains that of lifting up and helping ministry-minded Biblical authors fulfill the Great Commission -- to bring the Gospel message to the entire world --for every tribe and every nation. Gregg currently serves in the National Guard, is a decorated combat veteran, and is best known for his technical savvy and attention to the smallest detail. Visit Gregg at <http://www.oliviakimbrellpress.com>.



### Hallee Bridgeman

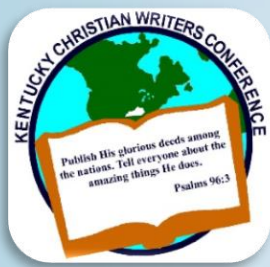
With over half a million sales, Hallee Bridgeman is a best-selling Christian author who writes action-packed romantic suspense focusing on realistic characters who face real world problems. Her work has been described as everything from refreshing to heart-stopping exciting and edgy. Hallee loves coffee, campy action movies, and regular date nights with her husband. Above all else, she loves God with all of her heart, soul, mind, and strength; has been redeemed by the blood of Christ; and relies on the presence of the Holy Spirit to guide her. Visit Hallee at <http://www.halleebridgeman.com/>



### Michele Chynoweth

Michele Chynoweth is the award winning author of The Faithful One, The Peace Maker and The Runaway Prophet, contemporary novels based on Old Testament stories filled with the same suspense, intrigue and romance found in the Bible yet written so that today's readers can easily see themselves in the characters and understand what God is saying. Michele is also an inspirational speaker, book coach and writing instructor for the Continuing Education program at Cecil College in her hometown of North East, MD. A graduate of the University of Notre Dame, she and her husband have a blended family of five children. Visit Michele at [www.michelechynoweth.com](http://www.michelechynoweth.com).





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### Tracy Crump

Tracy Crump has published numerous articles and devotionals in national magazines such as Focus on the Family, ParentLife, Mature Living, Upper Room, and Quiet Hour. Eighteen of her stories have appeared in Chicken Soup for the Soul books, and she was a columnist for Southern Writers Magazine for four years. Tracy serves as registrar for the Mid-South Christian Writers Conference and enjoys teaching other writers through conferences and her Write Life Workshops and webinars. She edits The Write Life newsletter, and her latest endeavor is recording courses for Serious Writer Academy. But her most important job is Grandma to two perfect grandchildren. Visit Tracy at [www.TracyCrump.com](http://www.TracyCrump.com) or [www.WriteLifeWorkshops.com](http://www.WriteLifeWorkshops.com).



### Cheri Cowell

Cheri Cowell, Owner and Publisher of EABooks Publishing, brings a unique blend of publisher and author experience to her company which benefits new, aspiring, and accomplished authors. As an author and speaker herself, with four traditionally published books including 365 Devotions for Peace by Zondervan, and Parables and Word Pictures, a Bible study by AMG, she understands the traditional publishing world. She also has several books published by EABooks Publishing, including One Story, One Mission, One God Bible study, and Living the Story: Reaching Outside the Church Walls, so she is well versed in both sides of the partnership publishing world. Cheri is also a frequent contributor to several writers' magazines and blogs. For more information: [www.EABooksPublishing.com](http://www.EABooksPublishing.com) and [www.CheriCowell.com](http://www.CheriCowell.com)



### Jeff Gerke

Jeff is an award-winning book editor, multi-published novelist, professional artist, Writers Digest author, graphic designer, book typesetter, and internationally acclaimed fiction teacher.

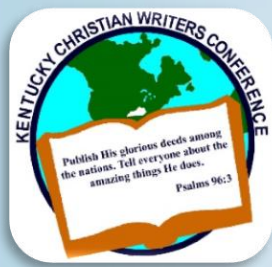
Visit Jeff at [www.jeffgerke.com](http://www.jeffgerke.com).



### Jean Matthew Hall

Jean Hall lives in Louisville, Kentucky. Her stories and poems appear in a variety of inspirational magazines and anthologies. Jean is a member of the SCBWI, Word Weavers International, and the Louisville Christian Writers. Jean's recently signed with Little Lamb Books for a four book series of picture books about the four seasons of the year. The first book is tentatively scheduled to be released in 2018. Jean is represented by Cyle Young of Hartline Literary Agency. Visit Jean at [www.jeanmatthewhall.com](http://www.jeanmatthewhall.com) and <https://www.facebook.com/JeanMatthewHallAuthor/>





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### Carlton Hughes

Carlton's work has been featured in Let All Nature Sing, a 365-day devotional from Worthy Publishing; Chicken Soup for the Soul: The Dating Game; Simple Little Words; the Instructor's manual and test bank for Inter-Act, an interpersonal communication textbook; and a Christmas play collection from Carpenter's Son publishing. He will also be featured in Worthy's upcoming devotional about dogs. Carlton is a regular contributor to two blogs, [almostanauthor.com](http://almostanauthor.com) and [writingpromptsthoughtsideas.wordpress.com](http://writingpromptsthoughtsideas.wordpress.com). He has won awards for playwriting from Blue Ridge Mountains Christian Writers Conference and for his work in children's ministry from the Church of God denomination.



### Harriet Michael

Born in Nigeria, West Africa, as the daughter of missionaries, Harriet E. Michael is a writer, wife of over 38 years, mother of four, and grandmother of two.

She holds a BS in nursing from West Virginia University but has discovered her passion for writing. Since her first published article in 2010, she has now had hundreds of articles and devotions published.

Harriet is a member of American Christian Fiction Writers and Louisville Christian Writers. She is the author of four books, Glimpses of the Savior published by TMP Publishing, Prayer: It's Not About You, a finalist in the 2011 Women of Faith book contest, published by PixNPens Publishing Company, The Whisper of the Palms published by Olivia Kimbrell Press, and Glimpses of Prayer, also published by PixNPens

Visit her at <http://harrietemichael.blogspot.com/p/about-author.html>



### Edie Melson

Find your voice, live your story...is the foundation of Edie Melson's message, no matter if she's addressing parents, military families or writers. As an author, blogger, and speaker she's encouraged and challenged audiences across the country and around the world. Connect with her on her blog and through Twitter and Facebook.

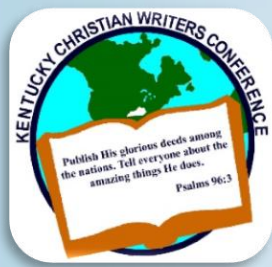
Visit Edie at [www.ediemelson.com](http://www.ediemelson.com).



### Bethany Morehead

Bethany Morehead is a young, enthusiastic, award-winning writer and Jr. Agent of Cyle Young at Hartline Literary Agency. She fell in love with writing at a young age, even plotting out stories on napkins. She enjoys both writing and reading fiction books. Bethany also has a heart for children's literature. She manages her own blog on [www.bethanymorehead.com](http://www.bethanymorehead.com).





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### Virginia Smith

Virginia Smith is the bestselling author of thirty-one novels (and counting!), an illustrated children's book, and more than fifty articles and short stories. An avid reader with eclectic tastes in fiction, Ginny writes in a variety of styles, from lighthearted relationship stories to breath-snatching suspense. Her books have been named finalists in many international awards. Two of her novels have received a Holt Medallion Award of Merit. The first book in her latest series, *The Most Famous Illegal Goose Creek Parade*, was *Library Journal's* top pick of the month, and a finalist for the prestigious Bookseller's Best Award. Visit her at [www.virginiasmith.org](http://www.virginiasmith.org).



### Carol Topp

Offering cents and sensibility to families, micro business owners, nonprofit organizations and now writers!

Carol Topp is a CPA (Certified Public Accountant) specializing in tax preparation, small/micro business accounting, and nonprofit accounting. She works from her home office in Cincinnati Ohio. She also enjoys public speaking, writing magazine articles and helping nonprofit organizations.

Visit Carol at <http://caroltoppcpa.com>



### Steve Vest

Stephen M. Vest, is the editor and publisher of *Kentucky Monthly* magazine. A native of Louisville, he lives in Frankfort with his wife and four children. Prior to founding *Kentucky Monthly* in 1998, he worked for more than a dozen years as a columnist and sportswriter for papers in Kentucky, Indiana and the Carolinas. *THAT Kind of Journalist*, a collection of his columns from *Kentucky Monthly*, was published in 2008. He is a recent Masters of Fine Arts in Creative Nonfiction graduate of Murray State University. His work has been published in *ShimmyHootsReview*, *The Single Hound* and *Trajectory*. To find out more about Steve email [steve@kentuckymonthly.com](mailto:steve@kentuckymonthly.com).



### Craig Von Buseck

Dr. Craig von Buseck is a published author and the Digital Editor for *Inspiration.org*, the official website of *Inspiration Ministries*. He is a contributing writer for *CBN.com*, *ChristianPost.com*, *MTL Magazine*, and *Generals.org*. He is also a regular guest on Susie Larson's "Live the Promise" program on Faith Radio Network. He holds a Doctor of Ministry and an MA in Religious Journalism from Regent University, and a BA in Speech Communication from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania. Visit Craig at <https://www.vonbuseck.com>





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### Lydia Walker

Lydia Walker is a singer/songwriter and worship leader from Cunningham, TN. She writes songs about her life and faith, and uses her music to point people to Jesus. Lydia leads worship for local churches and events around the country. Her latest release is an album of original Lullabies.

Visit Lydia at <https://www.rusticsongbird.com/>.



### Francheska White

Francheska had the honor of presenting an insightful public speaking workshop at a past KCW conference. As one of the speakers for KCWC 2018, she has refreshed her content by incorporating new ways for writers to reach larger audiences. Throughout her career, she has spoken publicly to large and small groups on various topics to motivate and enhance personal growth. In addition, she organized and presented a workshop on self-publishing for other organizations. Francheska has written, and presents, a seminar inspiring attendees to see their purpose and fulfill it. The seminar also includes coaching to aid in further development of goals and plans. Francheska is the owner of Secretariat Associates, LLC. It is an administrative business and personal support service offering assistance and direction to those seeking to move forward in their respective endeavors.

Contact Francheska at [services@secretariatassociates.com](mailto:services@secretariatassociates.com)



### Sharon Wilharm

Sharon Wilharm is a Nashville-based, female filmmaker currently in post-production on her latest feature film, Summer of '67, a Vietnam War love story. As a writer/director, she specializes in telling a story visually. Her previous movies have screened in theaters across the country including Times Square and Los Angeles and are available for sale across the world. She and her husband Fred have received dozens of film accolades including many Best of Show awards.

Sharon is a popular blogger and speaker, providing a behind the scenes look at the faith-film industry with her Faith Flix blog and teaching at film festivals, writer's conferences, and church events.

Visit Sharon at <https://sharonwilharm.com>  
Or <https://faithflixfilms.com/>

