

THRILLERFEST XX - 2025

CRAFTFEST 2025

Wednesday, June 18, 2025

*CraftFest Registration, 7:00 am - 4:00pm, 2nd Floor Promenade
The Mysterious Bookshop, 12:00 pm - 6:00 pm, Nassau East + West, 2nd Floor*

MORNING COFFEE: 8:00 am - 10:00 am | Hosted by ITW | Murray Hill East + West, 2nd Floor

7:30 am - 7:50 am

WELCOME MEETING | Hosted by ITW, with Jon Land, Tosca Lee, & Hank Phillippi Ryan | Sutton North & Sutton Center, 2nd Floor

CRAFTFEST CLASSES

	Beekman (2nd Floor)	Sutton South (2nd Floor)	Regent (2nd Floor)	Sutton North & Center (2nd Floor)
8:00 am - 8:50 am	Matty Dalrymple INDIE PUBLISHING IN A NUTSHELL	Samantha Skal TWISTS OR VILLAINS: WHICH COMES FIRST?	Isabella Maldonado ACTION SCENES: COMPEL READERS TO TURN THE PAGES	Adam Sikes PLOT ELEMENTS AND WRITING TECHNIQUES FOR SPY FICTION
9:00 am - 9:50 am	Mark Tavani HOW THE REAL WORLD AFFECTS THE FICTION MARKET	Chris Pavone THE MOST IMPORTANT PAGE YOU'LL WRITE	Karen Dionne CREATING COMPELLING OPENINGS	Scott Frank, Interviewed by Gregg Hurwitz A SCREENWRITER'S JOURNEY
10:00 am - 10:50 am	Neil Nyren & James L'Etoile FIRST PAGE CRITIQUES	Hank Phillippi Ryan CONQUERING THE MUDDLE IN THE MIDDLE	Tosca Lee WORDS THAT THRILL: CRAFTING KILLER DIALOGUE	Oyinkan Braithwaite WRITING A NOVEL, ONE CHAPTER AT A TIME
11:00 am - 11:50 am	David Ellis & Alex Finlay SO YOU'VE WRITTEN A NOVEL: 10 THINGS BESTSELLING AUTHORS DO TO MAKE THEIR MANUSCRIPTS SING	Dwayne Goetzel INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY: WHAT EVERY AUTHOR SHOULD KNOW	Anne Burt THE ART OF THE SLOW BURN: CRAFTING PSYCHOLOGICAL SUSPENSE THAT RIVALS ACTION	Jennifer Hillier, Interviewed by K.J. Howe LEARN CRAFT SECRETS FROM A TWO-TIME THRILLER AWARD WINNER

12:00 pm - 12:50 pm

CRAFTFEST LUNCH: FINDING THE PERFECT NARRATOR FOR YOUR NOVEL, with Gregg Hurwitz & Scott Brick
Rhinelanders Gallery South, 2nd Floor

1:00 pm - 1:50 pm

FBI Agent AN INSIDER'S VIEW OF THE FBI	Jaime Levine TROPES VS. CLICHÉ	Darby Kane ANTI-HEROES: WRITING IMPERFECT CHARACTERS	C.J. Box, Neil Nyren, & John Sandford ASK ME ANYTHING
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2:00 pm - 2:50 pm

Sara DiVello SOCIAL MEDIA FOR SHY AUTHORS	Elle Cosimano CRAFTING A RIDE-OR-DIE MAIN CHARACTER	Allison Brennan HOW TO BREAK RULES TO BREAK IN OR BREAK OUT	R.L. Stine, Interviewed by Heather Graham CREATING GOOSEBUMPS IN YOUR READER
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3:00 pm - 3:50 pm

Jason Allison & Carla Hoch CRAFTING CHAOS, COMBAT, & CRIME	Lori Galvin & Chris Bucci: Aevitas Creative BEYOND THE BASICS - WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW IN TODAY'S MARKET ABOUT FINDING AN AGENT	Donald Maass EVERY PAGE COUNTS	McKenna Jordan, Interviewed by Lisa Unger INSIDE A BOOKSELLER'S MIND
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4:00 pm - 4:50 pm

Robert Hansen COMPUTER HACKING IN FICTION	Helen Heller: The Helen Heller Agency AN AGENT'S DEEP DIVE INTO QUERYING	Tessa Wegert USING ONE-OF-A-KIND SETTINGS TO SET YOUR BOOK OR SERIES APART	Dan Conaway, Interviewed by Stacy Willingham LONGEVITY IN THE AGENT/AUTHOR RELATIONSHIP
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5:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Authors from all Wednesday CraftFest classes will sign | Murray Hill East + West, 2nd Floor, next to the bookstore

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

CRAFTFEST COCKTAIL PARTY | Hosted by ITW | Mercury Suite, 3rd Floor

THRILLERFEST XX - 2025

CRAFTFEST 2025

Thursday, June 19, 2025

*CraftFest Registration, 7:30 am - 2:15pm, 2nd Floor Promenade | ThrillerFest Registration 12:00 pm - 2:15 pm, 2nd Floor Promenade
The Mysterious Bookshop, 9:00 am - 6:30 pm, Nassau East + West, 2nd Floor*

MORNING COFFEE, Murray Hill East + West, 2nd Floor: 8:00 am - 10:00 am | Hosted by ITW

CRAFTFEST CLASSES

	Beekman (2nd Floor)	Sutton South (2nd Floor)	Regent (2nd Floor)	Sutton North & Center (2nd Floor)
8:00 am - 8:50 am	<p>Nicole Baart</p> <p>MAKE YOUR PROSE SPARKLE</p>	<p>Steenia Holmes</p> <p>THINGS NO ONE EVER TELLS YOU ABOUT BEING AN AUTHOR</p>	<p>Kate White</p> <p>HOW TO CONQUER PROCRASTINATION, CRUSH WRITER'S BLOCK, AND POWER THROUGH CREATIVE SLUMPS</p>	<p>David Morrell</p> <p>AN AUTHOR'S PROCESS</p>
9:00 am - 9:50 am	<p>John Copenhaver</p> <p>VOICE MATTERS: IT'S TRICKY TO PIN DOWN, BUT TOO IMPORTANT TO IGNORE</p>	<p>Lee Matthew Goldberg & Susan Walter in Conversation with Peter Malone Elliott</p> <p>THE AUTHOR'S JOURNEY TO THE SILVER SCREEN (AND TV!)</p>	<p>Steven James</p> <p>HOW TO WRITE YOURSELF OUT OF A CORNER</p>	<p>Walter Mosley, Interviewed by Samuel Octavius</p> <p>MASTERING CRAFT WITH WALTER MOSLEY</p>
10:00 am - 10:50 am	<p>Matthew Quinn Martin</p> <p>SHOW OR TELL: NOVEL WRITING VS. SCREENWRITING</p>	<p>Melinda Leigh</p> <p>WRITING KILLER SUSPENSE</p>	<p>Elena Hartwell Taylor</p> <p>SUPER-OBJECTIVES, OBSTACLES, & STAKES</p>	<p>Robert Dugoni</p> <p>CREATING PLOTS FOR PAGE TURNERS</p>
11:00 am - 11:20 am	<p>Authors from all Thursday CraftFest classes will sign Murray Hill East + West, 2nd Floor, next to the bookstore</p>			
11:30 am - 12:20 pm	<p>Deputy Director ThrillerFest / PitchFest Susan Lee with Agents Caitlin Blasdel, Liza Fleissig, Sandy Lu, & Alec Shane PITCH PERFECT: CRAFTING AN EFFECTIVE PITCH Sutton North + Sutton Center, 2nd Floor</p>			
	<p>PITCHFEST BEVERAGE SERVICE - 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm Hosted by ITW for PitchFest Attendees</p>			
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm	<p>PITCHFEST 2025 (Separate Registration Required) Gramercy East + West, Murray Hill East + West, Regent, Sutton South 2nd Floor</p>			
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm	<p>THRILLERFEST OPENING RECEPTION Co-Hosted by St. Martin's Press, Minotaur Books, Forge, Tor Publishing Group Trianon Ballroom, 3rd Floor</p>			