



# Kari Martindale Workshop Menu

updated: Spring 2026

# Kari's Full Bio

Kari Martindale is a poet and spoken word artist who has performed at the White House, opened for a national conference, and read at Arts guilds across Maryland. Now based in Alaska, Kari has been published in a number of literary journals and anthologies, has been nominated for the Pushcart Prize and Best of the Net, and received honorable mention in the 2024 annual *Writer's Digest* Writing Competition. She is a member of 49 Writers and Alaska Writer's Guild as well as Maryland Writers' Association, where she sat on the Board from 2019-2025.

Kari was a writer-in-residence in Orquevaux, France in 2024 and has received grants that include the Maryland State Arts Council Individual Artist Grant. She has served on literary judging panels for Maryland State Arts Council, League of Utah Writers, and Poetry Out Loud, and as a volunteer judge for annual slam competitions in Baltimore. She is the former co-editor of the journal *Pen in Hand* and has served on selection and editing committees for journals and anthologies for several organizations. She has also served as a Poetry Out Loud mentor and Teen Writing Club mentor.

Kari is a teaching artist for Armed Services Arts Partnership and disabled veteran of the US Air Force, is a Features Writer for the Frederick News Post, and has published two children's books and edited dozens of children's books and anthologies.

Kari has been featured in ekphrastic poetry events at venues such as Baltimore Arts Guild, Delaplaine Arts Center, and Montpelier Arts Center; has been the feature poet at Arts organizations; and read annually at Frederick's Sky Stage Literature Night with the Frederick Chapter of Maryland Writers' Association. Along with the poetry collective EC Poetry & Prose, she read on the main stage at Guinness Arts & Drafts and annually at the Write Women Book Fest, and opened for the National Association for Poetry Therapy annual conference.

Kari is multilingual and holds an M.A. in Linguistics. She has visited all 50 States and over 40 countries. She can (and does) talk to a lot of people about a lot of things.



## Short Bio

Kari Martindale (M.A., Linguistics) is a poet, spoken word artist, and teaching artist who has performed at the White House. Her poetry has been nominated for the Pushcart Prize and Best of the Net, and received honorable mention in the *Writer's Digest* Writing Competition. Now living in Alaska, Kari is a former member of the Board of Maryland Writers' Association and has served on poetry judging panels nationwide.

# Contents

6-week poetry classes...3

poetry workshops...6

other creative writing  
classes & workshops...10

professional workshops...13

corporate creativity...16

conference  
presentations...19

travel workshops...20

additional services...22

for youth...23

## Key



Appropriate for  
beginner/emerging



Appropriate for those with  
intermediate  
knowledge/practice



Appropriate for  
advanced/established writers



Can be modified to a short  
conference presentation



Expect intense emotions



Appropriate for youth, or can be  
modified for youth

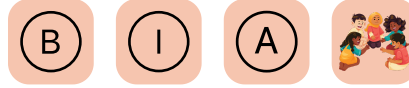


Geared toward the veteran  
population



# Poetry 6-week Classes

These classes can be conducted online  
or in person in the Anchorage region.



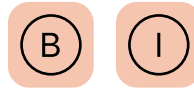
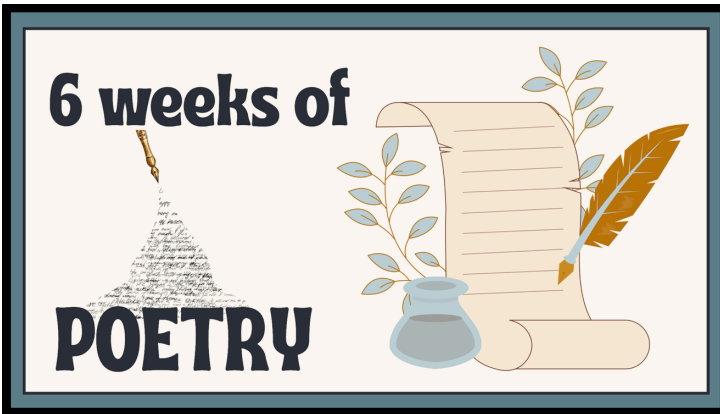
## Poetry, Poetry, Everywhere!

Length: 6 weeks, 2.5-hour sessions

Fee: \$1400

Max students: 16

Poets of all levels of experience are welcome in this class, where we will practice various forms of found poetry: where to find the words, creating poetry in traditional and free forms, and applying poetic techniques and devices to strengthen your poems.



## 6 Weeks of Poetry

Length: 6 weeks, 2.5-hour sessions

Fee: \$1400

Max students: 16

Poets of all levels of experience are welcome in this hands-on class. We will review and apply poetic techniques and devices, practice various forms, and in the final two weeks, apply editing techniques to strengthen your drafts and learn about the submissions process.



# For TBI or neurodivergent writers with short attention spans



## Let's Write Today!

Length: 6 weeks, 1.5-hour sessions

Fee: \$1000

Maximum students: 12

Perfect for people with shorter attention spans, including TBI patients, who would like to try their hand at creative writing.



## 6 Weeks of Journaling

Length: 6 weeks, 1.5-hour sessions

Fee: \$1000

Max students: 12

Let's meet weekly to journal about our days, our feelings, and our memories. You'll be given writing prompts and suggestions and have plenty of time to write and, should you be inclined, to share some of your words with the group. Sharing is encouraged but never expected.



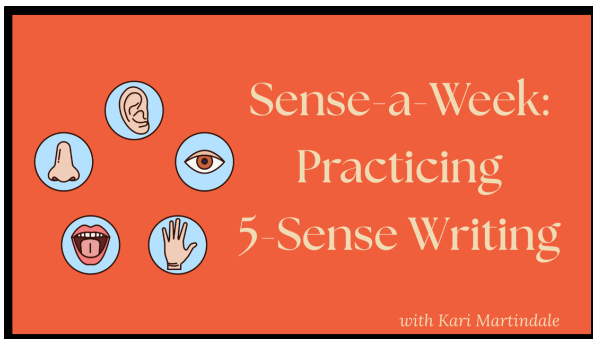
## Device-a-Week

Length: 6 weeks, 1.5-hour sessions

Fee: \$1000

Max students: 12

From alliteration to assonance, meter to metaphor, let's talk about the various techniques that show up in poetry both naturally and by intent, and then let's put some to practice!



## Sense-a-Week

Length: 6 weeks, 1.5-hour sessions

Fee: \$1000

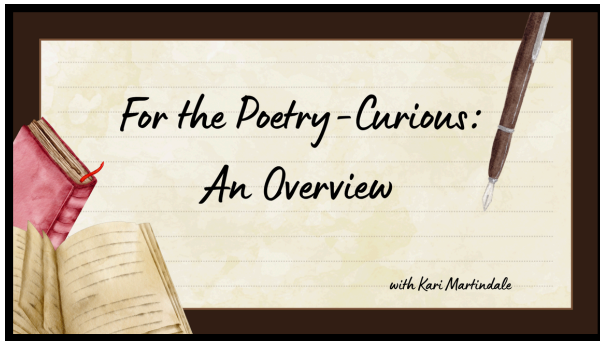
Max students: 12

We'll practice writing one sense a week, then in Week 6, put them all together.



# Poetry Workshops

These classes can be conducted online,  
in person in the Anchorage region,  
or on location with a travel allowance.



### For the Poetry-Curious: an Overview

Length: 2.5 hours  
 Fee: \$300  
 Max students: 16

If you've always wondered about poetry but haven't taken the plunge to start writing, or you're a little nervous about enrolling in a 6-week class without knowing ahead of time whether you even like poetry, come practice different forms and techniques. If there's a poet inside you, we'll find it!

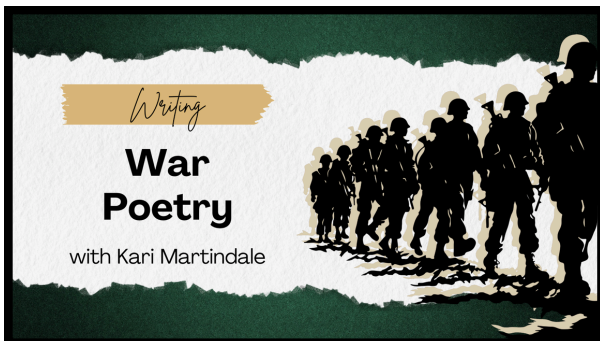
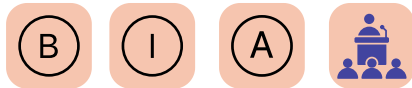


### From Prose to Poetry: Give Your Old Writing a Fresh Spin!

Length: 4 hours  
 Fee: \$500  
 Maximum students: 12

Description:

Bring your stories, essays, journaling, or other non-poetry writing to this class to learn techniques for turning it into poetry! Writers of all experience levels are welcome.



### Writing War Poetry

Length: 3 hours  
 Fee: \$400  
 Maximum students: 14

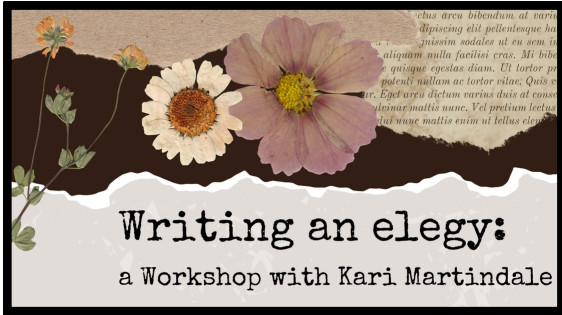
Description:

Learn how to express your war experiences with poetry.



Relevant instructor Bio for this class: Kari Martindale (M.A., Linguistics) is a published poet, spoken word artist, and writer who has performed at the White House. Kari has been published in a number of literary journals and anthologies, nominated for the Pushcart Prize and Best of the Net, and received honorable mention in the Writer's Digest Writing Competition and other literary contests. A former member of the Board of Maryland Writers' Association, Kari recently relocated to Alaska. She is a disabled veteran of the US Air Force.

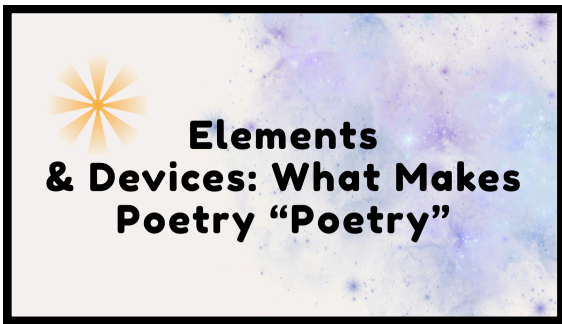
Kari's poem "The Beaches of Normandie" received honorable mention in the Writer's Digest Writing Competition (2024) and HoCoPoLitSo's Ellen Conroy Kennedy Prize. Her poem "The List" earned an honorable mention in the Colonel Darron L. Wright Award (2022), was performed at the White House, and is featured in the anthology "Our Best War Stories" (2025).



### Writing an Elegy: A Poetry Workshop

Length: 2.5 hours  
Fee: \$300  
Max students: 12:

When we lose a loved one, we often turn to writing to process our feelings and pay tribute to their lives. In this workshop, we'll discuss the characteristics of an elegy, examine some famous elegies, and apply poetic techniques to craft your own elegy.



### Poetic Techniques & Devices: A Workshop

Length: 2.5 hours  
Fee: \$300  
Max students: 16

From alliteration to assonance, meter to metaphor, let's talk about the various techniques that show up in poetry both naturally and by intent, and then let's put some to practice! You'll leave with several poem drafts, along with techniques to apply to your poetry in the future.

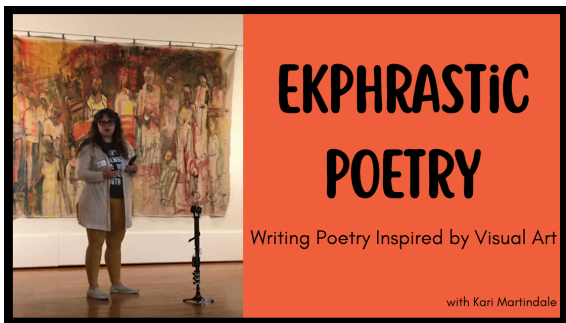


### Editing Poetry: A Workshop

Length: 3 hours  
Fee: \$400  
Max students: 16

In this class designed for emerging and established poets, we'll discuss and practice developmental editing and revision techniques that you can apply to your poetry. Bring some poetry drafts that you can work on during class!





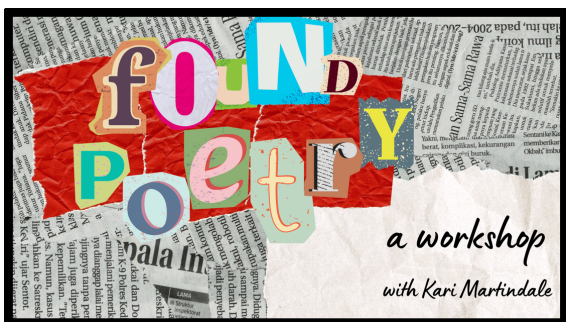
## Creating Poetry Inspired by Visual Art

Length: 2.5 hours

Fee: \$300

Max students: 16

Ekphrasis is a device whereby poems are inspired by Visual Art: paintings, sculptures, photographs, etc. Poems can be descriptive or take more figurative forms. Join an ekphrastic poet in finding inspiration from visual works of art and pairing it with your own words. Whether you've never written a poem or you're a seasoned poet looking for fresh inspiration, you're welcome in this class!



## Found Poetry

Length: 2.5 hours

Fee: \$300

Max students: 16

From blackout poetry to the golden shovel, let's take a look at where to find the words for found poetry!



## Turning Your Journal into Poetry

Length: 2.5 hours

Fee: \$300

Max students: 16

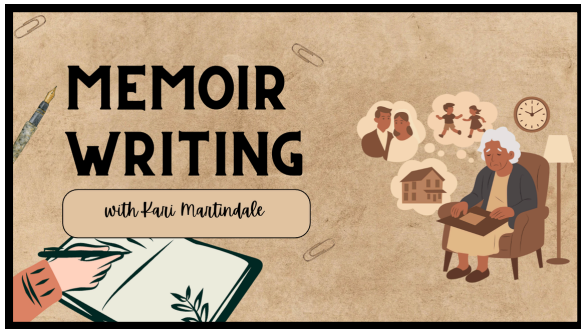
From alliteration to assonance, meter to metaphor, let's talk about the various techniques that show up in poetry both naturally and by intent, and then let's put some to practice! You'll leave with several poem drafts and techniques to apply to your poetry in the future. This workshop is for all levels of experience, especially new and emerging poets.





# Other Creative Writing Classes & Workshops

These classes can be conducted online,  
in person in the Anchorage region,  
or on location with a travel allowance.



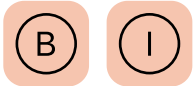
## Memoir Writing

Length: 2.5 hours

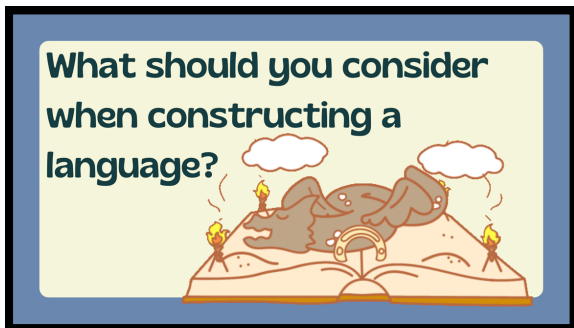
Fee: \$300

Maximum students: 14

Whether you're currently working on a memoir or just thinking about it, this workshop will give you memoir-writing tips, techniques, and prompts to practice.



*Relevant bio: Kari Martindale (M.A., Linguistics) is a published poet, spoken word artist, and writer who has performed at the White House. She is a first-person features writer for Frederick News Post and her travel writing has been featured on various travel and lifestyle websites. Kari has been published in a number of literary journals and anthologies, nominated for the Pushcart Prize and Best of the Net, and received honorable mention in the Writer's Digest Writing Competition and other literary contests; and has served on judging panels for Maryland State Arts Council, Utah League of Writers, and Poetry Out Loud, and on judging and selection committees for anthologies. A former member of the Board of Maryland Writers' Association, Kari recently relocated to Alaska. She is a disabled veteran of the US Air Force.*



## What to Consider When Creating a Language for Your Fantasy World

Length: 2.5 hours

Fee: \$300

Maximum students: 16

Are you a world-building fantasy writer who is creating, or considering creating, languages for your world? How can you make sure your language doesn't set off alarm bells?



*Relevant bio: Kari Martindale (M.A., Linguistics) is a Linguist, herself multi-lingual (English/Spanish/Arabic/German with a smattering of other Germanic and Romance languages), and is a poet, spoken word artist, and writer who has been published in a number of literary journals and anthologies, nominated for the Pushcart Prize and Best of the Net, and received honorable mention in the Writer's Digest Writing Competition and other literary contests. Her linguistic academic interests have included Sociolinguistics, Historical Linguistics, Language Acquisition, Second Language Acquisition, Semantics, and Discourse Analysis. She taught English as a Second Language at the community college level. A former member of the Board of Maryland Writers' Association, Kari recently relocated to Alaska. She is a disabled veteran of the US Air Force.*



### 5-Sense Writing

Length: 2.5 hours  
Fee: \$300  
Max students: 16

Practice five-sense writing techniques to strengthen your writing in any genre.



### Let's Journal Today

Length: 1.5 hours  
Fee: \$250  
Maximum students: 12

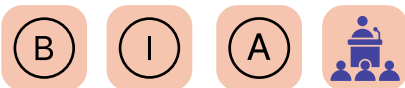
Let's get together and journal about our day, our feelings, and our memories. You'll be given writing prompts and suggestions and have plenty of time to write and, should you be inclined, to share some of your words with the group. Sharing is encouraged but never expected.



### From Prose to Poetry: Give Your Old Writing a Fresh Spin!

Length: 4 hours  
Fee: \$500  
Maximum students: 12

Bring your stories, essays, journaling, or other non-poetry writing to this class to learn techniques for turning it into poetry! Writers of all experience levels are welcome.





# Professional Workshops

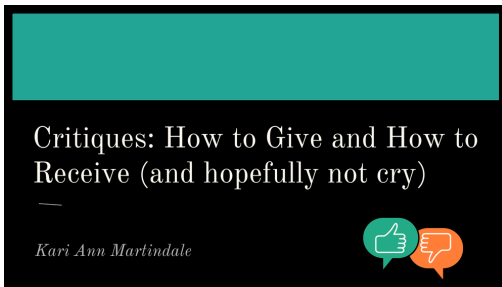
These classes can be conducted online,  
in person in the Anchorage region,  
or on location with a travel allowance.



### Artist Bios & CVs & Statements, Oh, My!

Length: 3 hours  
Fee: \$350  
Maximum students: 14

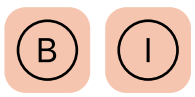
Whether you're a writer or a visual artist, the words written about you are an important reflection of you and your work. What should you include in a bio? How do you pare your full bio down to a 150-word bio down to a one-sentence bio? When do you need an artist's statement and what should it include? When might you need an Artist CV and what should it include? You can come to this hands-on workshop to start from scratch, or work from your existing bio or resume. Let's figure out the best way to present YOU to the world!



### Critiques: How to Give and How to Receive (and hopefully not cry)

Length: 3 hours  
Fee: \$350  
Maximum students: 14

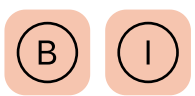
Does the thought of a critique group cause anxiety? It shouldn't! Learn techniques for giving valuable feedback and gain the confidence to receive critique.



### Finding Your Advocate Voice for Poets

Length: 3 hours  
Fee: \$500  
Maximum students: 12

Whether you're an advocate for the environment, social justice, disabilities, or other causes, have you tried advocating through poetry? The instructor will share her poetry and the poetry of other advocates, moderate an open discussion about advocacy, and give writing prompts to inspire poetry during the session. All levels of poetry experience are welcome. Views and poetry expressed in the class are not endorsed by Armed Services Arts Partnership.





## Strengthening Your Poetry Read-Aloud Performance

Length: 3 hours

Fee: \$350

Max students: 10

Whether you're performing your poetry or participating in open mics, learn to identify and practice poetic qualities that will strengthen your performance.



## The Poetry Submissions Process

Length: 2 hours

Fee: \$250

Maximum students: 16

How do you find legitimate journals and contests to submit your poetry to? What do you need to do to prepare your poetry, and how do you submit it? We'll talk about this and walk through some websites during class. Writers of all levels of experience are welcome.





# Corporate Creativity

These classes can be conducted online,  
in person in the Anchorage region,  
or on location with a travel allowance.



**Spark creativity amongst your employees with creative workshops! Most are available on-site or virtually. If in-person, the client is responsible for travel & lodging. Inquire for pricing or to customize your experience.**



### **Prose to Poetry for Business** (varying lengths, 1.5 – 3 hours)

Encourage your employees to tap into their creativity while working with the language of your industry. We'll touch on various forms, including found poetry. Extracting from your company's marketing materials, reports, or other documents related to your business and industry, we'll create blackout poetry and other found poems that are like a collage of words in poetry form!

### **Getting Creative with Ekphrastic Poetry** (2.5 – 3.5 hours)

Ekphrastic poetry is inspired by Visual Art: paintings, sculptures, photographs, etc. Get creative and write poems using images from visual art and photographs related to your industry, and/or your company's graphic design.

### **Team Building with Group Poetry** (1 – 1.5 hour)

Creativity + Teamwork = Productivity! In this short workshop, get your team working together to create!

### **Getting Physical with Found Poetry Collage** (1.5 – 2 hours)

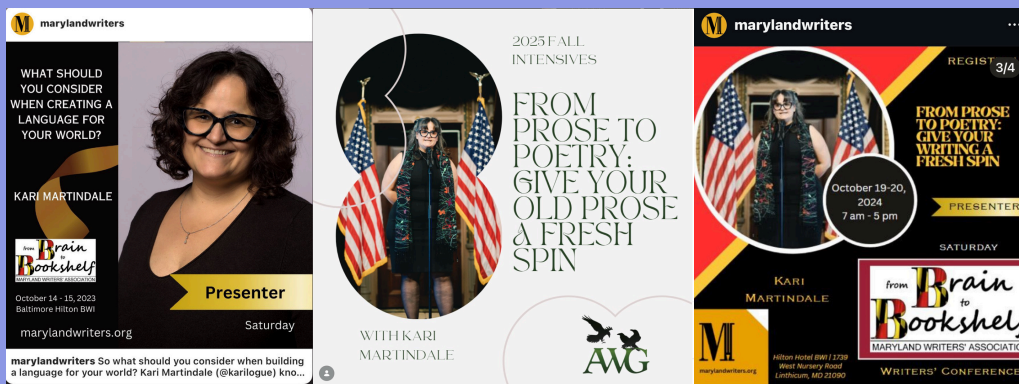
Put away your laptops and get out the scissors and glue—let's get tactile! Cutting words out of your company's marketing materials, we'll create "found poems" in physical collage form. (Can easily be combined with Prose to Poetry for Business.)

*Inquire for pricing, travel allowance, and customization.*



# Conference Workshops & Presentations

These presentations can be given online,  
in person in the Anchorage region,  
or on location with a travel allowance.  
Kari will work with your organization's honorarium.



## The following workshops can be abbreviated to a one-hour conference presentation:

- From Prose to Poetry: Give Your Old Writing a Fresh Spin
- What Should You Consider When Creating a Language for Your World?
- Found Poetry
- Writing an Elegy
- Editing Poetry: Tips & Techniques
- Ekphrastic Poetry: How to Create Poetry Inspired by Visual Art
- Poetic Devices & Techniques
- Artist Bios & CVs & Statements, Oh, My!
- War Poetry



Kari is also available to read/perform, solo or with fellow spoken word artists, at your conference or event.

She has also spoken on topics of Language & Linguistics.



# Travel Workshops



## Planning a Roadtrip

Length: 6 hours  
Fee: \$650  
Max students: 20

Are you a roadtripper or globetrotter? Whether you're planning your bucketlist roadtrip, your RV trip in retirement trip, or just another adventure, come learn how to find places to visit, unique lodging, and pitstops along the way, and how to plot them in a logical order!



## Preparing, Organizing, and Preserving Your Travel Memories

Length: 3 hours  
Fee: \$350  
Max students: 20

Are you a roadtripper or globetrotter? Are you planning a big trip? Learn ways to prepare for your travels and preserve the memories in journals, binders, and scrapbooks, to organize the logistics and record your experiences along the way.



### Relevant bio:

*Kari Martindale (M.A., Linguistics) is a published poet, spoken word artist, and writer who has performed at the White House. A former travel blogger, she is a current features writer for Frederick News Post, often writing about travel. Kari has visited all 50 States, roadtripping through most, and over 40 countries, roadtripping throughout much of Europe. With over three decades of travel journals, binders, and scrapbooks on her shelves, she enjoys helping others plan and prepare for trips and preserve their memories. Kari is a disabled veteran of the US Air Force.*



# Additional Services

# For Youth



## School visits:

Kari will visit your high school to talk about Careers in Writing.



## Flash readings

I will visit your library, school, bookshop, or event to do a reading from the Flash series.

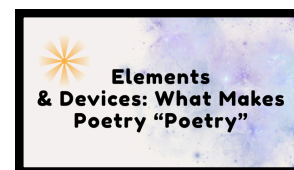
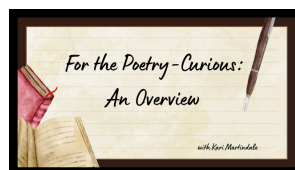
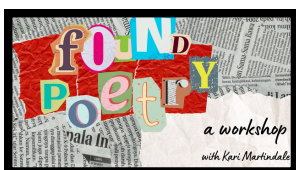
“The Time Flash Had the Best Day Ever” can be accompanied by an activity about awareness of those around you; and “The Christmas Flash Couldn’t Even” can be accompanied by an ornament craft (while supplies last).



## Girl Scout badge workshops

As a former troop leader and SU volunteer with current background investigation to volunteer with vulnerable youth, Kari can visit your troop or SU to present Scribe (Junior), Novelist (Senior), or Traveler (Senior), in person or virtually. (Lifetime Member, GSUSA)

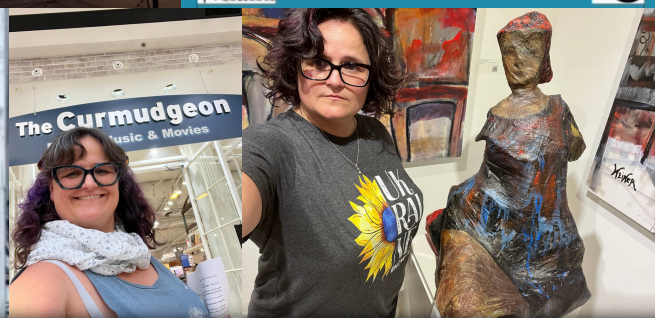
The following writing workshops can be modified for use with your middle school or high school writing classes or your teen writing club:



# Poetry Readings



Kari is available to visit your writing group, bookshop, open mic, book festival, gallery, or special event, to read/perform poetry and spoken word. She specializes in ekphrastic events paired with visual arts exhibitions, and social justice poetry paired with other spoken word artists.



Kari can also serve as a judge, panelist, editor, or mentor.

**Kari Ann Martindale**

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