

Welcome



Where the Brain and Universe Meet: Making Poems, Making Books

with Anita Skeen and Cindy Hunter Morgan
G24100304
October 13-18, 2024

Dear Ghost Ranch Writers and Artists,

We're writing to welcome you to our class, "Where the Brain and Universe Meet: Making Poems, Making Books," which will be offered at Ghost Ranch October 13-18, 2024. We're looking forward to our week together exploring color, poetry, and the art of the book. You have all read the course description, so I won't repeat what is included there. We are asking that all of you purchase a copy of Maggie Nelson's collection of poems, *Bluets*, and bring it with you to the Ranch. Also you will need to have a notebook to write your drafts in. Perhaps you have a favorite pen or pencil? You certainly can use your computer and printer if you want to bring them, too. A metal ruler will be useful, and then any paints, watercolors, colored pencils, markers, or interesting papers you have that might help you create your text block would also be useful. We will supply tools, fine paper for the texts you will make, book cloth, book board, glue, and some decorative paper. We will also have some crayons, markers, and colored pencils for your use.

We'll spend from 9:00 to 12:00 each morning in our class reading pieces by famous and not-so-famous writers, talking about what makes their writing effective, and choosing prompts for our own writing during the course of the week. We hope that each of you will return to class the following morning with a draft of the assignment and be willing to share it with other class members. If you wish to keep it private, that's fine. Don't let fear of having to share your work keep you from writing what you really want to say but remember that comments from your classmates can often help you shape the draft and revise so that you have a stronger piece of writing. In the evenings, we'll gather with our tools and paper and art supplies to work on our books.

On the final night of the week, Thursday night, there will be an Art Show and Participants Reading where participants in all the classes are invited to exhibit and read from their work so that we can all share what's been created during the week.

We look forward to seeing old friends and meeting new ones in this class. If you have any questions, please feel free to email us at skeen@msu.edu and cindyhuntermorgan@gmail.com. We will be driving to the Ranch for our week together and leaving home about the 9th of October to wend our way west. So, write to us before that date if you have questions.

Looking forward to seeing you this Fall.

Anita and Cindy