

Time	Room A	Room C
8:00	Registration & Vendors	
9:00–9:30	Welcome: Ladder '19 <i>Alison Meyers & Brian Wood.</i> How to best use Ladder '19 to connect with editors, agents, and fellow writers.	
9:45–11:00	Meet the Agents <i>Barbara Berson, Alexandra Levick, Rhea Lyons.</i> Moderator: <i>Markus Hoffmann,</i> Learn what this year's agents are looking for and the best ways to pitch your literary work.	Is a Small Press Right for Me? <i>Peter Connors, Elizabeth DeMeo, Michael J. McGandy, Chad Post.</i> Moderator: <i>Brian Wood.</i> No agent? No problem. Discover the pros and cons of smaller press publishing.
11:15–12:30	Self-Publishing Forum <i>Bill Brewer, Theresa Leigh, CaTyra Pollard, Katrina Thompson.</i> Moderator: <i>Ebony Nicole Smith.</i> An introduction to successfully navigating the booming and dizzying world of self-publishing.	What to Expect While You're Expecting <i>Amanda Ghazale Aziz, Barbara Berson, Andrew Ervin, Markus Hoffmann.</i> Moderator: <i>Stacey Freed.</i> Find out first-hand the ins and outs of the author/agent relationship.
12:30–1:45	Lunch & Portrait Photos & Vendors	
1:45–3:00	All Queries Answered <i>Barbara Berson, Elizabeth DeMeo, Markus Hoffmann, Rhea Lyons.</i> Moderator: <i>Kyle Semmel.</i> Agents share their dos and don'ts when drafting a query letter.	Promoting Your Work <i>Anthony Blake, Amy Collins, Ron Martin-Dent, Leslie C. Youngblood.</i> Moderator: <i>Ruth E. Thaler-Carter.</i> Get tips on blogging, using a website, social media, conferences, getting reviews, and other methods to get the exposure and support you deserve.
3:15–4:20	From Hook to Book <i>Peter Connors, Gary Craig, Scott Pitoniak, Jeff Spevak.</i> Moderator: <i>Jonathan Schroeder.</i> How to prepare a nonfiction book proposal for agents and publishers.	I've Finished. . . Now What? <i>CaTyra Pollard, Corey Lamar Tanksley, Brian Wood.</i> Moderator: <i>Matt Kotula.</i> You've finished your book. Congrats! Now discover the next steps to prepare your work for publication.
4:30–6:30	Agent & Editor Pitch Session in Room F / Mixer with Cash Bar in Skyway Lounge	

Room D	Room E	Room G
Registration & Vendors		
From Poem Pile to Published Page <i>Albert Abonado, Anderson Allen, Charlie Coté, Stephen Kuusisto.</i> Moderator: <i>Sarah Freligh.</i> This panel will share how order can maximize the strengths of poetry work while creating a unity that's "book strong."	It's Time to Talk <i>Andrew Ervin, Mira Jacob, Leslie C. Youngblood, Rion Amilcar Scott.</i> Moderator: <i>Kyle Semmel.</i> "Does your dialogue suck?," he asked inquisitively. Don't worry; we can fix it.	Busting Writer's Block: Inventing Time to Write <i>Facilitator: Ruth E. Thaler-Carter.</i> Discover how to destroy writer's block and use your most precious resource: time, in this prompt session
Publishing Poems, Stories, and Essays <i>Albert Abonado, Robert Glick, Rion Amilcar Scott.</i> Moderator: <i>Calvin Eaton.</i> Strategies for publishing poems, short stories, and collections.	Crafting Character <i>Jackie E. Davis, Christina Milletti, James Whorton Jr.</i> Moderator: <i>Sarah Cedeño.</i> Discover techniques to draft fully rendered characters that will grip your readers.	Plotting Along: 1 Page, 1 Prompt, 1 Plot <i>Facilitator: David Seaburn.</i> In this hands on session, learn how to clearly outline and structure your book in one hour, on one page.
Lunch & Portrait Photos & Vendors		
The Art of Memoir <i>Gail Hosking, Mira Jacob, Anne Panning.</i> Moderator: <i>Karen (Ren) vanMeenen.</i> Authors share their triumphs and struggles in transforming truth into published work.	Cut to the Chase <i>Charles Benoit, Alex Sanchez, David Seaburn.</i> Moderator: <i>Christine Green.</i> Learn how to pick up the pace and cut the boring out of your manuscript.	Breaking the Mold <i>Facilitator: Sarah Freligh.</i> Engage in writing exercises that will help you broaden your creative horizons.
How (Not) to Be an Amateur Poet <i>Philip Memmer, Georgia A. Popoff, Anastasia Nikolis.</i> Moderator: <i>Steven Huff.</i> Poetry editors share the telltale signs of bad poetry.	Starting Strong <i>Amanda Ghazale Aziz, Amy Collins, Rhonda Penders.</i> Moderator: <i>David Seaburn.</i> Seasoned authors, editors, and PR professionals share how to hook the reader (and an agent's or publisher's attention) with the first line, page, and chapter.	World Building: Sci-Fi and Fantasy <i>Facilitator: Alison Lyke.</i> These writing prompts will expand and deepen your literary settings.
Agent & Editor Pitch Session in Room F / Mixer with Cash Bar in Skyway Lounge		