

Playing with Poetry

**A Writers' Retreat with a dual focus on
writing and performing various styles of Poetry**

January 15 - 18, 2016

**@The Twinflower Inn,
110 North Olson St.,
Bishop Hill, IL**

**Find your voice as a Poet,
Refine your writing skills,
Hear some great poetry and
Share a few poems of your own!**



**Contact our host Brian "Fox" Ellis to register foxtales@foxtalesint.com
Schedule and other details are on the back of this poster**

Playing with Poetry

What? Me a published poet? You might be wondering... Whether you already love poetry or simply want to enrich your storytelling performances and/or deepen your non-fiction essays with stronger imagery, this weekend will be a restive and recharging retreat! Spend a rich weekend with a dozen other writers in a supportive and nurturing environment. The third annual Writer's Retreat, sponsored by The Twinflower Inn, will provide a balance of instruction, coaching and quiet time to write. If you wish to learn more about building a better essay or structuring your story with clearer metaphorical language, adding poetry to your performances and participating in constructive conversations, then make reservations right away as we tend to fill all of our slots. Folks are encouraged to attend the entire weekend, but if locals wish to show up for the full day on Saturday or just one or two classes that is also encouraged. E-mail me at foxtales@foxtalesint.com to register.

SCHEDULE: Friday, January 15, 2016

5:00 - 7:00 Registration

6:00 Dinner at The Filling Station

7:00 Participatory Poetry Slam hosted by Brian "Fox" Ellis

Bring your favorite poems, classical & original

9:00 Conversation on Poetry & Storytelling Performance

Saturday, January 16, 2016

8:00 Breakfast (included for weekend registrants)

9:00 Playing with Genre:

An introduction to several poetic structures

10:30 Time to write, wander, and work on your work

12:00 Lunch at The Bakery

1:00 The Narrative Arc:

The Long Ballad or Stories in Poetic Form

2:30 Time to write, wander, and work on your work

4:30 Songwriting: The Bardic Tradition

5:30 Soup Supper (included)

6:30 Concert with Andreas

9:00 Late night Poetry Jam

Sunday January 17, 2015

9:30 Breakfast

10:00 The Craft of Rewriting, Re-Thinking, Re-Imagining

11:00 Time to write, wander, and work on your work

12:00 Lunch at PL Johnson's

1:00 Time to write, wander, and work on your work

4:30 The First Critique Session: Bring one poem to re-work

6:00 Pasta Dinner (included)

7:30 Second Critique Session: Bring a second poem to perform

Monday January 19, 2015

8:30 Breakfast

9:30 A Book Making Workshop

11:00 Continue the Work (No check out deadline!)

Our Host, **Brian "Fox" Ellis** is the author of 16 books, 18 musicals, twelve CDs, and more than 100 magazine articles. He has published three books of poetry including two for adults and one for children. His collection of haiku *Frog Songs* won high praise from a Japanese-American journal which wrote "the introduction is the most succinct definition of haiku in modern English." He has traveled the world collecting and telling stories for more than 36 years and poetry is always a part of every performance. He also performs as Walt Whitman and Edgar Alan Poe, sharing their poetry and philosophy. For more information please visit www.foxtalesint.com

Costs: \$125 for the full weekend if you register and pay before December 31, (\$145 after). This includes four days of workshops and most meals. Three nights' lodging is available at The Twinflower Inn for \$150 for a private room or \$75 if you bring a roommate. To register and secure your reservations please send an e-mail to foxtales@foxtalesint.com