On the Street Where We Live: People, Place and Possibility (VIRTUAL)
G220322V
Anita Skeen
MARCH 7 - 11, 2022

Dear Ghost Ranch Writers:

I want to welcome you to On the Street Where We Live: People, Place, and Possibility, our Ghost Ranch virtual writing course that will be held March 7-11, 2022. You’ve read the course description and signed up to join us, so I won’t repeat the content of the course in this letter. We want to talk about what “Home” means to all of us, as specifically as the house your grew up in or as broad as how you feel about being “home” in America. We’ll hope to discover how the place we come from affects us and helps us to determine the places (both literal and figurative) we ultimately go.

Our workshop is scheduled to meet from 9:00 a.m. to noon Mountain Standard Time. (The meeting times may differ for you, depending upon your local time zone). A typical session might include readings of some writings meant to inspire you (poems, essays, short fiction, etc.), an opportunity for some in-class writing, and a prompt for you to work on after the session ends. You can expect to hear and read some writing that will entertain, surprise, uplift, unsettle, and move you. Each day’s prompt will have a different focus, allowing you to experiment with different themes and forms. On the following day, you’ll be invited (but never coerced) to share your writing with the group, and you can expect to receive encouragement and perhaps some gentle guidance to improve your writing.

This course is open to all levels of writers, and writers of all genres. All of our sessions will be conducted on zoom, and the material we will read and discuss for our class sessions will be available on line, either in Google.docs, as PDFs, or in a file you can easily access. A knowledgeable Ghost Ranch staffer will keep us connected and deal with any technical difficulties that may arise. You will get an individualized access code for class sessions and a different one for the evening sessions, so check your emails to be sure you don’t miss them.

On three days (Monday-Wednesday-Friday), there will be readings at 5:00 p.m. MST. On Monday, Colleen Anderson and I will do a reading, sharing writing with you relevant to our workshop topics or focusing on particular craft issues we think might be useful for you to consider. On Wednesday, we’ll have a special guest reader (TBA), and on Friday it will be your turn to take the virtual podium during a participant reading. Again, no one is ever required to read, but we hope you will be willing to share your words and thoughts with participants in both classes.

I look forward to seeing old friends and meeting new ones.

See you on March 7,

Anita