



# WPWP Fall Writing Retreat at Oglebay October 17– October 19, 2008

Friday evening-Sunday morning

Visiting Writers: Lois Williams and Renee Aukeman

WPWP registration deadline: October 10. Oglebay Lodge reservation  
Deadline September 8.



*A continuity activity for Fellows and friends.*

- At beautiful Oglebay Resort, 1 hour from Pittsburgh via I-79 S to I-70 W to Wheeling Exit 2A.
- Affordable accommodations including three deluxe four-bedroom two-bath cottages for \$120 for the entire weekend. Individual lodge hotel rooms are \$125-\$195 plus tax per night.
- Cottages have equipped kitchens. The resort has a range of restaurants.
- We will host a potluck Saturday evening in one of the cottages, so plan to bring something to eat to share.
- Workshop Fee: \$75 for the complete weekend of writing sessions.
- There are many activities for free time. Please visit [www.oglebay-resort.com](http://www.oglebay-resort.com) for further information and to view cottages and rooms. *We have three large cottages close together this year.*

## Writers in Residence:

**Lois Williams** writes about landscape, family, and migration. Her poems and non-fiction have earned her two full fellowships from Vermont Studio Center, a Barbara Deming Memorial Award for women writers, and a Pennsylvania Council on the Arts individual artist fellowship. In 2006/7 she was Charles Pick Fellow in Writing at the University of East Anglia, United Kingdom. She teaches writing and reading at the University of Pittsburgh. Her essay "The House of Provisions" appears in the October issue of GRANTA.

**Renee Aukeman** is WPWP Writer-in-Residence for the 2008-2009 academic year. She is a second-year graduate student in the MFA program, working in creative non-fiction. Renee has taught high school overseas, is a certified Yoga instructor and is writing a book about Christian faith and Yoga practice. She has written, studied and taught poetry as well as fiction and non-fiction. Renee will be offering writing workshops all year to help Fellows polish and complete work and to learn more about craft and process. She is working with the continuity group to plan writing activities she will lead and facilitate. Some of these activities will be offered on Super Saturdays.



## **WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS: Place and Objects**

**The Saturday work is described by Lois and Renee to help you choose your sessions. The writers in residence will collaborate on the Sunday morning session.**

### **Lois Williams**

“Using the idea of “retreat” (a kind of leaving) as a starting point, this workshop invites you to revisit imaginatively some of the places you’ve left behind at turning points in your life—perhaps a home town, a familiar street or landscape, or a house you loved or feared. We’ll write our way back to these places and out of them again, creating the artistic distance that lets us tell the stories we find still living there. To guide us along, we’ll use techniques from narrative and lyric poetry, which you can adapt to your own form of storytelling. There will be lots of time for writing, for thinking and feeling things through, and time each session for sharing our work. “

### **Renee Aukeman**

“As we retreat into our writing, this workshop invites you to consider objects as portals into creativity and revelation. We will use objects we bring with us—along with others that we discover, imagine, or remember—as springboards to explore other topics. We’ll share our own writing and experiments, as well as learn from poetry and prose writers who have done this before us, such as Wallace Stevens and Eavan Boland. Hopefully, these objects will provide new impetus for creativity when we re-enter “real life.” You are invited to bring an object with you as a potential writing prompt. This object should be something that you’re drawn to, that intrigues or entices you, and that you’re looking to see in a new way. Try not to over-think your selection: ordinary objects are often the most profound.”

**Friday** 8-10 p.m. Reception and Readings by Lois Williams and Renee Aukeman

**Saturday** 9-11:30 a.m. Writing Sessions in the cottages

11:30a.m.-2:30p.m. Free time for lunch and writing

2:30-5:00 p.m. Writing Sessions in the cottages.

7p.m. Potluck

8:30 p.m. Read around. Bring a polished piece or read from your Saturday writing.

**Sunday** 9-11 a.m. Collaborative session with Renee and Lois.

Make cottage reservations with WPWP office. You must send a check payable to the University of Pittsburgh/WPWP to reserve your space. First come first serve.

Total cost for cottage+workshop: **\$195.**



If you prefer to stay in a room in the lodge, you will need to book it on your own as the September 8 deadline for our group discount has passed. This is a busy season at Oglebay, so rooms in the lodge may not be available.

Contact Oglebay Resort directly at 304-243-4000 or [www.oglebay-resort.com](http://www.oglebay-resort.com).

If you stay in the lodge, the amount due to WPWP is the \$75 workshop fee.

**WPWP registration deadline: October 10.**

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