

DAWG Critique Night

Purpose:

You will have an opportunity to read your work to the group and receive an oral critique from a panel of published writers. Even if you do not present your work, this is a good opportunity to learn about writing techniques.

The purpose of the critique is for you to receive constructive input from published writers about your writing – the critiques will be based on how well the manuscript tells your story.

It is natural to be sensitive to any critique of your writing. However, keep in mind that this is a critique of the writing and not of the writer. People will have different reactions to your writing – even if you do not agree with a panelist's assessment of your writing, you should graciously accept the input and use the information to help you improve your writing skills.

Any level and style of writing is allowed. However, since some of our attendees are high school students and below, we ask that you keep that in mind when selecting what material to read.

What to bring to the Critique Night:

1. Yourself, your enthusiasm and any manuscript you want feedback on.
2. Your manuscript – limit what you read to a maximum of 10 double spaced typewritten pages. You will be given a **maximum of 8 minutes** to read. This will be followed by 5 minutes of critique from the panel.
3. Readers will be allowed to read on a first come basis – there will be a sign up sheet available when you arrive. Dues-paying members of DAWG are given priority. If non-members sign up to read, they will be given an opportunity after all DAWG members have had a chance.
4. If everyone has had a chance to read and there is time remaining, you may read a second manuscript (or a continuation of your previous manuscript.)
5. Bring 5 neatly printed double spaced copies of your manuscript – panel members may make notes on the copies as you read – the copies will be returned to you after the critique.
6. You must not respond to the oral critiques unless a panel member asks you a specific question. You may discuss your manuscript after the meeting with panel members if they agree.