

# Summer Festival Days

## August 8: Publishing and Platform Building

1:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m. PST

**PANEL: Publishing 101 moderated by Marni Freedman and Anastasia Hipkins with Brooke Warner, Annie Bomke, Holly Kammier (Acorn Publishing)**

You dream of being a published author, but you may not be sure what path you should take. Traditional? Hybrid? Indie? It is both a confusing time for writers as well as a time filled with possibility. Arm yourself with the knowledge you need by listening to the presentations from our three publishing experts, Brooke Warner, Annie Bomke (Agent) and Holly Kammier. The more you know, the better chance you have of making your publishing dream come true.

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## ANNIE BOMKE



Annie Bomke is a literary agent with over a decade of experience in the publishing industry. Her clients include the Macavity Award-winning crime writer John Copenhaver, and the Barnes & Noble bestselling cozy mystery author Libby Klein. She represents a wide range of projects—from hard-nosed business books to otherworldly historical novels. Annie has loved the publishing industry since her internship at *Zoetrope: All-Story*, a literary magazine founded by Francis Ford Coppola. Authors have called her the pH test for good writing, and a bedrock for literary quality control.

She is looking for adult and YA fiction and nonfiction, including commercial and literary fiction, upmarket fiction, mysteries (from hilarious cozies to gritty police procedurals and everything in between), historical fiction, magical realism, women's fiction, psychological thrillers/suspense, literary/psychological horror, self-help, business, health/diet, cookbooks, memoir, relationships, current events, true crime, psychology, prescriptive nonfiction, and narrative nonfiction. She's a sucker for locked room mysteries, books set in the Victorian era, books about evil children, and unreliable narrators. In any genre she is looking for character-driven stories. She is especially interested in books that feature diverse characters. She is not interested in representing picture books, chapter books or middle grade.

## BROOKE WARNER



Brooke Warner is publisher of She Writes Press and SparkPress, president of Warner Coaching Inc., and author of *Write On, Sisters!*, *Green-light Your Book*, *What's Your Book?*, and three books on memoir. Brooke is a TEDx speaker, weekly podcaster (of "Write-minded" with co-host Grant Faulkner of NaNoWriMo), and the former Executive Editor of Seal Press. She writes a monthly column for *Publishers Weekly*.

## HOLLY KAMMIER



Holly Kammier is the international best-selling author of *Kingston Court*, as well as *Lost Girl*, *A Shelby Day Novel*, and *Choosing Hope*. Co-Founder of Acorn Publishing, the UCLA honors graduate is an accomplished writing coach and a former journalist who has worked everywhere from CNN in Washington, D.C. and KCOP-TV in Los Angeles, to the NBC affiliate in small-town Medford, Oregon. The California native and mother of teenage boys, lives in San Diego, close to her friends and family. You can visit her online at [WWW.HKAMMIER.COM](http://WWW.HKAMMIER.COM) or at [WWW.ACORNUBLISHINGLLC.COM](http://WWW.ACORNUBLISHINGLLC.COM)

## MARNI FREEDMAN



Marni Freedman (BFA, LMFT) is a produced, published, and award-winning writer. After graduating from USC Film School, Marni began her career bringing her play, *Two Goldsteins on Acid* to the stage, after which it was made into the film, *Playing Mona Lisa*," produced by Disney. She has written for Tony Award-Winning Harvey Fierstein, Academy Award-nominee Elliot Gould. She co-authored the play, *A Jewish Joke*, about a 1950s comedy writer facing the Hollywood Blacklist, which won the NY Solo Show for best drama, critics' choice for the *San Diego Union-Tribune*, received critical acclaim across the US, and was recently produced Off Broadway.

Marni leads the Memoir Certificate Program for San Diego Writers, Ink, produces the San Diego Memoir Writers Association's theatrical Memoir Showcase, and is an editor of the award-winning anthology series, *Shaking the Tree: short. brazen. memoir*. She is also a writing coach and a therapist for artists and writers. Her first book, *7 Essential Writing Tools: That Will Absolutely Make Your Writing Better (And Enliven the Soul)* is an Amazon Bestseller. Her second award-winning book is *Permission to Roar: For Female Thought Leaders Ready to Write*. Last, but certainly not least, in 2019, Marni launched the first-annual San Diego Writers Festival in conjunction with her partner in crime, Jeniffer Thompson. You can find Marni at [www.marnifreedman.com](http://www.marnifreedman.com), a writing hub to help writers find their authentic voice.

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## Anastasia Hipkins



Anastasia Zadeik Hipkins is a freelance writer, editor, and writing coach. She regularly performs in narrative non-fiction showcases, including So Say We All's VAMP and the San Diego Memoir Showcase, and her work has appeared in The Literary Vine Review and Shaking the Tree.

Having received a BA in psychology from Smith College, Anastasia worked for an international neuropsychological research firm before and while raising her children, living overseas from 1991-2000. After returning stateside, she and her family settled in the San Diego area where, over the last nineteen years, she has volunteered and served as a board member for a variety of nonprofit

organizations dedicated to health, education, and the arts. She currently lives in Mission Hills with her husband and empty-nest rescue dog, Charlie.