



The Kentucky  
Foundation For  
Women



**2017 Summer Residency Program at Hopscotch House: Invitation, Information and How to Apply**  
Applications must be submitted by March 3, 2017 at 5 pm EST

*Voice Lessons: An Invitation from Writer-in-Residence George Ella Lyon*

***Invitation:***

*Do you ever feel like you can't hear your own voice? Do you sometimes sense its presence but can't bring it to the page? Do you struggle to believe in your words or to share them once they're written? Are you looking for ways to ground your writing practice and to connect it with the larger community? Come to Hopscotch House for a week of workshops, writing time, individual conferences, communal meals, and outside rambles focused on finding, claiming, nurturing and sharing your voice.*

KFW's 2017 Summer Residency Program, "Voice Lessons," **June 11-17, 2017** invites applications from Kentucky women writers who wish to work closely with Writer-in-Residence George Ella Lyon to develop their artistic skills.

Please read the following information about this year's program, see tentative daily agenda at the end of this document and information about how to apply. Spread the word to those who may be interested. **Notifications of acceptances will be mailed by April 21, 2017**

*Note: George Ella Lyon will also host a free, one-day community writing workshop at Hopscotch House on Saturday, June 10. Information and registration will be available for that workshop in May.*

**About KFW's Summer Residency Program at Hopscotch House**

KFW's 2017 Summer Residency Program offers four to six participants a week-long immersion in writing craft, voice development and community building. The program provides literary artists with a skilled and experienced writer/instructor, George Ella Lyon, who will facilitate group workshops and provide individual mentoring. KFW's Summer Residency Program offers an accessible entry point for developing artists as well as an opportunity for established feminist artists to deepen their work and consider the social change power of their art. Residents will also share ideas, exchange work and make connections that will help strengthen the collective experience. A combination of the individual transformation experience and the community building experience will give participants an opportunity to produce new work and new perspectives and to continue to develop as writers beyond the residency experience.

*The mission of the Kentucky Foundation for Women is to promote positive social change by supporting varied feminist expression in the arts.*

The natural setting at Hopscotch House provides an opportunity to explore the power of creativity within a feminist social change artist community. Participants have access to 400 acres of historically significant privately held land surrounding Hopscotch House. The forests, watersheds, meadows, wildflowers and wild life can be sources for inspiration, reflection and connections to the natural world. Through this special Residency opportunity, Kentucky feminist literary artists will spend 7 days and 6 nights, **June 11 to 17**, at Hopscotch House, deepen their writing practice and consider strategies to expand the social change impact of their work.

### **Housing and Food**

Residents will be provided a space within Hopscotch House or in the adjacent studio structure. Some participants will share a sleeping room and bathroom. KFW will provide a stipend for food costs and residents will work out a plan for taking turns cooking and cleaning up, or develop an alternate plan for sharing kitchen space.

### **Costs**

This residency is offered free of cost to participants. KFW provides housing, a food stipend, instruction and mentoring and any other activities related to this residency.

### **Who Can Apply?**

The 2017 Summer Residency program is open to all women who are feminist social change artists with a literary arts focus who live and work in Kentucky. Artists with varied backgrounds, worldviews, cultural heritages, and sexual orientations are encouraged to apply. The communal environment created by the residents offers fresh thinking and cross-fertilization of ideas. Summer Residents regularly report that these kinds of exchanges inspire new insights, which strengthen their individual work. KFW is committed to making the residency program accessible to a wide range of women regardless of age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, educational level, economic condition, or geographic origin. All applicants must be able to commit to completing the full seven day, six night residency from **June 11 through 17, 2017**.

### **About George Ella Lyon**

The outgoing Poet Laureate of Kentucky, George Ella Lyon is the author of four books of poetry, a novel, a memoir, and a short story collection as well as picture books, novels, and poetry for young readers. In addition to the Laureateship, her honors include: an Al Smith Fellowship, fellowships to the Hambidge Center for the Arts, numerous grants from The Kentucky Foundation for Women, a Pushcart Prize nomination, and a feature in the PBS series, *The United States of Poetry*. Her books have been chosen for the Chafin Award, the Appalachian Book of the Year award, the Aesop Prize, ALA's Schneider Family Book Award, the Jane Addams Honor Book, the Golden Kite Award, the New York Public Library's Best Book for Teens, and the Parents' Choice Silver Medal. Lyons recent books include *Many-Storied House: Poems* and *Voices from the March on Washington*, co-written with J. Patrick Lewis. A native of Harlan County, Kentucky, Lyon works as a freelance writer and teacher based in Lexington. She and her husband, musician/writer Steve Lyon, have two grown sons.

## How Do I Apply?

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*The online application portal will be available on the KFW website by February 17.*

*All applications must be submitted by March 3, 2017 at 5 pm EST*

*Notification will be sent to applicants by April 21, 2017.*

*The Residency will take place June 11-17, 2017*

*These are the questions that will be on the online application. They are provided here for you to prepare your application materials and work sample in advance. If you need help with the online system or need to submit a paper copy of your application, contact [Sharon@kfw.org](mailto:Sharon@kfw.org) or call 502-562-0045.*

### **The application will include the following questions:**

1. APPLICATION FORM: You will fill in basic information about the applicant on this online form.

2. NARRATIVE: The following questions will have a text box where you can copy and paste your responses.

1. In three to five sentences, please describe how a 2017 Summer Residency at Hopscotch House will further your development as a feminist and as an artist working for social justice. *(3-5 sentences)*
2. Describe your understanding and practice of feminism and how it relates to your writing. *(about 2-5 paragraphs)*
3. Describe how your writing can advance social change in Kentucky. *(about 3-5 paragraphs)*
4. Sharing living, kitchen and bathroom space can be both bonding and challenging. Explain how participating in a communal environment of writers dedicated to feminist social change could be beneficial as well as challenging. Describe how you would both contribute to and benefit from the community. Describe any experiences you have had living or working in a communal environment. What tools do you have for self-care if challenges arise? In what way will you interact with others to maintain positive communication throughout the week? *(about 3-5 paragraphs)*
5. Describe your commitment to writing. Please include any formal or information education, participation in writing groups, personal desire, publications, teaching, etc. Feel free to include any relevant credentials that describe you as a writer. *(about half a page)*

3. WORK SAMPLE: Collect a Writing Work Sample. You will be asked to upload a writing sample that best represents you as a literary artist. Submit writing in the genre that you expect to work with while at the residency. You may submit a mixed genre sample but your writing sample must be formatted as a single PDF or DOC file that is no more than 10 pages. Prose should be double-spaced and poetry should be single-spaced.

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## About the Application Process

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### ***Who Reviews the Applications?***

A panel of independent peer reviewers will read all applications and make the final recommendations concerning the selection of the Summer Residents. The reviewers understand the power of a residency for building community and advancing feminist artmaking for social change and are familiar with the merits of creative writing. KFW staff do not make selections for this program.

### ***What Criteria Will the Reviewers Use in Selecting the 2017 Summer Residents?***

1. Application clearly describes how this Summer Residency will further the applicant's development as a feminist and as an artist working for social justice.
2. Application clearly describes how the applicant's understanding and practice of feminism relates to her writing.
3. Application clearly describes how the applicant's writing can advance social change.
4. Application demonstrates a clear understanding of the benefits and challenges of participating in a communal environment of feminist social change artists and clearly describes how the applicant would both contribute to and benefit from the community.
5. Application clearly shows the applicant's commitment to writing (formal or informal education, participation in writing groups, personal desire, publication, teaching, etc.) and relevant credentials (if any).

### ***A Note About Archives***

*Duke University is the designated archive for all KFW records. After five years, the foundation forwards all paper and digital files concerning the residency and retreat programs to the Rare Book Manuscripts and Special Collections Library at Duke University. All KFW records deposited at Duke are open to qualified researchers. By submitting this application, you waive any right to claim a privacy interest in the accepted residency project.*

## **Tentative Daily Agenda SRP 2017: “Voice Lessons”**

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8:00-10:00 a.m.            Breakfast with others or alone, whatever best suits your way of waking up to words

10:30 a.m.                Workshop

Discussion and exercises each day will focus on a different facet of your relationship to voice:

- The Right to a Voice
- Claiming Your Voice
- Finding & Nurturing Your Voice
- Writing in Other Voices
- Raising Your Voice: Making Change

12:30 p.m.                Lunch

2:00 p.m.                Individual consultations  
Participants write on their own

6:00 p.m.                Sharing Time

This can evolve day by day as we get to know each other. Some of us might meet inside or outside to read to each other. Others might take walks on the grounds and continue our conversations from the morning.

7:00 p.m.                Dinner

We'll work out a plan for taking turns cooking and cleaning up.

9:00                        Writing or Social Time

Again, this will evolve, and everyone will be free to write or visit or watch a movie together, always being mindful of others' need for peace and quiet.