



Newsletter

September 2021



Kim Duvall

Newsletter Co-Editor

Rachana Pandey

Newsletter Co-Editor

From the ICWP President

The Board has been busy the past few months.

First, please welcome **Dr. Rachana Pandey** as a new Board member. I am thrilled to also introduce her as the new co-editor of the ICWP Newsletter, and I'm looking forward to fresh ideas that she has for the publication. Read more about Rachana below.

ICWP has a new video streaming service that will stream the works of the Script Feedback Group on YouTube. Read more about it below in a report from Board Member, **Tavi Juárez**.

The Board approved an invitation to join an online community radio station in Denmark and create a weekly 30-minute show on Tremella. With the help of members, we chose to name the broadcast ICWP Radio Stages. The show will feature interviews and creative content. Read more below.

In August, members **Lisa Grunberger** and **Jennifer Schaupp** represented ICWP at the 2021 virtual conference of the Association for Theatre in Education.

The Board is in discussion with Goddard College regarding a partnership to include workshops, mentoring, and more. Our mentor program is in the development stages with Intern **Robin Gordon** and Board members **Laura Pfizenmayer** and **Margaret McSeveney**. Playwriting workshops will be facilitated by members.

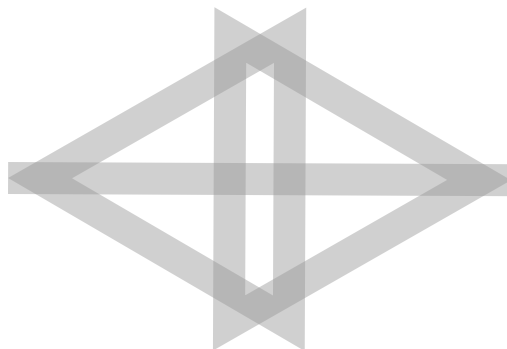
The Social Media team has been promoting the organization and our members' works.

The holiday season is a few months away, and the ICWP Holiday Fundraising Campaign will kick off soon, with Board member **Karin Williams** chairing the drive. We are actively seeking new Board members to join our working Board.

Lastly, it has been a pleasure working on the newsletter with **Kim Duvall**, **Mags McSeveney**, and contributors.

Sharon Wallace

President, ICWP



In the Spotlight



In August, we were delighted to welcome to the Board **Rachana Pandey, PhD**, Assistant Professor in the Department of English at Vasanta College for Women in Varanasi, India.

A member of ICWP since 2015, Rachana is the recipient of many awards and accolades. In 2017, she received the prestigious British Council Charles Wallace India Trust Grant and completed a visiting fellowship with the Trust in London. In 2018, she served as Session Chair in the International Conference on Future of Women in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; was a member of the Scientific Committee of the 4th World Conference on Women's Studies in Colombo, Sri Lanka; and earned the Appreciation Certificate for her work with LEAD, a program of the Deshpande Foundation that offers students an opportunity to make a change in their world. Her areas of interest include Theatre, Performance and Gender Studies -- subjects on which she has authored and edited numerous books.

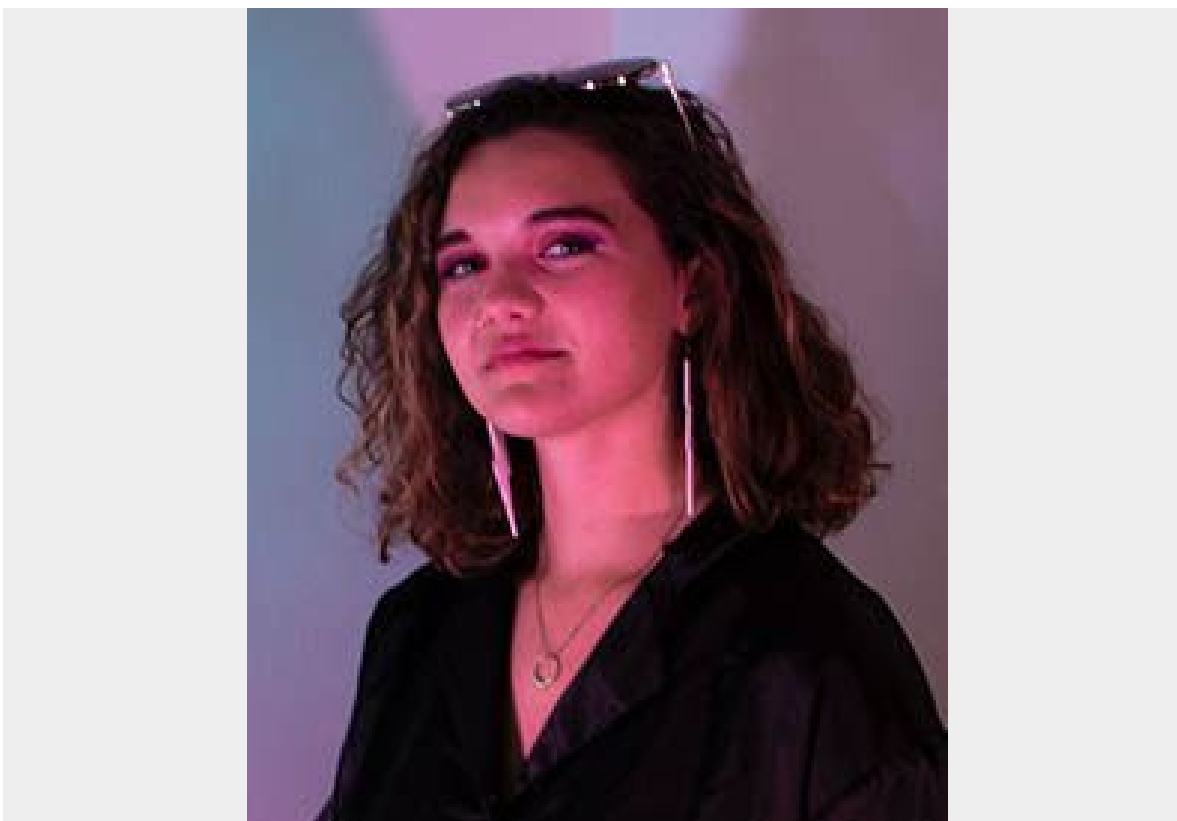
From **Karin Williams**

As New York theater springs back to life, [Today Tix](#) offers a roundup of Broadway Women, and artists like Caridad Svich wonder how streamed theater will evolve post-pandemic. Read more [here](#).

Women's plays will be on stage in London this fall, including work by Bess Wohl, Caryl Churchill, Hilary Mantel, Jasmine Lee-Jones, Winsome Pinnock, Moira Buffini, and Suhayla El-Bushra. Read more [here](#).

Meanwhile, *The New York Times* ponders the forgotten women playwrights of pre-Revolutionary France. Read more [here](#).

And, for producers who want to [expand the cannon](#), Hedgepig Ensemble has a list of classic plays by women. Read more [here](#).



From **Margaret McSeveney**

Earlier in the year, the Board decided to republish the ICWP published volume "Scenes from a Diverse World" as five shorter volumes. We are very happy to have an Intern, **Genevieve Swanson** (pictured above), to assist, and great progress is being made.

On the Radio



ICWP Radio Stages broadcast the first ICWP show on Tremella Radio. Tremella is based in Denmark but has international reach, like all digital radio.

The 30-minute show is scheduled to run every Wednesday from 18.00 to 18.30 CET (6 hours ahead of EDT).

Right now, we are re-broadcasting the podcasts that we already have published, but we are planning to produce fresh audio-based content.

See a list of all the shows that Tremella Radio Station broadcasts [here](#).

On the Blog

Visit the ICWP Blog [here](#) to read the latest contributions from our members.

New Centre Stage podcasts...

In Episode 9, **Annie Lanzillotto** reads her story, *Twelve Rabbis Went to a Party*.

In Episode 8, **LaurA! Force Scruggs** reads an excerpt from her play *Punk Grandpa*. She discusses the writing of the play and how she began writing plays.

In Episode 7, **Christine Emmert** reads from and then talks about three of her plays: *Dying in Pittsburgh*, *Fragments of a Witches' Journal*, and *Old Hippie*.

A new post...

My Creativity SECRETS by travel journalist/playwright/artist **Sharon Baker**.

A new poem...

Beyond Covid © by **Sandra Dempsey**. Sandra writes about the smallest casualties of a war-torn middle eastern country.



From **Amy Drake**

Broadway Rebound

Just as the world was hoping to regain some normalcy after the pandemic, we are faced with another wave. This regression in reopening theater has caused some interesting trends in shows being offered on Broadway.

According to Broadway.com, approximately 80% of the shows on offer are shows which opened before COVID-19, and some are revivals, some, such as *Plaza Suite* and *Company*, originated decades ago. Ticket prices have dropped to Off-Broadway levels. Some shows are selling tickets as low as \$39 (USD). Other big-budget shows have thrown in the towel as they don't anticipate recouping, including *Frozen*, *Mean Girls*, and a revival of *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* (thewrap.com)

Before COVID, there were a number of new shows on the slate: nearly all of those have vanished. With theaters and commerce trying to hang on in the wake of a new virus strain, it seems that opportunities should abound for new works and producers looking for new plays and musicals that can be staged less expensively than a lavish extravaganza or star vehicle. The opposite seems to be panning out: producers and investors seem to be putting their money on the tried-and-true to get audiences back in seats. Bravo to those theaters and producers, like Ken Davenport, for taking on new works!

It seems counterintuitive to offer that those intrepid theatergoers willing to go back into close quarters more of the same fare. New York theaters have set the example of presenting brave new works—comedies, musicals, dramas—for the past century. Let's hope they don't lose that passion for the daring and original as new voices yearn to be heard and audiences seek entertainment that makes them think.



ICWP member **Shirley King** died in July in Oakland, California, USA. She was 86.

A former social worker and an alumna of UC Berkeley, Shirley came to writing plays later in life. She created a formidable work of plays, monologues, and books. In 2017, 22 performances of her plays and monologues were staged. Shirley was a member of The Dramatists Guild of America and an active member of ICWP for 20 years.

She was a beloved mentor to many artists and enthusiastically shared her knowledge and experience with emerging playwrights, whom she inspired and motivated with the message that it is never too late to write the stories we want to tell.

Watch a performance of one of Shirley's short comedy plays at Asphalt Jungle Shorts [here](#) on YouTube.

*Play directed by **Jenni Munday**. Video produced by **Paddy Gillard-Bentley**.*



the script feedback group

BIG NEWS AND MONTHLY UPDATES FOR SEPTEMBER 2021

THE WEEKLY READ

SINCE JUNE 2021, THE ICWP SCRIPT FEEDBACK GROUP HAS SHARED & PROVIDED FEEDBACK ON THE FOLLOWING WORKS BY WOMEN PLAYWRIGHTS:

Midsummer Climate by Judith Pratt

Miranda by Catherine (Nina) Haigney

Far Away by Judith Pratt

The Real World by Carey Seward

Zoom Wedding by Tavi Juárez

Fall Follies to debut November 2021

We are excited to announce the next online play reading of our short work, Fall Follies! This will be a live-streamed YouTube event in late November 2021. Keep an eye on your email and our social media for more information.

Interested in taking part in our quarterly play-readings? Join us!

2021 Stats

- 87 FEEDBACK FORMS COMPLETED
- 37 INTERNATIONAL MEMBERS
- 19 SHORT WORKS SHARED
- 12 WEEKLY READS RELEASED



Summer Shorts success!

We had 46 registered attendees and +160 views! Thank you to all who attended. On Tuesday, August 31st we proudly presented the following short works by ICWP members:

A Hot Mess of Rabbit Stew by Laura Pfizenmayer

"Mary" read by Georgia Fender

"Shannon" read by Tavi Juárez

Mexican Birthday Brunch by Tavi Juárez

"Juan" read by Chris Browne Valenzuela

"Mary" read by Cait Kelly

"Rebecca" read by Lebene Ayivor

"Amelia" read by Samantha Kolb

My Last Meal by Catherine Haigney

"Hester Flynn" read by Arshia Panicker

"Madge" read by Mary Bova

"Justin McCoy" read by Tim Ashby

Far Away by Judith Pratt

"Maurey" read by AJ Sage

"Yantrique" read by Lisa Frank

Sound Effects by Thomas R. Bruce

Missed our live-stream play reading?

Watch all the play readings here:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLI6aJZBcOusXDb1zeaccQOetr4iCjZncf>



By Laura Pfizenmayer
Read by Georgia Fender & Tavi Juárez



By Tavi Juárez
Read by Chris Browne Valenzuela, Cait Kelly, Lebene Ayivor & Samantha Kolb

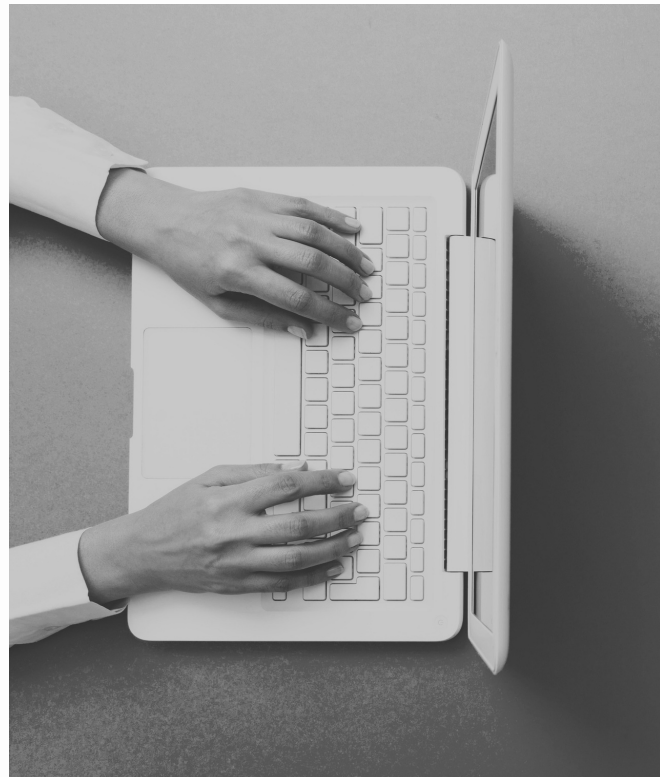


By Catherine Haigney
Read by Arshia Panicker, Mary Bova, & Tim Ashby



By Judith Pratt
Read by AJ Sage & Lisa Frank

Are you looking for feedback from other women playwrights?



JOIN OUR CIRCLE!

- No Zoom sessions
- Give-feedback-to-get-feedback style
- Work at your pace
- Feedback shared privately
- Low to no weekly commitment
- Quarterly play reading events for participants

Questions?

Contact the Script Feedback Group facilitator, Tavi Juárez at:
tavi@womenplaywrights.org

You can find more information about our group by clicking [this link](#) or by visiting the ICWP member's area online.



Keep up with ICWP!



Follow & engage with us on social media.



<https://www.facebook.com/womenplaywrights>

If you enjoy our organization, please review us and like our stuff!



<https://twitter.com/ICWP>

Get on our Twitter Member List:

<http://twitter.com/i/lists/196925921>



<https://www.instagram.com/icwplaywrights/>

We re-post member events, publications, and awards! DM us.



<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/2590623/>

Join our LinkedIn group to add your press, articles, and other noteworthy news.



<https://www.youtube.com/user/ICWomenPlaywrights>

Add your YouTube videos to our playlist.

Have a success to share with our social media team?



We want to promote your work! Please provide details on our "Share Your Success" form.

<https://forms.gle/kUrTgM4WMet84VV9A>

If available to be featured, one of our team members will follow up for more information within five business days.

You can also direct message us posts to share, re-tweet, or re-post. To add a video to our YouTube playlist, please use the "Share Your Success" form.

Welcome to New Members



Kate Boyette, South Carolina, USA

Carol Campbell, Oakton, Virginia, USA

Karen Marguerite Caronna, Oakland, California, USA

Patricia Connelly, Virginia, USA

Efioanwan Edem, Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria

Lea Galanter, Washington State, USA

Midge Guerrera Ewing, New Jersey, USA

Dana Hall, Orland Park, Illinois, USA

Cheyenne Jones, Philadelphia, PA, USA

Alice Viera, Weston, Florida, USA

ICWP is a 501-c-3 Non Profit Organization, incorporated in the state of Ohio, USA

For general questions, contact Margaret McSeveney, Communications Manager:

admin@womenplaywrights.org

For the Board of Directors, contact Board President:

board@womenplaywrights.org

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