

Writing to Remember (Blue)

Writing Your Own Story

Course #	19FWB
Format:	Seminar
Moderator(s):	Henia Lewin
Co-Moderator:	Carol Jolly
Date and Time:	Monday, 1:30-3:30 10 weeks, starting September 23
Location:	Lilly Library, Reading Room, Florence
Maximum number of participants:	12
Auditors accepted:	No

Purpose: The purpose of this seminar is to write about your life, share your writing with seminar members, and hear their stories.

Description: Whatever we call the form – autobiography, memoir, personal history, family history – writing about one’s life is a powerful human need. Many people want to leave behind some record of their accomplishments, thoughts, and adventures. If it’s a family history, it will have the added value of telling one’s children and grandchildren about their heritage.

Writers are the custodians of memory, and memories have a way of dying with their owner. One of the saddest sentences we know is, “I wished I had asked my mother about that.” In this seminar, you’ll enjoy writing about your life, as well as hearing the stories of other people’s lives. The atmosphere is relaxed, but the serious efforts of all concerned help to make this a rewarding experience for the whole group.

Role of participants: Each participant is expected to write at home about his or her life whether through anecdotes, letters, conversations, or in full detail. During the semester everyone will be given two opportunities to present, by reading aloud from his or her prepared texts, and to contribute to the discussions that follow.

Resources: N/A

About the Moderator: Henia Lewis taught university courses in Hebrew and Yiddish and received a national Covenant Award as an Outstanding Jewish Educator. She is a Holocaust child-survivor working on her autobiography.

Carol Jolly has served on LIR committees, Council, and as an officer. After sampling a wide variety of seminars and moderating a few, she took Writing to Remember, and looks forward to continuing to work on her life story.