

WriteGirl to Honor Acclaimed Author Margaret Atwood and Outstanding Women Writers at Bold Ink Awards on June 4th

WriteGirl Alum Amanda Gorman to Offer Special Message; Sponsorship Packages and Tickets Available Now for Online Celebration

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/EINPresswire.com/ -- [WriteGirl](#), the nationally-recognized girls writing and mentoring organization, has announced it will be honoring internationally acclaimed author Margaret Atwood (*The Handmaid's Tale*) at its annual WriteGirl Bold Ink Awards on June 4, 2022. In addition, the LA-based organization will be honoring NBC4's award-winning reporter Beverly White, and groundbreaking TV writer, producer and director Mara Brock Akil. WriteGirl alum Amanda Gorman, who performed her poetry at the Biden-Harris Inauguration last year, will provide a special message at the 2022 Bold Ink Awards.

The live online celebration will be co-hosted by Clare Sera, founding WriteGirl volunteer and screenwriter (*Blended*, *Smallfoot*), and actress Keiko Agena, who starred in *Gilmore Girls* and *Prodigal Son*. The event is on Saturday, June 4, from 5 to 6:30pm PDT. [Tickets and more information HERE.](#)

Singer, songwriter, producer and human rights advocate MILCK, whose performance of her ballad "Quiet" at the 2017 Women's March went viral and became the unofficial anthem of the movement, will be the Bold Ink Awards' special musical guest.

This year's Host Committee members include: Lauren Graham, Winnie Holzman, Jennifer Hoppe, Lisa McQuillan, Tahereh Mafi & Ransom Riggs, Allison Deegan, and Clare Sera.



Margaret Atwood, whose work has been published in more than 45 countries, is the author of more than 50 books of fiction, poetry, critical essays and graphic novels. Her books includes *The Handmaid's Tale*, now an award-winning TV series.

“With many teens struggling with significant mental health challenges during these tumultuous times, teen girls need a supportive space to express themselves, develop their confidence and explore their creative voice,” says [Keren Taylor](#), WriteGirl executive director and founder. “They are our future, and it benefits us all to invest in their success. We are thrilled to honor Beverly White, Mara Brock Akil and Margaret Atwood this year, spotlighting their tremendous work as writers, truth-tellers and role models for our teen girls and nonbinary youth.”

Atwood, whose work has been published in more than 45 countries, is the author of more than 50 books of fiction, poetry, critical essays and graphic novels. In addition to *The Handmaid’s Tale*, now an award-winning TV series, her novels include *Cat’s Eye*, short-listed for the 1989 Booker Prize; *Alias Grace*, which won the Giller Prize in Canada and the Premio Mondello in Italy, and *The Blind Assassin*, winner of the 2000 Booker Prize. She is the recipient of numerous awards, including the PEN Center USA Lifetime Achievement Award, and the Los Angeles Times Innovator’s Award, which was also awarded to Taylor in 2020.

NBC’s *White* is an accomplished journalist with nearly 40 years experience. She has covered hundreds of significant local, regional and national stories and has been recognized by the National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ) Chuck Stone Lifetime Achievement Award and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors for her distinguished career. Beverly White has been a guest mentor at many WriteGirl writing workshops for teens, helping to inspire the next generation of journalists.

“

WriteGirl has been pivotal in my life. It’s been thanks to their support that I’ve been able to chase my dreams as a writer. Couldn’t have gotten here without you!”

Amanda Gorman, WriteGirl Alum



Mara Brock Akil has written and produced nearly 400 episodes of television, including her beloved series *Girlfriends*, and its spin-off, *The Game*. She has been honored with the prestigious Brandon Tartikoff Legacy Award by NATPE.

Brock Akil has written and produced nearly 400 episodes of television, including her beloved series *Girlfriends*, a witty and honest exploration of the multi-faceted nature of Black womanhood, and its spin-off, *The Game*, which found new life at BET and Netflix, and other scripted series. She has been honored with the prestigious Brandon Tartikoff Legacy Award by NATPE, was inducted into her

alma mater Northwestern University’s Medill Hall of Achievement and received the distinguished

Northwestern Alumni Medal, and been named to The Hollywood Reporter's "Women in Entertainment Power 100" multiple times.

WriteGirl serves more than 500 teens annually, mainly from high-density neighborhoods. Since its formation in 2001, one hundred percent of WriteGirl's graduating seniors have entered college, many on full or partial scholarships and many as the first in their family to do so. WriteGirl offers online workshops led by acclaimed women writers with genres spanning from poetry and songwriting to journalism and screenwriting.

WriteGirl provides a counterbalance to the enormous challenges teen girls face, including depression, pregnancy, incarceration and violence in their communities. It strives to provide every girl with a mentor who can help her ultimately discover her voice and true aspirations. WriteGirl envisions a world where all teens live, write, and speak boldly as they become inspiring, transformative leaders, driven to effect positive change in their communities. It has been the mission of WriteGirl to raise up the voices of underrepresented and/or vulnerable youth, including Black, Latinx, Asian/Pacific Islander, Indigenous, nonbinary, LGBTQIA youth, anyone with disabilities, and many others who are part of the community WriteGirl serves.

For WriteGirl, adapting all programming online due to the pandemic has allowed WriteGirl to expand to reach girls across the U.S. and internationally, with writing programs now serving groups of teens in Nevada, Wisconsin, Tajikistan and Afghanistan. One-on-one writing mentors have been matched with teens in Nigeria, Uruguay, Poland and many other countries.

First held in 2006, the WriteGirl Bold Ink Awards is an uplifting event and benefit for WriteGirl that celebrates outstanding women writers and raises vital funds for WriteGirl creative writing programs. WriteGirl is seeking to raise critical funding for its workshops, one-on-one mentoring and college application assistance during these challenging times to both sustain current WriteGirl programs and support the organization's growth as it expands to reach even more teens.

In 2013, WriteGirl was honored by First Lady Michelle Obama with the National Arts and



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Humanities Youth Program Award. In 2014, Taylor was named a CNN Hero.

To learn more about WriteGirl and view the Sponsorship Kit or Press Kit, please visit the WriteGirl website.

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