

WLF Past Participating Author Comments

"Being in a room full of women who love to read and talk about books was so inspiring that once the festival was over I just wanted to run home and write."

—Reyna Grande, 2009

"Intelligent, warm, welcoming, and well-organized, the Santa Barbara Women's Literary Festival ranks among the most rewarding and positive undertakings of its kind. Every writer and every lover of literature should have the good fortune of participating in such a program."

—Gina Nahai, 2008

"The Women's Literary Festival is one of the warmest, most welcoming and empowering literary conferences I've ever attended. The diversity of women presenting and attending was truly a beautiful thing to witness. I left the conference feeling inspired, and motivated to not only write, but to also keep in touch with the new friends I made."

—Alisa Valdes-Rodriguez, 2007

"The Santa Barbara Women's Literary Festival is a sparkling diamond in the literary landscape of events! Well-organized, diverse and enthusiastic, the organizers of the Festival create an intimate environment that allows writers and discerning readers to interact during memorable and immensely rewarding day of programming. So whether you must drive, fly, or hitchhike to get there—the Santa Barbara Women's Literary Festival won't disappoint!."

—Paula L. Woods, 2008

"The Women's Literary Festival of Santa Barbara provides incredible opportunities for readers to connect with book authors. As an attendee, I was impressed with the quality and diversity of authors featured as speakers at the festival. As an author, I appreciated the chance to connect with readers and other authors. The Festival Committee is made up of amazing women who clearly have a passion for literacy and social justice. I look forward to attending next year's festival!"

—Adina Nack, 2009

"The SBWLF was wonderful: full of smart, warm and engaging readers and fascinating, entertaining and deeply caring authors. It was a powerful day of words and hearts, connection and reflection. I hope to return soon to this very special community."

—Rebecca Walker, 2007

"The Women's Literary Festival is a writer's dream come true: a room filled with avid readers with a passion for language and a desire to forge connections. I'm not sure who walked away more inspired —the audience or the writers! I certainly left Santa Barbara charged and even more compelled to put pen to paper. Every town should be blessed with such a wonderful literary community."

—Dima Hilal, 2007

"There is nothing quite so exhilarating as a huge roomful of intelligent, funny, reading women. The Women's Literary Festival of Santa Barbara is, officially, my ideal village."

—Cristina Garcia, 2008

"It [The WLF] was one of the very best organized festivals I have ever attended as a writer."
—Nora Gallagher, 2011

"Days later I still feel buoyed by the literary delights of the festival—the presentations of my fellow writers and the enthusiasm and passion of the wonderful women (plus two men) who attended! "
—Lisa Fugard, 2011

"I was enormously pleased by the entire event. I have never had any event that pleasant and such a joy to do. ...all the personal touches were wonderful....and a great, great introduction and audience.. Wow. I now know what it must be like to be super rich and have every word doted on! A pleasure!"
—Diane Wilson, 2011

"The Women's Literary Festival of Santa Barbara has been one of my most rewarding author experiences. While I knew to look forward to a great group of diverse, accomplished women writers, I came away equally impressed, if not more, by my encounters with the steering committee members and the attendees—all avid, wise readers. I learned so much from the day's lectures and conversations. It was a pleasure and honor to be chosen for this festival, and to have the opportunity to be a part of such an incredible event."
—Aimee Phan, 2013