



“Throughout this unprecedented time, one constant for me has been the courses and workshops available virtually through the IWC. The groups that I have joined have been an incredible support to me. They have allowed me to cope with and make sense of the craziness in this world and to find my tribe of people.” —IWC Class Participant

INDIANA WRITERS CENTER: SURVIVE, THEN THRIVE

The Indiana Writers Center is dedicated to writers and writing. After 40-plus years, this is our core principle, our reason for being. While this year of Pandemic has been most difficult, we have also found it to be a time of reaffirmation. Many of you have been on this journey with us.

We were, and still are challenged by a virus that caused us to shut down our physical space and cancel or postpone over 40 events. One of those events, our signature event, was named for what we were cautioned by health experts to avoid — *The Gathering of Writers*. We lost income, but we persevered. We re-grouped and re-envisioned what the IWC could offer our community, and our artists and writers, during these strange times.

As of today, we have survived. To do so we had to become flexible and creative in both our programming and the ways in which classes are delivered. Since May we have held over 50 virtual events through Zoom, WetInk, YouTube, and Facebook, attended by more than 2000 people.

Through it all, we have learned that the IWC’s “center” it is not so much a physical place as a state of being, a conduit through which anyone — without regard to race, gender, sexual identity, religion, disability or station in life — can come, gather with others, find inspiration, and *dare to be a writer*.

The IWC’s commitment to carry on was further affirmed when the IWC was awarded the Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana Authors Award inaugural Literary Champion Award. The award provided a breath of inspiration, and affirmation through this otherwise difficult season that we must be doing something right; something necessary.

But this is an ongoing process. IWC needs financial support to supplement our current income as we prepare for a future that will include the best of both past in person classes as well as current virtual classes. We are excited about this transformation and look forward to expanding both our offerings and our audience in the coming years.

Thanks to a committed board and staff, our funders, and the generosity of people like you IWC will continue to serve as a champion for literature and creative writing across Indiana and beyond.

We are counting on your assistance to help us SURVIVE, THEN THRIVE.

Thank you,

Rachel Sahaidachny
Executive Director

Celeste Williams
Board President