



Mystery Writers' Panel

Sunday, January 29, 3 p.m.

Highland Park Public Library, 494 Laurel Ave.

FREE! No registration required.

Authors **Eleanor Taylor Bland**, **Alex Matthews**, **Darren Callahan** and **Jennie Spallone** talk about their craft and writing books that keep you on the edge of your seat. If you love a good mystery, then mark your calendar for this very special afternoon. Come learn the secrets of published mystery writers.

About the Speakers



Eleanor Taylor Bland served on the national board of directors of Mystery Writers of America and is a charter member and past secretary of Sisters in Crime. She also serves as business partner and author-in-residence for Waukegan

school district No. 60, Warren Newport Township Library and Charles V. Woodson Regional Library, Chicago. Eleanor has won the PEN Oakland Josephine Miles award, Chester A. Himes Mystery Fiction award, College of Lake County Distinguished Alumnus award and Most Influential African American of Lake County award. Her Marti MacAlister series has been praised for being the first series to feature a female African-American detective.



Darren Callahan has written drama for the *BBC*, *The Sci-Fi Channel*, *NPR* and New York City's *Radio Pacifica*. He is a winner of the NPR's National Radio Drama Award and is a member of the Chicago Dramatists. His writing has appeared in a number of

music and fiction magazines. His stage plays include *The Double Negative*, *Water Pressure*, *Filmstars* and *Horror Academy*.



Alex Matthews' recently published book, *Wedding's Widow*, is the seventh in her mystery series featuring Cassidy McCabe, a psychotherapist-sleuth who sees clients and solves mysteries out of her home. Alex, a psychotherapist in private practice

with her husband, writes mysteries that reflect her interest in feminism, relationships and cats. She has received the Readers' Choice Best Series Character Award, Cat Writers' Muse Medallion and the Word-sweaving Award for Excellence.



Jennie Spallone is past president of the Off-Campus Writers Workshop in Winnetka, IL. A freelancer for 13 years, Jennie has written over 100 profiles and feature stories for local and national publications. She recently spoke on the New Authors' Panel at the *Love is Murder* mystery

writing conference. Jennie is a member of Sisters in Crime and just had her second suspense novel, *Fatal Reaction*, chosen for representation by a California literary agency. Her non-fiction books include *Write Me Up!* and *Grasping Grammar!*