

Jessica McCann

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Author & Speaker/Instructor

Historical novels: *All Different Kinds of Free* (2011); *Peculiar Savage Beauty* (2018); *Bitter Thaw* (2023)

Nonfiction book: *Words: Essays on Writing, Reading, and Life* (2020)

Partial list of engagements:

- Historical Novel Society – AZ Chapter, presentation (Phoenix, AZ) 2019, 2023
- Phoenix Writers Network, presentation (Phoenix, AZ) 2019
- *Writer's Market*, podcast (online blog) 2017
- Arizona State University (ASU) Alumni Law Group, case study/book discussion (Phoenix, AZ) 2016
- Voya Investment Management, MLK Luncheon, presentation/book discussion (Scottsdale, AZ) 2015
- Snell & Wilmer Annual Retreat, case study/book discussion (Scottsdale, AZ) 2014
- *Desert Nights, Rising Stars* writers conference, presentations/panels and videos (ASU) 2013, 2014
- ASU's Piper Writers Studio ("Writing Historical Fiction" online workshop) 2013, 2014
- *Southwest Valley Writers Conference*, presentations (Avondale, AZ) 2013, 2014

Freelance Writer & Editor

Write, edit and coordinate a variety of projects – articles, annual reports, newsletters, videos, speeches, press releases, books, web copy and more. Clients included national and regional publications and organizations, i.e. *Business Week*, *The Writer*, Royal Oaks Lifecare Community, NV Energy, Boyd Gaming, Arizona State University, Allied Waste, Best Western International, and St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center. (1988 - 2019)

Awards & Recognition

- Judge for *Writer's Digest* Self-Published Book Awards (2019 - 2023)
- *Rubery Book Award*, fiction shortlist: *Peculiar Savage Beauty* (2020)
- *Book of the Year*, Arizona Authors Association Literary Contest: *Peculiar Savage Beauty* (2018)
- *Freedom in Fiction Prize*, Mackinac Center for Public Policy: *All Different Kinds of Free* (2008); novel also named Editor's Choice by *Historical Novels Review* (2011)
- *River Styx* literary journal, Schlafly MicroFiction Contest, 3rd place for short story, "Night Window" (2010)
- *Award of Excellence*, Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) District 7 (2007); wrote one of six articles evaluated by judges for best magazine writing, *ASU Research Magazine*.
- *Pinnacle Award of Excellence* from the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) Las Vegas Valley Chapter for employee newsletter, annual report and media kit (2005)
- *Copper Quill* for feature writing, personality profiles and magazine design from the Phoenix Chapter of the International Association of Business Communicators (IABC) (1995, 1996, 2005)
- Communications Concepts' *APEX Award of Excellence* for magazine and newsletter quality (1992, 1996)
- Judge for Annual Journalism Competition of the National Association of Real Estate Editors (1996)

Employment History

Editor, Heritage Publishers, Inc., Phoenix (1997 - 1998)

Editorial Director, *Arizona Business Magazine*, Phoenix (1993 - 1996)

Communications Coordinator, National Speakers Association, Tempe (1991 -1992)