

The Writers' Circle: A History, 1988-2018

The Writers' Circle has been meeting on Perimeter College's Dunwoody Campus for 30 years. Dr. Lamar York, along with several of his students, originated what was then The Chattahoochee Reviewers. Dr. Lamar served as the group's faculty advisor. In 1988, Learning & Tutoring Center (LTC) writing tutor Gelia Dolcimascolo became the group's facilitator. Soon after, the group renamed itself The Writers' Circle. Past faculty/staff advisors include Dr. Suzanne Murdock, Dr. David Hutto, Sandra Hanner, and Kelli Isakson. LTC manager and former Writing Center Supervisor Nancy McDaniel serves as the current advisor.

Students, faculty, staff, and the Atlanta-area writing community attend the regular critique sessions. Members have included high-school students, psychologists, choreographers, professional artists, writers, pharmacists, physicians, educators, and homemakers. In addition to its regular sessions, The Writers' Circle has featured numerous speakers, including The Chattahoochee Review Editor Lawrence Hetrick, Literary Editor Anne Kempner Fisher, Certified Poetry Therapist John Fox, and poets Cecilia Woloch and Amy Pence. Members have read publicly at the Woodruff Arts Center's CenterSpace Salon, to which the group was invited during the Picasso exhibit at the High Museum in 1998. They have also read and discussed their works and the process of writing for the Friends of the Dunwoody Library, Spruill Gallery and Historic Home, and the Marcus Jewish Community Center. The Writers' Circle became an official Pod of Georgia Writers, Inc. by invitation in 2000. Gelia Dolcimascolo continues to facilitate the meetings.