



## Writers! Know Your Legal Rights:

Everything you need to know, but were afraid to ask!

A workshop on copyrights, contracts, trademark, authors' rights, privacy laws & other legal matters pertinent to freelance writers, novelists, poets and bloggers.

Q&A Panel of local authors, refreshments and networking.

### Featured Speakers:

- [Alice Randall](#), author of *The Wind Done Gone*
- [Jason Koransky](#), Associate, Pattishall McAuliffe
- [Marci Rolnik Walker](#), Legal Director, Lawyers for the Creative Arts

Saturday, June 17, 2017 - BAPA COMMUNITY ROOM

[11109 S. Longwood Drive, Chicago, 60643](#)

1 P.M. – 5 P.M.

*\$25.00 Fee: Register on-line or at the door!*

*(includes written materials and refreshments)*

[Register Here](#)

For more information, call 773-387-7588 or visit [WWW.FLOWAUTHORS.COM](http://WWW.FLOWAUTHORS.COM).

# Writers! Know Your Legal Rights:

Everything you need to know, but were afraid to ask!

Beginning and professional writers alike may have to maneuver a landmine of legal rights challenges. Margaret Mitchell's Estate sued novelist Alice Randall's publisher for her *Gone With the Wind* parody, *The Wind Done Gone*. A Mississippi domestic named Ablene Cooper sued Kathryn Stockett for appropriating her image and likeness in *The Help*. Patrick White claimed hip hop mogul Jay Z plagiarized White's writings in his book, *Decoded*. Literary artists from Helen Keller to Harper Lee have been involved in copyright infringement, plagiarism, defamation, agent disputes or other legal claims.

- What constitutes plagiarism?
- Can a "poor man's copyright" protect your intellectual property?
- Is the disclaimer "names have been changed" adequate defense in a defamation case?

FLOW Writers (For Love of Writing) and Lawyers for the Creative Arts (LCA) address these issues and more in "Writers, Know Your Legal Rights: Everything you wanted to know but were afraid to ask!" from 1-5 pm on Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at the Beverly Area Planning Association, 11109 S. Longwood Drive, Chicago, Illinois.

Participants will hear from legal experts and a panel of writers, including novelist Alice Randall, who will discuss the dispute over her book's parody of *Gone with the Wind* by video chat.

Marci Rolnik Walker and Jason Koransky will speak on intellectual property and the law.

- Alice Randall is the author of *The Wind Done Gone*, *Pushkin and the Queen of Spades*, *Rebel Yell*, and *Ada's Rules*. She is a Harvard educated African-American novelist who lives in Nashville and writes country songs. She is a winner of the Phillis Wheatley Award and is a Writer in Residence at Vanderbilt University in Memphis.
- Marci Rolnik Walker is the Legal Director of LCA. She has advised clients in all areas of art and entertainment, including intellectual property protection for motion pictures, visual arts, music, dance and literary works. Ms. Walker plans LCA's educational programming and lectures widely on copyright law, including rights acquisition and transfer and overall best practices to manage copyright interests in creative works. Prior to practicing law, Marci worked in independent film and media, providing production management, clearance, set photography and ghost writing services.
- Jason Koransky's practice focuses on trademark, copyright, advertising, data privacy, and Internet law. His experience ranges from litigating in federal court and before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board, to trademark clearance, prosecuting domestic and foreign trademark applications, and drafting and negotiating license agreements. Before transitioning into a career as an attorney, Jason worked as a journalist in the Chicago area for more than a decade. For 10 years he served as the editor of *DownBeat* magazine where he gained a deep understanding of the myriad issues confronting journalists and publishers.