



The **Joiner Institute** enjoyed a successful [30th Writers' Workshop](#) with old friends, new voices, wonderful readings, performances, classes, and community.

Thank you to all our participants, faculty, veterans, visiting writers, and readers for joining us for this special workshop. We hope you enjoy viewing the photos and will provide your workshop feedback below!

30th Writers' Workshop: Three Decades of Writing and Community

(Click for [photos](#) from the 2017 Writers Workshop)



Faculty and participants from the 2017 Writers' Workshop

The **William Joiner Institute** sponsored and hosted its **30th annual [Writers' Workshop](#)** June 26-June 30, enrolling over 100 writers for one week of instruction in writing in the genres of poetry, fiction,

creative non-fiction, memoir, and drama. Participants and visitors took part in master classes, creative presentations, panel discussions and readings throughout the Workshop.

[Warrior Writers](#) which provides a creative space for young veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as their close friends and family members, held their annual retreat at the Old Oak Dojo in Jamaica Plain, celebrating their 10th anniversary as an organization.



Nguyen Thuy Kha and Bruce Weigl.
Photo by DW Tutko.

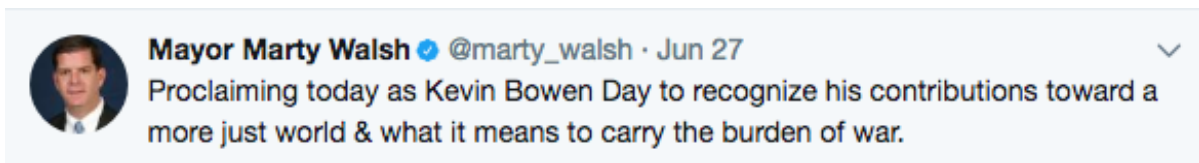
Poetry and Music Celebration at the BPL & Kevin Bowen Day!

(Click for [photos](#) & [video](#) from the event)

A memorable highlight from the workshop week was our [30th Poetry and Music Celebration](#) at the Boston Public Library.

With a full house at the BPL's Rabb Hall, the night featured poetry readings by Yusef Komunyakaa, Bruce Weigl, Carolyn Forché, Danielle Legros-Georges, and a medley of Vietnamese poetry in translation. There were music performances by the UMB Jazz Trio, Layth Sidiq, and Rusty Dove, and the event was hosted by poet Regie Gibson.

The event was held on June 27, a special day in the City of Boston, as **Mayor Marty Walsh declared June 27, 2017 Kevin Bowen Day** in the City of Boston. [Click here for the full text of Kevin Bowen Day](#)



Panel Discusses Race, Refugees and War

Journalist Beena Sarwar, professor Boyah Farah, author Dahlma Llanos-Figueroa, and



From left to right: Beena Sarwar, Dahlma Llanos-Figueroa, Fatmata Jah, Boyah Farah, and Danielle Legros Georges. Photo by Colleen Locke

Fatmata Jah, an academic advisor in UMass Boston's University Advising Center, took part in a discussion on the role of war in perpetuating issues of race, refugees, and immigration. Danielle Legros Georges, the poet laureate for the City of Boston, moderated the discussion. Other panel discussions during the week

addressed the legacies of the Vietnam War and Modern Wars in the Middle East.

Read the [full article](#) about the Race, Refugees and War panel featured in the UMass Boston News!

Past, Present, and Future: What are your thoughts?

If you didn't get a chance to fill out a Writers' Workshop evaluation while you were here, or if you are a past participant who would like to offer your own thoughts

about the workshop, please take a few minutes to fill out this form now and return your feedback.



[You can access the workshop evaluation form online here.](#) Please fill out the form and send to joinerinstitute@umb.edu.



Our Future

For 30 years the Joiner Writers' Workshop has provided a place of community, creativity, substantive discussion, and healing around the subject of war and trauma.

As UMass Boston continues to experience ever-tightening budgets, consider a donation today to help the Joiner Institute continue its mission to address the consequences of war and to help support another 30 years of Writers' Workshops.

Donate Today!

William Joiner Institute for the Study of War and Social Consequences

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