



Wichita Professional Communicators

Affiliated with Kansas Professional Communicators and NFPW

www.wichitaprofessionalcommunicators.com

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WPC October Program

What: ICT Authors' Panel

When: 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 5, at Larkspur
Bistro & Bar

Registration: [RSVP by noon](#) on Tuesday, Oct. 4, to save \$5! Advance tickets are \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members. Walk-ins are \$25 for members and \$30 for nonmembers. Students are \$10. (Ticket price includes buffet lunch, water, coffee or tea. Please note: If you register to pay at the door, you will be invoiced if you do not attend.)

ICT Authors' Panel



Denise Neil

"Classic Restaurants of
Wichita"



Joe Stumpe

"Iconic Eats of Wichita"



Vanessa Whiteside

"100 Things to Do in
Wichita Before You Die"

Join us for an ICT Authors' Panel featuring a Q&A format with local writers Denise Neil, Joe Stumpe and Vanessa Whiteside!

Denise Neil is the dining and entertainment reporter for The Wichita Eagle. Her book, "Classic Restaurants of Wichita," is a collection of stories and photos about Wichita's most-loved but no-longer-operating restaurants over the past 100+ years.

Joe Stumpe is the editor of The Active Age newspaper, a writer, a musician and a culinary instructor. His book "Iconic Eats of Wichita: Surprising History, People and Recipes" is his second book published by History Press.

Vanessa Whiteside is a freelance writer, and she also blogs at [www.](http://www.onedelightfullife.com)

onedelightfullife.com, which features travel narratives from a curious tourist's perspective. Her book, "100 Things to Do in Wichita Before You Die," is a bucket-list book filled with timeless destinations and lesser known places.

Books by the authors will be available. Ticket price includes buffet lunch and water, coffee or tea. RSVP by noon Tuesday, Oct. 4, to save \$5!

WPC monthly meetings support a scholarship fund for Wichita-area students pursuing a career in communications. You may donate additionally [via Eventbrite](#) when you register for the meeting, or donate [online](#).

Job Opportunities

Keeping an eye out for you

- Realtors of South Central Kansas is seeking a communications and event director.
- Textron Aviation has several openings including communications business partner, senior manager of digital communications and content, employee events specialist, a communications internship and an employee experience manager.
- The American Heart Association is looking for a development director.
- The International Rescue Committee is hiring a community engagement coordinator.
- WSP USA is looking for a communications and public involvement specialist.

From the WPC President

Support your local everything



I think I'm riding a high (and possible heat exhaustion) from Open Streets ICT this year, but I'm feeling really fortunate to live in a city that elevates entrepreneurs and celebrates all things local (not just the flag).

We have some of the best local restaurants with menus carefully curated by culinary masterminds, thoughtful boutiques filled with gifts and tchotchkes, and amazing local talent providing their creativity to businesses near and far.

I'm thrilled we're hosting a local author panel in October for our monthly luncheon. We'll be joined by some of Wichita's best, including Denise Neil, Joe Stumpe and our very own social media guru Vanessa Whiteside. Together, these three authors have consumed a lot of local flavors and are probably self-proclaimed Wichita aficionados.

Joe loves Wichita history. Denise loves food and restaurants. Vanessa loves discovering fun things to do in Wichita. I think we're all in for a treat.

I thought it would be fun to share with you some of my favorite local spots. When we gather for our luncheon on Oct. 5, share some of your favorite Wichita restaurants and shops with your table mates. You might discover something new!

Favorite restaurant(s): When my partner and I want to celebrate or feel like being fancy, we always go to George's French Bistro (4618 E. Central Ave. #50). For sushi, you can't go wrong with Blue Fin (255 N. Washington). I'm really lucky to live down the street from one of my longtime favorite eats, Le Monde (602 N. West St.). And of course, for tacos, it's Taqueria El Fagon (2604 N. Arkansas).

Favorite entertainment: I'm a years-long season ticket holder to Music Theatre Wichita. My partner plays viola for Wichita Symphony Orchestra, and I enjoy a night of live music every month. I also enjoy getting outside for some Kansas fresh air at Botanica.

Favorite shops: As a Wichita Public Library employee, I can't help but browse the shelves at Watermark every few months to add books to my growing personal collection. I also love Vortex Souvenirs when I want to pick up a fun gift for someone. If I'm in the mood for that one-of-a-kind gift, I love browsing the gift shop at CityArts.

Sean Jones

Vote for 2023 WPC board officers

Our 2023 WPC Board features some familiar faces. We are excited to announce the proposed slate for next year's board, which members will vote on at our November meeting.



Naomi Shapiro, president: Naomi is a communications specialist for the City of Wichita-Government Division of Arts

and Cultural Services, providing support for CityArts, Mid-America All-Indian Museum, Old Cowtown Museum, and The Arts Council. She is also a member of the city's core communications team and recently launched Forum, the city's new public engagement platform.

Naomi has a bachelor's degree in liberal arts from Evergreen State College and a bachelor's degree in graphic design from the University of Memphis in Tennessee. She grew up mainly in Hawaii, moving to Texas for her last two years of high school, and has lived in Wichita since 2001. She previously helmed creative communications for The Anchor, Yoder Smokers, and Baseline Creative, Inc.

Naomi is a co-founder of Digital Wichita and a sustaining member of Junior League of Wichita and AIGA Wichita. She serves on the board for the Wichita Orpheum Theatre. She lives in east Wichita with her artist husband, two surly teens, two dogs and five cats.



Kristin Bogner, president-elect: Kristin is the social media strategist for the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), which includes

National Honor Society and National Student Council. She was previously in charge of digital media at United Way of the Plains.

Kristin is a board member of Music Theatre Wichita and Center City Academy, a sustaining member of Junior League of Wichita, and a proud 316 Gymnastics Academy and Kansas Dance Academy mom. Kristin grew up in El Dorado and loves storytelling, books, chocolate, her dogs, her family and Wichita.



Brittany Sweeney, treasurer: Brittany is a wife, mom, and business owner. She has an extensive background in public and private

bookkeeping, having worked in the field since 2010. Over the years, she has worked with various businesses with a range of revenues from \$30 million to \$12,000 annually. Brittany decided to open Sweeney Bookkeeping LLC after seeing a need for affordable bookkeeping services for small businesses. She recently celebrated her fifth business anniversary and welcomed her first baby, it's been a big year.

When she is not crunching numbers for her clients, you can find her hanging out with her family, friends, and two rescue dogs, attending a networking event, enjoying a nice meal, or volunteering for causes she believes in. She is a member of the Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce and Rotary International. She also loves to travel and is always dreaming of her next destination.



Ben Redington, secretary: Ben is a Wichita native and Wichita State University alumnus with

a bachelor's degree in graphic design. Currently, he is a designer at Howerton+White, where he has had the pleasure of working three times. Not only has Ben been able to hone his craft as part of their team, he has also gained valuable leadership experience and enjoyed opportunities to meet other industry professionals and learn the ins and outs of their clients' marketing strategies.

Previously, Ben was a part of the Koch Industries Creative Group and Unified teams. At KCG, he spent a lot of time on graphic design and print projects. He gained immense knowledge about how the work they did fit into the big picture and overall strategy of such a large organization. At Unified, he pushed himself outside of his professional comfort zone as the chief operating officer of an esports company. While the position challenged him to grow as a senior leader, it offered him the opportunity to pull from his various professional experiences over the last 20 years.

When he's not sliding down the slide at H+W, you'll definitely find Ben running his kids around Wichita for their various activities. He spends most of his time going to and from practice or games for all kinds of things, sports, music lessons, etc. When he's lucky enough to get some time away, you can find him exploring a new hiking or biking trail, planning his next national park adventure, or enjoying a nice bourbon or craft beer while daydreaming about travel.

New renewal process for professional members

To streamline the payment and membership processes for professional-level members, all renewals and new memberships are now handled by NFPW. WPC is handling local-only memberships.

Starting in October, professional-level members should look for an email renewal notice from NFPW.

There has been a \$5 increase in the NFPW portion of the dues, to \$90. Dues for the KPC/WPC level remain \$70. To continue your KPC/

WPC membership, select Kansas-Wichita as your state affiliate when completing your renewal process. To check your membership record to ensure all your information is correct or to renew, visit www.nfpw.org/join-nfpw. If you haven't already, create a login and password to access your record.

A professional-level membership provides more networking opportunities with professionals across the U.S. and access to both NFPW and all other

affiliates' programming (many offer virtual options). It also offers more professional development opportunities, including financial grants for members, advocacy for First Amendment issues and recognition through a national contest.

For any questions about membership, please contact info@nfpw.org or Amy Geiszler-Jones, KPC president, at algj64@sbcglobal.net or 316-210-4931.



Ricardo Gomez

WPC & AFFILIATES CALENDAR

Oct. 1: NFPW contests open (final deadline for entries is Feb. 8)

Oct. 5: WPC monthly program, 11:30 a.m., Larkspur Bistro & Bar

Oct. 10: WPC board meeting, noon, via Zoom

Nov. 2: WPC monthly program, 11:30 a.m., Larkspur Bistro & Bar

Nov. 14: WPC board meeting, noon, via Zoom

Dec. 7: WPC monthly program, 11:30 a.m., Larkspur Bistro & Bar

Thank you for a successful fundraiser!

Thank you for a successful fundraiser!

Thanks to all who helped make the recent WPC Scholarship Fund-raiser and Mixer a success, through your attendance, contributions and assistance. Because of you, we will be able to continue encouraging and supporting future communicators with our annual scholarship.

A special thank-you to our event sponsor, the University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita.

If you weren't able to attend, watch for upcoming opportunities to support and help grow our scholarship fund, so we can help even more students in the future.

You can donate online any time by going to the [WPC website](#).

— Judy Conkling and Wilma Moore-Black, WPC Scholarship Co-Chairs

KPC, NFPW contest opens for entries Oct. 1

Find your best work for 2022 and get the recognition you deserve.

The KPC affiliate-level tier of the NFPW communications contest opens Oct. 1. Both KPC and non-members are eligible to enter work completed in the calendar year of 2022 in the first tier of the contest.

Entry rates for members are \$30 for the first entry and \$25 for each additional entry; the rate for non-members is \$35 for the first entry and \$30 for each additional entry. Early bird rates end Jan. 18; entries

submitted between Jan. 19 and Feb. 8, the contest final deadline, will be charged a \$25 processing fee. The deadline for all book entries is Feb. 1.

The entries of those who receive first place in the KPC contest and are KPC members will be forwarded to the second tier of the contest to compete against other NFPW members. As part of your membership benefit, KPC pays for the winners' additional entry fees to go on to the national contest, a \$25 value per entry.

2022 WPC BOARD

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