1) **Event Title**: Decentralizing Whiteness in Craft: Writers of Color Talk Craft

2) **Event Description**: For too long, the theory and teaching of craft has been centered on whiteness: white writers analyzing the work of other white writers, ignoring the work of people of color in favor of making craft apolitical or “universal.” This has resulted in a proliferation of false ideas about what counts as craft. Writers of color who have written or edited craft books come together to challenge these ideas and push toward a more diverse understanding of craft.

3) **Event Category**: Multiple Literary Genres Craft & Criticism

4) **Event Organizer and Moderator**: Ruth Joffre

5) **Official Announcements**

A few reminders before we begin:
- For those needing or wishing to follow along to a written text, please let me know and a printed copy of the presentation will be delivered to you.
- Please make sure that spaces marked for wheelchairs remain clear of chairs or other barriers.
- Treat service animals as working animals and do not attempt to distract or pet them.
- Be aware of those with chemical sensitivities and refrain from wearing perfume.
- Please be aware that your fellow attendees may have invisible disabilities. Do not question anyone’s use of an accommodation while at the conference, including for chairs reserved for those with disabilities.
- We realize the lines for the bathrooms may be long, but please refrain from using an accessible stall unless you require such accommodation. Please also be aware family restrooms located on level 2 are reserved for those with disabilities or those wishing to use a single-stall restroom.
- If you have any questions or concerns regarding conference accessibility, please call or text the **Accessibility Hotline (503) 455-4127** or email **events@awpwriter.org**.

6) **Event Participants and Short Bios**:

In alphabetical order:

**Amanda Galvan Huynh** is the author of *Songs of Brujería* (Big Lucks) & co-editor of *Of Color: Poets' Ways of Making* (Operating System). She has received support from The MacDowell Colony, Vermont Studio Center, Sewanee Writers' Conference, Sundress Academy for the Arts, and Squaw Valley.

**Luisa A. Igloria**’s books include *The Buddha Wonders if She is Having a Mid-Life Crisis* (Phoenicia Publishing, 2018) & *Ode to the Heart Smaller than a Pencil Eraser* (2014 May Swenson Prize). She teaches at Old Dominion University, where from 2009-15 she directed the MFA Creative Writing Program.

**Ruth Joffre** is the author of the story collection *Night Beast*, which was longlisted for The Story Prize. She is a graduate of Cornell University and the Iowa Writers' Workshop and now teaches at Hugo House in Seattle.
David Mura is the author of the memoirs *Turning Japanese* and *Where the Body Meets Memory*, the novel *Famous Suicides of the Japanese Empire*, and four poetry books, including *The Last Incantations*. His latest book is *A Stranger's Journey: Race, Identity & Narrative Craft in Writing*. He teaches at the Loft and VONA Writers’ Conference.

Matthew Salesses is an Assistant Professor of English at Coe College. His books include the novels *The Hundred-Year Flood* and *I'm Not Saying, I'm Just Saying*, as well as three forthcoming books: *Disappear Doppelgänger Disappear, Craft in the Real World*, and *Own Story*. He was adopted from Korea.

7) Opening Remarks

I’m going to keep my opening remarks brief in order to maximize time for the panelists to speak. In early 2019, the opportunity arose for me to contribute a weekly blog to *Kenyon Review* for six months. I’d already reviewed two craft books for *Kenyon Review Online* and wanted to continue engaging with craft during my blog run. I felt that it was important to use this platform to shine a light on some issues with craft, particularly the whiteness of the craft book genre and how craft is taught in writing classes in the United States. As a light-skinned Latinx woman and the daughter of a Bolivian immigrant, it was important to me to highlight the great work being done by those in my community. So, I used my blog run at *Kenyon Review* to produce a fifteen-part interview series with the authors, editors and curators of craft books and resources. That interview series is majority POC and is available for free online at the *Kenyon Review* blog. Every panelist you see up here was interviewed for that series and has been doing incredible work to change the way we talk about craft.

With that, I will cede the mic to Amanda Galvan Huynh.

8) Participant Remarks

In alphabetical order:

Amanda Galvan Huynh
(TBD)

Luisa A. Igloria
(TBD)

David Mura
(TBD)

Matthew Salesses
(TBD)

9) Q&A