THE OVERSHARE:
NAVIGATING PUBLIC & PRIVATE IDENTITIES IN THE WRITING CLASSROOM

DESCRIPTION:
What happens when you run into your students on a nude beach, when they read your addiction memoir, or your sexy and queer autobiographical poems? This panel has a twofold focus: how to support students who are prone to overshare (and decide if you are a mandated reporter) and to help navigate who we are as professors in control of a classroom and a grade and as whole complex people. In the age of insta-google how do you maintain your identities and mental health?

EVENT ORGANIZER & MODERATOR:
Olivia Worden has taught creative writing at Pace University and Sarah Lawrence College summer programs and The Writing Institute. She has also worked as the program Director of the Social Justice Collective at Sarah Lawrence College. Her work can be found in Post Road, CutBank, Pilgrimage, Point of You Productions and elsewhere.

PANELISTS:

Curtis Bauer is a poet, translator, letterpress printer, chapbook publisher & teacher. He lives in Lubbock, TX where he teaches Creative Writing & Comparative Literature at Texas Tech University, runs Q Avenue Press, & is Translations Editor for The Common.

Melissa Febos is the author of the memoir, Whip Smart, and the essay collection, Abandon Me. She serves on the Board of Directors for VIDA: Women in Literary Arts, and is Associate Professor of Creative Nonfiction at Monmouth University and MFA faculty at the Bennington Writing Seminars.

Syreeta McFadden is a writer and professor of English at the Borough of Manhattan Community College, City University of New York. Her work has appeared in the New York Times, Rolling Stone, BuzzFeed News, Brooklyn Magazine, Feministing and The Guardian, where she had been a regular contributor.

Juan J. Morales is the author of three poetry collections including The Handymans Guide to End Times. He is a CantoMundo Fellow, a Macondista, the Editor of Pilgrimage Magazine, and the Chair of English and World Languages at Colorado State University-Pueblo.

EVENT CATEGORY: PEDAGOGY

EVENT SCHEDULE
- WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS
- EXAMPLES OF REAL LIFE OVERSHARES
- IDENTIFYING THE CHALLENGES
- BUILDING A TOOL KIT: RESOURCES & EXERCISES
- LAYING THE GROUNDWORK: WRITER AGREEMENTS & CLASSROOM GUIDELINES
- AUDIENCE Q&A
1) In a society and culture that often asks us to engage in the concept of public and private identity, how do you individually define these terms?

2) Would you share an example of finding yourself in an "overshare" moment (either having to navigate your own information being out there or a student oversharing). How did you address that moment in real time?

3) What are some of the challenges you've faced in regards to public and private identities in writing classrooms?

4) Are there particular books, essays, or trainings that you have found helpful in navigating the concept of identity in classrooms?

5) Are there prompts you have used that were particularly successful?

6) What kind of guidelines or agreements have you established in classroom spaces or individual conferences that lay the groundwork for expectations regarding private and public identities?

7) What other advice would you give to someone who wants to implement more awareness of issues of identity in the writing classroom?