

# Novelist Jessica Strawser named 2019 Writer-in-Residence by Library Foundation

**For Immediate Release**

January 17, 2018

[Lisa.Mauch@CincinnatiLibrary.org](mailto:Lisa.Mauch@CincinnatiLibrary.org)

513-369-6959

[Angela.Hursh@CincinnatiLibrary.org](mailto:Angela.Hursh@CincinnatiLibrary.org)

513-369-6967

**CINCINNATI** — The Library Foundation of Cincinnati and Hamilton County has selected [Jessica Strawser](#) to be the 2019 Writer-in-Residence (WIR). Strawser will serve as the Library’s literary ambassador to the community, and receive a \$10,000 stipend thanks to the generous support of Naomi Tucker Gerwin and the Library Foundation.

Strawser earned a bachelor’s degree in journalism from Ohio University. She’s worked as a magazine and book editor in various outlets, including *Writer’s Digest* where she’s currently an editor-at-large. She’s published two books, *Almost Missed You* and *Not That I Could Tell*, and has a third book, *Forget You Know Me*, coming out in February. She’s also a freelance writer and has led numerous writing workshops.

“We had many strong applications for the fifth Writer-in-Residence. Jessica’s experience and commitment to the literary community is outstanding,” said Library Foundation Executive Director Staci Dennison. “We look forward to working with her this year to promote literacy in Cincinnati.”

The goal of the Writer-in-Residence program is to foster engagement between the Library and the community’s writers and readers by providing instruction on the craft of writing, both online and in-person. The WIR serves as the Library’s representative in the local literary arts scene. The Writer-in-Residence also hosts a monthly podcast and writes a blog, both titled “Inside the Writer’s Head.” Episodes are archived at [WriterinResidence.cincinnatiLibrary.org/](http://WriterinResidence.cincinnatiLibrary.org/).

In celebration of the fifth anniversary of the Writer-in-Residence position, the public is invited to a panel discussion between Strawser, the new WIR, and past WIRS Kathy Y. Wilson, Jeffrey Hillard, Kurt Dinan, and Emma Carlson Berne. The program begins **at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 30**, in the Reading Garden Lounge at the Main Library. Registration is suggested; go to <https://cinlib.org/2H5MtWo>.

The Library Foundation is dedicated to ensuring a great Library system by raising, managing and allocating funds to expand and enhance the collections, programs and services of the Library. For more information and to donate, visit [Foundation.CincinnatiLibrary.org](http://Foundation.CincinnatiLibrary.org).



###

## About the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County

The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County is one of the oldest, largest, and busiest libraries in the United States. We serve a population of more than 800,000 people with a collection of more than nine million items. Our mission is to connect people with the world of ideas and information. To learn more, visit [CincinnatiLibrary.org](http://CincinnatiLibrary.org) or call 513-369-6900.