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**NATIONAL WRITERS SERIES LAUNCHES SERIES OF “IN STUDIO” EVENTS**

Traverse City, Mich. – July 8, 2013

The National Writers Series is launching an “In Studio” event series featuring free and low-cost events including writing workshops, author interviews, and panel discussions. The “In Studio” series will take place in the Front Street Writers Studio located at 123 W. Front Street.

Katey Schultz will kick off the series on July 24, 7-8:30 PM with a free mini workshop on flash fiction and a reading from her debut collection of short stories *Flashes of War*. Flash fiction is a style of fictional literature or fiction of extreme brevity. This inaugural “In Studio” event is free and open to the public.

Schultz grew up in Portland, Oregon, and is most recently from Celo, North Carolina. She began writing *Flashes of War* while in Michigan teaching at Interlochen Arts Academy. Schultz said, “I am excited to be the first author featured in NWS's 'In Studio' series. I started writing my book in Michigan and I finished there, too.” A graduate of the Pacific University MFA in Writing Program and recipient of the Linda Flowers Literary Award from the North Carolina Humanities Council, Schultz is back at Interlochen this summer teaching creative writing. When not traveling, she lives in a 1970 Airstream trailer bordering the Pisgah National Forest.

In her first book *Flashes of War* two boys secretly dream of being soccer stars at a Kabul stadium where they previously witnessed public torture, a ghost cannot let go of his surviving friend in arms, a returning U.S. soldier struggles with the realities of life outside the military, a little sister is determined to join her big brother on the battlefield, a jihadist is also a pragmatist. These characters and more grace this volume of short stories that capture personal moments of fear, introspection, confusion, and valor in one collection spanning nations and perspectives.

*Flashes of War* has been reviewed by over a dozen literary and military outlets since its launch 5 weeks ago. All of these reviews have been positive with overwhelming praise from veteran communities who have been moved by the logistical and emotional accuracy of *Flashes of War*, despite the fact that Schultz has never served.

Doug Stanton, NWS co-founder and author of *New York Times* bestsellers *Horse Soldiers* and *In Harm's Way* says, “Katey Schultz has written an amazing book. What emerges from these stories is a chorus of voices—American, Afghan, Iraqi—and this chorus enlarged my sense of a war that has

defined an American decade. *Flashes of War* is the work of a bold, ambitious, and brilliant young author who is writing stories few others in American fiction have really yet tackled.”

**ABOUT NATIONAL WRITERS SERIES/WRITERS SERIES OF TRAVERSE CITY:**

The National Writers Series/Writers Series of Traverse City, founded in 2009, is a year-round book festival bringing award-winning authors, journalists and storytellers together with thousands of fans in downtown Traverse City. The National Writers Series was founded by New York Times bestselling author Doug Stanton, Traverse City attorney Grant Parsons and Traverse City Record Eagle reporter Anne Stanton.

Net proceeds from NWS events support the Writers Series of Traverse City and its scholarship fund, which benefits college-bound writing and arts students attending Grand Traverse regional high schools. NWS, in partnership with Traverse City Area Public Schools (TCAPS), also directs the Front Street Writers Program, a one-of-a-kind creative writing workshop for high school students. Proceeds from NWS events also support the Front Street Writers program.

The Writers Series of Traverse City is a nonprofit organization that relies on community support for sustainability. All contributions are 100% tax deductible. Donations can be made online at [www.nationalwritersseries.org](http://www.nationalwritersseries.org), by mail: NWS, 123 W. Front Street, Traverse City, MI 49684, or in person at any NWS event.

The National Writers Series/Writers Series of Traverse City is, in part, made possible by our sponsors, including our sustaining sponsors FIM Group, Cherry Capital Airport and Traverse City Eye. To become a sponsor or to gain additional information contact: Chuck O'Connor via at [chuck@emgconsult.com](mailto:chuck@emgconsult.com) or 231-590-2521.

For more information on the National Writers Series/Writers Series of Traverse City, visit [www.nationalwritersseries.org](http://www.nationalwritersseries.org), contact NWS executive director Jill Tewsley at [jtewsley@nwstc.org](mailto:jtewsley@nwstc.org), or call the National Writers Series at (231) 577-6971.

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