



# ***Cultivating the Writing Life***

## **A Sabbatical Workshop with Robert Benson**

**Sponsored by the Ross Lynn Foundation**

**Belcher, Louisiana**

**April 18-24, 2017**

**\$500**

**All lodging and meals are included!**

For generations, the South has been known for its fine writers. Faulkner, O'Connor, Wright, Welty, Percy—their work continues to inspire those who read and write today. These authors pull back the curtain on the heights and depths of the human condition. They invite us to wrestle with profound dilemmas and to exult in the surprises of grace.

Who among us now is writing to probe and illumine the ebb and flow of this pilgrimage called life? Who is tilling the soil of the spiritual journey in ways that both bless and challenge today's seekers? Who among us hears a call to articulate with clarity and resonance the hungers of 21st century hearts, minds, and souls?

If you can answer "Here I am" to any of these questions, consider applying for this workshop, offered by The Ross Lynn Charitable Foundation. Stretching over five full days, the workshop will feature teaching sessions with noted author Robert Benson, time for writing, and gatherings for reading and responding to the work of others in the group. The setting? The farming community of Belcher, north of Shreveport, Louisiana, where the Lynn family has cultivated the land for 4 generations.

### **Who May Apply?**

- Those who hear an invitation to put your own story and the stories you know on paper
- Writers of various genres and levels of experience (including poets, songwriters, playwrights; published or not)
- Those who desire to contribute to a culture of respect and reciprocity through the creative arts and spiritual development in keeping with the mission of the Ross Lynn Foundation
- Those who are willing to invest in and expand their capacity for writing

### **About Robert Benson**

- His guiding principle: paying attention to the everyday things that point us to the presence of the extraordinary and the sacred
- His favorite topics: literature, prayer, spirituality, travel (Paris, most especially), baseball, and the Rule of St. Benedict
- His books (a partial list): *Between the Dreaming and the Coming True*, *Moving Miss Peggy*, *Dancing on the Head of a Pen*, and, forthcoming in September 2016, *Punching Holes in the Dark*

### **How to Apply:**

Complete applications are due electronically by **February 1, 2017**. **The program is limited to a maximum of 10 persons.**

Complete applications include three pieces:

- (1) Application Form
- (2) Current resume or c.v.
- (3) Writing sample (2,000 words or less). Something recent, please

For more information, please email us at [rosslynnfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:rosslynnfoundation@gmail.com) or visit our website at [www.rosslynnfoundation.org](http://www.rosslynnfoundation.org)

