

SPECIAL TOPICS

Tuesday, February 21, 2023 3:30pm- 5:00pm

Please RSVP [here](#) or to

Location: HSC, Level 3, FPPM Conf. Rooms 066 & 067

bioethics@stonybrookmedicine.edu

Why Doctors (at Stony Brook) Write

Maria Basile, MD, MBA, Jack Coulehan, MD, & Richard Bronson, MD

Why Doctors Write: Finding Humanity in Medicine explores the impact of writing, the arts, and the humanities on medical practice. In an age of technology, physician burnout, and depersonalized patient care, clinicians have turned to these tools to care for themselves and colleagues, and to renew their connection to patients. *Why Doctors Write* features a few of the practitioners who have pioneered ways to use reflective writing to recognize, accept, investigate, and nurture the most human aspects of medical care.

In this session you will attend a screening of the full-length (35 min) documentary, *Why Doctors Write*, with Dr Coulehan, Dr Bronson, and Dr Basile. Following the screening, they will facilitate a Q&A discussion of the video, highlighting programs that we have here at Stony Brook that encourage creative writing as a reflective practice important to the professional identity formation and wellbeing of physicians.



Award-winning poet, surgeon, hospital and health plan administrator, and medical educator, **Maria Basile, MD, MBA** is clinical assistant professor in the Department of Family, Population and Preventive Medicine and the Associate Director of the Center for Medical Humanities, Compassionate Care and Bioethics at the Renaissance School of Medicine, Stony Brook University. She is the author of two chapbook poetry collections, *Minimally Invasive: poems from a life in surgery* and *New, Not New: 15 things I'd like to know when I see you after quarantine*. Her work has been published in literary and peer reviewed medical journals and anthologized with the creative writing of physicians and other caregivers. She is on the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Medical Humanities*.



Jack Coulehan is an Emeritus Professor of Preventive, Family, and Population Medicine at Stony Brook Renaissance School of Medicine. Jack's essays, poems and stories appear frequently in health care journals and literary magazines, and his work is widely anthologized. He is the author of seven collections of poetry, including *The Talking Cure: New and Selected Poems* (2020). His other books include *Blood & Bone* and *Primary Care*, two anthologies of poems by physicians; *Chekhov's Doctors*, a collection of Anton Chekhov's medical tales; and an award-winning textbook *The Medical Interview: Mastering Skills for Clinical Practice*. Among Jack's honors are the Humanities Medal of the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine; the Nicholas Davies Scholar Award of the American College of Physicians; and the Hergott Prize, awarded by Texas Medical Center for humanism in medicine.



Dr. Richard Bronson joined the Renaissance School of Medicine at Stony Brook University in 1988. While participating in the Medicine in Contemporary Society course that year, he was exposed once again to poetry, and his dormant interest reawakened. He has been fortunate to live in a vibrant community of poets on Long Island, who nurtured his own development as a poet. Bronson is currently on the Board of Trustees of the Walt Whitman Birthplace Association, as well as the Board of the Long Island Poetry Collective and facilitates its weekly workshop in the Huntington Library. He has won the 2003 poetry prize of the American College of Physicians and the Institute for Medicine in Contemporary Society prize for poetry in 2005. His first collection of poems, *Search for Oz*, was published in 2006, followed by *Silent Music* (2009), *Passage* (2014), *Wearing Masks* (2015), and *Imperfect Knowledge* (2021). In 2006, Bronson founded Padishah Press, a small press devoted to the publication of poetry informed by the medical experience. His work has appeared in *The Pharos*, *The Lancet*, *Annals of Internal Medicine*, *Western Journal of Medicine*, *Medical Journal of Australia*, *JAMA*, the *Canadian Medical Association Journal*, *BMJ Medical Humanities*, *Family Medicine*, as well as *Long Island Quarterly*, *Suffolk County Poetry Review*, *Long Island Sounds*, *Performance Poets Literary Annual*. Bronson was nominated Poet Laureate of Suffolk County in June 2021.