

CATHY DAY


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English Department
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EDUCATION

1995 M.F.A in Creative Writing/Fiction, University of Alabama
1991 B.A. in English, DePauw University, *magna cum laude*

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Non-fiction

Comeback Season. Free Press/Simon & Schuster, February 2008.

Fiction

The Circus in Winter. Harcourt, July 2004.

The Circus in Winter. Harvest Books, July 2005. (paperback)

Translations of *The Circus in Winter*

German, *Winterquartier*. Suhrkamp, November 2007.

German, *Winterquartier*. DuMont Literatur und Kunst Verlag, August 2006.

Czech, *Cirkus v zime*. Euromedia Group, Fall 2005.

Fiction in Anthologies

"YOUR BOOK: A novel in stories." *Indy Writes Books: A Book Lover's Anthology*. (reprint) Ed. Travis DiNicola. [Indy Writes Books](#), 2014.

"Genesis: or, The Day Adam Killed the Snakes." *Metawritings: Toward a Theory of Nonfiction*. (reprint) Ed. Jill Talbot. University of Iowa Press, April 2012.

"The Circus House." *New Stories from the South: The Year's Best, 2000*. Ed. Shannon Ravenel. Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill, 2000: 228-242.

"Boss Man." *American Fiction, Volume Ten*. Ed. Alan Davis and Michael White. Judges. Robert Boswell and Antonya Nelson. New Rivers Press, 1999: 34-50.

"Mississinewa." *Walking on Water*. Ed. Allen Wier. University of Alabama Press, 1996: 57-63.

Fiction in Periodicals

"Mr. Jenny Perdido." *PANK*. Vol. 9 (2013): pp. 34-39.

"The Jersey Devil." *North American Review* 295:4 (Fall 2010): 7-12.

"YOUR BOOK: A Novel in Stories." *Ninth Letter* 6:2 (Fall/Winter 2010): 129-139.

"Genesis." [Freight Stories](#) 3:3 (September 2008): online.

- "The King and His Court." *River Styx* Vol. 66 (2003): 85-104.
- "The Last Member of the Boela Tribe." *Antioch Review* 61.4 (Fall 2003): 598-619.
- "Jennie Dixianna and the Spin of Death." *Shenandoah* 52:1 (Spring 2002): 98-111.
- "Wallace Porter Sees the Elephant." *Southern Review* 37:1 (Winter 2001): 107-120.
- "Boats." *The Distillery: Artistic Spirits of the South*. 7:1 (Winter 2000): 45-48.
- "Strike Stew." *Cream City Review* 23.2 (Spring 1999): 70-73.
- "The Girl with Big Hair." *Gettysburg Review* 12:2 (Summer 1999): 251-261.
- "The Circus House." *Story* (Winter 1999): 21-31.
- "Leon's Daughter." *Florida Review* 21:2 (1996): 88-98.
- "Hospice." *Quarterly West*. 41 (Autumn/Winter 1995): 6-7.

Non-fiction in Anthologies and Periodicals

- "They Found a Meth Lab in Cole Porter's Childhood Home and Other Tales of Those Who Dared to Leave Indiana." (essay) *The Literary Hub* (June 19, 2016): [online](#).
- "Where are We Going Next?: A Conversation about Creative Writing Pedagogy (with Drs. Anna Leahy and Stephanie Vanderslice)." Reprinted in *What We Talk About When We Talk about Creative Writing: 10 Years of New Writing Viewpoints*. Ed. Dr. Anna Leahy. New Writing Viewpoints, (Toronto) July 2016, pp. 21-37.
- "First You Must Love Sentences." (essay) *Necessary Fiction* (May 13, 2013): [online](#).
- "The 100-Year Flood." (essay) *Punchnel's* (March 22, 2013): [online](#).
- "Against the Odds." (*Comeback Season* excerpt) reprinted in *Creative Nonfiction's* anthology, ["Pittsburgh in Words"](#) (2008): online.
- "Home Game." (*Comeback Season* excerpt) reprinted in *Indianapolis Monthly* (February 2008): 108-111.
- "For Love and the Colts." (essay) *Sports Illustrated* (February 5, 2007): online.
- "Believe?" (essay) *Indy Men's Magazine* (September 2006): 42-44, 52-53.
- Pig Boy's Wicked Bird: A Memoir*. (essay/review) *Post Road* Vol. 11 (2006): 107-109 and [online](#).
- "Back Home Again in Indiana (By Way of *Winesburg, Ohio*)." (essay) Amazon.com's "Writers Under the Influence" feature (Fall 2004): online.
- "The Greatest Place on Earth." (essay) Neiman Marcus magazine *The Book* No. 79 (September 2004): 222-229.
- "Slogging Through the Muck of the American Id." (essay/review) *The Gettysburg Review* 12:4 (Winter 1999): 595-610.
- How I Came West and Why I Stayed* by Alison Baker. (book review) *The Black Warrior Review* 21:1 (Fall/Winter 1994): 165-168.

Career Development and Professionalization

- "The Curriculum Vitae." (webinar) AWP Career Services Web Series (March 9, 2015): [online](#).
- "Requesting Letters of Recommendation." (webinar) AWP Career Services Web Series (October 20, 2014): [online](#).
- "The Magic Building Where English Majors Work." (essay) *The Millions* (September 10, 2014): [online](#).

“Advice for professors on starting over at a new college.” (essay) *Inside Higher Education* (Aug. 15 & Aug. 18, 2014): [online](#).

Craft & Pedagogy

“Our Town: Teaching Creative Writing Students to Love Research and Collaboration.” *Breaking Boundaries: Innovative Approaches to Creative Writing*. Eds. Joseph Rein, Michael Dean Clark, and Trent Hergenrader. Bloomsbury Publishing (New York, NY), February 2017 pp. 163-176.

“Reverse Storyboarding.” *Writer’s Ask* newsletter, *Glimmer Train Press*. Issue 57 (Fall 2012): 16.

“A Zetabet of Creative Writing Theory and Pedagogy.” (co-authored by Cathy Day, Anna Leahy, and Stephanie Vanderslice) *The Toad Suck Review*. 1 (2011): 124-128.

“Where are We Going Next?: A Conversation about Creative Writing Pedagogy.” *Fiction Writers Review* (February 10 & 11, 2011): online.

“The Story Problem: 10 Thoughts on Academia’s Novel Crisis.” *The Millions* (January 17, 2011): online.

“Where Do You Want Me to Sit?” *Power and Identity in the Creative Writing Classroom: The Authority Project*. Ed. Anna Leahy. Multilingual Matters Ltd. (Buffalo, Toronto). 2005: 155-166.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2010-present Associate Professor, Ball State University, Muncie, IN

Graduate Courses

Reading and Writing Across the Genres

Fiction Workshop

Undergraduate Courses

Advanced Fiction

Special Topics in English: Jacket Copy Creative

Special Topics in Creative Writing: Imitations and Adaptations

Special Topics in Creative Writing: Literary Citizenship

Special Topics in Creative Writing: Careers for CW Majors

Fiction Workshop

Introduction to Creative Writing

2005-2010 Assistant Professor, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

Graduate Courses

Fiction Workshop

Readings in Contemporary Fiction

Undergraduate Courses

Senior Seminar in Fiction

Readings in Contemporary Fiction

Intermediate Fiction Workshop

Short Story in Context

- 2000-2005 Assistant Professor, The College of New Jersey, Ewing, NJ
 Graduate Course
 Seminar in Prose Fiction
 Undergraduate Courses
 Writers' Workshop: Capstone
 Studies in Literature: *The Short-Story Cycle*
 Intermediate Fiction Workshop
 Contemporary Literature (poetry and fiction)
 Genre Studies: Short Story
 Creative Writing (poetry and fiction)
 First-Year Seminar
- 1997- 2000 Assistant Professor, Minnesota State University, Mankato
 Graduate Courses
 Fiction Workshop
 Teaching Creative Writing
 Undergraduate Courses
 Contemporary Literature (poetry and fiction)
 Creative Writing: Fiction
 Introduction to Creative Writing (poetry and fiction)
 Women's Writing
 Introduction to the Short Story
 Introduction to the Novel
- 1995-1997 Full-time Instructor, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL
 Courses
 Creative Writing (200 & 300 level)
 American Literature since Civil War
 Honors Freshman Composition

HONORS & AWARDS

- 2016 Residency, Ragdale Foundation, Lake Forest, IL, February 2016.
2016 Writer-in-Residence, Hanover College, Hanover, IN, March 2016.
2014, 2015 Common Reading, Hanover College, Hanover, IN, *The Circus in Winter*
2011 Beatrice, Benjamin and Richard Bader Fellowship in the Visual Arts of the Theatre.
 Houghton Library, Harvard University, \$3,000, *Linda Before Cole*.
2011 ASPIRE Research Grant for Junior Faculty, Ball State, \$10,000, *Linda Before Cole*
2009 Research Council grant, University of Pittsburgh, \$15,000, *Linda Before Cole*
2008 storySouth's Million Writers Award, nomination and finalist, "Genesis"
2008 Great Lakes Book Award, nomination, *Comeback Season*
2005 Great Lakes Book Award, finalist, *The Circus in Winter*
2005 The Story Prize, finalist, *The Circus in Winter*
2004 New Jersey Arts Council grant, \$7,800
2004 *Kansas City Star*, 100 Noteworthy Books of 2004, *The Circus in Winter*

- 2004 *Amazon.com* “Best Books of 2004: Debut Fiction,” *The Circus in Winter*
- 2004 GLCA New Writers Award, Honorable Mention, *The Circus in Winter*
- 2004 *Amazon.com* “Favorite Books of the Year So Far,” *The Circus in Winter*
- 2004 Barnes & Noble, “Discover Great New Writers” selection, *The Circus in Winter*
- 2004 *Borders*, “Original Voices” summer selection, *The Circus in Winter*
- 2004 *Amazon.com* “Breakout Books” summer selection, *The Circus in Winter*
- 2002 *Best American Short Stories* (Special Mention), “Wallace Porter”
- 2001 Tennessee Williams Scholarship, Sewanee Writers’ Conference
- 2001 Pushcart Prize (Special Mention), “Boss Man,” Fall 2001.
- 1999 Bush Artist Fellowship, Bush Foundation, \$40,000, *The Circus in Winter*.
- 1998 *American Fiction, Volume Ten*, third place, “Boss Man”
- 1994 *Playboy* Fiction Contest, second place, “Leon’s Daughter”
- 1994 Graduate Council Fellowship, University of Alabama
- 1994 Teaching/Writing Fellowship, University of Alabama
- 1991 Phi Beta Kappa, DePauw University

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- 2018 “Pre-seminar Workshop on Reversing the Decline in English Majors and Enrollments.” Association of Departments of English Summer Seminar, Ann Arbor, MI, July 9-12, 2018. Co-leader of an all-day workshop with Dr. Robert I. Matz, Interim Dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, George Mason University.
- 2017 “PR 101 for English Departments.” Association of Departments of English Summer Seminar, Providence, RI, June 12-15, 2017. Invited plenary session with Dr. Adam Beach and Eva Grouling Snider.
- 2017 “Nonfiction and Obsession.” NonfictionNow, Reykjavik, Iceland, June 1-3, 2017. Accepted, juried panel with Matthew Batt, Aubrey Hirsch, and Salvatore Pane (panelist).
- 2017 “Stars to Steer By: Rethinking Creative Curriculum for the 21st Century.” AWP Conference, Washington D.C. Feb. 8-11, 2017. Accepted, juried panel with Mary Biddinger, Ashley Mack Jackson, Terry Kennedy, Porter Shreve (proposed and moderated)
- 2016 External Evaluator, English Department, Franklin & Marshall College, Lancaster, PA.
- 2015 “Literary Citizenship: Incessant Self Promo or Virtuous Duty?” AWP Conference, Minneapolis, MN. April 8-11, 2015. Accepted, juried panel with David Griffith, Richard Nash, Austin Kleon, Julie Buntin. (panelist)
- [“How I Taught Then, How I Teach Now.”](#) AWP Conference, Minneapolis, MN. April 8-11, 2015. Accepted, juried panel with Joseph Scapellato, Derek Palacio, Matt Bell, Jennine Cruet. (panelist)

- 2014 "Please Mind the Gap: Innovative Approaches to Writing Historical Figures." AWP Conference, Seattle, WA. February 26-March 1, 2014. Accepted, juried panel with Kelcey Parker, Caitlin Horrocks, Kathleen Rooney, Gretchen Henderson. (panelist)
- 2012 "A Novel Problem: Moving from 'Story' to 'Book' in the MFA Program." AWP Conference, Chicago, IL February 29-March 3, 2012. Accepted, juried panel with David Haynes, Elizabeth Stuckey-French, Patricia Henley, Sheila O'Connor. (moderator)
- "Midwest Gothic: Dark Fiction of the Heartland." Association of Writers and Writing Programs Conference, Chicago, IL February 29-March 3, 2012. With Dan Chaon and Michael Czyzjewski. (panelist)
- 2011 "Linking it Up: Working with Story Cycles, Linked Collections, and Novels-in-Stories." AWP Conference, Washington, D.C. Accepted juried panel with writers Anne Sanow, Clifford Garstang, Dylan Landis. (panelist)
- 2010 NonfictionNow Conference, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA, panel on "The Mayor of Crazytown: Writing about Eccentricities, Obsessions, Quirks and Neuroses, Your Own or Somebody Else's," with Diana Joseph, David McGlynn, Nicole Walker, Matthew Batt, and Kara Garbe. (panelist)
- 2010 AWP Conference, Denver, CO, "Shhh!: Librarians, Archivists, and Writers Discover Research" with Doug Dechow, Rachel Hall, Leslie Adrienne Miller, Leslie Pietrzyk, and Elizabeth Kadetsky. (panelist)
- 2010 AWP Conference, Denver CO, "Play Ball!: The Language of Sports" with Michael Griffith, Andrew Ervin, and William Giraldi. (panelist)
- 2008 AWP Conference, New York, NY, "The State of the American Short Story," with Dan Chaon, Chris Coake, and Cressida Leyshon (deputy fiction editor *New Yorker*)
- 2007 NonfictionNow Conference, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA, panel on "Genre Jumping: Writing Both Nonfiction and Fiction" with Porter Shreve, Bich Minh Nguyen, Lee Martin, and Ira Sukrungruang. (panelist)
- 2007 Western Pennsylvania Council of Teachers of English Conference, Seton-LaSalle High School, Mt. Lebanon, PA, featured speaker with Philip Beard.
- 2006 412 *Creative Nonfiction* Festival, Pittsburgh, PA, panel discussion on "Writing Fiction from Real Life" with David Prete, Robert Hughes, and Jane Bernstein.
- 2006 PA Governor's School for the Arts, Visiting Writer, Mercyhurst College, Erie, PA

- 2006 External Evaluator of Creative Writing Program, Dickinson College.
- 2006 Drue Heinz Celebration, Pittsburgh, PA, workshop leader with fiction writers Sharon Dilworth and Katherine Vaz.
- 2006 Judge, Bank Memorial Short Story Contest, Franklin & Marshall College, Lancaster, PA
- 2004 AWP Conference, Chicago, IL, “How and Why We Make the Grade”: roundtable on grading creative writing with Anna Leahy, Mary Cantrell, Philip Graham, and Stephanie Vanderslice.
- 2001-2002 Writer-in-Residence, New Jersey Governor’s School for the Arts, TCNJ, Ewing, NJ
- 2001 AWP Conference, Palm Springs, CA, “Teachable Metaphors and Other Innovations in the Creative Writing Classroom”: panel discussion with writers and creative writing teachers Debra Marquart, Ander Monson, and Catie Rosemurgy.
- 2000 AWP Conference, Kansas City, MO, *Authority in the Creative Writing Classroom: Issues and Methods*, roundtable discussion with Mary Cantrell, Lucia Cordell Getsi, Rachel Hall, Anna Leahy, Evie Miller, Audrey Petty, and Mary Swander
- 1999 Judge, *Minnesota Voices Project*, New Rivers Press, Minneapolis, MN

SERVICE

Service

- 2018 Nomination, Executive Committee, Association of Departments of English (ADE)
- 2018-present Task Force on Administrative Load, College of Sciences and Humanities, Ball State
- 2017-present Acting Department Chair, English Department, Ball State
- 2017-2018 English Department Task Force on Graduate Programs
- 2016-present Career Center Advisory Board, Ball State
- 2015-2017 Strategic Planning Leadership Committee, chaired by former Ball State president
- 2014-2017 Assistant Chair (equivalent to Director of Undergraduate Studies), English Department
- 2013-2015 Promotion and Tenure Committee, English Department
- 2013-2014 Search Committee for Tenure-track Creative Nonfiction writer
- 2012-2014 College Curriculum Committee, Ball State
- 2012-2017 Campus Liaison, New York Arts Program
- 2011-2017 Planning Committee, Midwest Writers Workshop, Ball State
- 2011-2012 Department Assessment Committee, Ball State
- 2011-2012 Department Salary Committee, Ball State
- 2010-2011 Secretary, Creative Writing Area, Ball State University
- 2008-2009 Chair, Writing Program Website Committee, University of Pittsburgh
- 2005-present Writing Program Curriculum Committee, University of Pittsburgh
- 2008-present Graduate Admissions Committee, University of Pittsburgh

2005-present Pittsburgh Contemporary Writers Committee, University of Pittsburgh
2006-2007 Personnel Committee, University of Pittsburgh
2005-2008 Graduate Placement Committee, University of Pittsburgh
2005-2006 Judge, *Three Rivers Review* and *Taube Award* Fiction Contests, University of Pittsburgh
2000-2005 Chair, Creative Writing Committee, English Department, TCNJ
2003-2005 Coordinator, Creative Writing program, TCNJ
2001-2003 Curriculum Committee, TCNJ
2001 Search Committee for Tenure-Track Faculty/Poet, TCNJ

INVITED READINGS & LECTURES

2018 Chautauqua Institute, Chautauqua, NY 7/18

2016 Vouched Books Reading Series, Indianapolis, IN, 2/27
Hanover College, Hanover, IN, 3/10, 3/17, and 3/24
Spring Speaker, Honors College, UNC Wilmington, NC, 4/5
Franklin College, Franklin, IN
Steel Pen Writer's Conference, Merrillville, IN, 11/12

2015 Hanover College, Hanover, IN, 9/1
TILT: An Arts and Humanities Mixer, Indianapolis, IN 10/27

2014 AWP Conference, Seattle, WA, 3/1
Antioch Writers Workshop, Yellow Springs, OH, 3/22
Hanover College, Hanover, IN, 8/25
Antioch Writers Workshop Retreat, Loveland, OH, 9/13-14
R.J. Julia Booksellers, Madison, CT, 9/25
Mark Twain House and Museum, Hartford, CT, 9/26
French Lick West Baden Museum, French Lick, IN, 10/4

2013 Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK, 4/8
Osgood Public Library, Osgood IN, 6/6
Keynote, Indiana College English Association Conference, Evansville, IN 10/11

2012 National League of American Pen Women, Indiana State Day Conference, Muncie, IN 6/8
Indy Reads Books, Indianapolis, IN 7/19 and 11/10.

2011 E.B. and Bertha C. Ball Center, Muncie, IN 1/14
Visiting Writers Series, Ball State University, 2/10
Knox College, 5/12
Storyboard Your Novel Workshop, Writers' Center of Indiana, Indy, 12/10

2010 Virginia Ball Center for Creative Inquiry, Ball State University, 1/28
University of Indianapolis, 3/22
Carr Reading Series, University of Illinois, 11/16
Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana History Center, 12/4

2009 UPWords Reading Series, Pittsburgh, PA 1/9
Hughes Lecture Series, West Liberty University, Wheeling, WV 3/17

Gist Street Reading Series/Pittsburgh Association for the Deaf, Pittsburgh, PA, 5/30
The New Yinzer Reading Series, Pittsburgh, PA 8/19
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, "Meet the Author Series," Pittsburgh, PA 11/6
Mt. San Antonio College, Walnut, CA 11/22
Chapman College, Orange, CA 11/23

2008

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, 1/28
Barnes & Noble, Carmel, IN, 1/29
Blue Crew Sports Grill, Indianapolis, IN 1/30
Joseph Beth Booksellers, Pittsburgh, PA, 3/21
Purdue University Calumet, Hammond, IN, 1/27
Wabash Carnegie Public Library, Wabash, IN 9/4
University of Pittsburgh, Johnstown, Johnstown, PA 10/1
Northern Tier Regional Library, Gibsonia, PA 10/23

2007

Gist Street Reading Series, Pittsburgh, PA 1/5
Supernova Undergraduate Reading Series, "Diva's Night," 3/28
Slippery Rock University, Slippery Rock, PA 4/10
Wright State University, Dayton, OH 4/19
Western Pennsylvania Council of Teachers of English, Mt. Lebanon, PA 4/26

2006

Central Catholic High School, Pittsburgh, PA 1/10
Franklin & Marshall University, Lancaster, PA 1/26
University of Pittsburgh—Greensburg, PA 2/16
Minnesota State University, Mankato, MN, 3/2
Alabama Writers' Symposium, 5/4
Paper Street Press Reading Series, Mt. Lebanon, PA 6/1
Governor's School for the Arts, Erie, PA 7/24
University of Louisville, Axton Reading Series, 9/14
412 Creative Nonfiction Festival, 11/8

2005

DePauw University, Greencastle, IN, 2/15
Shippensburg University, PA 3/24
The College of New Jersey, Ewing, NJ, 4/18
The Writers' Center, Indianapolis, IN, 6/23
Anderson Public Library, Anderson, IN, 6/25
Prairie Lights Bookstore, Iowa City, IA, 7/7
Bettendorf Public Library, Bettendorf, IA 7/8
University of Pittsburgh, PA, 9/19
George Mason University, Fairfax, VA, 9/20
University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN, 10/6
Purdue University, W. Lafayette, IN, 12/1

2004

KGB Bar, NYC, 6/27
B&N, Princeton, NJ, 7/8
Inkwood Books, Tampa, FL, 7/15
Sarasota News & Books, FL, 7/16
Vero Beach Book Center, FL, 7/17
B&N, Carmel, IN, 7/21
Miami County Historical Museum, 7/23
Circus World Museum, Baraboo, WI, 7/25

New Haven Free Public Library, CT, 9/27
Barnum Museum, Bridgeport, CT, 9/28
Southern Connecticut State University, New Haven, CT, 9/29
Wellesley College, Wellesley, MA, 9/30
Newtonville Books & Brews, Newton, MA, 9/30
River Styx Reading Series, St. Louis, MO, 10/18
University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL, 10/21
Kokomo/Howard County Library, IN, 11/13
Books-a-Million Booksellers, Kokomo, IN, 11/13
Delphi Public Library, Delphi, IN, 11/14
Ball State University, Muncie, IN, 12/2
Indiana Historical Society, Indianapolis, IN 12/5
Lawrenceburg Public Library, Lawrenceburg, IN 12/8
Joseph Beth Booksellers, Cincinnati, OH, 12/9

SELECTED INTERVIEWS

“A Sleet Interview with Cathy Day.” Wendy Skinner. [Sleet](#). Volume 4 Summer 2012: online.
“Genre Crossover: an Interview with Cathy Day.” Brian Kornell. *Ninth Letter* 6:3 Spring 2010: 297-300 .
“The Murky Middle Where We All Live: An Interview with Cathy Day.” Sarah Layden. *The Southeast Review* 27:1 2009.
“An Interview with Cathy Day.” Bryan Furuness, [Hobart](#) (online). August 2008.
“Stories from Childhood.” [Selected Shorts](#) (“Circus People” by Cathy Day read by actress Kate Burton and “The Ultimate Safari” by Nadine Gordimer read by Myra Lucretia Taylor), National Public Radio (11/13/05).
“Trapeze, Elephants, Piazza: Circus with Cathy Day.” Interview with Kurt Anderson on [Studio 360](#) (8/27/05).

WORK IN PROGRESS

Linda Before Cole (novel)