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JILL CHRISTMAN

Professor, Writer, & Editor

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EDUCATION

M.F.A. in Creative Writing (Fiction) University of Alabama | August 1999

B.A. (*magna cum laude* & Phi Beta Kappa) in English with Women's Studies minor | The University of Oregon | Robert D. Clark Honors College | June 1992

EDITORIAL POSITIONS

Editor, *River Teeth: A Journal of Nonfiction Narrative*, Ball State University, 2024-present

Senior Editor, *River Teeth: A Journal of Nonfiction Narrative*, Ball State University, 2019-2024

Editor, *Beautiful Things* (an online journal of micro-essays). Ball State University, 2019-present

BOOKS

The Heart Folds Early: A Memoir. American Lives Series. Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press.
Publication date March 1, 2026.

If This Were Fiction: A Love Story in Essays. American Lives Series. Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press, 2022.

- ◇ 2023 Winner (Traditional Nonfiction) Chicago Writers Book Association Book of the Year: online.
- ◇ 2023 Finalist Great Lakes Independent Booksellers Award: online.
- ◇ 2022 Foreword INDIES Award Winner for Autobiography & Memoir (Silver): online.
- ◇ 2022 Winner of the Quill & Ink Award (Nonfiction): online.
- ◇ Starred review in *Publisher's Weekly* (May 2022): online.
- ◇ Review on *Kirkus Reviews* (July 2022): online.
- ◇ Review in *Brevity* (Sonya Huber, July 2022): online.
- ◇ Review in *Barrelhouse* (Brianna Avenia-Tapper, Sept 2022): online.
- ◇ Review in *Literary Mama* ("Since Feeling is First," Amanda Fields, Nov 2022): online.
- ◇ Review in *The Rumpus* ("The Art of Attention," Brooke Champagne, Dec 2022): online.

Borrowed Babies: Apprenticing for Motherhood. Amazon Digital Services (Kindle edition mini-memoir): Shebooks, Sept 2014. Released on Audible.com May 2015 (read by Angela Starling).

Darkroom: A Family Exposure (Winner of the 2001 AWP Award Series in Creative Nonfiction). Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press, 2002 (reissued in paperback Aug 2011).

SINGLE-AUTHOR EDITIONS & CHAPBOOKS

"Falling." *Iron Horse Literary Review*. E-single. June 2021.

*Notable Essay in *Best American Essays* 2022

"Spinning: Against the Rules of Angels." *True Story* (from *Creative Nonfiction*). Sept 2017: 1-40. [single longform essay issue] *Pushcart Prize nominee

ESSAYS IN JOURNALS

- "The Sandbox Ghost." *Iron Horse Literary Review* (the Unlawful Acts issue). March 2025.
- "Spinning Webs in Space." *The Rumpus*. 8 October 2024: online. *Notable Essay in *Best American Essays* 2025
- "Close Read: Jaquira Díaz." *Creative Nonfiction*. 78 (Fall 2022): 52-53.
- "The Lucky Ones." *The Rumpus*. 2 Aug 2022: online. * Notable Essay in *Best American Essays* 2023
- "Mr. Cosmos." *New Ohio Review*. Winter 2021 Exclusive with audio recording (Dec 2021): online.
- "Borrowed Babies: Apprenticing for Motherhood." *Longreads*. Nov 2019: online.
- "Naked Underneath Our Clothes." *Creative Nonfiction* ("Starting Over"). 67 (June 2018): 6-9, 80-84.
- "Life's Not a Paragraph: A Literary Love Story." *River Teeth: A Journal of Nonfiction Narrative*. 19: 2 (June 2018): 87-97.
- "The Baby & the Alligator." *TriQuarterly*. 151 (Jan 2017): online.
- "This Story." *Phoebe: A Journal of Literature & Art Since 1971*. 46.1 (Fall 2016): 27-28. online.
- "Mother's Day Kindness." *Brain, Child: The Magazine for Thinking Mothers*. May 2016: online.
- "Going Back to Plum Island." *River Teeth: A Journal of Nonfiction Narrative*. 17:1 (Nov 2015): 29-53.
- *Pushcart Prize nominee & Notable Essay in *Best American Essays* 2016
- "Leading the Children Out of Town." *Brain, Child: The Magazine for Thinking Mothers*. Oct 2015: online.
- "A Stone Pear." *The Fourth River 0.1: The Best of the First Ten Print Issues*. Nov 2014. Reprint: online.
- "The Googly Eye." *Brain, Child: The Magazine for Thinking Mothers*. 19:3 (Summer 2014): 42-47.
- "The Avocado." *Fourth Genre: Explorations in Nonfiction*. 16:1 (Spring 2014): 75-83.
- *Notable Essay in *Best American Essays* 2015
- "Borrowed Babies." *Iron Horse Literary Review*. 15.3 (Spring 2013 Special Nonfiction Issue): 18-35.
- *Notable Essay in *Best American Essays* 2014
- "Family Portrait: An Essay in Third Person." *Superstition Review*. Issue 8 (Fall 2011): online.
- "Bird Girls." *Willow Springs*. 68 (Fall 2011): 62-65.
- "Nineteen Weeks and One Day." *r.c.v.r.y. quarterly literary journal*. 6.3 (Summer 2011). Reprint.
- "Five Fives." *MAKE: A Chicago Literary Magazine*. Spring 2011: online.
- "The Little Box." *MAKE: A Chicago Literary Magazine*. 8 (Summer & Fall 2009): 52-54.
- "The River Cave." *River Teeth: A Journal of Nonfiction Narrative*. 11.1 (Fall 2009): 9-18.
- *Pushcart Prize nominee
- "Tango, Like the Dance." *Descant*. 40: 1 (Spring 2009): 50-51.
- "Burned." *Conclave: A Journal of Character*. 1 (Fall 2008): 48-49.
- "The Margarita Game." *Barrelhouse*. 5 (Winter 2008): 100-103.
- "The Sloth." *Brevity*. 26 (Hot & Cold Issue). Winter 2008: online. *cited & discussed in multiple creative writing textbooks including *The Pen and the Bell* (ed. Brenda Miller & Holly Hughes), *Bending Genre: Essays on Creative Nonfiction* (ed. Margot Singer & Nicole Walker), and *Tell It Slant* (ed. Brenda Miller & Suzanne Paolo)
- "Nineteen Weeks and One Day." *Under the Sun*. 21.1 (Summer 2007): 81-84.
- "Paddling the Middle Fork: A Love Story in Low Water." *River Teeth: A Journal of Nonfiction Narrative*. 8.2 (Spring 2007): 6-16. *Pushcart Prize nominee
- "Weaning Ella." *Brain, Child: The Magazine for Thinking Mothers*. 8.2 (Spring 2007): 28-31. *featured May 2015 on the Editor's Top 15 Essays of the First 15 years of *Brain, Child* list
- "The Allergy Diaries." *Harpur Palate*. 6: 2 (Winter 2007): 100-121. *Pushcart Prize nominee
- "Bringing on Baby." *Literary Mama*. Spring 2007: online.
- "A Stone Pear." *The Fourth River*. 3 (Autumn 2006): 60-63.
- "Three Takes on a Jump." *Mississippi Review*. Special Summer 2006 Issue (*Partly True*): online (*now *New World Writing Quarterly*).
- "Burned Images." *River City* 21.2 (2001): 60-68.

ARTICLES IN MAGAZINES

- "Do I See Myself as Others See Me?" *O Magazine*. Feb 2015: 95.
- "Get into Insects: Unlocking the Door to a Miniature Universe of Wonder." *Scholastic's Parent & Child Magazine*. June 2010: 70.
- "Let's Go Outside: Getting into Insects." *Scholastic's Parent & Child Magazine* expanded online "Hot Feature." June 2010.
- "The Hills are Alive." *Wondertime*. July 2008: 86-87.

ESSAYS IN BOOKS

- "Precious to Me." In *Nothing Compares to You: What Sinéad Means to Us*. Eds. Martha Bayne and Sonya Huber. New York, NY: Simon & Schuster, 2025: 165-174.
- "The Sloth" (reprint). In *The Essay Form(s)*. Ed. Jill Talbot. New York, NY: Columbia University Press, forthcoming 2025.
- "The Avocado" (reprint). In *Letting Grief Speak* Ed. Diane Zinna. New York, NY: Columbia University Press, forthcoming 2025.
- "A Letter to Myself at Age Twenty-One." In *Postcards from Tomorrow: A Collection of Letters from Inspirational Women to Their 21-Year-Old Selves*. Ed. Kim Chandler McDonald. In support of Lou's Place (an Australian domestic violence shelter). Sydney, Australia: Kim Chandler McDonald, 2020.
- "Going Back to Plum Island." In *River Teeth: Twenty Years of Creative Nonfiction*. Ed. Dan Lehman and Joe Mackall. Albuquerque, NM: University of New Mexico Press, 2020: 282-305.
- "The Sloth." In *The Best of Brevity: Twenty Groundbreaking Years of Flash Nonfiction*. Ed. Zoë Bossiere and Dinty W. Moore. Brookline, MA: Rose Metal Press, 2020: 55.
- "An Endless Retro-Infinity." (reprint) *What Happened on June 21st, 2018: An Essay Daily Happening*. Eds. Ander Monson, Will Slattery, and Dorian Rolston. Tucson. New Michigan Press, 2019: 13-18. Online download.
- "Slaughterhouse Island." In *Not That Bad: Dispatches from a Rape Culture*. Ed. Roxane Gay. New York, NY: HarperPerennial, 2018. 15-31.
- "That's What You Remember: An Essay in Third Person" [reprint]. In *In Season: Stories of Discovery, Loss, Home, and Places In Between*. Ed. Jim Ross. Gainesville, FL: University Press of Florida, 2018. 151-157.
- "Three Takes on a Jump" (reprint) and new interview in *Kept Secret: The Half-Truth in Nonfiction*. Eds. Jen Hirt and Tina Mitchell. East Lansing, MI: Michigan State University Press, 2017. 63-68.
- "That's What You Remember." In *Not Like the Rest of Us: An Anthology of Contemporary Indiana Writers*. Ed. Barbara Shoup. Indianapolis, IN: INWORDS/Indiana Writers Center, 2016. 17-23.
- "The Sloth." In *Literature: The Human Experience: Reading and Writing (Tenth, Eleventh, & Twelfth Editions)*. Ed. Richard Abcarian, Marvin Klotz, and Samuel Cohen. NY: Bedford/St. Martin, 2010, 2012, & 2015. Reprint.
- "Burned Images." In *Scars: An Anthology*. Ed. Erin Wood. Little Rock, AK: Et Alia Press, 2015. 1-12. Reprint with new afterword.
- "The Eleven-Minute Crib Nap." In *Oh Baby!: True Stories About Tiny Humans*. Ed. Lee Gutkind. Pittsburgh, PA: In Fact Books, 2015. 209-14.
- "Weaning Ella." In *Brain, Child Writers on the Joys & Challenges of Breastfeeding: A Brain, Child Anthology*. Ed. Marcelle Soviero. *Brain, Child Magazine*, 2015. 6-11. Reprint.
- "Chewing Band-Aids: One Memoirist's Take on Telling the Truth." In *Family Trouble: Memoirists on the Hazards and Rewards of Revealing Family*. Ed. Joy Castro. Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press, 2013. 17-28.

ESSAYS IN BOOKS (CONT.)

- "Three Takes on a Jump" and "The Allergy Diaries." In *Use Your Words: A Writing Guide for Mothers*. Ed. Kate Hopper. Berkeley, CA: Viva Editions, 2012. Reprint.
- "Paddling the Middle Fork: A Love Story in Low Water." In *The River Teeth Reader* 10.1&2 (Fall 2008 & Spring 2009 "best-of-the-best" ten-year anniversary double issue): 234-44. Reprint.
- "Weaning Ella." In *Unbuttoned: Women tell the truth about the pains, pleasures and politics of breastfeeding*. Ed. Dana Sullivan and Maureen Connelly. Boston, MA: Harvard Common Press, 2009. 206-213. Reprint.
- "The Very Rule." In *Rules of Thumb*. Ed. Michael Martone and Susan Neville. Cincinnati, OH: F & W Publications, 2006. 63-66.

ADAPTATIONS

- Borrowed Babies* by Jennifer Blackmer. Indianapolis, IN: Phoenix Theater, February 2026 (with a talk-back after the February 15th matinee with Jennifer Blackmer and Jill Christman).
- Borrowed Babies* inspired a play by the same name written by Jennifer Blackmer. Full production directed by Karen Kessler in Feb 2019 in Strother Theater on the Ball State campus.

INTERVIEWS & POSTS IN BOOKS, JOURNALS & BLOGS

- "We Hear Diversity in Sound." Interview with Michelle Kinsey and Christina Diaz Gonzalez on Indiana Public Radio's *Pop of Culture* (24 October 2025): online.
- "Editor's Notes 26.2." In *River Teeth: A Journal of Nonfiction Narrative* (May 2025): online.
- "Interview with Jill Christman." By Carlin Steere in *Sweet* (Spring 2025): online.
- Review of Brittany Means's *Hell If We Don't Change Our Ways*. In Indiana Authors' Association (January 2023): online.
- "Editor's Notes 25.1." In *River Teeth: A Journal of Nonfiction Narrative* (November 2023): online.
- "Happy Book Birthday to *If This Were Fiction*." Blog. University of Nebraska Press (September 2023): online.
- "MWW50th Faculty Jill Christman: Telling Our Stories is Our Deepest Power." Interview. Midwest Writers Workshop: online.
- "Interview with Jill Christman." By Tricia Cope in *Inscape* (Winter 2023): online.
- "Essaying is Questioning: A Jill & Jill Conversation." By Jill Talbot in *Fourth Genre* (Dec 2022): online.
- "The Really True Thing: A Conversation with Jill Christman." By Brianna Avenia-Tapper in *Literary Mama* (Nov 2022): online.
- "The Correlation Between Love & Essay-Writing: An Interview with Jill Christman." By Robbie Maakestad in *The Rumpus* (Oct 3, 2022): online.
- "Editor's Notes 23.1." In *River Teeth: A Journal of Nonfiction Narrative* (Nov 30, 2021): online.
- "Dear Nicole." *How We Are* (June 22, 2020): online.
- In Adeboye Olaniyan's "This Story is Personal: Jill Christman's Approach to Scholarly Writing." *Ball State University Research* (April 13, 2020): online.
- "Indelible (Campus Sexual Assault): A Class, a Podcast, & a Conversation." *Essay Daily* (April 13, 2020): online.
- "Pura Vida: What Happened on Dec 21, 2019." *Essay Daily* (Jan 15, 2020): online.
- "'Indelible in the hippocampus is the laughter': Writing Sexual Trauma Under Title IX." *Essay Daily* (Dec 13, 2018): online.
- "An Endless Retro-Infinity: What Happened on June 21, 2018." *Essay Daily* (July 5, 2018): online.
- "Jill Christman on Essays to Pry Open Doors: Ashley C. Ford, Alysia Sawchyn, & Brittany Means." *Essay Daily* (Dec 22, 2017): online.

INTERVIEWS & POSTS IN BOOKS, JOURNALS & BLOGS (CONT.)

- Featured paragraph from “Spinning: Against the Rules of Angels” at The Humble Essayist (Nov 2017): online.
- “The Frog Slip of Time.” Featured post at *The Fourth River* online (April 2015): online.
- Featured paragraph from “The Avocado” at The Humble Essayist (July 2014): online.
- “Jill Christman on Kathryn Winograd’s ‘Bathing.’” *Essay Daily* (Jan 2014): online.
- In Kelly Caldwell’s “The Art of Writing About Sacred Things.” *The Writer* (Fall 2012): 34-37.
- “5 Reasons I Can’t Stop Reading & Teaching Jo Ann Beard’s ‘The Fourth State of Matter’.” *Essay Daily* (Sept 2013): online.
- In Sonya Huber’s *The “Backwards” Research Guide for Writers*. London, England: Equinox Books, 2011. 60-66.
- “Interview with Jill Christman.” *r.c.v.r.y. quarterly literary journal*. 6.3 (Summer 2011): online.
- “Notes on ‘Bird Girls’.” *Willow Spring* online (Spring 2011): online.
- “Low-Res, High Motivation: An Interview with Jill Christman by Cathy Day.” Ball State English: online.

VIDEO, RADIO & PODCASTS

- “*River Teeth*: A Discussion with Jill Christman and Mark Neely.” Hosted by Dan Hill. *Great New American Essays*. 4 April 2024: online.
- “The Truest Story You Can Tell: Featuring Jill Christman.” Interview with Ronit Plank. *Let’s Talk Memoir* (October 2023): online.
- Indelible: Campus Sexual Assault* (Season 1: Trailer, 7 Episodes). Executive Producer. Available online on Simplecast & most other podcast platforms. 2020-present.
- “In Print X.” Interview on Indiana Public Radio’s *Indiana Weekend*. 20 March 2015. Online.
- “America’s Borrowed Babies.” Interview with Julie Rose on BYURadio’s nationally broadcast *Morning Show*. 7 Jan 2015. Online.
- “Family Portrait: An Essay in Third Person.” Launched on the Superstition Review iTunes podcast Dec 2013: online.
- “The Margarita Game.” Vouched Books youtube event (May 2011): online.
- “Tango, Like the Dance.” Chosen and recorded for the “Words to Go” podcast by novelist Carole Giangrande. March 2010.
- “Allergies.” Indiana Public Radio. Muncie, IN. Jan 2006.

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, & AWARDS

- “Notable Essay” listing in *Best American Essays 2025* (eds. Kim Dana Kupperman & Jia Tolentino) for “Spinning Webs in Space” (*The Rumpus*, August 2022).
- “Notable Essay” listing in *Best American Essays 2023* (eds. Robert Atwan & Vivian Gornick) for “The Lucky Ones” (*The Rumpus*, August 2022).
- “Notable Essay” listing in *Best American Essays 2022* (eds. Robert Atwan & Alexander Chee) for “Falling” (*Iron Horse Literary Review* e-single, June 2021).
- Finalist. “Mr. Cosmos.” The *New Ohio Review* Nonfiction Prize. 2021.
- Finalist. “The Sandbox Ghost.” The *Arts & Letters* Susan Atefat Prize for Creative Nonfiction. 2021.
- Immersive Learning Faculty Award (for *Indelible: Campus Sexual Violence*). Ball State University. 2021.
- Immersive Learning Special Recognition Faculty Award (for *The River Teeth* Learning Lab with Mark Neely and Todd McKinney). Ball State University 2021.
- Finalist. ScreenCast Podcast Awards for *Indelible: Campus Sexual Violence*. 2020.
- Iron Horse Literary Review* Annual Long Story Competition Winner. 2020.
- Fellow in Creative Writing (Prose). National Endowment for the Arts. 2020.

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, & AWARDS (CONT.)

Outstanding Creative Endeavor Award. Ball State University. 2019.

Fellow. "Campus Rape Culture in the Age of #MeToo." Virginia Ball Center for Creative Inquiry. Fall 2019.

Finalist. *Spinning: A Love Story*. Gournay Prize for a collection of essays. Columbus, OH: The Ohio State University Press, Sept 2018.

Pushcart nominations: "Spinning: Against the Rules of Angels" (*True Story*, Sept 2017), "Going Back to Plum Island" (*River Teeth*, Fall 2015), "The River Cave" (*River Teeth*, Fall 2009), "Paddling the Middle Fork" (*River Teeth*, Spring 2007), "The Allergy Diaries" (*Harpur Palate*, Spring 2007).

"Spinning: Against the Rules of Angels." Longlisted for the 2017 Notting Hill Editions Essay Prize. London, England. March 2017.

"Notable Essay" listing in *Best American Essays 2016* (eds. Robert Atwan & Jonathan Franzen) for "Going Back to Plum Island," in the Fall 2015 *River Teeth*.

"Notable Essay" listing in *Best American Essays 2015* (eds. Robert Atwan & Ariel Levy) for "The Avocado," in the Spring 2014 *Fourth Genre*.

"Notable Essay" listing in *Best American Essays 2014* (eds. Robert Atwan & John Jeremiah Sullivan) for "Borrowed Babies," in the Spring 2013 *Iron Horse Literary Review*.

Sigma Kappa Professor of the Month. Muncie, IN: Ball State University, 2002.

AWP Award Series in Creative Nonfiction for *Darkroom: A Family Exposure* (selected by Barry Sanders). Fairfax, VA: Association of Writers & Writing Programs (AWP), 2001.

Excellence in Teaching. Department of English, The University of Alabama, 1996, 1998, 2000-01.

Graduate Council Thesis Fellowship. Department of English, The University of Alabama, 1998-1999.

Alumni Fiction Award ("What Alice Found There"). The Program in Creative Writing, The University of Alabama, 1997.

Teaching & Writing Fellowship. The Program in Creative Writing, The University of Alabama, 1997.

Phi Beta Kappa. Eugene, OR: The University of Oregon, 1992.

GRANTS

ASPIRE Faculty Travel Grant for NonfictionNow. Muncie, IN: Sponsored Program Administration (SPA), Ball State University, 2025.

ASPIRE Creative Arts Grant for *Blue Baby Blue*. Muncie, IN: SPA, Ball State University, 2023.

Provost's Immersive Learning Grant (with Mark Neely). The *River Teeth* Learning Lab. Muncie, IN: Office of the Provost, Ball State University, 2019.

ADVANCE Creative Arts Grant for "The Hill." Muncie, IN: SPA, Ball State University, 2016.

Graduate Enrollment Recruitment Plan Grant for the Master's in English. Muncie, IN: The Graduate School, Ball State University, 2012.

Faculty Travel Grant. Muncie, IN: SPA, Ball State University, 2007.

Creative Arts Faculty Grant. Muncie, IN: SPA, Ball State University, 2005.

"Building the Four-Year Commitment" Departmental Retention Initiatives for *In Print*. Muncie, IN: Lilly II Endowment, Office of Academic Research and Sponsored Programs, Ball State University, 2004.

"Building the Four-Year Commitment" Departmental Retention Initiatives for *Writers in the Creative Writing Classroom*. Muncie, IN: Lilly II Endowment, Office of Academic Research and Sponsored Programs, Ball State University, 2004.

New Faculty Research Grant. Muncie, IN: Office of Academic Research and Sponsored Programs, Ball State University, 2003.

TEACHING

BALL STATE UNIVERSITY

Professor of Creative Writing in the Department of English, August 2016-present

Associate Professor of Creative Writing in the Department of English, August 2007-2016

Assistant Professor of Creative Writing in the Department of English, August 2002-2007

Graduate Courses at Ball State University

English 635: Special Topics in Creative Writing (Literary Apprenticeship)

English 614: Literary Editing

English 611: Creative Nonfiction Workshop (variable topics: Memoir, Personal Essay, Flash Nonfiction, The Essay in Parts, Building Books Out of Tiny True Things, etcetera), Writing the Hard Stuff

English 610: Reading & Writing Across the Genres

English 605: Teaching in English Studies (Creative Writing Pedagogy)

English 603: *River Teeth* Literary Editing Internship

Thesis Director (6-hour Creative Project) for 27 students in the M.A. English (Creative Writing)

- Director of the Alumni Association's Outstanding Creative Project: Heather Gemmen Wilson's *Her World, So Big: An Experiment in Form* (Ball State University, 2013)

Thesis Committee Member (6-hr Creative Project) for 26 students in the M.A. English (Creative Writing) & 1 in the M.A. Emerging Media Design & Development

- Committee Member for the Alumni Association's (Inaugural) Outstanding Creative Project: Nathan Neely's *Coda: for the Recently Deceased* (Ball State University, 2011)

Creative Project Director (3-hr Creative Project) for 24 students in the M.A. English (Creative Writing)

- Director of a 2025 Three-Minute Thesis Competition Finalist: Celia Cook's Creative Project, *Ceryneian Hind* (Ball State University, 2025)
- Director for the Alumni Association's Outstanding Creative Project: Katelyn Mathew's *Road Work Ahead* (Ball State University, 2024)

Dissertation Committee Member for 7 Ph.D. candidates (Literature, Rhetoric & Composition, Clinical Psychology)

Undergraduate Courses at Ball State University

Virginia Ball Center for Creative Inquiry: Immersive-learning seminar, "Campus Rape Culture in the Age of #MeToo." Fall 2019.

English 406: Advanced Creative Nonfiction (variable topics: Memoir, Personal Essay, Travel Writing, Lyric Essay, The Essay in Parts, Flash Nonfiction, Reading & Writing Mind-Blowingly Good Essays with *River Teeth*, etcetera)

English 405: Special Topics in Creative Writing (Literary Inspirations; Flash Nonfiction; Single-Author Apprenticeship)

English 404: Independent Study (Indelible: Making a Podcast)

English 400: Special Topics in Creative Writing (True Stories: The Uses of History)

English 369: Internship (The *River Teeth* Learning Lab)

English 306: Creative Nonfiction (Introductory & Intermediate with variable topics: Travel Writing, Literary Journalism, Memoir, Nature Writing, etcetera)

English 286: Creative Nonfiction (Introduction to Creative Nonfiction—a now-defunct course)

English 285: Introduction to Creative Writing (Fiction, Creative Nonfiction & Poetry)

Thesis Director (3-hour Project) for 16 students in the Honors College.

THE LOW-RESIDENCY MFA PROGRAM AT ASHLAND UNIVERSITY

Honored Visiting Graduate Faculty (Creative Nonfiction), Feb 2008-2018

Graduate Courses at Ashland University

English 501 & 502: Summer Residency I & II

English 631 & 633: Mentorship I & III (distance learning environment)

English 701: Thesis Semester

Thesis Director for 29 students in the M.F.A. program in Creative Nonfiction

Thesis Committee Member for 10 students in the M.F.A. program in Creative Nonfiction

Director of AWP's Intro Award Winner (one of four awarded nationally in creative nonfiction):

Jan Shoemaker's "Tenebrae" (AWP, 2014).

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

Teaching Assistant in the Department of English, 1995-1996, 1997-1998

Instructor in the Department of English, 1999-2001

Undergraduate Courses at The University of Alabama

English 429: Directed Readings in Fiction

English 301 & 302: Advanced Fiction Writing

English 237: Honors Twentieth Century Literature Written in English

English 227: Twentieth Century Literature Written in English

English 210: American Literature After 1865

English 200: Introduction to Creative Writing

English 103: Advanced English Composition Special Topics (Banned and Challenged Books)

English 102: English Composition (Writing About Literature)

English 101: English Composition

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

Developer & Director, Writer-in-Residence-in-Schools Program, Ball State University, 2023-present
(2023: Alicia D. Williams, 2024: Hena Khan, 2025: Christina Diaz Gonzalez)

Director, Creative Writing Program, Ball State University, 2022-2023, 2009-2010

Interim Assistant Chair, Department of English, Ball State University, Spring 2016 & Spring-Sum 2009

Assistant Chair of Undergraduate and Graduate Programs, Ball State University, 2010-2013

Director, Visiting Writers' Series, Ball State University, 2002-2010

Developer & Director, *In Print* Festivals of First Books 1-6, Ball State University, 2004-2010

Coordinator of the Visiting Writer Series, Ball State University, 2004-2007, 2009-2010

Coordinator, Creative Writing Program, University of Minnesota, 2001-2002

Assistant to the Director of Creative Writing, The University of Alabama, 1996-1997

SERVICE

National Service to the Association of Writers & Writing Programs (AWP)

Board of Directors, 2012-2017

Council Chair, Midwest Region, AWP, 2013-2017

Conference Steering Committee, AWP, 2014-2017

Los Angeles 2016 Conference Committee, AWP, 2014-2016 (Chair 2017)

Washington DC 2017 Conference Committee, AWP, 2014-2017 (Chair): leading the board committee for the planning of AWP's 50th Anniversary conference—over 13,000 attendees.
Professional Standards, Pedagogy, & Advocacy Committee, AWP, 2013-2015 (Chair), 2015-2017 (member): leading the development and implementation of an international state-of-the-profession electronic survey of academic programs in Creative Writing
Governance Committee, AWP, 2014-2017
Strategic Planning Committee, AWP, 2014-2017

Other National Literary Service

Final Judge, *Sweet: A Literary Confection* Flash Nonfiction Contest, 2025
Final Judge, (Traditional Nonfiction) Chicago Writers Book Association Book of the Year, 2025
Outside Reader, Honors Thesis, Kenyon College, 2024
Lit Youngstown Advisory Board, 2022-present
Dogwood Literary Contest Judge, 2015
The Arapahoe Writer's Workshop Literary Contest Judge, 2014

Service to Department of English at Ball State University

Academic Honors in Writing/Departmental Honors in English, 2023 (Chair)
Non-tenure Line Promotion Committee, 2022 (Member)
Salary Committee, 2022, 2019 (Chair), 2012, 2005
Scholarship Committee, 2023, 2019, 2009-2013
Graduate Program Task Force, 2017-present
Programs Committee, 2017-18 (Chair), 2010
Promotion & Tenure Committee, 2023-24, 2016-17 (Chair), 2009-2010
Contract Faculty Merit Committee, 2016 (Ex-officio)
Faculty Search Committees in Creative Writing, 2017-18 (Fiction), 2015-16 (Chair|Screenwriting), 2014-15 (Poetry), 2009-10 (Chair|Screenwriting), 2007-08 (Chair|Fiction), 2004-05 (Chair|Fiction)
Internship Coordinator, 2015-2016
Assessment Committee, 2009-2013 & 2015 (Chair, 2009 & 2012-2013)
Graduate Recruitment Committee, 2013 (Chair)
Programs Committee, 2010-2013 (Chair)
Executive Committee, 2010-2013
Graduate Student Advisory Board (GSAB) and Practical Criticism Midwest (PCM), 2010-2013 (Advisor)
Lambda Iota Tau, English Honors Society, Spring 2009 (Faculty Advisor)
Graduate Studies Committee, Fall 2008
Curriculum & Planning Committee, 2004- 2007
Creative Writing Graduate Admissions Committee, 2023, 2020, 2018, 2004-2007
Creative Writing Area Committee, 2002-present (Chair, 2004-2007)
Academic Honors in Writing Committee, 2018, 2009-2012
Ad Hoc Committee on Departmental Assessment, 2004

Service to the College of Sciences and Humanities at Ball State University

Faculty Task Force (Course Undergraduate Research Experience/CURE), College of Sciences & Humanities, 2024-present
Presentation on the Writer-in-Residence Program to the Dean's Advisory Council, Nov 2023
Faculty Task Force (Restructuring) & Internal Assessment Working Group, College of Sciences & Humanities, 2022-2023
Leadership Development Academy, College of Sciences & Humanities, 2020-2021

Dean's Advisory Council, College of Sciences & Humanities, 2017-2022
College of Sciences & Humanities Promotion & Tenure Committee, 2016-2017
College of Sciences & Humanities Promotion & Tenure Appeals Sub-Committee, 2016
College Curriculum Committee, 2010-2012
Whiting Lecture at the Honors College, Feb 2009
Presentation on Creative Writing to the Dean's Advisory Council, Oct 2007
Read names at the College of Sciences and Humanities commencement, May 2007

Service to Ball State University

Founder & Director, Writer-in-Residence-in-the-Schools Program, 2025-26 (Christina Díaz Gonzalez),
2024-25 (Hena Khan), 2023-24 (Alicia D. Williams)
Strategic Plan Working Group (Scholarship & Societal Impact), 2024-present
Pathways Mentor (Mikayla Galgerud), 2023-2024
Provost's Prize for Outstanding Seniors Committee, 2022-present
Provost's Immersive Learning Awards Committee, 2022
Co-Coordinator, Inaugural Writer-in-Residence (Ashley C. Ford), Office of the President, Fall 2021
Graduate Mentor Award Selection Committee, 2018-2019
Graduate Advisory Council, The Graduate School, 2015-2020
GEMMY (Graduate Enrollment Management Plan Award) Judge, The Graduate School, 2015-present
Faculty Fellow, The Graduate School (designing and implementing assessment and training for the
Graduate Enrollment Management Plan), Spring 2018, 2014-2016
Board Member, Child Study Center Board, College of Family and Consumer Science, Spring 2014-present
Odyssey Honors College Journal Judge, Spring 2013
Phi Society Scholarship Committee, Spring 2011
Creative Arts Grants Committee in Academic Research and Sponsored Programs, 2005
Professional Affairs Council, 2003-2005
Ad Hoc Committee on Partner Hiring, 2003-2004
Academic Freedom and Ethics Committee, 2003-2005
Graduate Student Research Grant Committee in Academic Research and Sponsored Programs, 2004

Service to the MFA Program at Ashland University

Creative Nonfiction Visiting Writers Committee, 2015, 2013

Service to the Indiana Community

Member, Indiana State Future Problem Solvers Committee, 2022-23
Mentor (trained and coordinated a team of graduate student judges for the Scenario Writing
Competition), Indiana State Future Problem Solvers, 2020-22
Mentor & Coach, Future Problem Solvers, Burriss Laboratory School, 2015-23 (Our extraordinary teams
have been state champions multiple times and in 2021 our Global Issues Problem Solving Senior team
placed 4th internationally)
Broad-Based Planning Committee (High Ability), Burriss Laboratory School, 2015-2019
Burriss Parent Volunteer of the Year, Burriss Laboratory School, 2013-2014
Mentor & Coach, First Lego Club, Burriss Laboratory School, 2013- 2015
Mentor, Creative Writing Club, Burriss Laboratory School, 2014
Visiting Writer in the Schools, "Flash Nonfiction" for high school creative writing class, Burriss Laboratory
School, 2013

Visiting Writer in the Schools, "*Click Clack Moo* and How I Became a Writer" for first and seventh graders,
Burris Laboratory School, May 2011
Judge for Masterpiece in a Day in Fountain Square, Indiana Farm Bureau, Sept 2006

PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES & LITERARY FESTIVALS

- "The Flash Nonfiction Editors Roundtable: Publishing Advice from the EICs." Juried panel with Hattie Fletcher/*Short Reads*, Steph Liberatore/*In Short*, NaBeela Washington/*Lucky Jefferson*, Vonetta Young/*The Offing*. *AWP Conference*. Baltimore, MD. Forthcoming March 2026.
- "Writing Gender-based Sexual Violence Is Difficult Enough, So How Do We Teach It?" Juried panel with Brooke Champagne, Michelle Otero, Sue William Silverman, & Nicole Walker. *AWP Conference*. Baltimore, MD. Forthcoming March 2026.
- "Bring Out Your Dead": a 75-minute juried panel with Sarah Layden, Robert Rebein, & Kyle Minor. NonfictionNOW at The University of Notre Dame. Notre Dame, IN. 13 June 2025.
- "In Search of Coherence: Shaping a Memoir-in-Essays": a 75-minute juried panel with Melissa Faliveno, Robin Hemley, Jessica Henry Nelson, & Margot Singer. NonfictionNOW at The University of Notre Dame. Notre Dame, IN. 11 June 2025.
- "Writing Traumedy: How to Make Your Mother Cry at Your Life & Laugh at Your Death." Juried panel with Brooke Champagne, Ashley Ford, Brittany Means, & Sue William Silverman. *AWP Conference*. Los Angeles, CA. March 2025.
- "Seeing Beyond the I: Using Multiple Points of View in Creative Nonfiction": a 60-minute workshop. LitYoungstown Fall Festival. Youngstown, OH. 21 October 2023.
- Publishing Creative Nonfiction Round Table. LitYoungstown Fall Festival. Youngstown, OH. 21 October 2023.
- "Curiosity & Obsession in Fiction, Poetry, & Nonfiction": a panel with Michael Martone & Mark Neely. Midwest Writers Workshop. Muncie, IN. 22 July 2023.
- "Can I Say This?: Writing Difficult Material." Lit Youngstown Festival. Youngstown, OH. Oct 2019.
- "Seeing Beyond the I: Using Multiple Points of View in Creative Nonfiction": a 60-minute workshop. Midwest Writers Workshop. Muncie, IN. 21 July 2023.
- "Buttonhole an Expert: Publishing Flash Nonfiction." Midwest Writers Workshop. Muncie, IN. 21 July 2023.
- "Writing Therapy": a reading & workshop. Quill & Ink. Southern Illinois University. Carbondale, IL. 29 April 2023.
- "Family, Home, & Ancestors in Contemporary Literature": a panel & reading with Lana K. W. Austin, Elizabeth Miki Brina, & Marian Moore. Words & Music Festival. New Orleans, LA. 17 Nov 2022.
- "Lives on the Page: Sweeping New Memoirs of Migration & Self-Discovery": a panel & reading with Suzanne Ohlmann. The Texas Book Festival. Austin, TX. 5 Nov 2022.
- "The Multiplicity of Voice: A Conversation with Sonya Huber & Jody Keisner." A Room of One's Own Books. Madison, WI. 27 Oct 2022. Online.
- "Indelible: A Class, a Podcast, & a Conversation about Sexual Violence on Campus." Live virtual roundtable with select students from Indelible: Rebekah Hoffer, Lizzy Bernard, Annie Ashbrook, Bella McGill, & Johah James. *The Midwest Safety Summit*. Jana's Campaign (virtual). Sept 2020.
- "Unmasking the Masked Self: The Complex Role of Persona in Memoir." Juried panel with Dinty Moore, Lina Ferreira, Sue William Silverman, & Ira Sukrungruang. *AWP Conference*. San Antonio, TX. March 2020.
- "Supporting Survivors of Sexual Trauma in the College Classroom: Storytelling, Writing, & Agency Under Title IX." A reading & conversation. *The Midwest Safety Summit*. Jana's Campaign. Muncie, IN. Sept 2019.
- "The boat I can feel so lonely in': Writing the Unusual Childhood." Juried panel with Joy Castro, Danielle Trussoni, & Ira Sukrungruang. *AWP Conference*. Portland, OR. March 2019.
- "Going Long: Editors & Writers of Longform Nonfiction in Conversation." Juried panel with Mike Dang, Hattie Fletcher, Anna Leahy, & Christopher Schaberg. *AWP Conference*. Portland, OR. March 2019.

[Reviewed by Heidi Fettig Parton for *Assay* here.]

PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES & LITERARY FESTIVALS (CONT.)

- "Writing the Day." Juried panel with Brian Blanchfield, Shamala Gallagher, & Dorian Rolston. *NonfictionNow Conference*. Phoenix, AZ. Nov 2018.
- "Our True Voice(s)." Juried panel with Jen Palmares Meadows, Silas Hansen, & Angela Morales. *NonfictionNow Conference*. Phoenix, AZ. Nov 2018.
- "Framing Life: Notes on Structuring the Book-Length Memoir." Juried panel with Heather Kirn Lanier, Kate Hopper, & Kelly Sundberg. *AWP Conference*. Tampa, FL. March 2018.
- "The Necessity of Looking Closely: Finding Big Ideas in Ordinary Things." Workshop. *A Gathering of Writers & Readers* for the Writers' Center of Indiana. Indianapolis IN. March 2018.
- "The Art of Research." Juried panel with Steve Harvey (aka, The Humble Essayist). *The River Teeth Conference of Nonfiction*. Ashland, OH. June 2016.
- "Where I'm From." A conversation with writer Randy Fritz and *Los Angeles Times* books critic David L. Ulin. The Texas Book Festival. Austin, TX. Oct 2015. Moderator.
- "Negotiating the Plasmopause: Patterned Images, Delayed Revelation, and Sheer Awesomeness in Jo Ann Beard's *The Boys of My Youth*." Juried panel with Sarah Wells. *The River Teeth Conference of Nonfiction*. Ashland, OH. May 2015.
- "What We Learned & What It Means." Plenary Assembly. *AWP Conference*. Minneapolis, MN. April 2015. (75-minute talk on AWP's national survey results).
- "Going Long: Challenges and Opportunities of Moving from Essay to Memoir." Juried panel with Steve Harvey & Sonya Huber. *The River Teeth Conference of Nonfiction*. Ashland, OH. May 2014.
- "Exercising Brevity: Nonfiction Lessons in Distillation." Workshop. *The Arapahoe Writer's Workshop*. Denver, CO. April 2014.
- "State-of-the-Profession Survey Planning." Plenary Assembly. *AWP Conference*. Seattle, WA. Feb 2014.
- "Crafting the Memoir: Carving Questions, Shaping Story, and Juggling the Shifting Roles of Memory, Imagination, and Time." Juried panel with authors Joe Mackall and Michael Steinberg. *The River Teeth Conference of Nonfiction*. Ashland, OH. May 2013.
- "Balancing Act: Writing & Motherhood." Juried panel with authors Kate Hopper, Sonya Huber, and Sarah Wells. *The River Teeth Conference of Nonfiction*. Ashland, OH. May 2012.
- "The Rooted Narrator: Negotiating Time and Narrative Distance in Nonfiction." Juried panel with Debra Gwartney, Sonya Huber, Dan Raeburn & Bonnie Rough. *AWP Conference*. Chicago. Feb 2012.
- "Fifth Year Anniversary Reading: Ashland University MFA Creative Nonfiction Faculty." Juried reading with authors Steve Harvey, Sonya Huber, Robert Root, & Kathryn Winograd. *AWP Conference*. Chicago. Feb 2012.
- "Flinging Inkpots: Resisting Messages About Off-Limits Subjects in Memoir." Juried panel with authors Kate Hopper, Paul Lisicky, Joe Mackall, & Sue William Silverman. *AWP Conference*. Washington, DC. Feb 2011. Organizer & (virtual) participant.
- "Tenth Anniversary *River Teeth* Reading." Juried reading. *NonfictionNow Conference* at The University of Iowa. Iowa City, IA. Nov 2010.
- "(How) Can I Say This?: Writing Difficult Material with Courage and Craft." Juried presentation. *A Gathering of Writers & Readers* at the Writers' Center of Indiana. Indianapolis IN. Oct 2010.
- "Writing as Parents: Our Children as Subjects." Juried panel with authors Kate Hopper, Sonya Huber, Jennifer Niesslein, & Shari MacDonald Strong. *AWP Conference*. Chicago, IL. Feb 2009.
- "Memoir and Catharsis." Juried panel with authors Steven Church, Kristen Iversen, Steve Woods, and Wendy Sumner Winter. *AWP Conference*. Chicago, IL. Feb 2009.
- "Blocked Memory: Photographs, Perception, & Memoir." Juried presentation. *A Gathering of Writers & Readers* at the Writers' Center of Indiana. Indianapolis, IN. Oct 2008.

"Perception as Muse." Juried panel with authors Dave Griffith, Ander Monson, and Lia Purpura. *NonfictionNow Conference* at The University of Iowa. Iowa City, IA. Nov 2007.

PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES & LITERARY FESTIVALS (CONT.)

"The River Cave': Questions Without Answers in Memory & Memoir." Juried presentation. *A Gathering of Writers & Readers* at the Writers' Center of Indiana. Indianapolis IN. April 2007.

"Revision." Juried panel with authors Marianne Boruch and Barbara Shoup. *A Gathering of Writers & Readers* at the Writers' Center of Indiana. Indianapolis, IN. April 2007.

"The River Cave': Questions Without Answers in Memoir & Motherhood." Juried presentation. *Winter Wheat Conference* at Bowling Green University. Bowling Green, OH. Nov 2006.

"Memoir as First Book: Writing After Writing Your Life." Juried panel with authors Amy Benson and Brad Land. *NonfictionNow Conference* at The University of Iowa. Iowa City, IA. Nov 2005.

"First Book Panel." Juried panel with Porter Shreve and Bich Minh Nguyen. *A Gathering of Writers & Readers* at the Writers' Center of Indiana. Indianapolis, IN. Oct 2005.

INVITED LECTURES & PANELS

"Beautiful Things: Tiny Windows to Difficult Things." Guest Author in Karen Schubert's LitYoungstown Nonfiction Writing Intensive. Online Workshop (online). 4 December 2025.

"Flash Nonfiction." Guest Author in Lilly Dancyger's *Essay Collection Incubator*. Online Workshop (online). 4 October 2025.

"So you want to write an essay collection." Guest Author in Lilly Dancyger's *Essay Collection Incubator*. Online Workshop (online). 12 April 2025.

"Beautiful Things: writing & publishing micro nonfiction." Guest Author in Diane Zinna's *February Publishing Circle*. Online Workshop. 25 February 2025.

"The Avocado' & Other Essays." Guest Author in Jill Talbot's graduate class at North Texas University. 18 February 2025.

"Beautiful Things: Writing & Publishing Miniatures." Workshop. *A Gathering of Writers* for the Writers' Center of Indiana. Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN. 28 September 2024.

"Can I Say This?: Writing the Hard Stuff in Personal Essays & Memoir." Lafayette Writers Studio. Online Workshop (online). 16 July 2024.

"Use Your Gifts for Good—& Mr. Cosmos." 2024 Address. Annual Conference. International Association of Laboratory Schools. Muncie, IN. 25 April 2024.

"Seeing Beyond the I: Using Multiple Points of View in Creative Nonfiction": a 60-minute workshop. Spalding Naslund-Mann School of Writing Spring Residency. Louisville, KY. 29 May 2024.

"Paddling the Middle Fork & Other Stories at the Confluence of Writing, Teaching, & Engagement." Outstanding Creative Endeavor Award Lecture. Ball State University. Muncie, IN. Oct 2019.

"Can I Say This?: Writing Difficult Material." Lit Youngstown Festival. Youngstown, OH. Oct 2019.

"Cultural Identity in Writing & Publishing." Lit Youngstown Festival. Youngstown, OH. Oct 2019.

"Girl Talk: Storytelling as Advocacy Panel Discussion." Plyspace. Muncie, IN. May 2019.

"Borrowed Babies and Other Stories." Tri Kappa Brunch. New Castle, IN. Feb 2019.

"Time Management & Imposter's Syndrome in Graduate School." Graduate School Professional Development Series. Muncie, IN. Aug 2018.

"The Necessity of Looking Closely." Workshop. *A Gathering of Writers* for the Writers' Center of Indiana. Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN. March 2018.

"The Necessity of Looking Closely: Finding Big Ideas in Tiny Things." Talk at the Muncie Public Library in the *Big Ideas* series, Department of Philosophy, Ball State University. Muncie, Jan 2016.

"Flash Nonfiction." Writers Studio Workshop. Arapahoe Community College. Denver, CO, April 2014.

"Brevity: Locating Image, Story, & Shape in Mini Memoirs." Lecture for Lifelong Learners. Alumni

Center, Ball State University, April 2014.

INVITED LECTURES & PANELS (CONT.)

- "Exercising Brevity: Nonfiction Lessons in Distillation." Faculty craft seminar at Ashland University. Ashland, OH. July 2013.
- "Essaying." Professor Joe Mackall's memoir class at Ashland University via conference call. April 2013.
- "Writing *Darkroom*." Professor Connelly's Creative Writing Survey at Kentucky Wesleyan College via Skype. Nov 2011.
- Freshman Connections Leader for at Ball State University. Muncie, IN. Aug 2004, 2006, & 2011.
- "How Giotto Saved My Poem: Writing Family in Memoir." Faculty craft seminar with Angie Estes at Ashland University. Ashland, OH. July 2011.
- "Can I Say This?: Writing Difficult Material with Courage & Craft." Faculty craft seminar with Ruth Schwartz at Ashland University. Ashland, OH. July 2009.
- "Life is Big, Paper is Small: One Writer's Search for Balance and Meaning." The Whitingers Fellows Lecture at the Honors College Annual Banquet, Ball State University. Muncie, IN. April 2009.
- "Women Writing Memoir" for Professor Weller's Women in Literature class at Loyola University. Chicago, IL. Oct 2008.
- "Truth & Its Consequences." Faculty craft seminar at Ashland University. Ashland, OH. July 2008.
- "Narrative Structure." Professor McBride's Title IV Class at the Virginia Ball Center for Creative Inquiry, Ball State University. Muncie, IN. Aug 2007.
- "Trauma & Memoir." Freshman Orientation at Ball State University. Muncie, IN. June 2007.
- "'Paddling the Middle Fork' & Other Life Stories." Honors Literature class at Indiana Academy. Muncie, IN. March 2007.
- "Monkeying with Memoir." Unplugged Series (Lambda Iota Tao) in the English Department. Ball State University. Muncie, IN. April 2006.
- "Writing Memoir." Honors Literature class at Indiana Academy. Muncie, IN. March 2004 & 2006.
- "Writing *Darkroom*." Honors Literature class at Indiana Academy. Muncie, IN. March 2005.
- "Living is Big, Paper is Small: or, Find a Way to Make Sense of This Crazy World We Live In." Phi Society luncheon at Ball State University. Muncie, IN. April 2004.
- "Writing a Memoir." Up to Date Learning Series at the High Street Methodist. Muncie, IN. April 2003.
- "Memoir & Memory." BotSwim Series at Ball State University. Muncie, IN. April 2003.
- "Shaping Memory." Public Workshop & Lecture at Brown University. Providence, RI. March 2003.
- "Writing *Darkroom*." A Lifewriting Lecture at Brown University. Providence, RI. March 2003.
- "*Darkroom*, Family & Memory." Honors College 199 (Family History) Class. Ball State University. Muncie, IN. Feb 2003.
- "Writing & Publishing a First Book." *First Books* Panel Discussion at The University of Minnesota. Minneapolis, MN. Dec 2002.
- "Family Response to Memoir." Introduction to Creative Writing. The University of Minnesota. Minneapolis, MN. Dec 2002.
- "Memoir & Structure." Elderhostel class at The Loft Literary Center. Minneapolis, MN. Oct 2002.
- "Memoir and Family." Patricia Hampl's Advanced Creative Nonfiction class. The University of Minnesota. Minneapolis, MN. May 2002.
- "Constructing Memory." The University of Minnesota. Minneapolis, MN. April 2002.
- "Autobiography & the Photograph." Creative Writing Seminar with poet Kathleen Glasgow at The Loft Literary Center. Minneapolis, MN. March 2002.

READINGS & SIGNINGS

"The Googly Eye." Indiana Memoir: A Reading with Acamea Deadwiler and Melissa Fraterrigo at the Proof Festival hosted by Indiana Humanities. Indianapolis, IN. 11 October 2025.

"Spinning Webs in Space." Reading Series at the College of St. Mary's. Notre Dame, IN. 9 December 2024.

Book of the Year Winner Reading. Chicago Writers Book Association Book of the Year Celebration. Chicago, IL. 20 January 2024.

Featured Reading with Alison Stine (followed by a conversation with Jen Knox). LitYoungstown Fall Festival. Youngstown, OH. 21 October 2023.

If This Were Fiction. 20th Anniversary *Literary Mama* Reading. Ballast Bar Offsite AWP. Seattle, WA. 9 March 2023.

Wonderful People: A reading and discussion of the writing life with Jill Christman, Evan Fallenberg, and Robin Hemley. Kenyon College. Gambier, OH. 16 February 2023.

If This Were Fiction. English Reading Series at Brigham Young University. Provo, UT. 27 January 2023.

If This Were Fiction with Katy Didden. IndyReads. Indianapolis, IN. 3 Dec 2022.

If This Were Fiction with Kelcey Ervick. Indiana University. South Bend, IN. 30 Nov 2022.

If This Were Fiction with Mark Ehling, Mark Neely, & Michael Kleber-Diggs. Funhouse Slideshow. Minneapolis, MN. 15 Sept 2022.

If This Were Fiction with Kate Hopper. Magers & Quinn Books. Minneapolis, MN. 14 Sept 2022.

If This Were Fiction with Kelcey Ervick. Ball State Visiting Writers' Series. Muncie, IN. 27 Sept 2022.

"Mr. Cosmos." Reading with Jackie Grutsch McKinney and Katy Didden. Muncie, IN. Oct 2021.

"Falling." *Kenyon Review* Virtual reading with Mark Neely. Gambier, OH. Oct 2021.

"Slaughterhouse Island." Lit Youngstown Festival. Youngstown, OH. Oct 2019.

"Going Back to Plum Island." A reading with Todd McKinney. Muncie, IN. Feb 2019.

"Life's Not a Paragraph." An off-site AWP reading with *Hippocampus*, *Under the Gum Tree*, *River Teeth*, & *Fourth Genre*. Tampa, FL. March 2018.

"On Kindness." Ashland, OH. July 2016.

"Slaughterhouse Island" with BJ Hollars. Muncie, IN. April 2016.

"Life's Not a Paragraph." Ashland, OH. July 2015.

Borrowed Babies (reading from new e-book). Ashland, OH. July 2014.

"Get the Jetpacks." ACC Writers Studio. Arapahoe Community College. Denver, CO, April 2014.

Annual Faculty Reading at Ashland University in Ashland, OH. July 2008-2013.

Reading at Visible Voice Books with Mark Neely in Cleveland, OH. Sept 2012.

Motherwords Reading at The Loft in Minneapolis, MN. Oct 2011.

Vouched Books Presents Reading and paperback release celebration for *Darkroom* with Michael Martone, Mark Neely, & Patricia Henley at the Big Car Gallery in Indianapolis IN. Oct 2011.

Vouched Books Presents Reading at the Big Car Gallery in Indianapolis IN. May 2011.

River Teeth Reading at Ball State University in Muncie, IN. Jan 2010.

WILA National Conference Reading at the Virginia Ball Center for Creative Inquiry. Ball State University in Muncie, IN. June 2007.

Rules of Thumb Book Signing with Michael Martone at the AWP Conference in Atlanta, GA. March 2007.

Darkroom Book Signing at the Midwest Writers' Author Showcase in Muncie, IN. Dec 2006.

Darkroom Book Signing at Bowling Green University in Bowling Green, OH. Nov 2006.

Reading at The Alabama School of Fine Arts in Birmingham, AL. Oct 2004.

Reading at The University of Alabama in Birmingham, AL. Oct 2004.

Bankhead Series Reading at The University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, AL. May 2003.

Reading at Indiana University Purdue University in Indianapolis, IN. April 2003.

Book Signing at Danner's Books in Muncie, IN. April 2003.

READINGS & SIGNINGS (CONT.)

Book Signing at Barnes and Noble Bookstore in Indianapolis, IN. March 2003.

Award Series Reading at the AWP Conference in Baltimore, MD. Feb 2003.

Book Signing at Barnes and Noble Bookstore in Muncie, IN. Feb 2003.

Faculty Reading at Ball State University in Muncie, IN. Jan 2003.

First Books Reading at the Weisman Museum, The University of Minnesota. Minneapolis, MN. Dec 2002.

Virginia Ball Center for Creative Inquiry Reading at Ball State University in Muncie, IN. Nov 2002.

Reading at The Loft Literary Center in Minneapolis, MN. Oct 2002.

Reading at George Washington University in Washington, DC. Oct 2002.

Writers Harvest Reading at The University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, AL. Nov 2000.

M.F.A. Reading Series at The University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, AL. March 2000 & Jan 1998.

Writers Harvest Reading at the Bama Theater in Tuscaloosa, AL. Oct 1999.

Reading at The Flight of the Mind Workshop at St. Benedict's. McKenzie River, OR. June 1994.

EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE & REVIEWS

Editor, *River Teeth: A Journal of Nonfiction Narrative*, Ball State University, 2024-present

Senior Editor, *River Teeth: A Journal of Nonfiction Narrative*, Ball State University, 2019-2024

Editor, *Beautiful Things* (a weekly online journal of micro-essays). Ball State University, 2019-present

River Teeth Booth at the Association of Writers & Writing Programs (AWP) Annual Bookfair: Los Angeles 2025, Kansas City 2024, Seattle 2023, San Antonio 2020, Portland 2019

Reviewer, two essay collections, University of Nebraska Press, 2025

Reviewer, essay collection, University of Nebraska Press, 2024

Reviewer, a memoir, University of Wisconsin Press, 2023

Review | blurb, *Slow Learner* by Jan Shoemaker. Wandering Aengus Press, 2023

Review | blurb, *The Beloved Republic* by Steven Harvey. Wandering Aengus Press, 2022

Review | blurb, *Not Something We Discuss Often* by Sarah Cedeño Small Harbor Publishing, 2022

Reviewer, a memoir, University of Georgia Press (the Crux Series), 2022

Review | blurb, *Put Off My Sackcloth* by Annie Dawid. Humble Essayist Press, 2021

Book Review, Kathryn Winograd's *Slow Arrow*, *River Teeth* blog, Sept 2020

Reviewer, a memoir, University of Nebraska Press, 2020

Reviewer, a memoir, Yale University Press, 2019

Review | blurb, *Beyond Birds and Bees* by Bonnie Rough. Seal Press, 2018

Review | blurb, *Permanent Marker* by Aimee Ross. KiCam Projects LCC, 2017

Reviewer, a creative writing pedagogy anthology, Bloomsbury Press, 2015

Review | blurb, *Phantom Canyons: Essays of Reclamation* by Kathryn Winograd. Conundrum Press, 2014

Reviewer, a creative nonfiction anthology & textbook. Broadview Press, 2014.

Reviewer, a memoir. University of Nebraska Press, 2010

Reviewer, a creative nonfiction anthology & textbook. Cengage Learning, 2007

Reviewer, a creative nonfiction anthology & textbook. Longman Publishers, 2005

Review | blurb, *Grass* by Sean Lovelace. Elixir Press, 2003

Reviewer, *Journal of the Assembly for Expanded Perspectives on Learning (JAEPL)*. March 2003

Reviewer, a novel. The University of Wisconsin Press, 2002

Assistant Fiction Editor, *The Black Warrior Review*, The University of Alabama, 1995-1998

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Coordinator of the Program in Creative Writing in the Department of English, 2001-2002

THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

Research Lab Manager in the Dynamics Lab, Department of Psychology, 1992-1995

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Association of Writers and Writing Programs (AWP)

The Authors Guild

Phi Beta Kappa

American Association of University Professors

REFERENCES

Dr. Patrick Collier | Professor Emeritus | College of Sciences & Humanities, Ball State University, Muncie, IN 47306 | pccollier@bsu.edu

Dr. Stephen Haven | Professor & MFA Program Director | Department of English, Lesley University, Cambridge, MA | shaven@lesley.edu

Dr. Lauren Onkey | Director | Corcoran School of Arts & Design, George Washington University, Wash DC | 202-994-1700

Professor Julie Schumacher | Professor | Department of English, University of Minnesota, 15 Lind Hall, Minneapolis, MN 55455 | schum003@umn.edu | (612) 625-3363

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