

THE INLAND NORTHWEST CENTER FOR WRITERS

NEWS AND INFORMATION

MAY 2014

NEWS AND EVENTS

BESTSELLING FICTION AND NONFICTION WRITER JACQUELYN MITCHARD OUR 2013-2014 VISITING WRITERS SERIES READIES TO CLOSE IN STYLE



JACQUELYN MITCHARD will lead a nonfiction workshop for students and alums from 3-5pm at our offices, and a public reading at Auntie's Bookstore at 8:45 p.m. Because the reading is a little later than usual this time, there will be no after-party. But Santé will serve alcohol during the reading, so one's party spirit will still have plenty of opportunity to get its "lit" on. The manuscript for the workshop is available in the office. Also, we hope to bring you one more poet to close out this year's series, details forthcoming.

Mitchard's love of the literary arts crosses a number of genres, from nonfiction—her first and longest devotion—to fiction and even to theatre, though in the latter she considers herself just a dabbler. She's no dabbler in prose, however. Her writing career began in journalism, eventually seating her as lifestyle columnist for the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*. Her weekly column, "The Rest of Us: Dispatches from the Mother Ship", appeared in 125 newspapers nationwide and enjoyed a long and celebrated run; a decade's worth of select pieces were published as a collection by the same title in 1999. Her 1986 memoir *Mother Less Child* was lauded by *Kirkus Reviews* as "eloquent and passionate", and her fiction has earned her both best-selling cred and a nod from Oprah and her eponymous book club. So of course all students of nonfiction *must* attend the workshop, but you fictioners may want to consider joining in as well. It's a fair assumption that a well-rounded storyteller will have insights into how to improve first-person narrative of any persuasion, yes?



PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS



POETRY MFA'ER Krista Debehne must have thought living the grad student life was too good to end, so after a painstaking application process, she's chosen the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, and is off to earn her PhD in Creative Writing flush off earning her Masters. Congrats, Krista!!



THE WILLOW SPRINGS EDITIONS Release Party and Fundraiser Raffle will be Saturday, May 10th, 2-5pm, at Whitestone Vine, 8 N. Post Suite #8. Email nellisamy@gmail.com with questions.



willow
springs

A LITTLE MORE LIT FOR THE MERRY MONTH OF MAY

EWU SENIOR LECTURER, INCW teaching mentor, and fiction writer **Polly Buckingham** will be reading at Auntie's on May 30th, 7pm. Her chapbook, *A Year of Silence*, was the 2012 winner of the winner of the *Jeanne Leiby Memorial Chapbook Award*, sponsored by University of Central Florida's *The Florida Review*.



VOICEOVER'S 2013-14 SWAN SONG of MFA readings at Luxe will be here before you know it. You won't want to miss the send-off for the 2013-2014 emcees Glen Schroeder and his wingman Todd, so make sure to reserve Saturday, May 17th, 7pm, on your social calendar. There are lots of fresh faces on the Readers List, so get ready for some serious merry-making.



WITC



NEWS AND EVENTS

2014 GET LIT! A RETROSPECTIVE

WE CAME, WE SAW, AND WE MOST SURELY GOT LIT! We slammed poetry and we slugged whiskey. Pie was dispatched hungrily and stories were downed even more hungrily. We clamored into the Bing, sauntered into the Bar-rister, and everywhere we meeted, greeted and hugged. It was the story before bed you used to wish would never end. Until you were too tired to keep your eyes open, of course, the desire for more eclipsed only by the limitations of human endurance. That's how we take our lit around here. We get positively drunk on it.



Get Lit! Headliners Anthony Doerr and William T. Vollmann sign books for fans, with meet-and-greet support happily supplied by Kate Peterson.



A mustachioed Glen Schroeder breaks his cover for the ebullient Krista Debehnke and Lindsey Jones. Who wouldn't?



Cat Sarytchof and Diana Emmons going for the win on Most Awww-Inspiring Photo. Corgi puppies win by a nose.



The nonfiction "tell" by Cynthia Schoch and Lareign Ward: catbird smile today, revelatory essay tomorrow.



With a line-up of faculty readers like this, magic does happen. This mystic portal opened just minutes after Chris Howell read. Sam Ligon and Greg Spatz sidle over with a friendly "Just act casual" reminder.



Regional Faculty Readings emcee Natalie Kusz puckers up for a shot with her oil-on-canvas Doppelganger. Spooky!

VARIOUS AND SUNDRIES

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE, QUOTES, TIPS AND CHUCKLES

A FAREWELL FROM YOUR FRIENDLY 2013-2014 NEWSLETTER EDITOR



YOUR REGULARLY SCHEDULED Captain's Log has been preempted this month to bring you this special announcement: I, Veronica, intrepid Newsletter Editor, Website Make-It-Look-Nice'or, and sometime Social Media Correspondent, will be wrapping up my tenure at the digital wheel as I prepare to get prepared for thesis and teaching and other mighty 2nd-year adventures. Perhaps Wonder Woman could have done all this and more, but not only does the suit no longer fit me (I tried, and trust me, it wasn't pretty) but I'd love to see what a new perspective could bring to this Social Media voice. I can only hope the newsletter tradition continues, because then I'd get to look forward to reading them! But for now, this will be the last newsletter of the year, and my last as editor. I want to thank everyone who's contributed photos and editorials and tips and such throughout the year. I couldn't have done it without you, that's for sure.

Since this is goodbye and all, I have a mask-removing confession to make: *Pssst! I'M the Grammar Fairy!* I also have to confess that I got help from the web because I needed it. I routinely make half the mistakes I schooled everyone on. It's a heavy load to have to be preternaturally grammatically excellent, and I'm just a regular person, not really a superhero or magical fairy at all. Also, in case you're wondering, I didn't really used to have a Wonder Woman suit. That was just in there for laughs, about me trying it on and it not fitting. Because let's face it, not too many people could pull off a suit like that.

Well, I hope being shown the editor-behind-the-curtain like this didn't go down like the Santa Claus and Easter Bunny betrayals. I still remember how much those stung. But we're all pretty jaded by now, so I'm not too worried about you. I know you know I did it for all the right reasons, so you'd have a little magic in your lives. Like Christmas. Okay then, I guess that does it. Thanks for reading!

—Veronica



A MESSAGE FROM THE GRAMMAR FAIRY



NUDGE NUDGE, WINK WINK!

*"To know a gerund (is a noun)
is to possess a gerund."*

Alright, I figured since you'd have to go a while without your monthly dose of grammatical finger-wagging, I should at least leave you with this website I just found on common grammar and usage errors. There are nearly as many listed here as there are people who say "He handed the papers to he and I", but they're alphabetized and laid out clearly, and the descriptions are really straight forward. Here's an example:

This is a subtle point, and hard to explain without using the sort of technical language I usually try to avoid; but if you can learn how to precede gerunds with possessive pronouns, your writing will definitely improve in the eyes of many readers. Verb forms ending in "-ing" can function as nouns and are sometimes preceded by pronouns. Such verb/noun forms are called "gerunds." You'll often see sentences like this: "I didn't appreciate him returning the car with the gas tank empty." But "returning" is a gerund, so it should be preceded by a possessive pronoun: "I didn't appreciate his returning the car. . . ." Other examples of standard usage: "Their coming to my birthday party was a nice surprise." "I didn't like his being rude to his teacher." "They weeded the garden without our having to tell them to." "Coming," "being," and "having" are all gerunds, and require preceding possessive pronouns ("their," "his," and "our"). If a person's name appears just before the gerund, that too needs to be in the possessive form: "We're excited about Bob's winning the tournament."

<http://public.wsu.edu/~brians/errors/errors.html#errors>



TWEETETH THE AUTHOR:

@NabokovQuotes 2 Oct 2012

Curiously enough, one cannot read a book; one can only reread it. A good reader, a major reader, an active & creative reader, is a rereader.

**COMPILED AND EDITED
BY VERONICA LUSTRE**

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE CAREER WRITER

SUBMISSIONS CALLS, CONTESTS, GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS



**CALLS FOR
SUBMISSION**

DEADLINE: Rolling

Still Point Arts Quarterly seeks both writing and art submissions for this beautifully-designed publication about artistic inspiration, imagination, and expression. **Fiction** and **creative nonfiction** submissions are especially desirable at this time. Submission guidelines and contents of previous issues are available at www.stillpointartsquarterly.com.

DEADLINE: Rolling

Michigan Quarterly Review reads submissions of **poetry, fiction, and essays** year round. Writers are advised to inspect a back copy of the Michigan Quarterly Review (available for \$4.00) or our archives (<http://quod.lib.umich.edu/m/mqrg/>) before submitting work. Average turnaround time is six weeks. Simultaneous submissions are allowed. A self-addressed, stamped envelope must be enclosed for the return of the manuscript or for any reply. Authors who would like their manuscripts returned to them must include an envelope with sufficient postage and indicate in a cover letter that they want the manuscript returned. Manuscript pages are recycled unless the author has made it clear that they should be returned. Please mail submissions to: *Michigan Quarterly Review*, 0576 Rackham Bldg, 915 E. Washington Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1070

DEADLINE: May 15

Published quarterly by The University of Georgia since 1947, *The Georgia Review* features an eclectic blend of **essays, fiction, poetry, graphics, and book reviews**. Appealing across disciplinary lines, the Review draws its material from a wide range of cultural interests—including, but not limited to, literature, history, philosophy, anthropology, politics, film, music, and the visual arts. Submit your work online or by post. For more information, go to thegeorgiareview.com.

DEADLINE: May 31

Midway Journal accepts aesthetically ambitious poetry and **prose** that complicates and challenges traditional literary boundaries and genres. We are as interested in word choice and style as we are in voice and form. Please allow a 6–9 month response time before inquiring about work. We strongly encourage writers to read a few issues of the journal before submitting. Please visit our submissions page for complete guidelines (midwayjournal.com/submissions/).

DEADLINE: May 31

SHORT MEMOIRS WANTED: *Creative Nonfiction* is seeking new work for an upcoming issue dedicated to **memoir**. Be honest, accurate, informative, and intimate. 4,000 words or fewer. Cash prize for best essay. Guidelines at www.creativenonfiction.org/submit.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE CAREER WRITER

SUBMISSIONS CALLS, CONTESTS, GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS



CONTESTS

DEADLINE: May 15

THE GEORGIA REVIEW'S
LORAIN WILLIAMS POETRY PRIZE

Open from 1 April - 15 May 2014; submit online or post-mark by 15 May

The *Georgia Review* announces the second annual Loraine Williams Poetry Prize—\$1,000 and publication in *The Georgia Review* for a single **poem**, originally written in English and never before published either in print or online. The winning poem will be announced on 15 August 2014. Current subscribers may enter free of charge; nonsubscribers may begin a subscription at the time of entry—\$35 for four issues, which is \$5 off the regular price—or pay an entry fee of \$15. For full submission details, visit www.thegeorgiareview.com.

DEADLINE: May 15

2014 RAYMOND CARVER SHORT STORY CONTEST

This is the 15th anniversary of the contest and to celebrate we are offering our biggest grand prize yet: \$1500! The Raymond Carver contest attracts **stories** from around the world and is known to award top prizes to virtual unknowns and never-been-published writers. Many prizewinners often credit placing in the contest as the springboard for their career as a writer. All winners published in the fall 2014 issue in mid-October and considered for representation by Rees Literary Agency, Folio Literary Management, and Sobel Weber Agency. This year's guest judge is Aimee Bender. carvezine.com/raymond-carver-contest/

DEADLINE: May 15

BALTIMORE REVIEW SUMMER CONTEST

The theme for the *Baltimore Review's* summer contest is "How To." Why? Because writers are unabashedly inquisitive and can instruct readers in such eloquent ways. Instruct our readers in how to do anything—anything at all—in the course of your **poem, fiction, or creative nonfiction**, and you're eligible. 3,000-word limit for prose, 1-3 poems per entry. \$10 entry fee. Prizes: \$500, \$200, and \$100. All entries considered for publication. Deadline is May 31, 2014. Final judge: Michael Downs. Hit blue Submit button on Submit page, then the Contest link to enter. Also considering non-theme (non-contest) submissions. Visit baltimorereview.org.



OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE CAREER WRITER

SUBMISSIONS CALLS, CONTESTS, GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS



www.lanesboro.com



DEADLINE: May 15

GOLDFARB FELLOWSHIP IN NONFICTION

The Virginia Center for the Creative Arts is accepting applications for the Goldfarb Family Fellowship for writers of **creative nonfiction**, a fully-funded 2-week residency where a writer may concentrate solely on his or her creative work. Bedroom, separate studio, all meals provided in a community of 20 other artists. For application: www.vcca.com or (434) 946-7236.

DEADLINE: May 15

LANESBORO ART CENTER

Nestled in the valley of southeast Minnesota's Root River, Lanesboro is a small town with a unique atmosphere—a hidden gem. With a slower pace of life, Lanesboro has no chain stores nor fast-food franchises nor stoplights. Artists from around the country continue to discover that Lanesboro is a special place in which to create art and to live, if even for a few weeks. Lanesboro Arts Center's two core values that relate directly to the Residency Program are inspiration and integration. To truly serve as an inspiration to the region, Lanesboro Arts Center's Residencies encourage emerging artists to create new work and to integrate this work into the larger community of Lanesboro. The community component of each residency seeks to make art blend into the structure of community as a part of everyday life - engaging everyday people in an ongoing artistic dialog. The Lanesboro Arts Center Residency Program offers two-week and four-week residencies to **emerging artists in all disciplines** each year. The program is designed to provide opportunities for emerging artists to create new work. See website for details and application: <http://www.lanesboroarts.org/cac-artist-in-residence.php>