

MFA AT EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

CREATIVE WRITING PROGRAM

NEWSLETTER - OCTOBER 2017



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FALL IS OFFICIALLY HERE

THE MFA AT EWU WELCOMES JACLYN WATTERSON!!

JACLYN WATTERSON, whose book *Ventriloquisms* most recently won the Spokane Prize for Short Fiction conducted by Willow Springs Books, will be reading at Auntie's on October 20th at 7 PM. She'll be reading alongside fellow short story writer, Michael Shou-Yung Shum, whose first collection just released via Forest Avenue Press. Jaclyn Watterson is left-handed, vegetarian, and of choleric temperament. She gardens in fair weather on a small balcony and makes her home with the novelist Michael Shou-Yung Shum and several feline companions. Originally from Connecticut, she holds an MFA from Oregon State University and a PhD from the University of Utah.



Her work has appeared in *Puerto del Sol*, *Western Humanities Review*, *PANK*, *North Dakota Quarterly*, *CURA*, and many other publications. *Ventriloquisms* is her debut collection of short fiction.

OTHER UP COMING EVENTS

Pie and Whiskey Book Launch - October 26th, The Cracker Building, 8PM
Visiting Author, Judy Blunt - October 27th, Spark Central, 7PM - The MFA at EWU and Get Lit! Programs present a reading with Judy Blunt. This is the first reading in our 2017-2018 Visiting Writers Series. Judy Blunt spent more than 30 years on wheat and cattle ranches in northeastern Montana, before leaving that life to attend the University of Montana. Her best-selling memoir, *Breaking Clean*, was published by A.A. Knopf in 2002 to wide critical acclaim, including a PEN/Jerard Fund Award for nonfiction, the 2001 Whiting Writers' Award, 2003 Mountains and Plains Bookseller's Award, Willa Award for Nonfiction Book of the Year, and a 2004 National Endowment for the Arts writer's fellowship. Blunt received a Guggenheim fellowship in 2005. She teaches creative nonfiction at the the University of Montana.



CASS BRUNER POEM PUBLISHED

Congratulations, Cass on the forthcoming publication of one of your poems in *Pleades!!*



KELLY MORTON ACCEPTED TO WINTER

Congratulations, Kelly on your acceptance to attend the 2018 Tin House Winter Workshop in Newport, Oregon!!



EVENTS FROM OUR FRIENDS AT AUNTIES THIS MONTH!!

Friday, Oct. 20 - 1:30p.m.

Signing with Fred Jessett

Saturday, Oct. 21 - 7 p.m.

Readings by Chelsea Martin and Richard Chiem

Thursday, Oct. 26 - 7 p.m.

Dede Montgomery & Joseph Haeger: *Memoirs and Memories*

Saturday, Oct. 28 - 7 p.m.

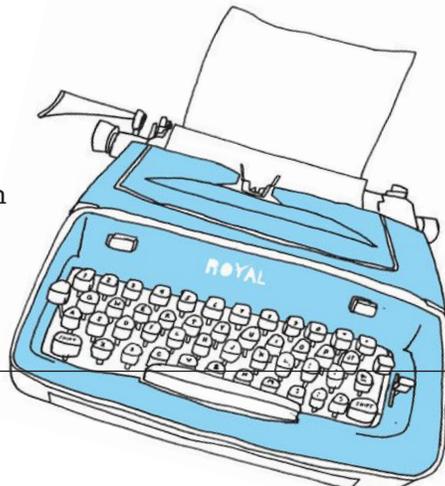
John Green and Hank Green

Thursday, Nov. 2 - 7 p.m.

Reading with Lisa Birnbaum

Saturday, Nov. 11 - 7 p.m.

Reading with Ben Cartwright, Maya Jewell, and Kathryn Smith



LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Hey All,

First off I want to say that I am sorry this issue of the newsletter is reaching you so late in the month. It has been a busy month for me and I have not been able to put as much time into the newsletter as I would like. I have recently made a cut to my work schedule so that should help significantly. With that said I would also like to encourage you all to send me publication announcements, events you would like me to include, and writing competitions or open submissions you think I should feature. I would also like to revive the "Dear Second Year" column so please, first years, come up with some questions about writing advice you would like answered. The information I get from you all is vital to keep this newsletter going. Over the last couple months I have had to drop roughly three pages because I just don't have content to fill them. I would appreciate any help you can throw my way.

Now that the business side of this letter is finished, I hope that you all have had a good first half of the fall quarter and have at least begun to get into a writing/reading rhythm that works for you. We all have a lot to balance and things only get more hectic from here on out. Lastly, I also hope that you all are finding time to have fun and get to know other people in the program. A little rest and relaxation is often, in the long run, much more helpful than staring at that story, poem, or essay you have been stuck on with no idea how to proceed. Letting just a little of that stress out often loosens the mind and eases the flow of ideas, and it's going to be a long two years if all you do is stress. Take a seat, grab a beer or glass of wine, and forget about why we are here for a moment or two.

Cheers,

Cody Nichter

