

## EDUCATION

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**University of Nebraska-Lincoln**, June 2018  
PhD in Literature and Creative Writing  
Field of Concentration: Poetry

**University of Houston**, May 2011  
MFA in Creative Writing

**Western Washington University**, June 2007  
BA in English, minor in psychology

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Poetry Books

2008            Heavy Lead Birdsong. Nashville: Write Bloody Publishing.  
2007            The Lantern Sea (chap book). Albuquerque: Destructible Heart Press.  
Under Review    Lucky Light. Under review by University and Independent Presses.

### Novels

Under Review    The Horsemender. Partial draft submitted to literary agents.

### Poems in Journals and Anthologies

Fall 2020        "Riddle, Oregon," Verse Daily (reprint)  
Fall 2020        "Wood and Wire," The Massachusetts Review (featured interview)  
Fall 2020        "Riddle, Oregon," Colorado Review  
Fall 2020        "A Secret," Nashville Review (Pushcart Prize nominee)  
Winter 2020     "Baptism at Agate Bay Mobile Home Park," Natural Bridge  
Summer 2019    "Homestead," The Hopper  
Summer 2019    "Dive," For Love of Orcas: An Anthology, Wandering Aengus Press  
Winter 2018     "Light Years," Iron Horse Anniversary Issue: Best Poems from the Past  
                          Twenty Years  
Winter 2018     "To Make Color," American Life in Poetry (reprint)  
Winter 2018     "In the Bones," Gulf Coast  
Winter 2018     "Poorly Possessed," "Wandering Poem," "A Woman Explains the  
                          Presence of Bison," Miracle Monocle  
Fall 2018        "Late Garden" and "To Make Color," The Laurel Review  
Fall 2017        "Portrait: Last Night in London," The Southern Review  
Fall 2017        "First Star," The Bellingham Review (with featured interview)  
Fall 2016        "My Old Man," The Best of Button Poetry  
Fall 2016        "Julia Tells Me About Her Summer," Red Sky: Poetry on the Global

- Epidemic of Violence Against Women, Sable Books
- Winter 2016 "Light Years," Iron Horse (with featured interview)
- Spring 2015 "My Old Man" and "Your Heart Was Once a Hill," Noisy Water: A Whatcom County Poetry Anthology, Other Mind Press
- Fall 2014 "The Clouds Over Georgia," Five Willows Literary Review
- Spring 2013 "My Old Man," front-page feature in The Bellingham Herald
- Fall 2013 "Fields" and "One Year," New South
- Spring 2011 "Poem with Fingerprints," The Portland Review
- Winter 2010 "We'll Vanish Like Cities," Broken Plate
- Spring 2009 "Baptism," "The Country of Her Lungs," Tammy
- Spring 2009 "Texas," The Good Things About America: A Modern Patriot's Anthology, Write Bloody Publishing
- Fall 2008 "The Basking Rock," Chrysanthemum
- Fall 2007 "Blackbirds," Front Range Review

### Reviews and Essays

- Fall 2020 "Grace Notes," memorial essay for Jack McCarthy in *Allow the Light: The Lost Poems of Jack McCarthy* (Write Bloody)
- Fall 2016 Review of *The Night We're Not Sleeping In*, poetry collection by Sean Bishop from Sarabande Books. Prairie Schooner.
- Fall 2016 Review of *Bird from Africa*, poetry chap book by Viola Allo from the University of Nebraska Press. Prairie Schooner Online.
- May 2013 Memoriam for slam poetry legend Jack McCarthy. Cascadia Weekly.
- April 2012 Reflection on interconnectedness and W.S. Merwin. Inprint Houston.
- May 2010 Review of *Letters of Transit*, poetry collection by Theodore Worozbyt from University of Massachusetts Press. Gulf Coast online.

## PRESENTATIONS

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- 2017 "The Horsemender: Rust, War, and Ecology," Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment (Detroit)
- 2016 "Deadlock: Judith Butler and Dehumanization in the Zombie Age," Pop Culture Association/American Culture Association (San Diego)
- 2015 "Beginner's Mind: Reviving Student Creativity," Creative Writing and Innovative Pedagogies (Warrensburg, Missouri)
- 2015 "Speak, O Bard! – The Whitmanian Tradition in Slam Poetry of Contemporary Civil Wars," International Walt Whitman Week (Munich)
- 2013 Keynote speech, WriteOn! Teen Writing Conference in partnership with Whatcom Community College, Whatcom Young Writers, and Village Books (Bellingham, WA)

## TEACHING

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### **University of Nebraska-Lincoln – Graduate Instructor 2014-2017**

ENG 252: Introduction to Fiction Writing

ENG 253: Introduction to Poetry Writing

ENG 170: Introduction to Creative Writing

ENG 151: Rhetoric and Inquiry (x 3)

*Includes one course designed for W. H. Thompson Scholars, a group of high-achieving, first-generation students*

ENG 152: Rhetoric and Argument

ENG 150: Rhetoric and Reading (x 2)

Writing Center Graduate Consultant (2 semesters)

*Consultations included extensive work with multilingual speakers*

### **Western Washington University – Instructor 2012**

ENG 353: Introduction to Poetry Writing

### **Houston Community College – Instructor 2011**

ENG 1301: English Composition I (x 2)

### **University of Houston – Graduate Instructor 2008-2011**

ENG 2306: Introduction to Poetry (Literature)

ENG 1303: Composition I

ENG 1304: Composition II (x 6)

## SERVICE

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### **UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN**

**2017**

#### **First Year Writing Assessment Committee Member**

Worked with fellow committee members to determine efficacy of English Department instruction according to the Achievement Centered Education (ACE) Rubric adopted by the department. Assessed essays from English Composition students submitted as samples from throughout the department.

**2017**

#### **Teaching Assistant Sourcebook Contributor**

Syllabus and assignments from my Composition (ENGL 150) course included as examples incoming TAs. Introductory essay describing teaching goals, methods, and values also included in sourcebook.

- 2016-2017 Writing Center Outreach Representative**  
Gave lectures in classrooms across university departments addressing common questions, field-specific writing tasks, use of technology for research, citation/conventions issues, and Writing Center services. Facilitated Q and A sessions for extracurricular clubs such as the Latin American Student Organization.
- 2015-2016 Co-Coach for the University Poetry Slam Team**  
Coached two consecutive poetry slam teams with Dr. Stacey Waite, the first UNL teams to compete nationally. Organized trip to the College Unions Invitational Poetry Slam in Austin.
- 2015-2016 Poetry Competition Judge for Laurus Literary Magazine**  
Judged submissions for campus literary journal.
- 2015-2017 Editorial Assistant for Prairie Schooner**  
Assessed submissions for the nationally-distributed literary journal.

#### UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

- 2008-2011 Assistant Poetry Editor for Gulf Coast**  
Assessed submissions for the nationally-distributed literary journal.

#### WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

- 2007 Media Director and Associate Editor for Jeopardy Magazine**  
Edited campus literary journal, overhauled design and website, and established supplemental spoken word CD included with journal.

#### COMMUNITY

- 2018 Lifelines: Writing Poetry from Life Experience (Bellingham, WA)**  
Led poetry workshop for local bookstore in partnership with Whatcom Community College.
- 2015-2017 Teacher and Curriculum Creator for *Louder Than a Bomb* (Lincoln, NE)**  
Led weekly poetry workshops at Lincoln High School for nonprofit. Designed lessons for *Louder Than a Bomb Teaching Guide*.
- 2015 Young Writer's Camp (Lincoln, NE)**  
Led workshops at intensive weeklong summer camp.
- 2012 Inprint Poetry Workshop (Houston)**  
Led six-week poetry workshop for nonprofit.

- 2011-12      **Project Row Houses Youth Writing Instructor (Houston)**  
 Led twice-weekly afterschool workshop for underserved youth in Houston's Third Ward, funded by Inprint and Project Row Houses. Designed creative writing curriculum drawing on African American literature. Program awarded "Outstanding C.A.S.E. Afterschool Initiative Partner of the Year" by the Harris County Department of Education. Represented program to donors and board members.
- 2011-12      **Writers in the Schools (Houston)**  
 Led weekly workshops for grade and middle school classrooms, museum fieldtrips, and a two-week summer camp. Edited and designed writing anthologies for students, parents, and donors.
- 2010          **Visiting Writer at University of Idaho and Washington State University**  
 Led one-day workshops after headlining on-campus poetry events.
- 2003          **Spanish-English Translator (El Salvador)**  
 Served as medical translator for eye care patients in rural El Salvador. Wrote report and reflective essay for publication by the nonprofit *PazSalud*.

## **WRITING HONORS**

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- 2017          Margery Boyden Wilderness Writing Residency  
 2016          Jack Kerouac Project of Orlando Writing Residency  
 2011          Ruth Lilly Fellowship Finalist  
 2011          Inprint/Paul Verlaine \$10,000 Poetry Award  
 2009          Featured performer on the final stage of the National Poetry Slam  
 2008          Seattle Grand Slam Champion  
 2007          Eighth place in the Individual World Poetry Slam

## **SELECTED READINGS**

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- 2018          Village Books National Poetry Month Headlining Author (Bellingham, WA)  
 2016          The Jack Kerouac Project of Orlando  
 2015          The Green Mill: The Nation's First Poetry Slam (Chicago)  
 2013          Village Books Teen Writing Conference Keynote (Bellingham, WA)  
 2011          The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston  
 2010          The Nuyorican Poets Café (New York)  
 2010          The University of Idaho  
 2008          The National Poetry Slam Final Stage opening showcase (Austin)  
 2008          Sage Francis Live opening performer (Austin)  
 2007          Washington State University

2007 Saul Williams at Western Washington University opening performer  
2006 The Bowery Poetry Club (New York)  
2006 The Boston Poetry Slam  
2006 The Richard Hugo House (Seattle)

## **REFERENCES**

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Professor Stacey Waite  
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English Department—UNL  
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