

# MFA AT EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY CREATIVE WRITING PROGRAM

NEWSLETTER – MARCH 2017



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## LIZ KAY

MARCH 17TH 7:30 P.M. @ AUNTIE'S BOOKSTORE



As part of GetLit's Visiting Writers Series Liz Kay will be reading from selected works at Auntie's on Friday March 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. The reading will be followed by a book signing.

Be sure to mark your calendars, you won't want to miss this!

Liz Kay has been the recipient of both an Academy of American Poets Prize and the Wendy Fort Foundation Prize for exemplary work in poetry. Her poems have appeared in such journals as *Beloit Poetry Journal*, *RHINO*, *Nimrod*, *Willow Springs*, *The New York Quarterly*, *Iron Horse Literary Review*, *Redactions*, and *Sugar House Review*. Liz's debut novel, *Monsters: A Love Story*, was published by G. P. Putnam's Sons in June of 2016.

## LILAC CITY FAIRYTALES: WEIRD SISTERS

MARCH 25TH 7:00 P.M. @ THE BING THEATER

Join magical local artists as they share their creative works inspired by this year's Lilac City Fairytales theme: Weird Sisters. The event will take place at The Bing Theater on Saturday March 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. This event is also a benefit for Spark Central, a local non-profit creative space for all ages. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. and tickets can be purchased online or at the door.



# LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Readers,

As promised a new editor will be taking over the newsletter in the next couple months. That person is me, Cody Nichter.

Most of you know me or have at least met me, but just in case some of you have not I will provide a quick background. Here it goes. I grew up in Choteau, Mt, a small town of maybe 2,000 people, I'm a first year fiction student, and I really like coffee, beer, and warm weather (I can't wait until summer!).

Now that the introduction is done, I can get down to business. First off, I want to say that I will do my best to fill Mary's shoes (seems a little daunting at the moment). Secondly, I have some ideas and changes for the newsletter that I might implement here and there. I'd love to hear feedback about whether you all feel what I'm doing is working or not.

Lastly, if you have feedback, news you want me to include, or questions for the Dear Second Year column, you can shoot me an email at: [cody.a.nichter@gmail.com](mailto:cody.a.nichter@gmail.com)

Cheers and hope you all are well,

Cody N.

## PROGRAM CHEERS & CELEBRATIONS



### JENNY NEWELL FICTION PUBLISHED

First year fiction student Jenny Newell's story Moonlight has been accepted for publication by Beautiful Losers Magazine. Way to go Jenny!

### KATIE BELL RESIDENCY

Talented second year fiction writer Katie Bell has been selected as the Fall 2017 Writer in Residence for the Sundress Academy for the Arts. Yay Katie!



### CODY SMITH POETRY ACCEPTED

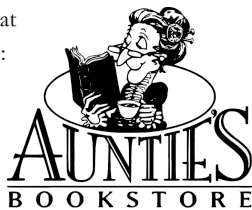
Second year poet Cody Smith's chapbook Delta Summers will be published by Yellow Flag Press. He also has poems forthcoming in the Arkansas Review and in Drafthouse. Be sure to congratulate him. He's on a roll!

### LILAC CITY FAIRYTALES WORK ACCEPTED

Fiction second years Megan Rowe and Anne Killfoyle, as well as second year poets Alia Bales, Kim Kent, Julia Rox, Matthew Mapes, and Mary Christensen all have had work accepted for the third Lilac City Fairytales Anthology!



From our  
friends at  
Aunties:



**Wed., March 15 –  
7:00 p.m.**

Writer Gordon Jackson will read.

**Thurs., March 16 –  
7:00 p.m.**

Nonfiction writer Eileen Delehanty Pearkes will read. She has a particular interest in the Columbia River watershed and its indigenous people.

**Fri., March 17 –  
7:30 p.m.**

EWU Visiting Writer: Liz Kay will read. Her first novel, *Monsters: A love Story* was published in June of 2016.

**Sat., March 18 –  
7:00 p.m.**

Nonfiction writer Amy Hawk will read from her book *Six Years in the Hanoi Hilton*.

**Sat., March 25 –  
7:00 p.m.**

Nonfiction writer John Patrick Lynch will read from his Memoir, *Tale of an Old Katfish*.

# DEAR SECOND YEAR

## A MONTHLY ADVICE COLUMN

DEAR SECOND YEAR

Dear Second Year,

How do you maintain balance in your life between class, work, social time, and sleep?

Sincerely,  
Overworked&Tired

Dear Overworked&Tired,

I wish that I could tell you that by September of your second year you have it all figured out, that you have a yacht bought with royalties from your book and that your partner makes you crepes every morning so that you have time to write. I cannot tell you any of this dear first year. I can tell you that every day is going to be hard. Writing is not for sissies. It is for those who are ready to sacrifice, dream, and work hard. That manuscript is not going to write itself. The thesis books are not going to study themselves.

Here is my advice: sometimes you can't go to the parties. Some days you have to tell your friends or your partner or your tinder date that you have to spend the night working instead of hanging out. You are here first to write. Guard that time. If necessary, make a schedule. When I am at home, I have a special sign that says "f-off" to let my partner know that I am working and am not to be disturbed. You must guard your writing.

As for the sleep, take care of yourself. You can't run properly on four hours a night. If you need to grade papers in the morning, it will be ok. Nothing is worth wrecking your body over. The trope of the damaged or alcoholic writer is not one that you have to follow. You can sleep, work, and write. You just need to prioritize.

I make schedules. I have an hour every morning that I spend writing freehand into my notebook. Then work, then date night (once a week), then (if time permits) perhaps time with my friends. You just need to know what your priorities are. The hard truth is that we can't really have it all. You are going to prioritize one thing over another. Just make sure that thing is what you truly care about.

Good luck.  
Your friendly neighborhood second year



# OPPORTUNITIES: A LIST COMPILED BY NATALIE KUSZ

## CALLS FOR SUBMISSION

- **Deadline: Not specified.** *Mount Hope*, a literary magazine publishing **fiction**, photography, **nonfiction**, graphic storytelling, and **poetry**, welcomes submissions of original work for upcoming issues. We seek short stories or nonfiction up to 5,000 words, up to 4 poems per author, and graphic novel and photo portfolios of 5–12 images. We publish emerging authors side by side with such established writers as Margot Livesey, Steve Almond, Hester Kaplan, Howard Norman, Steven Church, and Moira Egan. See us online: [www.mounthopemagazine.com](http://www.mounthopemagazine.com).
- **Deadline: Not specified.** *Out of Many Magazine*, founded by writers at Vanderbilt University, is seeking **fiction**, **poetry**, **nonfiction**, and art. We are especially eager to read pieces with multicultural elements. Submission is free, and response times are low. We publish regularly online and quarterly in print. For details, visit [outofmanymag.com](http://outofmanymag.com).
- **Deadline: April 1.** A forum for **fiction** and **poetry** for over fifty years, *descant* seeks high-quality work in both innovative and

traditional forms. Former and recent contributors include Ada Limón, Nancy Reddy, Clyde Edgerton, and Joyce Carol Oates. *descant* specifies no particular subject matter or style. We welcome online submissions (up to 5 poems, or a single story of up to 5,000 words) at [descant.submittable.com](http://descant.submittable.com). Website: [descant.tcu.edu](http://descant.tcu.edu).

- **Deadline: April 15.** *Connecticut River Review* **poetry** journal seeks submissions: up to 5 original unpublished poems in a single document, 1 poem per page, via [connecticutriverreview.submittable.com](http://connecticutriverreview.submittable.com) or send to Connecticut River Review, P.O. Box 516, Cheshire, CT 06410 with cover letter and SASE. For complete guidelines visit [www.ctpoetry.net](http://www.ctpoetry.net).
- **Deadline: April 30.** *The Timberline Review*, a new literary journal published in the Pacific Northwest, seeks previously unpublished short **fiction**, **creative nonfiction**, **poetry**, and **essays** for the Summer/Fall 2017 issue. We're looking for brave writing that speaks to the times we live in. All the details at [timberlinereview.com/submissions](http://timberlinereview.com/submissions).

## COMPETITIONS

- **Deadline: March 31** *Puerto Del Sol* will be accepting entries to our annual

contest in **poetry** and **prose** through March 31. Winners receive \$500 and publication; \$9 entry fee includes 1-year subscription. All manuscripts entered will be considered for publication. See website for complete guidelines—[puertodelsol.org](http://puertodelsol.org).

- **Deadline: March 31.** R.M. Kubder Prize in Realistic **Fiction**. A prize of \$1,000 and publication in *Pleiades: Literature in Context* is given annually for the best realistic story. Submit your story during the month of March. \$25 entry fee includes a 1-year subscription. Complete guidelines at [www.pleiadesmag.com/submit](http://www.pleiadesmag.com/submit).
- **Deadline: April 15.** New Anthology: *Poems of Resistance and Resilience*. For a new anthology, Sixteen Rivers Press is seeking unpublished **poems** that respond to the cultural, moral, and political rifts that now divide our country: poems of resistance and resilience, witness and vision, that embody what it means to be a citizen in a time when our democracy is threatened. Poets are encouraged to interpret this call broadly. We welcome voices raised in passion and in praise, whether lyrical, philosophical, visionary, or personal. There is a \$3 reading fee for online submissions. For guidelines, please visit Sixteen Rivers at [www.sixteenrivers.org/call-for-submissions-our-new-anthology/](http://www.sixteenrivers.org/call-for-submissions-our-new-anthology/)



# OPPORTUNITIES: A LIST COMPILED BY NATALIE KUSZ

- **Deadline: April 15.** SRPR (*Spoon River Poetry Review*) 2017 Editor's Prize: Winner awarded \$1,000. Two runners-up awarded \$100 each; 3–5 honorable mentions. All winning **poems plus several finalists are published.** 2016 judge: G.C. Waldrep. 2017 judge announced after winners are selected. Submit up to 3 poems by April 15. Entry fee of \$20 includes 1-year subscription (2 issues). See website for guidelines and recent winners: <http://www.litline.org/spoon>.

- **Deadline: April 22** Telluride Institute's Fischer Prize expands its contest to **poets** in the entire United States—offering \$1,000 first prize (plus \$500 travel allowance to attend award ceremony at Telluride LitFest, May 19–21), plus five \$200 finalist prizes, with \$100 travel allowance each. For more info, visit [talkinggourds.weebly.com](http://talkinggourds.weebly.com).

- **Deadline: April 30** The 2017 Editor's Reprint Awards offer \$500+ in prizes and publication in *Sequestrum* for writers of previously published **fiction, nonfiction, and poetry.** Two grand prize winners (1 fiction/nonfiction, 1 poetry) and minimum 2 runners-up. Submit via our online submission system. [Seqr.info@gmail.com](mailto:Seqr.info@gmail.com). Full guidelines: [www.sequestrum.org/contests](http://www.sequestrum.org/contests).

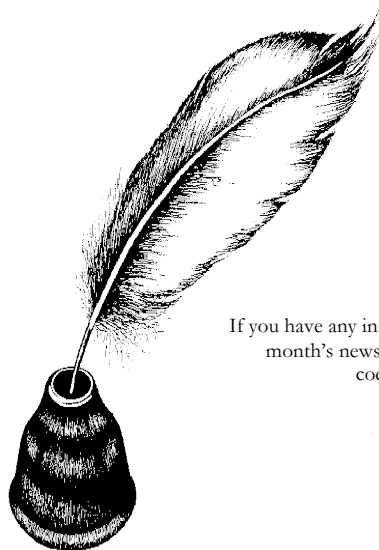
- **Deadline: May 1.** 2017 Meyerson Prize for **Fiction.** \$1,000 plus publication. Open to writers who have not published a book of fiction. Entry fee: \$25 per story. Mail entries to: Meyerson Fiction Prize, *Southwest Review*, P.O. Box 750374, Dallas, TX 75275-0374, or enter online at [www.smu.edu/southwestreview](http://www.smu.edu/southwestreview).

## MISCELLANEOUS

- **Deadline: March 30.** The Oxford American Jeff Baskin Writers Fellowship.

To support a debut book of **creative nonfiction.** \$10,000 stipend, housing, and an editorial apprenticeship with Oxford American toward a nine-month residency in Central AK. Brian Blanchfield, Bronwen Dickey, and Ada Limón to judge. For more information, visit: [www.oxfordamerican.org/fellowship](http://www.oxfordamerican.org/fellowship). E-mail: [info@oxfordamerican.org](mailto:info@oxfordamerican.org). Phone: (501) 374-0000.

- **Deadline: May 15.** Goldfarb Fellowship in **Nonfiction.** The Virginia Center for the Creative Arts is accepting applications from creative nonfiction writers for the Goldfarb Family Fellowship, a fully funded 2-week residency. Bedroom, separate studio, all meals provided in community of 25 other artists. Deadline May 15 (for the fall scheduling period). Online application: [www.vcca.com](http://www.vcca.com) or call (434) 946-7236.



If you have any information you would like to see in next month's newsletter please email Cody Nichter at [cody.a.nichter@gmail.com](mailto:cody.a.nichter@gmail.com)