

INLAND NORTHWEST CENTER FOR WRITERS CREATIVE WRITING MFA PROGRAM AT EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

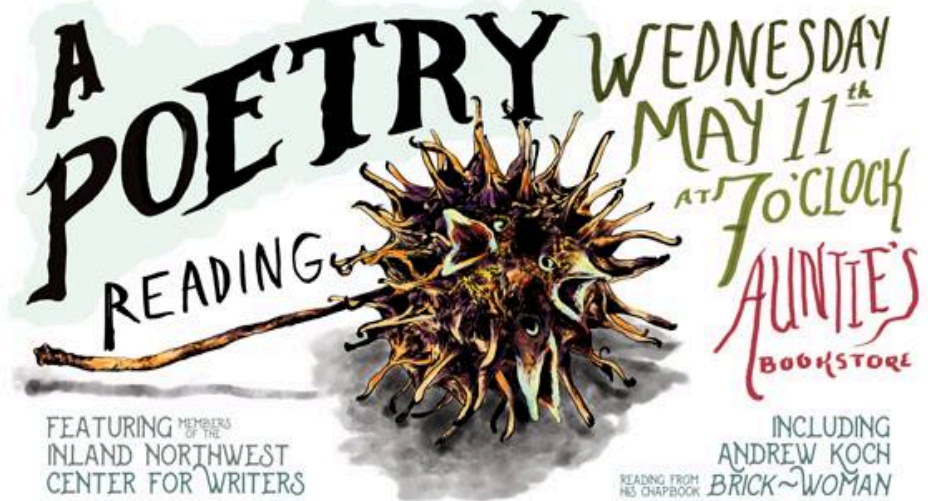
NEWSLETTER – MAY 2016



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- Dear Second Year: An advice column (page 3)
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AN INLAND NORTHWEST POETRY READING



Come hear second year poet Andrew Koch as he reads from his new chapbook *Brick-Woman*. Andrew will be joined by fellow members of the Inland Northwest Center for Writers.

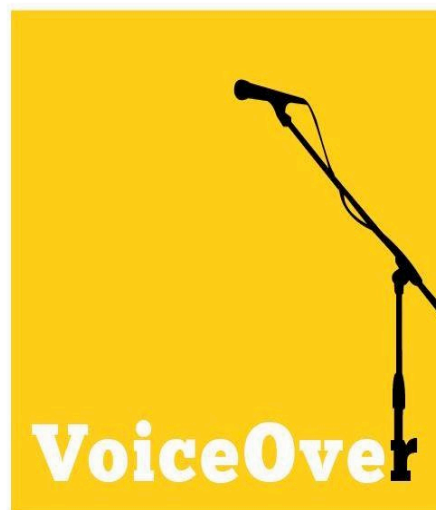
VOICEOVER

SATURDAY, MAY 14 @ 6 P.M.

Nyne Bar and Bistro

232 W Sprague Ave, Spokane

This month's edition of VoiceOver features readers Melissa Huggins, Melissa Dzedzic, JP Vallieres, Elizabeth Dunham, Abbey Hancher, Nick Thomas, Nahla Hoballah, and the sweet and sassy Sam Ligon.



PROGRAM CHEERS & CELEBRATIONS



CODY SMITH

POEM PUBLISHED

First year poetry student Cody Smith's poem Front Porch at 775 Hanger Road will be in Louisiana Literature's forthcoming issue. Make sure to congratulate him!



MYLES BUCHANAN

POEM PUBLISHED

First year fiction student Myles Buchanan's poem Slate will be in the forthcoming issue of the Gordian Review. Awesome news, Myles!



LISA LAUGHLIN

NON-FICTION PUBLISHED

Talented first year creative non-fiction student Lisa Laughlin's piece Listen to the Silence has been accepted for publication by Belmont Story Review, yay Lisa!

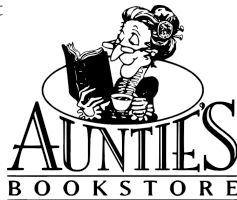
DANIEL MATHEWSON

WORK PUBLISHED

First year fiction student Daniel Mathewson is on a roll. He's had six poems published in Blood Moon Rising Magazine and two stories which can be found on Noise Medium's website. Here's a link to Dan's story Baseball Parties, Birthday Bats, and Black-Plague, or We Should've Listened to Dad:
<http://noisemedium.com/2016/04/284/>
Go check his work out!



From our
friends at
Aunties:



**Fri., May 6 –
6 p.m.**

Acclaimed biologist Thor Hanson will read from his new children's book *Bartholomew Quill*.

**Sat., May 7 –
1 p.m.**

Washington writers Krissy and Kurt Hindman will sign their juvenile fiction book *Shifting Sight*

**Sat., May 7 –
7 p.m.**

Author, activist, speaker, and life coach will read from her memoir *The Fifth Sister*

**Wed., May 11 –
7 p.m.**

Join EWU MFA student Andrew Koch as he reads from his new chapbook *Brick-Woman*

**Fri., May 13 –
7:30 p.m.**

Join Elizabeth Spires, author of six books of poetry as she reads her work

DEAR SECOND YEAR

A MONTHLY ADVICE COLUMN

DEAR SECOND YEAR

Dear Second Year,

Spring Quarter is almost over, and while I'm excited to soon be a second year, I'm nervous about thesis. As a soon-to-be-veteran of the process, can you give any advice on how to handle prep for thesis this summer and the work of it next year?

Thanks! Sincerely,
How Am I Almost Half-way Done Here?

Dear How Am I Almost Half-way Done Here,

I guess the first thing to think about in preparation for thesis would be your reading list. The summer before 2nd year, try to read a book every week or so, depending on how awesome your summer is. If you're going to water parks and baseball games, maybe a book every other week. If a book really stands out to you or teaches you something about your own writing, put it on the list. Fifteen thesis books sounds like a lot, but you'll find yourself having to cut books you originally wanted to include. Think about books you've already read, so you can do a closer second read. Think about books your thesis advisors might not have read, so you end up presenting the book in your defense rather than trying to answer questions about a book that the faculty is more familiar with than you yourself.

As far as your thesis goes, just keep working. You might include work from first year, or you might not. The work will get done, either way, as long as you're writing. I think most genres ask for about 80 pages, which sounds like a lot more than it is. You should be comfortable drafting new stories/essays/poems, as you'll need to, but you should also be very comfortable making huge revisions, over and over. I think I'm on like the 4th or 5th draft of every piece in my thesis at this point, and that's just from my advisor. One piece has gone through about 10 drafts, all very different from the last.

The important thing to remember is that a thesis isn't an 80 page assignment with an assigned reading list. Your thesis should be representative of your work, which means it's basically just a collection. Think of it this way: you have 2 years to write 80 pages and read 15 books. Easy. The tough part is making those 80 pages shine, and knowing enough about your books to sound smart.

Pro tip: go to a thesis defense in your genre. It'll make you feel a lot better about doing it next year. I still remember the thesis defense I went to last year, and thinking afterward that I could've defended a thesis then, if I had one. I mean the conversation is basically like *Form & Theory* for the first half, when you talk about your books. Then the second half is you talking about your own work and writing process. Like a workshop where the writer can actually speak!

And if all of that isn't encouraging enough, just remember that your advisor won't let you defend if they don't think you're ready. So unless they tell you to your face not to turn in your thesis because you suck and your work is garbage, I wouldn't sweat it.



OPPORTUNITIES: A LIST COMPILED BY NATALIE KUSZ

CALLS FOR SUBMISSION

- **Deadline:** Not specified. Poems wanted for anthology on theme of Forgotten Women. Particularly interested in poems about real women who have been overshadowed or overlooked, but other interpretations of the theme are welcome. Electronic submissions preferred. <https://graysonbooks.submittable.com/submit>, or mail up to 5 original poems to: Forgotten Women, Grayson Books, P.O. Box 270549, W. Hartford, CT 06127. Include contact info on each poem. SASE for mailed submissions. Simultaneous submissions okay. Previously published work is fine if you own the rights. Include a \$6 reading fee. www.graysonbooks.com.
- **Deadline:** Not specified. Spectrum is an annual journal of art and literature, published by the College of Creative Studies at UC Santa Barbara. We seek hopeful and human pieces, and have published such luminaries as William Carlos Williams and Raymond Carver. We accept art, poetry, fiction, and non-fiction works from everyone, regardless of age or school affiliation. Art can be either black and white or in color. Any form of poetry and any genre of fiction is allowed; non-fiction works can range from interviews, personal essays, and creative or scholarly essays. We do not follow

themes and no subject will be censored. Send us your most meaningful work at spectrum.submittable.com. Email: spectrum@ccs.ucsb.edu

- **Deadline:** May 16
Creative Nonfiction magazine is seeking new work for an upcoming issue dedicated to "Joy." Send your best nonfiction. 4,000 words or fewer. \$1,000 for best essay; \$500 for runner-up. Guidelines at www.creativenonfiction.org/submit.
- **Deadline:** May 31
Arroyo Literary Review is an award-winning national magazine with a West Coast orientation. We are seeking fiction, flash fiction, poetry, creative nonfiction, and translations for our ninth issue. No email submissions. Please see our website for submission guidelines: www.arroyoliteraryreview.com.
- **Deadline:** June 1
The Shell Game: Writers Borrow Readymade Forms . Anthology of "hermit crab" essays to be published by University of Nebraska Press seeks brand new work. Hybrids in the truest sense, "hermit crab" essays borrow their structures from ordinary, extra-literary sources (a recipe, a police report, a pack of cards, an obituary...) to use as a framework for a lyric meditation on the chosen subject. Payment: \$100 plus 2 copies. Submission fee: none. Visit theshellgameanthology.blogspot.com

t.com for more information.

- **Deadline:** June 1
Soundings Review pays \$25 per prose piece and \$10 per poem. Submit online via Submittable: \$3 fee. We seek high-quality fiction, nonfiction, and poetry for adults or children/young adults and welcome a variety of voices. For writers' guidelines visit www.nila.edu/soundings.

COMPETITIONS

- **Deadline:** May 15
Raymond Carver Short Story Contest. A prize of \$1,500 and publication in *Carve Magazine* is given annually for a **short story**. Submit a story of up to 6,000 words with a \$15 entry fee (\$17 for electronic submissions). Visit the website for complete guidelines: <http://www.carvezine.com/raymond-carver-contest>
Carve Magazine, Raymond Carver Short Story Contest, P.O. Box 701510, Dallas, TX 75370. Matthew Limpede, Editor.
- **Deadline:** May 15
Ploughshares Emerging Writer's Contest. Three prizes of \$1,000 each and publication in *Ploughshares* are given annually for a **poem** or group of poems, a **short story**, and an **essay**. Writers who have not published or self-published a book or chapbook are eligible. Submit three to five pages of poetry or up to 6,000 words of fiction or nonfiction with a \$24 entry fee (there is no entry fee for current subscribers), which includes a subscription to *Ploughshares*. Visit the website



OPPORTUNITIES: A LIST COMPILED BY NATALIE KUSZ

for complete guidelines:

<http://www.pshares.org>

Ploughshares, Emerging Writer's Contest, Emerson College, 120 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02116. (617) 824-3757. Ellen Duffer, Managing Editor.

- Deadline: May 31
\$2000 in prizes. *Flying South 2016*, a publication of Winston Salem Writers, will be accepting entries for prizes in **fiction**, **nonfiction**, and **poetry**. Best in Category winners will be published and receive \$500 each. One of the three winners will receive The WSW President's Favorite award and win an additional \$500. All entries will be considered for publication. For full details, please visit our website: www.wswriters.org.
- Deadline: May 31
The Baltimore Review Summer Contest Theme is "Games." Why? We all play them, from childhood through adulthood. One on one. Team games. Physical. Psychological. We love our rules. Making and breaking them. Games can provide great structures for your stories and poems, too. Make games play a role in your **poem**, **story**, or **CNF**. All entries considered for publication. Prizes: \$500, \$200, and \$100. 3,000-word limit for prose, one to three poems in an entry. Entry fee: \$10. Final judge: James Arthur. For details and to submit online: www.baltimorereview.org.
- Deadline: May 31.

River Styx 2016 International Poetry Contest. A prize of \$1,500 and publication in *River Styx* is given annually for the best **poem**. Heather McHugh will judge. Three poems maximum, up to 14 pages per entry. A \$20 entry fee includes a 1-year subscription to *River Styx*. See riverstyx.org or riverstyx.submittable.com for complete guidelines. River Styx, 3139A South Grand Blvd., Suite 203, St. Louis, MO 63118. Richard Newman, editor: bigriver@riverstyx.org.

- Deadline: June 1
Southern Humanities Review honors the late poet Jake Adam York, an Auburn University alumnus, by awarding a prize to the best **poem(s)** of witness by a poet in the USA. Natasha Trethewey will judge this year's prize. Winner receives \$1,000, publication in SHR, and travel expenses to read his or her award-winning work at a poetry reading featuring Natasha Trethewey at Auburn University in October. Runners-up receive \$100 each. Finalists will also be named. All submissions will be considered for publication. \$15 entry fee. All entrants receive the issue of SHR containing the prize-winning work. Complete guidelines at southernhumanitiesreview.com.
- Deadline: June 3
The MacGuffin is on the hunt for a winning **poem** for our 21st National Poet Hunt Contest! One first place winner will get \$500 and their work published in a future issue. We're happy to bring in poet Li-Young Lee to serve as guest judge this time around. Please submit no more

than 3 poems, an index card with your name, poem titles, and contact info, and a \$15 check/cash entry fee (make checks payable to Schoolcraft College). Mail all this to: The MacGuffin • Poet Hunt Contest • Schoolcraft College • 18600 Haggerty Road • Livonia, MI 48152. For full info, visit www.schoolcraft.edu/macguffin/.

MISCELLANEOUS OPPORTUNITIES

- Deadline: May 15.
The Studios of Key West offers one-month residencies to poets, fiction, and creative nonfiction writers in a small island community at the very end of the Florida Keys. Residents are provided with live/work space in a conch cottage, and a bicycle. Residents are responsible for their own meals. There is no fee for the residency. The application fee is \$40. Application and guidelines at our website: tskw.org.
- Deadline: May 15
Andrews Forest Writers' Residency. The H. J. Andrews Experimental Forest offers one- to two-week residencies to **poets**, **fiction writers**, and **creative nonfiction writers** in October, November, and December in the Oregon Cascades, 40 miles east of Eugene. The residency is open to writers whose work "reflects a keen awareness of the natural world and an appreciation for both scientific and literary ways of knowing."



OPPORTUNITIES: A LIST COMPILED BY NATALIE KUSZ

Residents are provided with a private apartment that includes kitchen facilities, access to the forest research site, and a \$250 stipend. Using the online submission system, submit up to 10 pages of poetry or 15 pages of prose, a one-page project description, and a curriculum vitae by May 15. There is no application fee. Visit the website (liberalarts.oregonstate.edu/centers-and-initiatives/spring-creek-project) for complete guidelines. Andrews Forest Writers' Residency, Oregon State University,

Spring Creek Project, School of History, Religion, and Philosophy, 322 Milam Hall, Corvallis, OR 97331. Carly Lettero, Program Director

- **Deadline: May 20**
Anne LaBastille Memorial Writer Residency. The Adirondack Center for Writing offers six two-week residencies from October 8 to October 24 to poets, fiction writers, and creative nonfiction writers at a lodge on Twitchell Lake in the heart of the Adirondack Mountains. Residents are provided with a private room, bathroom, workspace, and meals.

Using the online submission system, applicants submit up to 10 poems or 10 pages of prose with a \$25. Visit the website for the required application form and complete guidelines: www.adirondackcenterforwriting.org
Anne LaBastille Memorial Writer Residency, Adirondack Center for Writing, P.O. Box 956, Saranac Lake, NY 12983. (518) 354-1261.



Please remember to send all newsletter related info to Mary Christensen at mleauna@hotmail.com. Have a lovely May!