

Revise This!

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WILKES UNIVERSITY CREATIVE WRITING NEWSLETTER

Summer 2019

Maslow Foundation Salon Reading Series at Wilkes University Scheduled for June 16-20, 2019

All events are free and open to the public

Programs at the door include biographies. A book fair, sponsored by Barnes & Noble, features books for purchase by the authors. All readings are free and open to the public except Sunday, June 16.

Sunday, June 16, 2019: RC Theaters 14, 24 E Northampton Street
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

FILM NIGHT

Michael Mailer Films presents: *The Second Sun*

With producer, Michael Mailer; star, John Buffalo Mailer; and director Jennifer Gelfer as guests.

Followed by Q & A

Revise This!

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Monday, June 17, 2019: Dorothy Dickson Darte Center
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Maslow Foundation Evening Reading Series

POETRY, FICTION AND NONFICTION SAMPLER

Bill Schneider, Lenore Hart, Kevin Oderman, Donna Talarico, David Poyer, Rashidah Ismaili Abubakr, Jeff Talarigo, Mike Lennon

Tuesday, June 18, 2019: Dorothy Dickson Darte Center
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Maslow Foundation Salon Reading Series

POETRY, FICTION AND NONFICTION SAMPLER

Laurie Loewenstein, Christine Gelineau, Kaylie Jones, Taylor Polites, Beverly Donofrio, Robert Mooney, Jacquelyn Mitchard, Phil Brady, H. L. Hix

Wednesday, June 19, 2019: Dorothy Dickson Darte Center
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

PLAYWRIGHTS NIGHT

Group S.O.S. by Bonnie Culver
Readers: TBA

PLAYWRITING FACULTY

Bonnie Culver, Gregory Fletcher, Jean Klein, Jan Quackenbush, Juanita Rockwell

Thursday, June 20, 2019: Dorothy Dickson Darte Center
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Maslow Foundation Evening Reading Series

Special Reading of alums, faculty, and special guests

Alums: Richard Fellingner and Leah Vernon
Faculty: Nancy McKinley, Ross Klavan, Gregory Fletcher
Special Guest: Maureen Corrigan

**M.A. and M.F.A. Creative Writing
Graduates Don their Caps in Spring
Commencement**



Left to right: Janine Dubik, Patricia Naumann, Sarah Bedford and Danielle Watson

Congratulations to the graduates of the Maslow Family Graduate Program in Creative Writing who were awarded their diplomas at the May 18, 2019 spring commencement ceremony at Wilkes University:

MA

- Sarah Bedford – Fiction
- Todd Conatser – Screenwriting
- Patricia Naumann – Creative Nonfiction
- Lindsey Wotanis – Creative Nonfiction

MFA

- Jeremiah Blue
- Janine Dubik
- Camika Spencer
- Karley Stasko
- Danielle Watson

Congratulations to each of these members of our Wilkes writing community, and welcome to the newest members of the Wilkes Alumni Association!

Summer Community Workshops

Be sure to check out the two non-credit community workshops offered this summer on the Wilkes University campus for adult learners of any

age. Advance registration for these community workshops is available at wilkes.augusoft.net

Character Development:Plumping Up Flat Stanley or Stella

Flat Stanley may be perfect for traveling along in your suitcase; however, a protagonist who is flat is not one who readers will spend their free time with. To help keep the reader's interest, we'll explore ways to take Stanley or Stella from flat to rounded. We'll review five ways writers can plump up their characters—through image, voice, action, thought, and author's interpretation. We'll spend the six-week workshop for adults of all ages creating a new character or developing a character who's been in the back of our heads waiting to come alive.

- **Meetings:** Tuesdays – 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- **Dates:** July 9, 16, 23, 30, August 6 and 13
- **Cost:** \$65.00 for the entire series
- **Instructor:** Janine Dubik

Writing for Social Media: How to Plan, Market and Earn

In this six-week non-credit course, adults of all ages will learn the language of social media, how to market their own work/selves and how to earn money working as a social media marketer. Participants will leave the class with an assessment of their own social media habits, understanding of blog writing, website copy and how to use Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for marketing purposes.

- **Meetings:** Wednesdays – 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- **Dates:** July 10, 17, 24, 31, August 7 and 14
- **Cost:** \$65.00 for the entire series
- **Instructor:** Danielle Watson

Mailer Conference Returning in October

The 17th Annual Norman Mailer Society Conference returns to Wilkes University October 10-12, 2019 with the theme: *Mailer on Politics, Public Life, and Pop Culture*. The Norman Mailer Society call for papers that address any of the above categories plus those that help celebrate the 40-year anniversary of *The Executioner's Song*, the 50-year anniversary of *Of a Fire on the Moon*, and the 60-year anniversary of *Advertisements of Myself*.

Conference highlights include:

- Keynote speaker Maggie Mailer, youngest daughter of Norman Mailer

- A reception to celebrate the opening of the Norman Mailer Room and Collection. This room, housed in the Farley Library, is a research/Mailer scholar's dream. It is a replica of Mailer's last studio in Provincetown that includes his private library, manuscripts and revisions, dating from 1984, and his studio furniture
- A reading from *The Time of Our Time*
- Screening of the film *The Executioner's Song*
- And more...

To be part of the reading of *The Time of Our Time*, contact [Dr. Culver](#).

To submit a proposal for the conference, please e-mail the following to [Maggie McKinley](#) and [Mike Lennon](#) by June 1, 2019:

- 50-word biographical statement
- 150-200 word abstract of the proposed presentation
- Indication of A/V Requirements

Graduate students are also welcome to submit proposals. Students who present at the conference will receive a \$100 travel grant.

Hotel accommodations will be at Genetti's Best Western, Public Square, Wilkes-Barre, PA at \$89 per night (from October 9 through October 13). The hotel offers free shuttle service from the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton airport, hot buffet breakfast, parking, and is a two-block walk to campus.

The Norman Mailer Society Graduate Writing Award

The Norman Mailer Society invites submissions for its first annual Graduate Writing Award, which recognizes high-quality graduate student work about or inspired by the work of Norman Mailer.

Eligible entries include academic papers or creative pieces composed by current graduate students. Submissions should be 10-15 pages, double-spaced, in 12 point Times New Roman font, and should be sent to: [Maggie McKinley](#), President of the Norman Mailer Society.

The deadline is June 1, 2019

The winner of the Norman Mailer Society Graduate Writing Award receives:

- a \$500 cash award
- a complimentary one-year membership in the Mailer Society, which includes that year's issue of *The Mailer Review*

- an opportunity to work with the editor of *The Mailer Review* to publish a revised version of the essay or creative piece

Executive board members of the Norman Mailer Society will evaluate all entries and notify entrants of their decision.

FACULTY NEWS

- **Gregory Fletcher** is pleased to announce the publication of his first YA novel, *Other People's Crazy* (Overdue Books, an imprint of Northampton House Press), and *Tom and Huck—Breakin' the Law* (Blue Moon Plays), a full-length play.
- **Jean Klein** will present a fully staged reading of the first act of her latest play, *Generous Rivals*, June 13 and 14 at Zeider's American Dream Theater, Virginia Beach, VA.
- Blue Moon Plays recently published *N*, by **Adrienne Pender (M.F.A. '11)**, a full-length explosive drama about Charles Gilpin, in which the noted African-American actor clashes with Eugene O'Neill.
- Check out **Mike Lennon's** review of **Philip Brady's** new book, [Phantom Signs: The Muse in Universe City](#) (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 2019) for the May/June 2019 Issue of *Hippocampus Magazine* (#94) and of [John O'Hara: Four Novels of the 1930s](#), edited by Steven Goldleaf.
- **David Poyer** is pleased to announce the April 2019 publication of *Robert P. Arthur, Selected Works* (Northampton House Press). Poet of national renown and former Wilkes Creative Writing faculty member, **Robert P. Arthur** is a virtuoso practitioner of a wide variety of forms. His work displays an acute feel for drama and a vivid sense of place. This collection includes the best of hundreds of poems written by Arthur over a forty-year career, including "The Arrow," "The Poetess of Blue Streak Grill," and more. In addition, Poyer's upcoming novel, *Heroes of Annapolis* is due for release July 2019. Over the last ten years, Poyer has spent thousands of hours researching for *Shipmate*, the U.S. Naval Academy's magazine. The extraordinary personal stories of adventure and courage he's collected span American history from the Civil War to the War on Terror. *Heroes of Annapolis* shines light into corners of history that still affect us today.

STUDENTS/ALUMNI NEWS

- **Amye Archer's (M.F.A. '11)** anthology: *If I Don't Make It, I Love You: Survivors in the Aftermath of School Shootings* will be released September 3, 2019 from Skyhorse Publishing. Amye's co-editor on this project was Loren Kleinman.
- **Jeffrey Alves (M.A. '18)** was recently recognized by The International Council of Small Business (ICSB) as Professor Emeritus Jeffrey R. Alves, a Global Leader, and named editor of the Journal of the International Council for Small Business (JICSB). JICSB will focus

on policies and practices that will help micro, small and medium sized enterprises elevate their communities to a better standard of living.

- **Austin Grant Bennett (MFA '15)** reviewed *What Does Not Return* by poet Tami Haaland for *Cutthroat: A Journal of the Arts* (Volume 21, Issues 1 & 2, Spring 2019), with a reprint at www.losthorsepress.org/catalog/what-does-not-return/. In addition, he served on the judging panel for the Poetry Out Loud Regional Final held at Montana State University Billings in February.
- **Cindy Dlugolecki, (M.A. '11)**, was a semi-finalist with her play *The Bombcatchers* in a contest sponsored by the Theatre on the Lake in Deep Creek, MD. Her play *Royal Tea* was produced by students in St. Peter the Apostle Catholic High School, Alberta, Canada, in an April one-act-play festival. Cindy's short play, *Birthday Surprise*, will have a staged reading in Oyster Mill Playhouse, Camp Hill, PA, as part of the "Not-Run-of-the Mill Plays" Festival during Father's Day Weekend.
- **Patricia Florio (M.F.A. '11)** is in the thick of proofing the Summer 2019 issue of *American Writers Review*. She is sending galleys to the writers from the UK, Scotland, Australia, and across the USA, incorporating a dynamic mix of seasoned Wilkes writers and others whose work will be published for the first time. The anthology shows off Pat's photography as well as that of **Jeff Talarigo**. **Christine Gelineau, Dr. J. Michael Lennon, and Alyssa Waugh (M.F.A. '14)** are the judges for the summer issue. She looks forward to introducing this edition in the month of June and is hopeful to have a reading at Words Bookstore in Brooklyn. She has also taken on two new editorial staff members: Kristin Florio and **Dale Louise Mervine (M.A '16)**. On Friday, June 14 several alums will read from the latest issue to open the June 2019 residency.
- **Tara Lynn Marta (M.A. '18)** is pleased to announce that her first novel, *Look Back to Yesterday*, will be published by Adelaide Books in May of 2020.
- **Ann Lee Miller (M.F.A. '18)** was chosen English Adjunct of the Year 2018-19 at Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, AZ where she teaches English Composition I & II.
- **Dawn Leas (M.F.A. '09)** and **Vicki Mayk (M.F.A. '13)** are partnering to offer Words in the Sand, a writing retreat September 13-15 in Ocean Grove, NJ It is the second year that they are offering the retreat, which this year will include a session on creating a hybrid work combining creative non-fiction and poetry and another using hands-on materials, such as Legos, Play-Doh and colored pencils, to stimulate the writing process. Dawn's website is www.thehammockwriter.com and you can catch up with Vicki at www.vickimayk.com.
- **Patti Naumann (M.A. '19)** was accepted into the Trinity College Dublin Sancho Panza Society Literary Conference Summer Workshop to be held June 4 - 14 and the Kettle Pond Creative Non-Fiction Manuscript Workshop held at Paul Smith's College in the

Adirondacks June 22 - 29.

- **Suzanne Ohlmann's (M.F.A. '17)** essay, "Hallelujah," will be published in the Spring 2019 issue of *Intima: A Journal of Narrative Medicine*, a literary journal produced by Columbia University.
- **Sara Pisak (M.A. Student)** was promoted to Visual Poetry Editor at *Helen: A Literary Magazine*. Sara's review of Jennifer Patterson's debut poetry collection, *A Beautiful Unraveling*, appeared online April 22 at Mookychick in the U.K. Two of Sara's erasure poems, "Spark of Existence" and, "Wafted the Sound of Voices" are slated to be published this summer in the fifth issue of *Moonchild Magazine*.
- **Joseph Schwartzburt (M.F.A. '13)** will emcee the Second Annual [Muster of Peacocks](#) reading at the Flannery O'Connor Childhood Home in Savannah, GA on May 19, 2019. The reading will feature eight members of the Peacock Guild Writers' Salon, a bi-monthly writers' group. Joseph has been a member of the group since 2010 and has led the salon sessions for the last 3 years. In August the Salon celebrates its 10th year and will be toasting it's most esteemed alum, [Zach Powers](#), as his first novel, *First Cosmic Velocity*, is released by G.P. Putnam and Sons (imprint of Penguin).
- **Melanie Simms (M.A. Student)** was featured in an [April 29 interview](#) with Mindy Cronk on WVIA Public Media. A reading from her book, *Life Signs & Fortune Cookies: Stories & Poems of a Strange but Beautiful Life* (Brown Posey//Sunbury Press) is included with the interview.
- **Danie Watson (M.F.A. '19)** recently accepted a job at Volunteers of America as an Employment Instructor where she is assisting members of the Wilkes-Barre community with their resumes, cover letters and applications. Watson is also integrating creative writing prompts into her class.

Quick Links

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Wilkes University

84 West South Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18766

1-800-WILKES-U

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