

## MAUREEN P. STANTON

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Maureen\_Stanton@uml.edu / www.maureenstantonwriter.com

### EMPLOYMENT

Professor, Department of English, University of Massachusetts Lowell  
September 2023 – present

Associate Professor, Department of English, University of Massachusetts Lowell,  
September 2012 – 2023.

Assistant Professor, Creative Writing Program, Department of English, University of Missouri -  
Columbia, August 2005 – May 2012.

### EDUCATION

M.F.A. Creative Writing, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH.

B.A. Communications, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA.

### PUBLICATIONS

#### Books

*The Murmur of Everything Moving: A Memoir*. Columbus State University Press. March 2025.

- Donald L. Jordan Prize for Literary Excellence, Spring 2024
- May Sarton Award in Memoir, April 2026
- Excerpt published in *New York Times* "Modern Love," Spring 2024
- Excerpt winner of the *Sewanee Review* nonfiction prize, Spring 2023
- *Publisher's Weekly* Book Life "Editor's Pick," Spring 2025
- Finalist, StoryTrade Book Awards, memoir, Fall 2025
- Finalist, Shelf Unbound Best Indie Book, Fall 2025
- Finalist, Independent Author Network Book Awards, Fall 2025
- "100 Notable Small Press Books of 2025" – [LitHub](#), December 2025

*Body Leaping Backward: Memoir of a Delinquent Girlhood*, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt: Boston.  
July 2019.

- *People Magazine* "Best New Books" July 2019
- Reading Group Choices Recommended Book
- Apple Books Summer's Most Anticipated Books
- New England Independent Booksellers Association Summer Pick
- BookReporter Summer Preview Pick
- Lowell Reads Citywide Book Selection 2019
- Maine Literary Award, Memoir, May 2020
- International Book Award winner, Memoir/Autobiography 2020
- Housatonic 2020 Book Award , Finalist, January 2021

*Killer Stuff and Tons of Money: An Insider's Look at the World of Flea Markets, Antiques, and Collecting.* The Penguin Press: NY. Cloth June 2011. Paperback June 2012.

- *Parade Magazine* "12 Great Summer Books" pick
- Finalist, Maine Literary Awards, nonfiction, May 2012
- Winner, New England Book Festival, nonfiction book, January 2012
- Winner, Massachusetts Book Award, nonfiction, September 2012
- "Best Books of 2011" – *Chicago Sun-Times, Kansas City Star, St. Louis Post Dispatch, San Jose Mercury News*

## Essays

"Area Woman." *Cutbank*. University of Montana. Summer 2025. Ed. Hillary Jo Foreman. Runner-up, Montana Prize in Nonfiction. Pp. 35-51.

"An Engagement Ring but No Fiancé." *The New York Times*, Modern Love. Ed. Daniel Jones. May 31, 2024. <https://www.nytimes.com/2024/05/31/style/modern-love-an-engagement-ring-but-no-fiance.html>

"The Birds." *Missouri Review*. Runner-up in nonfiction, 33rd Annual Jeffrey E. Smith Editor's Prize. Spring 2024. Vol. 47, No. 1. Pp. 96-109. <https://missourireview.com/article/the-birds/>. "Notable Essay" in *Best American Essays 2025*.

"What's Eating Me." *Good Eats: 32 Writers on Eating Ethically*. Eds. Jennifer Cognard-Black and Melissa Goldthwaite. NYU Press. January 2024. P. 172-187. Kirkus Review: <https://www.kirkusreviews.com/book-reviews/jennifer-cognard-black/good-eats-32-writers/>

"The Murmur of Everything Moving." *Sewanee Review*. Winner, Nonfiction Contest. Ed. Adam Ross. Vol. 131. No. 2, Spring 2023. Pp. 253-275. <https://thesewaneeereview.com/articles/murmur-everything-moving>

"Pandemic Prête-à-Porter." *The Smart Set*. Ed. Melinda Lewis. January 9, 2023. <https://www.thesmartset.com/pandemic-pret-a-porter/>. Finalist, Annie Dillard Prize from *Bellingham Review*

"A Long Way to Tipperary." *Sweet: A Literary Confection*. Ed. Ira Sukrungruang. <https://sweetlit.com/>. November 1, 2022.

"Last Supper." *Breaking Bread: Essays from New England on Food, Hunger, and Family*. Beacon Press: Boston. Eds. Debra Spark and Deborah Joy Corey. May 2022. Pp. 143-149. Shortlist, *Lascaux Review* Prize in Creative Nonfiction

"Evanescence." *The Sun*. April 2022, Issue 556. Pp. 22-3. <https://tinyurl.com/msuuk8ta>. "Notable Essay" in *Best American Essays 2023*

"Through a Glass, Tearfully." *Longreads*. January 17, 2020. Editor: Sari Botton. <https://longreads.com/2020/01/17/through-a-glass-tearfully/>

- "Notable Essay" in *Best American Essays 2021*.
- "The Human Soup." *The New England Review*. June, 2018. Vol. 39, No. 2. Pp. 160-174. Pushcart Prize winner. Notable Essay, *Best American Essays 2020*
- "All Flesh Is Grass." *From Curlers to Chainsaws: Women and Their Machines*. Eds: Jennifer Cognard-Black et al. Michigan State University Press: East Lansing. February 1, 2016. 148-169.
- "The Examined Life: Re/search in Memoir." *Lifewriting Annual: Biographical and Autobiographical Studies*. AMS Press, Inc.: NY. Editor: Thomas Smith. Vol. 3. Oct. 2012. Pp. 87-93.
- "Bottle God." *Sweet: A Literary Confection*. Ed. Ira Sukrungruang. Vol. 3, No. 3. May 2011. <https://sweetlit.com/3.3/proseStanton.php>
- "The Hours: In Pursuit of Sleep." *River Teeth*. Editor: Joe Mackall. Fall 2010, Volume 12, No. 1. 25-54.
- "Le Misérable." *Writers and Their Notebooks*. Ed: Diana Raab. University of South Carolina Press: Columbia. January 2010. Pp. 69-76.
- "A Basketball Jones." *Sport Literate*. Editor: William Meiners. Winter 2009/2010. Vol. 6, No. 2. 10-19.
- "Roadshow Rage." *Florida Review*. Editor: Jocelyn Bartkevicius. Winter 2008. Vol. 33, No. 2. 113-128.
- "Self Sufficiency." *New Madrid*. Editor: Nicky Beers. July 2008, Vol. 2, No. 2. Murray State University: KY. 70-1.
- "Let Us Eat Cake." *American Literary Review*. Editor: John Tait. Winner, Creative Nonfiction Contest. Fall 2008. 18-31. Pushcart Prize nominee. "Notable Essay" in *Best American Essays 2009*.
- "Miss Somebody." *Passages North*. Editor: Kate Myers Hanson. Winner, Thomas J. Hruska Memorial Nonfiction Prize. Winter/Spring 2008. Vol.29, No. 1. 1-24.
- "The Cat is a Haunt." *Crab Orchard Review*. Editor: Allison Joseph. Finalist, John Guyon Literary Nonfiction prize. Vol. 12, No. 1, Winter/Spring 2007. "Notable Essay," *Best American Essays 2008*. 222-236.
- "Laundry." *Iowa Review*. Editor: David Hamilton. Winner, *Iowa Review* Award in Creative Nonfiction, Vol. 34, No. 3, December 2004. 2-20. Pushcart Prize. "Notable Essay" in *Best American Essays 2005*

"Piranha." *Tiny Lights: A Journal of Personal Narrative*. Editor: Susan Bono. Third Place Winner 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Essay Contest, June 2004. 6-8.

"Body Leaping Backward." *Fugue Literary Digest*. Editors: Kendall Sand and Andrew Millar. Third Place, Essay Contest, University of Idaho, No. 25, Summer 2003. 41-55.

"Good Guys." *River Teeth*. Editor: Joe Mackall. Honorable Mention, Narrative Reportage Contest, University of Nebraska Press: Lincoln, NE, Vol 4, No. 2, Spring 2003. 13-33.

"Talk." *The Sun*. Editor: Sy Syfransky. The Sun Publishing Co: Chapel Hill, NC, May 2002. Issue #317. 15 - 18.

"Romancing the Light." *Brevity: A Journal of Concise Literary Nonfiction*. Editor: Dinty Moore. Creative Nonfiction Foundation: Pittsburgh. [www.creativenonfiction.org/brevity](http://www.creativenonfiction.org/brevity). Fall 2000. 33-35.

"Wandering Blood." *Fourth Genre*. Editor: Michael Steinberg. Michigan State University Press: East Lansing, Michigan. Volume 1, No. 1, Spring 1999. 57-72.

"Zion." *American Literary Review*. Editor: Bruce Bond. University of North Texas Press: Denton, TX. Volume VIII, No. 2, Fall 1997. 180-187.

"Dreaming of No Grass." *Under The Sun*. Michael Cooke. Tennessee Technological University Press: Cookeville, TN. Volume II, No. 1, Summer 1997. 101-113.

"Piranha." *Grand Tour: Journal of Travel Literature*. Editor: Jason Wilson. Grand Tour, Inc.: Thorofare, NJ. Volume 1, Issue 4, Fall 1996. 7-12.

"Water." *Creative Nonfiction - Emerging Women Writers Issue*. Editor: Lee Gutkind. Creative Nonfiction Foundation: Pittsburgh, PA. No. 3, May 1995. Pp. 42-46.

"Summer of Mowing Lawns," *The Sun*. Editor: Sy Syfransky. Sun Publishing Company: Chapel Hill, NC. Issue No. 202, October 1992. 20-22.

"Night of Dying." *The Sun*. Editor: Sy Syfransky. Sun Publishing Company: Chapel Hill, NC. Issue No. 190, September 1991. 7-9.

#### Essays reprinted in anthologies

*Contemporary Creative Nonfiction: An Anthology*. Editor: Debra Monroe. Kendall Hunt Publishing: IA. January 2020. "Laundry."

*River Teeth: Twenty Years of Creative Nonfiction*. University of New Mexico Press: NM. Editor: Joe Mackall. February 2020. "Good Guys." One of 30 stories included in the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary anthology, from 600 published by *River Teeth* in twenty years.

*Pushcart Prize XLIV: Best of the Small Presses*. Editor: Bill Henderson. Pushcart Press. October

2019. "The Human Soup." Pp. 54 –71.

*Writing True*, Houghton Mifflin: NY, Editors: Sondra Perl and Mimi Schwartz. Autumn 2005.  
"Water." 371-4. Second Edition, Cengage Learning, 2013.

*Literature: The Human Experience*. Tenth Edition. Editors: Abcarian, Richard, Marvin Klotz and Samuel Cohen. Bedford/St. Martins: NY. Spring 2010. "Water." 1322-5.

*Fourth Genre: Contemporary Writers of/on Creative Nonfiction*. Fifth Edition. Longman: New York. Editors: Root, Robert, and Michael Steinberg. 2010. "Zion." Also: "On Writing Zion." (469-7). Sixth edition. 2011.

*The River Teeth Reader*. Eds. Joe Mackall and Dan Lehman. University of Nebraska Press. Vol. 10, Number 1-2. February 2009. "Good Guys." 389-410.

*2007 Pushcart Prize XXXI: Best of the Small Presses*. Ed. Bill Henderson. Pushcart Press: Wainscott: NY. 2006. "Laundry." 32-50.

*Best of Brevity*, Creative Nonfiction Foundation: Pittsburgh, PA. Editor: Dinty W. Moore. No 27, Fall 2005. "Romancing the Light." 33-5.

*Best of The Sun III*. The Sun Publishing Company: Chapel Hill, NC. Editor: Sy Syfransky. Autumn 2000. "Night of Dying." 453-9.

*Pen/insula: Essays and Memoirs from Michigan*. Michigan State University Press: East Lansing, MI. Editor: Michael Steinberg, March 2000, "Dreaming of No Grass." 196-208.

*Best Texas Writing II*, Firewheel Editions: Houston, TX. Editor: Brian Clements. August 1999. "Zion." 174-184.

*Branden Zand (Burning Sand)*. Prometheus Publishing: Amsterdam. Editor: Ann Wesseling. June 1999. Dutch translation of "Piranha." 142-8.

*Brief Encounters: Stories of Love, Sex and Travel*. Lonely Planet Publications: Melbourne, Australia. Editor: Michelle de Kretser. May 1998. "Piranha." 85-93.

*Splash: Great Writing About Swimming*. Ecco Press: Hopewell, NJ. Editor: Laurel Blossom. Autumn 1996. "Water." 217-220.

### Book Reviews

Review of *Brain and Heart: The Triumphs & Struggles of a Pediatric Neurosurgeon* by Dr. David Sandberg (Pegasus Books) May 2025. <https://www.nyjournalofbooks.com/book-review/brain-and-heart-triumphs>

Review of *The Manicurist's Daughter: A Memoir* by Susan Lieu (Celadon). March 2024.

<https://www.nyjournalofbooks.com/book-review/manicurists-daughter-memoir>

Review of *Grief is for People* by Sloane Crossley (Farrar, Straus, and Giroux). *New York Journal of Books*. February 2024. <https://www.nyjournalofbooks.com/book-review/grief-people>

Review of *Starkweather: The Untold Story of The Killing Spree That Changed America* by Harry N. Maclean (Counterpoint). *New York Journal of Books*. November 2023. <https://www.nyjournalofbooks.com/book-review/starkweather-untold-story-killing>

Review of *Toy Fights: A Boyhood* by Don Paterson (Liveright Publishing). *New York Journal of Books*. August 2023. <https://www.nyjournalofbooks.com/book-review/toy-fights-boyhood>

Review of *The Weight of Ghosts* by Laila Halaby (Red Hen Press). *New York Journal of Books*. September 2023. <https://www.nyjournalofbooks.com/book-review/weight-ghosts>

Review of *Owner of a Lonely Heart: A Memoir* by Beth Nguyen. (Scribner). *New York Journal of Books*. July 2023. <https://www.nyjournalofbooks.com/book-review/owner-lonely-heart-memoir>

Review of *Girls and Their Monsters: The Genain Quadruplets and The Making of Madness in America* by Audrey Clare Farley. (Grand Central). *New York Journal of Books*. June 2023. <https://www.nyjournalofbooks.com/book-review/girls-and-their-monsters-genain>

Review of *Life B: Overcoming Double Depression* by Bethanne Patrick. (Counterpoint). *New York Journal of Books*. May 2023. <https://www.nyjournalofbooks.com/book-review/life-b-overcoming-double-depression>

Review of *One Friday in April* by Donald Antrim (W.W. Norton). *New York Journal of Books*. April 2023. <https://www.nyjournalofbooks.com/book-review/one-friday-april-story-suicide>

Review of *Forager: Field Notes for Surviving a Family Cult* by Michelle Dowd. (Algonquin Books). *New York Journal of Books*. March 2023. <https://www.nyjournalofbooks.com/book-review/forager-field-notes-surviving-family>

Review of *Reading the Glass: A Captain's View of Weather, Water, and Life on Ships* by Elliot Rappaport (Dutton). *New York Journal of Books*. February 2023. <https://www.nyjournalofbooks.com/book-review/reading-glass-captains-view>

Review of *Hysterical* by Elissa Bassist. *New York Journal of Books* (Hachette). September 13, 2022. <https://www.nyjournalofbooks.com/book-review/hysterical-memoir>

Review of *The World Before Mirrors*, by Joan Connor, *Fourth Genre*, Vol 9. No. 1. Spring 2007. 173-5.

Review of *Mad Cowboy: Plain Truth from the Cattle Rancher Who Won't Eat Meat*, by Howard F. Lyman and Glen Merzer; *Packinghouse Daughter: A Memoir*, by Cheri Register; and

*Buffalo for the Broken Heart: Restoring Life to a Black Hills Ranch*, by Dan O'Brien, *Fourth Genre*, Vol. 8, No. 2, Fall 2006. 171-4.

Review of *The Middle of Everything*, by Michelle Herman, *Fourth Genre*, Vol 8, No. 1, Spring 2006. 147-9.

Review of *Another Bullshit Night in Suck City*, by Nick Flynn. *Fourth Genre*. Vol.7, No. 2, Fall 2005. 105-8.

Review of *The Holocaust Girls: History, Memory, and Other Obsessions*, by S.L. Wisenberg, *Fourth Genre*, Vol. 5, No. 1, Spring 2003. 144-7.

Review of *Thoughts from a Queen-sized Bed*, by Mimi Schwartz, *Prairie Schooner*. Vol. 77, No. 1, Spring 2003. 178-80.

Review of *Newjack: Guarding Sing Sing*, by Ted Conover. *Fourth Genre*. Volume 4, No. 1, Spring 2002. 265-7.

Reviews of *When Broken Glass Floats: Growing Up Under the Khmer Rouge*, by Chanrithy Him. *First They Killed My Father: A Daughter of Cambodia Remembers*, by Loung Ung; and *The Stones Cry Out: A Cambodian Childhood, 1975-1980*, by Molyda Syzmusiak. *Fourth Genre*. Volume 4, No. 1, Spring 2002. 265-7.

Review of *I Could Tell You Stories*, by Patricia Hampl. *Fourth Genre*. Volume 2, No. 1, Spring 2000. 214-6.

#### Articles / Journalism

"Taste the Gazpacho, Smell the Hyacinths: Literary Transference in Memoir." *Brevity*. April 11, 2025. <https://brevitymag.com/craft-essays/>

"The Book Proposal and the Elephant." Guest Blog Post. January 2019. Michael Steinberg website. <http://www.mjsteinberg.net/>

"For the Love of Stuff." *Play Guide*. "Equally Divided." Merrimack Repertory Theatre. Lowell, MA. February-March, 2014

"33 Spots to Shop for Antiques." *The Boston Globe Sunday Magazine*. May 26, 2013. (Coauthored with Sandra Miller).

"Microscopic Stanhopes Offer a Victorian Look at the World through a Pinhole." *Worthpoint News and Media*. [www.worthpoint.com](http://www.worthpoint.com) October 3, 2012

"A Victorian Candle-lit Christmas." *Victorian Homes Magazine*. October 2012.

## AWARDS

Winner, May Sarton Gold Award in memoir, "The Murmur of Everything Moving." April 29, 2026  
Notable Essay, *The Best American Essays 2025*, "The Birds"  
Winner, Donald L. Jordan Prize for Literary Excellence, Columbus State University. 2024.  
Notable Essay, *The Best American Essays 2023*, "Evanescence."  
Winner, *Sewanee Review* 2022 nonfiction contest, "The Murmur of Everything Moving."  
Notable Essay, *The Best American Essays 2021*, "Through A Glass, Tearfully."  
Finalist, Housatonic Book Award, January 2021, *Body Leaping Backward*  
Winner, International Book Awards, Memoir/Autobiography, 2020, *Body Leaping Backward*  
Winner, Maine Literary Awards, Memoir, 2020, *Body Leaping Backward*  
Notable Essay, *The Best American Essays 2020*, "The Human Soup"  
Pushcart Prize, 2020 Pushcart Prize XLIV. "The Human Soup."  
Winner, Massachusetts Book Award, September 2012, *Killer Stuff and Tons of Money*  
Finalist, Maine Literary Awards, nonfiction, May 2012, *Killer Stuff and Tons of Money*  
New England Book Festival Nonfiction Award, January 2012. *Killer Stuff and Tons of Money*.  
Notable Essay, *The Best American Essays 2009*. "Let Us Eat Cake."  
Notable Essay, *The Best American Essays 2008*. "The Cat is a Haunt."  
*American Literary Review* Nonfiction Prize, November 2007. "Let Us Eat Cake."  
Thomas J. Hruska Memorial Nonfiction Prize, May 2007. "Miss Somebody." (\$1000)  
Pushcart Prize, 2007 Pushcart Prize XXXI, October 2006, "Laundry"  
Notable Essay, *The Best American Essays 2005*, "Laundry."  
Notable Essay, *The Best American Essays 2004*, "Body Leaping Backward."  
Goldfarb Family Fellowship in Nonfiction, VA Center for the Creative Arts, July 2004 (\$1400)  
*Iowa Review*, Iowa Award in Literary Nonfiction, "Laundry," May 2004 (\$1000) Judge: Lewis Hyde  
Salem Coll. Center for Women Writers Penelope Niven Award, April 2003, "Laundry" (\$1000)  
Judge: Carol Brightman  
Edelstein-Keller Discovery Fellowship in Creative Nonfiction, U. MN., March 2003 (declined)  
Associated Writing Programs 2002 Award Series, Finalist, August 2002, *Common Hours*  
Mary Roberts Rinehart Fund Award for Creative Nonfiction, March 2002 (\$2000)  
Santa Fe Writer's Project Literary Awards Program 2000, Second Place (\$750), memoir. Judge: Richard Curry  
Haidee Forsyth Burkhart Award in Creative Nonfiction, Ohio State U., 1999 and 2000 (\$100)  
Notable Essay, *The Best American Essays 1998*, "Dreaming of No Grass"

## GRANTS

National Endowment for the Arts Literature Fellowship, January - December 2006 (\$20,000)  
Maine Arts Commission, Individual Artist Fellowship, August 2004 (\$13,000)  
Vogelstein Foundation Grant, December 2002 (\$5,000)  
Change, Inc. Grants for Individual Artists, January, 2002 (\$880)  
Money for Women/Barbara Deming Memorial Fund grant, November 2001 (\$1,000)  
Maine Arts Commission, Individual Artist Fellowship, June 2001 (\$3,000)  
MacDowell Colony Grants for Writer's in Residence, May 2001 (\$1,000)  
Thesis Fellowship Award, Ohio State U. English Department, Spring 2000 (\$3,000)

### University of Missouri Grants

University of Missouri Research Council Summer Research Fellowship and Travel Fund (university system-wide competition), June - July 2006 (\$13,390). Project: *Everything Rich and Strange*  
University of Missouri Research Board Grant (Columbia campus-wide competition), 2008-2009. (\$17,836). Project: *Everything Rich and Strange*  
Dean's Assistant Professor Travel Fund, March 2009, \$300 (Nieman Conference)  
Center for Arts and Humanities Grant, March 2009, \$400 (Nieman Conference)  
University of Missouri Research Council Summer Research Fellowship (university system-wide competition), June - July 2010 (\$7,000) Project: *Everything Rich and Strange*

### **RESIDENCIES**

Hewnoaks Artist Colony Residency, Lovell, Maine. July 31 – August 6, 2016.  
Visiting Writer, St. Mary's College of Maryland. Voices Reading Series. January 24, 2013.  
Writer in Residence, St. Mary's College of Maryland's Artist House, May 1 - 15, 2009 (\$500)  
Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, Sweet Briar, VA, November, 2004  
Writer in Residence, St. Mary's College, St. Mary's City, MD, September 2004 (\$1000)  
Writer in Residence, St. Mary's College, St. Mary's City, MD, February 2004 (\$1000)  
Blue Mountain Center Residency, Fall 2002 session (declined)  
The MacDowell Colony, Residency, Spring 2001, Writers in Residence Grant (\$1000)

### **OTHER RECOGNITION (Selected)**

Finalist, *Plentitudes* Nonfiction Contest, "It Takes Pains to be Beautiful." April 2026. Judge: Ines Rodriguez.  
Shortlist (1 of 5), Story Circle Network May Sarton Book Award, *The Murmur of Everything Moving*, Feb. 2026  
"100 Notable Small Press Books of 2025" – [LitHub](#), December 1, 2025  
Finalist, Independent Author Network (1 of 7), *The Murmur of Everything Moving*, Nov. 2025  
Finalist, Shelf Unbound Best Indie Book (1 of 10), *The Murmur of Everything Moving*, Oct. 2025  
Finalist, Storytrade Book Awards, *The Murmur of Everything Moving*. August 2025  
Finalist, *River Teeth* Literary Nonfiction Book Prize (1/5 finalists), *The Human Soup*, April 2025. Judge: Beth Nguyen  
Runner-Up, Montana Prize in Creative Nonfiction, *Cutbank Journal*, April 2025. Judge: Zoë Bossiere  
Finalist, Vine Leaves Press International Voices in Nonfiction, *The Human Soup: Essays and Investigations*, Nov. 2024. Longlist (1/22 finalists)  
Finalist, Aurora Polaris Creative Nonfiction Award, Trio House Press, *The Human Soup: Essays and Investigations*. June 16, 2024.  
*Missouri Review* Jeffery E. Smith Editor's Prize, Runner-up (1 of 3). "The Birds." December 8, 2023.  
*Calyx*, Margarita Donnelly Prose Prize, Finalist. "It Takes Pains to be Beautiful." November 16, 2023.  
Winning Writers Tom Howard and John H. Reid Fiction and Essay Contest, long list (top 5% of the 2,407 entries). "It Takes Pains to be Beautiful." October 2023.  
*Cincinnati Review*, Robert and Adele Schiff Awards, Honorable Mention. "It Takes Pains to be Beautiful." October 1, 2023  
*Florida Review* Editor's Prize in Nonfiction, Finalist. "The Birds." September 2023.  
*Lascaux Review* Prize in Creative Nonfiction, shortlist (top 5%). "Last Supper." January 2023.  
Donald L. Jordan Prize for Literary Excellence, Columbus State University, finalist (1 of 5 among

hundreds of entries in three genres), *The Murmur of Everything Moving* (memoir). January 1, 2023.

*Florida Review* Editor's Prize in Nonfiction, Runner-up. "It Takes Pains to be Beautiful." September 20, 2022.

*Bellingham Review* Annie Dillard Prize, Finalist, May 25, 2022. "Pandemic Prête-à-Porter."

Donald L. Jordan Prize for Literary Excellence, Columbus State University, finalist (1 of 5 among hundreds of entries in three genres, for \$10,000 prize and publication). *The Human Soup: Essays and Investigations*. January 4, 2022.

Pushcart Prize Nomination, "Through a Glass, Tearfully." March 2021.

Donald L. Jordan Prize for Literary Excellence, Columbus State University, finalist (1 of 5 among hundreds of entries in three genres, for \$10,000 prize and publication). *The Human Soup: Essays and Investigations*. February 2020.

Curtis Johnson Prose Award, *December Magazine*, finalist, "Area Woman." July 2018. Judge: Dinty Moore.

*Missouri Review* Jeffrey E. Smith Editor's Prize, finalist, "Area Woman." January 2017 (\$5000)

Notting Hill Editions 2017 Essay Prize, short-list finalist, May 2017 (\$20,000 prize) "Area Woman," (top 13 of >500 entries)

Pushcart Prize Nomination, "All Flesh is Grass." February 2017.

Zone 3 Creative Nonfiction Book Award. Semi-finalist. October 2015. *All Flesh is Grass*.

Colgate University Press Nonfiction Competition. Semi-finalist (one of three). May 2009. *This is the Trip: Essays and Memoirs*.

*Arts and Letters* Creative Nonfiction Prize, Finalist, Spring 2007. "Miss Somebody." (Withdrew)

John Guyon Literary Nonfiction Prize, *Crab Orchard Review*, Finalist. Fall 2006, "The Cat is a Haunt"

Women Writer's Conference Prize for Creative Nonfiction, Finalist, February 2006, "Water" (judge: Sarah Vowell)

*The Journal*, Alumni Flash Prose Contest, Finalist, November 2005, "Self Sufficiency" (judge: Michelle Herman)

*Tiny Lights* 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Essay Contest, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, May 2004 (\$150), "Piranha"

*Fugue* Essay Contest, 3<sup>rd</sup> place winner, Spring 2003, "Body Leaping Backward" (judge: Scott Russell Sanders)

*Florida Review* Essay Contest, Finalist, April 2002, "Laundry"

Bakeless Literary Contest, Creative Nonfiction Finalist, April 2002, *memoir*

MacLean-Hunter Award, Literary Nonfiction, *Prism*, Runner-up, Dec. 2000, "Good Guys"

*Creative Nonfiction* Millennium Awards, July 2000, Finalists, "Laundry and "Good Guys"

*River Teeth* Narrative Reportage Contest, June 2000, Honorable Mention "Good Guys"

Pushcart Prize Nominee, 2005 "Laundry"; 1999 "Wandering Blood"; 1997 "Dreaming of No Grass"

Heekin Group Foundation, Cuchulain Essay Fellowship, 1999, Finalist, "Faith Trip"

Helen Earnhart Harley Creative Writing Award, Ohio State U., 1998, Honorable Mention

Lowell Thomas Travel Journalism Award Nominee, 1997, "Piranha"

Ethel Harvey Competition in Nonfiction, 1996, Honorable Mention, "The Eyewash"

*Writer's Digest* Annual Writing Competition, 1996, Essay Honorable Mention, "The Eyewash"

Renwick-Sumerwell Short Fiction Award, 1996, Finalist, "Braille"

Heekin Group Foundation, Short Fiction Fellowship, 1994, Semi-Finalist, "Small Thoughts"

*American Fiction*, Fiction Contest, 1994, Semi-Finalist, "Small Thoughts"

## **TEACHING (University of Massachusetts Lowell)**

**AY 2013-14 English Department Teaching Excellence Award, UMass Lowell**

**AY 2025-26 English Department Teaching Excellence Award, UMass Lowell**

**Professor, May 2023 - present**

**Associate Professor, September 2012 – May 2023**

- English 2380 – Introduction to Creative Writing (English Majors only)
- English 2381 – Introduction to Creative Writing (All Majors) (online /traditional)
- English 3220 – Writing Workshop: Nonfiction I (online /traditional)
- English 4180 – Writing Workshop: Nonfiction II (online /traditional)
- English 4790 – Literary Journalism
- English 4030 -- Literary Publishing
- English 4930 -- Directed Study in Creative Writing
- Honors Thesis/Project Sponsor/Internships

### **Guest Lecturer / Other teaching**

**Book Chat Café, Camden ME. May 7, 2026.**

- The Memoir: TMI or Generous Sharing. Public presentation.

**St. Joseph's University, Philadelphia, PA. February 23, 2026, Via Zoom.**

- Reading and visit with M.F.A. class.

**Chataqua Writer's Conference at Ocean Park, ME, August 5, 2025**

- Layers of Self in Memoir Writing lecture and workshop

**St. Mary's College of Maryland, November 9, 2023**

- Guest Writer, Using Research in Creative Nonfiction

**Maine Writers and Publishers Alliance, May 13, 2023.**

- "Negotiating the Double I/Eye in Memoir"

**Bowdoin College, November 4, 2021.**

- Guest Writer, undergraduate nonfiction class

**Colorado State University, November 1, 2021**

- Guest Writer, graduate nonfiction class

**Maine Writers and Publishers Alliance Harvest Writers Retreat, Oct. 15-17, 2021**

- Instructor, Memoir Workshop

**Colorado State University, April 29, 2021**

- Guest Lecturer in Creative Nonfiction, undergraduate course

**Baylor University, Waco, TX. March 23, 2021.**

- Guest Lecturer in Creative Nonfiction, undergraduate course

**University of New Hampshire**, Durham NH, November 20, 2019

- Visiting Writer, M.F.A. class, “The Art of Research for Creative Writers”

**St. Mary’s College of Maryland**, St. Mary’s City, October 27, 2016

- Visiting Lecture, “Literary Alchemy: Combining Poetry & Prose”

**Georgetown University**, Washington, D.C., March 23, 2014

- Visiting Lecture, Graduate Class, “Writing the Museum”

**Ohio State University**, Young Writer’s Workshop, Columbus OH. July 20-25, 2014.

- Nonfiction instructor for week-long writing workshop for inner city high school sophomores and juniors.

**Massachusetts Institute of Technology**, Boston MA, October 11, 2012

- Undergraduate Creative Writing Class - *Killer Stuff and Tons of Money*; material culture and creative writing

**American University**, March 20 and March 26, 2007, Washington D.C.

- M.F.A. Workshop in Literary Journalism - “Everything Rich and Strange”
- M.F.A. Workshop in Creative Nonfiction - “Laundry” and “Good Guys”

**American University**, March 27 and March 30, 2006, Washington, D.C.

- M.F.A. Workshop in Creative Nonfiction - discussion of “Laundry”
- M.F.A. Workshop in Literary Journalism - discussion of “Good Guys”

**American University**, February 14 and 15, 2005. Washington, D.C.

- The Role of Research in Creative Nonfiction (15)

**St. Mary’s College of Maryland**, September 17, 2004

- “Not Your College Essay: Creative Nonfiction” (25)

**St. Mary’s College of Maryland**, February 21, 2004

- “Creative Nonfiction: The Protean Genre” (24)

## CONFERENCES / PANELS

Boston Book Festival, Dudley Square Roxbury, October 20, 2019. Memoir panel with writers Sarah Broome and Grace Talusan. Hosted by Callie Crossley.

NonfictionNOW Conference, Moderator, Presenter – “Pitching It: The Ins and Outs, Pros and Cons of the Nonfiction Book Proposal.” Phoenix, AZ. November 1-3, 2018.

NonfictionNOW Conference, Panelist – “Of Cannibals: Writers on Food as Literary Lens.” Reykjavik, Iceland. June 2-4, 2017.

Association of Writers and Writing Programs Conference, *Fourth Genre* Panel Discussion and

Reading, Chicago IL. March 2, 2012

## 2026

UMass Lowell Alumni Book Club, Thursday, April 30, 2026. (via Zoom). *Killer Stuff and Tons of Money*

## 2025

Bangor Literary Festival, December 13, 2025

Columbus State College, Columbus GA, Wednesday, September 23, 2025

Georgia Center for the Book, Thursday, September 24, 2025 (with Kerri Neville)

UMass Lowell Alumni Book Club, September 17, 2025 (via Zoom). *The Murmur of Everything Moving*

Chelmsford Library, Chelmsford ME, June 12, 2025 (Webinar on Memoir)

Print Bookstore, Portland ME, May 22, 2025, in conversation with Liberty Hardy

Mockingbird Bookstore, Bath ME, May 15, 2025

Camden Library, Camden ME, May 8, 2025

Lala Books, Lowell, MA. April 24, 2025

Writers on Campus, UMass Lowell, April 22, 2025 (with Andre Dubus III)

Left Bank Books, Belfast ME, April 17, 2025

Middlesex Community College Writers on Campus program, Bedford, MA. April 3, 2025

## 2024 and earlier

New York University Food Studies Department, January 18, 2024, via Zoom. "What's Eating Me."

Women's Friend Society of Salem (MA), Annual Meeting keynote speaker, January 22, 2023

Maine Writers and Publishers Alliance Harvest Writers Retreat, Oct. 16, 2021

Dracut Arts Festival, Featured Guest, September 26, 2020, via Zoom

Belmont Books, Belmont MA, November 13, 2019 with Sandra A. Miller

Writers on Campus, Lowell MA, November 12, 2019 with Diannely Antigua

Waltham Library, Charles River Museum of Industry, Waltham MA, November 8, 2019 – Memoir Workshop

Silver Unicorn Books, Acton MA, October 28, 2019 with Sharon Lamb

Boston Book Festival, Dudley Square Roxbury, October 20, 2019. Memoir panel with Sarah Broome, Grace Talusan. Hosted by Callie Crossley

An Unlikely Story, Plainville MA, October 8, 2019 with Anthony Rao and Dr. Paul Napper

Patten Free Library, Bath ME, October 7, 2019

Wellesley Books, Wellesley MA, October 1, 2019

Pollard Memorial Library, September 24, 2019 – "Lowell Reads" Author Presentation

Robinhood Free Meetinghouse, Georgetown MA, August 29, 2019

Print: A Bookstore, Portland ME, August 7, 2019 in conversation with Liberty Hardy

An Unlikely Story, Plainville, MA August 1, 2019

Porter Square Books, Cambridge MA, July 25, 2019

Hingham Library, Hingham, MA. July 24, 2019.

Left Bank Books, Belfast, ME, July 16, 2018.

New England Independent Booksellers Assoc. "All About Books," Sturbridge, MA. June 12, 2019.

Writers on Campus Reading (with Maggie Dietz), UMass Lowell. November 2, 2016.

St. Mary's College of Maryland, Voices Reading Series, October 27, 2016

RiverWoods, Exeter NH, September 28, 2016

Peabody Institute Library, Peabody MA, September 6, 2016

Beverly Public Library, Beverly MA, December 7, 2015  
Amherst Village Questers Historical Society, Amherst NH, forthcoming November 18, 2015  
Wilmington Library, Wilmington MA, June 16, 2015  
Hudson Library, Hudson, MA June 17, 2015  
Hamilton-Wenham Library, April 14, 2015  
Jack Kerouac Festival 2014, Center for Women and Work, October UMass Lowell, Oct. 29, 2014  
Reading, Ohio State University, July 23, 2014. Young Writer's Workshop—Faculty Reading  
Merrimack Repertory Theater, Lowell, MA. *Equally Divided*. Pre-show Talk: "Myths of the  
Antiques World." March 2, 2014.  
Burlington Public Library, Burlington, MA. Annual Meeting Featured Speaker, January 6, 2014  
Tewksbury Library, MA, Reading, May 7, 2013  
Chelmsford Library, MA, "Why Write Memoir?" Talk, April 25, 2013  
Langley-Adams Library, Groveland, MA, April 17, 2013  
Dracut Public Library, Dracut, MA , March 25  
Rhode Island College, Providence, RI, Visiting Writer, March 21, 2013  
Bailey Public Library, Winthrop, ME, March 12, 2013  
Voices Reading Series, St. Mary's College of Maryland, Forthcoming, January 24, 2013  
Reading Public Library, Reading, MA. October 23, 2012  
Nashua Public Library, Nashua, NH. October 11, 2012  
Georgetown Historical Society, Georgetown ME. July 3, 2012  
Main Street Books, St. Charles MO. Forthcoming May 16, 2012  
St. Louis Museum of Art. St. Louis, MO. February 11, 2012  
Philbrook Museum of Art, Tulsa OK. January 31, 2012  
Eastern Illinois University Lions in Winter Series, Charleston IL. January 25, 2012  
Fortnightly Club, Columbia MO, October 2011 and December 2011  
Left Bank Books, St. Louis, MO, September 20, 2011  
Longfellow Books, Portland, Maine, June 23, 2011  
*River Teeth* Tenth Anniversary Reading, Nonfiction Now, Iowa City, IA November 4, 2010  
Voices Reading Series, St. Mary's College, St. Mary's City, MD, May 7, 2009  
Maine Arts Commission Reading, Bangor, ME, October 2004  
Voices Reading Series, St. Mary's College, St. Mary's City, MD, September 2004  
Voices Reading Series, St. Mary's College, St. Mary's City, MD, February 2004  
Salem College Center for Women Writers, Awards Ceremony, Winston-Salem, NC, Sep. 2003  
Epilog Reading Series, Wexner Center for the Arts, Columbus, OH, May 2000  
Barnes & Noble, Northville, MI, April 2000