

EDEN

English Department Electronic Newsletter
Northern Michigan University
June 2013

The English department is pleased to announce two new faculty members teaching this fall

Jon Billman - Assistant Professor, Creative Writing: Fiction

Jon is the author of the story collection *When We Were Wolves* (Random House, 1999) and the forthcoming novel *Bicycle Tramps*. His fiction has appeared in such publications as *The Paris Review*, *Ploughshares* and *Esquire*. He is a contributing writer for *Outside* magazine and the nonfiction editor of *Cimarron Review*. Originally from the Black Hills of South Dakota, he is moving his family from Stillwater, Oklahoma, where he was Assistant Professor at Oklahoma State University.

Nathaniel Greenberg - Assistant Professor, World Literature

Nathaniel completed his Ph.D. in Comparative Literature at the University of Washington in 2012, specializing in modern Arabic, particularly North African literature. His dissertation focuses on the post-revolutionary (1952) screenplays and novels of the Egyptian Nobel laureate Naguib Mahfouz and the project has been nominated for the Middle Eastern Studies Association Malcolm H Kerr Award for best dissertation in the Humanities. In addition to being able to teach World Literature courses, especially courses on Arabic literature, Nathaniel also has experience teaching courses on Arabic cinema, North African or Latin American literature. He is fluent in Arabic and holds a Cambridge University Certificate in English Language Teaching to Adults.

Congratulations to the students selected to present their work during the 18th Annual Celebration of Student Research, Creative Works and Academic Service Learning symposium at NMU on April 11.

<p>Morgan Raether, Senior, Secondary Education/ English, <i>Honors Native American Literature in the Secondary Classroom</i></p> <p>Chanomi Maxwell-Parish, Graduate Student, English <i>Mom</i></p> <p>Melody McNeill, Graduate Student, English <i>"Come True," A Short Story Set in Disney World</i></p> <p>Lynn Fay, Graduate Student, English <i>Research for Novel/Thesis, Part of Which Was Set on Drummond Island, Michigan</i></p>	<p>Linda Sirois, Graduate Student, English <i>He's Mad! (Or Does he Simply Need Adjustment of his Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor?): Stigma and the Changing Understanding of Mental Illness through Literature</i></p> <p>Mattie Ledy, Sophomore, English; Kara Wixtrom, Freshmen, Communication and Performance Studies; Max Smith, Freshmen, Secondary Education/History; Shannon Whitehouse, Sophomore, Psychology <i>Critical Thinking in the Classroom: Interactive Learning through Students Teaching Students</i></p> <p>Haylie Armbruster, Junior, English <i>Numbered</i></p>	<p>John Minser, Graduate Student, English <i>Selections from "Ghost Work"</i></p> <p>Thorin Burkhard-Horn, Senior, English <i>Mold Brothers: Short Fiction</i></p> <p>Cameron Witbeck, Graduate Student, English <i>The Chum Chum Thief: A Michigan Poet in the Mekong River Delta</i></p> <p>Ashley Brooke Boulton and Ashley Goedker, Graduate Students, English <i>Landscapes of the Mind: Identity & Place in Travel Poetry</i></p> <p>Mackenzie Myers, Junior, English <i>The Law of Motion</i></p>
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Attention English Department faculty, staff, and students: If you have anything to add to EDEN (Announcements, Achievements, etc.) or any suggestions on how to make the newsletter better, please email editor Emily Pagel at eden@nmu.edu.

Awards

2013 Writing Awards

Barnard Award



Winner
Ashley Ede for "The Stocking"

Finalists
2nd Place - Taylor Keiser for "The Duckling"
3rd Place - Christopher Piche for "Extra Cargo"

Pictured from left to right: Christopher Piche, NMU Instructor Carol Smith, Taylor Keiser, Ashley Ede, and NMU Instructor Jenny Nicholas

Houston Award



Winner
Katlin Connin for "Hatchling"

Finalists
2nd Place - Laken Falewitch for "My Mother's Hands"
3rd Place - Angela Olgren for "What Remains of Ice and Snow"

Pictured from left to right: NMU Instructor Lynn Fay, NMU Instructor Melody McNeill, Laken Falewitch, NMU Instructor Carol Smith, and Katlin Connin

Cohodas Literary Prize



1st Prize: Tanya Pazdernik, "Local Agency and Individual Initiative in the Evolution of the Holocaust: The Case of Heinrich Himmler"
2nd Prize: Danielle Morrison, "Captive Companions"
3rd Prize: Christian Tauriainen, "The Ethics of Inequality"

Pictured: Tanya Pazdernik

Excellence in Education Program Awards

The Excellence in Education Program is a \$1500 award established to support graduate student research in the summer. The awards are intended to assist graduate students in the conduct of scholarly research and creative works that will enhance their academic experience and professional growth. Recipients of this grant will also receive a one-credit tuition stipend to enroll in a course directly related to their research during one of the two summer sessions.

2013 English Recipients

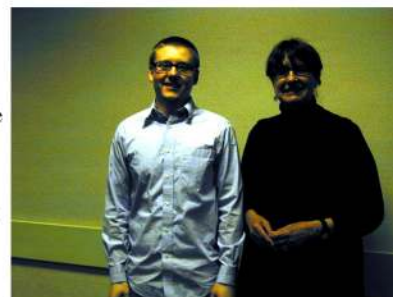
Joshua Brewer
Cameron Contois
Corey Ferrer
Geoffrey Gimse
Nancy Gold
Alex Gubbins
Emily Kaney

Nichole Koroch
Chanomi Maxwell-Parish
John Minser
Zarah Moeggenberg
Rebecca Pelky
Brandon Peters
Joshua Roever

Legler Memorial Poetry Prize

Winner
Matthew J. for "Levon"

1st Runner-up - Jaci Millette for "The Odyssey"
2nd Runner-up - Josh Starbuck for "Lament for the Union on the March to the Sea"



Pictured from left to right: Josh Starbuck and Professor Beverly Matherne

VandeZande Fiction Prize

Winner
Max Wojciechowski for "The Road of the Tsimshian"

Honorable Mentions
Reannon Dykehouse for "Ring Finger Sorrows"
Kaylie Armbruster for "The First Maiden"



Pictured from left to right: Professor Paul Lehmborg, Max Wojciechowski, Reannon Dykehouse, and Haylie Armbruster

All winning essays can be read on the English dept website at www.nmu.edu/english.

McNair Scholar Program Award Winners

English award winners for the McNair Scholar program are Meghan Whitenton, Willow Grosz, Michael Flores.

The Northern Michigan University McNair Scholars Program strives to provide students with the information and experiences that will make their graduate school transition easier and more rewarding. Throughout their time in the program, students take part in a wide variety of programs, including:

- conducting research after their junior years and maintaining a research logbook;
- providing a five-page research summary update;
- completing a 20- to 30-page paper formatted in the style appropriate to your discipline;
- attending McNair seminars;
- completing GRE training and taking the Graduate Records Examination (GRE);
- completing at least six graduate school applications and visiting regional research graduate schools;
- and meeting with a McNair staff member on a monthly basis.

Awards Continued

Outstanding Student Awards

The Department of English is proud to announce the results for the 2012-13 Outstanding Graduating Student Awards in English.

English Graduating Senior

Reannon Dykehouse

Reannon enrolled at NMU in the fall of 2009 and graduated near the top of her class. Reannon is a student editor for Passages North and has served as an editorial intern with local businesses and institutions. She also had the opportunity to briefly study abroad in Thailand. Reannon is a skilled fiction writer, winning both the Houston Award (2010) and the VandeZande Fiction Prize (2011), with an Honorable Mention for the VandeZande in 2012. She has also had a short story published in Catfish Creek in 2011. Reannon hopes to continue her education as an MFA candidate in a Creative Writing program having applied to a number of top Universities, including the University of Michigan and the Iowa Writer's Workshop.

Nominees for senior included:

Erica Aho
Josey Bonini-Aalto
Thorin Burkhard-Horn
Olivia Ernst
Johanna Hardy
Mavis Korsman
Kathryn Mara
Jaci Millette
Maxwell Peterson

English/MFA

Cameron Witbeck

Cameron received his bachelor's degree in English Writing from NMU in 2010. While he was an undergrad, he worked as the news editor for the North Wind and was a member of the Moosemen Rugby Football Club. During his MFA candidacy, he has "worked with some amazing colleagues and professors," he says. He is an associate poetry editor of our nationally-acclaimed Passages North literary magazine and the co-president of the Graduate Writer's Association. His creative work has been published, or forthcoming, in the North American Review, Witness, Rosebud, PANK, Cream City Review, and elsewhere. One of the most gifted poets to come through our program he writes poetry with compelling imagery and flawless economy. His work is much influenced by his years living in the Upper Peninsula.

Nominees for MFA program included:

Erkki Mackey
Chanomi Maxwell-Parish
John Minser

English/MA

Tyler Dunn

Tyler won several academic awards as an NMU undergraduate before graduating summa cum laude in 2010, with a bachelor's degree in English and a minor in history. While pursuing her graduate studies, she worked as a teaching assistant for the English Department, offering a range of composition courses and receiving stellar student evaluations. She has offered her time and expertise to the department in numerous other ways, as a judge for the Barnard and Houston writing awards for example. While a student, Tyler was also able to rise from cashier to bookkeeper to grocery manager at one of Marquette's largest supermarkets. And finally, this very year, Tyler reports that she has mastered the fine art of knitting socks.

Nominees for MA program included:

Stacy Harrison
Lucy Johnson
Amber Kostopolus
Melody McNeill
Matt Niemi
Brandon Peters
Andrea Wuorenmaa

Reassigned Time. Research Grants Awarded

The Faculty Grants Committee has awarded faculty members reassigned time and research grants for their research and scholarship in the upcoming year. Eleven faculty members received reassigned time and 11 received research grant money. This program provides financial support for faculty research projects, scholarly activities, papers for publications and creative works.

The English faculty members who received reassigned time and their research titles are:
Matt Bell, "The Zone: A Novel"
Matthew Favin Frank, "The Oaxaca Essays"
Mark Haltof, "Screening Auschwitz: Wanda Jakubowska's The Last Stage (1948) and the Politics of Commemoration"

-Jaspal K. Singh received the Peter White Award for 2013-2014.

Accomplishments



MATT BELL's debut novel, *In the House upon the Dirt between the Lake and the Woods*, will be published June 18, 2013, by Soho Press. The book was featured on the cover of *Publishers Weekly*, and has been chosen as an Indie Next pick as well as a selection for the Powell's Indiespensable Book Club and The Nervous Breakdown Book Club. In May, he contracted his next two books with Soho Press, including a new novel and a short story collection, both due out over the next several years.



JASON MARKLE's latest short story, "The Feral Ones," will be appearing in the summer issue of *O-Dark-Thirty*, a quarterly literary journal for the Veteran's Writing Project based out of Washington DC. The story, written in the second person, is about two UN soldiers dealing with the death and chaos of the



JOSH MACIVOR-ANDERSEN has recent nonfiction found or forthcoming in *Prism Magazine*, *Ruminate Magazine*, *Rock and Sling*, and *Sycamore Review*, and spoke on a panel focused on the pitfalls of religious writing at the 2013 AWP conference in Boston. He also built a raised garden bed in his backyard, without injury.



BEVERLY MATHERNE PUBLISHED IN FOLLOWING PUBLICATIONS
Short Story: "Amira," in *The Way North: Collected Upper Peninsula New Works*, ed. Ron Riecki, Wayne State University Press, 2013.

Two new poems: "Merlot" and "Don't Brush These Lips," in the anthology *Voices Israel: Poets from Israel and Abroad*, Vol. 38 (2012).

Three poems: "Paper Boat," "Madame Grands-Doigts et le 'tit Christ," and "The Blues Cryin," in *Shabdaguchha: An International Bilingual Poetry Journal*, featuring six Cajun poets, Vol. 55/56, January-June, 2012.

Translation of poem: "Elles restent, les violettes," by French poet Jean-Luc Steinmetz, in *Spillway Magazine*, 18 (2012).

PERFORMED AT INTERNATIONAL POETRY FESTIVAL IN SPAIN
Did two bilingual poetry performances in (1) the Setmana Catalunya-Amèrica series, titled *Sons poètics transatlàntics*, at Museu Romàntic Con Llopsis in Sitges, and in (2) the Poesia: cicle poètic de l'Obrador de Recitacions i Noves Actituds Literàries, at l'Horiginal, in Barcelona, with music and dance accompaniment by Carrie Biolo, Maria Formolo, and Clara Biolo Thompson. These readings were part of Joventuts Musicals de Sitges: www.joventutsmusicals/sitges. April 2013.

Accomplishments Continued



BEVERLY MATHERNE PERFORMED AT INTERNATIONAL FESTIVALS IN THE US
Did a bilingual blues poetry performance at an **CROSSROADS: 3RD Binghampton International Literary Festival**, with Piano accompaniment by David Gaita. April 2013.
Read at International Poetry Festival, sponsored by Shabdaguchha: An International Bilingual Poetry Journal, part of the Jamaica Book Fair, Queens, NY. Summer 2012.

APPEARED AS GUEST IN THE WRITING LIFE SERIES

Read poetry and talked about my role as poetry editor of *Passages North* literary magazine in this program focusing on the challenge of balancing the different facets of the writing life with editing and teaching, held at Binghampton University. April 2013.

ATTENDED NATIONAL TRANSLATORS CONFERENCE

American Literary Translators Association (ALTA) Conference, in Rochester, NY. As French translator of two-time US Poet Laureate Stanley Kunitz, participated on a translation panel titled, "Stanley Kunitz: the Prism Effect." Also recited my blues poem "The Blues Crying," at the conference's Saturday night Declamación. Fall 2012.

DID PHOTO OP AT ANNIVERSARY RECEPTION OF POETS HOUSE

Participated in a photo op at reception celebrating the 20th anniversary the founding of Poets House, at 10 River Terrace, New York, NY. Photo op was done by a photographer representing one of my publishers, Cross-Cultural Communications. Summer 2012.

POETRY READINGS/PERFORMANCES IN NEW YORK CITY

At the New York launch of the new anthology "Voices Israel: Poets from Israel and Abroad," held at Congregation Darach Amuno, in Greenwich Village, NY, read my two new poems contained therein. Summer 2012.

Read in the "Phoenix Reading Series" at Scali Café, in Greenwich Village, NY. Summer 2012.

Read in "Walking Tour Along the Hudson," after a photo op at Poet's House, scheduled by Cross-Cultural Communications, New York City, NY. Summer 2012.

RAGDALE RESIDENCY COMPLETED

Completed a Ragdale Writers Residency at Ragdale House, in Lake Forest, IL. At an earlier date, also did a blues poetry performance with flute accompaniment at Ragdale Day, an open house at Ragdale House. Summer 2012.

UP EVENTS INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

GUEST ARTIST AT MARQUETTE ARTS AND CULTURE EVENT

Performed six of my poems with music and dance in a MSO Chamber series, the First Thursday Concert Series, at Peter White Public Library, featuring percussionist Carrie Biolo with additional guest artists Maria Formolo and Clara Thompson Biolo. June 2013.

PETER WHITE LIBRARY BOOK LAUNCH PARTY

Read at launching of *The Way North: Collected Upper Peninsula New Works*, ed, Ron Riecki: Wayne State University Press, 2013.

GUEST ARTIST IN MARQUETTE ARTS AND CULTURE CONCERT SERIES

Performed six of my poems with music and dance in the MSO Chamber series at the Besse Center in Escanaba, Michigan, featuring percussionist Carrie Biolo with additional guest artists Maria Formolo and Clara Thompson Biolo. April 2013.

ONE-ACT PLAY PERFORMED

My original one-act play, "The French Market," was one of several chosen for performance at the Escanaba Public Library during the UP Book Tour. Summer 2012.

GUEST ARTIST IN THE NMU FACULTY-STUDENT DANCE CONCERT

Was a guest artist at the NMU Faculty-Student Dance Concert in Forest Roberts Theater. Performed three of my blues poems with music and dance interpretation by Maria Formolo, Carrie Biolo, Clara Biolo Thompson, and others. December 2012.

In the UP Book Tour, was one of four poets to read on a panel at West Iron District Public Library in Iron River, MI. Summer 2012.

Was one of three writers to read at Falling Rocks Café, Munising, MI. (not part of the UP Book Tour). Summer 2012.

Accomplishments Continued



DR. KIA JANE RICHMOND is thrilled she was promoted to Full Professor of English in May! :)

On May 3, Dr. Richmond was pleased to present Melissa Curtis (B.S. English, 2011) as the Secondary English Education nomination for Student Teacher of the Year at the 2013 NMU Educator Recognition Ceremony.



Pictured from left to right are English Education graduates Maria Hoffman, Allison Testolin, Melissa Curtis, Laura Conway, Kayla Blodgett, and Dr. Richmond. (not pictured is Kelsey Petersen).

From May 9-11, Dr. Richmond and Jean Putnam (M.A. English, 2013) attended the 51st annual Michigan Youth Arts Festival, working as chaperones for 29 high school students selected as scholars in the Creative Writing program.

On June 6, Dr. Richmond gave the commencement speech to high school graduates at the North Star Academy High School graduation ceremony.

On July 12, she will give a presentation entitled "Teaching Pre-Service Writing Teachers: Best Practices and Visions for the Future" with Nicole Sieben at the Conference on English Education summer conference at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado.

Joshua Armstrong, who received a BA from NMU with double major in English and French, an MA in French from University of Louisiana, and a Ph.D. in French from University of Virginia, has just accepted a tenure track position in French at University of Wisconsin, Madison.



Macerata

Imagining Italy in Anglo-American Literature

Study in Macerata with visiting U.S. faculty



Peter Goodrich, a literary generalist and technical writing instructor at Northern Michigan University, travels to Macerata in 2014 in order to teach a course that will explore the experiences of English-speakers in Italy through their writing.

Location Surrounded by Romanesque, Renaissance, and Baroque architecture on a hilltop between the Chienti and Potenza rivers, Macerata sits on the eastern edge of Italy, a short drive from the Adriatic coast. Courses are held in a 17th century palazzo in the center of the medieval walled city, perched atop the university hill town of Macerata. Discover Italy off the beaten track in Macerata.

Course Offering Students enroll in Italian language and Cross-Cultural Communications courses as a part of the Language and Culture Program, in addition to 2-3 supplementary courses ranging in discipline from Art, Art History, and Film Studies to History and Political Science. In Spring 2014, *Imagining Italy in Anglo-American Literature* is a highlighted course of interest to enrich your study abroad experience through integrated course excursions.

Program Structure & Fees Early January-Mid April / \$TBD Students will have the opportunity to experience life as part of an authentic Italian neighborhood, living in apartments with other students throughout the town of Macerata. Program fees include: tuition, excursions, housing, local transportation pass, course materials, medical insurance, and expert on-site and pre-departure support.

Program Eligibility This program is for students of a variety of majors who want to study in Italy. Classes are taught in English by Italian and U.S. Faculty. No previous language experience required.

Program Materials & Applications Available Online
ahastudyabroad.org | Application deadline 10/05/2013



AHA International Study Abroad
 (541)346-5888 | askaha@uoregon.edu



Study Abroad Recommended for English Majors

The English Department encourages all its majors and minors to take the opportunity while in college to join a study abroad program. Studies show that since only about 2% of American college students study abroad, those who do are at a big competitive advantage for finding interesting and well-paying jobs. Students who study abroad tend to have happier lives, more successful careers and higher incomes. Immersion in a foreign culture for even a short time broadens your abilities to communicate, and deepens your maturity and understanding of your own language and culture as well as the one you visit. For English majors (indeed, any major), living in another culture than our own is transformational, and the best investment of educational dollars you can make. Many opportunities are available, from a week or ten days to a full semester or year – all in exciting places and counting towards your NMU degree. Although study abroad is probably less expensive than you think compared to staying at NMU all the time, it's especially important to plan a year ahead, and to give yourself sufficient time to find sources of support. Students who wait until the last minute almost always end up not going. Don't set yourself up for disappointment – plan now! April is the best month to investigate your options with Susan Morgan in the International Programs Office, and make an appointment with Haley Rhoades in the Financial Aid Office to work study abroad into your financial aid package for next year. If there is any way that your advisor or the English Department can help, just ask. Take it from those who have done it -- you will always be glad you took your opportunity to study abroad as an NMU student!