

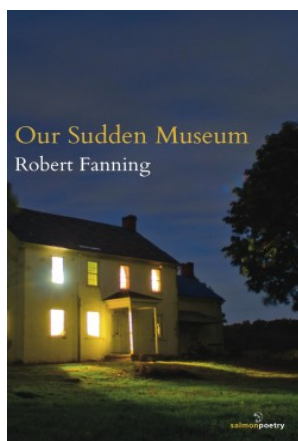
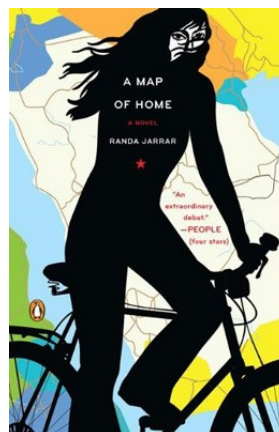
# EDEN

## VISITING WRITERS

### RANDA JARRAR & ROBERT FANNING

February 22, 7:30 p.m. in Jamrich 1320

Randa Jarrar's work has appeared in the *New York Times Magazine*, *The Utne Reader*, *Salon.com*, *Guernica*, *The Rumpus*, *The Oxford American*, *Ploughshares*, *The Sun*, and others. Her first book, the Arab-American coming of age novel, *A Map of Home*, is now on many college syllabi. It was published in half a dozen languages and has won many awards. In 2010, Randa was named one of the most gifted writers of Arab origin under the age of 40. She runs the Radius of Arab-American Writers and loves to coordinate events and strengthen communities.

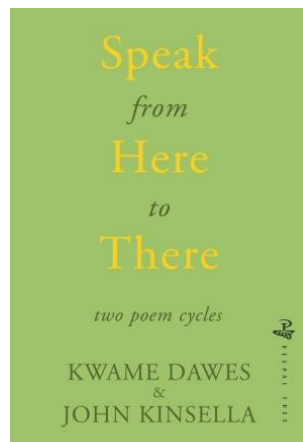


Robert Fanning is the author of five poetry collections, including three full-length collections, as well as two chapbooks. His poems have appeared in *Poetry*, *Ploughshares*, *Shenandoah*, *The Atlanta Review*, and other journals. Recent work has also appeared on NPR, and Fanning was interviewed at the Library of Congress for the nationally-syndicated radio program "The Poet and the Poem." A graduate of the University of Michigan and Sarah Lawrence College, he is an associate professor of creative writing at Central Michigan University. He is also the founder of the Wellspring Literary Series in Mt. Pleasant, where he lives with his wife, sculptor Denise Whitebread Fanning, and their two children.

### KWAME DAWES

March 29, 7:30 p.m. in the University Center

Kwame Dawes is the author of twenty books of poetry and numerous other books of fiction, criticism, and essays. In 2016 his book, *Speak from Here to There*, a co-written collection of verse with Australian poet John Kinsella appeared. He is Glenna Lucchei Editor of *Prairie Schooner* and teaches at the University of Nebraska and the Pacific MFA Program. He is Director of the African Poetry Book Fun and Artistic Director of the Calabash International Literary Festival. Often called the 'busiest man in literature', Kwame celebrated the publication of eight new books in 2016-2017.



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Kia Jane Richmond and Elsie Olan receiving the CEL award with Oona Adams, CEL editor.



## FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**Kia Jane Richmond** attended the NCTE and ALAN conferences in St. Louis and presented the following papers:

“Asking the Tough Questions: Teaching Literature and Nonfiction through Critical Literacy to Recapture Our Voices, Agency and Mission” (with Wendy Farkas, NMU; and Elsie Olan, UCF) - NCTE Conference Presentation;

“Michigan Youth Arts Festival Creative Writing Program—Advice for Affiliates”;

NCTE State Affiliate Extravaganza II;

“Disrupting Notions of Stigma while Empowering Voices: Examining Language Identity, Mental Illness, and Disability through Young Adult Literature” (with Wendy Farkas, NMU; and Elsie Olan, UCF) - ALAN Conference Presentation;

“Booktalk on *Shaka Rising: A Legend of the Warrior Prince* by Luke Molver” - ALAN Conference Presentation.

Kia Jane Richmond also received (with Elsie L. Olan, UCF) the Conference on English Leadership Quarterly Best Article Award for 2017. The article was “Conversation, Connections, and Culturally Responsive Teaching: Young Adult Literature in the English Methods Class (Vol. 39, No. 2, October 2016).

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**Dr. Marek Haltof** published *Screening Auschwitz: Wanda Jakubowska's The Last Stage and the Politics of Commemoration* (Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press). This book examines the classic Polish Holocaust film, *The Last Stage (Ostatni etap)*, directed by the Auschwitz survivor Wanda Jakubowska (1907–1998). Released in 1948, *The Last Stage* was a pioneering work and the first narrative film to portray the Nazi German concentration and extermination camp complex of Auschwitz-Birkenau. With its powerful dramatization of the camp experience, *The Last Stage* established several quasi-documentary themes easily discernible in later film narratives of the Shoah, including George Stevens's *The Diary of Anne Frank* (1959), Alan Pakula's *Sophie's Choice* (1982), and Steven Spielberg's *Schindler's List* (1993). The book discusses the unusual circumstances that surrounded the film's production on location at Auschwitz-Birkenau and summarizes critical debates surrounding the film's release.

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**Russell Thorburn** will have poetry appearing in three anthologies: *Visiting Bob: Poems Inspired by the Life and Work of Bob Dylan*, New Rivers Press: "Robbie Robertson Sipping a Bitter Coffee while Bob Dylan Types His Next Song"; *I Just Wanna Testify: Poems about Detroit Music*, Michigan State University Press: "Woodward Avenue on the Bus Downtown"; and *Great Lakes Poetry*, Michigan State University Press: "I Return to the Surface of the Earth Wearing My Miner's Helmet with Its Third Eye."

He will be reading from *Somewhere We'll Leave the World* (Wayne State University Press) at The Scarab Club, downtown Detroit, February 21, with Cal Freeman, featuring the music of Don Dupree, and February 22, at The Farmhouse, in Franklin, with Denise Sedman, Nancy Owen Nelson, and Laura Bernstein-Machlay. Both events are supported by the Detroit Writers' Guild.

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**Krys Malcolm Belc** was awarded a Sustainable Arts Foundation award for excerpts from his flash essay collection, *In Transit*. The essays were described by the foundation as “lively, funny, poignant, and so compelling.” Sustainable Arts grants support writers and visual artists with young children.

## STUDENT WRITING CONTESTS

More information about these contests and the application for each of them can be found [here](#). All contests have a deadline of **March 2, 2018** unless otherwise specified.

### Barnard Award (\$250)

The Barnard Award is given annually for an exceptional paper submitted in EN 109, EN 111, HON 101 or HON 111. It was established by the English Department in 1969 to honor the teaching and concern for writing shown by Ellsworth Barnard during his years of service at Northern Michigan University (1957-1968).

### Houston Award (\$250)

The Houston Award is given annually for an exceptional paper written in EN 211 or HON 201. It was established by the English Department in 1984 to honor the teaching and concern for writing shown by Howard Houston during his years of service at Northern Michigan University (1968-1983).

### Legler Memorial Poetry Prize (\$250)

The Legler Memorial Poetry Prize is awarded annually for a poem submitted by an undergraduate student. It was established by the English Department in 1993 to honor the teaching and concern for poetry writing shown by Phil Legler during his years of service at Northern Michigan University (1968-1992).

### VandeZande Fiction Award (\$250)

The English Department is pleased to announce the establishment of an annual undergraduate fiction award in honor of John M. VandeZande, an esteemed former professor at NMU who passed in 2006. The first competition took place during the 2007-08 academic year.

### Lois and Willard Cohodas Literary Prize

#### (\$500 First Place, \$250 Second Place, \$100 Third Place)

This prize was established by Rabbi Samuel & Lynn Stahl and Nancy & Paul Oberman, in honor of the 65th wedding anniversary of their parents, Lois & Willard Cohodas. The goal of the competition is to provoke serious thought about one or more of the following topics:

- Enhancing religious, racial and cultural understanding
- Eliminating hatred and racism
- Promoting awareness of the Holocaust
- Advocating respect for human rights around the world today

Deadline: **Monday, March 26, 2018**







## THE STRATFORD FESTIVAL

“EN 385X/ HON 495X: The Stratford Festival” (3 or 4 credits)

DRAMATIC FOCUS FOR THE SEASON: “Free Will”

We are thrilled to announce the Fall 2018 edition of “The Stratford Festival,” a field-based course intending to give NMU students an opportunity to experience first-hand Canada’s world-renowned Stratford Festival. Over the course of a five-day, international field trip, participants will view and discuss SIX PLAYS, including: two American classics (Harper Lee’s *To Kill a Mockingbird* and Meredith Wilson’s musical, *The Music Man*); an absolute powerhouse of an additional American play (Eugene O’Neill’s *Long Day’s Journey Into Night*); the debut of an adaptation of John Milton’s epic poem (*Paradise Lost*); and two wildly disparate plays by William Shakespeare— the zany shenanigans and unified plot of an early comedy (*The Comedy of Errors*), and the somber majesty of a later Roman tragedy (*Coriolanus*). This line-up is truly exceptional! Participants in this course will read all the plays during the summer of 2018, before we meet up to view them staged during the week of August 20th, 2018. Upon our return from Stratford, students will work in tandem with the course instructor to develop a research project during the Fall 2018 semester based upon their experiences with both text and performance in Stratford. As many of you know, the theatres in Stratford, Ontario, Canada, offer some of the very finest staging of classical drama anywhere in the world: these plays will therefore be acted and directed by some of the most talented artists working in theatre today.

View the details of the cost of attendance, schedule of events, and how to apply [here](#). The deadline for application is **February 9 at 5 p.m.**



### ENGLISH DEPARTMENT ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

If you have any ideas to improve the newsletter or want to submit news, events, or an accomplishment to EDEN, email us at:

[eden@nmu.edu](mailto:eden@nmu.edu)

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Business Hours: 8 a.m. -5 p.m.

## JOURNALS

[The Ore Ink Review](#) - NMU's Official Undergraduate Literary Journal.

[The North Wind](#) – Northern’s independent student newspaper, which publishes every Thursday during the fall and spring semesters.

[Passages North](#) – The annual literary journal sponsored by Northern Michigan University. This publication has published short fiction, poetry and creative nonfiction since 1979.