

S. MELISSA MORPHEW

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EDUCATION

University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia

Ph.D. in English—1994

Dissertation: “The Unknown Art” directed by Professor Coleman Barks

University of South Alabama, Mobile, Alabama

M.A. in English—1989

Thesis: “Many Miles from Eden” directed by Professor Sue Brannan Walker

University of North Alabama, Florence, Alabama

B.S.Ed. in Elementary Education—1986

Graduated *Magna Cum Laude*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Clinical Associate Professor of Professional Studies, The University of Alabama in

Huntsville, Huntsville, AL, November 2016-Present: *I am responsible for designing and teaching the sequence of online courses that constitute the core of the Professional Studies Major—PRO 301, PRO 310, PRO 320, PRO 321, PRO 325, PRO 498, and PRO 499.*

CAPSTONE SUPERVISION

Technology, Science, and Society Concentration:

Larry Frost: “How 5G Networks Will Affect Public Education in the U.S.” Summer 2020

Kacie Kruer “Sexual Harassment and Its Psychiatric Effects” Summer 2020

Branden Noack: “Cybersecurity, Too Much or Never Enough: Corporations and Employees Working Together for A Secured Internet” Summer 2020

Michael Kleysteuber: “Network Productivity vs. Privacy in the Workplace” Spring 2020

Odalys Miranda Suastegui: "Cyberbullying and Adolescents" Spring 2020

Adam Rothblatt: "Implications of Social Media Use as a Dominant Form of Adolescent Communication" Spring 2020

Charles Hurley: "Major Dynamics Behind the Global Rise of Convenience Apps" Fall 2019

Paul Marshall: "The Economic and Societal Advantages and Disadvantages of Cloud Computing for Small Businesses" Fall 2019

David Davis: Documentary-- “How Assistive Sports Technology Enables Diverse Athletes” Fall 2019

Christy Chambers: "Women and Cars: How History, Gender, and Ethics Impact Women's Place in Today's Auto Industry" Fall 2019

Joshua Waldrep: "Science Takes the Wheel: A Futuristic Solution to Traffic Congestion via a Mathematical Approach" Summer 2019

Donda Steen: "How Medical Websites Affect the Well-being of Healthy and/or Ill People" Summer 2018

Adesola Ayileka: "How Society's Moral, Religious, and Ethical Concerns Impact the Progress of Embryonic Stem Cell Research in the United States" Summer 2018

Organizational Studies Concentration:

Shelbey Alice Nixon: "Workplace Diversity and the LGBT Community: The Next Step for Equality" Summer 2020

Cardasa Hill: "You've Come a Long Way Baby, Or Have You?: The Role of Gender in the Workplace" Spring 2020

Malave Bettinger: "How the NCAA, Division I Universities, and Sports Media Exploit Student-Athletes" Spring 2020

Anna Ferry: "How Effective Is a Holacracy?" Spring 2020

Angie Jones: "How Social Capital Affects Job Satisfaction and Productivity" Spring 2020

Karen Brennan: "What Is Cultural Competence, Why Is It Important to Organizations, and How Can It Be Achieved?" Spring 2020

Kriska Gurley: "Implicit Racial Bias's Effects on the Workplace" Fall 2019

Rochelle Sexton: "The Effects of Gender on Communication in the Workplace" Fall 2019

Frankie Bedford: "The Millennials Are Coming: The Importance of Diversity Hiring Practices, Cultural Competency and Corporate Social Responsibility in 21st Century Organizations" Fall 2019

Kaitlyn Cislo: "Positive Organizational Scholarship: How Positive Psychology Can Benefit the American Workplace Environment" Fall 2019

Erica Dufrene: "Understanding the Multifaceted Problem of Abuse in Nursing Homes with Ideas for Intervention" Summer 2019

Jessica Stuart: "The Role of Service Animals and Emotional Support Animals In the Workplace: Sorting Out the Confusion" Fall 2018

Leadership Strategies and Dynamics Concentration:

Raven Freeman: "Spiritual Leadership: The Prescription for Transforming Education in the United States" Summer 2020

Matthew D'Amico: "Gender Equality in Athletics and Coaching" Spring 2020

Marlene Koch: "Sailing into the Future: How Sport's Programs Help At-Risk Youth Become Leaders" Fall 2019

Natalie Campbell: "Niccolo Machiavelli's Influence on Ethics and Leadership in Organizations and Contemporary Corporate Culture" Summer 2019

Cassandra Reed: "The Decline of the Sport of Kings: Leadership in the Horse Racing Industry" Spring 2019

Whitney Gaither: "Google: Innovating Employee Motivation" Summer 2018

Professor of English, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX, Fall 2000-Spring 2015: *I was responsible for teaching both graduate and undergraduate courses in composition, world literature, advanced composition, British literature, American literature, mythology, creative writing, graduate research and academic writing, special topics, independent studies, and I directed several graduate and undergraduate theses. Most of my classes from 2007 to 2015 were hybrid online courses using the Blackboard program.*

Visiting Assistant Professor of English, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX, Fall 1999-Summer 2000: *I was responsible for teaching undergraduate courses in composition, creative writing, American literature, and independent studies.*

Adjunct Instructor of English, University of North Alabama, Florence, AL, Fall 1998- Spring 1999: *I was responsible for teaching freshman composition courses.*

Adjunct Instructor, Flex Program (a night school program for adult learners), Martin Methodist College, Pulaski, TN, Fall 1998-Spring 1999: *This was an accelerated program of courses that went in a particular order over the course of two semesters; these included composition 1 and 2, speech, and world literature.*

Student Support Services Tutor, Martin Methodist College, Pulaski, TN, Fall 1998-Spring 1999: *I tutored students who needed help with writing no matter the level or major.*

Part-time Faculty of English, University of South Carolina—Sumter, Sumter, SC, Sumter Air Force Base, Summer 1998: *I was responsible for teaching both sections of first year composition to troops working on their BS degrees.*

Assistant Professor of General Studies Division, Morris College, Sumter, SC, Fall 1995-Spring 1998: *I was responsible for teaching developmental composition, developmental grammar, freshman composition,*

sophomore literature, world literature, African-American literature, professional writing, critical thinking, and creative writing.

Part-time Faculty of Developmental English, Francis Marion University, Florence, SC, Fall 1996 (night class): *I was responsible for teaching a developmental composition course to adult learners.*

Visiting Assistant Professor of English, University of Georgia, Athens, GA, Fall 1994-Summer 1995: *I was responsible for teaching freshman composition, sophomore literature, modern American poetry, creative writing, American literature surveys, and women's studies.*

Teaching Assistant in English, University of Georgia, Athens, GA, Fall 1989-Spring 1991 and Fall 1992-Summer 1994: *I was responsible for teaching freshman composition and sophomore literature.*

Graduate Teaching/Research Assistant in English, University of South Alabama, Mobile, AL, Fall 1987-Spring 1989: *My first year, I did research for various professors, and I tutored ESL students and adult learners in The Writing Center. I also worked as the official English tutor for the USA Athletic Program. My second year, I taught developmental grammar to adult learners—one of my classes was made up of a group of adults from a nearby rehabilitation clinic.*

Teacher, Third Grade, New Waterford Elementary School, New Waterford, OH, Fall 1986

Student Teaching, Reception Infants, Hempshill Hall Primary School, Nottingham, England

RELATED EXPERIENCE

Client Registration Clerk. The Help Center, Florence, Alabama, Winter 2016-Present

Freelance Copy Editor. 1996-Present.

Conducted Community Writing Workshops in Conjunction with the NEA Big Read Program and Walker County Texas Library, October 2005.

Editorial Assistant, Proofreader, Typesetter, Copy Editor. *The Texas Review* Press, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX, Fall 1999-Spring 2003.

Freelance Features Writing for the Sumter, SC *Item* 1997-1998.

Conducted Literature Classes for the Elderly at The Shepherd's Center, Sumter, SC 1995-1998.

Volunteered to Judge the Sumter PTA Literary Competitions, Sumter, SC 1995-1998.

Gave Presentations at the Sumter High School Career Day, Sumter, SC 1995-1998.

Conducted Children's Poetry Workshops at Various Elementary Schools in Athens, GA 1990-1995.

Assistant to the Editors of *The Georgia Review*, Fall 1991-Summer 1992.

Editor, Writer, and Typesetter, Seaboard Farms of Athens Inc. Corporate Newsletter, Spring and Summer of 1991.

Editorial Assistant to the Editor of *Negative Capability* Press, Mobile, AL, Fall 1987- Spring 1989.

SERVICE

Judge for Poetry Out Loud Original Poetry Competition on the UAH Campus on December 1, 2017

Presenter of an OLLI Bonus Lecture—"Crafting a Life"—Given on November 3, 2017

Volunteer OLLI Instructor for the class "Little Red Riding Hood Comes of Age," Fall 2017

Volunteer OLLI Instructor for the class "The Myth of the Minotaur," Spring 2017.

Member of the Path to Excellence for Online Education at UAH Task Force, Spring 2017.

Member of the SHSU Student Organizations Board 2012-2014.

Member of the SHSU Creative Writing Assistant/Associate Professor in Poetry Search Committee 2011.

Advisor to Sigma Tau Delta, English Honor Society, at SHSU 2011-2014.

Member of SHSU Dean of Humanities and Social Science's Advisory Committee to Award Internal Grants for the Development of Online Courses

Coordinator for the Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers Annual Undergraduate and Graduate Student Writing Competitions 2010-2014.

Faculty Mentor for SHSU McNair Scholars Program 2009-2014.

Alternate Member SHSU Student Disciplinary Hearing Committee 2010-2012.

Member SHSU Underrepresented Minority Faculty Populations Committee 2010-2012.

Member SHSU Intercultural Awareness Committee 2009-2011.

Coordinator of the William C. Weathers Memorial Poetry Prize Competition sponsored by the Academy of American Poets 2003-2014.

Moderator SHSU's Academic Challenge Competition 2000-2011.

Member of the SHSU MFA Program Proposal Committee 2009—Wrote the Original Draft of the Proposal and the Accompanying Five Year Budget.

Wrote Course Proposals for New Graduate Courses in Poetry Theory and Narrative Theory 2009.

Area Chair for Mythology and Fairy Tale Panels for the Southwest/Texas Popular Culture/American Culture Society Annual Conference 2007-2011.

Organized Poetry Readings at SHSU from the AWP Writers Exchange Program 2002-2008.

Faculty Sponsor of Student Writers in the Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers Undergraduate and Graduate Student Writing Competitions 2000-2010.

Member of the SHSU Parking Violation Hearing Committee 2004-2006.

Wrote the Proposal and Course Description for SHSU's English 532 Graduate Creative Writing: Poetry Course 2003.

SHSU English Department Library Liaison and Library Committee Member 2000-2004.

Department Coordinator for the SHSU State Employee Charitable Campaign 2000-2005.

Member of the SHSU English Department Undergraduate Curriculum Committee 2001-2003.

Academic Advisor to a Cohort of Sixty Undergraduate Students at Morris College 1995-1998.

Faculty Advisor to *The Bell Ringer* (Student Literary Magazine) at Morris College 1995-1998.

Faculty Mentor for the UNCF/Mellon Scholar Program (Supervising Student Research) 1995-1998.

Faculty Advisor to Sigma Tau Delta at Morris College 1995-1998.

Member of the Morris College 90th Anniversary Celebration Committee 1997-1998.

Member of the Morris College Textbook Selection Committee 1997-1998.

Faculty Advisor to the Sophomore Class at Morris College 1997-1998.

Member of the Morris College Library Committee 1995-1998.

Sub-Committee Chair for SACS Accreditation General Studies Division Self-Study 1995-1996.

Founding Member and Poetry Reading Coordinator for The Writers' Bloc Graduate Student Creative Writing Organization in Athens, GA 1991-1995.

Member English 101 Exam Committee at UGA 1993.

Founding Member and Vice President Sigma Tau Delta at UGA 1991-1992.

Officer and Editor of the Student Literary Magazine for Sigma Tau Delta at the University of South Alabama 1997-1998.

BOOK PUBLICATIONS

This Is the Syntax Called Bettie Page. Georgetown, Kentucky: Finishing Line Press, 2018

Bluster. Sacramento, California: Sacramento Poetry Center Press, 2011.

Weeding Borges' Garden. Cincinnati, Ohio: Turning Point Press, 2010.

Fathom. Cincinnati, Ohio: Turning Point Press, 2007.

The Garden Where All Loves End. San Diego, California: La Jolla Poets Press, 1996.

Hunger and Heat (The Missionary Letters). North Port, Florida: Anabiosis Press, 1995.

JOURNAL AND ANTHOLOGY PUBLICATIONS

“A Short History of the Cold War.” *Her Texas: Story, Image, and Song.* San Antonio: Wings Press, 2015.

“Dallas, 1959.” *Her Texas: Story, Image, and Song.* San Antonio: Wings Press, 2015.

“As If Our Lives Starred Joanne Woodward & Paul Newman in a Script by Carson McCullers.” *Her Texas: Story, Image, and Song.* San Antonio: Wings Press, 2015.

“By Their Image Shall Ye Know Them: Poems and Photographs.” *Cultural Weekly*, June 27, 2013.

“Left, Then Right, She Followed the Twisting Turns of Mulholland—Nothing Seemed Extraordinary Until the Moment of Impact.” *Pea River Journal*, Volume 1, No. 1, 2013.

“The Role of a Lifetime—1964.” *Pea River Journal*, Volume 1, No.1, 2013.

“You Left, And.” *Pea River Journal*, Volume 1, No.1, 2013.

“This Is the Syntax Called Bettie Page.” *Pea River Journal*, Volume 1, No. 1, 2013.

“Diane Arbus’s Ghost Tells It Straight.” *Poet Lore*, Volume 107, No. 1&2, Spring/Summer 2012.

“Self-Reliance.” *Crab Orchard Review*, Volume 16, No. 2, Summer/Fall 2011.

“Quickening.” *The Louisville Review*, Volume 69, Spring 2011.

“Beautiful Girl, Beautiful Dress 1963.” *The Atlanta Review*, Fall 2011.

"The Limits of Understanding." *Southern Humanities Review*, Volume 44, No. 1, 2011.

"This Blue Calculus." *Southern Humanities Review*, Volume 44, No.1, 2011.

"To Everything, Turn." *Poet Lore*.

"Unsayable, This Loss." *Karamu: Literary Journal of Eastern Illinois University*, Volume XII, No.1, 2010.

"Milagro of Transfiguration." *Birmingham Arts Journal*, Volume 6, No. 4.

"Milagro of October Blue." *Iron Horse Literary Review: The National Poetry Month Issue*, Volume 11, Number 2, April, 2009.

"Toil." *Mayo Review*, Spring 2009.

"Seventeen." *Crab Orchard Review*, Volume 13, Number 2, Summer/Fall 2008.

"The Year of Sylvia Plath." *Crab Orchard Review*, Volume 13, Number 2, Summer/Fall 2008.

"Fall." *Poet Lore*, Volume 103, Number 1 / 2, Spring/Summer 2008.

"Alabama Afternoon: A Love Song." *Whatever Remembers Us: An Anthology of Alabama Poetry*. Mobile, Alabama: Negative Capability Press, 2007.

"Unbearable." *Seneca Review*, Volume XXXVI, Number 1, Spring 2006.

"The Immigrants of Paradise." *Poet Lore*, Volume 101, Number 1/2 Spring/Summer 2006.

"More." *Poet Lore*, Volume 101, Number 1/2 Spring/Summer 2006.

"Milagro." *Poet Lore*, Volume 101, Number 1/2 Spring/Summer 2006.

"Waking." *Florida Review*, Volume 31, Number 1, 2006.

"And Is the North Wind, Fierce." *Florida Review*, Volume 31, Number 1, 2006.

"*Annus Mirabilis*." *Florida Review*, Volume 31, Number 1, 2006.

"It Remains that I Must Speak of the Air." *Crab Orchard Review*, Volume 11, Number 1, Winter/Spring 2006.

"Broken: Blue." *Shenandoah*, Volume 55, Number 3, Winter 2005.

"Drones seek the bee orchids." *Iron Horse Literary Review*, Volume Six, Number Two, Spring 2005.

"The Barker's Song." *Iron Horse Literary Review*, Volume Six, Number Two, Spring 2005.

"The Thrill Seekers." *Poet Lore*, Volume 100, No.'s 1&2, Spring/Summer, 2005.

"Divas." *Poet Lore*, Volume 100, No.'s 1&2, Spring/Summer, 2005.

"Broken: Blue." W.B. Yeats Society of New York, Audio Recording on Website, Spring 2005.

"Taking Milk and Honey with You Some of Which You Must Sprinkle in the Air." *Spoon River Poetry Review*, Volume XXIX, Number 1, Winter/Spring 2004.

"Consummation." *Spoon River Poetry Review*, Volume XXIX, Number 1, Winter/Spring 2004.

"Vesper of the Would-Be-Novice." *Atlanta Review*, Volume X, Issue Number 1, Fall/Winter 2003.

"Civics." *Poet Lore*, Volume 98, Number 3 / 4, Fall/Winter 2003.

"La Luna." *Northwest Florida Review*, Volume 2, Issue 1, Spring 2003. (Nominated for the Pushcart Prize)

"Autumnal." *South Dakota Review: 40th Anniversary Edition*, Spring/Summer 2003, Volume 41, No. 1 & 2.

"Curiosities." *Flint Hills Review*, Issue Eight, 2003.

"Bi-polar." *Flint Hills Review*, Issue Eight, 2003.

"Pentecost." *Poet Lore*, Volume 97, Numbers 3 / 4, Fall / Winter 2002.

"And Everything that Bears Flowers Is from Venus, and All Roots from Saturn, and Leaves from the Moon." *The Georgia Review*, Volume LVII, Number 4, Winter 2002.

"Suburbanite." *Prairie Schooner*, Volume 76, Number 4, Winter 2002.

"Deceit." *Prairie Schooner*, Volume 76, Number 4, Winter 2002.

"Messenger." *Prairie Schooner*, Volume 76, Number 4, Winter 2002.

"The Ur-Wife." *Southern Poetry Review*, Volume XLI, Number 1, Summer 2001.

"Rapture." *Zone 3*, Volume XV, Number 1, Fall/Winter 2000.

"Icon." *Zone 3*, Volume XV, Number 1, Fall/Winter 2000.

"Illumination." *Zone 3*, Volume XV, Number 1, Fall/Winter 2000.

"Obedience." *Zone 3*, Volume XV, Number 1, Fall/Winter 2000.

"Lucent." *Alaska Quarterly Review*, Summer 2001.

"Equinox." *Poet Lore*, Volume 95, No. 3, Fall 2000.

"Apart." *Poet Lore*, Volume 95, No.3, Fall 2000. (Nominated for the Pushcart Prize)

"Fathom." *Iron Horse Literary Review*, Volume 2, No.1, Fall 2000.

"Barnum's Fejee Mermaid." *Iron Horse Literary Review*, Volume 2, No.1, Fall 2000. (Nominated for the Pushcart Prize)

"Angels." *The Laurel Review*, Volume 34, No. 2, Summer 2000.

"Beatitude." *The Georgia Review*, Volume LIV, Number 1, Spring 2000.

"Vincent." *Poet Lore*, Summer 1998.

"Dorothy." *Poet Lore*, Summer 1998. "Annunciation." *Poet Lore*, Summer 1998.

"Carnation, Lily, Lily, Rose." *The Southern Poetry Review*, Winter 1998.

"To the Boy in the Navy Peacoat on the Third Floor of the University Library." *Point*, November 1996.

"To Feel the Eggshell." *Point*, November 1996.

"*Ars Poetica*." *Point*, November 1996.

"Postcards from Weldon Kees." *Point*, November 1996.

"Cleansed." *Shenandoah*, Vol.46, no. 2, Summer 1996. (Nominated for the Pushcart Prize)

"The Missionary Writes to Her Fiancé Concerning Desire." *Poetry East*, Fall 1995.

"The Missionary Writes to Her Fiancé Concerning Hunger." *Poetry East*, Fall 1995.

"Notes for a Lecture to the Art Students: Another Way to Hear." *Poetry East*, Fall 1995.

"The Missionary Writes to Her Fiancé Concerning the Living and the Dead." *The Southern Poetry Review*, Summer 1995.

"The Missionary Writes to Her Fiancé Concerning Baptism." *Ascent*, Vol. 19, No. 2, Winter 1995.

"The Missionary Writes to Her Fiancé Concerning Poetry." *Ascent*, Vol. 19, No. 2, Winter 1995.

"The Missionary Writes to Her Fiancé Concerning Blindman's Bluff." *Parnassus: Poetry in Review*, Vol. 19, No. 2, 1994.

"The Missionary Writes to Her Fiancé Concerning a Small Death." *Poet Lore*, Fall 1994.

"The Missionary Writes to Her Fiancé Concerning the Nature of God." *Poet Lore*, Fall 1994.

"In the Moonlight." *Poem*, May 1993.

"Sitting Up with Thomas (Aged 2)." *Poem*, May 1993.

"Next to Godliness." *The Spoon River Quarterly*, Vol. XVI, No. 3 & 4, Summer/Fall 1991.

"Fear." *Poet Lore*, Fall 1991.

"*La Belle et Le Bete*." *Manhattan on the Neva*. Moscow: The Soviet Writers Union, 1991. (Translated into Russian.)

"One Thousand and One." *Manhattan on the Neva*. Moscow: The Soviet Writers Union, 1991. (Translated into Russian.)

"Elegy for Robert Icarius McKee." *Negative Capability*, Volume X, 1990.

"At Night." *Tar River Poetry*, Vol. 30, No.1, 1990.

"Dusk at the Twenty-fifth Annual First Baptist Picnic." *Poem*, No.62, Summer 1989.

"You Shall Eat Dust All the Days of Your Life." *Poem*, No. 62, Summer 1989.

"The Density of Nothing." *The Kansas Quarterly*, Vol. 21, Summer 1989.

"Many Miles from Eden." *Negative Capability*, Vol. IX, 1989.

“Sunday Morning Services.” *South Coast Poetry Journal*, No.5, Spring 1988.

“Night Blooms.” *Pulpsmith*, Winter/Spring 1988.

“The Smell of Lilacs.” *The Cathartic*, Fall 1987.

“Dot to Dot.” *Unknowns*, Fall 1988.

“Stripped.” *The Rectangle*, Fall 1986. (Short Story)

CONFERENCE PAPERS

Co-Author with Christopher McCracken. “Curious Creature: Voicing the Other in Collaborative Poetry.” International Voice in Poetry Conference, University of Chichester, Chichester, England, June 25-27, 2010.

Author. “Mirror, Mirror Who’s the Worst Dressed of Them All: TLC’s *What Not to Wear* as Contemporary Fairy Tale.” Southwest /Texas Popular Culture & American Culture Associations Conference, Myth and Fairy Tale Panels, February 10-13, 2010.

Author. “Everything a Big Bad Wolf Could Want: The Sexual (R)Evolution of ‘Little Red Riding Hood’ in the Films *Freeway* and *Hard Candy*.” Southwest Texas/Popular Culture & American Culture Associations, Myth and Fairy Tale Panel, Albuquerque, New Mexico, February 23-28, 2009.

Author. “Lost in the Concrete Forrest: The Fairy Tale Heroine in Modern Urban Landscapes.” Southwest Texas/Popular Culture & American Culture Associations, Myth and Fairy Tale Panel, Albuquerque, New Mexico, February, 2008.

Author. “Eden in (Dis)Order: The Conflicted Garden in Phillippe Rousselot's Film *The Serpent's Kiss*.” South Central Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Santa Fe, New Mexico, February 29, 2004.

Author. “Domestic Alchemy: From Transubstantiation to Preserving Pears, Tracing the Esoteric Lineage of Eighteenth-Century Household Books and the Gendering of Science” South Central Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Fort Worth, Texas, March 7, 2003.

Author. “Venus Flytraps: Contemporary Women Poets, Botany, and the Devouring Gaze.” The 1st Annual Hawaii International Conference for the Humanities, Honolulu, Hawaii, January 12, 2003.

Author. “Strange New Worlds: Creative Writing in the Science Classroom,” The Sixth National Writing Across the Curriculum Conference, Rice University, Houston, Texas, March 5, 2002.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS, WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS, AND INVITED READINGS

Invited Reader. Scissortail Writers Festival, Ada, Oklahoma, March 31-April 2, 2011

Invited Reader. 2011 Sacramento Poetry Center Annual Conference, Sacramento, California, April 8, 2011

Invited Workshop Facilitator. "Playing Around with Words: Simple Exercises to Beat Writers Block and Invigorate Your Diction." 2011 Sacramento Poetry Center Annual Conference, Sacramento, California, April 9, 2011.

Presenter. Poems from *Weeding Borges Garden* and *Bluster*. Southwest /Texas Popular Culture & American Culture Associations Conference (Joint Conference with National PCAACA), Creative Writing Panels, San Antonio, Texas, April 20-23, 2010

Poetry Reading. Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers Annual Conference, Austin, Texas, September 22-24, 2010

Presenter/Panel Member, "Exercises to Generate New Material: Melissa's Mix-n-Match Poetry Experiment Toolkit", Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers Annual Conference, Austin, Texas, September 22-24, 2010.

Invited Reader. Scissortail Writers Festival, Ada, Oklahoma, April 8-10, 2010.

Presenter. Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers Conference, Lubbock, Texas, September 24-26, 2009.

Invited Reader. Poets Unleashed. Barnes and Noble Bookstore, Woodlands, Texas, September 19, 2009.

Invited Speaker, Workshop Leader. "Creating Characters in Poetry." Brazos Writers' League, College Station, Texas, May 23, 2009.

Invited Reader. *Mayo Review* Reading, Texas A&M University—Commerce, Commerce, Texas, October 8, 2008.

Presenter. Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers Conference, San Angelo, Texas, September 25-27, 2008.

Invited Reader. Poetry at Round Top, 7th Annual Poetry Festival, Round Top, Texas, May 3, 2008.

Invited Reader. Scissortail Writers Festival, East Central University, Ada, Oklahoma, April 3, 2008.

Invited Reader. Poets Unleashed, Barnes and Noble Poetry Reading Series, Woodlands, Texas, October 20, 2007.

Invited Reader. Borders Bookstore Poetry Reading Series, Houston, Texas, July 10, 2007.

Invited Reader. Poetry at Round Top, 6th Annual Poetry Festival, Round Top, Texas, May 5, 2007.

Invited Reader. Scissortail Writers Festival, East Central University, Ada, Oklahoma, April 14, 2007.

Invited Reader. The Writer's Garret Reading Series, Dallas, Texas, March 23, 2007.

Presenter/ Panel Chair. Southwest Texas/Popular Culture & American Culture Associations, Creative Writing Panel, Albuquerque, New Mexico, February 15, 2007.

Invited Reader. *Poet Lore's* 117th Birthday Celebration Poetry Reading, Bethesda, Maryland, November 19, 2006.

Presenter. The American Studies Association of Texas, Poetry Reading, Waco, Texas, November 17, 2006.

Invited Reader. Millbend Coffee House, Poetry Reading, Woodlands, Texas, October 14, 2006.

Presenter. Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers Annual Conference, Poetry Reading, San Angelo, Texas, September 28, 2006.

Panel Member/Presenter. "At the Graves of Strunk and White: Language Dying at the Hands of Writers," Associated Writing Programs 2006 Conference, Austin, Texas, March 11, 2006.

Presenter/ Panel Chair. Southwest Texas/Popular Culture & American Culture Associations, Creative Writing Panel, Poetry Reading, Albuquerque, New Mexico, February 28, 2006.

Guest Poet. 20th Annual Houston Poetry Festival Celebration, Poetry Reading, University of Houston—Downtown, Houston, Texas, October 10, 2005.

Presenter. "Let There Be Light: Creativity and Spirituality," Huntsville Unitarian Fellowship Monthly Meeting, Huntsville, Texas, August 14, 2005.

Guest Reader/Award Recipient. W. B. Yeats Society Poetry Award Reading and Dinner, National Arts Club, New York City, New York, May 13, 2005.

Presenter/Panel Chair. Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers Annual Conference, Poetry Reading, San Antonio, Texas, September 2004.

Presenter/Panel Chair. National Meeting of the Popular Culture / American Culture & Southwest Texas/Popular Culture & American Culture Associations, Creative Writing Panel, San Antonio, Texas, April 9, 2004.

Presenter/Panel Member. Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers Annual Conference, Poetry Reading Session 1—A, Fredericksburg, Texas, September, 26, 2003.

Co-Presenter with Deborah Phelps. Women's History Month Poetry Reading, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas, March 25, 2002.

Presenter/Panel Chair. 23rd Annual Conference of the Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association, Creative Writing Panel 3 and Creative Writing Panel 5, Albuquerque, New Mexico, February, 13-14, 2002.

Presenter. *Windhover*/New Texas Writers' Festival, Poetry Reading, University of Mary Hardin Baylor, Belton, Texas, January 10, 2002.

Panel Chair. Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers 2001 Annual Conference, Lubbock, Texas, November 29, 2001.

Presenter/Panel Chair. The American Studies Association of Texas, A Crossroads Gathering of Texas Writers, Session II, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas, November 17, 2001.

Speaker/Panel Member. Releasing Your Internal Power: An Interaction Between Women Conference, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas, October 27, 2001.

Texas Review Poetry Reading with Gray Jacobik, Sam Houston Memorial Museum, Huntsville, TX, October 22, 1999.

Poetry Reading with Gray Jacobik, Conroe Public Library, Conroe, TX October 21, 1999.

New Brunswick Library Poetry Reading, New Brunswick, GA, June 24, 1999.

Keynote Speaker, Andrew College Writers' Conference, Andrew College, Cuthbert, GA, November 14, 1998.

South Carolina Academy of Authors Fellowship Reading, Columbia, SC, April 18, 1998.

Women's History Month Poetry Reading at the University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC, March 31, 1998.

Women's History Month Poetry Reading at the University of South Carolina—Sumter, Sumter, SC, March 25, 1998.

Poetry Society of South Carolina Monthly Reading Series, Charleston, SC, March 13, 1998.

Morris College Fine Arts Festival, Sumter, SC, April 22, 1996.

Reading in conjunction with the Tennessee Arts Commission Individual Artist's Grant Award, Lawrenceburg, TN, December 11, 1994.

Randall Jarrell Poetry Prize Reading, Greensboro Historical Museum, Greensboro, NC, April 24, 1994.

Jigsaw Pieces Poetry Series Reading with Judith Ortiz Cofer, The Globe, Athens, GA, April 1993.

Numerous readings for the Writers' Bloc Reading Series, Old Black Dog Book Store, Athens, GA, 1992-94.

Harvest for the Homeless Reading sponsored by Share Our Strength and *The Georgia Review*, Athens, GA, October 1992.

The Thursday Writers Reading Series (with Paul Zimmer) sponsored by *The Georgia Review*, University of Georgia, Athens, GA, 1992.

Several readings at the Downstairs Café, Athens, GA, 1990-1992. Spiral Dynamics Women Writers' Readings, Athens, GA, 1992.

The Lumberyard Café Reading Series, Mobile, AL, 1989

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Winner of a 1998 South Carolina Academy of Authors Fellowship in Poetry for a group of my "Answering Neruda" poems.

Winner of the Tennessee Arts Commission Individual Artist's Grant in Poetry, Fiscal year 1994-1995 for a group of my "Missionary" poems.

Chosen as one of twenty poets to travel to Russia in the USA/USSR Young Poets' Reading Tour sponsored by the American Poetry Center, Philadelphia, 1991

AWARDS

Finalist for the 2017 Coal Hill Review Poetry Chapbook Contest for my manuscript *This Is the Syntax Called Betty Page*.

Winner of the 2012 Joan Lowery Nixon Memorial Award from the Houston Chapter of the Society for Children's Book Writers and Illustrators for a Novel Manuscript Closest to Publication Ready. (The prize was a year's mentorship with Kathi Appelt Newbery Honor Medal Winner.)

Winner of the 2010 Sacramento Poetry Center Press Book award for my manuscript *Bluster*.

Winner of the 2009 Cecil J. Hackney Literary Award in Poetry National Competition 1st Place—for the poem "Milagro of Transfiguration."

SHSU College of Humanities and Social Sciences Outstanding Research Award 2007

Winner of the W. B. Yeats Society of New York Poetry Award 2005, 1st Place for the poem "Broken: Blue."

Winner of the 2002 Cecil J. Hackney Literary Award in Poetry National Competition 1st Place for the poem "These Gorgeous Women."

Included in Who's Who Among America's University and College Teachers 2001 and 2002

Winner of the 1996 La Jolla Poets' Press National Book Award Series Prize for my manuscript *The Garden Where All Loves End*.

Winner of the 1995 Anabiosis Press Chapbook Award for my manuscript *Hunger and Heat (The Missionary Letters)*.

Winner of the 1993 Randall Jarrell International Poetry Prize Competition (judged by A.R. Ammons) for the poem "The Missionary Writes to her Fiancé Concerning Blindman's Bluff."

Winner of the 1993 Academy of American Poets College Prize, University of Georgia (judged by Judson Mitcham) for a group of my "Missionary" poems.

Winner of the 1993 Agnes Scott Writers' Festival Contest in the Personal Essay (judged by Charles Johnson and Jorie Graham) for the essay "For A Fat Girl You Don't Sweat Much."

Winner of the 1990-1991 Academy of American Poets College Prize, The University of Georgia (judged by Coleman Barks).

Winner 1990 Cecil J. Hackney Literary Award in Poetry, National Competition 1st Place for the poem "Elegy for Robert Icarus McKee."

Winner 1989 Cecil J. Hackney Literary Award in Poetry, State Competition 1st Place for the poem "Genesis."

MEMBERSHIPS

Sigma Tau Delta, Phi Kappa Phi, Delta Kappa Gamma, Kappa Delta Pi, Omicron Delta Kappa, The Golden Keys, Society for Collegiate Journalists, Society for Children's Book Writers and Illustrators, Southwest Texas Popular Culture American Culture Association, Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers, American Association of University Women, MLA, NCTE, Associated Writing Programs, Teachers and Writers Collaborative, Poetry Society of America