

**University of Arizona  
Creative Writing MFA Newsletter  
Spring 2015**

We would like to extend a warm welcome to fiction writer [Julie Iromuanya](#), who will be joining us in fall 2015 as a new Assistant Professor of English. Check out news regarding her debut novel, *Mr. and Mrs. Doctor* (Coffee House, 2015) on her website, linked above. Julie is joining us after serving as an Assistant Professor of English and African and African American Studies at Northeastern Illinois University. She earned her Ph.D. at Nebraska, where she was a Presidential Fellow and award-winning teacher.



“In agile prose, Iromuanya creates an intricate and fresh portrait of the perennial immigrant’s tale.”— *The San Francisco Chronicle*

### **MFA Alumni**

**Erin Adair-Hodges** (MFA 2006) is the winner of the [Loraine Williams Poetry Prize](#) from *The Georgia Review* for “Of Yalta,” which was featured on [Verse Daily](#) (April 2015). She had four poems in [Superstition Review](#) (Fall 2014 and nominated for Pushcart Prize) and has two poems upcoming in [The Pinch](#) (Fall 2015).

**Howard Axelrod’s** (MFA 2007) memoir *The Point of Vanishing* is being published by Beacon Press this September. It’s been nominated for an Indies Introduce Debut Authors Award. Howard has also become a regular contributor to the *Boston Globe* Opinion page.

**Herbert Beigel’s** (MFA 2002) novel *The Justice Tapes* and a short story collection *Empire of the Self*, are available on Amazon, B&N and Apple in e-book format, then hardcover later this year by Lightsway Publishing.

**Stephen Brooks** (MFA 2009) recorded [an album](#) at Wavelab just before leaving Tucson and heading back south, back in 2009. His current Athens, GA-based band can be found at: [facebook.com/junkerband](https://www.facebook.com/junkerband). Links to music: [junkerband.bandcamp.com](http://junkerband.bandcamp.com).

**Jillian Cantor’s** (MFA 2002) next novel *The Hours Count* will be published on October 20 by Riverhead/Penguin.

**Sylvia Chan** (MFA 2014) has a poem called [“Piano Room”](#) as part of *The Philadelphia Review of Books* series on race poetry.

**Tony Colella** (MFA 2014) has been accepted with full funding to the Ph.D. program in Geography at the University of Arizona. He will be specializing in biogeography and physical geography.

National Public Radio named **Cameron Conaway's** (MFA 2009) [Malaria, Poems](#) as one of the Best Books of 2014.

**Jamison Crabtree's** (MFA 2009) just-released book of poems *Rel[am]ent* won the [Washington Prize](#).

**Kathy Crutcher** (MFA 2006) founded a new nonprofit organization called Shout Mouse Press in Washington, D.C. [Shout Mouse Press](#) is a writing program and publishing house for unheard voices. Thus far they have 12 books out, all written by at-risk teens in both D.C. and Haiti. Six more books to come in 2015. Check them out and contact Kathy at [kathy@shoutmousepress.org](mailto:kathy@shoutmousepress.org) if you'd like to get involved.

**Cathy de la Cruz** (MFA 2014) has been writing on the website [Weird Sister](#), which explores the intersections of feminism, literature and pop culture. You can also check out her [interview](#) with the brilliant curator, Jill Dawsey on her show, "Laugh-In: Art, Comedy, Performance," which is currently up at the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego from now until April 19. Cathy's satiric Tweet about a statue has gone viral. de la Cruz wrote [an essay](#) for *Weird Sister* about the surreal experience, which continues to gain press coverage, most recently on the [Fox News program, "Outnumbered."](#)

**Emily DePrang** (MFA 2011) received a 2015 John Jay/H.F. Guggenheim Reporting Fellowship to investigate unconstitutional indigent defense practices in Harris County and won the Anson Jones, M.D., Award for Excellence in Health Communication for a story in the *Texas Observer* last year about psychiatric treatment in Texas jails.

**César Díaz** (MFA 2010) just won a writing residency at Hewnoaks Artist Colony in Lovell, ME, for this summer. He'll be working on completing his memoir. He is currently an assistant professor of nonfiction writing in the graduate program at St. Edward's University in Austin, TX.

**Noam Dorr** (MFA 2011) has an upcoming piece in [Poets & Writers Magazine](#). He is doing an interview with John D'Agata about Noam's essay "Love Drones," which D'Agata picked for [Gulf Coast's](#) Nonfiction Prize in 2014. The interview is part of the "Aha! Moment" feature and will be published in the May/June issue.

**Jamie Duclos-Yourdon** (MFA 2001) will be releasing his debut novel *Froelich's Ladder* from [Forest Avenue Press](#) in 2016.

**Lauren Eggert-Crowe** (MFA 2007) has a chapbook collaboratively written with Margaret Bashaar, coming out from Grey Book Press, called *Rungs*.

**Hannah Ensor's** (MFA 2013) essay "Antagonistic Collaborations, Tender Questions" was included in Joshua Marie Wilkinson's new anthology, *Anne Carson: Ecstatic Lyre*, just out from the University of Michigan Press' *Under Discussion* series. Her poem "A humble see" was published in the most recent issue of [Denver Quarterly](#).

**Brenna Fitzgerald's** (MFA 2014) essay "Tangle of Lines" has been published in the March 2015 issue of [Creative Nonfiction](#).

**Andie Francis's** (MFA 2013) chapbook *I Am Trying to Show You My Matchbook Collection* is now available from [CutBank](#). Her poems are forthcoming in [Greensboro Review](#), [Cimarron Review](#) and [Timber](#).

**Leora Freedman's** (MFA 1985) stories post on [Jewish Short Stories Online](#). One of her recent stories is "[The Camera, the Ice, and the Egg Sandwich.](#)"

**Nicola Fucigna, Noam Dorr** (MFAs 2012), **Daniela Ugaz and John Washington** (MFAs 2011) have all joined the editorial staff of the online magazine [Construction](#).

**David Joiner** (MFA 2003) has recently published a novel called [Lotusland](#) and is supporting it through [readings](#) in the U.S., Canada and Vietnam. He recently had a reading at Antigone Books in Tucson.

**Megan Kimble's** (MFA 2013) nonfiction book *Unprocessed: My City-Dwelling Year of Reclaiming Real Food* will be published by William Morrow on June 23. It's available for pre-order [online](#) now. The book is based on her UA MFA thesis.

**Sarah Kortemeier** (MFA 2010) has poems published in [Barrow Street](#), [Fairy Tale Review](#) and [The Feminist Wire](#).

**Ken Lamberton's** (MFA 2002) new book *Chasing Arizona: One Man's Yearlong Obsession with the Grand Canyon State* was released from the University of Arizona Press in February. He also has two essays in the new anthology *Words Without Walls: Writers on Addiction, Violence, and Incarceration* (Trinity University Press), edited by Sheryl St. Germain and Sarah Shotland.

**Allie Leach** (MFA 2012) recently had a [book review](#) on Kerry Howley's *Thrown* and UA alum Cameron Conway's *Caged* published in [Diagram](#).

**Lawrence Lenhart** (MFA 2013) was a visiting scholar at the Asiatic Society of Bangladesh in Dhaka in early 2015. Essays about his parrotlet and tortoise are forthcoming in [Prairie Schooner](#) ("The Well-Stocked and Gilded Cage: *Psittaculture Nervosa*") and [Fourth Genre](#) ("Too Slow Is How That Tortoise Go: A Carapace in 37 Parts"). Other essays appear in [Thin Air](#) ("Munchos Kithanink"), [Essay Daily](#) ("[Tigris! Tigris! A Species Loneliness](#)"), and [Destroyer](#) ("[You Go First](#)"). New fiction appears in [Pacifica Literary Review](#) ("Let the River Run, Working Girl") and [Six Seasons Review](#) ("/desktop file 002 ('the char sojourns 1: shonar ghasa')"). An interview with Rikki Ducornet about her new essay collection, *The Deep Zoo: Essays*, can be found on the Brazos Bookstore blog ("[Preparing the Whirlwind: A Conversation with Rikki Ducornet](#)").

In the last year **Jake Levine** (MFA 2010) had a chapbook called *Vilna Dybbuk* come out with "Country Music." Most recently his poetry has appeared in [Salt Hill](#), [Atlas Review](#) and his translations have appeared in [The New York Times](#), [Boston Review](#), [Guernica](#) and elsewhere. His translation of Kim Kyung Ju's *I Am A Season That Does Not Exist In The World* (from the Korean) will be out with [Black Ocean](#) in the fall. He is getting his Ph.D. on a Korean Government Scholarship at Seoul National University.

**George Life** (MFA 2009) will be entering the Poetics Program at Buffalo as a Ph.D. student in the fall. Sections from his ongoing serial poem "Precarity" have appeared recently or are forthcoming in [N/A](#), [Blackbox Manifold](#), [The Offending Adam](#), [New American Writing](#), [The Invisible Bear](#) and [Berkeley Poetry Review](#). Selections from a projected two-volume translation of the late poems of Du Fu have appeared in [Cha: An Asian Literary Journal](#). Last year he and **Christina Vega-Westhoff** (MFA 2010) were married on a beautiful spring day in Columbia, MO.

**Allen Long** (MFA 1983) has recently published fiction in [Amarillo Bay](#) and [42opus](#). He has also recently published memoirs in [The Copperfield Review](#), [Eunoia Review](#), [Literary Brushstrokes](#),

[Milk Sugar](#), [Scholars & Rogues](#), and a piece entitled “Freak Out” was in the fall 2014 issue of [Verdad](#). His memoir *A Slow Dance for Tina and Other Love Stories* was published in the February 2015 issue of [Stepping Stones](#). Most recently, his memoir *Bring Forth the Guilty* appeared in the Spring 2015 issue of [The Linnet's Wings](#).

**Jana Martin's** (MFA 1994) piece “[I Can See Clearly Now: Life on Etsy](#)” was nominated for a Pushcart Prize.

**Alison McCabe's** (MFA 2010) fiction has recently appeared in [Tin House online](#).

**Nishta Mehra's** (MFA 2007) [recent piece](#) for *Guernica* was linked to on [NPR's Code Switch Blog](#).

**Amanda Beth Miller's** (MFA 2005) short story “What to Wear to a Rape Trial” won the Chris O'Malley Prize for Fiction and will be published in the spring 2015 issue of [The Madison Review](#).

**Laura I. Miller** (MFA 2014) has a short story in [Cosmonauts Avenue](#) and one forthcoming in [Mid-American Review](#).

**Sarah Minor** (MFA 2014) lead a panel at this year's AWP conference entitled “The Essay Blinks: Multimedia Essayists on the Craft of Visual Writing.” Her visual essay “Static” appears in the new issue of [IPANKJ](#).

**Thomas Mira y Lopez** (MFA 2014) has been named the 2015 Olive B. O'Connor Creative Writing Fellow and will spend the next academic year teaching at Colgate College in Hamilton, NY.

**David Mondy** (MFA 2013) was the Writer-In-Residence at the New York Mills Artist Residency this past March. This was following his position of Writer-In-Residence at Randolph College. In other news, [Slate](#) picked up his [Ali/Liston story](#) and featured it on their main page. The story is now the second most read story on Slate, with 5000 Facebook likes, 700 shares, and 50-some comments.

**Kendra Mullison** (MFA 2014) is six months into her new job as Youth Services Librarian for the North Lake County Public Library District in Polson, MT. She is in charge of all programming for youth from infancy to college and is currently busy setting up this year's Summer Reading Program.

**Trace Peterson** (MFA 2002) is a proud trans woman who transitioned this past year after originally coming out in the MFA Program at the University of Arizona 14 years ago. In 2014 Peterson published the first article on transgender poets to appear in a peer-reviewed academic journal; it can be found in the current issue of [TSQ](#). Newly elected to the Board of Directors for VIDA: Women in Literary Arts, Peterson will be teaching the first-ever (to her knowledge) course specifically dedicated to Transgender Poetry in an English department at Hunter College. Peterson is currently a Ph.D. Candidate in English at CUNY Graduate Center in New York City.

**Jamie Poissant** (MFA 2007) is a finalist for the L.A. Times Book Prize, and his collection *The Heaven of Animals* has been longlisted for the 2015 PEN/Robert Bingham Prize. *The Heaven of Animals* is now available in paperback from Simon & Schuster. It will be published in French, Spanish and Italian editions later this year.

In June 2015, Beating Windward Press will publish *The Parish: An AmeriCorps Story*, a graphic novel about the volunteers who helped rebuild St. Bernard Parish, LA, in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Inspired by the author's own AmeriCorps service, *The Parish* is written by **Joel Smith** (MFA 2011) and illustrated by **Ryan Winet** (MFA 2009). A limited first edition of *The Parish* was published on June 1, 2015, with clean black-and-white interior pages. On August 29, the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the hurricane, a special color, 'storm-damaged' edition will replace the first. In keeping with the spirit of the book, Beating Windward Press is donating \$1 from each copy sold to the New Orleans Area Habitat for Humanity. Winet just completed his Ph.D. at UA this spring.

**Matthew Schnirman** (MFA 2012) is the 2015 Jack Straw Writer at the [Jack Straw Cultural Center](#) in Seattle, WA.

**Rachel Springer** (MFA 2008) and **Donald Dunbar** (MFA 2007) have launched an effort to map all of poetry. Yup. Make sure your/your favorite books are represented. Try the survey: [poetrydatapoint.org](http://poetrydatapoint.org).

**Natasha Stagg** (MFA 2011) has an essay in the new issue of [Kaleidoscope](#), and an interview on the [Paris Review blog](#). She is also a senior editor of [V Magazine](#). She is also publishing a novel on *Semiotext(e)* that will be out in Spring 2016.

**Katherine Standefer** (MFA 2014) won the 2015 [Iowa Review Award](#) in Nonfiction for her essay, "In Praise of Contempt." Her work "Animalis: References For a Body, One Winter" will appear in [Fourth Genre](#)'s January 2016 issue, with a companion craft essay. Her essay "Shock to the Heart, Or: A Primer on the Practical Applications of Electricity," out in [The Colorado Review](#) this March, will be included in an as-yet-untitled anthology about the body forthcoming from University Press of Colorado. (The essay also received a shout-out in [The Review Review](#), and an interview with Standefer appeared on the [Colorado Review blog](#) last month.) In April, her essay "[Outside the Hoover Dam](#)" appeared in the [High Country News](#). Her essay "Wilderness" has been a finalist for the Tucson Festival of Books Prize in Creative Nonfiction and the [Master's Review](#) Anthology IV. One of her feature stories for [Edible Baja Arizona](#), "The Revolution Requires Cover Crops," was a finalist for the 2015 Eddy Awards, which honor food writing nationally. She taught her inaugural sex writing class at Casa Libre this spring, and will be taking the class on the road this summer. In the fall, she'll work as Associate Faculty in the new pilot Narrative Medicine program at the University of Arizona's College of Medicine, teaching a seminar on sexual-health interviewing to first-year medical students. Check out her fancy new website at [www.KatherineStandefer.com](http://www.KatherineStandefer.com).

**Sue Stauffacher's** (MFA 1989) book *Cassidy's Everyday Guide to Etiquette and Obfuscation* is due out with Knopf Books for Young Readers in June 2015.

**Shelly Taylor** (MFA 2007) had a recent anthology release called *Hick Poetics*, out from Lost Roads Press.

**Jason Timermanis's** (MFA 2010) short story "[Appetite](#)" won the Carter V. Cooper award in the Emerging Writer category.

**Christina Vega-Westhoff's** (MFA 2010) poetry has recently appeared in Caterina Davinio's installation *Big Splash*, the journals [Horse Less Review](#), [LIT](#), *a Perimeter*, *Truck* and [Synecdoche](#), in English and Spanish in Estudio Nuboso's booklet *SUELO Vol. 1* and is forthcoming in [New American Writing](#) and [Word For/ Word](#). Her translations of Panamanian writer Melanie Taylor Herrera's short stories are in [Exchanges](#) and [Waxwing](#).

**Padma Viswanathan's** (MFA 2006) novel *The Ever After of Ashwin Rao* is coming out in the U.S. this June, from Soft Skull Press (an imprint of Counterpoint).

**Meg Wade's** (MFA 2013) poem "Almost Refrain" was a featured poem of the week at [linebreak.org](http://linebreak.org).

**Liz Warren-Pederson** (MFA 2011) has an essay in [Barrelhouse](#) and a story forthcoming in [The Portland Review](#).

**Kirk Wisland's** (MFA 2010) essay collection *Melancholy of Falling Men* is a finalist for the 2015 Iron Horse Prose Chapbook contest.

**Sandy Yang** (MFA 2007) has a story "[The Desert Museum](#)" in [Juked](#) and forthcoming stories in [South Dakota Review](#) and [Many Mountains Moving](#). Her work will be performed in the New Short Fiction Series in Los Angeles in July 2015.

**Rachel Yoder** (MFA 2007) had the featured Story of the Week in [The Kenyon Review](#) with her piece entitled "Shark."

## **MFA Students**

**Jan Bindas-Tenney's** essay "Paper Mill is Something Not Heard" will appear in Issue 30, Spring 2015 of [Arts & Letters](#). She also received an honorable mention in the AWP Intro Journals Award for her essay "No-See-Ums."

**Nina Boutsikaris's** piece "Tuesday Evening Train" will appear this fall in [The Los Angeles Review](#). Her piece "What I Know" will appear in [Puerto Del Sol](#), in spring 2016. Nina was also a finalist in Tucson Book Festival Literary Contest.

**Francisco Cantú** wrote the back page essay in the most recent issue of [Edible Baja Arizona](#) magazine. It is available [online](#).

**Joel Hans** had three stories, "Crepuscular Bear," "Tree Needler" and "Thick-Skinned Buffali," published in issue 12 of [Caketrain](#). "Once There Was an Upside-Down Girl" will be published in the next issue of [Booth](#).

In March 2015 **Maya Kapoor** guest taught an Arizona State University graduate seminar, "Communicating Complexity," an interdisciplinary writing workshop with students from diverse programs such as Anthropology, Political Science, Physics and Applied Math. Maya's lesson focused on writing creative nonfiction and in particular communicating science to broader audiences. In April she was a finalist for the Waterston Desert Writing Prize.

**Miguel Angel Ramirez's** "A rebel tongues still" will appear in the upcoming issue of [Pleiades](#). His poems "And with any luck, crazy" and "Limb" will appear in the upcoming issue of [Denver Quarterly](#).

**Jon Riccio's** poems recently appeared in [Former People](#) ("Smog Years," "Boost," "Riddle of the Insect Officejet"), [Qwerty](#) ("Four Epigrams"), [Paper Nautilus](#) ("Suitcase Ghazal") [FORTH Magazine](#) ("Fire Escape"), [Mountain Gazette](#) ("The Kerosene Arts," "Full Disclosure") and [Triggerfish Critical Review](#) ("Shoulder Dancing"). His poem "Speaking in Calendars" was nominated for a 2014 Pushcart Prize, and two poems, "OctoHaiku" and "Five Fragments," are up at [White Whale Review](#). He also has two poems "Kevlar Human" and "Cloister" up at [cryopoetry](#).

**Matthew Schmidt** (MFA 2015) will be pursuing his Ph.D. at the University of Southern Mississippi.

**Jacob Syersak** has poems forthcoming in [Colorado Review](#) and this fall will be attending University of Georgia for a Ph.D. in Creative Writing.

**Janet Towle's** story "Lodestone and Weathervane" is forthcoming this fall in [The Normal School](#).

**Erin Zwiener** has been accepted as the Pattie Laysen Writer-in-Residence at the Murie Center in Jackson, WY, where she will spend three weeks doing thesis research. She also received an Institute of the Environment travel grant to visit a Continental Divide Trail construction site.

## ***Emeritus Faculty***

**Richard Shelton's** prison writing workshop programs were featured in the January/February issue of [Orion Magazine](#).

**Elizabeth Evans's** new novel *As Good As Dead* was recently excerpted by and Elizabeth interviewed in [Tucson Weekly](#).

## ***Faculty***

**Kate Bernheimer's** novelette *Office at Night* is a nominee for the [Shirley Jackson Awards](#).

**Susan Briante** has work forthcoming in the journal [Bombay Gin](#) and in the anthologies *Devouring the Green* and *The Manifesto Project*. She will be teaching translation workshop in Oaxaca, Mexico, as part of the U.S. Poets in Mexico Conference in January 2016. She has been selected (based on a recommendation from a former student) to be the subject of the AWP's [Faculty Member Spotlight Profile](#).

**Christopher Cokinos** has poetry in [TYPO](#), [Watershed Review](#) and [Ecotone](#), with work forthcoming in [GeoHumanities](#). His article on research and creative writing appeared in [The Writer's Chronicle](#). [Coldfront](#) magazine recently featured a link to Chris's poem in [TYPO](#), "Splinter & Tangle," in its *This Morning* web department. He's given readings recently at California Lutheran University and Cal State Chico. Three poems published last year in [New Delta Review](#) and in [Western Humanities Review](#) were nominated for a Pushcart Prize. His poetry manuscript, "Sweet Lesion," now retitled "The Underneath," was recently named a semi-finalist for the Vassar Miller Prize at the University of North Texas Press. Chris was also named Outstanding Mentor of Graduate/Professional Students for 2015 by the Graduate and Professional Student Council. This coming year he'll be a fellow with the Academic Leadership Institute at UA. He reluctantly returned from a residency at Ucross in April and May.

**Alison Hawthorne Deming** has new poems out in [Massachusetts Review](#), [Talking River](#) and [terrain.org](#). Essays from *Zoologies* have been picked up recently by [The Rumpus](#) and [Hawk and Handsaw](#). Interviews are in current issues of [Audubon](#), [Flyway](#) and [Rain Taxi](#). She gave readings this semester at Worcester Polytechnical Institute, the House of the Seven Gables, SUNY Adirondack, University of Idaho, Iowa State University, Tucson Festival of Books and as part of the "Trout Fishing in America" Exhibition at ASU's Museum of Art. She and **Ander Monson** had a conversation up online with [Essay Daily](#). "Bad Habits and Good Habitats: A Modest Proposal" was published online by the [Center for Humans and Nature](#). She will teach this summer at Bread Loaf/Orion and Writers at Work conferences. She presented "Creating the Future: Art and Climate Change" at Poets House in New York City and other venues.

Earlier this year, Alison was selected as one of four senior faculty members from across the university to be the first Agnese Nelms Haury Chairs in Environment and Social Justice. She made a new initiative pilot program intended to explore how the arts and culture can contribute to understanding and responding to the challenges of climate change, human rights issues and the loss of natural and cultural diversity. Three MFA candidates will join Professor Deming for a two-week field trip to the Canadian Maritimes to work on place-based research and writing.



**Fenton Johnson** published the cover essay in the April 2015 issue of [Harper's Magazine](#), entitled "Going It Alone: The Dignity and Challenge of Solitude," which led to [an interview](#) with Terry Gross on NPR's *Fresh Air*.

**Farid Matuk** recently had work appear in the anthologies: *Angels of the Americlypse: New Latin @ Writing* ([Counterpath](#)), *The Volta Book of Poets* (Sidebrow), *The Force of What's Possible: Writers on Accessibility & the Avant-Garde* (Nightboat), *Please Excuse This Poem: 100 New Poets for the Next Generation* (Viking), *The &Now Awards 3: The Best Innovative Writing* (Northwestern University Press) and *The Best American Experimental Poetry 2014* (Omnidawn). He was awarded a 2015 New Works Grant and Residency from the Headlands Center for the Arts and had poems appear in [Poetry](#), [Mizna](#), [Flag&Void](#), [Denver Quarterly](#) and has work forthcoming in [Boundary2](#).

**Joshua Marie Wilkinson's** journal [The Volta](#) has been selected for inclusion in the *Best American Poetry* anthology in 2015. Guest editor Sherman Alexie chose a poem that first appeared in *The Volta* by Dexter Booth. *The Feel Trio* by Fred Moten, which Wilkinson's [Letter Machine Editions](#) published last spring, was recently honored with the Gold Medal in Poetry from the [California Book Awards](#). Fred's book was also a finalist for the National Book Award as well as the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize. And Letter Machine just published Andrea Rexilius's *New Organism: Essais* and will publish Alice Notley's *Benediction* this spring. Wilkinson's three new edited anthologies are just out as well: *The Volta Book of Poets* (Sidebrow Books); *Anne Carson: Ecstatic Lyre* (University of Michigan Press); and *The Force of What's Possible: Writers on Accessibility & the Avant-Garde* (with Lily Hoang, Nightboat Books).

## University of Arizona MFA activities at AWP:

Kate Bernheimer and Fairy Tale Review are on the [front page](#) of the Minneapolis paper!



**Nina Boutsikaris** presented the [Mid-American Review's](#) 35th anniversary at Gallery13.

**Susan Briante** presented "Reimagining the Author: Pedagogies of Collaboration, Chance, and New Media in Poetry Workshops."

**Christopher Cokinos** presented "Everyday Oddities: Natural Fact and the Lyric Essay," had a book signing at Truman State's booth and a "Reading and Conversation with *Ecotone* at Ten."

**Alison Deming** had a book signing at the [Milkweed Editions](#) booth, and a "Reading and Conversation with *Ecotone* at Ten."

**Fenton Johnson** chaired a panel called "Contemplation in a World of Action: Thomas Merton in the 21st Century," commemorating the 100th anniversary of the birth of Thomas Merton, among the 20th century's greatest writers on spirituality. He also participated in a reading with the faculty of Spalding University's low-residency program.

**Ander Monson** did a reading for [Graywolf Press](#) and a [Hick Poetics](#) reading offsite at Patrick's. *DIAGRAM* and [New Michigan Press](#) had a booth in the bookfair.

**Aurelie Sheehan** had a book signing at the University of Arizona booth. She, along with 2009 MFA alum Jennifer Rice Epstein (thank you Jennifer!), organized a packed, energetic and highly successful UA MFA Alumni Reading offsite at Boneshaker Books with alumni: Cara Blue Adams (MFA 2007), Hugh Behm-Steinberg (MFA 1993), Deborah Bernhardt (MFA 1998), Kevin Canty (MFA 1993), Donald Dunbar (MFA 2007), Cathy de la Cruz (MFA 2014), Elizabeth Evans (retired faculty), Andie Francis (MFA 2013), PR Griffis (MFA 2008), Ken Lamberton (MFA 2002), Lawrence Lenhart (MFA 2013), Alison McCabe (MFA 2010), Dave Mondy (MFA 2013), Frank Montesanti (MFA 2003), Jamie Poissant (MFA 2007), Michael Sheehan (MFA 2009), Mika Taylor, MFA 2008), and Sandy Yang (MFA 2007).

**Fairy Tale Review** had a reading at Segue Café featuring Matt Bell, Traci Brimhall, Caroline Crew, Brian Oliu, Salvatore Pane, Elise Winn, Carson Beker and others.

**Sonora Review** had an off-site reading co-hosted by *The Normal School* and Dzanc Books at Moto-I Ramen and Sake House. One of *Sonora Review*'s graphic designers, John Gialanella, appeared on a panel with designers from [Seneca Review](#), [McSweeney's](#) and [Triple Canopy](#).

**Alumni at AWP:**

**Cathy de la Cruz** (MFA 2014) participated in a reading entitled "Weird Atlas/Gazing Switchback" for a night of feminist writing.

**Andie Francis** (MFA 2013) had a chapbook release reading at University of Montana's 50th Anniversary MFA Reception & *CutBank* Launch Party.

**Dave Mondy** (MFA 2013) and **Kirk Wisland** (MFA 2010):

[https://www.awpwriter.org/awp\\_conference/event\\_detail/4007](https://www.awpwriter.org/awp_conference/event_detail/4007)

[https://www.awpwriter.org/awp\\_conference/event\\_detail/3584](https://www.awpwriter.org/awp_conference/event_detail/3584)