

Curriculum Vitae

Laurie Rachkus Uttich

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Education

University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL

Master of Fine Arts from the Department of English; May 2009
Concentration: Creative Writing. Thesis: Fiction

Illinois State University, Normal, IL

Bachelor of Science; May 1989

Pedagogical Awards

- UCF Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, 2020.
- UCF Teaching Incentive Award, 2014, 2019.

Teaching Experience

Senior Lecturer of Creative Writing at University of Central Florida, 2022-present

Associate Lecturer of Creative Writing at University of Central Florida, 2015-2022

Lecturer of Creative Writing at University of Central Florida, 2011-2015

Courses taught and other responsibilities:

- CRW 3013: Introduction to Creative Writing
- CRW 3053: Theory and Practice in Creative Nonfiction (a lecture hall of 180 students); mediated and online
- CRW 3211: Introduction to Creative Nonfiction; online and face-to-face
- CRW 3310: Introduction to Poetry, face-to-face
- CRW 3950: Cypress Dome Editorship; mediated
- CRW 4320: Advanced Poetry; online
- CRW 4804: Creative Writing in the Community; mediated; designated service-learning course
- CRW 4224: Advanced Creative Nonfiction
- CRW 4760: Digital Storytelling for Creative Writers
- Director of graduate and undergraduate interns for the UCF Literary Arts Partnership

MFA Graduate Faculty, University of Central Florida, 2011-2023

Courses taught and other responsibilities:

- CRW 5130: Form and Theory in Creative Nonfiction
- CRW 5948: Creative Writing in the Community; mediated; designated service-learning course
- CRW 6921: Poetry and Creative Nonfiction Workshop
- GTA Mentor for Grading Assistants and Instructors of Record

Teaching Experience (cont.)

First-Year Composition Instructor, University of Central Florida, 2009-2011

Courses taught and other responsibilities:

- ENC 1101: First-Year Composition
- ENC 1102: Composition and Research
- Faculty member of PCSI (President Class Size Initiative), a program that piloted new curriculum with reduced class size

Florida Prison Education Project Instructor/Faculty Volunteer, 2019-present

- Volunteer instructor of various 8-week creative writing courses at the Central Florida Reception Center, a maximum-security prison for men.
 - The Power of Poetry; Spring, 2023
 - Introduction to Creative Writing: Fall, 2022
 - Form and Theory of Creative Writing: Summer, 2021
 - Creative Writing Across the Genres (correspondence course): Fall, 2020
 - Introduction to Poetry: Spring, 2020
 - Introduction to Memoir Writing: Fall, 2020
 - Introduction to Creative Writing: Spring, 2019

Regional Schleswig Vocational Training School in Germany Guest Lecturer/Volunteer, Oct.-Dec. 2021

- Volunteer lecturer on the power of poetry in marginalized communities, biweekly Zoom meetings.

Director of UCF Literary Arts Partnership (LAP); 2016-present

- The Literary Arts Partnership at UCF founded in 2003 by Terry Ann Thaxton offers creative writing workshops in community settings to children, youth, and adults throughout Central Florida. We partner our creative writing students with various clients (public schools, juvenile delinquency detention centers, residential treatment facilities, shelters, assisted living facilities, foster homes, and other community centers who are frequently marginalized, under-served, and/or have limited access to the literary arts). By sharing knowledge and teaching storytelling techniques in all genres, students fulfill a community need by bring the gifts of literature to its members while strengthening their own skills.
- In 2016, I began directing LAP. My responsibilities include recruiting, training, and managing student interns; building and maintaining community partnerships; presenting in various pedagogical and community venues; and arranging public and private creative writing events and workshops.

Faculty Advisor

- Cypress Dome Society, a student group who publishes an annual literary magazine, sponsors literary events for students, and attends national writing conferences; 2015-2022
- Writers in the Sun, a student group that invites, funds, and actively hosts esteemed authors to UCF and the Orlando community; 2015-2018.

Pedagogical Papers/Presentations

- “Team Teaching in the Prisons,” co-presenter at UCF Faculty Center, Summer Institute, May 10, 2023.
- “Teaching Art in Prison: Best Practices,” presenter at UCF Faculty Center, Summer Conference, May 10, 2021.
- “Teaching Outside of the Classroom: Creating Partnerships with Community Members,” CAH Faculty Excellence Program on Teaching Excellence presenter, Nov. 18, 2021.
- “Adding Literary Elements to Literacy Programs for At-Risk Students,” guest speaker in Dr. Coe’s Graduate Reading course, UCF, November 13, 2019.
- “Partnering with Other Departments and Disciplines,” CAH Faculty Excellence Program on Teaching Excellence presenter, Nov. 4 and 8, 2019.
- “Off the Page and Into the Community: Incorporating Literary Citizenship into Creative Writing Curriculum,” co-presenter, Other Words Literary Conference, Tampa, Oct. 26, 2019.
- “Engaging the ‘Unenageable’: Writing Programs for Students in Juvenile Delinquency Centers,” presenter, Atlantic Center for the Arts, New Smyrna, Florida, Oct. 8, 2019.
- “Writing in the Community,” presenter for UCF Graduate Writers Association, April 17, 2018.
- “Integrating Reflection into Service Learning,” presenter at UCF Faculty Center, Summer Conference, May 10, 2017.
- “‘But I Don’t Want to Teach’: What to Do with an English Degree,” guest lecturer in Dr. Kathleen Hohenleitner’s What’s Next for English Majors course, UCF, March 29, 2017.
- “Say what? Turning Opinions into Op-Eds,” guest lecturer in Professor Nathan Holic’s Magazine Publishing course, University of Central Florida, March 24, 2016.
- “Creative Writing Students as Teaching Artists in the Community,” co-presenter with UCF Terry Ann Thaxton at Gulf Coast Association of Creative Writing Teachers 2015 Conference, Faulkner State Community College, Fairhope, Alabama, March 12, 2016.
- “‘Bathing Your Mother: A Beginner’s Guide’ and Other Creative Work,” panel presenter at UCF English Symposium, February 19, 2016.
- “The Self on the Page: Creating ‘I’ as Character in Memoir,” panel presenter at UCF English Symposium, February 20, 2015.
- “More is More: Engaging Lecture Halls,” presenter at UCF Faculty Center and Learning, Winter Faculty Development Conference, December 10, 2015.
- “Publishing (and Submitting) Pitfalls,” presenter Cypress Dome Society, UCF student group, November 20, 2014.
- “Why Here? Why Now? The Role of the Rooted Narrator in Literary Nonfiction,” panel presenter at UCF English Symposium, February 21, 2014.
- “UCF Storytellers: Achieving Diversity and Artistic Expression Through in Service- Learning,” presenter at UCF Faculty Center of Teaching and Learning, Winter Faculty Development Conference, December 12, 2013.
- “Writing Jobs Workshop,” presenter for UCF Graduate Writers Association, October 12, 2012.
- “The Truth of the Matter: Role of Research in Creative Writing,” panel presenter at UCF English Symposium, April 21, 2012.
- “But When Do We Teach Them to Write?” *Bedford Bits: Ideas for Teaching Composition*, Nov. 2010.
- “Actualizing Rhetorical Concepts,” presenter at Watson Conference, Kentucky; October 15, 2010.
- UCF *Knights Write Showcase*, panel moderator 2010, 2011.
- “Why We Write: The Space that Separates Us,” *Poets and Writers*, Sept./Oct. 2011.
- “Teaching Synthesis and Conversation through Literature Reviews,” co-presenter with Elizabeth Wardle, Composition Instructor Orientation/Workshop, August 18, 2010.

Pedagogical Papers/Presentations (cont.)

- “Objectivity as Construct: Or How Tiger Woods’ Apology Succeeds (or Fails),” poster presentation and sample lesson plan at Composition Instructor Orientation/Workshop, August 18, 2010.
- “What First-Year Composition Students Need from You,” guest speaker/presenter to student tutors, The UCF Writing Center; January 4, 2010.
- “Present-Moment Beginnings that Reveal a Memoir’s Ending,” *Writer’s Chronicle*, Dec. 2008.

Pedagogical Leadership Roles/Activities

- UCF Quality Enhancement Program (QEP) Enhancement Award, *What’s Next for English Majors?* (taskforce of 5 colleagues), 2016.
- WAW (Writing About Writing) Curriculum Trainer for new and existing first-year composition faculty (two semester-long programs with bi-weekly meetings with four participants), 2010-2011.
- Online Instructional Design for new “writing about writing” curriculum; The Writing Process module for ENC 1101, 2011.

Graduate Thesis Directed and Defended

- Skaryd, Ryan. “Intangible (Things),” MFA Nonfiction, 2017.
- Ironman, Sean. “These Romantic Dreams in Our Heads,” MFA Nonfiction, 2014.

Graduate Theses Committee Member

- Bradley, Brandon. “Boys to Men,” MFA Fiction, 2023.
- Gurtis, Alex. “The Genealogy of Desolate Landscapes,” MFA Poetry, 2023.
- Silva, Veronica. “In Defense of the Wife,” MFA Poetry, 2023.
- Harden, Samantha. “Corpora,” MFA Poetry, 2022
- Wolff, Mary. “Blue Heat Burning,” MFA Poetry, 2022
- Riddell, Megan. “Common Law,” Poetry 2022
- Mayer, Tara. “This Might Get Heavy,” MFA Poetry, 2020.
- Barnes, Audi. “Tethered,” MFA Hybrid (Poetry/CNF), 2020.
- Kelly, Malcolm. “Charcoal Boys and Dreams of Igniting,” MFA Poetry, 2020.
- Matejowsky, Lorie Parker. “I Have Questions,” MFA Poetry, 2019.
- Proven, Stephanie. “Nothing Buried Stays Buried,” MFA Poetry, 2018.
- Amey, Yvonne. “Because You Are Beautiful and Dead,” MFA Poetry, 2017.
- Bohl, Grant. “The Sleepless Ouroboros,” MFA Poetry, 2017.
- Napolitano, Sabrina. “Some Girls,” MFA Fiction, 2017.
- Hughes, John. “Go Ahead, Daytona,” MFA Creative Nonfiction, 2016.
- Bowcott, Ashlee. “What We Hide,” MFA Creative Nonfiction, 2015.
- Crimmins, Brian. “Stories I Told Myself,” MFA Creative Nonfiction, 2014.
- Schultz, Lacey. “Woman of Dust: An Exodus,” MFA Creative Nonfiction, 2014.
- Duvall, Bethany. “The Former Lives of Buildings,” MFA Fiction, 2013.
- Lenore, Edie. “Pebbles and Shards,” MFA Creative Nonfiction, 2013.
- Harrington, Sherard. “Please Don’t Interrupt Me When I’m Ignoring You,” MFA Fiction/Creative Nonfiction, 2012.
- Anderson, Patrick. “Quarter Life Crisis: How to Get Over College and Become a Functioning Member of Society,” MFA Fiction, 2011.

Honors in the Majors Theses Director

- Camila Cal. “La Carroza Dorada (The Golden Carriage),” essays, 2022.
- Nicole Pendelton. “Latchkey: A Memoir in Essays,” essays, 2019.

Honors in the Majors Theses Committee Member

- Kaylani Muriel. “A Re-Telling of a Puerto Rican Childhood,” essays, 2018.
- Kyle Kubik. “Blankets of Memories: Short Stories,” 2017.
- Langevin, Benjamin. “Imago Dei: Stories,” stories, 2014.
- Ellis, Megan. “Star Child and Other Stories,” stories and essays, 2014.
- Fortes, Rebecca. “Home Nowhere,” stories and essays, 2014.
- MacDonald, Elizabeth. “A Longer Spoon,” novel, 2014.
- Chapman, Rachel. “Gridlocks and Padlocks,” stories and essays, 2013.
- Vanstone, Lindsey. “Gukundana,” stories and essays, 2013.

Independent Studies Directed

- (16) Graduate: Spring 2023; Fall 2022; Spring 2022; Spring 2021; Spring 2017; Fall 2016; Spring 2016; Fall 2015; Spring 2012
- (9) Undergraduate; Spring, 2017; Fall, 2016; Summer, 2014.

Service (Department, College, University)

- **UCF Storytellers Creator** (a service-learning class component for students who conduct oral histories for UCF Community Veterans History Project, GLBT History Museum of Central Florida, and Lutheran Haven Nursing Home); 2012-2022.
- **UCF Community Veterans History Project Faculty Contributor** (responsibilities include conducting various oral history projects as well as planning and presenting veteran writing workshops); 2012-2020.
- **UCF Alumni Committee Chair** (responsibilities include implement, design and update website; maintain department alumni database; coordinate awards ceremony for graduates each semester; and write, edit and distribute annual e-newsletter to alumni); 2011-16. Committee member: 2016-present.
- Teaching Incentive Program (TIP) Award Committee; 2023.
- Service-Learning Student Showcase Judge, 2017, 2018.
- Pellegrin Memorial Scholarship Committee Member for College of Arts & Humanities, 2014-16.
- Faculty Scholarship and Awards Committee Member for College of Arts & Humanities, 2014-16.
- MFA Application and Acceptance Committee Member; 2011-2023.
- Faculty Judge for Unifying Theme, an artistic contest for undergraduate activists, 2009, 2011.
- Instruction Promotion Committee Member for English Department; Fall 2012, Fall 2013, Fall 2018, Fall 2019, 2021.
- Instruction Promotion Committee Member for Women’s Studies Department; Fall 2013.
- Curriculum and Assessment Committee Member for UCF English Department, 2011-12.
- UCF Portfolio Assessment Committee for Composition Courses Member, 2008-11.
- *Knights Write* Showcase Public Relations Director for Department of Writing and Rhetoric, 2010.
- UCF Instructor Hiring Committee Member for Department of Writing and Rhetoric, 2010, 2011.

Service (Community)

- Coordinator and Developer of Anne Frank Exhibit Writing Workshop, Holocaust Memorial Resource & Education Center of Florida, February 19, 2019.
- Poetry Slam Contest Judge, Jackson Heights, December 6, 2016.
- Veterans Literary Workshop Leader, UCF, November 3, 2016.
- Creative Writing Workshop Leader (volunteer guest teacher at Jackson Heights Middle School and coordinator/trainer of UCF student volunteers; students teach creative writing across the disciplines during Literacy Week); 2009-current.
- “A Magical Moment” Creative Writing Judge for Seminole County schools (sponsored by Disney); 2012-current.
- Space Coast Teen Writers Festival volunteer and presenter at conference; July 2012.
- Creative Writer Enrichment Instructor volunteer at Ivey Lane Elementary, 2008-9.
- Fiction Judge for Partin Elementary, 2008.

Professional Development

- UCF Faculty Center’s Faculty Development Conferences, participant/presenter, Summer 2023, Summer 2021, Summer 2017, Summer 2016, Winter 2013.
- Association of Writers and Writing Programs Conference, participant/presenter, Seattle, WA 2023.
- “End With a Bang,” participant of a 4-week course taught by Poet Katie Riegel, Nov. 2019.
- “I’m With the Banned: Celebrating and Exercising Our Freedom to Read and Write,” Poetry Barn, participant of a 4-week course, October 2019.
- “Tiny Braids: Lyrical Essay,” participant of a 4-week course taught by Poet Katie Riegel, Sept. 2019.
- “I am UCF” Curriculum Training,” participant in digital learning workshop, January 2019.
- Association of Writers and Writing Programs Conference, participant, Tampa, FL, 2018.
- “A Southern State of Mind: The South in Verse,” Poetry Barn, participant of a 4-week course, May 2017.
- Gulf Coast Association of Creative Writing Teachers 2015 Conference, Faulkner State Community College, Fairhope, Alabama, March 12, 2016.
- “Rattling the Cage: Forms and Repetition,” Poetry Barn, participant of a 4-week course, January 2016.
- “Prose Poem: Exploration, Surrealism and Play,” Rooster Moans Poetry Cooperative, participant of 4-week course, Summer 2015.
- Online Poetry Workshop, participant of 6-week course directed by Kim Addonizio, January 2015.
- Association of Writers and Writing Programs Conference, participant, Chicago, IL, 2012
- IDL 6543 Faculty Development Certificate following the successful completion of a 15-week course by the UCF Center for Distributed Learning, 2011.
- Association of Writers and Writing Programs Conference, participant, New York, NY, 2008
- GTA Teaching Certificate following the successful completion of a 12-week course by the UCF Faculty Center of Teaching and Learning, 2008.
- Participant of ongoing professional development opportunities at UCF, including workshops and seminars in these areas: interdisciplinary learning, in-service curriculum, course design, classroom management for millennials, diversity inclusion, and portfolio assessment.

Poetry Collection Publication

Somewhere, A Woman Lowers the Hem of Her Skirt, published by Riot in Your Throat, May 2022.

Poetry Collection's Book Reviews and Interviews

- Included in "The Best Books We Read This Year" list by *Independent Book Review* 2022.
- *Olit*, review by Danielle Sarta, January 2023.
- *The Drunken Odyssey: A Podcast About the Writing Life*, interview by John King, January 2023.
- *The Lives of Writers*, podcast, interview by Ryan Skaryd, August 2022.
- *Superstition Review*, review, April 2022.
- *Literary Mama*, interview by Bridget Lillethorup, April 2022.
- *The Poetry Question*, review by Caitie Young, March 2022.

Writer Residencies

- Atlantic Center for the Arts, 3-week artist residency. Selected by Master Artist Joy Harjo, U.S. Poet Laureate; October – Nov. 2019.
- Bread Loaf Summer Conference, selected participant (only 6 percent of applicants accepted), attended multiple workshops and worked extensively one-on-one with Lia Purpura and other noted creative nonfiction writers, August 2013.

Anthology Inclusions

- "Bereft (Of)," essay, included in *The Stone Gathering Reader* (French Press Editions, 2021).
- "A Prayer for My 17-Year-Old Son on the Other Side of the Door," poem, included in *Without a Doubt: Poems About Faith* (New York Quarterly Press, 2021).
- "Do Not Read Out Loud," essay, included in *River Teeth: Twenty Years of Creative Nonfiction* (University of New Mexico Press, 2020).

Writing Awards

- Finalist for *River Teeth* 2022 Literary Nonfiction Book Prize, (judged by Natasha Trethewey)
- Finalist for *Sweet: A Literary Confection* flash essay contest, May 2020.
- Nominated for Pushcart Award, poem "To My Student with the Dime-Sized Bruises on the Back of Her Arms Who's Still on Her Cellphone," *Rattle*, Fall 2020.
- Nominated for Pushcart Award, essay "How to Explain Death to a Child," *Brain, Child*, Vol. 20:1, Winter 2015.
- Finalist for the Bread Loaf Bakeless Camargo Fellowship, a month-long residency in France, 2014.
- Fiction Writing Nominee for the 2008-9 Intro Journals Project sponsored by the Association of Writers & Writing Programs (AWP), a project that requests faculty to select one student in the program for literary competition.
- Recipient of the 2009 *Iron Horse* Discovered Voices Award; short story "What We Tell," published Feb. 2010.
- Recipient of the 2007 *So To Speak* Creative Non-Fiction Award from George Mason University; essay "What the Daughter I will Never Have Knows," published Spring 2007.

Notable Creative Publications

Acceptance statistics provided when possible. Source: Duotrope.

- “A Blonde and a Burnette Walk into a Cancer Care Center with Their Big Feet,” essay, *Speculative Nonfiction*, June 2023.
- “To the Student I’ll Meet in 10 Years Who Grew Up with the Don’t Say Gay Bill,” poem, *South Florida Poetry Journal*, August 2022. Acceptance rate: 10%
- “Because My Boyfriend Got Somebody Else Pregnant, I Decided to Go to College,” essay, *Split Lip Magazine*, January 2022. Acceptance rate: .012%
- “It’s Friday Afternoon at a Florida State Penitentiary and the Men are Reading Poetry,” poem, *The Sun Magazine*, August 2021. Acceptance rate: 0.23%
- “A Prayer for My 17-Year-Old Son on the Other Side of the Door,” poem, *Literary Mama*, March 2021.
- “Cloud Cover,” essay, *NELLE*, Jan./Feb. 2021. Acceptance rate: 7.8%
- “After Life (And A Bit Before),” essay, *Autofocus*, Dec. 2020. Acceptance rate: 9%
- “A Student Wonders Why I Started Writing Poetry in My 40s,” “I’d Like to Teach My Poem to Play Guitar,” and “Even the Dog Stays Dead,” poems, *Pretty Owl Poetry*, Winter 2020. Acceptance rate: 4%
- “To My Student with the Dime-Sized Bruises on the Back of Her Arms Who’s Still on Her Cellphone,” poem, *Rattle*, Fall 2020. Acceptance rate 0.38%.
- “Horizon,” essay, *Ruminate*, July 2020. Acceptance rate 1.8%
- “It’s Been a Couple of Crappy Years,” “Misplaced,” “Dear Facebook (For Hire) Quiz Writer,” and “My Father Learns to Say I Love You Before He Dies,” poems, *The Grief Diaries*, July 2020.
- “Mattel, In Their Infinite Wisdom, Decide Sally Ride Needs Makeup,” poem, *JuxtaProse*, June 2020. Acceptance rate: 4.1%
- “The Ground We Walk On,” essay, *Terrain*, June 2020. Acceptance rate: 7.5%
- “My Mother Returns to 1985,” essay, *Brevity*, May 2020. Acceptance rate: 0.65%
- “Distilled (From),” essay, *River Teeth*, Vol. 21.1, Fall, 2019. Acceptance rate: 1.7%
- “How to Move to Orlando,” essay, *Fantastic Floridas*, May 16, 2017.
- “Bathing Your Mother: A Beginner’s Guide,” “Depression, Mom’s,” and “Your Daughter Asks About You,” poems, *Superstition Review*, Vol. 17, Spring 2016. Acceptance rate: 7.14%
- “Bereft (Of),” essay, *Sweet: A Literary Confection*, Vol. 7.3, Summer 2015. Acceptance rate: 5.48%
- “How to Explain Death to a Child,” essay, *Brain, Child*, Vol. 20:1, Winter 2015. Acceptance rate: 16.07%
- “Sometimes Peter, but Never Paul,” poem, *Rattle*, Vol. 45, Fall 2014. Acceptance rate: 0.38%
- “Under Ground,” essay, *Fourth Genre*, Vol. 16, No. 6, Fall 2014. Acceptance rate: 3.7%
- “It May Be,” poem, *Missouri Review: Poem of the Week*, July 7, 2014. Acceptance rate: 0.28%
- “Too Blue to Become Brown,” essay, *Burrow Press Review*, June 2, 2014.
- “Thirteen Thousand Alligators,” *15 Views of Orlando: An Anthology* fiction; Vol. 3, Summer 2014.
- “This I Believe: It’s Cool to Be a Mammal,” *This I Believe* featured essay, produced and featured on NPR’s Bob Edward’s Show, Dec. 12, 2012.
- “Do Not Read Aloud,” *River Teeth* video interpretation of essay (produced with Graphic Artist/UCF Student Sean Ironman), Dec. 2012.
- “Do Not Read Aloud,” essay, *River Teeth*, Vol. 14.1, Aug. 2012. Acceptance rate: 3%
- “What We Tell,” story, *Iron Horse Literary Review*, Vol. 12.6/13.1, February 2010.
- “Crazy Talk,” essay, *Creative Nonfiction*, Issue 36, Spring 2009. Acceptance rate: 1.14%

Op-Ed Columns

- “I Need to Believe In (the Original) Atticus Finch,” *UCF Forum* and *Huffington Post*, July 22, 2015.
- “In Defense of ‘Depressing’ Books,” *UCF Forum* and *Huffington Post*, May 20, 2015.
- “Do What You Love (and the Money *Might* Follow),” *UCF Forum* and *Huffington Post*, March 18, 2015.
- “Bearing Witness Even When It Seems ‘Too Much to Bear,’” *UCF Forum* and *Huffington Post*, January 14, 2015.
- “The Social Media Mirage (and What We’re Missing),” *UCF Forum* and *Huffington Post*, November 12, 2014.
- “Don’t Label Teens Dying in our Streets – We Mourn Them All,” *The UCF Forum* and *Huffington Post*, September 10, 2014.

Public Readings

- Riot in Your Throat & Write Bloody: An Off-site Poetry Reading, AWP, Seattle, March 9, 2023.
- Writers in the Sun, reading, Nov. 2, 2022.
- SoFloPoJo, “Just Say Gay,” virtual reading, August 9, 2022.
- Zeppelin Books Presents Autofocus Live!, Orlando, August 6, 2022.
- Loose Lips, Lil’ Indies, Orlando, June 7, 2022.
- Wild & Precious Life Series, virtual reading, May 18, 2022.
- Readings on the Pike, virtual reading, May 12, 2022.
- Book Launch, Grape and the Grain Wine Bar, Orlando, May 6, 2022.
- TGI Cast, virtual reading, Friday, April 1, 2022.
- “Be Careful (& Other Useless Things You Say,” INsideOUT, Atlantic Center for the Arts, Oct. 31, 2019.
- “My Uncle Boycotts the NFL (and other poems),” featured poet, Cypress Dome Society Open Mic, Feb. 4, 2019.
- “A Night of Protest Poetry,” Milk Bar Lounge, Orlando, Jan. 19, 2018.
- “Selected Poems and Prose,” Blue Bamboo Center for the Arts, Nov. 20, 2016.
- “Selected Poems and ‘Bereft (Of),” Stardust Video and Coffee, Orlando, March 15, 2015.
- “Thirteen Thousand Alligators,” Orlando Public Library, June 14, 2014.
- “How to Explain Death to a Child,” Vespa, Orlando, Feb. 2014
- “This I Believe: It’s Cool to Be a Mammal,” *This I Believe* featured essay, produced and featured on NPR’s Bob Edward’s Show, Dec. 12, 2012.
- “The Space Between Us,” There Will be Words, Urban ReThink, Orlando, Sept. 2012.
- “Crazy Talk,” Maitland Arts Center, Oct. 2011.

Professional Writing Experience

Freelance Writer and Editor; 6/02 – 5/09

My primary projects included writing and instructional design of e-learning materials and interactive on-site training for corporate clients.

ieol, Denver, Colorado; 9/97 – 6/02

Ringmaster, Dynamic Engagement/Creative Director for an e-learning solutions developer.

Pencom International, Denver, Colorado; 7/95 to 9/97

Marketing Director for a provider of training materials for the hospitality industry.

Creative Logic, Inc., Peoria, Illinois; 5/94 - 7/95

Assistant Creative Director for a marketing and design firm.

Weddings, Inc. Publication, Bloomington, Illinois; 8/92 to 11/94

Managing Editor/Graphic Design for a series of local wedding publications.

Customer Potential Management, Peoria, Illinois; 5/93 to 5/94

Senior Writer for a direct marketing agency and international database software development firm.

E.W. McDaniels & Co., Inc., Pekin, Illinois; 10/90 to 5/93

Senior Writer/Editor for an advertising agency.

Twin Cities Broadcasting, WBNQ, Bloomington, Illinois; 8/89 - 10/90

WBNQ Account Executive/Copywriter for a radio station.