



# The Stonecoast Newsletter

---

Sept. 19, 2011

Ahoy Stonecoasters,

I trust all is well and guess what day it is, TALK LIKE A PIRATE DAY! If you forgot, you are officially on my keelhaul list—yes, I have one, and it gets longer every time I encounter another moron on my morning commute. Since it is “talk like a pirate” day, I should do this issue completely in pirate-speak but that might be more of a pain to read. So instead, I prepared a mere list of pirates facts for you to read, study, and reflect on as you go about your day feeling, piracy. So here they are:

- Walking the plank was never reported to be a method of punishment among pirates. Marooning was crueller and more fun.
- “15 Men on a Dead Man’s Chest”, which we sang during the summer, isn’t a traditional sea shanty. It was developed for the stage production of Robert Louis Stevenson’s *Treasure Island*—Tis fun to sing anyway.
- The word “pirate” was originally spelled with a “y” instead of an “i”.
- Facebook has “pirate” listed as one of its official languages.

Ponder and discuss if you see fit. I think the most important thing to do if you celebrate this holiday is to have fun. Besides, it only comes once a year. That is all for now. Please email your updates to [stonecoastnews@usm.maine.edu](mailto:stonecoastnews@usm.maine.edu) by Friday, SEPTEMBER 30. Send any feedback about the newsletter to Robin Talbot at [rtalbot@usm.maine.edu](mailto:rtalbot@usm.maine.edu).

Take care mates,

Mariel



## Upcoming Important Deadlines & Dates \*

DUE: OCTOBER 1, 2011

Genre Change Requests/Incompletes/Requests for Copies of Evaluations—A student must mail to the program office, a written request including an explanation of the circumstances that make a deferment necessary. If a student wishes to work in another of the program's main genres for one entire semester, they must notify the MFA office.

DUE: OCT. 1, 2011 (FOURTH SEMESTER STUDENTS ONLY)

Presentation Descriptions 1st draft— Descriptions should be concise and no longer than one paragraph. The Mentor will review and may edit descriptions.

DUE: OCTOBER 6, 2011

Room and Board Requests—Late requests will not be accepted.

DUE: OCT. 7, 2011 (FOURTH SEMESTER STUDENTS ONLY)

Submit Lines for Graduation Program—Students must submit a maximum of 25 words of original work, either one sentence/line or a combination.

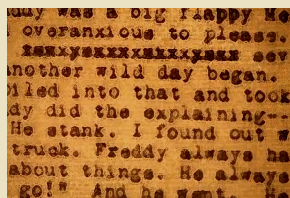
DUE: OCTOBER 15, 2011

Midterm Evaluations—Student midterm evaluations of faculty are sent by e-mail directly to the MFA office. Mid-terms are confidential; Faculty do not see midterm evaluations.

DUE: OCTOBER 15, 2011 (FOURTH SEMESTER STUDENTS ONLY)

Presentation Descriptions (final) —All final presentation descriptions are due. Descriptions not received by the deadline will not be included in the preliminary schedule.

\*Please remember that this is only a partial list of deadlines.  
A complete list can be found in your Stonecoast Community Handbook.



## SCI News

### **TWO POSITIONS OPEN FOR THE WINTER 2012 RESIDENCY IN HOWTH**

Two positions on the previously-filled roster for the January 4-11 2012 Stonecoast in Ireland residency in Howth, County Dublin, have come open. These positions can be taken by current students going into their second, third, fourth or fifth residency at Stonecoast, and they can also be filled by alumni who would like to combine the benefits of a Stonecoast residency with the pleasure of travel to Ireland. If you'd like to join us in Ireland in January 2012, please contact Ted Deppe at [Theodore.deppe@maine.edu](mailto:Theodore.deppe@maine.edu).

If you are interested in coming to Ireland at a later date, we will be putting out a call for the summer 2012 residency in November. Watch for the announcement and application forms to be posted on the listserv on Monday 7 November 2011. Alumni should contact Ted Deppe to express interest and if there are spaces we'd be happy to include you.

## Stonecoast News

### Current Student News

MELODY FULLER was invited by ABC Radio to be a guest on their live morning broadcast in Los Angeles, to discuss her publication: *Going To Washington D.C, Crying For Oscar Grant, III*. ABC Radio also wanted to get Melody's reaction to her private meeting with President Barack Obama while she was on Martha's Vineyard during the summer. Melody was also invited by Dr. Charles J. Ogletree, Jr. a professor of law at Harvard University, to serve on a panel with him to discuss her work. On September 24, 2011, as a part of the Inauguration of Alecia A. DeCoudreaux, the first African American President of Mills College, she will be a featured author for The Writer's Cafe. Because of popular demand, *The Griffith Review* has created a special edition of her publication. The full piece is now available.  
<http://griffithreview.com/store/melody-l-fuller-going-to-washington-dc>  
<http://griffithreview.com/contributors/melody-fuller>

ALEXANDRA OLIVER's poem "The Untouchables" has received an international publication prize in the *Atlanta Review's* 2011 International Poetry Competition. The poem will be appearing in the Fall 2011 issue of the *Atlanta Review*, due out in October.

### Alumni News

JESSICA de KONINCK's poem, "Earth," was nominated for the Pushcart Prize by *U.S. 1 Worksheets*. Her poem, "The Gold Ring," appears in the tenth anniversary issue of the *Edison Literary Review*.

ALISON MCMAHAN's sci fi action screenplay, *Imprinted*, is a finalist for Best Screenplay at the Burbank Film Festival and at the Oaxaca Film Festival. It is Quarterfinalist in the Writers on the Storm Contest. Final winners for these contests have yet to be announced, but you can check for updates at [www.ImprintedMovie.com](http://www.ImprintedMovie.com) Her screenplay *Girl in Trunk*, a coming-of-age-heist-thriller co-written with John Leary, is

nominated for Best Screenplay at the Jacksonville Film Festival (our joint horror/thriller script *Heaven Sent* won third prize at that festival last year) as well as for the CLAW award at the Terror Film Festival in Philadelphia (*Heaven Sent* got that honor last year too). *Girl in Trunk* is also semifinalist in the NexTV Writing and Pitching Awards (*Heaven Sent* made it to quarterfinalist in that contest) See [www.GirlinTrunk.com](http://www.GirlinTrunk.com) *Heaven Sent* was also semifinalist in the Slamdance and Final Draft Competitions and finalist in Scriptoid and Storypro contests. See [www.HeavenSentMovie.com](http://www.HeavenSentMovie.com)

ELLEN MEEROPOL is taking *House Arrest* on the road again this fall, with stops at the Salem Literary Festival, WriteAngles Writers Conference, and Wordstock. The novel was recently reviewed in the *New Maine Times*. [ellenmeeropol@verizon.net](mailto:ellenmeeropol@verizon.net).

BRANDI NEAL, CNF Winter 2011, has an essay published on Freshly Hatched, the online literary magazine for Freerange Nonfiction: A New York City Reading Series & Storytelling Collective: <http://freerangenonfiction.com/>. She read her essay at Freerange on June 1 and it was requested for publication in August. Read "The Nightbird" on Freshly Hatched: [http://freerangenonfiction.com/?page\\_id=2268](http://freerangenonfiction.com/?page_id=2268). Read more about Brandi at: [www.brandineal.com](http://www.brandineal.com).

RENEE OLANDER and Elizabeth Searle are both guests of the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual ODU Literary Festival, Oct 3-7, 2011: <http://www.lib.odu.edu/litfest/34th/index.htm>

MARY PAUER's short story, "Up In the Air Junior Birdsman," a second place winner in creative non fiction in Pure Ses Glass Writing Competition has been included in the anthology edited by Billie Travalini, No Place Like Here, dedicated to southern Delaware prose and poetry. Released August 20, 2011. Proceeds support the Lewes Library, in Lewes Delaware. In another venue, the September edition of Delaware Today Magazine features Ms. Pauer's short essay, "We Do Dirt." Now on newsstands.

MIHKU PAUL (Summer 2010) has been accepted as a Presenter at AWP 2012-Chicago, for her panel proposal, "Deep Impact: Four Writing Programs that Empower Youth and Engage Community." Two of her panelists, Susan Casey and Jeff Kass, are Stonecoast alumni. Mihku is also co-teaching a writing workshop with Cheryl Savageau, Abenaki Poet and Writer, at the TEK (Traditional Ecological Knowledge) Conference at UNH on Sept. 24. She has been chosen as guest artist for the community arts project "Many Hands," a collaborative installation of art and writing, using Native approaches to teaching and learning with Portland High School and King Middle School, as well as students from The Telling Room, a non-profit drop-in center that fosters creative writing for teens. Mihku will read from her works-in-progress, with two other Maine writers, on September 15th at 3Fish Gallery, Portland, Maine. [mihku@maine.rr.com](mailto:mihku@maine.rr.com)

MICHELLE SOUCY's flash fiction story, "What Was Born," will appear on *EWR: Short Stories* later this month. [msoucy815@gmail.com](mailto:msoucy815@gmail.com)

MARY SNELL (P'06) co-taught a two-week writing workshop, "Writing and Myth: A Creative Writing Workshop" on Lesbos, Greece, this past summer through the University of Southern Maine Summer Session. She and Betsy Sholl (former Maine Poet Laureate) worked with 12 students in daily workshops as well as giving lectures and guiding field trips in Athens and on Lesbos (including a donkey trek!) Special guest lecturers/readers were poet A.E. Stallings and fiction writer Nick Papandreou, brother of the current Prime Minister of Greece. This workshop most likely will be repeated in 2012. Email Mary at

[msnell@usm.maine.edu](mailto:msnell@usm.maine.edu) if you are interested.

ROBERT E. STUTTS (PopFiction S10) has two poems in the third issue of *Fantastique Unfettered*, out now. [robert.stutts@gmail.com](mailto:robert.stutts@gmail.com)

CHRISTINE TIERNEY's (Poetry '09) poem, "Chill," has been accepted for publication in the *Cider Press Review*.

TAMRA WILSON (Summer '11) has been invited to participate in the Visting Writers Series at Gaston College, Dallas, NC on Oct. 27, reading from her newly released story collection, *Dining with Robert Redford & Other Stories*. For updates about her events, check her website at [www.tamrawilson.com](http://www.tamrawilson.com).

## Faculty News

CAROLINA DE ROBERTIS's first novel, *The Invisible Mountain*, has just been published in Greek. She has also just been invited to Norway in 2012 for the release of her second novel, *Perla*, and to teach a creative writing workshop while she is there. On the translation front, the literary translation journal *Two Lines* is releasing an excerpt of Carolina's translation of *The Neruda Case*, by Chilean bestseller Roberto Ampuero, in its fall issue. The entire book will be published by Riverhead Books in the summer of 2012.

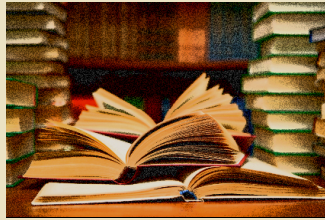
DAVID ANTHONY DURHAM has just sold the rights to his upcoming novel, *The Sacred Band*, to his German publisher, Blanvalet. The book is continuing to get strong pre-publication reviews, including another starred review - from *Kirkus* this time. The novel pubs in the US on October 4<sup>th</sup>

ANNIE FINCH will be talking about Stonecoast's emphasis on Community Service/Social Justice at February's AWP Conference in Chicago, as part of a panel on "Teaching Social Action Writing and Service Learning." In her remarks, she will be quoting current Stonecoast students and alumni who have done third semester projects in Community Service/Social Justice. If you are willing to be cited on the panel, please send a one-paragraph description of your project and a one-paragraph comment on what you learned from the experience to Annie at [afinch@usm.maine.edu](mailto:afinch@usm.maine.edu) by Oct. 15. One-paragraph comments from faculty about their experiences directing such projects will also be welcomed. Thanks for your help!

NANCY HOLDER is going to Los Angeles this week to observe the recording of the audiobook of *Unleashed*, a young adult dark fantasy novel from Delacorte. *Unleashed* will debut on November 22nd. She will also be signing *Damned*, the second novel in her YA dark fantasy series, on September 22 at 7 PM at Mysterious Galaxy Books, and on October 2 at the Orange County Children's Book Festival at Mira Costa College in Orange County, Ca. She will be on the Young Adult stage at 3:45 PM. <http://kidsbookfestival.com/>

MIKE KIMBALL's short plays "The Perils of Long-Term Care" and "Nightmare Girl: A Monologue for Sound and Lights" will be part of the show GROUP SOUP, staged Sept 23<sup>rd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup>, Fri & Sat at 8:00 and Sun at 5:00, at The Actors Studio of Newburyport, in The Tannery, 50 Water St, Newburyport, Massachusetts. Reservations [978-465-1229](tel:978-465-1229). <http://www.newburyportacting.org/calendar.html>

ELIZABETH SEARLE's new novel *Girl Held in Home* is officially out from New Rivers Press in October and is available for pre-orders now on Amazon. Her readings will include SEPT 27 at 7PM at Newtonville Books in Newton MA, Oct 5th at noon at Old Dominion University Book Festival in VA, Oct. 11 at MSU in MN and Oct 19 in a group reading at Word Bookstore in Brooklyn. Elizabeth's previous novel *A Four-Sided Bed* was just reprinted in a new paperback edition by PFP Press/AJAR Contemporaries and is now available on Barnes & Noble and Amazon as well as in eBook form, along with a new eBook of Celebrities in Disgrace from PFP. See Elizabeth's website for updates: [www.elizabethsearle.net](http://www.elizabethsearle.net)



## Other News & Calls for Submission

### Meetings, Readings, and Other Interesting Offerings

WELCOME TABLE PRESS  
POB 3401  
Gettysburg, PA 17325  
[www.welcometablepress.org](http://www.welcometablepress.org)  
717-357-9609

#### "IN PRAISE OF THE ESSAY: PRACTICE AND FORM"

Join us at Fordham University's Lincoln Center campus on Saturday, October 15, 2011, for our next symposium, "In Praise of the Essay: Practice and Form." Our honoree is Phillip Lopate. Speakers include Robin Hemley, Barbara Hurd, Helen Benedict, Joshua Wolf Shenk, and Matthew Swanson & Robbi Behr (creators of *Idiot's Books*). A panel on teaching the essay will feature presentations by Richard Hoffman, Patrick Madden, Suzanne Menghraj, Robert Root, Suzanne Strempek Shea, and Dustin Beall Smith. With readings by Amy Leach, E.J. Levy, Shelly Salamensky, Jerald Walker, and Ryan Van Meter. And a Q&A with editors from *Best American Essays*, *Cabinet*, *Creative Nonfiction*, *Defunct*, *Fourth Genre*, Graywolf Press, *The Pedestrian*, *River Teeth*, Sarabande Books, and more.

To register, please download our form at [www.welcometablepress.org](http://www.welcometablepress.org)

## **Two prize-winning poets to read at USM**

Brigit Pegeen Kelly and Gray Jacobik (former Stonecoast faculty) will give back-to-back readings at the University of Southern Maine November 3 and 4, 2011. Free and open to the public. Copies of their books will be available for purchase at the readings.

Poet and artist Gray Jacobik is a former faculty member in the Stonecoast MFA in Creative Writing program at USM. Jacobik will read at 5 p.m. Thursday, November 3, 2011 in the 7<sup>th</sup> Floor Events Room of the Glickman Library on the Portland campus of the University of Southern Maine.

She won the Yeats Prize, the Emily Dickinson Prize, the Juniper Prize, the X.J. Kennedy Poetry Prize, and the AWP Poetry Series Award, as well as a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship in Creative Writing.

For more information contact Pat Budd (P '06) at 774-6424, or Mary Snell (P'06) at 892-9831.

Brigit Pegeen Kelly is featured in the 12<sup>th</sup> annual Katherine O'Brien Poetry reading sponsored by the USM English Department through a bequest from the O'Brien family. She will read at 4 p.m. and present an informal talk between 2 and 3 p.m. -- both on Friday November 4, 2011 in the 7<sup>th</sup> Floor Events Room of the Glickman Library on the Portland campus of the University of Southern Maine.

Considered by many to be one of the best American poets writing today, Brigit Pegeen Kelly has received fellowships from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Academy of American Poets. Her third collection, *The Orchard* (2004), was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in Poetry, the Los Angeles Times Book Award in Poetry, and the National Book Critics Circle Award in Poetry.

For more information contact the USM English Department at 780-4291,

## **Calls for Submission**

### **CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS: POETRY ANTHOLOGY OF POEMS ABOUT SISTERS**

Deadline, November 15, 2011

Liz Nakazawa is compiling the poems that can be in any form. She is looking for submissions of up to one page. Previously published poems are okay. Liz is an experienced

anthologist (she edited *Deer Drink the Moon*, an anthology of Oregon poets several years ago). Please contact Liz for questions and submissions. [liznakazawa@gmail.com](mailto:liznakazawa@gmail.com)

## **CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS: TURNING THE PAGE, POEMS OF TRAUMA, HEALING, AND TRANSCENDENCE**

Tentative publication date, Spring 2012.

The Fearless Poetry Series is currently accepting submissions of poems and prose-poems for its next anthology.

Full details and submission options [www.fearlessbooks.com/Poetry.htm](http://www.fearlessbooks.com/Poetry.htm)

## **CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS: A GATHERING OF THE TRIBES, A NON-PROFIT ARTS AND CULTURAL MAGAZINE**

Their emphasis is on multiculturalism and diversity. They publish both established and emergent writers and artists. Interested in all disciplines of art; music, dance, conceptual art, video, etc.

The upcoming issue will include poetry, visual art, and criticism (short essays, interviews, reviews). Send to [tribes.editor@gmail.com](mailto:tribes.editor@gmail.com).

For further information: <http://www.tribes.org/web/>

### **PRISM's 2011/2012 contests are now open, so getcher entries in!!**

**Entry fees for all contests are \$28**, and additional entries can be added for \$7 each. Every participant receives a one-year subscription to PRISM international. Works of translation are eligible.

The **Nonfiction Contest** is first up, with a deadline of **November 30, 2011**. The grand prize is \$1500, and this contest is being judged by **Amber Dawn**, a writer, filmmaker and performance artist based in Vancouver. She is the author of the novel *Sub Rosa* (Arsenal Pulp Press, 2010), and editor of the Lambda Award-nominated *Fist of the Spider Woman* (Arsenal Pulp Press, 2008).

The **Short Fiction Contest** has a deadline of **January 30, 2012**. The winning story will receive \$2000, as well as publication payment for our poetry and fiction contest issue. Three runner-up prizes of \$200 dollars are also conferred. This year's judge is **Jessica Grant**, an award-winning fiction writer, a member of Newfoundland's Burning Rock Collective (members include Michael Winter and Lisa Moore), and the author of *Making Light of Tragedy* and *Come, Thou Tortoise*.

The **Poetry Contest** also has a **January 30, 2012** deadline. Each entry can be **up to three poems**. A \$1000 grand prize is awarded for the best poem and the winner receives publication and payment in our poetry and fiction contest issue. \$300 and \$200 are awarded to runners-up. This year's poetry judge is **Jen Currin**, author of three books of poetry: *The Sleep of Four Cites* (Anvil Press, 2005); *Hagiography* (Coach House, 2008); and *The*



*Inquisition Yours* (Coach House, 2010), which is shortlisted for the 2011 Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize, the Lambda Literary Award in Poetry, and the Audre Lorde Poetry Award.

**Contest entries must be sent to PRISM through snail mail, accompanied by an entry form and cheque or receipt of credit card payment.** For entry forms and the option to pay fees by credit card, please visit [PRISM's contest page](#).

Entries can be sent to:

PRISM international  
Creative Writing Program  
The University of British Columbia  
BUCH E462-1866 Main Mall  
Vancouver, BC  
V6T 1Z1  
CANADA

### **Thanal online--international magazine-- call for submissions**

Editor C.P.Aboobaker invites all readers and writers to contribute matter to the next issue of [thanalonline.com](#), i.e, XXI issue. Matter, both in Malayalam and English, is welcome to the ezine. Please read the magazine carefully before submitting.

### **Submit to Adventum**

This biannual digital/print magazine welcomes the finest contemporary **creative nonfiction**, essays, and memoir from new and established writers who explore an aspect of personal experience in the outdoors. This includes but is not limited to human-powered adventure in extreme wilderness landscapes as well as urban, whether it is about climbing trees, mountains or buildings, kayaking rivers or oceans, walking in pursuit of rare insects, pursuing the art of parkour, oceanic living, or mountain culture. Any latitude and longitude is game, so long as it is your best original writing, takes readers beyond the mundane and seeks to discover deeper meaning. *Adventum* also considers seasonal **haiku** and high quality digital **photography**.

Issue 1 is available in both print and digital

Submit by **Nov. 15** to be considered for Issue II  
[www.adventummagazine.com](#)

### **South 85**

*South 85 Journal* is a new semi-annual online literary journal that publishes fiction, non-fiction, poetry, reviews, and criticism by new, emerging, and established writers. While all quality manuscripts that follow the submission guidelines are considered, we are especially interested in work that demonstrates a strong voice and/or a sense of place. In addition, publishing online allows us to bring our readers longer works that may not fit into a traditional print journal. While we are not specifically looking for longer pieces, we do welcome submissions of longer works.

South 85 is a collaborative publishing effort bringing together writers and editors from across the U.S. along with student, faculty, and alumni associated with the Converse College Low-Residency MFA program.

For guideline information please visit [www.south85journal.com](http://www.south85journal.com).  
Questions can be addressed to Sarah Gray, Editor, at [south85submissions@gmail.com](mailto:south85submissions@gmail.com).

## **Catch Up**

We at *Catch Up* have an exciting upcoming issue we think might be perfect for your students and recent alumin. The issue will feature work from writers of a college and graduate school age. *Catch Up* is a new journal of literature and comics, a print journal with an online aspect.

We're open to submissions, in general, but we're also accepting submissions for a special online issue for emerging writers. This issue invites submissions from people between the ages of 20 and 28, who have not previously published a chapbook or full-length book. These writers do not have to be students of creative writing to submit. We will consider unpublished and previously published work (assuming the rights have reverted back to the writer). There are more details at our website [www.catch-up.us](http://www.catch-up.us).

Also, the first issue of *Catch Up* is out in the world. It includes work from Celan & Amichai, Donald Revell, Karen Weiser, Aime Cesaire, D.A. Powell, Amy Gerstler, Cal Bedient, Miranda Field, Paul Muldoon, Amal al-Jubouri, and many more. You can buy the journal, see extra material from contributors (video, audio, and text), and more at [www.catch-up.us](http://www.catch-up.us).

