Fall 2017 Publications, Events, and News
Faculty Publications

Sergio Figueiredo
Book

Chris C. Palmer
Research articles

H. William Rice
Short Stories


Jenny Sadre-Oraifai
Book

Anthony Grooms
Story in Anthology

Ralph Wilson
Poem- Link to Audio

Jeanne Bohannon, Jonathan Arnett and Ella Greer
Conference Proceedings
“Learning Information Literacy Across the Curriculum (LILAC) and Its Impacts on Student Digital Literacies and Learning across the Humanities.” *Professional Communication Conference (ProComm) IEEE International Proceedings*.

Alumni Publications

Alla Umanski
Op-Ed piece in the *North Fulton Herald*

Cheryl Stiles


Christopher Martin
Book
*This Gladdening Light: An Ecology of Fatherhood and Faith*. Mercer University Press, 2017, recipient of the Will D. Campbell Award in Creative Nonfiction. Link

Essays


Multimedia Essay
“American Bestiary.” *Lime Hawk*, 2016. Link

Poems in Anthologies


“Marcescence.” *Stone, River, Sky: An Anthology of Georgia
Alumni Publications Continued

Poems, Negative Capability Press, 2015. [Link]

Poems in Journals
“Jesus Year” Fourth River, 2016. [Link]
“At Paradise Garden” (Thrush Poetry Journal, 2016). [Link]
“Catching Salamanders at Indian Grave Gap” (Bridge Eight, 2015) print
“Psalm 139” (Broad River Review, 2015) print

Interview
“Go to the Ground: An Interview with Christopher Martin” (Poecology, 2015). [Link]

Jessica Nettles
Short Stories
“The Undead Have No Dignity.” [Link]
“Family Inventions.” [Link]
“We All Gotta Eat.” [Link]

Kathleen Brewin Lewis
Poetry Chapbook
“July’s Thick Kingdom,” 2015. [Link]

Publications in the following literary journals:

Lisa M. Russell
Book
Lost Towns of North Georgia. [Link]
Listen to an interview with Lisa on Georgia Public Boradcasting. [Link]

Patricia Henritze
Play
Idi Amin, America and a Bar of Soap. [Link]

Student Publications

Valerie Smith
Poem
“Curly Blue.” in South 85 Journal, 2017. [Link]

Daniel Lumpkin
Script Writer and Director Takashi Dosher Visits KSU

On March 7th, The English Department, the MAPW, and the Georgia Film Academy hosted script writer and director Takashi Doscher, who discussed the film industry in Georgia. He also took this time to present clips of his new film, “Moonshine,” and engaged in conversation with the attendants.

Students Participate in the Southeastern Writing Center Association Conference

Outside of campus events included presentations by several of our students at the Southeastern Writing Center Association (SWCA) Conference. In one of the conference sessions, graduate students Bailey McAlister and Kelsey Medlin and undergraduate student Laura McCarter engaged with their audience through a mock online session that looked at how tutors can remotely interact with students who need help with their writing.

McAlister, McCarter, and Medlin focused their presentation on how online tutoring affects the identity of the student and the tutor. They discussed how students might feel more comfortable in an online setting when obtaining educational help because the online environment does not require the students to disclose any unnecessary information about their identities.

In a different session of the SWCA Conference, graduate students and teaching assistants Dustin Ledford, Victoria Banks, and Shannan Rivera held a discussion on game design and writing, by including topics in their presentation like tutoring game design students and how classic character types from literature are reflected in video game stories.
Events and News Continued

**Students Participate in Booth Open Mic Contest**

Three MAPW students participated in the Booth Open Mic Contest, sponsored by the Booth Writers’ Guild. Maryann Lozano placed second in the contest for her story, “Earworm.” Other students who participated were Leata Thomas and Elizabeth Roberts. The judges commented that all of their stories were “compelling.” Booth Writers’ Guild, which sponsors the competition, is a literary service organization based at the Booth Western Museum in Cartersville, GA, and focuses on writing about the West. It is directed by MAPW alumnus T.W. Lawrence.

**Student Presents at the Atlanta Collegiate Leadership Summit, Earns Outstanding Student Award**

MAPW Student Valerie Smith lectured on leadership at the Metro Atlanta Collegiate Leadership Summit. She addressed the issue of critical communication skills in writing workshops. Smith also participated in the KSU Symposium for Student Scholars and read recent poems. In recognition of her academic performance, Smith received the MAPW Outstanding Student Award.

**MAPW Students, Alumni, and Faculty Participate at the Decatur Book Festival**

Valerie Smith, along with MAPW Alumna Cheryl Stiles, participated at the College Day Poetry Reading at the Decatur Book Festival on September 3, 2017. They gave heartfelt readings to an audience of more than 75 people and were joined by KSU undergraduate poets, Tessa Hilton and Tyra Douyon. The poems ranged in content, but focused largely on relationships, especially with parents.

Using the performer Elvis Presley as a vehicle, Cheryl memorialized her mother. Using the metaphor of heavy books, Valerie spoke about an evolving relationship between a daughter and father. Cheryl also gave a short tribute in memory of Alumna Precious Williams who recently died in a car crash. College Day, sponsored by Poetry Atlanta, invites poets from local universities to perform at the Decatur Book Festival in downtown Decatur, GA. The Book Festival is the largest independent book festival in the country. Other MAPW affiliated writers, Molly Brodak, Sergio Figueiredo, Tony Grooms, and Man Martin participated in the Festival.
MAPW Alumna Screens First Film
MAPW alumna, Leigh Takata, screened her first film, “Dear Women,” on June 17, 2017. The film documents the stories of women who have been abused and/or assaulted and live in Atlanta and surrounding areas. More on the story can be found [here](#).

MAPW Student Accepted into International Conference
Student, Kelsey Medlin, was accepted into the Great Writing International Creative Writing Conference, which takes place at the Imperial College in London, UK. Medlin’s presentation focuses on the lack of cultural diversity in the publishing industry. More on the story can be found [here](#).

MAPW Student Launches Podcast Series
Student Daniel Lumpkin launched his podcast series “Nonprofit Step by Step,” a series focused on helping nonprofit organizations tell their stories. His first podcast episode followed Georgia Wildlife Federation’s (GWF) program, *Georgia Hunters for the Hungry.* The program donates thousands of pounds of venison to the community in need. The episode was featured on the GWF website. More on the story can be found [here](#).

MAPW Alumnus Honored with Lifetime Achievement Award
Alumnus Ray Atkins was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award at the 53rd Annual Georgia Author of the Year Award (GAYA) on June 3, 2017. The citation noted that “his work is laced with his wonderful humor that makes one chuckle and laugh out loud.” Raymond teaches at Georgia Northwestern Technical College and the Reinhardt MFA program.

Other MAPW honorees were Molly Brodak for her memoir, *Bandit* and Anne Corbitt for her novel, *Rules for Lying.*

Outgoing Georgia Writers Association Board President Alumnus, Chris Ward, who served as master of ceremony, and outgoing Director and retired MAPW professor, Margaret Walters, were honored and thanked for their service.
MAPW Instructors Inspire Middle Schoolers

During the Spring 2017 semester, four MAPW instructors participated in separate teleconferenced programs with Chesatee Academy in Gainesville, GA. The instructors talked about their writing and encouraged the middle schoolers to create fiction and poems of their own. “Their enthusiasm about how the literary arts are shaping their every day writing made sharing poetry and the writing life with them exciting,” reported JoAnn LoVerde-Dropp, one of the instructors.

Other participants were Melanie Sumner, Bill Rice, and Jenny Sadre-Orafai. After the virtual visits, the Chesatee Academy teacher guided the students in the creation of an anthology called “SOAR Creative Writers: Passages of Promise.” “I learned so much today as a writer and teacher, and I know my middle school writers did, too!” said Hamilton of Jenny Sadre-Orafai’s virtual visit.

KSU Mourns the Loss of Alumna

Precious C. Williams, MAPW Alumna and Senior Graduate Admissions Counselor at KSU, died on Wednesday, August 30th, after a fatal automobile accident. She was a respected and gifted individual who made a great impact on her community.

Williams earned a Bachelor of Arts in English in 2009 and a Master of Arts in Professional Writing in 2013 from Kennesaw State University.

MAPW Community on Video

Check out the video interviews featuring MAPW faculty, students and alumni.

Kathleen Brewin Lewis
Daniel Lumpkin
Leata Thomas
Valerie Smith
Margaret Walters and Martha Bowden
Hannah and Maryann Lozano, Daniel Lumpkin, Kristin Tardio
Arthur Harris
Melva Robertson
Aaron Levy