2017 Making Literature Conference

Tom Noyes
Shari Wagner
Grace Tiffany
Jessica Mesman Griffith
David Griffith

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MAKING LITERATURE CONFERENCE

The William A. Fry Undergraduate Conference on Literature and Writing Presented by The Department of English
Taylor University

March 2-4, 2017
Thursday, March 2

9:00–1:00
Registration
Smith-Hermanson Music Building,
Recital Hall Foyer

1:00–4:00
Registration
English Department Office—Reade 206

10:30–10:45
Welcome
Dr. Nancy Dayton
Chair, Department of English, Taylor University
Smith-Hermanson Music Building, Recital Hall

11:00 –12:00 Student Sessions I
A. Critical Essay Panel #1—Victorian Life and Death in the Nineteenth Century
Reade 241
Moderator: Jessica Wise
Taylor University

Krista Johnson
Wheaton College
“The Womanist Christology of Elizabeth Barrett Browning’s
“The Runaway Slave at Pilgrim’s Point”

Kathryn Hampshire
Ball State University
“On Cinematography and Discomfort in 12 Years a Slave”

Emily Barsic
Ball State University
“The Cause of Death for Women Like Edna Pontellier, Madame
Reisz, and Kate Chopin”

B. Creative Writing Panel #1—Poetry
Reade 143
Moderator: Sarah Holmes
Taylor University

Serena Ellens
Anderson University
“Tell Me a Story”

Abby Johnson
Anderson University
“A Letter to Zelda Sayre”

Samantha Stimer
Anderson University
“Fighting Pain with Pain, Blood with Blood”
C. **Critical Essay Panel #2—Head and Heart, Mind and Body**  Reade 240
Moderator: Kate Boxell  Taylor University

Chris Meier  Taylor University
“The Head and the Heart: Wordsworth, Rousseau, and a Romantic Conception of Human Nature”

Ashley McGhee  Taylor University
“Anne Elliot and Samuel Taylor Coleridge: The Conflict of the Head and the Heart”

Hannah Hood  Taylor University
“The Buried Life of Paul Dombey: An Examination of Dickens’s *Dombey and Son* Through the Lens of Matthew Arnold’s ‘The Buried Life’”

12:00  Lunch with meal ticket or on your own
*Arthur L. Hodson Dining Commons or See local restaurant listing in Conference folder*

1:00–4:00  **Book Fair** anchored by Eighth Day Books
*Euler Lembright Atrium*

1:15–2:15  **Student Sessions II**
A. **Critical Essay Panel #3—Symbolic Inversions and Connections**  Reade 240
Moderator: Hannah Hood  Taylor University

Heather Cook  Anderson University
“Lewis’s Adaptation of the Literary Elements of *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* in His Own Quest Fantasy *The Silver Chair*”

Hillary Foreman  Taylor University
“Without Contrararies is Digression: *Gulliver’s Travels, The People in the Trees,* and William Blake”

Kaylen Dwyer  Taylor University
“Faulkner’s Holy Week: Inverted Christ Figures in *The Sound and the Fury*”

B. **Creative Writing Panel #2—Creative Nonfiction**  Reade 221
Moderator: Sarah Wehlage  Taylor University

Camy Hanna  Taylor University
“The Storm”
Thursday 3/2 Continued

**Creative Writing Panel #2  Reade 221 Continued**

Christina Stump  
Malone University  
“The Ecotourist”

Hannah Gears  
Malone University  
“Say: Everyday, Say: Beautiful, Say: God”

**C. Critical Essay Panel #4—Literature and Moral Instruction  Reade 143**

Moderator: Grace Bolinger  
Taylor University  

Blair Hedges  
Taylor University  
“Hospitality and Homicide: Moral Instruction in *The Odyssey* and *Crime and Punishment*”

Micah Winters  
Taylor University  
“Nature, Wit, and the Eternal in Augustan Criticism”

Kate Boxell  
Taylor University  
“Progressions of Grace in Saint Augustine’s *Confessions* and Marilynne Robinson’s *Lila*”

**D. Digital Literature Review Panel—Monsters  Reade 239**

Moderator: Abby Palmisano  
Taylor University  

Papers presented by the staff of Ball State University’s *Digital Literature Review*

2:30—3:00  
**Refreshments in Euler 109**  
(Participants staying on campus with Taylor students can meet their hosts at this time.)

3:00—4:00  
**Keynote Reading:**  
David Griffith  
Euler 109

4:15—5:30  
**Parnassus Release Party,**  
with  
*Parnassus* award winners’ readings  
*Euler Science Complex, Legacy 64 Lounge*  
(2nd floor, east end of building)
5:30  Dinner with meal ticket or on your own
     *Arthur L. Hodson Dining Commons or*
     *See local restaurant listing in Conference folder*

7:30  **Keynote Address:**
     **Grace Tiffany**
     *Smith-Hermanson Music Building, Recital Hall*
**Friday, March 3**

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:00–12:00</td>
<td><strong>Registration</strong></td>
<td>Reade 206</td>
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<td><em>Department of English Office</em> Call 765-998-5141</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00–5:00</td>
<td><strong>Book Fair</strong> anchored by Eighth Day Books</td>
<td>Euler Lembright Atrium</td>
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<td>8:45–9:45</td>
<td><strong>Student Sessions III</strong></td>
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**A. Critical Essay Panel #5—Authorial Visions and Voices** Reade 240
- Moderator: Chris Meier, Taylor University
- Charlotte McCash, Messiah College
  - "Remaking Jane Austen: Film Adaptations of *Pride and Prejudice*"
- Sarah Holmes, Taylor University
  - "Virginia Woolf as Outsider"
- Jessica Wise, Taylor University
  - "Speak My Speech: An Analysis of *Hamlet*, Act 3, Scene 2"

**B. Creative Writing Panel #3 Creative Nonfiction and Poetry** Reade 120
- Moderator: Sarah Wehlage, Taylor University
- Lucas Fulton, Malone University
  - "Assorted Poems"
- Tyler Howell, Malone University
  - "The Athlete’s Body and the Addict’s Son"
- Brandon Best, Cedarville College
  - "Blood Time"

**C. Creative Writing Panel #4—Fiction** Reade 220
- Moderator: Rachel Roberts, Taylor University
- Ciera Horton, Wheaton College
  - "The Oven Bird Problem"
**Creative Writing Panel #4  Reade 220 Continued**

**Sophia Ross**  
Houghton College  
“Gone Places”

**Hillary Foreman**  
Taylor University  
“The Determining Bits”

**10:00—10:50**

**Taylor University Chapel Service**

Rev. Jon Cavanagh, TU Campus Pastor  
Rediger Chapel/Auditorium

**11:00—12:00**  
**Student Sessions IV**

A. **Critical Essay Panel #6—Adventures in Reading**  
**Reade 240**

**Moderator:** Rachel Erskine  
Taylor University

**Ava Bergen**  
Houghton College  
“A Malleable Sense of Justice: Robin Hood’s Enduring Appeal to English Readers”

**Rebekah Swank**  
Taylor University  
“The Empathetic Journey of Reading Frustration in *The Crying of Lot 49*”

**Abby Palmisano**  
Taylor University  
“Formal Disorder: Audience Confrontation with the Disorder of the Mind in *Tristram Shandy* and *The Chairs*”

B. **Creative Writing Panel #5—Creative Nonfiction**  
**Reade 241**

**Moderator:** Hannah Hood  
Taylor University

**Ellie Zumbach**  
Malone University  
“A Light in the Barn”

**Jessica Wise**  
Taylor University  
“Dear Papa”

**Riley Gable**  
Malone University  
“Poems”

C. **Critical Essay Panel #7—Appropriations of Language and Identity**  
**Reade 143**

**Moderator:** Micah Winters  
Taylor University

**David Grandouiller**  
Cedarville University  
“The Duchess as a Dish: An Intertextual Reading of Nineteenth-Century, Cultural Hegemony as Cannibalism in Browning’s ‘The Last Duchess’”
Friday, 3/3 Continued

**Critical Essay Panel #7** Reade 143 Continued

Ciera Horton  
Wheaton College  
“Coming Down a Reggae Wire: The Political Appropriation of Language in the Dub Poetry of Linton Kwesi Johnson”

Lisa Hemphill  
Wheaton College  
“Interfacing and Identifying: People as Technology in *Infinite Jest*”

12:00  
**Lunch with meal ticket or on your own**  
*Arthur L. Hodson Dining Commons*  
*See local restaurants in Conference folder*

1:30—2:30  
**Student Sessions V**

A. **Critical Essay Panel #8—Limitation and Liberation**  
Reade 240

Moderator: Rebekah Swank  
Taylor University

Kaleb Schlatter  
Huntington University  
“Achieving Autonomy: Sexual Repression and Rationale in *Mrs. Dalloway*”

Brandon Best  
Cedarville University  
“Liberation and Freedom in Orwell’s *Nineteen Eighty-Four*”

Clair Harvey  
Huntington University  
“Anne of Green Gables as a Symbol of Female Equality”

A. **Creative Writing Panel #6—Poetry**  
Reade 220

Moderator: Jessica Wise  
Taylor University

Ava Bergen  
Houghton College  
“Transit”

Shanley Smith  
Hope College  
“Static and Melody”

Sarah Holmes  
Taylor University  
“Seven Poems”

B. **Creative Writing Panel #7—Fiction**  
Reade 143

Moderator: Abby Palmisano  
Taylor University

David Grandouiller  
Cedarville University  
“Jesus of Nazareth: History of a Sacred Body in Thirty-Six Frescoes”
Friday 3/3 Continued

**Creative Writing Panel #7 Reade 143** Continued

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Reading Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jana Strickler</td>
<td>Indiana Wesleyan University</td>
<td>&quot;Emmanuel in the Water&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Ensink</td>
<td>Hope College</td>
<td>&quot;Ecosystem of Echoes&quot;</td>
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3:15—4:15  **Keynote reading:**  
Jessica Mesman Griffith  
Metcalf MMVA 002

4:15—4:30  **Refreshments** in Metcalf MMVA 002

4:30—5:30  **Tribute to Brett Foster**  
David Wright  
Metcalf MMVA 002

5:30  **Dinner** with meal ticket or on your own  
Arthur L. Hodson Dining Commons or  
See local restaurant listing in Conference folder

7:30  **Keynote address/reading:**  
Tom Noyes  
Boren Student Center: Cornwall Auditorium

**Announcement of Conference Awards**
Saturday, March 4

9:00—12:30 \textbf{Book Fair}, anchored by Eighth Day Books
Complimentary Continental Breakfast
\textit{Euler Lembright Atrium}

Join us to meet and mingle with
Keynote speakers:
Tom Noyes
Jessica Mesman Griffith
David Griffith

And representatives from:
\textit{Relief Journal}
Discovery House publishers
\textit{Digital Literary Review}
Ball State University Graduate English Department
\textit{The Cresset} (literary journal)
Taylor University Department of English

10:30—11:30 \textbf{Book Launch and Signing}
Euler Legacy Commons

\textbf{Amy Peterson}
\textit{Dangerous Territory: My Misguided Quest to Save the World}
Discovery House, publisher

8:00 p.m. \textbf{Special Saturday Note:}
The Taylor Theatre Department presents:
\textit{When the Rain Stops Falling}
Mitchell Theater  Tickets available at the door
KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Tom Noyes’ (BA, Houghton College; MFA, Wichita State University; PhD, Ohio University) most recent book, *Come by Here: A Novella and Stories*, won the 2013 Autumn House Prize in Fiction and a gold medal from the Independent Publishers Awards. He is the author of two other story collections, *Spooky Action at a Distance and Other Stories* (Dufour, 2008) and *Behold Faith and Other Stories* (Dufour, 2003), the latter of which was shortlisted for Stanford Libraries’ William Saroyan Award. His stories have appeared in such journals as *American Literary Review, Ascent, Colorado Review, Image, Mid-American Review, New Ohio Review, Pleiades, and Sycamore Review,* and he’s been awarded grants from Pennsylvania’s Council on the Arts and The Sustainability Arts Foundation. He chairs the BFA program in creative writing at Penn State Erie, The Behrend College, where he also serves as Assistant Director of the Humanities and as consulting editor for the literary magazine *Lake Effect*.

Shari Wagner (BA, Goshen College; MFA, Indiana University) is the Poet Laureate of Indiana for 2016-17. She is the author of *The Harmonist at Nightfall: Poems of Indiana* (Bottom Dog Press, 2013) and *Evening Chore* (Cascadia, 2005); co-author with her father of *Making the Rounds: Memoirs of a Small-Town Doctor and A Hundred Camels: A Mission Doctor’s Murder Trial and Sojourn in Somalia*; and editor of *Returning: Stories from the Indianapolis Senior Center*. Her poems and essays have appeared on *The Writer’s Almanac* and *American Life in Poetry,* in *North American Review, Shenandoah, The Christian Century, Black Warrior Review, Best American Nonrequired Reading,* and many others. She teaches writing at universities, grade schools, retirement homes, the Indiana Writers Center, and at Butler University’s Religion, Spirituality and the Arts seminar. Her Poet Laureate website is *Through the Sycamores*.

Grace Tiffany (BA, Duke University; MA, PhD, University of Notre Dame) has taught Shakespeare and Renaissance literature at Fordham University, the University of New Orleans, and now at Western Michigan University. Her work has appeared in *Shakespeare Studies, Texas Studies in Literature and Language, The Renaissance Quarterly, Comparative Drama, Christianity and Literature,* and *Renascence,* among many others. In 2007, she received a College of Arts and Sciences award for her research and creative activity. She received a distinguished teaching award from WMU in 2010. In addition to books of Shakespeare scholarship, she is the author of multiple novels set in the Renaissance or Middle Ages, including *Will* (Berkley 2004), *My Father Had a Daughter* (Berkley, 2003), *Ariel* (HarperCollins, 2005), *The Turquoise Ring* (Berkley, 2005), *Paint* (Bagwyn Books, 2013), and *Gunpowder Percy* (Bagwyn Books, 2016). *My Father Had a Daughter* appeared on the Booksense independent bookstores’ best books list. *Ariel* was listed as a best book by the National Library Association in 2006. *The Turquoise Ring* is a retelling of *The Merchant of Venice* from the perspective of the five women in the play.
Jessica Mesman Griffith (BA, Louisiana State University; MFA, University of Pittsburgh) is the author, with Amy Andrews, of Love & Salt: A Spiritual Friendship in Letters, which won the 2014 Christopher Award. She is also author of Grace Filled Days (Loyola Press, 2016) and co-author of Daily Inspiration for Women (Loyola Press, 2014). She’s currently at work on a memoir called Eden Isles. Her book with her Sick Pilgrim co-founder, Jonathan Ryan, is forthcoming in 2017. Her work has appeared in Image, America, Christianity Today, and Notre Dame Magazine, among many others. She has recently spoken at the Festival of Faith and Writing, AWP, the Neiman Conference for Narrative Journalism at Harvard University, and on NPR’s Interfaith Voices. As an MFA student at the University of Pittsburgh, she was managing editor of Creative Nonfiction, then completed a post-graduate Fellowship in the Erasmus Institute for Spiritual Autobiography at the University of Notre Dame. A native of Slidell, Louisiana, she lives in northern Michigan with her husband, the writer David Griffith, and their two children.

David Griffith (BA, University of Notre Dame; MFA, University of Pittsburgh) is Director of Creative Writing at Interlochen Center for the Arts. He is the author of A Good War is Hard to Find: The Art of Violence in America (Soft Skull Press, 2006), and is at work on a new manuscript called Pyramid Scheme: Making Art and Being Broke in America. His essays and reviews have appeared in the Utne Reader, The Normal School, Image, Creative Nonfiction, Paris Review, Los Angeles Review of Books, The Mammoth, and many others, as well as in US and international anthologies. He lives in northern Michigan with his wife, the writer Jessica Mesman Griffith, and their two children.
Student Awards

Kimberly Ruth Irvine Prize in Creative Writing

Kimberly Ruth Irvine was a promising student of creative writing at Taylor University when she died in a hiking accident. Her poems, short stories, and scripts demonstrated a talent admired by both her professors and her peers. As her mother recalls, Kimberly “understood at a very young age the power of language and the importance of experience and imagination to ‘live life to its fullest’ and make a difference in the world.” The award named in her memory is meant to honor a current undergraduate student who, like Kimberly, combines literary talent with important purpose.

Phillip Christopher Schrum Prize for Literary Analysis

Phillip Christopher Schrum was a gifted English Education student at Taylor University when he died after being struck by a van while jogging near his North Carolina home. His mother remembers Phil as “a young man whose 20 year journey in life was recorded in journals and essays as he applied the truths of God’s Word to his own life experiences.” Phil’s enthusiasm for his discipline and his love for God were recognized by his professors and his classmates. As his journal states, “I know the truth—I must daily, hourly, moment-by-moment, affirm myself with the truth that Christ alone is who makes me who I am.” The award named in his memory is meant to honor a current undergraduate student whose literary analysis displays promise and merit.

Special Thanks to Friends of the Making Literature Conference

Dr. Beulah Baker
Mrs. Lura Fry
Drs. Kjell and Valerie Johnson
Pfizer Foundation
The William A. Fry Undergraduate Conference on Literature and Writing

The Making Literature Undergraduate Conference is dedicated to the memory of Dr. William A. Fry, who served as English department chair at Taylor University for 20 years, from 1978 until his retirement in 1998.

Trained first as a minister at Nyack College, Bill received a second bachelor’s degree in history from Wheaton College before returning to Nyack as a professor of English. While teaching at Nyack, he earned his masters and doctorate at Columbia University. At both Nyack and at Taylor, Bill was a popular and engaging professor, visibly delighted with the subjects he taught, particularly Shakespeare and poetry.

In his tenth year of retirement in Florida, Bill was diagnosed with cancer; a year later, he moved into God’s presence, leaving behind his wife of 56 years, Lura, and their four daughters. The Taylor University English department dedicates this conference in honor of Bill, in gratitude for his diplomatic leadership, joyful sense of humor, and his always evident love of God.

Also, thank you for your help:

Peter Bryant
Sarah Davis
Dr. Brad Fruhauff
David Gray
Samantha Hurst
Chris Meier
Dr. Lorne Mook
Dr. Richard Smith

Mary Helen Thompson
Kathy Thornburgh
Dr. Shawncey Webb
Kaylee Williams
Micah Winters
Jessica Wise
Sarah Wehlage

Organizing Committee
Professor Dan Bowman
Dr. Aaron Housholder
Pamela Pegg, Program Assistant
Hillary Foreman, Conference Intern