



On *Extended* Wings

Newsletter of the Master of Fine Arts in Writing

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Spalding University

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Play Script in Common Is Heather Raffo's *9 Parts of Desire: A Play*

For the Fall 2007 residency, the MFA Program's Play Script in Common is *9 Parts of Desire: A Play* by playwright and actor Heather Raffo. A plenary discussion takes place Friday, November 2.

All students and faculty, regardless of concentration, read the script in advance of the residency and all prepare comments to add to the discussion. Current first-semester students write an essay, due September 10, on this work and meet in mini-expository workshop to discuss these essays with Expository Writing Coach Marcia Dalton.

On Monday, November 5, Heather Raffo comes to Spalding's campus to talk about her work as a playwright, with a focus on *9 Parts of Desire*, which received full reviews in many publications including the *New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, and *The Wall Street Journal*. Other reviews and information on this play can be found at www.heatherraffo.com.

Raffo received the Susan Smith Blackburn Prize Special Commendation and the Marian Seldes-Garson Kanin Fellowship for *9 Parts of Desire*. Most recently she has received a 2005 Lucille Lortel award for Best Solo show as well as an Outer Critics Circle Nomination and a Drama League nomination for Outstanding Performance. *9 Parts of Desire* was first staged in August 2003 at the Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh. It later moved to the Bush Theatre in London's Off-West End, where critics hailed it as one of the five best plays in London in late 2003. Its New York premiere took place in the fall of 2004 at the Manhattan Ensemble Theater, where the show ran for nine sold out months. In 2005 the play began

touring the U.S. at the Geffen Playhouse in Los Angeles. Following are new productions at Berkeley Rep, Seattle Rep, The Wilma Theatre and Arena Stage in D.C. as well as international productions.

Raffo's acting credits include Sarah Woodruff in the world premiere of *The French Lieutenant's Woman* at the Fulton Opera House and off-Broadway roles in *Over The River* and *Through the Woods*, the Off Broadway/National Tour of *Macbeth* (Lady Macbeth). Raffo received her BA from the University of Michigan, her MFA from the University of San Diego and studied at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, London. Originally from Michigan, Heather divides her time between New York and Los Angeles.

All students should adjust this semester's reading lists, adding *9 Parts of Desire: A Play* to their cumulative bibliographies. *9 Parts of Desire: A Play* (ISBN: 0810123452) can be purchased from online sources such as Amazon and Barnes & Noble; or directly from the publisher, Northwestern University Press. Or students may wish to ask their local book-sellers to order it, if not in stock.

Cross-genre Workshop

As part of the MFA's emphasis on cross-genre exploration, the MFA faculty has expressed interest in offering cross-genre workshops from time to time. These workshops benefit students through cross-pollination of ideas and literary terms and provide wonderful opportunities for students to further their knowledge and technique.

In Fall 2007, the MFA Program offers one such workshop. Students who have been accepted in fiction or writing for children may sign up to take a fiction and writing for children workshop (co-led by a

fiction faculty member and a writing for children faculty member).

It is not necessary for students in the workshop to have expertise in both areas. Students submit Worksheets in their major area of concentration.

Students interested in participating in a cross-genre workshop should email Karen Mann at kmann@spalding.edu by August 31. Not all eligible students may be assigned to a cross-genre workshop, as space is limited.

Teaching Practicum: ENG660

ENG660: Teaching Practicum in Creative Writing is to be offered in the Fall 2007 semester. The teaching practicum is innovative because it can be delivered in a brief-residency model.

The 12-hour course is primarily intended for MFA students who wish to deepen their understanding of the teaching of creative writing for the post-secondary levels and is presented in our regular MFA semester format which begins with the ten-day residency (November 2-11).

During residency, ENG660 students attend a workshop dedicated to this course. They also attend teaching lectures, as well as craft lectures in areas other than their majors in which they wish to gain more teaching expertise. Plenary panels are required as well as readings, and other enrichment events.

Throughout the at-home portion of the semester, students present exercises and participate in online workshops and discussions with their mentor and peers (delivered through Blackboard).

Students also take part in a teaching practicum arranged in their own home community (this practicum must be arranged before residency: contact Kathleen Driskell for details). Assessment is based on the participation, portfolio, and final project required in this course.

As in the case of other MFA courses, discursive grading is applied. Space in this workshop/course is limited. Alumni are eligible to take this course as a post-graduate semester.

The cost is \$4,824 (includes most residency meals, but not housing and transportation to Louisville). Please contact Kathleen Driskell with questions if interested at kdriskell@spalding.edu.

Planning Ahead: A New Option

Students are encouraged to think about registration for their 2008 studies. The Spalding MFA now offers a new spring-stretch option. In addition to spring, summer, and fall semesters, students who prefer the longer summer semester schedule but do

not wish to travel abroad may combine the spring Louisville residency with the 9-month summer semester schedule.

The spring semester begins with the Louisville residency, May 23-June 1, and extends for about six months; the summer 2008 residency begins with the Bath/London residency (dates TBA, about the third week of June); the fall semester begins with the residency in Louisville and extends for about six months. The new spring-stretch option also begins with the residency in Louisville, May 23-June 1, but extends over nine months.

Students may prefer a series of spring and fall semesters if they wish to complete the program in two years and can devote a minimum of 25 hours a week to their course work. Students who prefer a longer 9-month semester (devoting a minimum of 15 hours a week to course work) and would like to add an international element to their studies may wish to register for the Bath/London residency.

Students who mix the summer, spring-stretch, and spring/fall semesters can finish the program in about three years.

If students have questions about either of these semesters, they may contact the MFA Office.

Spring 2007 Residency Guest: Screenwriter Charles Pogue

Charles Pogue presents a screenwriting lecture during the Spalding MFA Program's fall residency; and the Script in Common discussion in Screenwriting features his script *Dragonheart*. Screenwriting students receive this script from the MFA Office.

Pogue began his screenwriting career with *Psycho III* and *The Fly*, which won critical praise and made many major critics' best of the year lists including the National Board of Review. *The Fly* was awarded an Academy Award for Best Make-up and also the Best Picture and Best Actor Saturn Awards from the Academy of Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Horror.

Pogue's epic, *Dragonheart*, features Dennis Quaid, Pete Postlethwaite, David Thewlis, Julie Christie, and Sean Connery as the voice of Draco, the computer-animated Dragon. Pogue's novel *Dragonheart* has been published worldwide in several different languages and is in its fifth edition in America. His film noir mystery, *DOA*, also starred Dennis Quaid, as well as Meg Ryan. In addition, Pogue has written three Sherlock Holmes mysteries including *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, which featured Ian Richardson, and has adapted Sherlock Holmes to the stage with his play, *The Ebony Ape*.

Pogue's mini-series *Hercules* for Hallmark, aired on NBC in May 2005. He recently completed a television script for an upcoming ABC series *Masters of Science Fiction* and a screenplay adaptation of Rider Haggard's classic *She*. He is currently writing a personal film project, a play, and another novel. His latest work is a translation/adaptation of *Tartuffe* for Actors Guild of Lexington in which he also performed the role of Orgon.

A member of WGA, SAG, AFTRA, Actor's Equity and The Dramatists Guild, Pogue has lectured on film and screenwriting at UCLA, USC, and other universities, as well as for the Writers' Guild at film festivals in Cannes, Beaune, Brazil, and Seattle. He lives in Kentucky with his wife, Julieanne, a psychotherapist, actress, director, and narrator of books on tape.

AWP Conference 2008

The annual Association of Writers and Writing Programs (AWP) Conference takes place January 30 through February 2, 2008, in New York. The MFA Program pays registration for students and faculty members. Student registration normally costs \$40; faculty registration is normally \$140. Please contact Katy Yocom at kyocom@spalding.edu by November 1 if you would like to take advantage of free registration. Attendees are responsible for their own travel, hotel, and other expenses. For an overview of the 2008 conference, check out the AWP Website at <http://www.awpwriter.org/conference/2008awpconf.php>

Book-length Manuscript Workshop for Spring 2008

Each spring, the MFA offers a Book-Length Manuscript Workshop for manuscripts in any area of concentration for students attending their fourth or fifth residency. If you would like to be considered for inclusion in the Spring 2008 Workshop, please contact Karen at kmann@spalding.edu. See page 26 of the MFA Student Handbook for requirements.

Manuscript Review Program for MFA Alumni

MFA alumni who wish to receive feedback on book-length manuscripts—or alumni who wish to offer critiques—should take advantage of the Manuscript Review program, led by **MAUREEN MAHONEY GILLIS** (May 2004). In this program, open only to alumni (both as writers and critiquers), Maureen matches authors of book-length manuscripts in any area of concentration with readers who volunteer to critique the manuscript in depth. The program allows alumni to

receive feedback at a high level on book-length works. Anyone interested in participating should contact Maureen at moberngillis@snet.net.

FAFSA Reminder

Students need to re-file the FAFSA for each new school year (the school year is summer/fall/spring). Students enrolling in courses in Fall 2007 or Spring 2008 need to fill out the FAFSA for financial aid year 07-08 with their 2006 financial information.

Federal student loans are available to all eligible graduate students and are available for the fall, spring, or summer semesters. For help with financial aid questions, call Vickie Montgomery at (800) 896-8941, ext. 2731 or email vmontgomery@spalding.edu. Students may enter or update their FAFSA information online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.



The Eiffel Tower at sunset. Photo by Kelli Ohrtman

Paris Review

Twenty-five students, seven faculty and staff, and several personal guests traveled to Paris in June for the MFA Program's first residency abroad. The residency served as the opening to the MFA Program's first summer semester.

The residency resembled spring and fall residencies with its focus on workshops but also featured more arts events than the typical residency in Louisville.



Group picture at Versailles. Photo by Jeanie Thompson

Participants visited the Louvre and the Musée d'Orsay, took a day trip to Versailles with a guided tour of the fountains, and spent an evening attending the ballet at the Paris Opera House, a.k.a. the Palais Garnier. Students also took walking tours devoted to the Paris ex-pat literary scene of the 1920s and the 1950s. The cross-genre exercise involved writing a poem about an art object; students wrote about everything from paintings by the great masters to the Eiffel Tower itself.



Paris Opera House. Photo by Kelli Ohrtman

Sena Naslund read from *Abundance: A Novel of Marie Antoinette* at the American Embassy residence on June 28, at the invitation of Dorothy Stapleton, wife of the ambassador. The reading was attended by Spalding students and faculty as well as guests from the Paris community.

The residency began with dinner at Le Procope. Founded in 1686, it is the oldest restaurant in Paris and the first coffee house, frequented by Voltaire, Rousseau, Diderot, and Benjamin Franklin. Faculty read their work between courses at the opening dinner. The closing meal took place at the Art Deco restaurant Bouillon Racine.

Participants stayed in two small three-star hotels on the Left Bank, near the Luxembourg Gardens. Classes took place at Reid Hall (www.reidhall.net), the Paris campus of Columbia University, a fifteen-minute walk down Boulevard St. Michel.



Workshops met in cafes. L-R Marilyn Moss, Veronica Munn, Bridgett Jensen, Lia Eastep, and Dianne Aprile, leader. Photo by Kelli Ohrtman

Life of a Writer

Students

On April 23, **PRISCILLA ATKINS** participated in a William Shakespeare Birthday Reading, at Till Midnight, in Holland, Michigan. Recent publications include poems in *Poetry East*, *Pilgrimage*, *Sycamore Review*, and *Southwest Review*.

On July 13-15, **CHARLIE BRADY** participated with the team of Raymond Rocquello & His Orchestra Productions and entered the 2007 Little Rock 48 Hour Film Project. Charlie's team successfully finished their short film in the 48-hour time limit. He was awarded the top honor for the Best Use of Required Dialogue and Best Screenplay. His team was nominated for Best Film.

LISA GROEN BRANER's poem "Stovetop Verse" won first place in the fourth annual Magic of Poetry contest in Kaiserslautern, Germany—a contest held for local American writers.

ANNA M. (MARY P.) CARROLL's poem "Death Plane" will appear in the fall issue of *Northridge Review*.

DE'ANNA L. DANIELS's self-published book, *On Hold, Hold On*, can be purchased online through Xlibris.com, by searching the title or D. L. Daniels.

At the 2007 Mayborn Literary Nonfiction Conference, **JOAN DONALDSON's** personal essay, "Saint George and the Dragon," received the second place prize which was sponsored by Hearst Publications. Spalding graduates **CHARLOTTE DIXON** (Fall 2003), **DEBORAH BEGEL** (Spring 2006), and **JIM WILSON** (Spring 2007) also attended the conference, which was organized by **GEORGE GETSCHOW** (Spring 2005).

ANN ESKRIDGE and her writing partner Brian Webster were chosen as finalists in the feature screenplay writing category of the 2007 Moondance Film Festival. Their script, *A Home for Christmas*, was one of 45 chosen as finalists. In 2006, they were finalists for their screenplay *No, Thanks*, another holiday story.

Along with eight talented actors and performers, **MITCH FIELDS** staged a reading of his 10-minute play *Permit to Conceal*. In this play, mountaintop-removal mining turns tragic for one Appalachian family while "King Coal" focuses on the bottom line. The July 25 reading was part of the *Jazz and the Spoken Word* series at faculty member **DIANNE APRILE's** Jazz Factory ([-4-](http://www.jaz-</p>
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zfactory.us) in Louisville. To learn more about Mitch's play, visit www.dreamoffields.com.

On June 21, Garrison Keillor, host of *A Prairie Home Companion* and of *The Writer's Almanac*, read **DARLYN FINCH**'s poem "I {Heart} My Wife" from *Red Wax Rose* on his program. The local NPR affiliate, WMFE 90.7 FM, aired the broadcast at 11:06 a.m. that day. The program audio is streamed and podcast from <http://writersalmanac.publicradio.org>. While in France for the Spalding MFA summer residency, Darlyn was interviewed about her poetry collection, *Red Wax Rose*, and her Kerouac House residency for the *Cozy Fun Paris* show on World Radio Paris, the English-language radio station. Two segments ran in July.

LINDA FORTE-SPEARING is a contributing author to *Masters of Sales*, published by Entrepreneur Press. A follow-up to the bestselling book *Masters of Success*, this most recent edition is full of sales advice and success tactics. Other contributing authors include Martha Stewart, Harvey Mackay, and Anthony Robbins. Linda's article focuses on the success of the PEZ® Candy Company and how this pop-culture icon has achieved success—without advertising. *Masters of Sales* is available in bookstores.

KATRINA KITTLE gave a reading from her novel, *The Kindness of Strangers*, published by HarperCollins, at Saturn Books in Gaylord, Michigan, in June and taught a week-long fiction intensive for the Antioch Writers' Workshop in Yellow Springs, Ohio, in July.

A series of **JILL KOREN**'s ekphrastic poems is to be displayed alongside the paintings of Tom and Alethaire Kelly in an upcoming art opening from 4 to 6 p.m. October 13 at the Amyx Gallery at Smith Berry Vineyard and Winery. The gallery and winery are located in New Castle, Kentucky. The event is free and features the music of Dave Charlton. For more information, please visit the gallery's website, www.smith-berrywinery.net.

NADYNE LEE's essay "Is the Electronic Babysitter Abusing Your Children?" was published in the *Herald News* in Breckinridge County, Kentucky, and her essay "Are We There Yet? Traveling with Children" was published in *The Record* of Grayson County, Kentucky. She has agreed to continue as a contributing writer for these newspapers. Lee also had several essays including "Got Milk: The Facts About Breast Feeding" and "Tater Tots: The Truth about Childhood Obesity" published in *Today's Woman*, a regional magazine. She has signed a one-year contract to write

for *Today's Woman*. Nadyne had an article titled "What Can I Do for My Allergic Child" published in *Kids Health Matters*, a national magazine published by CW Communications. She attended "Writing the Medical Experience," a conference held at Sarah Lawrence College in July.

PATRICIA MCFADDEN acted as a final judge for the Colorado Independent Publisher's Association EVVY Award in March and also as a preliminary judge for the Colorado Book Award, which will be presented in October. For both awards, she judged the children's book category.

"The Colored Church," a work in progress, from **MARILYN MOSS**'s collection of essays for her childhood memoir, is included in the student literary magazine *MethodMad*, Spring 2007, available on CaféPress at <http://www.cafepress.com/methodmad>.

ANDREW NAJBERG's chapbook *Easy to Lose* is available for advance purchase (with free shipping until October 5) from Finishing Line Press, www.finishing-linepress.com

BETH NEWBERRY assumed the presidency of the Louisville Pro Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists in July. She is a member of the advisory board of *Pluck! The Journal of Affrilachian Arts and Culture*, founded by **FRANK X WALKER** (Spring 2003), and she copyedited the forthcoming second issue. She serves as music director of the InKy Reading Series: Literature and Music in Louisville (www.inkyreadingseries.com). She is also secretary of the board of directors of InKY, Inc., a literary non-profit organization and the reading series' parent organization.

KEITH NIXON, a second-semester screenwriting student, has acquired a freelance script analyst assignment with Hart/Lunsford Pictures of Louisville. Nixon attained the assignment as a result of attending an MFA lecture on the business of screenwriting, conducted by Edward J. Hart, a producer.

DIANA NOASCONI RHODES's article "Ten Ways to Ease into a New Culture" was published in the May/June 2007 issue of *Transitions Abroad*, a magazine aimed at people who live, work, volunteer, and study abroad.

GRAHAM THOMAS SHELBY performed his first original one-man show at the Kentucky Governor's School for the Arts in June. The show, "Where Do We Go Now?" focuses on the author's attempts to make a

career as an artist and the tragicomic results of those efforts. Graham worked on the early drafts of the script last semester with Bob Finch, who gave extremely helpful feedback, including “You may want to cut this by about seventy percent.” Graham also received tremendous support, counseling, and encouragement from Spalding MFA students, faculty, and administrators during the spring 2007 residency. The show was well-received by the Governor’s School community (“awesome” . . . “really funny” . . . “just what they needed to hear”), including one young visual artist who said it was the first stage show she’d seen in a long time that had kept her awake during the entire performance.

Faculty & Staff

DIANNE APRILE’s review of Don DeLillo’s novel, *Falling Man*, appears in the July 29 book section of *The Courier-Journal*. She was a guest writer at the Kentucky Governor’s Scholars Program at Centre College on July 18, and she led a Susan B. Komen writing workshop for breast-cancer survivors in Louisville on June 16. Her piece on the Paris MFA summer residency is to run in *The Courier-Journal* (www.courier-journal.com) soon.

LOUELLA BRYANT’s nonfiction manuscript, *While in Darkness There is Light*, has been accepted by Cooper Dillon Books with an expected release date of May 2008. Her poem “Welcome Dance” appears in the anthology *A Cadence of Hooves*, due out with Yarroway Mountain Press in December 2007. For six weeks this summer, Ellie taught creative writing to Upward Bound students at the University of Vermont and published an anthology of their writing.

SHEILA CALLAGHAN’s play *Crumble (Lay Me Down, Justin Timberlake)* was published in an anthology of plays called *Funny, Strange, Provocative: Seven Plays from Clubbed Thumb*, along with plays by Adam Bock, Rinne Groff, Lisa D’Amour, Erin Courtney, and Carson Kreitzer. It is available at www.playscripts.com.

K. L. (KENNY) COOK gave a lecture titled “Short Story Cycles, Linked Stories, and Novels-in-Stories” at Arizona State University as part of the Arizona Faculty Exchange Program on April 5. He presented a workshop titled “Sudden Fiction, Flash Fiction, and Short-Shorts” for the MFA program at the University of Arizona and gave a reading as part of the UA Prose Series on April 13. He was awarded a two-week artist colony residency fellowship by the Ucross Foundation

in May. He gave a lecture on “Nurturing a Life in Letters: On Gifts and Silences” for Spalding MFA alums on June 2 in Louisville. A short craft essay on “A Family Theme, A Family Secret” appears in the upcoming issue of *Glimmer Train Stories* “Writers Ask” newsletter. He taught a week-long workshop on sudden fiction and was a faculty member at the Hassayampa Writers’ Conference in Prescott from July 23-27. For the 2007-08 academic year, he has been invited to be the Viebranz Visiting Professor of Creative Writing at St. Lawrence University in Canton, New York.

KATHLEEN DRISKELL’s recently finished poetry manuscript has been accepted for publication by Red Hen Press. The manuscript was a finalist for the John Ciardi Prize in Poetry and “Nude Model,” a poem from this collection, appeared in the latest issue of *North American Review*. For the second consecutive year, Kathleen convenes a meeting of MFA brief-residency directors at the AWP Conference in New York in January 2008; and her panel proposal “Innovative Internships and Practica in Teaching, Public Arts, and Publishing: Preparing the Low-Residency Student for Life after the MFA” was accepted by AWP for presentation at the 2008 conference.

ROBERT FINCH’s new book *The Iambics of Newfoundland: Notes from an Unknown Shore* (Counterpoint) was the cover review in the Books section of *The Globe and Mail*, Canada’s national newspaper, on August 4. The book was launched on August 10 with a reading at the Winterset in Summer Literary Festival on the Eastport Peninsula in Newfoundland, where Finch spends the summer. For a list of fall readings in Massachusetts, Maine, Vermont, and Rhode Island, see the general discussion board in Blackboard or for alums or click [here](#).

RICHARD GOODMAN’s book of essays on writing and language is to be published by Transaction Publishers next spring. Some of the essays in the book began as lectures at Spalding University. His essay “The Man in White” is to be published in the fall issue of the *Harvard Review*. He read a shorter version of the essay at the spring 2007 residency at Spalding. His essay “Using the Techniques of Fiction to Make Your Creative Nonfiction Even More Creative” appears in the October issue of the *AWP Writer’s Chronicle*. Goodman’s essay “Becky’s Got Game” appears in the fall issue of *Wabash Magazine*.

LOUISE HAWES mentored the fiction workshop at Meredith College’s 2007 June writers’ retreat,

“Focusing on Form,” as well as the “Mainely Writers” retreat held the same month on Penobscot Bay, near Belfast, Maine. In September, her historical novel, *The Vanishing Point*, is to be issued as a paperback by Houghton Mifflin, and she is to do readings from the book in the Raleigh area. From October 18-20, she is to be a featured author at the 2007 Eudora Welty Symposium in Columbia, Mississippi. More information can be found at <http://www.muw.edu/welty/>. Also in October, Louise is to spend a week at the Mississippi University for Women as a Writer in Residence. Her novel *Waiting for Christopher* has been selected as the university’s freshman dook in common, purchased for each first-year student in all four of the university’s colleges. In November, she’ll lead a class on the short story and read from her 2007 collection, *Anteaters Don’t Dream*, at the annual fall conference of the North Carolina Writers Network in Winston-Salem.

ROY HOFFMAN conducted a workshop, “Writing from Life,” at University of Wisconsin-Madison’s “Write-By-the-Lake” program, June 17-22. His profile of *Forrest Gump* author Winston Groom, “The Bard of Point Clear,” is in the current summer issue of a new Southern glossy magazine with the catchy name, *Garden and Gun*.

In June, **JODY LISBERGER** participated on a fiction panel, led an advanced creative nonfiction workshop, and did a fiction reading at the Ocean State Writer’s Conference in Kingston, Rhode Island. Over 300 people attended the conference. She’s also been teaching an advanced creative nonfiction class out of her house this summer.

An excerpt of **KAREN MANN**’s unpublished memoir, *Stay: A Story of Family*, appears in the new anthology *Stories of Strength: The World of Growth Disorders*, distributed by MAGIC Foundation, a foundation in support of families whose members have growth hormone disorders.

SENA JETER NASLUND’s interview on her latest book, *Abundance: A Novel of Marie Antoinette*, with faculty poet **JEANNIE THOMPSON** can be heard at the link <http://www.arts.state.al.us/actc/1/radioseries.html> from Troy State University radio. While in Paris with the summer MFA residency, Sena spoke about *Abundance* and read to MFA students and faculty as well as invited French guests at the U.S. Embassy at a reception hosted for her by Ambassador and Mrs. Stapleton. Sena also read at the Village Voice Bookstore in Paris after the residency. At 7 p.m. August 16, Sena is to speak about her novel *Four*

Spirits, where it was chosen as a book in common, at the Carroll County, Kentucky, Library. On August 29, she participates in a Peace Education “Spoken Word” program presented at Ken Shapiro and faculty creative nonfiction writer **DIANNE APRILE**’s Jazz Factory in Louisville.

MOLLY PEACOCK’s sixth book of poems, *The Second Blush*, was accepted by her publisher, W.W. Norton and Company for publication in August 2008. In June, she taught at the West Chester Poetry Conference. This fall her essay “Passion Flowers in Winter” appears in *The Best American Essays 2007*.

ELAINE ORR’s short story “Day Lilies” appears in issue 54, the summer edition, of *Image*, which can be found online at <http://www.imagejournal.org/current>. She spent June in Foxfire cabin at Hambidge Center for the Creative Arts in the mountains of Georgia, which she highly recommends. Information can be found at <http://www.hambidge.org>. She appears with Da Chen, a Chinese writer of memoir, at the *Atlanta Journal Constitution*’s Decatur Book Fair. Their session, titled “Where I’m From,” is to take place 12:30-1:15 p.m. September 1. More information is at www.decaturook-festival.com/2007/index.html.

Screenwriting faculty member **BRAD RIDDELL** has reached terms with Lunacy Productions to produce his screenplay *Harmony*. Financing and pre-production begin shortly. In addition to his work at Spalding, Brad teaches the graduate classes “Writing the Short Script” and “Basic Dramatic Screenwriting” at the University of Southern California this fall. He is also preparing for the fourth annual Filmmakers Studio, hosted by The Kentucky Film Lab and the IdeaFestival, to be held September 14-16 in Louisville. Visit www.kyfilmmlab.com for more details.

JEANIE THOMPSON published her poem “Perfect Cornbread” in the latest *Tar River Poetry* and a feature article, “Nall et Puccini: Alabama Artist Sculpts La Rondine for Puccini Festival,” in the *Mobile Press-Register* (August 7). In June she lectured at the Birmingham Museum of Art about her collaborative work with folk artist Brother Benjamin Perkins for “Litany for a Vanishing Landscape” in the early 90s. Jeanie presented a workshop, “The Power of Creative Writing in the Juvenile Offender Classroom,” at the Correctional Education Association’s International Conference on July 10 in Atlanta. Her radio interview with **SENA JETER NASLUND** aired on Alabama Arts Radio on July 24 on WTSU, Troy State University Public Radio. (To listen, go to

<http://www.arts.state.al.us/actc/1/radioseries.html> and scroll down to the interview).

KATY YOCOM was awarded a two-week artist colony residency fellowship at the Kimmel Harding Nelson Center for the Arts in Nebraska City, Nebraska, where she is to spend the last half of August working on her novel manuscript, *Tiger Woman*. *Tiger Woman* was recently named a semifinalist in the James Jones First Novel Fellowship competition.

SAM ZALUTSKY's feature film, *You Belong to Me*, screened this summer at Frameline (the San Francisco International LGBT Film Festival) and LA's Outfest. The film received a great review in *Variety*, the entertainment world's most important trade magazine, and Sam is currently pursuing additional festival and distribution options. You can see the review at: www.variety.com/review/VE1117934004.html?categoryid=31&cs=1 and learn more about the film at myspace.com/youbelongtomefilm.

Alumni

CYNTHIA RAUSCH ALLAR (Spring 2004) is to have three poems in an upcoming issue of the online journal *Santa Fe Writers Project*. They are "Beso del Diablo," "In the Deep," and "Preservationist."

In August, **IDORE ANSHELL**'s (Spring 2006) poem "Beijing Repairman" appears in the online magazine *Scorched Earth's* "Healing" issue. In recent months, Idore has been a featured reader at libraries in the Seattle area.

VERNA AUSTEN's (Fall 2005) poem "Dear Theo," about Vincent Van Gogh, is forthcoming in *The Minnetonka Review*, and her article about the pet food recall is forthcoming in *The New Southerner*.

ANDREW BEAHR's (Fall 2004) essay "Twain's Feast: 'The American' at Table" appeared in the Spring 2007 issue of *Gastronomica*. His piece "Rising Gifts, Falling Harvest" is in the current issue of *Ocean*; other essays are forthcoming in *Living Bird* and *Food History News*.

BOBBI BUCHANAN (Fall 2004) participated in a reading August 2 at Quills, a new independent bookstore in Louisville's Highlands neighborhood. Bobbi and colleagues are at work on the second *New Southerner* print anthology, which will include all works published online over the past year at www.newsoutherner.com.

DAVID CARREN (Fall 2005) has two screenplays in pre-production. *Finding Mercy* is scheduled to be shot in Buenos Aires and San Luis in Argentina this September for Cinemawalla Films and *97 Minutes* is to be produced in Toronto in October for Pav Films with Roger Christian directing. David has also gained a teaching position at the University of Texas Pan American where he'll be instructing in screenwriting, cinema history, video editing, and TV field production. He is an associate professor on tenure track and is to direct and write a feature for the University's PASS program next summer.

AMY CLARK (Fall 2004) received a scholarship to attend the West Chester University Poetry Conference in June. She has a poem forthcoming in *The Cincinnati Review*.

In May, **DAVE DEGOLYER** (Fall 2006) had the opportunity to revisit his graduate lecture on similes as a guest lecturer at Elmira College. He also performed a public reading from two works-in-progress (his YA novel, *Mr. Bones*, and his YA novel-in-verse, *A Boy Called Mo*) at the Carriage House at the Arnot Art Museum. He ended the event by reading a much more humorous poem about his experience working in Los Angeles on a movie with Amanda Plummer (a poem he originally read at The Jazz Factory in Louisville). A few of Dave's poems (including "Autumn" and "When You First Asked Me") appear in the feminist magazine *Callisophia* next spring. His photograph, titled "Hope," has been accepted as part of Jan Kather's "Aleatoric Video" for which he received an NYS Arts Grant. An excerpt from the prologue to *Mr. Bones* was awarded second place in the Mountain Heritage Literary Festival's Writing Contest (in competition for the Jesse Stuart Prize for Young Adult Fiction). Dave's poem "Everything's Harder Than It Was" appears in the Fall 2007 issue of *The Louisville Review*, and his poem "Goodbye" appears (under the pseudonym of Lafayette Wattles, after his great-great grandfather) in the December 2007 issue of *Runes*.

DANIEL DiSTASIO's (Fall 2005) short story "Ungar and the Foxes" was chosen as a selected reading for creative writing students at Florida Keys Community College as part of their "Meet the Writer" series. Daniel was also awarded a grant to attend the Key West Literary Seminar in January 2008 and also to study with Porter Shreve. He was also chosen along with twelve other South Florida writers to pen a chapter for a serial mystery to be published in 2008.

Simon Says: A True Story of Boys, Guns and Murder by **KATHRYN EASTBURN** (Spring 2006) is available to reviewers in an advance reader's edition in August and is to be released by Da Capo Press/ Perseus Books in December. Her book *A Sacred Feast: Reflections on Sacred Harp Singing and Dinner on the Ground* (University of Nebraska Press) is to be released in March 2008. Kathryn traveled to Maine to visit and work with classmate Janet Shea in May and had her first reading from *Simon Says* at the public library in Tenants Harbor. In July, Kathryn taught Beginning Creative Nonfiction at the Colorado College Summer Session and did a reading from *Simon Says* in front of an audience of more than 100 as part of the college's Summer Festival of the Arts. She teaches Introduction to Journalism at Colorado College in late November and has received an appointment as a visiting professor to teach Intro to Journalism at Cornell College in Mt. Vernon, Iowa, during the month of February 2008.

TROY EHLERS (Fall 2004) has been serving as editor of the literary journal *Minnetonka Review*. The first issue was published last month and contains 190 pages of original poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction, and art. Seven of the forty contributors were Spalding people [**TROY ALVEY** (Fall 2005), **RANE ARROYO**, **DAVID HARRITY**, **MARCI RAE JOHNSON** (Spring 2005), **JAE NEWMAN** (Fall 2006), **DANIEL DiSTASIO** (Fall 2005), AND **ROBIN LIPPINCOTT**], which is a testament to strength of the program as there were around 2,000 submissions.

SANDRA EVANS FALCONER's (Spring 2005) poem, "September Morning" appears in the July 2007 issue of *Reed*, a journal from San Jose University in San Jose, California. The poem is from Sandra's collection, *The Six o'clock Siren*, which she wrote while in the Spalding MFA program.

STACIA M. FLEEGAL (Fall 2006) has recently accepted the position of Journals Coordinator with the University of Nebraska Press. She also has poems forthcoming in *Panamowa: A New Lit Order*, *Minnetonka Review*, *Silenced Press*, and *White Pelican Review*. Her chapbook of poems, *A Fling with the Ground*, can be purchased from Finishing Line Press with free shipping through August 15 at www.finishinglinepress.com/2006newreleasesandforthcomingtitles.htm.

ANNE MARIE FOWLER (Spring 2004) is currently editing an anthology of contemporary Asian American female poets, due out in February 2008, titled *Yellow as Turmeric, Fragrant as Cloves*. She is to travel to

Costa Rica in August for a writing residency and recently earned an Associate of Arts in Spanish with High Distinction from Laramie County Community College, all in the midst of working diligently to complete her Ph.D. in ethnic-American literature by early 2008. Her photography, poetry, and a piece of nonfiction have been recently published. She also read some of the encyclopedia entries she wrote for the *Encyclopedia of Prostitution and Sex Work* on the Sex Workers Internet Radio Lounge (S.W.I.R.L.), a non-profit educational and artistic project. She recently moved just northeast of Austin and is enjoying tremendously the very large office she now has for writing—a far cry from the dungeon she was relegated to in Wyoming. Her new address is (contact office)

JOEY GOEBEL's (Fall 2006) second novel, *Torture the Artist*, was translated and published in France, Spain, and Great Britain earlier this year. It is currently being translated into Italian, Russian, Lithuanian, and Korean. The German translation of his first novel, *The Anomalies*, has gone into its second printing.

TARA GOLDSTEIN's (Fall 2006) play *Lost Daughter* is receiving its first full production in Ottawa, Kansas, this summer. A.C.T. Ottawa, the community theatre in Ottawa, is producing the show in collaboration with Ottawa University. Directed by **JEANNE HAGGARD** (Fall 2006), the performance dates are August 24-26. Tara is also spending time interacting with students at OU while she is in Kansas. The performances feature a talk-back session after each show with Tara and the cast. Jeanne and Tara each had a ten-minute play presented August 4, during the first inaugural Quilt Play Festival in Berea, Kentucky, as a part of the third annual Berea Quilt Extravaganza. The Quilt Play Festival was organized and directed by **KIM STINSON-HAWN**.

CoCo HARRIS (Fall 2006) was selected to deliver a lecture at this year's annual Southern Women Writer's Conference at Berry College in Rome, Georgia. CoCo's lecture on the influence of oral traditions on Black literature embodies this year's *Homecomings* conference theme. The conference is to be held September 27-29 and begins with a special evening with Dr. Maya Angelou.

KAYLENE JOHNSON's (Fall 2003) book *Trails Across Time* was reviewed in *Alaska History*, the semiannual journal of the Alaska Historical Society. She was recently invited to read at the YWCA's 15th annual

Alaska Women Writers' event celebrating women artists in Alaska. Johnson was a featured writer at the Loussac Library's 20th Anniversary Celebration, where she signed books. In celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the Chugach National Forest, Kaylene is to give a reading and presentation from her book *Trails Across Time* at the Begich Boggs Visitor's Center in Portage. She has recently begun writing a monthly column for *The Greatlander*, which features articles and essays about life in Alaska's Matanuska Valley. (See excerpts at www.kaylene.us; click "Notes from the Farm.") She continues to publish articles in *Alaska Airlines* magazine and other regional publications.

CYN KITCHEN's (Spring 2005) essay "You Made It, Whatever It Is" appears in the Summer 2007 issue of keepgoing.org.

CLAUDIA LABIN's (Spring 2007) short story "The Letter" is to be published mid-October by the literary magazine *Amarillo Bay*.

MARYANN LESERT (Fall 2003) begins a fulltime position as assistant professor of English at Grand Rapids Community College in Michigan in August. Her short play "If, When, and Only" was accepted for publication in the annual Smith & Kraus anthology "Best Ten-Minute Plays of 2007" (forthcoming Winter 2008).

AIMEE MACKOVIC (Fall 2005) is pleased to announce the publication of her chapbook, *A Sentenced Woman*, by Finishing Line Press in September. Copies can be ordered at www.finishinglinepress.com.

JAE NEWMAN (Fall 2006) begins teaching composition this fall at Jamestown Community College. He has been awarded a teaching-artist position at Ripley Central School through a New York State grant that places writers and poets into elementary and middle schools to promote creativity in places where the arts are limited within respective communities. Two of his poems are forthcoming in the Fall 2007 issue of *The Penwood Review*.

RICHARD NEWMAN (Fall 2004) has an essay appearing this month in *St. Louis Magazine* and poems appearing in *Crab Orchard Review*.

"Cleaning Out," "The Silver Necklace," and "Quicksilver," poems by **FRANCES BAUM NICHOLSON** (Spring 2004), appear soon in *Santa Fe Writers Project*, an online journal, at www.sfwp.org.

LOREEN NIEWENHUIS (Spring 2007) has had two short stories, "That Which is Left Unsaid" and "Stroke Model," accepted for publication by *Blood and Thunder*. They appear in the Fall 2007 edition.

Recently, **ZOLA TROUTMAN NOBLE's** (Spring 2005) short essay "Finding a Heritage of Faith" was published in *Just Beyond the Passage: Life's Changes in Art and Story*, a collection of essays compiled, edited, and illustrated by David Liverett and published by Chinaberry House in Anderson, Indiana. In addition, Zola received a Falls Fund Faculty Development Grant to attend Glen Workshop's "An Image Summer Institute for Artists, Writers, and Wayfarers," July 29-August 5, St. John's College, Santa Fe, New Mexico. Zola presented her essay "My Mountain Grandmothers, Prudent and Cantankerous" and participated in a spiritual writing workshop led by Ann McCutchan. Zola also received a stipend to write her essay for the workshop.

ROSANNE OSBORNE (Spring 2007) has a poem, "The Ground of Being," forthcoming in *The Christian Century*.

LINDA PARKER's (Fall 2003) review of Susan Vreeland's latest book, *Luncheon of the Boating Party*, was the cover piece for the *San Diego Union Tribune* on May 13. Linda is to be "Fellow in Fiction" August 15-26 at the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference in Vermont where she is to present a lecture and a reading. Her short story "Time Markers" was accepted for publication by *Confluence* in the fall.

TOM PIERCE's (Fall 2005) short story "Sleeper Hold" appears in the current issue of *Quarterly West*, published by the University of Utah. The web address is www.webdelsol.com/Quarterly_West.

MARY POPHAM (Fall 2003) reviewed the following books: *The Highwayman's Wife*, poetry by Lynnell Edwards, in April; *With a Hammer for My Heart*, a novel by George Ella Lyon, in June; and *Unfinished*, poetry by Anni Macht Gibson, in July for *The Courier-Journal*. Her essay "Don't Help the Coal Industry Create More Hardship" appeared in the *Lexington Herald-Leader* in July.

DIANA M. RAAB (Spring 2003) has a feature article forthcoming in the October 2007 Issue of *The Writer*, called, "Use Journaling to Spark Your Writing." She taught a one-day workshop called "The Poet's Notebook" at The University of Santa Barbara. In July she did two poetry readings in Santa Barbara, at

Border's and Muddy Waters Café. Her AWP Panel, "The Personal Narrative: The Art and Health of It," was accepted for the 2008 conference in NYC.

MICHELE RUBY (Spring 2006) was excited to see her short story "Sound Effects" in Spring 2007's issue of *Lilith*. She gave a reading of the story to a local Jewish book club. Her story "Storm Damage" appeared about the same time in *Rosebud*. Upcoming publications include two poems in *Connecticut Review* ("Survivor" and "The Coral Road"), a poem in *Rhino* ("Checkout") and a short story in *The Dos Passos Review* ("At the Gate").

JULIA SCHUSTER (Spring 2007) is to participate in a book signing and discussion of her work on August 1 at the The Women's Exchange in Memphis, Tenn., for her short story, "Ants Gotta Bite, Sun Gotta Burn" which was recently published by Belle Books in the anthology *On Grandma's Porch*.

DAWN SHAMP's (Spring 2005) debut historical novel, *On Account of Conspicuous Women*, represented by the William Morris Agency, has been purchased by St. Martin's Press/Thomas Dunne Books. The hardcover is to be released Spring/Summer 2008.

BOB SHAYNE (Spring 2007) has been appointed adjunct professor at the Chapman University Film School in Orange, California. He's teaching undergrad advanced screenwriting and graduate beginning production workshops this fall semester.

PAMELA STEELE (Spring 2004) has been awarded a month-long Jentel Artist Residency Fellowship. As an artist-in-residence on a 1,000-acre working cattle ranch in Wyoming, she will expand her collection of essays about human relationships with landscape. Pamela recently read at Eastern Oregon University as a part of a poetry month celebration.

STEPHANIE STUVE-BODEEN (Spring 2003) is to have a book signing this June at the Lee and Low Books booth at the American Library Association Conference in Washington, D.C. She is also relocating to The Gambia, West Africa, where her husband has taken a staff position with the U.S. Peace Corps. Contact information and a link to her family's blog can be found at her website www.rockforadoll.com.

LESLIE SMITH TOWNSEND (Spring 2004) has two pieces in the summer 2007 issue of *New Southerner*, an online journal published by **BOBBI BUCHANAN** (Fall 2005). To read current articles such as

Townsend's "Which Side Are You On" an interview with **SILAS HOUSE** and Jason Howard, and "Scrambling for Satisfaction: Blame it on TC," go to www.newsoutherner.com. She recently received an honorable mention for her essay "Downstream: Asthma and Mountaintop Removal" for the Emma Bell Miles Prize for Essay at the Mountain Heritage Literary Festival.

JONATHAN WEINERT (Fall 2005) has had poems accepted for *32 Poems*, *Harvard Review*, and *Blue Mesa Review*. He is working as an interdisciplinary advisor at the Low-Residency MFA Program in Creative Writing at Lesley University in Cambridge, Massachusetts. To keep tabs on Jonathan's doings, visit his new website at www.jonathanweinert.net.

JIM WILSON (Spring 2007) participated in the Manuscript Workshop of the Mayborn Literary Nonfiction Conference in Denton, Texas, with a draft of his memoir, *The Journeyman*.

AIMEE ZARING's (Spring 2005) book review of Andrew O'Hagan's *Be Near Me* appeared in Louisville's *The Courier-Journal* on July 7.

Books/Scripts in Common for Fall 2007

The cross-genre areas for Fall 2007 are screenwriting and playwriting. Students and faculty read a play and a screenplay before coming to the residency. The scripts are discussed at the first-night discussion led by Sena. (Bring the scripts)

The screenplay has not been determined.

Script in Common for Playwriting

Heather Raffo: *9 Parts of Desire: A Play*. The script can be purchased from online sources such as Amazon and Barnes & Noble, or you may ask your local bookseller to order it for you if it is not in stock. (ISBN 0810123452)

FBIC for Fall 2007

Students read the Faculty/Guest Books in Common in their Fall 2007 area of concentration in preparation for a discussion with authors at the Fall 2007 residency.

Fiction: Rachel Harper's *Brass Ankle Blues*

Poetry: Debra Kang Dean's *Precipitates*

Creative Nonfiction: Richard Goodman's *French Dirt: The Story of a Garden in the South of France*

Writing for Children: Ellie Bryant's *Father by Blood*

Playwriting: Eric Schmiedl's *Denise Druczweski's Inferno* (to be mailed to playwriting students)

Screenwriting: Charles Pogue's *Dragonheart* (to be distributed by the MFA office)

teering in a project about writing or literacy.
Send items to mfanewsletter@spalding.edu.

Classifieds

CYNTHIA RAUSCH ALLAR (Spring 2004) has launched a submission service for poets. She takes care of the drudgery of submitting to journals and presses. She writes cover letters, formats poems and manuscripts, and tracks responses—and does so for Spalding MFA students at a 20 percent discount. The service includes copyediting and formatting for those who need it. Contact CRA Submissions at cynthiaallar@att.net.

Submissions of writing-related advertisements, such as calls for submission, services for writers, etc. may be made to mfanewsletter@spalding.edu.

Reminders and Notes

Financial Aid: The MFA Program offers scholarships to students entering their first semester in the program. Returning students who desire financial assistance other than student loans should apply for graduate assistantships. Applications for scholarships and assistantships should be directed to the MFA Office.

Federal student loans are available to all eligible graduate students and are available for the fall, spring, or summer semesters. For help with financial aid questions, call Vickie Montgomery at (800) 896-8941, ext. 2731 or email vmontgomery@spalding.edu. Students may enter or update their FAFSA information online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Online information: Newsletters are archived online at <http://www.spalding.edu/mfanewsletter>. For convenience, bookmark this page. The web address is case sensitive.

Life of a Writer: Please remember to email Life of a Writer news to the Program. The Program wants to share good news with everyone and compiles records of publications, presentations, readings, employment, and other related information on faculty, students, and alums.

Life of a Writer pieces should be written as a paragraph in third person. It is helpful for alums to include their graduation semester, such as Jake Doe (Fall 2003). Spell out month and state names. Include title(s) of the work, publishers, date of publication, and website addresses, when appropriate.

Examples of kinds of activities that might be included in the Life of a Writer column are publishing, giving a public reading, visiting a classroom to talk about writing, judging a writing competition, attending a writers conference, serving on a panel about writing, or volun-



Faculty members Luke Wallin and Roy Hoffman in front of Notre Dame. Photo by Mary Gordon.

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