
Education

MFA Creative Writing, Vermont College of Fine Arts, Montpelier, Vermont 2010-2012

CRITICAL THESIS:

CREATIVE THESIS:

B.A. English Literature, Westmont College, Santa Barbara, California 2004-2007

Teaching Experience

Assistant Professor, Westmont College, Santa Barbara, California

- Edit guest writer submissions
- Design and implement writing workshops
- Develop creative writing resources

Independent Educational Consultant, 2010 – 2015

Supporting upper elementary – high school students

- Reading/Writing tutor providing focused academic and organizational support
- Private teaching for public, private, and home-schooled students in Santa Barbara County
- Prepare individual lesson plans for grammar, essay writing, and reading comprehension
- Provide focused support for the Common App and college entrance essay preparations.

Reading and Writing Specialist

CIELO Santa Barbara, 2010 - 2013

- Provide in-depth, one-on-one instruction in reading/writing to students grades 9-12
- Coordinate and lead study groups and summer reading programs
- Develop and implement curriculum for one-on-one teaching and homeschooling

Articles and Essays

- “Almost a Butterfly,” 15 May 2020. Web.
- “The Drought,” 21 February 2020. Web.
- “I’m Gonna Need Backup,” 18 November 2019. Web.
- “A Few Quiet Minutes,” 23 September 2019. Web.
- “I Only Have Now,” 25 March 2019. Web.
- “December to Remember,” 4 February 2019. Web.
- “I Can Be More Than One Thing,” 21 January 2019. Web.
- “I’d Like to Quit Now, Please,” 14 November 2018. Web.
- “The Die Shot,” 12 July 2018. Web.
- “The Very Best Cheerleader,” 8 May 2018. Web.
- “Being the Village,” 18 April 2018. Web.
- “The Blood and the Magic,” 14 March 2018. Web.
- “I Cannot Make Dinner on Thursday Night and Other Tasks I’m Incapable of Completing,”
8 December 2017. Web.
- “A Prayer for the Mom Who Has Naughty Children,” 5 October 2017. Web.
- “Getting My Body Back,” 23 August 2017. Web.

- “Second Best Mommy,” 5 May 2017. Web.
- “Wrinkles: My Great Rebellion,” 7 April 2017. Web.
- “The One About the Bundt Pan,” 8 February 2017. Web.
- “I’m Not Losing Myself in Motherhood,” 18 January 2017. Web.
- “There She Blows: Blueberries, Bundt Pans, and the Perils of Praying for Patience,” 19
December 2016. Web.
- “Adventure Awaits,” 19 October 2016. Web.
- “The Unexpected Way French Parenting Techniques Helped Me De-Stress,”
6 June 2017. Web.
- “Technology is Changing the Way Women (and Millennials) Work,”
20 January 2017. Web.
- “Let’s Dress Up,” 31 August 2016. Web.
- “Is Eating Lunch At Your Desk The New Normal? Is It Bad?” 23 August 2016. Web.
- “LOLA Tries It: Cupping Therapy,” . 17 August 2016. Web.
- “Mama Said There’d Be Days Like This,” 27 July 2016. Web.
- “Eating For Hormone Regulation,” . 5 July 2016. Web.
- “Everything You Need To Know Before Getting An IUD,” 15 May 2016. Web.
- “Do I Have To Take My Birth Control At The Same Time Everyday?” 1 May 2016. Web.
- “Actresses Like Olivia Wilde Are Proving Why We Shouldn’t Be Afraid Getting Older,”
20 April 2016. Web.
- “If We Really Want To Empower Women, We Have To Fight The Brains vs. Beauty Myth,”
18 April 2016. Web.
- “Be The Boss, Not The #Girlboss,” . 15 April 2016. Web.
- “My Son Made Me Radically Rethink The Way I Talk About My Work,” . 10 March
2016. Web.
- “Grabbing Faces and Seeking Joy: Some Thoughts On Sharing,”
17 February 2016. Web.
- “Learning Curve,” 27 January 2016. Web.
- “The Case for Standing Straight, Instead of Leaning In,” 3 January 2016. Web.

- “Home,” 18 December 2015. Web.
- “Birth Mother,” 4 November 2015. Web.
- “On A Scale From 1-10,” 28 October 2015. Web.
- “The Working Mom Revolution Is Here and I Couldn’t Be Happier,”
20 October 2015. Web.
- “The New Normal,” 18 September 2015. Web.
- “Chicago Airports Supporting Breast-Feeding Is A Huge Step Forward,”
10 August 2015. Web.
- “Becoming My Complete Self,” 13 July 2015. Web.
- “Caps For Sale,” 18 May 2015. Web.
- “Learning To Aim,” 10 April 2015. Web.

Short Fiction

- “Pruning,” November 2017. Web.
- “The Run,” 11 September 2016. Web.
- “At The Beach,” 29 September 2015. Web.

Book Contributions

- "Being the Village."
. Ed. Ashlee Gadd. Zondervan, 2017. 45-50. Print.
- "I'm Gonna Need Backup."
. Ed. Ashlee Gadd. Zondervan, 2017. 112 -120. Print.
- "Mommy Has Two Arms."
. Ed. Ashlee Gadd. Zondervan, 2017. 161-166. Print.

Readings and Performances

- Center Stage Theater, Santa Barbara, CA, 14 October 2019.
- Center Stage Theater, Santa Barbara, CA, 6 December 2018.

Additional Online Workshops and Webinars

- 2014 "Taking Ownership of Student Issues." Faculty Spotlight Webinar, Southern New Hampshire University, October 29.
- 2023 Creative Writing Workshop, Stik N Stuk Creative Studios, May 18.

Service to the Institution

- Fall 2020 Global Campus Faculty Advisory Board. Southern New Hampshire University.
- Fall 2020 Adjunct Academic Partner developing diversity and inclusion materials for the online classroom. Center for Learning and Teaching. Southern New Hampshire University.
- April 2017

Service to Profession

- 2009 Research Assistant to Jody Allen Randolph. "Text and Context: Paula Meehan." , vol. 5 no. 1, 2009, p. 5
16. muse.jhu.edu/article/362731.

Service to Community

- 2016 – Present Vice President and Fundraising Chair for Brandon Elementary School PTA
- 2006 – Present Member of Santa Barbara Community Church
For more than fifteen years, I've been an active and contributing member of Santa Barbara Community Church, speaking on panels about marriage, family, and race. I regularly write and read prayers, meditations, and talks to share both on Sunday mornings and for special events. I've organized and hosted women's conferences, led topical Bible studies, led a homegroup, led a book discussion group on Jemar Tisby's , and am actively involved in children's ministries.
- 2011 – 2023 Licensed Foster Parent with Angels Foster Care
In addition to providing long-term foster care, I sat on foster parent panels, served as a trainer for parent trainings, and have given interviews and written newsletters.
- 2013 – 2015 Member of Santa Barbara Rescue Mission Women's Auxiliary

Fellowships, Awards, and Grants

- 2023 Glen Fellow, The Glen Workshop

Educational Development

2023 The Glen Workshop, Poetry Reading Seminar with Nick Ripatrazone

2023 Taylor Swift as Craft: A 6-Week Fiction Workshop with Laura Dzubay

2023 Lighthouse Writers:
Fiction Writing Workshop with Rebecca Makkai

2021- 2022 Center for Faith and Justice Fellowship
This theological formation fellowship spans nine months and explores the spiritual and public dimensions of Christian faith. My cohort, led by Rev. Riana Shaw Robinson, focused specifically on faith journeys and deconstructing white evangelical racism.

2015 Stanford Online: with Eavan Boland
A 6-week online poetry workshop with lectures from Eavan Boland.

2007 – 2009 Stanford Continuing Studies Program
In the years between graduating Westmont and beginning my M