

Laura S. McKee

Education

Wallace Stegner Fellow, Stanford University: September 2007-June 2009
Creative Writing Fellowship in Poetry

MFA, University of Maryland at College Park: May 2005
Concentration: Creative Writing/Poetry

BA, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga: December 2002
Magna Cum Laude, Highest Departmental Honors
Major: Humanities/Writing, Minor: French

Teaching Experience

University of West Georgia, Carrollton, GA
Full-Time Instructor of English: August 2013-present

Courses:

English 1101: English Composition I

English 1102: English Composition II (American poetry, short fiction, and the novel)

University of West Georgia, Carrollton, GA
Tutor, University Writing Center: August 2013-present

Georgia Gwinnett College, Lawrenceville, GA
Adjunct English Instructor: January 2012-May 2013

Courses:

English 1101: Introduction to English Composition

English 1102: English Composition II (Writing about Literature: 20th century American poetry and fiction)

Georgia Gwinnett College, Lawrenceville, GA
Writing Tutor, Academic Enhancement Center: April 2012-July 2013
Work one-on-one with undergraduates of all writing levels and majors

University of Maryland University College, Europe, Heidelberg, Germany
Adjunct Assistant Professor: August 2006-July 2014

Instructor of writing and literature courses for US servicemen and women stationed in the Netherlands, Germany, and Belgium. Presently teaching (part-time) online courses to students worldwide.

Face-to-Face courses:

English 101: Introduction to Writing

English 294: Introduction to Creative Writing (fiction, poetry, creative nonfiction)

English 102: Composition and Literature

English 391: Advanced Expository Writing

Distance Education (online) courses:

English 345: Modern Poetry (advanced literature class covering 20th century poetry)

English 294: Introduction to Creative Writing (fiction, poetry, nonfiction)

English 102: Composition and Literature (expository writing)

Writing 101: Introduction to Writing

Northeast State Community College: Blountville, TN
Adjunct English Instructor: August-December 2011

Courses:

English 1010: Introduction to Composition

English 1020: Composition and Literary Analysis

Stanford University: Continuing Studies Program, Palo, Alto, CA

Creative Writing Instructor: Fall 2009-Spring 2011

Taught Creative Writing on a course-by-course basis for the Writers' Studio, including online.

Courses:

English 104: Finding Your Form: An Introduction to Creative Writing

English 171: Writing the Great Poem (online)

English 122B: Creative Nonfiction: How to Tell the Story

English 158: Introduction to Creative Nonfiction: Telling the Stories of Your Life

English 181: In Fine Form: An Introduction to Poetry, Fiction, and Creative Nonfiction

Stanford University: Teaching Assistant: January-March 2009

Stanford University. Assistant to Professor Alice Staveley: English 47 (Masterpieces of Contemporary Literature). Leader of weekly discussion groups for sophomore-level literature class.

Stanford University: Levinthal Tutorial: January-March 2008, 2009.

Stanford University. One-on-one independent study in creative writing (poetry) with Stanford undergraduates.

Stanford Writers' Studio: 2008-2009. Individual conferences with creative writing students.

Education Program for Gifted Youth (EPGY): June 2008

Stanford University. Instructor of 2-week Creative Writing course (poetry, fiction, nonfiction) for middle school students in Seoul, South Korea.

English Language Assistant: October 2005-April 2006

Institut Universitaire de Formation des Maîtres, Châteauroux, France. Instructor of Conversational English classes for student teachers in the French public school system.

Graduate Teaching Assistant: August 2004-May 2005

University of Maryland, College Park, MD. Instructor of freshman and sophomore-level writing classes:

English 101: Introduction to Academic Writing

English 294: Introduction to Creative Writing (fiction, nonfiction, and poetry)

English 297: Poetry Workshop.

Girls Incorporated of Chattanooga Fellow: January-May 2003

Chattanooga, Tennessee. Developed creative writing program for at-risk middle school and high school girls. Taught weekly classes in writing and helped students to create a journal of fiction, poetry, news writing, and photography.

UTC Writing Center: January 2001-May 2003

University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. Tutor for student academic writing of all disciplines and skill levels

Publications (under L.S. McKee)

Poetry:

"Portrait of Vanishing Woman," *Oversound* (forthcoming Spring 2015)

"Alva the Mockingbird," *Birmingham Poetry Review* (forthcoming Spring 2015)

"Alva and the Field," *Birmingham Poetry Review* (forthcoming Spring 2015)

"Postcards from the Demilitarized Zone," *RealPoetik*, July 2014

"Shark's Tooth," *Blackbird*, Spring 2014

"Company Town," *Blackbird*, Spring 2014

"Adam at the Garden's Edge," *Blackbird*, Spring 2014

"Alva and the Blackbird," *Appalachian Heritage*, Winter 2014

"The Creek," *Appalachian Heritage*, Winter 2014

"Sunday Morning, 1918," *The Louisville Review*, Fall 2012

"Passing Beek-Elsloo," *The Louisville Review*, Fall 2012

"Cathedral Radio," *BODY*, July 2012

"Landscape with Cain and Abel," *BODY*, July 2012

“Medusa’s Boredom,” *BODY*, July 2012
“Dead Giveaway,” *Ninth Letter*, Winter 2012
“The Anatomical Heart,” *Ninth Letter*, Winter 2012
“Notes on the Healthy Mind,” *Gulf Coast*, Fall 2011
“Spy Sonnet: Alias,” *Indiana Review*, Summer 2010
“Chattanooga,” *New South*, Summer 2009
“The Marine,” *The Rumpus*, April 2009

Prose:

“Ordinary Eros” (essay), *Blackbird*, Summer 2014
“Wave” (flash fiction), *New England Review*, December 2013
“You Can’t Go Home Again” (essay), *The Hillville*, December 2011
“Pow’r” (essay), *The Owls*, October 2009
“War Music” (theater review), *The Rumpus*: April 2009
“Rae Armantrout’s *Next Life*,” (poetry review), *Mantis: A Journal of Poetry and Translation*, Fall 2008

Fellowships, Honors, Awards, and Recognitions

Writing Awards and Fellowships:

Berea College Sound Archives Research Fellowship: May-June 2012, Berea, KY
Received month-long grant to research World War II-era radio broadcasts, photographs and print materials with an Appalachian connection in support of a book-length narrative poem in progress.

Dorothy Sargent Rosenberg Memorial Poetry Prize: 2010
Received \$1000 prize for three poems: “Apocalypse Garden,” “Dear Robert, an Unwritten Postcard with the Mannekin Pis,” and “Baby Ava.”

Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference Waiter Scholarship: 2006
Received full funding to attend the conference through a work scholarship.

MFA Graduate Fellowship: 2003-2005, University of Maryland, College Park
One of two poetry fellows admitted in entering class. Fellowship provided full funding for the duration (two years) of graduate study.

Folger Shakespeare Library Fellow 2004-2005: Poetry Reading Series, Washington DC
Nominated by University of Maryland MFA faculty. Received free admission to the Folger Shakespeare Library reading series.

Academy of American Poets Prize 2005: Honorable Mention
Associated Writers Project (AWP) Intro to Journals Prize Nominee: 2005
Chosen by MFA faculty to represent the University of Maryland in national competition.

Undergraduate Honors at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga:

Highest Departmental Honors for Undergraduate Thesis: “*Even to Roaring:* (Part One) A critical analysis of language and character in Shakespeare’s *The Tempest.* (Part Two) A creative exploration of the permeability of genre in poetic and dramatic forms.”
University Honors Program Brock Scholarship: 1998-2002 (four-year scholarship covered tuition, housing, and additional expenses)
Outstanding Senior Award: 2001
Golden Key Honor Society: 2001-02
Pi Delta Phi (French Honor Society): 2001-02
First Place Women’s Studies Poetry Contest: 2002

Readings, Conferences, and Interviews

Voices from the Past (Reading and presentation of WW II-era research in support of poetry manuscript in progress): June, 2012. Berea College Sound Archives, Berea, KY.

Stanford Storytelling Project (Radio interview): Spring 2009, Episode 207: “Questions of Travel,” Stanford, CA. Discussed the intersections and influences of travel and living abroad on the writing process.

Stegner Reading Series (Coordinator): September 08-May 09, Stanford University
Selected by creative writing faculty and administration to organize reading series for fiction and poetry fellows which included scheduling five readings over the course of the year, writing a formal introduction for each poetry fellow, designing and distributing reading series flyers and emails to students, faculty and community, as well as ordering and arranging refreshments for after-reading receptions.

Great Overland Book Co. Poetry Series (Featured Reader): March 2009, San Francisco, CA
Invited to participate in inaugural reading.

Stegner Reading Series (Featured Reader): April 2008, Stanford University

Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference (Reader and Waiter-Scholar): August 2006, Middlebury, Vermont, Waiter Scholar.
Read as part of official conference evening reading.

Maastricht International Poetry Nights (Attendee): June 2006, Maastricht, Netherlands.

Grace Church Poetry Series (Reader): May 2005, Washington DC. Invited by Prof. Michael Collier to read at long-running local poetry series.

University of Maryland Graduate Reading Series (Coordinator): Fall 2004, Spring 2005 Organizer of weekly MFA student readings, College Park, Maryland.

Meacham Writers’ Conference (Assistant organizer and participant): Fall and Spring 2000-2003, UTC. Chattanooga, TN

Community Conversation on Serving Girls in the Tennessee Valley: March 2003, Assistant organizer with Girls Inc., Chattanooga, TN.

Valdosta Women’s Conference (Panel Leader): March 2002, Undergraduate poetry reading of UTC undergraduate creative writing students, Valdosta, Georgia.

International PEN Writers’ Conference (Student invitee): May 1999 and 2000, Bled, Slovenia.

Work In-Progress/Currently Being Submitted for Publication

“Apocalypse Garden”: Completed manuscript of lyric and narrative poems:

- Finalist, 2013 Hub City Press New Southern Voices Poetry Book Prize
- Finalist, 2014 Crab Orchard Series in Poetry Open Competition

“Alva and the Beast”: Book-length narrative poetic sequence exploring WW II-era Appalachia and the atomic bomb (in-progress)

“The Buried Sea”: Novel set in East Tennessee that explores the aftermath following the murder of local teenage boy (in-progress)

Research Interests

20th century American poetry
20th century American fiction

Classical, Modern and Post-Modern epic poetry
20th century poetic sequences
Role of the persona speaker in 20th century lyric poetry
Literature of the American South and Southern Appalachia

Languages

Proficiency in written and spoken French