

TEXAS STATE VITA

I. ACADEMIC/PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

John M. Blair

Professor

Educational Background

PhD, English, 1985-89, Tulane University, New Orleans. Major field of concentration, Modern American Literature; minor, poetry.

MA, English, 1984-85, Florida State Univ., creative writing.

BA, English, 1980-83, Florida State, emphasis in creative writing; minor: Philosophy.

University Experience

University Distinguished Professor, 2018-

Professor, Southwest Texas State University, 2000-2018

Associate Professor, Southwest Texas State University, 1995-2000

Assistant Professor, Southwest Texas State University, 1989-1995.

Teaching Assistant, Tulane University, 1985-1989.

Teaching Assistant, Florida State University, 1983-1985.

II. TEACHING

Courses Taught

English 5395H Literary Technique: Modern Literary Romanticism

English 5395 Problems in Language & Literature—Travel Writing

English 5332 Fiction of the American South

English 5331C Poetry of the American South

English 5323 Studies in Autobiography and Biography—Irish Literature

English 5322 Poetic Theory and Practice

English 5315 Creative Writing

Honors 3392H Sense of the American South

English 4348 Creative Writing: Poetry Portfolio

English 3349 Creative Writing: Fiction

English 3348 Creative Writing: Poetry

English 3347 American Poetry

English 3342 Interdisciplinary Approach to Literature

English 3341 Studies in World Literature—Irish Culture and Literature

English 3338 The American Novel

English 3335 Later American Literature

English 3315 Creative Writing

English 3311 Advanced Writing

English 2384 Poetry and Fiction Writing

English 2380 Masterpieces of American Literature

English 2370 Masterpieces of British Literature
English 2360 American Literature Since 1865
English 1320 Reading and Writing II
English 1310 Reading and Writing I
GNST 1100 General Studies University Seminar

Graduate Theses

I have directed eleven theses and have served as second or third reader on more than three dozen theses committees, both for the MFA and MA degrees.

Courses Prepared and Curriculum Development

English 5395H, Literary Technique: Modern Literary Romanticism
English 5332, Fiction of the American South
English 5221C, Poetry of the American South
English 5322, Poetry Theory and Practice for MFA Graduate Students
English 3347, American Poetry
English 2360, American Literature Since 1865 (wrote course proposal)

Funded Internal Teaching Grants and Contracts

1997 & 2005 Merrick Instructional Enhancement Grant

III. SCHOLARLY/CREATIVE

A. Works in Print

Books

Playful Song Called Beautiful. Iowa City: Iowa University Press, 2016 (Winner of the Iowa Poetry Prize).
The Occasions of Paradise. Tampa: University of Tampa Press, 2012 (Winner of the Tampa Review Prize in Poetry).
The Green Girls. Warrensburg, MO: Pleiades Press, 2003. (Winner of the Lena Wever-Miles Poetry Award)
American Standard. Pittsburgh: U. of Pittsburgh Press, 2002. (Winner of the Drue Heinz Literature Prize)
"Breeding Lilacs in a Dead Land!: The Novels of James Dickey." *Critical Essays on James Dickey*. New York: G. K. Hall, 1994. (Book Chapter)
Bright Angel. New York: Ballantine, 1992.
A Landscape of Darkness. New York: Ballantine, 1990.

Short Stories

"The Springs." *The Antioch Review*. Forthcoming.

“The Glass Mountain.” *Concho River Review* 33:1 (2019): 4-17
 “Perfect Fifty.” *Negative Capability* 21 (2018): 44.
 “The Garden of the Good Life.” *Dogwood* 17 (2018): 72-83.
 “The Snake.” *River Styx* 98 (2017): 82.
 “The Mockingbird.” *Big Muddy* 16.1 (2016): 7-8.
 “The Bridge.” *The New Guard* 5 (2016): 87-99.
 “A Desert Season.” *Silk Road Review* 15 (2016): 36-47.
 “Biggest Snake in the Woods.” *Tusculum Review* 10 (2014): 1-14. (Winner of the 2014
 Tusculum Fiction Prize)
 “Three Little Indians.” *New Guard* 3 (2013), 87.
 “Palmetto Night.” *Cimarron Review* 72 (2010): 20-29
 “Silver Springs.” *Talking River* 27 (2010): 104-113.
 “Fish Story.” *The Laurel Review* 43:3 (2009): 24-26.
 “Bombs.” *Inkwell* 26: 1 (2009), 49-57.
 “Islands in the Moon.” *Cold Mountain Review* 37.1 (2008): 75-87.
 “Stealing for Orphans.” *Broken Bridge Review* 2:1 (2007): 87-93.
 “The Road to Little Happiness.” *Phoebe* 36:2 (2007): 13-29.
 “Motorhead.” *The Antioch Review* 63:3 (2005): 14-26.
 “Low Tide Turning.” *The Sewanee Review* 118:2 (2005): 174-192.
 “The Sinkhole.” *The Portland Review* 51.3 (2004): 29-33.
 “Trash Fish.” *Green Mountains Review* 13 (2000): 64-71.
 “Happy Puppy.” *Shenandoah* (1999): 23-38.
 “Swimming the Cave,” *Berkeley Fiction Review* 19 (1998).

Poetry:

(more than 150 separate juried journal publications in total)

“On the Birth of an Unlucky Child.” *Third Wednesday*. Forthcoming.
 “The Taking Tree.” *The Roanoke Review*. Forthcoming
 “Mutter.” *The Roanoke Review*. Forthcoming.
 “Aphorism 341.” *Clarion*. Forthcoming.
 “Works and Days” *Southern Poetry Review*. Forthcoming.
 “The Art of Forgiving.” *Poet Lore*. Forthcoming.
 “Lorem Ipsum.” *The Cincinnati Review* 16:2 (2019):
 “Killing the Snake.” *A Fire to Light Our Tongues, An Anthology*. Waco, TX: Baylor UP,
 Forthcoming.
 “The Strangers We Take Home With Us.” *The Burnside Review*. Forthcoming.
 “Sundog.” *Lullwater Review*. Forthcoming.
 “Six.” *Prism International*. Forthcoming.
 “Motorhead.” *Prism International*. Forthcoming.
 “The Mother Road.” *Prism International*. Forthcoming.
 “The Light Fantastic.” *Sonora Review*. Forthcoming.
 “Grass Eaters.” *Crosswinds*. Forthcoming.
 “The Thin Man.” *Sow’s Ear Poetry Review*. Forthcoming.
 “St. Cassian of the Pens” *Columbia Review* 100.2 (2019): 35-36.
 “On the Birth of an Unlucky Child.” *Third Wednesday* 12.2 (2019): 27-28.

“Aubade at Easter.” *The Briar Cliff Review* 31 (2019): 104.

“The Rules.” *Image* 99 (2018): 6.

“We Raise Our Hands for Mercy.” *Image* 99 (2018): 7-8.

“When Angels Die in Texas.” *Rosebud* 65 (2018): 45-46.

“Blue” *American Literary Review*. (2018)
<https://americanliteraryreview.com/2018/12/05/john-blair/>

“Veil of Tears.” *Ruminate* 48 (2018): 65.

“The Continental Op.” *Concho River Review* 32:2 (2018): 112.

“The Dance.” *Main Street Rag* 23:4 (2018): 19-20.

“Caveat Emptor.” *Main Street Rag* 23:4 (2018): 20.

“Golden Years.” *Main Street Rag* 23:4 (2018): 21.

“The Art of Forgetting.” *The Bellingham Review* 41:76 (2018): 18-20.

“The Buddha in the Walls.” *The Laurel Review* 50:2 (2017): 51-52.

“There is a Willow.” *Carolina Quarterly*. (2017)
<https://thecarolinaquarterly.com/2017/08/there-is-a-willow-grows-aslant-a-brook/>

“The Morning After the War.” *Tupelo Quarterly* 11 (2017)
<http://www.tupeloquarterly.com/the-morning-after-the-war-by-john-blair/>

“Turm Erlebnis.” *The Chariton Review* 40.2 (2017): 52

“The Kitchen Shade.” *The Chariton Review* 40.2 (2017): 53

“The Little Sleep.” *The Comstock Review* 31.2 (2017): 30.

“The Great Egress.” *Sugar House Review* 16 (2017): 35.

“Zed.” *Prairie Schooner* 91:4 (2017): 58.

“The Buddha’s Son.” *Colorado Review* 44.3(2017): 110-111.

“The Buddha’s Wife.” *Colorado Review*. 44.3(2017): 112.
“The Pier.” *Boulevard* 95/96 (2017): 17.

“Pennies from Heaven.” *Boulevard* 95/96 (2017): 16.

“One True Sentence.” *Sow’s Ear Poetry Review* 27.2 (2017): 4.

“This Gray Spill of Mockingbird.” *Pinch* 37.1 (2017): 120.

“We All Fall Down.” *Pinch* 37.1 (2017): 118.

“Spoiler.” *Pinch* 37.1 (2017): 121.

“Widow’s Peak.” *Pinch* 37.1 (2017): 116.

“Five Minutes.” *Pinch* 37.1 (2017): 117

“Auto de Fe.” *The Madison Review* 39.2 (2017): 9.

“What Gets Taken” *Missouri Review Online*. 10 April 2017.

“The Things You Can’t Keep” *Nimrod* 60.1 (2016): 47.

“Judas Salt” *The Greensboro Review* 99 (2016): 16.

“What Happens to the Future” *Solstice* (2015): 22.

“The Faith of Your Father” *Hiram Poetry Review* 77 (2016): 9.

“A Song on Geronimo’s Grave” *Image* 87 (2015): 12.

“A Philosophy of Gravity” *Ruminate* 36 (2015): 14-15.

“Bone Anthem” *Image* 87 (2015): 13.

“Desiderada.” *Tar River Poetry Review* 54 (2015): 5-6.

“The Story You Heard.” *Ruminate* 34 (2015): 52.

“The One Thing.” *Ruminate* 34 (2015): 54-55.

“Hard Pearl.” *Ruminate* 34 (2015): 53.

“The Other Side.” *Cafe Review* 26 (2015): 1.

- “The Lantern Man.” *Cafe Review* 26 (2015): 2.
- “Window.” *Cafe Review* 26 (2015): 4-5
- “Sleeping Dogs Lie.” *Iron Horse Literary Review* 16.4 (2014): 18.
- “The Thing Itself Speaks.” *Carolina Quarterly* 64.1 (2014).
- “Shooting Dove.” *Raleigh Review* 4.2 (2014): 18.
- “The Gift.” *Oberon* 11 (2014).
- “Aubade for Ash Wednesday.” *Painted Bride Quarterly* 89 (2014).
- “Disagreeable Things.” *Cafe Review* 12 (2014).
- “Pity Me, O Man.” *Louisville Review* 75 (2014): 31.
- “Second The Man.” *Louisville Review* 75 (2014): 30.
- “How to Know Two.” *The Southern Review* 50.3 (2014): 448.
- “Playful Song Called Beautiful.” *Thema* 26.2 (2014): 38.
- “Dirt.” *The Florida Review* 38.1 & 2 (2013): 66.
- “The Lesser Poet.” *The Florida Review* 38.1 & 2 (2013): 62.
- “And Yet It Moves.” *The Florida Review* 38.1 & 2 (2013): 64.
- “Blood Rain at Stoke Edith.” *Poetry Quarterly* 4.2 (2013): 25.
- “Blue Moon.” *Spoon River Review*. 38.2 (2013): 80.
- “The Idle Hours.” *Ruminate Magazine* 30 (2013): 72-73
- “Joshu’s Dog.” *Kestrel* 31 (2013): 50.
- “The Last Poem of Hoshin.” *Kestrel* 31 (2013): 49.
- “No Water, No Moon.” *Kestrel* 31 (2013): 48
- “The Yellow Christ.” *St. Petersburg Review* 4/5 (2012): 40.
- “Oleander.” *The Southern Poetry Anthology: Volume IV*. Huntsville, TX: Texas Review Press, 2011.
- “The Dogs of Grass.” *The Southern Poetry Anthology: Volume IV* Huntsville, TX: Texas Review Press, 2011.
- “Winter Storm, New Orleans.” *The Southern Poetry Anthology: Volume IV* Huntsville, TX: Texas Review Press, 2011.
- “Her Name is Viaraumati.” *California Quarterly* 37 (2), 8.
- “The River Sage.” *Cold Mountain Review* 39:2 (2011): 48
- “I Am the Trees Before the Sun.” *Hiram Poetry Review* 72 (2011), 10.
- “The Fundamental Limit of Resolution.” *The Minnetonka Review* 7 (2011)
- “Still Life With Puppies.” *The Minnetonka Review* 7 (2011)
- “How You Will Know Us.” *The Minnetonka Review* 7 (2011)
- “Sutra for the Passing of Mary.” *Cutthroat* 10:1 (2011)
- “Gauguin in Arles.” *Naugatuck River Review* 5 (2011): 30.
- “Savage Poems.” *New Millenium Writings* 20 (2011): 36.
- “The Trees Take Birds in the Light Growing Air.” *Georgetown Review* 12:1 (2011): 30.
- “The Canonical Hours.” *Georgetown Review* 12:1 (2011): 120-124.
- “The Capillary Attraction of Planetary Bodies.” *The Southern Review* 47:2 (2011)
- “White Sands’.” *New York Quarterly* 66 (2010): 147.
- “How She Prays the River.” *Inkwell* 26: 1 (2009), 58.
- “Valencias.” *Atlanta Review* 25:1 (2008), 20.
- “Dogs of Grass.” *Arts & Letters* 20:1 (2008), 8-9.
- “Broken Window.” *Pleiades* 26:2 (2006): 39.
- “Sundays with Melba.” *California Quarterly* 26 (2000): 31.

- "Aunt Jane on the Day of the Dead." *Midwest Quarterly* 51 (2000): 277.
- "Aunt Jane Watches the Dancers." *Midwest Poetry Review*, Fall/Winter 1999.
- "Oleander." *Poet Lore* 94 (1999): 17.
- "The Rigolets." *New Orleans Review* 23 (1998).
- "Madness and Love." *Inheritance of Light*, Ray Gonzalez, ed. Denton: University of North Texas Press, 1996, p. 206.
- "Cicada." *Inheritance of Light*. Ray Gonzalez, ed. Denton: University of North Texas Press, 1996, p. 207.
- "In the Midst of Spring's Bright Enchantment." *Kansas Quarterly/Arkansas Review* 27 (1996): 68.
- "My Brother, Sleepless, Listens to the Wind." *Kansas Quarterly/Arkansas Review* 27 (1996): 69.
- "The Weather Child." *Kansas Quarterly/Arkansas Review* 27 (1996): 69.
- "Passion Play." *Seattle Review* 18 (1996): 21.
- "This, Too, is Everything (translation of a poem by Shu Ting)." *Poetry East*. Winter (1996): 22.
- "Parting in the Rain (translation of a poem by Shu Ting)." *Poetry East*. Winter (1996): 23.
- "Mercy." *Hampden-Sydney Poetry Review*. Winter (1994): 21-22.
- "The Singing House." *The Lullwater Review* 6 (1995): 38-40.
- "Sunday Morning." *The Literature Review* 2 (1993): 55-56.
- "The River Heart." *The Literature Review* 2 (1993): 57.
- "The Lost Boys." *Sow's Ear*. Forthcoming.
- "Breath." *Sewanee Review* 99 (1991).
- "Madness and Love." *Sewanee Review* 99 (1991).
- "The Lives of Children." *North of Wakulla: An Anthology of Florida Poets*. Tallahassee: Appalachian Quarterly Press, 1990.
- "Cicada." *Poetry* 153 (1989).
- "Winter Storm, New Orleans." *Poetry* 153 (1989).
- "Rain Dancing." *Louisiana Literature* 2 (1988).
- "The Hurricanes." *Louisiana Literature* 2 (1988).
- "The Groves." *The New York Quarterly* 34 (1987).
- "The Ambush." *Kentucky Poetry Review* Fall (1987).
- "In the Swimmer's Dressing Room at the Y." *Cimarron Review* 75 (1986): 33-34.
- "Old Man, Walking." *The Georgia Review* 39 (1985).
- "The Lightning." *New Letters* Fall (1986).
- "Swimming in Winter." *The Kansas Quarterly*. Winter/Spring (1986)
- "The Cowboy Singer's Sestina." *The New Mexico Humanities Review* Spring (1985).
- "Pig Days." *Black Warrior Review* 11 (1985).
- "After the Storm." *Southern Poetry Review* 25 (1985).
- "Weathering." *The Texas Review* 6 (1985).
- "In a Cemetery Beside the Apalachicola Bay." *The Greensboro Review* 38 (1985).
- "Dragging for the Dead." *Plains Poetry Journal* 13 (1985).
- "Handling Serpents." *Plains Poetry Journal* 13 (1985).
- "Joe Prichard." *the minnesota review* n.s. 23 (1984).
- "Tate's Hell." *Wakulla Portraits*. Tallahassee, FL: Wakulla Publications, 1984.

“Wakulla.” *Wakulla Portraits*. Tallahassee, FL: Wakulla Publications, 1984.
“Pulled, The River Flows.” *Personna* 2 (1983).
“The Return.” *Personna* 2 (1983).
“Simple Mercy.” *Red Bass Winter* (1982).
“Heat Wave.” *Scratch*. Orlando: Orlando Arts Council, 1981.
“Dark Mirror.” *Scratch*. Orlando: Orlando Arts Council, 1981.
“Buck Fever.” *Scratch*. Orlando: Orlando Arts Council, 1981.
“Legacy.” *Scratch*. Orlando: Orlando Arts Council, 1981.
“Like Sand.” *Scratch*. Orlando: Orlando Arts Council, 1981.

Articles

“Mexico and the Borderlands in Cormac McCarthy’s *All the Pretty Horses*.”
Critique: Studies in Contemporary Fiction 42 (2001): 301-307.
“The Bird Frighteners and the Judge’s Wives in Eudora Welty’s *The Optimist’s Daughter*.” *Notes on Contemporary Literature* 30 (2000), 8-10.
“Southern Honor and Sexual Violence in Walker Percy’s *Lancelot*.” *Southern Studies* 5 (1998), 85-94.
“Renewal in the Wilderness: Walker Percy’s *Lancelot* and the American Survivalist Movement,” *Louisiana Literature* 14 (1997).
“South by Southwest: Texas and the Old South in the Work of Katherine Anne Porter.” *Journal of the Southwest* 37 (1995): 495-502.
“The Southern Tradition of Honor and Eudora Welty’s *The Optimist’s Daughter*.”
University of Mississippi Studies in English 12 (1995).
“Breeding Lilacs in a Dead Land’: The Novels of James Dickey.” *Critical Essays on James Dickey*. New York: G. K. Hall, 1994.
“The Dark Rich Earth of the Heart’: Recent Southern Poetry.” *The Distillery: Artistic Spirits of the South* 1 (1994): 46-57.
“The Lie We Must Learn to Live By’: Honor and Tradition in *All the King’s Men*.”
Studies in the Novel 25 (1993): 457-472.
“To Attend to One’s Own Soul: Walker Percy and the Southern Cultural Tradition.”
The Mississippi Quarterly 46 (1992-93): 78-89.
“Nicholas and the Judge: Eudora Welty’s *The Optimist’s Daughter* and the Novels of Charles Dickens.” *Notes on Mississippi Writers* 24.1 (1992): 25-34.
“The Posture of a Bohemian in the Poetry of Stephen Crane.” *American Literature* 61 (1989): 215-229.
“The Question of Race in James Dickey’s ‘Cherrylog Road.’” *Notes on Contemporary Literature* 19 (1989): 2.

Book Reviews:

“South by Southwest: Katherine Anne Porter and the Burden of Texas History by Janis P. Stout” *South Atlantic Review*. Forthcoming.
“Percyscapes by Robert W. Rudnicki.” *Arkansas Review* 31(2000): 159-160.
“The Apple-Picker’s Children.” *Southern Humanities Review* 30 (1996). 203-204.
“Red Boat,” *Southern Humanities Review* 30 (1996): 200-202.

- “Southward by Greg Delanty.” *Southern Humanities Review* 28 (1994): 96-97.
- “All These Lands You Call One Country by Stephen Corey.” *Southern Humanities Review* 28 (1994): 93-96.
- "Synchronized Swimming." *Black Warrior Review* 6 (1986): 106-109.

B. Works not in Print

Papers:

- “The Springs: A Story” War and Literature Conference, US Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs CO, September 2018.
- “The Art of Forgetting” Rocky Mountain Popular Culture Association, Las Vegas Nevada, February 2018
- “ZED: poems.” Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association, San Diego CA, April 2017.
- “Six Poems About Ending.” Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association, Spokane WA, Sept. 2017.
- “Why Metaphor Matters & How to Write Great Ones.” Rocky Mountain Gold Writers Conference, Denver CO, Sept. 2015
- “Goethe’s Apple and Other Poems.” Conference on Christianity and Literature, Seattle, WA, May, 2015
- “Genre Fiction Vs. Literary Fiction: The Whys, the Hows, and the Justifications.” Rocky Mountain Gold Writers Conference, Denver CO, 2014.
- “Happy Puppy” (Fiction), Philological Association of Louisiana Conference, New Orleans, LA, March 2002.
- “Running Away” (Fiction), SCMLA, Tulsa OK, November 2001.
- “Running Away” (Fiction), SCMLA, Tulsa OK, November 2001.
- “Trash Fish” (Fiction), Southwest American Popular Culture Association Conference, Albuquerque NM, March 2001.
- “Teaching Cormac McCarthy’s *All the Pretty Horses*,” Cormac McCarthy Society Conference, October, 2000.
- “Cormac McCarthy’s Dialogic Matrix of Being.” SCMLA, Memphis TN, October 1999.
- “Selected Poems,” Southwest American Popular Culture Association Conference, Albuquerque NM, February, 1999.
- “Strategies for Teaching Creative Writing,” Anticipating Change: Innovations in Teaching, Learning, and Assessment Conference, Corpus Christi, TX, January, 1999
- “Memorial Day Weekend, 1986” (Fiction), South Central Modern Languages Association Conference, New Orleans LA, November 1998.
- “Using Science Fiction to Teach Creative Writing,” Deep South Writer’s Conference, Lake Charles, LA, October, 1998.
- “Borderlands Bildungsroman: Mexico and Maturity in Cormac McCarthy’s Border Trilogy.” Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association meeting, Orlando FL, April, 1998.

"Selected Poems." Southwest American Popular Culture Association Conference, Lubbock TX, December 1997.

"Poems." Northeastern Popular Culture Association Conference, Boston, MA, October 1997.

"Selected Poems." South Central Modern Languages Association conference, Dallas, TX, October 1997.

"Selected Poems." Northeast Popular Culture Association conference, Boston, MA, November 1997.

"A Case for Genre Fiction in an MFA Setting." Associated Writing Programs Conference, Washington, D.C., April 1997.

"Genre Fiction and the Creative Writing Classroom." Deep South Writer's Conference, Lake Charles, LA, November 1996.

"Using Multimedia in the Large Literature Classroom." Non-Traditional Pedagogies Conference, Corpus Christi, TX, January 1996.

"To the Olduvai Gorge with Love" (short fiction). South Central Modern Language Association Conference, Houston TX, November 1995.

"The Civil War in Two American Bildungsroman, Allen Tate's *The Fathers* and Stephen Crane's *The Red Badge of Courage*." Stephen Crane Conference, United States Air Force Academy, November 1995.

"Violence Against Women and Walker Percy's *Lancelot*." Twentieth-Century Literature Conference, Louisville, KY, February 1995.

"Walker Percy's *Lancelot* and the American Survivalist Movement." South Central Conference on Christianity and Literature, New Orleans, LA, February 1995.

"Memorial Day Weekend, 1986" (fiction). The South Central Modern Language Association Conference, New Orleans, LA, November, 1994.

"South by Southwest: Texas and the Deep South in the Fiction of Katherine Anne Porter." The Mosaic of Texas Culture Conference, Abilene, Texas, March, 1994.

"Poems." South Central Conference on Christianity and Literature, Shreveport, February, 1994.

"The Southern Wilderness and the Southern Poet." North American Interdisciplinary Wilderness Conference, Ogden, Utah, November, 1993.

"Salvation in James Dickey's *Alnilam*." South Central Conference on Christianity in Literature, New Orleans, February, 1993.

"Walker Percy and the Southern Cultural Tradition." SCMLA convention, Memphis, TN, October, 1992.

"Eudora Welty and the Southern Chivalric Tradition." Twentieth Century Literature Convention, University of Louisville, February, 1991.

"Poems, 1989-1990." CCTE/NCTE convention, San Antonio, Texas, April 1991.

"Aubade in Blue" (short fiction). SCMLA convention, Ft. Worth, Texas, November 1991.

Invited Talks, Lectures, Presentations:

"American Standard." Two invited readings, University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University, March 2006.

“On Creative Writing and Liberal Arts Education.” Invited reading at Waynesburg College, Waynesburg PA, June 2005.
“Selected Fiction.” An invited reading at Tulane University, New Orleans, October 2003.
“Selected Short Stories.” Invited reading, Drue Heinz Award Ceremony, University of Pittsburgh, October 2002

D. Fellowships, Awards, Honors

Cultural Center of Cape Cod's National Prize for Poetry, 2017
49th Parallel Award for Poetry, 2017.
Wilda Herne Prize for Fiction, 2016.
Iowa Poetry Prize, 2015 (for *Playful Song Called Beautiful*, Iowa University Press, 2016)
Dana Award in Poetry, 2015
Florida Review Editors Prize in Poetry, 2014
Tusculum Review Prize in Fiction, 2014
The Tampa Review Prize in Poetry (for *The Occasions of Paradise*, University of Tampa Press, 2012)
The St. Petersburg Review Prize in Poetry, 2010
The William Goyen/Doris Roberts Fellowship Grant of the Christopher Isherwood Foundation, 2009
Arts & Letters Rumi Prize for Poetry 2008 (awarded for “Dogs of Grass”)
Phoebe Winter Fiction Award 2007 (awarded for “The Road to Little Happiness”)
The Andrew Lytle Prize for Fiction 2006
Texas Institute of Letters Helen C. Smith Memorial Award for Best Book of Poetry, 2004
Presidential Seminar, 2003
The Drue Heinz Literature Prize for Fiction 2002 (for *American Standard*, University of Pittsburgh Press, 2002)
The Lena-Miles Wever Todd Award for Poetry 2003 (for *The Green Girls*, Pleiades Press, 2003)
Nominated for the National Book Critic Circle Award 2003 (for *The Green Girls*)

IV. SERVICE

University:

Commencement Card Reader on five occasions
Commencement Marshall on thirteen occasions
Served as a member of the Study Abroad Faculty Director's Committee for the Office of Correspondence and Extension.
Served as a member of the University Arts Committee
Served as a member of the University Transportation and Parking Committee
Served as a member of the University Research Enhancement Grant Award Committee

Departmental:

Director, Undergraduate Creative Writing Emphasis, 2002 to present
Chair, Creative Writing Committee, 2002 to present
Member, Majors/Minors Committee, 1989 to present
Sophomore Literature Committee, 1995-present.
TKL Steering Committee, 1995-present
Various readings, seminars, and class visits.

Community:

Member of the Board of Trustees for the Katherine Anne Porter School, 2003-2008
Member of the Friends of the Library service association, 2001-2008
Scoutmaster, Boy Scout Troop 357, 2001-2008
Various class visits, talks, and programs for the Katherine Anne Porter School

Professional:

Member, SCMLA, AWP, Association of Literary Scholars, Robert Penn Warren Circle,
Walker Percy Society.
Chair, Regional Fiction Writer's Section, South Central Modern Language Association, 2003