Craft Classes Begin

After two days of mobbed sign-up sheets and intense anticipation, the first craft classes kick off today at 2:30 p.m. These hour-long sessions provide faculty, fellows, and guests the opportunity to explore a topic of interest in an intimate setting. To ensure hands-on experience, classes are limited to 25 participants.

Sign-up sheets for craft classes are posted by 8:00 a.m. two days in advance of the class. Spaces have been filling quickly, so please make sure you sign up in advance! For those of you who signed up for your class, here is a reminder of the locations:

“Epistolary, Diaristic, and Confessional: The Art of the Well-Placed Cringe,” with Kristen Iskandrian - Barn Classroom 203

“The Uses of the Strange,” with Clare Beams - Barn Classroom 204

“Kinds of Facts,” with Cutter Wood - Barn Classroom 205

“Ut Pictura Poesis,” with Jennifer Grotz - Barn Classroom 102

“Exploiting the Image, ADVANCING THE STORY,” with Tania James - Barn Classroom 101

“Animals, Plants and Talking Rocks: The Uses of Prosopopoeia,” with Stephanie Burt - Barn Observatory

“The Moving Image,” with William Brewer - Barn Classroom 206

Fiction Workshop Locations

Akhil Sharma - Barn 101
Mat Johnson - Barn 102
Tania James - Barn 203
Samantha Hunt - Barn 204
Alix Ohlin - Barn 205
Josh Weil - Barn 206
Christopher Castellani - Barn Observatory
Michael Byers - Inn West Seminar
Tiphanie Yanique - Library upstairs (back end of building)
Laura van den Berg - Library upstairs (front end of building)
**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PLANNING AHEAD**

**Carpooling**
A carpool list will be posted near the Dining Room door on Sunday, August 19. If you are willing to take passengers along when you leave the mountain next week, please note your information on the list (name, e-mail, destination, number of spots available in your car). If you are looking for a ride, please get in touch with the driver directly by leaving a note for the person at the Front Desk or by sending an e-mail.

**Middlebury Transit**
A schedule of Middlebury Transit departure taxis will be posted near the Front Desk of the Bread Loaf Inn toward the end of the conference. If you have any questions in the meantime or still need to make your departure taxi arrangements, please contact Middlebury Transit directly (1-800-388-1002) by Sunday, August 19.

Departure times will be early and somewhat inflexible because of the large number of people who need to leave. Due to the number of travelers, we cannot post individual travel requests in the “Community Items” in the *Crumb*.

**START YOUR WARM UPS**
The Writers’ Cramp Race, a friendly 2.75 mile competition, takes off on Monday at 8:00 a.m. Keep an eye out for more details in tomorrow’s *Crumb*!

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**Want to Be a Better Public Reader?**

Don’t forget: Patrick Donnelly, author of *The Charge* and *Nocturnes of the Brothel of Ruin*, is offering a special talk titled “How to Be a Good Public Reader of Your Own Writing” at 5:30 p.m. today in the Little Theater. The talk will provide strategies for dealing with nerves and tips for pleasing reading organizers and audiences.

Participants should come prepared to read a short poem or passage of prose. If time allows, two participants will be chosen to receive coaching, master-class style, while the audience learns from watching.

**Waiter Reading Tonight**

Tonight at 9:30 p.m. in the Little Theater, the first of two waiter readings will give conference participants a chance to hear fiction, poetry, and nonfiction from some of the world's best emerging writers. Each reader gets three minutes to wow you, and wow you they will.

The following writers are on deck to read tonight: Noah Bogdonoff, Daphne Palasi Andreades, Afua Ansong, Vince Granata, Sebastian Paramo, Taylor Koekkoek, Mary South, Taneum Bambrick, Morgan Thomas, Laurie Thomas, Dylan Weir, and De'Shawn Winslow.

Trust us: You’re not going to want to miss this reading (or its part two on Monday, August 21). The waiters rule.
BARN SOCIAL & BARN PUB
Beer ($4) and wine ($5) are available most evenings in the Barn. The Barn Social runs from 5:15 p.m. to 6:15 p.m., while the Barn Pub gets hopping at 9:30 p.m. Free soda, coffee, and water are also available. Complimentary beer and wine will be available during Barn dances.

MISSING A MEETING?
If you find yourself unable to make a meeting, please send a quick email to blwc@middlebury.edu with “guest meeting” as the subject line, or come see Jason Lamb in the Back Office.

YOGA YOGA YOGA
Get limber and centered with some vinyasa flow led by Nicci Micco!
When? Today at 1:15 p.m. Where? In Barn Classroom A.

GUESTS
Please extend a warm welcome to the following special guests: Henry Dunow, Sean Hill, and Amy Holman.
Safe travels to Mitchell Waters, who departs the mountain today.

WEATHER
More thunderstorms (eek!)
High: 66° Low: 57°

OVERHEARD
“He had to go make sure his chinchillas didn’t get turned into gloves.”
“I only write under dire circumstances.”
“Much more enjoyable than a psychiatry conference!”

Blue Parlor’s Library Debut
a Wild Success

The 2018 Blue Parlor (@ the Library) launched on Friday evening with a lineup of courageous, talented writers. These writers dazzled in under three minutes apiece!

We know you’re curious about what goes down at the Blue Parlor readings. What makes it blue, after all? Join us today, Saturday, at 5:30 p.m. in the Library to find out! Tonight’s roster: Rebeca Felix, Scott Stubbs, Jonelle Strickland, Heather Kamins, Ileana Florian, Katherine Ventre, Michael Romary, Peter Andrews, Steven Swiryn, Melanie Sirof, Jennifer Kircher Carr, Jared Levy, Marti Mattia, Kenny Lee, Liz Paley. Check back here tomorrow for Sunday’s lineup.

Nota Bene: The LGBTQ+ reading has been rescheduled for Monday, August 20th, at 5:30pm in the Little Theater.

Finally, let’s talk about you. You weren’t sure if you wanted to read, but now you’ve seen the delight of the readers, and you know: You must read (You must!). The sign-up for Sunday’s reading will be sent by email at 8:30 a.m., and the sign-up for Monday at 8:30 a.m. tomorrow.

See you soon (maybe tonight? maybe tomorrow?) in the Library.

Hopes, dreams, apprehensions? Contact Elisa Gonzalez.
From the Workshop

Sebastian Paramo, in “The Home Slaughter,”
from C. Dale Young’s workshop:

“'’
The first time I see sacrifice,
I bleed coins & pay the boatman.
’’

COMMUNITY ITEMS

Want to get a knitting club going? An arm wrestling tournament? Whistling contest? Send us a community item by 3:00 p.m. and we’ll gladly advertise for you the following day.

Email us at blcrumb@gmail.com

A Poem

deer step through frost smoke
forage, taut skin over ribs
ice falling splashes

—Contributed by Jeremy Proehl