Craft Class Anticipation Builds

By 8:00 a.m., the queue stretched for miles. Pens were snatched. Scuffles brewed. On the board outside the Blue Parlor, Saturday’s craft class registration sheets filled with names.

“I got my first choice!” said one participant, breaking into a celebratory dance. “I’ve never felt so alive!”

Craft classes are limited to 25 people to ensure that they can be hands-on and interactive. There is no wait list. Bugging Noreen is not in your best interest.

Miss the frenzy yesterday? No worries. You have another chance today. Sign-up sheets are posted by 8:00 a.m., two days before classes, on the wall near the back office.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Breakfast, Bread Loaf Inn</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 - 10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Lecture: “From Object to Image” by Eavan Boland, Little Theatre</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:10 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.</td>
<td>Poetry and Nonfiction Workshops</td>
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<td>12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch, Bread Loaf Inn</td>
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<td>2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>• Special Talk: Publishing Prose</td>
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<td>• Special Talk: Publishing Poetry</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Reading: Lesley Nneka Arimah, Natasha Deón, Maeve Kinkead, and Kristen Radtke, Little Theatre</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>• Blue Parlor Reading Series, Library</td>
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<td>• Special Talk: Editors, New England Review, Little Theatre</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Dinner, Bread Loaf Inn</td>
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<td>8:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Reading: Julia Alvarez and Helena Maria Viramontes, Little Theatre</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Scholar Reading, Little Theatre</td>
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Poetry and Nonfiction Workshop Locations

Eavan Boland - Barn 101
Ann Hood - Barn 102
Helena María Viramontes - Barn 203
Edward Hirsch - Barn 204
Ellen Bryant Voigt - Barn 205
Sally Keith - Barn 206
Rick Barot - Barn Observatory
David Shields - Inn West Seminar
Garrett Hongo - Library Upstairs (Back end of building)
David Shields - Inn West Seminar
Luis Alberto Urrea - Library Upstairs (Front end of building)
Carl Phillips - Blue Parlor Living Room

DIRECTORS’ OFFICE HOURS

Michael Collier: 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. or by appointment.
Jennifer Grodz: 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. or by appointment.
The Directors’ Office is across from the Back Office, by the Blue Parlor.
ANNOUNCEMENTS

ON PROMPTNESS
Bread Loaf events start promptly. Please be on time for all lectures and readings.

PHONES OFF
Please remember to turn off your phone when you attend readings and lectures. We're begging you.

VOLUME BOOST?
For those who need them, hearing assist units are available from the Little Theatre Technicians, Justin Boening and Eric McMillan. Please let them know if you would like to use one.

IF YOU ARE TEACHING A CRAFT CLASS
Faculty, fellows, and guests who are teaching a craft class and will need any level of technical support are reminded to contact Conor Burke, the Back Office staffer in charge of supporting craft classes. He would prefer to meet with you a day in advance to ensure that the technology for your class works when the class begins. Stop by the Back Office or email him at conorwburke@gmail.com to schedule a time.

TO SLAM OR NOT TO SLAM
Satisfying as it may be to give a door a good slam, sounds carries and your neighbors may be napping. Please be mindful and ease doors shut.

GOOD GOD, WHERE IS THE COFFEE?
While breakfast doesn’t start until 7:30 a.m., all you up-at-sunrise caffeine junkies can help yourselves to coffee in the Dining Hall at 6:30 a.m. Coffee is also available in the Barn throughout the day.

Special Talks on Publishing
Two events today will offer introductions to publishing poetry and prose. A panel on publishing prose, presented at the Little Theatre at 2:30 p.m., will feature Miriam Alshuler, Agent at DeFiore and Co.; Calvert Morgan, Executive Editor at Riverhead; and Mitchell Waters, Agent at Curtis Brown Ltd.

Martha Rhodes, Director of Four Way Books, will offer a talk on publishing poetry, also at 2:30 p.m., in the Barn.

What’s Next for the Blue Parlor Reading Series?
At the Blue Parlor Reading Series’ informational meeting, we went over sign-ups, schedules, community, the spirit of Prince, and what happens if you read past three minutes (it involves Maracas of Doom).

The first BP reading of 2017 happens tonight! 5:30 p.m. in the Library. The lineup for tonight’s event is posted on the Blue Parlor Bulletin Board by the Back Office (the most happening patch of wall on campus!). Sign-up sheets for Saturday and Sunday will be available on-site at the reading tonight, then posted on the bulletin board immediately following the program.

Tonight and Saturday are unthemed, open readings, which means we welcome all genres and styles — as long as it’s under three minutes!

Great new writing, great new friends—why would you pass this up? The Blue Parlor at the Library: Be there or be square. And by “square,” we mean “full of regret.”

Questions, suggestions, affirmations? Contact Katie Moulton.

OVERHEARD
“There’s always a reason to go the back way.”

“It’s like a Yelp review for office supplies.”

“My book gets paired with cat litter on Amazon.”

Heard anything interesting? Email us! blcrumb@gmail.com

“Our Mousey Ankles” by Gary Hawkins
Announcements, cont’d from p. 2

KEEP HYDRATED
The pace of Bread Loaf is hectic. Please take good care of yourself and drink plenty of water, so you don’t get dehydrated. You can get water in the dining hall throughout the morning and all day in the Barn. You can also use any bathroom sink to refill your water bottle.

PLEASE RECYCLE
You will find numerous recycling bins across campus. Be good to the environment and use them. To get you started, we’ve printed The Crumb on paper that you can recycle when you’re done reading. You’re welcome.

WANT TO GET PAID?
If you have books on consignment, please stop by the bookstore at your earliest convenience to fill out a required W-9 and provide your mailing address. Without this information, Middlebury College cannot pay you!

HAVE A SEAT (JUST NOT THERE)
The front row of the back section of the Little Theatre will be reserved for waiter scholars in the evening. This is because waiters, who often get to the reading late because of their duties, deserve to hear things—and because the rest of us deserve to not have people fumbling around our faces and causing a ruckus during readings. Added plus: having a conveniently accessible row of reserved seats allows us to comply with crowd control regulations. Huzzah!

The Crumb Guide to Agent and Editor Meetings

Many Bread Loaf participants have found meeting with publishing professionals to be quite a positive and helpful experience during their time here on the mountain. The editors and agents also enjoy these conversations very much. Our purpose in providing these meetings is to give you a chance to understand the publishing process a little more clearly by hearing from people directly involved in the industry. Many participants have told us that these personalized meetings have allowed them to deal with matters of publication in a matter-of-fact way, with more understanding and less apprehension. You can also learn about publishing by attending our introductory panels, where editors and agents will give overviews of their work and take questions from the audience, and by attending other talks throughout the conference.

These meetings also give editors and agents the opportunity to meet you. The meetings are not “tests,” just early introductions, and the primary goal is to gather information. The guests are only here for a couple of days or so, and we have not asked them to offer editorial feedback on written work, so they aren’t expecting to read your work here at the conference. If they are interested, they will let you know that they would like you to submit a sample or a manuscript, but in general they are just looking to give you some concrete advice according to the stage you are at with your writing. Therefore there should not be any sense of disappointment on either side if the meeting does not lead to an invitation to submit work.

How can I best make use of my time with an agent or editor?
You can ask questions about publishing and get feedback about where you are in your writing process. For instance, a guest might be able to comment about whether or not you are ready to send out a manuscript; about which presses might be suited to your project; about how to approach a particular agent; about your conception for a book; about the submission process at their particular agency or publishing house. If you have a particular question or issue in mind, you should feel free to bring it to the meeting. But if not, it’s fine just to say hello, to talk about your work in general terms, and make a personal contact.

What should I do if my meeting time has started and the guest is still chatting with another participant?
If the meeting scheduled before your meeting is running over, please do approach the guest and just give a quick wave to let the guest know that you are there. This is appreciated and will help to keep the meetings on schedule. If during the conference you find that you are not able to make a meeting, please send a quick email to blwc@middlebury.edu to let staff know. Use “guest meeting” for the subject line. Or stop by and see Jason Lamb in the back office. We’ll adjust the guest’s schedule and let them know.

Join us in welcoming Nan Cohen, Julia Alvarez, Reginald Dwayne Betts, Mima Tipper, Diana Henderson, Devon Jersild, and April Ossmann to the mountain!
Donnelly Offers Writers Tips for Public Reading

Patrick Donnelly, Director of the Poetry Seminar at The Frost Place, will offer a special talk entitled “How to Be a Good Public Reader of Your Own Writing” at 5:30 p.m. in the Little Theatre tomorrow, Saturday, August 19. The talk, which is designed for both prose and poetry writers, will provide strategies for dealing with nerves and tips for pleasing reading organizers and audiences.

Donnelly asks that participants come prepared to read a short passage of their work. If time allows, two participants will be chosen to receive coaching, master-class style, while the audience learns from watching.

“We’ll also make some silly noises,” Donnelly promised, “to figure out how the voice works.”

Scholar Reading Tonight

This year’s stunning batch of tuition scholars will read their work tonight at 9:30 p.m. in the Little Theatre. This is the first of the conference’s late night readings and as ever, it promises to draw a large crowd to cheer on up-and-coming writers from across the nation. Reading tonight will be Lydia Conklin, Sonya Larson, Janice Obuchowski, William Shih, Jenny Xie, Jennifer Hope Choi, Jaquira Diaz, A. H. Jerriod Avant, Tiana Clark, Meghan Dunn, Edgar Kunz, Michael Weinstein, and Alan Rossi. Come one, come all!

WEATHER DOG BEN

Rain
High: 67° Low: 61°

COMMUNITY ITEMS

Tennis Anyone?

“Did you know David Foster Wallace nearly became a tennis pro? Did you know he played on the infamous Bread Loaf clay courts? Okay, I’m making that up, but if you can play and would like to hit, I have an extra racquet! Email Robert Kerbeck at rkerbeck@me.com”

REGARDING MASSAGE & HEALING MODALITIES

“Sign-up sheets for massage, life readings, and chakra alignment are on the Dining Room bulletin board. Sign up; then, at your scheduled time, come to the Little Theatre Dressing Room (marked “Massage” on screen door).”

— Jayne Webb

Treasures from the Little Theatre

Items of low to moderate value unearthed in the Little Theatre will be deposited atop the fireplace, out of combustion range. Feel free to reclaim your own items at your convenience. Items of high value, such as babies and gold bricks, will be kept at the Front Desk. Please speak to the Front Desk staff if you lose an item of high value.

— Justin Boening & Eric McMillan
I Found My Sibling on the Mountain:
“This lone and woolly creature is happy to be of a pair again.”

It happens more often than one might think. You’re traversing the dining hall or rocking in a chair on the porch, when suddenly, there they are—the sibling you never knew existed. It’s an emotional experience, and each individual responds differently. “Meeting Justin was like at last finding that old, thread-bare, unwashed sock which had been missing for years, but was just there behind the dresser,” said Conor Burke.

“When I first met Conor, I immediately disliked him,” said Justin Boening. “Especially his face, which looks a lot like mine.”

Artwork by Justin Boening

Have you found your sibling at Bread Loaf? Let us know! blcrumb@gmail.com

BREAD LOAF ASTROLOGY

Aries in workshop: I brought my ukulele if anyone wants to hear anything.

Taurus in workshop: [after formulating twelve astute, articulate comments in head] I don’t really have feedback on this one.

Aquarius in workshop: [grabs your hand] I knew, from the first sentence of this piece, that when we met, the two of us were going to be [karaoke mic suddenly appears] best friends.

Capricorn in workshop: I would like to go first.

Gemini in workshop: [stealthily makes mental list of who hasn’t written enough comments on their piece]


Pisces in workshop: This really speaks to the fountain of perpetual empathy in me.

Virgo in workshop: This piece calls to mind Foucault’s notions of a disciplinary society, and when examined through a lens of Feminist literary theory, prompts us to consider the ways in which...

Leo in workshop: Classic. Everyone in this room is already in love with me.

Libra in workshop: OK but what if the ending was the beginning, the beginning was the middle, the penultimate the fourth, and the main character a potted ficus?

Sagittarius in workshop: [nods and smiles vigorously at everyone]

Scorpio in workshop: [hands you long, hand-written letter of feedback] Let me know if you have any questions, exotic pets, or whiskey.
The Adironducks

You always want to start with something positive.

Your font choice is perfectly adequate.