Frost Farm Frolic

Lunch will be a picnic at Frost Farm today. To reach the Farm on foot, turn right from the Inn porch and walk .7 miles down Route 125. Turn right on Frost Road (unmarked); the farm is roughly .8 miles up the road. Plan to leave the Inn at noon. **Please note that this is a 1.5 mile walk.** For those interested in following a more adventurous route, meet Matt Fiorentino on the Front Porch at noon; Matt will guide walkers along a groomed ski trail to the cabin. For those unable to walk the 1.5 miles, a van will be available; meet on the Front Porch of the Bread Loaf Inn at 12:00 p.m. For those who would like to tour Frost’s summer cabin, the cabin will be open during the picnic.

There isn’t much room for parking cars, so please either walk or meet on the Bread Loaf Inn Front Porch to get a ride. Rides will be offered between 12:00 and 12:30 p.m. If you do drive, you will need to park at the Robert Frost Wayside parking area, at the bottom of Frost Road.

Out of consideration for the Kitchen staff, **if you did not sign up for an on-campus meal, please do not try to eat on campus.** Vans will be available to pick you up outside the Inn and take you to the picnic starting at noon.

Scholar Reading This Morning

This year’s stunning batch of scholars will read their work at 11:00 a.m. today in the Little Theater! Come hear rapidfire readings by these incredible writers:

- Mike Alberti
- S. Erin Batiste
- Sindya Bhanoo
- Celeste Chan
- Roohi Choudhry
- Armen Davoudian
- Gabriela Garcia
- Laura Goode
- Amanda Hawkins
- Jennifer L Bowen Hicks
- Alexander Lumans
- Uche Okonkwo
- Benjamin Schaefer
- Callie Siskel
- Jennifer Stock
- Michael Torres
- Paul Tran
- Irvin Weathersby
Work-Study Reading, Part Deux
Anticipation for Saturday’s Work-study Scholars reading was electric—so electric that it blew the lights out in the Little Theater. Following on the heels of a thunderstorm and a once-in-a-lifetime rainbow over the mountains, Bread Loafers gathered in the Barn for a night of phenomenal, rapidfire readings. The second and final installment of waiter readings will take place tonight in the Little Theater (we hope) at 9:30 p.m., giving conference participants another chance to hear fiction, poetry, and nonfiction by these incredible emerging writers: Kailyn McCord, Gerardo Sámano Córdova, Megan Pinto, Katie Rice, Joseph Earl Thomas, Drew Coles, Samuel Cheney, Wes Holtermann, James Fujinami Moore, Jessie Shabin, Janet Barrow, and Taneum Bambrick.

Book Signing Tomorrow
The book signing and reception will take place tomorrow on the Treman lawn at 5:15 p.m. Authors will be available to sign copies of their books while all participants enjoy refreshments. The Bookstore will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. tomorrow to ensure that last-minute shoppers can get books just before the signing. There are so many gorgeous books by Bread Loaf faculty, fellows, guests, and contributors available. So, go make some of those hard-earned writer dollars rain!

In the event of actual rain, the book signing and reception will be held in the Barn. Remember, the Book Store’s hours are:

- Weekdays, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, August 20, 9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- Friday, August 23, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Peggy Miller lost a notebook filled with her writing. If you find an errant blue and white notebook lying around, please return it to the Front Desk!

Join us in welcoming **Kevin Craft**, **Lindsay Garbutt**, **Jenny Xu**, and **John Elder** to the mountain!

Today we also wish safe travels to our departing guests, Miriam Altshuler, Malaga Baldi, PJ Mark, Fiona McCrae, Ilya Kaminsky, and Patrick Donnelly.

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**WEATHER**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scattered Thunderstorms</th>
<th>Potential Rainbows!</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>High</strong>: 82° <strong>Low</strong>: 58°</td>
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**LOST!**

Peggy Miller lost a notebook filled with her writing. If you find an errant blue and white notebook lying around, please return it to the Front Desk!

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**The Blue Parlor Is Unstoppable!**

Through rain and shine, light and dark, electricity and no electricity, the Blue Parlor Reading Series continues. Despite the dramatic skies, the writers have performed for packed houses and introduced us to a multitude of mysteries, heartbreaks, and hilarities.

This evening at 5:30 p.m., the Library hosts this can’t-miss lineup: Shawn Pendley, Lue Boileau, Sasha Watson, Sarah Kotchian, Elizabeth Gonzalez James, Sabrina Li, Tamar Shapiro, Mimi Drop, Caley Henderson, Amanda Gomez, Georgia Brodsky, Sarah Priestman, Jennifer Christman, Margaret Albee, and Alison Strack.

And what else does Blue Parlor have in store for you?

Tomorrow we will take a rest during the book signing and reception, but will return for the LGBTQ+ Reading at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday in the Little Theater. That’s followed by another exciting event, the “From the Dark Tower” reading featuring writers of color, on Thursday at 9:30 p.m. in the Little Theater.

On Friday, Blue Parlor doubles down (and up) with two readings in one day, one at 10:10 a.m. in the Library, and the One Minute in Heaven reading, at 5:30 p.m. in the Little Theater. If you haven’t heard of One Minute in Heaven, let us just say that it’s actually divine. Forty-five readers will read for one minute each in a rapid-fire feat that helps us see the best and briefest of Bread Loaf as we prepare to bid farewell. It is open to anyone at the conference. The sign-up sheet for One Minute in Heaven is posted on the Blue Parlor bulletin board next to the back office.

Remember: we would love to have any photos or videos you have taken at the Blue Parlor readings in order to share with the wider Bread Loaf community. Please send to us at blueparlorblwc@gmail.com

See you tonight! As we know, anything could happen. But we expect the best of anything. Don’t miss everything.

*Contact Elisa Gonzalez or Sebastián Páramo with questions, jokes, and (please) your Blue Parlor memorabilia.*

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**Our Stories, Our Voices:**

**Writers of Color on Representation**

At 4:15 p.m. today in the Little Theater, Jericho Brown, Ingrid Rojas Conterra, Alexander Chee, and Lauren Francis-Sharma will participate in a panel moderated by Cathy Linh Che. They will offer advice for writers of color, discuss each of their paths, and talk about how to create coalitional spaces in the writing community. Afterward, there will be time for questions.
Yesterday’s Trivia, Today!

Our beloved Jason Lamb still looks like a deer in the headlights.

OVERHEARD

“We should have a screening of Mean Girls here.”

“I love a good tale about parasites.”

“I just got a concussion for you!”

“I like to keep my peaches at the ready.”

“There was a moose in my room last night.”

“Oh computer, how I despise you.”

“Is standing here watching me do this helping you?”

“Honey, you don’t understand. I have no cell service.”

Overheard anything interesting? Email us at blcrumb@gmail.com

From the Workshop

From a story by Mike Alberti:

“As the night went on, the trick-or-treaters grew older and scarcer. My grandmother fell asleep with her cigarette burning down in the ashtray beside her. The living room was dark. My father and I watched in silence as the Creature stalked the heedless scientists. I’d never seen the film before, and I was rapt. But then, during a slow sequence, I happened to glance over at my father, who sat across the room, and I saw that he wasn’t watching the movie at all. He was staring down at the carpet, and in the TV’s silver glow, I could see that his face—stubbled jaw, eyepatch flipped up—was bright with tears.”

Readings and Lectures Online

This year’s Loaf has featured some transcendent readings. If you’d like to revisit them—or share them with friends and family off the mountain, they’re all accessible at:

sites.middlebury.edu/blwc/bread-loaf-writers-conference/2019-audio-recordings/

Follow Us on Twitter! @thecrumb_blwc

Vermont is an idyllic utopia full of mountains, flowers, cooperative grocery stores, Priuses, and bad cell-phone reception, but you should definitely find the time to get on Twitter and follow us! We’re shouting out great Bread Loaf outfits, sharing audio from the readings, and keeping you up to date on the latest conference shenanigans (power outage! rainbow!). Our handle is @thecrumb_blwc.