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:

“Beginner’s Guide to Creating an Alternate World,” with Lesley Nneka Arimah Barn classroom 203
“Risk Management,” with Christopher Castellani Barn classroom 204
“How to Find the Three Stories in Your Story,” with Ann Hood Barn classroom 205
“The Public and Private in Poetry,” with Reginald Dwayne Betts Barn classroom 102
“Poems from Genesis and the Genesis of Poems,” with Nan Cohen Barn classroom 101
“Ekphrasis: Poetry Illuminates Art,” with Gary Hawkins Barn Classroom 206

Fiction Workshop Locations

Lauren Groff - Barn 102
Christopher Castellani - Barn 203
Maud Casey - Barn 204
Charles Baxter - Barn 205
Randall Kenan - Barn 206
Lan Samantha Chang - Barn Observatory
Stacey D’Erasmo - Library upstairs (back end of building)
Robert Cohen - Inn West Seminar
Peter Ho Davies - Library upstairs (front end of building)

* Helena María Viramontes - Barn 101
*Note that this is a location change
**PLANNING AHEAD**

**Carpooling**

A carpool list will be posted near the dining hall door on Sunday, August 20. 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 20. 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*.

**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

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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 Theatre. 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.

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**Waiter Reading Tonight**

Tonight at 9:30 p.m. in the Little Theatre, 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: Jennifer Funk, Jayme Ringleb, Pam Zhang, De’Shawn Charles Winslow, Kendra Atleework, Sarah Colwill-Brown, Francisco Marquez, Ben Hinshaw, Carla Diaz, Charles Schneider, Kyle Dacuyan, and Koye Oyedele.

Trust us: You’re not going to want to miss this reading (or its part two on Monday, August 21). The waiters rule.

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**CORRECTION**

In yesterday’s *Crumb* article about the Scholar Reading, we neglected to mention our incredible Rona Jaffe Scholars—Jamie Figueroa, Aurvi Sharma, and Annie Woodford—who, along with the other Tuition Scholars, killed it last night.
Blue Parlor’s Library Debut  
a Wild Success

The 2017 Blue Parlor (@ the Library) launched on Friday evening with a lineup of courageous, talented writers unafraid to take the plunge into the vast blue (parlor). Depths were plumbed, spirits were raised — and these writers accomplished it all 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! Tonight’s roster: Timothy DeLizza, Tamar Brendzel, Liza Katz, Helena Duncan, Mitali Desai, Herb Childress, Meriel O’Connell, Sebastian Merrill, Diane Vadino, Mark Price, Sofi Stambolieva, and Quinn Robert. Check back here tomorrow for Sunday’s lineup.

But enough about us. Let’s talk about you. You weren’t sure if you wanted to read, but now you’ve seen the flushed, giddy faces of the Blue-brarians, and you know: You must read. (You must!) The sign-up sheet for the Monday evening reading will be available at 5:25 p.m. in the Library, then posted on the bulletin board by the Back Office immediately following the BP reading by 6:40 p.m.

The early bird gets the mic! See you soon (maybe tonight? maybe tomorrow?) in the Blue (Parlor) Library.

Hopes, dreams, apprehensions? Contact Katie Moulton.

“...and I thought the rain would make everyone sleep in, but we all got up and went crazy instead.”

“It’s not a writing conference without wine.”

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

COMMUNITY ITEMS

Want to get a basket weaving 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

WEATHER DOG BEN

Cloudy-ish
High: 74° Low: 56°

Announcements, cont’d from p. 2

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.

GUESTS
Join us in welcoming Amy Holman and Henry Dunow to the mountain!

Artwork by Carl Phillips

Overheard?

“I thought the rain would make everyone sleep in, but we all got up and went crazy instead.”

“It’s not a writing conference without wine.”

Overheard anything interesting? Email us at blcrumb@gmail.com
Seven Writers
Film Screening

Today, at 1:15 p.m. in Barn 101, there will be a showing of the film Seven Writers, a feature-length documentary created by Rob and Char Gardner. This dynamic, husband-and-wife duo started the project at Bread Loaf last year, and it incorporates interviews with Michael Collier, Jennifer Grotz, Thomas Mallon, A. Van Jordan, Patricia Hampl, Lynn Freed, and Alan Shapiro.

The filmmakers will be present to introduce the film and will be happy to answer questions after the screening.

“Any Questions” by Gary Hawkins

THE ADIRONDUCKS

YOU WANNA HEAR MY ELEVATOR PITCH?

IS THE ELEVATOR PLUMMETING?