

A little bit of news from the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference

Vol. 99

Saturday, August 17, 2024

No. 4

TODAY'S EVENTS

7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. Yoga, Barn 008

7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Breakfast, Bread Loaf Inn

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. "Lavish Syntax," by Rick Barot, Little Theater

> 10:10 a.m. - 12:10 p.m. Fiction Workshops

> 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Lunch, Bread Loaf Inn

1:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m. Blue Parlor Reading, Barn Tent

> 2:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. Craft Classes

4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.

Reading: Jenny Johnson, Laura Marris, and Joe Milan Jr., Little Theater

> 5:15 p.m. - 6:16 p.m. Barn Social

6:15 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. Dinner, Bread Loaf Inn

8:15 p.m. Reading: Paul Lisicky and Adrian Matejka, Little Theater

9:15 p.m.

Reading: Administrative Staff Scholars, night two of two, Little Theater, followed by Barn Pub

Craft Classes Commence

After two days of intense anticipation, the first craft classes kick off today at 2:30 p.m. These 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, except as noted.

Sign-up sheets will be available via Google Forms and go out to Bread Loafers' personal emails. The Craft Class Sign-up Email for week two classes will go out at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, August 19. For those of you who signed up for a class, here is a reminder of the locations:

"Troubling the Voice: An Exploration of Writing in First Person," with Jamel Brinkley - Barn 102

"Research for Fiction Writers," with Amber Caron - Barn 206
"Argument and Story: Writing Rhetoric in Narrative Nonfiction,"
with Ricardo Nuila - Barn 205

"Writing Circles: Writing After Form," with Sally Keith - Barn 101
"Contradiction As Craft," with Robert Wood Lynn - Barn 204
"Image and Text, Text as Image, and Image as Text,"
with Diana Khoi Nguyen - Barn 203

Fiction Workshop Locations

Marie-Helene Bertino - Barn 101

Ladee Hubbard - Cherry Porch

Rebecca Makkai - Barn 203

Garth Greenwell - Barn 204

Jamel Brinkley - Blue Parlor

Mat Johnson - Inn West Seminar

Helen Schulman - Barn Tent

Margot Livesey - Library Upstairs (Front end of building)

Dinaw Mengestu - Barn 206

Samantha Hunt - Barn 205



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Planning Ahead - Carpooling

A carpool list will be posted near the Dining Room door on Sunday, August 18. If you are willing to take passengers along when you leave the mountain next week, please note your information on the list (name, email, destination, and number of spots available in your car). If you are looking for a ride, please get in touch by sending an email.

Vermont Tour and Charter

A schedule of Vermont Tour and Charter 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 Vermont Tour and Charter directly at (802) 734-1293 by Sunday, August 18.

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 Crumb*.

If taking the train/bus from Middlebury, arrange a ride with the Front Desk. Vermont Tour and Charter does not provide transportation to/from Middlebury.

Got Wifi?

On Sunday, an ITS scheduled maintenance will take place for 15 minutes between 6:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. During this time, there will be an estimated 15-minute span of time when devices will be unable to reconnect if they are turned on during that window or the person is moving from one building to another. If you experience this, please wait for a full 15 minutes and then restart your device and the WiFi access login.

Reminder: Be Tender, Don't Misgender

Bread Loaf is a conference for people of all genders and gender experiences. We encourage all Bread Loafers to wear their nametags and to refrain from assuming which pronouns other Bread Loafers use.

If you have questions about this or have experienced any form of discrimination or marginalization here on the mountain, remember that Lauren Francis-Sharma is available to hear you and advocate for you. You can contact her at lfrancissharma@middlebury.edu.

Staff Scholar Reading Part II: Tonight!

They stunned us last night, and this evening they're at it again. The second batch of Bread Loaf Staff Scholars will read their work tonight at 9:15 p.m. in the Little Theater. Come out and cheer for the hard-working writers who help keep Bread Loaf humming along! Reading tonight will be:

Zack Abrams
Marley Badolati
Danielle Harms
Tobi Kassim
Neysa King
Suhail Mandani
Annie Reid
Nick Robinson
Mark Spero
Reed Turchi





Friendly Reminder: Since the sun is out and the birds are chirping, we encourage you to take your meals outdoors. There are several picnic tables near the Little Theater.

Vol. 99

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Barn Social and Barn Pub

Beer and wine 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 9:15 p.m. Free soda, coffee, and water are also available. Complimentary beer and wine will be available during the dance on Sunday.

Missing a Guest 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.

Nervous Ticks

Ticks and mosquitoes love Vermont as much as we do. Please remember to check yourself for ticks if you've been going on walks through the woods or fields!

Phones Off

Please (please!) remember to turn off your phone when you attend readings and lectures.

Start Your Warmups!

The Writers' Cramp Race, a friendly 2.75 mile competition, takes off on Monday at 9:00 a.m. Keep an eye out for more details in tomorrow's *Crumb*.

I Just Can't Help My Shelf

Did you know that the Davison Library has issues of Kenyon Review, New England Review, Poetry, Poetry Northwest, and Southampton Review along with many other periodicals for browsing? Pull up a comfy chair and enjoy. (There are even some complimentary issues that you can take home with you!)

To Slam or Not to Slam (It's Not Really a Question)

Satisfying as it may be to give a door a good slam, sound carries and your neighbors may be napping. Please be mindful and ease doors shut.

Blue Parlor's Debut a Wild Success

The 2024 Blue Parlor Readings in the Barn Tent launched on Friday afternoon with a lineup of courageous, talented writers unafraid to take the plunge. 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 1:15 p.m. in the Barn Tent! Today's roster: Ameen Animashaun, Amy Asay, Erin Belair, Mary Berman, C. Adan Cabrera, Adrianna Caputo, Colby Cotton, Nancy Huxtable Mohr, Amanda Kallis, Umair Kazi, Sarah Mullens, Benjamin Steinhorn, Kira Witkin, and River Ying Dandelion.

Join us in giving a hearty round of applause to those who kicked off Blue Parlor yesterday: Kristin Davis, Abdelrahman ElGendy, Robin Field, Daniel Martin, Soleil Nathwani, Tahneer Oksman, Luisa Peñaflor, Adrian Schnall, Eileen Toomey, Beth Weinstock, JoAnneh Nagler, Jessica Rotondi, Daniel Uncapher, and Annie Wenstrup.

Check back tomorrow for Sunday's lineup for the LGBTQ+ reading.

But enough about BP. 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-barians, and you know: You must read. (You must!) Good news: more chances await. The next email to sign up will go out on Monday, August 19 at 7:30 p.m.

The early bird gets the mic! See you soon (maybe today? maybe tomorrow?) in the Blue (Parlor) Barn Tent.

Hopes, dreams, apprehensions?

Contact Danielle Harms or Tobi Kassim
daniellemharms@gmail.com, tobi.kassim@gmail.com

Readings and Lecture Audio Online

Enjoy any readings or lectures you missed—or relive memories of ones you attended—by listening to the audio recordings. These are published daily at middlebury.edu/blwc. Check your email for a direct link.



GUESTS

Please extend a warm welcome to **Michelle Whittaker** and **Anjali Singh!** Safe travels to **Ian Bonaparte.**

WEATHER

Partly cloudy with afternoon showers

High: 80° Low: 65°

Faculty Flashback!





Mini Paul Lisicky and Sally Keith

COMMUNITY ITEMS

Tennis, Anyone?

Tennis player looking for a hit on the library court. Didn't bring my racquet but the Inn loans them at the Front Desk! Shoot me a message at amdesilv@yahoo.com. -Andrew De Silva

Calling All AAPI Writers!

Please join us for a special AAPI lunch on Wednesday, August 21 at 12:15 p.m. We will have a reserved space outdoors beneath the dining tent. This will be a casual, low-stakes space to get to know one another, share stories, and commune over a hearty meal. If you have questions, feel free to seek out Crystal Hana Kim.

A Swim Trip to the Gorge

Saturday after the 4:15 p.m. reading, the Front Desk will offer a ride to the East Middlebury Gorge for a refreshing swim in the river. The Gorge is more of a swimming hole than just dipping into the river across our meadow. The trip takes about 10 minutes one way. We will stay at the Gorge for about 45-60 minutes and return to campus in time for dinner.

Tiny Horoscopes Midnight snacks			
ARIES	Hot Cheetos	LIBRA	Grilled cheese
TAURUS	Camembert	M. SCORPIO	Raw oysters
GEMINI	Sour straws	SAG.	Lucky Charms (only the marshmallows)
CANCER	Cookie dough ice cream	No CAP.	Wasabi chex mix
LEO	Twizzlers	AQU.	Cheddar pop- corn
M VIRGO	Dark chocolate with sea salt	H PISCES	Guacamole

OVERHEARD

"I wormed myself, I dewormed myself."

"I don't know how to handle the broccoli...So I'm just going to do some awkward gnawing."

"I haven't had the chance to love a groundhog."

"Marshmallows are a very snuggly treat and I'm not here for it."

"Pennsylvania: it's more than just ticks!"

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