

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.

Centennial Panel

Moderated by Carl Phillips with
Lauren Groff, Tomás Q. Morín,
Laura van den Berg, and Paul
Yoon, Little Theater

10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Optional Orientation for Bread
Loafers, Little Theater

11:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Blue Parlor Informational
Meeting, Barn Tent

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Lunch, Bread Loaf Inn

1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

All Workshops Meet

4:15 p.m.

Reading: Lauren Francis-Sharma
and V. Penelope Pelizzon, Little
Theater

5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.

Barn Social

6:00 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.

Dinner
Bread Loaf Inn

8:15 p.m.

Reading: Christopher Castellani
and Stacey D'Erasmus,
Little Theater

9:00 p.m.

Bread Loaf Centennial Slide Show,
Little Theater

9:00 p.m. - Midnight

Barn Pub

100th Conference Begins!

The Bread Loaf Writers' Conference kicked off yesterday, making 2025 the hundredth year that writers have gathered together here on the mountain to read, listen, dance, and discuss. This year's 270 participants hail from all over the world and all stages of their writing careers!

Whether you're a returning participant leaping joyfully into your old friends' arms or a first-timer wandering campus in search of the restrooms, we're so glad you're here.

The Adirondack chairs are out, the fields are bright with goldenrod, and we're all looking forward to a fantastic ten days of craft, creativity, and connection here in Ripton.

Workshop Locations

Please note that locations are only for today, Thursday, August 14. Vans to Earthworm will leave from the front of the Inn at 1:15 p.m.

Paisley Rekdal - Treman Living Room

Danielle Evans - Barn 102

Camille T. Dungy - Barn 203

Elisa Gabbert - Barn 204

Ishion Hutchinson - Barn 205

Tomás Q. Morín - Barn 206

Mat Johnson - Barn 008

Paul Yoon - Barn Observatory

Marie Mutsuki Mockett - Inn West Seminar

Claire Messud - Library Upstairs (Back end of building)

Laura van den Berg - Library Upstairs (Front end of building)

Carl Phillips - Barn Tent

Christopher Castellani - Barn Main Room

Amina Gautier - Library Main Floor

Stacey D'Erasmus - Blue Parlor

Valzhyna Mort - Barn 101

V. Penelope Pelizzon - Tamarack Living Room

Carter Sickels - Earthworm Living Room

Victor LaValle - Fritz Living Room



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Forget Amazon!

Books by faculty, fellows, and participants are for sale in the Bookstore, as are Bread Loaf clothing and swag. The store is located in the basement of the Annex; the entrance is at the rear of the building. Cash, Visa, and MasterCard are accepted. Go say hello to Kristin Richland, Will Stephens, and Elaina Welles the keepers of the books!

Be sure to check the Bookstore door for the most up-to-date hours.

Apple Cellar Tech

Having trouble accessing the wireless network? Our kindly Apple Cellar Techs will be on hand in the computer lab to help with any issues today, Thursday, August 14, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Conference Orientation Today!

Questions? Bewilderments? Mountain air got you dizzy? Fret no more and join us at 10:30 a.m. today for an optional conference orientation in the Little Theater. See you there at 10:30 a.m.!

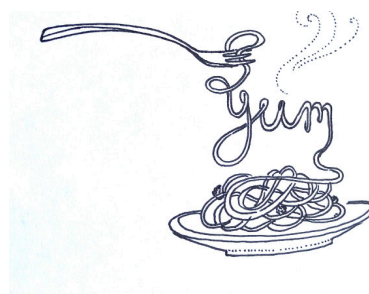
All About Lunch

Lunch will be served buffet style, so to avoid long lines, we urge you to follow the schedule noted here in *The Crumb*, based on your workshop schedule.

- On days when your workshop does not meet, please go to the Dining Room starting at 11:30 a.m.
- On days when your workshop does meet, please go to the Dining Room at 12:15 p.m.
- Today, when all workshops meet at 1:30 p.m., we ask poets and nonfiction writers to show up at 11:30 a.m., and fiction writers to hold back until noon.
- For those who would like to enjoy their meals outdoors, a selection of picnic blankets will be available as well as picnic tables and Adirondack chairs on the Bread Loaf lawns. Two tents for dining are also available. Please be aware that on some days the tent may be used for events or meetings, so it will be necessary to enter only after the event has finished.

Reminders

- Meal times are prompt. Running short on time? Just grab a to-go container!
- Enjoy the fresh Vermont air! We encourage diners to take their meals outside.
- Coffee is available in the morning by 6:30 a.m. After breakfast ends, coffee and water are available in the Dining Room and Barn throughout the day.
- If you have an allergy or food concern, please be proactive and discuss any questions or concerns with the Kitchen Staff.
- The doors to the Inn lock after 10:00 p.m. Use code **1425** to enter after hours.



Craft Classes

The classes take place at 2:30 p.m. on the days listed, and each is limited to 25 people unless otherwise noted. Sign-up sheets will be available in two batches via Google Forms and go out to Bread Loafers' personal emails. The Craft Class Sign-up Email for week one classes will go out at 8:30 a.m. today. The Craft Class Sign-up Email for week two classes will go out at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, August 18.

The Postman Doesn't Ring

If you're expecting mail, please check in at the Front Desk.

The Silence of the Phones

Cell phone reception is selectively available on the mountain. It is a good idea to let your loved ones know this so they don't think you've been eaten by a bear (or a hungry writer).

Should your phone be blessed with reception, please be mindful of where you choose to chat. Meetings will be taking place across campus, so we ask that while in the Dining Room, the Barn, the Little Theater, or on the Inn Porch, you keep to a quieter mode of communication, such as texting or astral projection. In general, please keep your phones on silent.

Smile!

Photographer Edward Brown will be visiting workshops today to take group photos. An order form for photos will be available later in the conference.

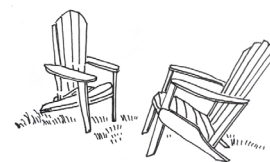
Blue Parlor Informational Meeting

Due to the popularity of the inimitable Blue Parlor reading series, the 2025 readings will, once again, not actually take place in the Blue Parlor. Bread Loaf's own literary salon will be in the Barn Tent, where we will convene to share and celebrate our work, wow each other outside of the workshop, and enjoy post-lunch snacks, provided by your hosts, Danielle Harms and Tobi Kassim.

Today at 11:15 a.m., immediately following the orientation, you're invited to the Barn Tent to learn more about the BP reading series and ask questions. A few of the hot topics to be discussed: How and where do I sign up? How long can I read? Can I wear sweatpants? This meeting will finish in time to head over to lunch afterward. Information and sign-ups for the Blue Parlor series will be emailed to you from the Blue Parlor Coordinators, Danielle and Tobi. On Friday, August 15th, the first reading of the season kicks off at 1:15 p.m.! Stay tuned to *The Crumb* for further announcements of sign-ups, themes, readers, and other secrets.

Come check us out! We'll laugh, we'll cry, we'll make that appreciative crowd noise in our throats. Join us, Bread Loafers! Let's make some magic on the mountain.

Questions, concerns, high fives?
Contact Blue Parlor Coordinators
Danielle Harms & Tobi Kassim



From the Front Desk

Please keep these guidelines in mind for convenience and safety:

- There is no smoking allowed inside any building on campus or on any porch.
- We suggest you start a room list by each hall phone so building mates can find you if you get a call.
- Please park all cars in the Barn parking lot, not on Route 125. The exception to this rule covers those staying at Tamarack, Gilmore, Fritz, Frothingham, Earthworm, and Brandybrook, and also cars parked for less than 10 minutes for the purposes of loading and unloading. In addition, there are two accessible parking spots – one in front of the Inn and one in back.
- Notify the Front Desk at extension 2700 for minor medical issues. If you have a serious medical emergency, call 911 and then notify the Front Desk. Before 8:00 a.m. or after 10:00 p.m., when the Front Desk is closed, call both extensions 2713 and 2710.

FROM THE LITTLE THEATER

1. Bells will ring at 15 and 5 minutes prior to each lecture and reading. Please arrive on time.

2. Trash cans are located near the exits of the Little Theater. We love it when people use them (for trash).

3. Please leave the outside chairs where they are and avoid pulling them up close to the doors.

4. Lost and Found: Items of low to moderate value unearthed in the Little Theater 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.

—Nathan Blum, Ximena Keogh
Serrano, Neysa King, and Jon

Explore Scenic Middlebury

Starting tomorrow, van trips to Middlebury leave the Inn around 1:30 p.m. and return from Middlebury at 3:30 p.m. to arrive at Bread Loaf at 4:00 p.m. There is no trip planned today. Sign up at the Front Desk if you'd like to ride into town. For pressing matters, a morning ride into town can be arranged. Note: The driver will not wait for lollygaggers! Be on time.

Yoga

Yoga instructor Joanna Colwell will offer Iyengar yoga classes daily, beginning today, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. in Barn 008. The classes are appropriate for all abilities and all are welcome. A handful of mats will be available. The final yoga class will be on Friday, August 22.

AA Meetings

Meetings are scheduled to take place daily from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. and from 5:15 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. in the Upstairs Library (back end of building). To schedule additional meeting times while on the mountain, just let a Back Office Staff member know. Staff will reserve the room and include a note about the meetings in *The Crumb*. The meetings are self-run and are open to all.

Greetings from Social Staff

Hello, Bread Loaf! We're the Social Staff. We'd love to meet you, so please don't be shy! Like you, we're all writers and will be participating in workshops. All of us have been here before, so if you've got questions about anything on the mountain, please let us know, and we'll do our best to lend a hand.

—Coryn Brown, Suhail Mandani, Nik Chang Hoon, Meriel
O'Connell, Annie Reid, Nick Robinson, Dane Slutzky,
and Reed Turchi

Barn Pub

Every evening at 5:15 p.m., you're invited to do some pre-dinner socializing in the Barn. Beer and wine will be available for purchase, and soft drinks will be available free of charge. The bar in the Barn will open again at 9:00 p.m., after the evening readings.

**Hi from the Davison Library at Bread Loaf!**

We invite you to make the library your comfy, book-filled oasis for the next ten days. Please stop by to say hi, relax in the overstuffed chairs, and enjoy our book displays, free printing, and assistance with wifi. (We're the white building behind the Little Theater.) See you soon!

—Kellam Ayres, Bread Loaf librarian
(kayres@middlebury.edu)

GUESTS

Join us in welcoming the following visitors to the mountain:
Ian Bonaparte, David Haward Bain, Gerald Maa,
and Leslie Sainz

Extra, Extra! Write All About It!

The Crumb welcomes—dare we say it, begs for—submissions of news, editorials, overheard comments, food reviews, limericks, interviews, trivia, comics, and letters to the editor from conference participants (a.k.a. you!). If you'd like to submit something for consideration, please e-mail your copy to **blcrumb@gmail.com**.

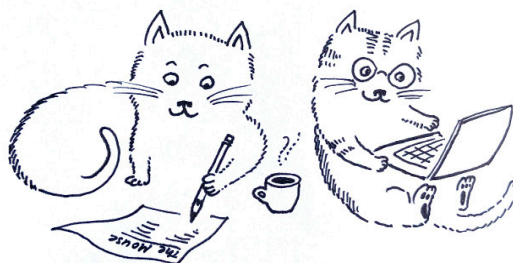
Please note that while the editors delight in reading missed connections in their spare time, they take a staunch “Bartleby, the Scrivener” approach to the running of advertisements and personals.

Topics of community interest (volleyball smackdown, jaunt into town, barbershop quartet, etc.) are limited to a headline, plus thirty words. We will print items on a first-come, first-served basis as space permits. You can send them along to **blcrumb@gmail.com**.

You're also welcome to bring us gifts of coffee

(cream, no sugar), hot gossip, warm cookies, and funny drawings of cats. We are very friendly and love meeting new people!

— Annie Schumacher and
Matthew Lawrence Garcia, Editors



OVERHEARD

“I love passive aggressive sticky notes.”

“Are you and Jason Lamb going to prom?”

“My husband doesn't want to live in Scotland anymore.” “Too much plaid?”

“Where would I go to find frogs?”

“Wow, okay, I really thought you were about to give me a warm cookie, but I guess not.”

Overhear something amazing? Email it to us (without attribution, of course) at **blcrumb@gmail.com.**

Tiny Horoscopes

First morning on the mountain!



ARIES

Four-leaf clovers



LIBRA

Bat your eyelashes



TAURUS

Creekside chat?



SCORPIO

Arnold Palmer



GEMINI

Turn off your phone



SAG.

Bug spray



CANCER

Nap hard



CAP.

Sharpen your pencils



LEO

Find your crush



AQU.

Lip gloss



VIRGO

Call your cat



PISCES

Bird watch

WEATHER REPORT

Partly cloudy — our meteorologists are predicting a slight chance of rain.

High: 77° Low: 53°