

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

Vol. 100

Sunday, August 17, 2025

No. 5

TODAY'S EVENTS

7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. Yoga, Barn oo8

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

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. "Afterlives," by Jennifer Grotz, Little Theater

10:10 a.m. - 12:10 p.m. Poetry & Nonfiction Workshops

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

1:15 p.m. **Blue Parlor Presents:** LGBTQ+ Reading, Barn Tent

> 2:30 p.m. Craft Classes

4:15 p.m. Reading: Chanda Feldman, Courtney Zoffness, Daniel Tam-Claiborne, and Margaret Ross, Little Theater

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

6:00 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. Dinner, Bread Loaf Inn

8:00 p.m. Reading: Carl Phillips and Paul Yoon, Little Theater

9:00 p.m. - Midnight Dance, Barn (New location)

Today's Craft Classes

Get excited for another round of craft classes at 2:30 p.m. this afternoon! Please check the lobby for handouts. Here come some more:

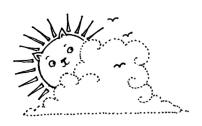
> Novel Whispering: How To Finish a Novel with Mat Johnson - Barn Classroom 102

Many Worlds: Possibility and Multiplicity in Fiction with Emet North - Barn Classroom 205

The Visual Turn with Ashley Marie Farmer - Barn Classroom 203

The Rhyme Playground with V. Penelope Pelizzon - Barn Classroom 101

Craft classes will also be offered on Tuesday, August 19; Wednesday, August 20; and Thursday, August 21.



Craft Class Sign-Ups!

The sign-up email for the next round of craft classes will go out on tomorrow at 8:30 a.m.! Classes are capped at 25 people and fill up promptly.

GUESTS

Today we welcome Katie Raissian! Safe travels to Miriam Altshuler, Ayesha Pande, Jenny Xu, Katie Farris, and Ilya Kaminsky.

WEATHER

Keep your raincoat handy chance of storms in the afternoon

> High 81° Low 47 °

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tomorrow's Adjusted Schedule

After days of overstimulation, participants get a more relaxing day. Tomorrow, workshops will not meet, and our schedule is adjusted to give you some leisure time. Highlights of the day will include the annual Writers' Cramp Race; the next Blue Parlor Reading; the picnic at the Frost Farm; "Writing for the Culture," the Writers of Color panel; an afternoon reading with Adrienne Chung, Emet North, and Irvin Weathersby; an evening reading by Elisa Gabbert and Ishion Hutchinson: and the world premiere of the Bread Loaf Documentary. Sounds relaxing, right?

Please mind the doors!

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.

A Note from Dining Services

Please do not to enter the lunch line with <u>any</u> bags. It makes it very difficult for our servers to fit down the line and provide you with the best service. Thank you!

Lost at the Barn

A one-of-a-kind bag with "aboutness of the speaker" screen printed on it went missing at the Barn. The owner would be overjoyed to have it back! Please contact Caroline Patterson (locobanana97@gmail.com) if found.

Writers' Cramp Race

Don't let the name scare you off — the Writers' Cramp Race is a friendly competition along a 2.75 mile course. It begins tomorrow at 9:00 a.m. Runners of all skill levels should meet by the front porch of the Annex by 8:45 a.m. for instructions and an overview of the course, which winds through the campus and down to the Frost Farm. Volunteers are welcome to help with providing water and cheering. Runners can get a late breakfast in the Dining Room. For everyone not participating in the race, breakfast will end as usual at 8:30 a.m.

Join Us For Today's LGBTQ+ Reading!

The Blue Parlor is on fire! So far, our esteemed writers have performed for incredible crowds against the beautiful backdrop of mountains and sky. The Barn Tent has been LIT in more ways than one. Today at 1:15 p.m. the Barn Tent will host a special Blue Parlor reading: the LGBTQ+ Reading! The line-up features:

Leah Brand Moa Short Rebecca Uhlman Felix Lecocq caroline ganci patterson PJ Henry Jung Virginia Wood Andrew Green Olivia Treynor Flower Conroy Gracie Newman Lucia Retta **Casev Schreiner** Annie Reid Victoria Spaulding Ximena Keogh Serrano

Don't forget: The sign-up sheets for Week Two's readings will go out tonight, Sunday, August 17, at 7:30 p.m. The sign-ups for the rapid-fire One-Minute-in-Heaven Reading will be included too. See you this afternoon!

Contact Danielle Harms and Tobi Kassim with all relevant questions, pictures, jokes.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please Don't Litter in the Little Theater!

Somebody—many somebodies, in fact—have been leaving trash in the Little Theater. Please do not be one of these somebodies. Take your coffee cups, candy wrappers, Kleenexes, etc. with you when you leave, and throw them away in the appropriate receptacle.

Where There's Smoke...

Many windows are open across campus to let in the lovely summer breeze. Smokers, please keep your distance from campus buildings so smoke does not waft inside.

Counselor on Campus

For mental health matters, please contact Antonia Losano at alosano@middlebury.edu to make an appointment. Antonia can schedule appointments between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. daily (in person or via Zoom) and will be able to arrange a meeting place that will work best for you.





Let's Dance... The First Dance... Toniiiiiiiiiijht!

Tonight at 9:00 p.m., you're greatly encouraged to come to the Barn and show off your sweet, sweet dance moves. We'll provide the DJ and the free drinks.

Speaking of drinks: A few friendly reminders.

- Only one alcoholic beverage can be served to an individual at a time.
- Participants who look young will be carded, so be sure to bring your valid ID.
- A cordoned perimeter around the Barn and Barn Tent will let you know where the drinking of booze is permitted; please do not try to take your drink out of that designated area.
- If you have a special bottle of Pappy Van Winkle or homemade mezcal in your room, great! Leave it there. Bringing your own alcohol to the event is a no-go.

Jazz hands

Frost Farm Picnic Just Around the Corner

On Monday, August 18, lunch will be served as a picnic at Frost Farm rather than in the Dining Room. A beloved tradition at the conferences, the picnic takes place at Frost Farm, about 1.5 miles from the Bread Loaf Inn, and is followed by a tour of Frost's summer cabin nearby. Usually unavailable to the public, the cabin is unlocked and made available for this special event. The picnic will begin at 12:30 p.m. on Monday. John Elder will say a few words about the cabin and share a Robert Frost poem at 1:30 p.m. While many may want to make the walk down to the Frost Farm, transportation will also be available. Those who would like a ride should gather in front of the Bread Loaf Inn at 12:15 p.m.

To reach the Frost Farm, either take the marked path in the woods behind the Barn or turn right from the Inn porch and walk .7 miles down Route 125. Turn right onto Frost Road, just before the Robert Frost Wayside; the farm is roughly .8 miles up the road. Those walking should plan to leave at noon.

Please note: If the weather prevents us from holding this event, we'll post new information on the front door of the Dining Room by 11:00 a.m. on Monday.

OVERHEARD

"If the dance is in the Barn, I'll have to wear my bowling shoes."

"We've met before, but now we've smelled each other."

"All I know is that woman was dirty for hours longer than she wanted to be"

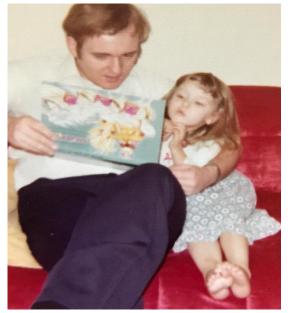
"No cookies?? How about NO TOAST!!!!!!!!"

Was I not worth prednisone?"

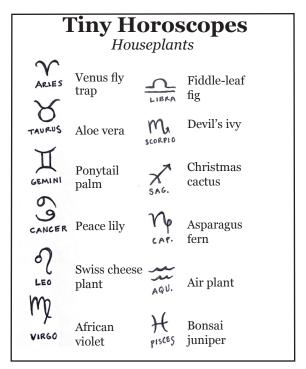
Overheard anything interesting? Email us at blcrumb@gmail.com



A step back in time...



Our fearless leader, Jennifer Grotz, and her dad—storytelling runs in the family.



From the Workshops...

Here's a taste (a delicious crumb, if you will) of the feast of literature being discussed in workshop.

I wished in my conversations with others for someone to mention something by which I could pivot the conversation toward Khoa, but they never did because nothing I knew about him was recountable in words. How could I say, the sparrow on the pavement reminded me of the way he flitted in and out of sleep. The way a stranger's coat brushed against the train window reminded me of the way the light through my bedroom blinds brushed against his ankles. I could not say it, so I said nothing at all. If anyone noticed my reticence, they did not mention it.

From Felix Lecocq's manuscript "Strangers" (from Carter Sickel's workshop)

