the Crumb

The 'B' is not silent!

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

Vol. 97 Wednesday, August 17, 2022 No. 1

TODAY'S EVENTS

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Registration,
Bread Loaf Inn

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

2:00 p.m.
Campus Tour,
Bread Loaf Inn Front Porch

3:00 p.m.
Campus Tour,
Bread Loaf Inn Front Porch

4:00 p.m.
Campus Tour,
Bread Loaf Inn Front Porch

5:15
Yoga, between Barn Parking Lot and the row of Cottages

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

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

8:15 p.m.
Welcome: Jennifer Grotz, Middlebury College President
Laurie L. Patton
Reading: Ilya Kaminsky, Little Theater

9:30 p.m.
Coffee Reception & Pub, Barn, and Barn Tent

GUESTS

Join us in welcoming the following visitors to the mountain:

Miriam Altshuler
Ian Bonaparte
Allison Devereux
Chantz Erolin
Ryan Murphy

Hello, Hello!

The Crumb is delighted to wel-crumb you to the 97th Annual Bread Loaf Writers' Conference. Today's edition of *The Crumb* will fill you in on such basics as Bookstore hours and where to find laundry machines. Hereafter, it will contain daily schedules, program changes, and announcements of special events. You will find copies each morning by the Dining Room door.

Please leave letters to the editor, announcements, and story pitches in the envelope marked *The Crumb* outside the Back Office or email them to blcrumb@gmail.com. Let us know if you are interested in writing for the finest newspaper in the greater Ripton metropolitan area!

Hours of Operation

Back Office:	Daily, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Front Desk:	Daily, 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Directors' Office Hours:	Jennifer Grotz: 1:30 p.m. to 2:00 or by appointment Lauren Francis-Sharma: 10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. or by appointment The Directors' Office is across from the Back Office, by the Blue Parlor.
Switchboard:	Same as Front Desk
Library:	Daily, 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. Librarian on site weekdays, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Apple Cellar:	Same hours as Library
Bookstore:	Daily 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Tuesday, August 23, 9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Friday, August 26, 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Director: Jennifer Grotz
Assistant Director: Lauren Francis-Sharma
Administrative Director: Noreen Cargill
Coordinator: Jason Lamb
Diversity Liaison: Lauren Francis-Sharma

CONFERENCE STAFF

Back Office Staff
Angela Boyd
Dolapo Demuren
Caitlin McGill

Blue Parlor Coordinators
Sebastián Páramo
Megan Pinto

The Crumb Editors
Annie Schumacher
Rowan Sharp

Little Theater Coordinators
Samuel Cheney
Zoë Ruiz
Jon Sargent

Social Staff
Caroline Beimford
Adrienne Chung
Jen Funk
Suhail Mandani
Sebastian Merrill

Social Staff & Bookstore Liaison
Preeti Parikh
Scott Stubbs

Administrative and social staff are attending the Conference on work scholarships.

MANAGEMENT

Front Desk Managers
Edward Brown
Victoria Brown

Bread Loaf Photographers
Edward Brown
Todd Balfour

Front Desk Assistants
Kalli Federhofer
Matt Fiorentino
Peter Newton

Bread Loaf Campus Facilities and Services

Back Office

The Back Office is in the west wing of the Inn, next to the Blue Parlor. The staff is happy to help with any photocopying needs as well as any questions you may have.

If you would like to arrange a special discussion or activity, please feel free to announce it by emailing blcrumb@gmail.com. The Back Office staff would be happy to help you plan an activity, from finding a good place to post the announcement to arranging an appropriate meeting place.

Barn Social and Barn Pub

The Barn, located in a central spot on the Bread Loaf campus, is a place for participants to gather and socialize. On most days, from 5:15 p.m. until dinner, a Barn Social will take place, with soda and munchies available free of charge, and beer and wine on sale. And on most evenings, a Barn Pub is set up from 9:30 p.m. to midnight.

Bread Loaf follows the rules governed by Vermont Department of Liquor Control. Only alcohol you purchase from the Bread Loaf bartenders may be consumed at Bread Loaf Socials and Pubs.

Bells

We'll start your day with a wake-up bell at 7:30 a.m.; thereafter you'll hear a bell to announce the start of each meal, as well as fifteen minutes and again five minutes before the start of each lecture and reading.

Blue Parlor Readings

During the Conference, all are invited to take part in the Blue Parlor readings. These informal readings, hosted by coordinators Megan Pinto and Sebastián Páramo, will take place in the Barn Tent. These readings provide an opportunity to share your writing and to meet Bread Loafers from other workshops. Those interested in reading will be asked to sign up in advance. Details about the Blue Parlor organizational meeting will be noted in a forthcoming issue of *The Crumb*.

Computer Lab in the Apple Cellar and Wireless Access

A computer room is located in the basement of the Library on the Bread Loaf campus. The login information to use the computers will be posted in the Apple Cellar itself. Should you need a hand with digital matters, a computer technician will be on hand some days (please see the schedule below) and the Middlebury College Help Desk will be available by phone (dial 2200 from any campus phone) or email (helpdesk@middlebury.edu) on weekdays from 8:15 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

If you have trouble accessing the wireless network, Adam Wisco and Alivia Kliesen from the Middlebury College IT Help Desk will be available in the Apple Cellar the following times:

Wednesday, August 17: 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Thursday, August 18: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Friday, August 19: 10:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Wi-Fi

Guests can access the internet once on campus by selecting the MiddleburyGuest wireless network then following the prompts to accept the certificate and connect (be sure to connect to MiddleburyGuest and not MiddleburyCollege).

Linens

Sheets, blankets, and towels are provided. If you find that you need an additional towel or other item, the Front Desk staff will be pleased to assist you.

Laundry

Washers and dryers are in the Laundry House in front of the Barn. The Front Desk can give you change if needed.

Health Care

For Physical Health Care:

For non-emergency health matters, a self-care cart is available near the Lobby of the Bread Loaf Inn. Should you find that the cart does not address your particular concerns, the Bread Loaf Inn Front Desk staff will help you with a referral. Porter Hospital is located in Middlebury.

For Physical Health Emergencies:

In serious medical emergencies such as difficulty breathing, significant loss of blood, unconsciousness, or back and neck injuries, call 911. Remember: persons with neck or spine injuries should never be moved—always call 911.

Step 1: Call 911 from any on-campus phone. A sign near each phone lists important details including the exact address and phone number for that location.

Step 2: Contact the Front Desk Staff at x2700 to let them know.

For Mental Health Care:

For mental health matters, contact the director, assistant director, administrative director, or coordinator (Jennifer, Lauren, Noreen, or Jason) for a referral.

For Mental Health Emergencies:

The emergency team at the Counseling Service of Addison Countjy is available around the clock. Dial 9 and then 388-7641 from any campus phone.



Covid-19 Protocols

Below please see some details from the Protocols and Pledge document that attendees signed before their arrival. For more information, please refer to your personal copy of the document.

Masks are required during the Faculty and Fellow Readings and the Faculty Lectures that will take place in the Little Theater. Attendees will wear their own masks or wear a mask distributed by staff just outside of the building. For all other indoor spaces and programming as well as outdoor activities in which social distancing is not possible, we strongly encourage masking. Faculty and Fellows may require masking indoors during workshops and craft classes.

Attendees may want to wear layers in case a workshop, craft class, or meeting with an agent or editor takes place outside (or inside with the windows and doors open). We encourage attendees to enjoy meals outside as much as possible.

Attendees experiencing COVID-19 symptoms should self-administer an antigen test immediately at the slightest symptom; do not wait to see if symptoms get worse before testing.

If the test result is negative and symptoms persist, attendees pledge to continue to wear a mask at all times and test again 24 hours later to confirm the initial antigen test result. If the symptoms continue, the attendee pledges to continue wearing a mask at all times and to take antigen tests daily until symptoms clear.

If the antigen test result is positive, attendees:

1. Immediately begin to wear a mask and self-isolate in their room.

2. Right away contact the Bread Loaf Inn Front Desk staff (802-443-2700; blfd@middlebury.edu) or the Back Office staff (802-443-5286; blwc@middlebury.edu) to inform staff of the positive test result and discuss the next steps.

AA Meetings

AA Meetings are scheduled to take place daily from 5:15 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. in the Barn Observatory, an upstairs classroom with an entrance on the right side of the Barn. To schedule additional meeting times while on the mountain, just let a Back Office Staff member know. The meetings are self-run and are open to all.

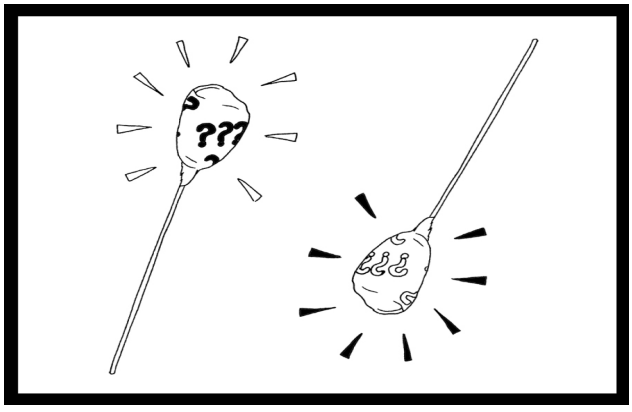
Diversity Liaison

Lauren Francis-Sharma is serving as Diversity Liaison for this year's conference. If there are any issues you would like to discuss, you are welcome to schedule a private meeting by emailing her directly at lfrancissharma@middlebury.edu.

A WORD ABOUT THE WEATHER

The climate on the mountain can be volatile: sunny one moment, stormy the next. While The Crumb does its best to provide you with accurate weather information, the skies will do their best to outfox us.

The editors' tip: courage, perseverence, and layers!



Bookstore

Books by faculty, fellows, and contributors 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 Kim MacQueen and Riley Earle, the keepers of the books!

Library

The Library is the white building behind the Little Theater. In addition to its permanent collection, there are magazines and books by faculty and fellows. You will also find a complete set of the 2022 workshop packets on the reserve shelf. Kellam Ayres is your friendly librarian.

Front Desk

Visit the Front Desk in the Bread Loaf Inn for matters regarding your room and lodging, moose facts, lost and found items, local lore, information about local walking/running trails, buying postage, mailing packages, transportation tips, and other general information. A Lost and Found is located at the Front Desk. The Front Desk has COVID-19 antigen tests available.

Staggered Lunch Schedule

Lunch will be served buffet style, and to avoid long lines, we urge you to follow the procedure noted here, 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 between 12:30 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. Lunch service continues until 1:30 p.m.

We encourage you to eat outside as much as possible.

The First Thursday and Final Friday

On the first Thursday and final Friday, when all workshops meet at 1:30 p.m., we ask the poets and nonfiction writers to show up for lunch at 11:30 a.m., and fiction writers to please wait until noon to enter the Dining Hall.

Mail

The Post Office (with limited services) is located at the Front Desk. Outgoing mail leaves at 1:30 p.m. Incoming mail is ready for distribution by late afternoon. UPS mailing is available. Mail can only be received through Thursday, August 25. We cannot be responsible for mail arriving after August 25.

Address for mail:

Guest Name
Bread Loaf Writers' Conference
PO Box 216
Ripton, VT 05766

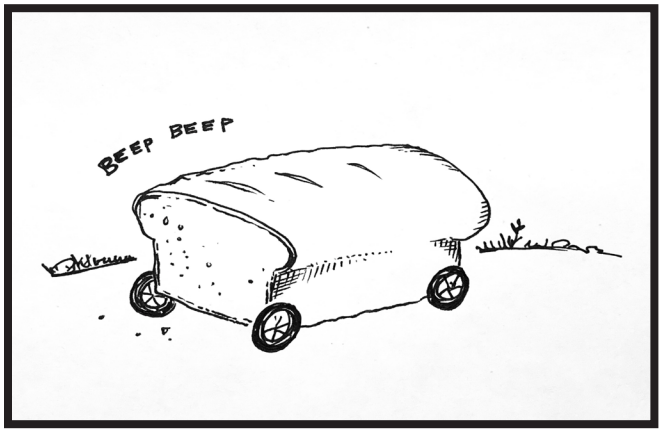
Address for FedEx or UPS:

Guest Name
Bread Loaf Writers' Conference
4229 Route 125
Ripton, VT 05766

Parking

Please park your vehicle in the large parking lot in front of the Barn. It is illegal to park on the highway, and you may get a ticket.

The space in front of the Inn is reserved for the Bread Loaf van. The space behind the Inn is reserved for delivery trucks; the lawn adjacent to the north side of the Little Theater is not a parking area.



Phones

In most cottages, there is a phone on each floor. Use a calling card to make outbound calls.

Incoming calls may be taken through the Bread Loaf switchboard (and direct calls to dorms and houses will be transferred over to the switchboard after four rings). The Front Desk number is 802-443-2700 (hours: 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.). Please be mindful of time differences. If your hall phone rings, answer and take messages for your hall mates.

Bread Loaf is a remote campus and cell phone service is for the most part unavailable at this time (Verizon customers may have some service in the Inn or the Barn). Participants have successfully stayed in touch with home using their smartphone to access Wi-Fi calling, Facetime, or Zoom.

You are enthusiastically encouraged to keep your phone in silent mode so as not to interrupt readings, lectures, workshops, and classes.

Photocopying and Printing

Members of the Back Office staff will copy limited quantities of material for you at the rate of 10 cents per page. It helps if you give them lead time. You will find the order sheets at the Copy Center.

If you need to print, you'll find printers in the Apple Cellar. If printing something off your computer, you will need to either save it to a USB drive or email it to yourself, then use the Apple Cellar computers to print the document(s).

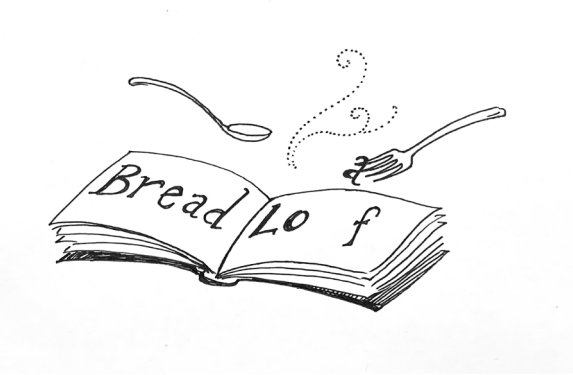
Fire Safety

At the Little Theater readings and lectures, for fire safety, please keep the stairs, walkways, and door areas (both inside and outside) clear. It's not possible to stand in the aisles or doorways or to sit on the floor or steps because it creates a fire hazard. If you're sitting outside, please be sure to keep the area around the doors clear. Thank you

The Crumb has joined the 21st Century!

Haven't got enough of us yet? Follow us on Twitter @thecrumb_blwc

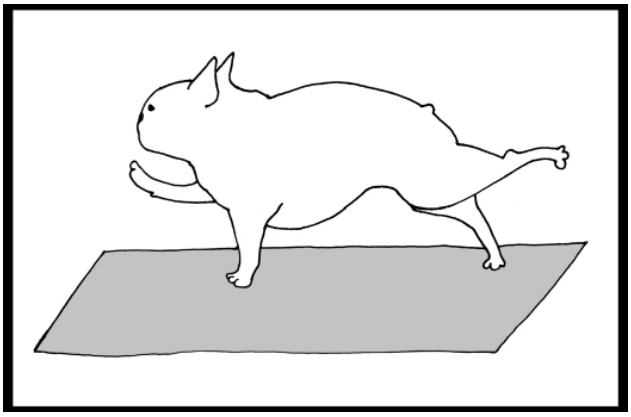
Don't forget to use #BreadLoaf2022 !



Yoga at Bread Loaf!

Instructor Chessy Kelley will offer Vinyasa yoga classes daily from 5:15 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. every day except for Monday, August 22, when the class will meet from 3:15 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. Classes will take place outdoors when possible, in the center green between the Barn Parking Lot and the row of Cottages. In case of bad weather, classes will take place in Barn Classroom 008.

The classes are appropriate for all abilities and all are welcome. A handful of mats will be available.



SAFETY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

If you have driven your car to Bread Loaf, you will have noticed that Route 125 (which is the road going over the mountain) is a narrow, winding road. It can be very dangerous, so please stay within the speed limit.

In Vermont, we recycle cans, bottles, and all kinds of paper. Before using a trash barrel, please look for a recycle bin and recycle whatever you can.

Vermont state law prohibits smoking in any building on campus. Smoking is not permitted in front of the Inn, nor should you smoke on any of the porches or within 25 feet of the buildings (smoke will go in through open windows).

Please don't turn off hallway lights. Fire laws dictate that hallway lights be on at all times.

Please be considerate of your roommate and neighbors. Some Bread Loafers go to sleep early, and some like to sleep in. If you are looking for a spot for late-night socializing, the Barn is available.

Please do not eat or drink in the Little Theater, the Library, or the Apple Cellar.

Off-Campus Opportunities

Downtown Middlebury

Trips to Middlebury depart daily (except for the first Thursday). The van will depart from the front of the Inn at 1:30-ish p.m. and will return to Bread Loaf at about 4:00 p.m. The driver will leave Middlebury at about 3:40 p.m. for the return trip. He will not be able to wait for stragglers. There is no charge for a trip to town on a scheduled run. The Front Desk has information on hand regarding churches, shopping, restaurants, etc. The sign-up sheet is posted daily at the Front Desk for that day's trip. On Monday, August 22, the van will leave Bread Loaf at 9:00 a.m. and return by 12 p.m.

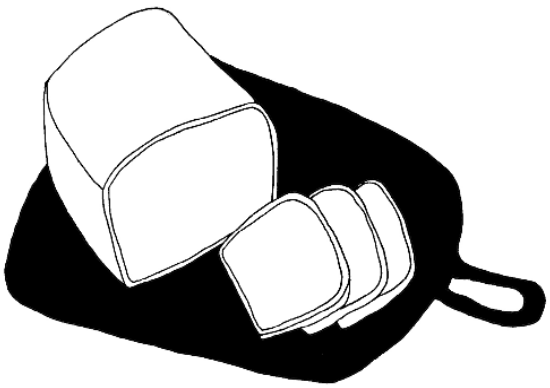
Middlebury College Main Campus

The Library located on the main campus in Middlebury has an extensive collection, and it is available to you. You can also leave a note on the desk in the Bread Loaf Library if you would like the librarian to bring up a book for you.

The Middlebury College fitness center and pool are available to Bread Loaf participants. You'll find the hours listed on the Athletics Facility web page: www.middlebury.edu/athletics/facilities/hours. The Athletics Facility staff will have a list of Conference participants on hand, so you will just need to give your name to a staff member upon entering the building. The Front Desk staff would be happy to give you directions to the Athletics Complex.

Meal Tickets

It is possible for those staying off campus to buy tickets for individual meals. Tickets can be purchased at the Front Desk.



"If you find a book you really want to read but it hasn't been written yet, then you must write it."

—Toni Morrison