the Crumb
The 'B' is not silent!

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

Vol. 97 Monday, August 22, 2022 No. 6

TODAY'S EVENTS

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

8:00 a.m.
Writers' Cramp Race,
meeting at the Annex front porch

10:00 a.m.
Lecture: "Jane Austen and Me: A Complicated Love Afair," by Elizabeth Nunez, Little Theater

11:00 a.m.
Writers of Color Panel, "Writing for the Culture," with Lauren Francis-Sharma, francine j. harris, Mitchell S. Jackson, Laila Lalami, Maurice Carlos Ruffin, and Brenda Shaughnessy, Little Theater

12:30 p.m.
Picnic at Frost Farm
with brief remarks by Jennifer Grotz

4:15 p.m.
Reading: Xhenet Aliu, Chelsea B. DesAutels, and Paul Lisicky, Little Theater

5:30 p.m.
Yoga, between the Barn parking lot and the row of cottages (rain location: Barn 008)

5:30 p.m.
Blue Parlor Reading Series,
Barn Tent

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

8:15 p.m.
Reading: Charles Baxter and francine j. harris, Little Theater

9:30 p.m.
Administrative Staff Scholars reading (night one of two), Little Theater

No Workshops Today!



Writers' Cramp Race This Morning

Don't let the name scare you off — the Writers' Cramp Race is a friendly competition along a 2.75 mile course. It begins this morning at 8:00 a.m. Runners of all skill levels should meet by the front porch of the Annex by 7:45 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.

We'd love to see your epic photos from the race! Share on your own socials with #BreadLoaf2022, or send them to us at blcrumb@gmail.com.

Frost Farm Frolic!

Today, lunch will be served as a picnic at Frost Farm rather than in the dining room, a beloved tradition at the Conference. **(Please note: the Dining Room will be closed during the picnic!)**

Frost Farm is about 1.5 miles from the Bread Loaf Inn, and the picnic is followed by a tour of Robert Frost's summer cabin nearby. Usually unavailable to the public, the cabin is unlocked and made available for this special event. Jennifer Grotz will say a few words about the cabin and share a Robert Frost poem. The picnic will begin at 12:30 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.

For those walking: the cabin can be reached via Route 125, but Front Desk Manager Edward Brown recommends taking the marked path through the woods, if you're able to. This route is not only more scenic, but also safer, as traffic tends to speed on Route 125.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Lost and Found at the Little Theater (Again)

The Little Theater fireplace is now at capacity with lost posessions! Please swing by to see if anything looks familiar.
Awaiting their rightful owners above the Little Theater fireplace are:
Yellow Hydroflask
Blue Hydroflask
White "I Heart LA" water bottle
Purple Nalgene
Hooded jean jacket (black)
Black zip-up
Denim jacket (light wash)
Various lovely pens

No Cause for Alarm

Please do not open any emergency exits (unless it's an emergency, of course). Opening emergency exits causes alarms to go off and can disrupt a good night's sleep. Thank you.

Take a Hike!

Tomorrow and Wednesday, the Front Desk will offer opportunities to do some hiking on the Long Trail. It will be the same hike each day, about four miles long with some fairly arduous hiking, mostly along the spine (ridge) of the Green Mountains. The hikes will take place on Tuesday and Wednesday at 10 a.m. (immediately after the morning lecture) and will return in time for lunch. Sign up at the Front Desk so we can plan transportation to the trailhead. If you have questions, see Edward or Matt at the Front Desk.

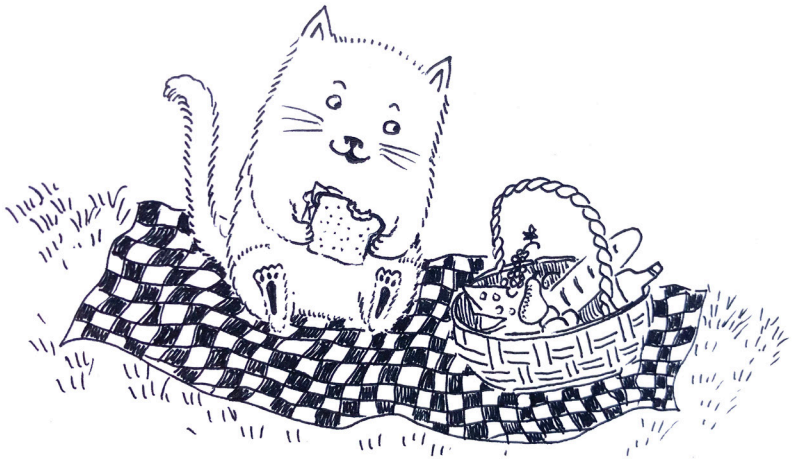
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To walk through the woods, go to the Barn parking lot, then follow the road back behind the Barn, and then continue across the dirt road to the trail. The trail on the left (marked by a pink ribbon) will lead to the Frost Picnic.

If you choose to walk along Route 125, please walk single file and be careful. To reach the Frost Farm via the road, turn right at the Inn porch and walk .7 miles down 125. Turn right onto Frost Road/USFS Road 396 (unmarked), just before the Robert Frost Wayside; the farm is roughly .8 miles up the road.

Those walking by either route 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. today.



Writers of Color Panel, "Writing for the Culture"

Join us today at 11:00 a.m. in the Little Theater for a craft-focused panel discussion with Lauren Francis-Sharma, francine j. harris, Mitchell S. Jackson, Laila Lalami, Maurice Carlos Ruffin, and Brenda Shaughnessy.

GUESTS

Today we welcome **Kevin Craft, Lindsay Garbutt, Carolyn Kuebler,** and **Jenny Xu** to the Mountain!

Safe travels to
Alicia Brooks and Anjali Singh.

WEATHER

Cloudy

High: 79° Low: 60°



Blue Parlor Continues

The Blue Parlor Reading Series welcomes you to its fourth reading of the conference! Today at 5:30 p.m. in the Barn Tent, the reading will feature Maria Sabaye Moghaddam, Hannah Parry, Laura Reece Hogan, Tony Taddei, Beth Brody, Julie Carrick Dalton, Katy Williams, Louise Crimmins Piantedosi, Annie Lareau, Augustine Blaisdell, Olga Jobe, Sara Mirza, Isabella Cady, Andrea Carter, and Stephen Kahn.

We bring the snacks, and you can bring more snacks! Regardless, do bring yourself, your friends and your best applause.

Y'all have been taking excellent photos at our readings and we'd love to share them with everyone. If you have photos, please email them to us!

Questions, comments, or general enthusiasm to share? Contact Megan Pinto or Sebastián Páramo at blwc.blueparlor@gmail.com.

Administative Staff Scholar Reading Tonight

Join us in the Little Theater at 9:30 tonight for the first of two Administrative Staff Scholar readings. Come cheer for the folks who help keep Bread Loaf humming along!

Reading tonight are:

Caroline Beimford

Angela Boyd

Samuel Cheney

Caitlin McGill

Sebastian Merrill

Sebastián Páramo

Megan Pinto

Jon Sargent

Annie Schumacher

Scott Stubbs

OVERHEARD

"Some people spot trains, some count cats."

"Welcome to Not Texas."

"It's going to be my new identity! For like an hour."

"... To use my technical term, butt-clenching."

"You were proposed to in a cemetery? That's so you."



We've been getting some terrific submissions! Keep 'em coming at blcrumb@gmail.com!

FACULTY FLASHBACK!

Do you recognize this Bread Loafer from his high school years?



Hint: *The Crumb* is his most recent publication credit.

Tiny Horoscopes

A word to use in your next project (you're welcome).

ARIES — Limerence

TAURUS — Scofflaw

GEMINI — Parallax

CANCER — Jentcular

LEO — Oink

LIBRA — Titmouse

SCORPIO — Onism

SAG. — Vaseline

CAP. — Plush

AQU. — Scarp

PISCES — Kerfuffle



Tree of the Day

Staghorn sumac *(Rhus typhina)*

This graceful tree with distinctive cones of fuzzy red fruit is native to New England.
Find it: Behind the Library.
Did you know? Those fuzzy little berries are edible and can be used to brew a delicious, tart "pink lemonade!"

New (Totally Legitimate) Bread Loaf Conferences!

Have you loved the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference so much that you're looking for another writing conference to attend? We're pleased to announce these additions to the Bread Loaf family!

Breath Loaf - For lovers of the crisp air here on the mountain, this conference will focus entirely on breathing, breath, and caesura. Our esteemed faculty will hold classes—often silent!—on how to move air from your nose to your lungs, and workshops will consist of participants breathing in and out for six hours.

Bed Loaf - Unlike most other writing conferences, this two-week conference includes almost no instruction and simply lets you catch up on your sleep. Sessions alternate between meal times and nap times, the evening reading is just a white noise machine in the Little Theater, and your conference welcome packet includes Ambien and NyQuil. Perfect for new parents, teen writers, and anyone who works a full-time job while writing.

Bet Loaf - If you're thinking, "I love Bread Loaf, but I sure miss gambling," this is the conference for you. Between writing workshops and craft classes, participants will wager on almost every aspect of the conference: lengths of readings, what kind of meat will be served at dinner, how long it will take before Jason Lamb looks you in the eye and says, "This party is OVER!" The culminating event of the conference is a cagematch between the Fellows.

Brett Loaf - Brett Easton Ellis is the only faculty member. You will be terrified the entire time.