The 72nd Annual Summer Hopwood Awards were announced by Professor Nicholas Delbanco, Director of the Hopwood Awards Program, on September 24. The winners were:

- **Nonfiction**: Spencer Miles Kimball, $750; Helen Lee, $750
- **Short Fiction**: David Buccilli, $750
- **Poetry**: Alice Rice, $1,000
- **The Marjorie Rapaport Award in Poetry**: Spencer Miles Kimball, $400; Kellen Braddock, $600

The judges for the contest were Dana Kletter and Raymond McDaniel. Sadly, Spencer Kimball’s prizes were awarded posthumously.

Publications by Hopwood Winners*

**Books and Chapbooks**

- **Donald Beagle** *The Life and Art of Ralph Ray, Jr.*, XLibris, 2009, co-authored with Robert Tompkins. “Robert actually wrote most of the text and I took the 110 photographs of Ray’s watercolors, oils, and drawings. We have been criss-crossing the southeast for five years tracking down known Ray originals in museums and private collections. Ray was an eminent nature artist and book illustrator in the 1930’s through early 1950’s. He specialized in bird paintings, including a series of plates for two classics published by Oxford University Press in the 1940’s. Our book’s publication was underwritten by grants from the Glenn Foundation and the Cannon Foundation, and is currently available only as a signed, numbered limited first edition.”

- **William R. Brashear** *Albert Kahn and His Family in Peace and War*, Bentley Historical Library, University of Michigan, 2008.


- **Steve Hamilton** *The Lock Artist*, mystery, Minotaur, 2009.

- **Michael Idov (Zilberman)** *Ground Up*, a novel, Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2009. Michael is a staff writer for *New York Magazine* and a frequent contributor of Russian-language columns and criticism to major Moscow publications.

- **Shelton Johnson** *Gloryland*, a novel about the buffalo soldiers who served in Yosemite National Park, Sierra Club Books, 2009. Shelton notes, “I was interviewed on camera by Ken Burns for his upcoming 6-part documentary on the National Parks which premieres on PBS nationwide on September 27th. This summer I’ve been traveling around with Ken attending various screening events including Washington, D.C., San Francisco, Yosemite, Miami, Baltimore, and I just got back from attending the world premiere of the film at the Telluride Mountain Film Festival. All of this has been very exciting!” His novel has been named one of the “Indie Top 20” books by *Publishers Weekly*. Shelton learned to ride while researching information on the buffalo soldiers and rode a draft horse in 2000 in the Rose Bowl Parade.

* Assume date unknown if no date is indicated.


Lynne Knight  *Again*, her fourth poetry collection, Sixteen Rivers Press, 2009


Kristin Lems  co-authored *Teaching Reading to English Language Learners: Insights from Linguistics* (2010, Guilford Press). “The book introduces important concepts in linguistics to teachers who have little or no knowledge of it, and shows how to apply these understandings in classrooms of English language learners. The book contains practical classroom applications, anecdotes from language learning adventures, and a photo essay I created called ‘Chicago orthographies,’ showing all the different orthographic systems used by ethnic communities in Chicago.”

Karyna McGlynn  *I Have to Go Back to 1994 and Kill a Girl*, poetry, Sarabande, 2009. The book is described as “film noir set in verse, each poem a miniature crime scene with its own set of clues—frosted eye-shadow, a pistol under a horse’s eye, dripping window units, an aneurysm opening its lethal trap.”


Marge Piercy  “Knopf has decided to publish a second volume of selected poems and to reissue *Circle on the Water*—my earlier selected poems—with a new cover and perhaps a new introduction. I am happily working toward a February 1st deadline. No title yet.”


Edmund White  *City Boy: My Life in New York During the 1960s and ’70s*, a memoir, Bloomsbury USA, Fall 2009.


### Articles and Essays

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<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title and Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>Max Apple</td>
<td>was a participant in “Stories You May Have Missed: Fifteen Fiction Writers Reflect on Underappreciated Contemporary Stories,&quot; <em>New Ohio Review</em>, Fall 2009. Max selected “The School&quot; by Donald Barthelme.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Larry O. Dean</td>
<td>wrote that he edited the Summer/Winter 2009 <em>New Madrid</em> journal and has a review therein.</td>
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<tr>
<td>X. J. Kennedy</td>
<td>Introduction to <em>The Poets of New Jersey, From Colonial to Contemporary</em>, edited by Emanuel di Pasquale et al., Jersey Shore Publications, 2009. In addition, Mt. Kennedy is one of the featured poets.</td>
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Davi Napoleon  “Speak Friend and Enter,” *LSA Magazine*, Fall 2009.

Bich Minh Nguyen  An interview with her conducted by Jan Fedewa, Michigan Humanities, Spring 2009. Almost the entire issue of the publication was devoted to Bich. Her memoir *Stealing Buddha’s Dinner* was chosen by the Michigan Humanities Council for the 2009-10 *Great Michigan Read*: “With a state-wide focus on a single book, *The Great Michigan Read* encourages Michiganders to learn more about their state, their history, and their society. The Council’s free supporting programming will focus on three themes: immigration stories, cultural understanding, and contemporary history. *Stealing Buddha’s Dinner* is a memoir chronicling the author’s migration from Vietnam in 1975 and her coming of age in Grand Rapids, Michigan.” *Stealing Buddha’s Dinner*, read by Alice H. Kennedy, is also available on audiotape (Brilliance Audio, 2009).

Timothy Prentiss  “An online version of an article I wrote this spring for a new magazine called *iPhone Life*. (Took my own advice and lost 30 pounds since Jan. 1.) I’ve got a few more in the next issue, and I was asked to be an occasional expert blogger on the publication’s home page, www.iphonelife.com.”


Davy Rothbart  “Aim for Sweden and Other Survival Offerings,” *LSA Magazine*, Spring 2009. Davy is the creator of *Found* magazine and is the author of the short-story collection *The Lone Surfer of Montana, Kansas*. His work has appeared in *GQ*, *SLAM Magazine*, and on National Public Radio’s *This American Life*. He is the subject of an upcoming documentary, directed by David Meiklejohn, called *My Heart Is An Idiot*.


Edmund White  “The Age of Bronze (Upon receiving the insignia of Officer from France’s Order of Arts and Letters),” *Brick*, 2009.

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**Reviews**


**Fiction**

Mary Gaitskill “Lost Cat,” *Granta* #107, Summer 2009.

Gail Gilliland “Chez l’Odeon: Other Woman Tells All!” *Colere*, 2009; “Ramona the Starlet: How Amelia’s Mother Came to Dance,” forthcoming in *Persimmon Tree*.


Celeste Ng “Captioning Emily,” *The Kenyon Review Online*, II, 4, Fall 2009. Celeste is Contributing Editor for the online journal *Fiction Writers Review* (see notice in Special Announcements section).


Poetry


Matthew Hittinger


Patricia Hooper


Laura Kasischke


Laurence Lieberman


Gregory Loselle


Ralph Luttermoser


David Masello


Derek Mong


Marge Piercy


Paisley Rekdal  “Arctic Scale,” The Kenyon Review, Summer 2009; “An Enemy,” Black Warrior Review, Fall/Winter 2009. She is the director of the creative Writing Program at the University of Utah.

John Savoie  “Trees of North America,” Shenandoah, LIX, 2, Fall 2009.


Drama Performances and Publications

Josh Greenfeld  There was a concert reading of his play Whoosh! presented by Theatre Palisades, a non-equity community theatre in Pacific Palisades, CA. The play starred Gavin MacLeod and Linda Jackson and was produced by Andy Frew and Arnie Wishnick and was a benefit performance for the theatre.

Brian Lobel  “I am thrilled to announce that my performance Hold My Hand and We’re Halfway There will be performed in South Street Seaport, in New York City, free and open to the public, from 9am-5pm, from September 9-September 13, thanks to a Swing Space Grant from the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council and a donation by General Growth Properties. The 40-hour performance, in which I invite audiences from off the street to dance to musicals with me in my bedroom, revisits Depression-era dance marathons - where contestants danced ‘til they dropped in pursuit of fame and fortune - and links them with the image of a young boy dancing by himself, non-stopped, in his bedroom.” The press release notes that this is an interactive performance installation that used “four televisions, 12 headsets, a sturdy bed and 100 classic musicals to explore issues of isolation, community, secret pleasures and the age-old question, When are you alone? And when are you lonely?”
"What I Learned from Bo," John’s “Last Lecture” for the Golden Apple Awards ceremony at the U of M last spring can be watched on video: http://michigantoday.umich.edu/2009/05/bacon.php?tr=y&auid=4859410.

**Fun With a Purpose**


Bert Stratton of the Yiddische Cup Klezmer Band was interviewed on Israel National Radio on June 16 on “The Beat with Ben Bresky” program. He talked about the band’s new CD *Klezmer Guy*, which features traditional klezmer as well as “neo-Borscht Belt comedy, hip-hop and scifi.” Bert plays clarinet. You can hear him at www.israelnationalnews.com/Radio/News.aspx/1079.

**News & Notes**

The Hatcher Graduate Library hosted a wonderful series of films called “Frank’s Picks” last March. Professor Emeritus Frank Beaver (of Screen Arts and Cultures and Communication) selected for viewing and discussed five of his favorite movies: *Secret Honor*; *The Bicycle Thief*; *The Garden of the Finzi Contini*; *The Scent of Green Papaya*; and *The Lives of Others*. All of us who attended hope the series will continue this year. On September 25, the Department of Screen Arts and Cultures hosted a celebration of Frank’s nearly 40 years of teaching, with former students returning to pay tribute to him and explain how he helped to guide them into careers in the film and television industries. There was also a video presentation by Hopwood winner Lawrence Kasdan.

“A year ago, a staff member of the Sacred Congregation for Divine Worship in the Vatican invited me to present a paper at an International Conference on the Liturgy to be held the summer of 2009 on Fota Island in Cork harbor, Ireland. So this past July my husband and I visited some breath-taking historic churches by Pugin the younger and others in Cork City and Cork County before I gave my paper at a ground-breaking conference where I met in person two historians of the liturgy whose works I much admire: Alcuin Reid, the author of “The Organic Development of the Liturgy” and Uwe Michael Lang, author of “Turning towards the Lord.” When I first became involved in the historic church preservation movement thirteen years ago I little imagined that I would someday give a paper at an international conference along with these scholars and with the new classicism architects Duncan Stroik of the Notre Dame School of Architecture and Ethan Anthony of HDB/Cram & Ferguson in Boston. After sixty years of destruction of historic church interiors good things are starting to happen. To see the program of the Fota II conference speakers with photos, including one of me, google on ‘St. Colman’s Society for the Catholic Liturgy, 2009’ and a website will come up entitled ‘Fota Island II 12th July 2009: Liturgical Conference’. Then click on ‘Conference Prospectus’ and scroll down to find my picture. To read a review of my talk google on ‘Fota II Summary Report Press Release July 20, 2009.’
Timothy Furstnau  “I’ve been back in Ann Arbor for a few years now, doing a lot of projects. The latest is Mongo Deco, an interior design practice using entirely salvaged/recycled materials. I’m almost done renovating my home, which will become a show house for green renovation. (We built a library using wood milled from a standing dead ash tree!). I co-founded and co-organize the biannual Shadow Fair in Ypsilanti.”

Dennis Harvey  delivered the 2nd Annual Hubert Cohen Film Criticism and Film Scholarship Series Lecture on October 29, 2009. He discussed the current state of film criticism in this country. Dennis is a longtime contributor to the trade publication Variety, reviewing mainstream, arthouse and festival films as well as theater. He is also a regular contributor to the alternative weekly San Francisco Bay Guardian and film-focused website sf360.org. In addition, he’s written on the arts for other publications including Film Comment, The San Francisco Chronicle and L.A. Times.

Matthew Hittinger  “I’m going to be interviewed on the Joe Milford radio show August 1st from 5-6:30pm. That’s exciting. And I’m a guest judge for Project Verse which is the poetry world version of Project Runway’ only the contestants are writing poems and not making dresses.”

Kristin Lems  “I’m a Full Professor in ESL/Bilingual Education at National-Louis University in Chicago. I started a conference, Imagination Education for Everyone! which is now in its fifth year. It celebrates the importance of imagination in learning. This year’s is Nov. 13-14 at the downtown Chicago campus of National-Louis. Any Hopwooders interested in attending or presenting a workshop in a future year are invited to check the website www.nl.edu/imagine.”

David Masello  was an invited Visiting Writer at the University of Rhode Island’s Ocean State Summer Writing Conference in June 2009. He taught a course on the personal essay and was a panelist and guest speaker. He continues in his full-time role as Senior Editor at Town & Country magazine.

Derek Mong  writes that Saturnalia Books will publish his first book of poetry in 2011 (title as yet to be determined). “And last April I hosted ‘The Soul That Grows in Darkness: The Axton Festival of Film and Verse,’ at the University of Louisville. This free, three-day event included poetry readings from Wayne Miller and our own Larry Goldstein, a paper Larry wrote for the occasion, a screening of Cocteau’s Orpheus trilogy, and a series of collaborative films pairing student poets with local filmmakers.”

Davi Napoleon  alerted us to the creation of The Faster Times, “a new type of paper for a new type of world,” launched July 9 at www.thefastertimes.com. Health Editor Tess Aldrich, Love & Death correspondent Sarah Beldo, and theater columnist, Davi Napoleon have been Hopwood recipients. “The Faster Times is a collective of great journalists who have come together to try something new,” says Sam Apple, publisher and editor-in-chief, (and U of M alumnus). “As we launch, we will have more than 100 correspondents in over 20 countries from Kenya to Lebanon to Mexico. Our writers are not ‘citizen journalists’ but some of the most talented writers in their respective fields.” The press release notes that “TFT launches with 16 sections, a number that is likely to grow over time. Sections feature the work of a correspondent, who generally files daily reports, and a columnist, who comments weekly or biweekly. Guest posters will appear occasionally. While the sections might appear traditional at first glance, a closer look reveals the creative approach of The Faster Times. The travel section, for instance, includes not only travel news and trends but time travel and Italian lessons. Sport includes the column Baseball & Philosophy. Modeled in part after Talking Points Memo, correspondents will report news as it breaks, before stories are fully available. ‘We will rely on feedback from readers and knowledgeable sources to find out more, always continuing to post what we learn,’ says Apple.” An excellent article by Davi about the journal appears in the Summer 2009 issue of LSA Wire, the online complement to LSA Magazine.
Bich Nguyen and Porter Shreve announce the birth of their son Henry on June 19. He weighed 9 pounds and 3 ounces.

Ben Paloff and his wife Megan are delighted to announce the arrival of Ezekiel Otis Paloff on August 23, weighing in at 7lbs. 11oz.

Preeta Samarasan and Rob Whelan announce the birth of their daughter Rumika Noémie on June 6 in France. She weighed 2980 g.

Matthew Schmitt and his wife, Darcie Lee Yobp, announce the birth of Charlotte Marigny Schmitt on September 26, 2009.

Melanie Rae Thon will be featured as “Artist of the Month” on the website for Image: A Journal of the Arts and Religion in January 2010.

Thomas Wisniewski soloed alto saxophone with the Dartmouth Wind Symphony for its spring concert on May 10. Tom was awarded an MA in Comparative Literature from Dartmouth in the spring. He now lives in Milan, where he works for Dartmouth as an advisor to the Collegio.

Awards & Honors

Natalie Bakopoulos was the recipient of an O’Henry Prize for her story “Fresco, Byzantine,” which was published in the Fall 2008 issue of Tin House. The story will appear in The Pen/O’Henry Prize Stories 2009 anthology next year. This summer she taught a fiction workshop on the Greek island of Andros as part of the Aegean Arts Circle.

Rae Gouirand is a 2009 winner of a $2,500 Dorothy Sargent Rosenberg Poetry Prize.

Matthew Hittinger’s manuscript Skin Shift was a finalist for the 2009 Marsh Hawk Press Poetry Prize. The Erotic Postulate was a semi-finalist for the 2009 Akron Poetry Prize. His poem “In the Shadow City…” has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize by Jason Evans at Hobble Creek Review.

Lynne Knight “Late Explanation to Old Lovers” won honorable mention in the 2009 Passager contest. “To the Young Man Who Cried Out ‘What Were You Thinking?’ When I Backed into His Car” won the 2009 Rattle Poetry Prize. And she received a $25,000 2009-10 National Endowment for the Arts Creative Writing Fellowship.

Gregory Loselle “I’ve been informed that my story, “Buried Dinner” has placed as an honorable mention in the New Millennium Writings Awards, and that another story, “Lazarus,” has won the Lorian Hemingway Short Story Competition, and will appear in The Saturday Evening Post.” “This evening [October 8] I got a call from Mark Schorr of The Robert Frost Foundation (http://www.frostfoundation.org/), telling me that my poems “Crossing to Fox Island” and “Walking the Dog on the Milky Way” were finalists for The Robert Frost Prize, and that “Crossing to Fox Island” was the winner. He tells me that it’s rare for two poems by one writer to make the short list, and that the field was of about 625 poems total. The award is $1000 and the poem will be read at the Foundation’s announcement ceremonies on the 24th of this month in Lawrence, Massachusetts.”

Jane E. Martin was awarded a 2009-2010 Fulbright U.S. Student Scholarship to Canada in Creative Writing. She will be at the McGill Institute for the Study of Canada in Montreal, researching French-Canadian culture and history to inform her writing.
We were pleased to get the following announcement: “Nami Mun will be receiving a 2009 Whiting Writers’ Award on October 28 at a ceremony in New York City. This prestigious $50,000 award recognizes ten young writers for their extraordinary talent and promise and is one of the most coveted prizes for up and coming writers. These awards have been given annually since 1985 and past recipients include Michael Cunningham, Kim Edwards, Tobias Wolff, Jeffrey Eugenides, and Mary Karr – all winners before they were acclaimed, bestselling authors.” Nami is the author of the novel Miles from Nowhere.

Karen Outen won the Family Matters Competition for “Inside the Universe of His Parents.” She received $1,200 and the story will be published in the Spring 2010 issue of Glimmer Train Stories.

Benjamin Paloff is the recipient of the $25,000 National Endowment for the Arts Creative Writing Fellowship.

Margaret Reges has been awarded a 7-month fellowship at the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, Massachusetts.

Kodi Scheer won a scholarship to attend the Sozopol Fiction Seminars in Bulgaria in summer 2009.

Peter Serchuk won the 2009 Dogwood Poetry Prize for “The Handbook of Itches.” He received $1,000 and the poem was published in the Spring 2009 issue of Dogwood.

Matthew Thorburn was awarded a BRIO individual artist’s fellowship from the Bronx Arts Council, 2009.

Keith Waldrop And a special congratulation to Keith, the 2009 National Book Award Winner in Poetry. His book is entitled Transcendental Studies: A Trilogy and was published by the University of California Press. The citation reads: “This compelling selection of recent work by poet Keith Waldrop presents three related poem sequences—‘Shipwreck in Haven,’ ‘Falling in Love through a Description,’ and ‘The Plummet of Vitruvius’—in a virtuosic poetic triptych. In these quasi-abstract, experimental lines, collaged words torn from their contexts take on new meanings. Waldrop, a longtime admirer of such artists as the French poet Raymond Queneau and the American painter Robert Motherwell, imposes a tonal override on purloined materials, yet the originals continue to show through. These powerful poems, at once metaphysical and personal, reconcile Waldrop’s romantic tendencies with formal experimentation, uniting poetry and philosophy and revealing him as a transcendentalist for the new millennium.” Keith is the Brooke Russell Astor Professor of Humanities at Brown University and has published more than a dozen works each of original poetry and translations. His first book, A Windmill Near Calvary, was shortlisted for the 1968 National Book Award. Recent books include The Real Subject: Queries and Conjectures of Jacob Delafon, with Sample Poems, The House Seen from Nowhere, and a translation of The Flowers of Evil by Charles Baudelaire.

Deaths

We are saddened to report the deaths of three young Hopwood winners:

Laura Deneau, winner of a 2003 Hopwood Undergraduate Poetry Award, died on March 18, 2009, at the age of 27. She was a native of Charlevoix.
Spencer Miles Kimball, winner of a 2009 Summer Hopwood Nonfiction Award, died on September 26, 2009. He was from Ann Arbor.

Matthew Reichl died at the age of 44 from multiple surgeries for brain cancer in Philadelphia on May 3, 2009. He was the winner of a Major Drama/Screenplay Award in 1997. He was awarded an MFA in screenwriting from the film school at U.C.L.A. After graduation, he worked in Los Angeles to develop feature film screenplays and was employed by the Princeton Review, where he taught and tutored for the SAT.

Special Announcements

Thank you to Program Assistant Urvi Shah for her invaluable help in running the Hopwood Room.

Please help us to keep the Newsletter as accurate and up-to-date as possible by sending news of your publications and activities. Your friends would like to hear about you! Due to time constraints and the number of former winners I know, I am unable to join any social networking sites such as Facebook or MySpace. If you have any news or information you would like me to share, I would be delighted to hear about it through email (abeauch@umich.edu), but please remember to type HOPWOOD in the subject line so your message isn’t deleted by mistake. You could also write a letter, of course. The Hopwood Room’s phone number is 734-764-6296. The cutoff date for listings was November 30. If your information arrived after that, it will be included in our next newsletter. The cutoff date for that will be April 30.

Unfortunately, so many of you have personal websites and blogs that we’ll be unable to make note of them in the future. We’re trying to keep the newsletter to manageable size.

Our thanks to all of you who have so generously donated copies of your books to the Hopwood Library. The special display of recent books by Hopwood winners always attracts a lot of attention. We appreciate your thoughtfulness very much and enjoy showing off your work to visitors.

Looking for a writers’ conference, center, residency, or retreat to attend? The Writers’ Conferences and Centers (WC&C) website, www.writersconf.org, provides information about the most established and respected writing organizations in North America and abroad.

The Hopwood Program has a Web page address: http://www.lsa.umich.edu/english/hopwood/. Visit the English Department’s MFA Program site at http://www.lsa.umich.edu/english/grad/mfa.

Best wishes for a very happy new year. Do stop by to say hello if you’re visiting Ann Arbor.

Andrea Beauchamp
NEW LITERARY PROJECTS
FEATURING
HOPWOOD WINNERS

Fiction Writers Review is an online literary journal dedicated to reviewing, recommending, and discussing quality fiction. Its contributors, a community of emerging and established writers, aspire to get writers and readers talking not only about the ways fiction reads, but also how it works and why it matters.

Currently seeking submissions for reviews, interviews, and essays on craft and the writing life.

Contact Anne Stameshkin, Editor-in-Chief: fictionwritersreview@gmail.com

Hopwood Winners Featured: Peggy Adler, Natalie Bakopoulos, Jeremiah Chamberlin, Margaret Lazarus Dean, T.M. De Vos, Shira Handler, Travis Holland, Cyan James, Dana Kletter, Valerie Laken, Danielle Lazarin, Sopang Men, Jennifer Metsker, Nami Mun, Celeste Ng, Greg Parker, Mike Rudin, Preeta Samarasan, Sara Schaff, Brian Short, Jessica Belle Smith, Elizabeth Ames Staudt, Ben Stroud, Katie Umans, and Jesmyn Ward.

The Elizabeth Kostova Foundation was created to promote creative writing in Bulgaria. Specifically, its mission is to encourage, challenge, and publish literary authors in Bulgaria; to cultivate connections among Bulgarian and native-English writers; to assist in the training of translators for contemporary Bulgarian literature; and to facilitate the publication of Bulgarian writers in English. The Foundation also seeks to introduce the work of native-English authors to a Bulgarian audience, to provide native-English writers the opportunity to improve their own work by studying in Bulgaria, and to foster a global exchange of literature through dialogue and creativity.


Now accepting applications for the 3rd annual Sozopol Fiction Seminar (May 27 - June 1, 2010). The deadline for materials is March 15th. For details and to apply: http://www.ekf.bg/sozopol/apply
The Hopwood Room
The University of Michigan
1176 Angell Hall
Ann Arbor, MI  48109-1003

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