JANUARY, 2015

Nicholas Delbanco, Director of the Hopwood Awards Program and Robert Frost Distinguished University Professor of English, will retire next May, a decidedly bitter-sweet occasion for his students, colleagues, and especially me, as I have worked very happily with him for over 27 years. He arrived at the University of Michigan in 1985 in order to direct the newly constituted MFA in Writing Program; he became the Director of the Hopwood Awards Program two years thereafter, and has served in that position since. He has had a truly remarkable career. He published his first book at the age of 23 and since then has published twenty-seven books of fiction and non-fiction. His most recent novels are The Count of Concord and the revised one-volume Sherbrookes; his most recent works of non-fiction are The Art of Youth: Crane, Carrington, Gershwin, and the Nature of First Acts as well as the just-published Dear Wizard: The Letters of Nicholas Delbanco and Jon Manchip White. In January, 2015, his new novel, The Years, will appear. As editor he has compiled the work of, among others, John Gardner and Bernard Malamud. His textbooks include The Sincerest Form: Writing Fiction by Imitation (2004) and Craft & Voice (with Alan Cheuse) in 2012. Among his awards are the J.S. Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship and, twice, the National Endowment for the Arts Creative Writing Fellowship. He has served as Chair of the Fiction Panel for the National Book Awards and as a judge of the Pulitzer Prize. He has been unusually successful as a fundraiser, not only for the MFA Program, which he directed for 15 years, but also for the Hopwood Awards Program. Through his efforts, we were able to increase the number of contests and prizes and also to defray much of the administrative cost with an annual gift of $50,000 from the Provost’s Office. He seems to know everyone in the literary world and because of his friendship with so many writers, he was able to bring distinguished speakers for the awards—Richard Ford, Louise Glück, Hopwood winners Lawrence Kasdan and Edmund White, Maxine Kumin, Grace Paley, and Yusef Komunyaka, to name just a few. And after the ceremonies, Nick and Elena hosted many...
wonderfully convivial evenings at their home, where everyone felt included in the conversation—thus bearing out George Garrett’s comment when Nick was being recruited that bringing the Delbancos to Ann Arbor would certainly enliven the social scene. He edited several anthologies of Hopwood Lectures and, for the 75th anniversary, a collection of stories and fiction by former winners. He was even able to get two of Avery Hopwood’s plays, *The Best People* and *The Gold Diggers*, produced by the Theater Department and they were actually quite delightful. A truly gifted teacher, he helped many of you shape your work for publication. On a personal note, working with Nick was always fun and enlightening. Any book I was reading he had already read and could discuss in detail. All of us in the Hopwood Program wish him a very happy retirement and look forward to reading many future works.

On December 4, there was a symposium in his honor in December with a conversation with Charles Baxter and two panels, “What We Know” with Miles Harvey and Hopwood winners Margaret Lazarus Dean and Jesmyn Ward, moderated by Donovan Hohn, and “Write the Future,” with Hopwood winners Valerie Laken, William Lychack, and Porter Shreve, moderated by Jeremiah Chamberlin.

The new Director of the Hopwood Program is Peter Ho Davies. He is the author of the novel *The Welsh Girl* (2007) and the story collections *The Ugliest House in the World* (1997) and *Equal Love* (2000). His work has appeared in *Harpers, The Atlantic Monthly, The Paris Review, The Washington Post* and *Chicago Tribune*, among others, and his short fiction has been widely anthologized, including selections for *Prize Stories: The O. Henry Awards 1998 and Best American Short Stories 1995, 96 and 2001*. In 2003 *Granta* magazine named him among its twenty Best Young British Novelists, and in 2008 he received the PEN/Malamud award for excellence in the short story. He is on the faculty of the MFA Program in Creative Writing, the Helen Zell Writers’ Program.

The Hopwood Underclassmen Awards Ceremony will be held on Tuesday, January 27, at 3:30 p.m. in the Rackham Amphitheatre. Chang-rae Lee will give a fiction reading following the announcement of the awards. Mr. Lee is a Korean American novelist and a professor of creative writing at Princeton University. He is the author of five novels, most recently *On Such a Full Sea* (Riverhead, 2014), which is set in a dystopian Baltimore. *Native Speaker*, his first novel, won the prestigious PEN/Hemingway Award, and *A Gesture Life* won the Asian American Literary Award. In 2011, he was awarded the Dayton Literary Peace Prize for *The Surrendered* and was a finalist for a Pulitzer.

The Graduate and Undergraduate Hopwood Awards Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, April 22 at 3:30 p.m. in the Rackham Amphitheatre. A lecture by Irish poet Eavan Boland will follow the announcement of the awards. She is the author of eleven books of poetry, including *Night Feed, Domestic Violence, In a Time*
of Violence (for which she received the Lannan Literary Award), Against Love Poetry (a New York Times Notable Book of the Year), and New Collected Poems. Her most recent book is a collection of essays, A Journey with Two Maps: Becoming a Woman Poet, which received the 2012 PEN Award. She has been awarded six honorary degrees, including ones from University College and Trinity College in Dublin, and Colby College and Bowdoin College in the U.S. She is the Director of the Creative Writing Program at Stanford University.

The Awards for the 77th Summer Hopwood Contest and the Marjorie Rapaport Award in Poetry were presented by Nicholas Delbanco on September 25. The judges for the contest were Leslie Stainton and Joe Matuzak (Hopwood winner). And the winners were:

The Summer Hopwood Contest
Screenplay: Eugene Jehl, Jr., $800
Nonfiction: Amnabel Karoub, $1,800
Fiction: Jeffrey Stehlin, $1,800
Poetry: Gavin Gao, $800; Hannah Bates, $1,000
The Marjorie Rapaport Award in Poetry: Andrew Geller, $550; Wes Holkeboer, $550

Publications by Hopwood Winners

Books and Chapbooks

Scott Beal

Diane Cook

Christopher Paul Curtis

Elizabeth K. Gordon
(won as Kathryn Gordon)
Love Cohoes, poetry, Crandall, Dostie and Douglass Books, May 2014. Here is a video of her performing a poem from the collection: www.youtube.com/watch?v=UG_k7Vi4OP.

Neil Gordon

Matthew Hittinger
The Erotic Postulate, poetry, Sibling Rivalry Press, September 2014. “There are three variant covers from which you can choose (or collect all three!), featuring paintings by the talented Provincetown-based artist Christopher Sousa. You can also purchase the book as part of SRP's fall subscription where you will get the three fall titles for $30 in a bundle: my collection along with Stephen S. Mills’ A History of the Unmarried and Brent Calderwood's The God of Longing.”

Laura Kasischke
The Infinitesimals, poetry, Copper Canyon, 2014.

X. J. Kennedy

Bruce Lack
Service, winner of the Walt McDonald First Book Contest in Poetry, forthcoming from Texas Tech University Press, 2015.

Nate Marshall
Wild Hundreds, poetry, winner of the Agnes Lynch Starrett Prize and forthcoming from the University of Pittsburgh Press in 2015.

* Assume date unknown if no date is indicated.
Chris McCormick  *Desert Boys*, a novel in stories, forthcoming from Picador.

Andrew Newberg  *Holding Kryptonite: Truth, Justice and America’s First Superhero*, McNally-Jackson, 2014 and as an e-book across platforms. “After graduating with my MFA in Fiction from Columbia, I took about 6 years to finish this non-fiction book. In short, I was put into touch with a woman who found documents in the trash that chronicle the first ten turbulent years of Superman’s creators—Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster with Detective Comics. The book takes the reader through these never revealed documents and correspondence that was used to reclaim Siegel & Shuster’s rights that they sold to DC for $130. It was the first of many lawsuits to follow…but it was the first.”

Marge Piercy  *The Cost of Lunch, Etc.,* stories, PM Press, 2014. This is Marge’s only collection of short stories and the 43rd book in her long and very impressive career.

Paula Rabinowitz  *American Pulp: How Paperbacks Brought Modernism to Main Street*, Princeton University Press, 2014; with Cristina Giocelli, edited *Exchanging Clothes: Habits of Being 2 and Fashioning the Nineteenth Century: Habits of Being 3*, University of Minnesota Press, 2014; the fourth volume of this series is in production.


Davy Rothbart  Edited and wrote the Introduction to *Found Magazine: The Early Years*, 2014.

Rebecca Scherm  *Unbecoming*, a novel, forthcoming from Viking in January 2015.


Brittani Sonnenberg  *Home Leave*, a novel, Grand Central Publishing, 2014. The *New Yorker* online chose it as a June “book to watch out for” and *Real Simple* chose it as one of their “best summer books.”


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**Articles and Essays**


Derek Mong  "Resisting the Art of Entropy Triumphant: An Interview with Maxim Amelin" (conducted with Anne O. Fisher), Jacket2: http://jacket2.org/interviews/resisting-art-entropy-triumphant, August 6, 2014.


Reviews

Victoria Chang  A review of The Boss by Dana Koster, Mantis #12, 2014.


A review of Polly Gannon’s recent English-Language translation of The Symmetry Teacher (Farrar, Straus, and Giroux), a book that Russian novelist Andrei Bitov calls his “echo” translation of an English novel that he read in his youth, and which Ian proposes we might think of as a translingual novel: http://fictionwritersreview.com/review/andrei-bitovs-translingual-novel-the-symmetry-teacher/

Since graduating from the U of M a decade ago, Ian has received his MFA from Emerson and now lives in San Francisco, where he’s at work on a novel. His story collection will be published by Aqueous Books. http://singletonian.com/.


Fiction


"Boarder," American Short Fiction, Fall 2014.

Translated “Soup Gaspacho” by Katia Kapovich, BODY literature; A translation of “Stereotypical characters in short stories, novels, etc.; a Meta-Fiction by Anton Chekhov (1880)” in Literary Imagination, 13(3), November 2011.


Laura Thomas  “Sole Suspect,” Midwestern Gothic #15, Fall 2014.


Donald Beagle  “Sullivan’s Island,” Agora, 47(1) http://1drv.ms/1s26lKa.


Rachel Morgenstern-Clarren


Robert Hayden


Patricia Hooper


Lawrence Joseph


Laura Kasischke


X. J. Kennedy


Jascha Kessler

Translated “On Lethe’s Shore” and “At the River” by Draga Dyulgerova, Eclectica Poetry, July/August 2014; “Leave not a rack behind,” Eclectica.org, April/May 2014. Mr. Kessler was named Writer of the Month by Eclectica for that issue.

David Masello


Derek Mong


Rachel Morgenstern-Clarren


Kevin Phan


Marge Piercy

Paisley Rekdal  

William Craig Rice  

Matthew Rohrer  
“Poem Written with Bashô,””“Poem Written with Buson,””“Poem Written with Buson,””“Poem Written with Issa,””“Poem Written with Issa,””“Poem Written with Issa,””“Poem Written with Bashô,”*Poetry*, The Translation Issue, November 2014.

Laurence W. Thomas  

Matthew Thorburn  

Rosmarie Waldrop  

Lizzi Wolf (Liz Brent)  

Martha Zweig  

Drama Performances and Publications

Tyler Dean  
Sea Legs: A Nautical New Musical, which won a Hopwood Award in Drama last April, was produced off-Broadway for 8 performances beginning September 20th. Most of the team putting the show on are Wolverines - much of the same team that produced it through Basement Arts back in February. http://www.sealegsthemusical.com/. Tyler’s father discovered an interesting connection: “There was a prior musical named Sea Legs that made it all the way to Broadway, back in 1937—it for 15 shows. (Completely different script, of course.) It was based on a story called “The Cat Comes Back,” which was co-written by none other than.....Avery Hopwood. Wow—the things you can learn on the Internet! So—Sea Legs and Hopwood will ‘return’ to NYC, 77 years later.”

Leah Falk  
wrote the text for a dance theater production of Swan Lake staged at NoExit Performance in Indianapolis. She also received a grant from Asylum Arts to write a song cycle with composer Joshua Morris, which will be performed in early 2015.

SEA LEGS:  
A NAUTICAL NEW MUSICAL  
BY TYLER DEAN
Laura Thomas

By Around Here Productions performed her monologue, “Gold Star Clown Car,” as part of Suspicions: An Investigation of Monologues. It was performed at Mix Studio Theater in Ypsilanti, Michigan in May 2014.

Film/Video/Audio

Larry O. Dean

“My label, Zenith Beast, has been doing some audio spelunking, with the primary goal of preserving recordings originally made on tape, and the result is the digital-only release of a batch of archival recordings from my San Francisco tenure, covering the years 1986-1993. Since I have a new solo album as well as a second album from my current band, The Injured Parties, due out in 2015, the decision was made to release this archival material in two batches, rather than in separate releases over a few months, with the secondary goal of eliciting interest in the lead-up to the new albums next year. These thirteen albums are out as of December and available from a number of sources, most prominently iTunes and Amazon:

Larry O. Dean, Cruel & Unusual Punishment [remaster] (ZB028)
LOD, Prince Charming [remaster] (ZB029)
LOD, Lovers Emeritus [w/ bonus material] (ZB030)
LOD, No Sugar Coating (ZB031)
LOD, Bayou Rhythms [w/ bonus material from Pulling Your Own Cheese] (ZB032)
The Fussbudgets, Room 26 Sessions (ZB033)
The Fussbudgets, Live at the Albion (ZB034)
LOD, The Age of Anxiety [remaster] (ZB035)
LOD, Centrifugal Force [remaster] (ZB036)
LOD, Mixed Nuts, or Seven Trips to Oblivion [w/ bonus material] (ZB037)
LOD, Thinning the Heard [Room 26 Sessions] (ZB038)
LOD, America Wags Her Tail [w/ bonus material from Pulling Your Own Cheese] (ZB039)
The Fussbudgets, Lachrymose Intolerant [Early Demos] (ZB040)

James Hynes

Writing Great Fiction, 24 half-hour video lectures on the craft of fiction writing, written and delivered by James Hynes, for the Great Courses DVD series. The course is also available as audio and video downloads and on audio CD. Website: http://www.thegreatcourses.com/courses/writing-great-fiction-storytelling-tips-and-techniques.html.

Elwood Reid and Meredith Stiehm

are the Executive Producers and Head Writers for the FX drama series, The Bridge, now in its second season.

Dr. Sherman Silber


Glendon Swarthout

His novel, The Homesman, was the basis for the movie of the same name, starring Tommy Lee Jones and Hilary Swank, released in November. Tommy Lee Jones also co-wrote and directed the film. Other novels of Mr. Swarthout transformed into films include The Shootist, They Came to Cordura, and Where the Boys Are.

Corrections

Jack Sharrar kindly pointed out that the biography of Carl Van Vechten wrongly attributed to Edmund White is actually by Edward White. Sorry!
News & Notes

Alex Cigale is currently living in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan where he is Assistant Professor at the American University of Central Asia. In the spring semester, he will be working on the research project that brought him there, the translation from Russian into English of the poetry of the Fergana School.

Melodie Edwards “I am currently a reporter and anchor for Wyoming Public Radio. I had a piece air on National Public Radio in the spring about women working in the oilfield.”

David Espey “Retirement has yielded many opportunities for travel. My wife Molly and I spent January through March as volunteer teachers in Vietnam at Danang University. Vietnam was full of Chinese tourists, along with many Russians, Koreans, Europeans, and Americans. The most bizarre site we saw was a new American-style amusement park in the form of a French medieval castle and village built on top of a mountain near Danang. The tramway to the top, advertised as the world’s longest, was built by New Zealanders. The financing and concessions for the site were Russian, the tourists mostly Chinese, and one of the most popular attractions was a video shooting game entitled “Rambo,” featuring a large picture of Sylvester Stallone. The term ‘surreal’ hardly captures the spirit of such a postwar multicultural commercial phenomenon! We were in Turkey for April and May, where I had a Fulbright Specialist grant. In both Vietnam and in Turkey, I gave talks on the Vietnam War in American Literature and Popular Culture. Then we were in the UK for June and July, where I taught in the Penn Summer in London program. Best play of the season was a production of Arthur Miller’s The Crucible at the Old Vic.”

Neil Gordon “I’ve just finished a three-year term as Dean and Vice President of the American University in Paris, a hardship posting — evidently — that involved living down at Les Gobelins at the border of the fifth and thirteenth arrondissements, and traveling all over Europe. Despite the evident difficulties, I survived to return, this fall, to the New School, to take up my position — for the first time since I developed the bad habit of deaning — of tenured professor of Literary Studies. And so, an autumn in New York, which could not be more welcome. The time in Europe had many high points, but two of relevance are the opening of Robert Redford’s movie of my last book, The Company You Keep, which was good to be in Europe for, and which — as movies will — lead to the translation of the book all over the world. The other was the publication of my own fourth novel, You’re a Big Girl Now, by Picador UK who in addition were foolish enough to bring out the other three in uniform edition. All great fun, and a break from cutthroat Amazon-driven American publishing, to which I return with proper trepidation.”

Pat Kaufman “When Now Organization for Women in which I am active was readying t-shirts and buttons for a National Meeting in Albuquerque in late June, I objected, ‘Too boring! I will design a scarf for NOW, something to wear and enjoy, etc…’ I had such a good time and got such great reactions, I kicked off into an avalanche of designing a series of scarves. I call them Talk Scarves, because they are provocative as well as beautiful, tasteful, thoughtful, etc! I say so enthusiastically and unashamed.” She has a total so far of nine scarves and she has written a book, “Talk Scarves for the Thinking Woman,” that explains the images and the thinking behind them. You can see some of Pat’s work on her website: www.patriciakaufman.com.

David Garrard Lowe continues to travel widely, bringing his highly popular lectures to a variety of audiences throughout the US and Europe. In August of 2013, he boarded The World for a cruise in the Mediterranean, where he lectured on the History of the French Riviera. In October, he once again took to the waterways aboard the Yorktown, sailing up the New England coast, lecturing on the Mansions of Newport and the Rockefellers of New York. Thus far in 2014, he travelled to Chicago to lecture on The 1913 Armory Show. Back home in New York City, he spoke on New York’s Historic Places of Worship for the New York Landmarks Conservancy in April, and in May, he gave an illustrated lecture on Sarah Bernhardt for the French Heritage Society.

David Masello attended the Summer 2014 Sewanee Writers’ Conference, where he studied poetry. He was also invited in June to read an essay at the first WritersReadOnline.com event at the Cell Theater in New York City: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7b_Kqe16upc. In March, he delivered a lecture at New York’s Asphalt Green on the topic of public artworks in New York.
Derek Mong

“I’ve perhaps another 12 months to go on my dissertation [“Criticism in Progress: The Marriage of Emily Dickinson and Walt Whitman”]… In the off time, I still peck away at a second book of poems. And my wife and I continue to translate Maxim Amelin’s poetry, placing the translations, and a recent interview with Amelin himself, where we can. (Alex Cigale, another Hopwood man and fellow translator from Russian, is a help in this endeavor.) And I’m leaning into a series of critical essays—the readable, non-peer-reviewed kind—when I can. … And I’m still editing the poetry at Mantis: A Journal of Poetry, Criticism, and Translation. Send any Michigan poets my way! I’ve had one or two submit in the past, which is always a delight to see.” He presented the paper, “The Would-Be Book of Marriage: Charis Wilson and Edward Weston Remake Leaves of Grass (1942),” at the Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture Since 1900, Louisville, KY, February 2014.

Marge Piercy

“I am still the Advisory Editor for december magazine and the Poetry Editor for Lilith. I will be giving my annual Juried Intensive Poetry Workshop in Wellfleet from June 15-19, 2015. I am the judge for the José Gouveia National and Regional Poetry Contest. I am the guest co-editor with Ira Wood for the annual fiction contest for Fifth Wednesday.”

Paula Rabinowitz

is the Editor-in-Chief of the Oxford Online Research Encyclopedia of Literature, “a platform under development at Oxford University Press, which hopefully will launch next year.”

J. Max Robins (Jim Robins)

“I’ve been living in New York City since moving to go to the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism in 1981. Although, my Michigan pals still know me as Jim Robins, my byline is J. Max Robins and the name Max has stuck. (When I started out working in New York, there was a “Jim Robbins’ working at Variety, a place where I wanted to work — so I kept the name Max, a nickname from J-School) Since September, I’ve been executive director of the Center for Communication, a non-profit, dedicated to bridging the gap between academia and the media industry. Through our forums, we reach thousands of undergraduate, graduate students and young professionals aspiring to career in journalism, entertainment, advertising and related industries. Folks can check us out at Centerforcommunication.org. Most of my professional career has been spent as a journalist writing about the business of media including stints as TV editor/columnist for Variety, senior editor/columnist TV Guide, and editor-in-chief of Broadcasting & Cable. After leaving B&C in 2007, I became vice president/executive director at the Paley Center for Media (formerly, the Museum of Television & Radio) where I oversaw the institution’s Media Council & International Council, the Paley’s think tank. Along the way I’ve contributed to the Wall Street Journal, The New York Times, New York and The Los Angeles Times. Currently, I’m a columnist for Forbes.com and just started writing a weekly column for MediaPost. In addition, I’ve commented on media-related issues on NPR, ABC News, CBS News, NBC News and CNN.”

Dr. Sherman Silber

spoke on “The effect of strong vs mild stimulation on implantation and pregnancy rates, and the epigenome” at the Ovarian Club IV meeting, “Blastocysts Development and the Process of Implantation;” held in Paris, France November 15-16, 2014. Dr. Silber was featured in the June 2014 issue of Glamour magazine. The article discusses ovarian tissue freezing as an option for fertility preservation. “In September 2013, Dr. Silber was featured in groundbreaking television: the first ever IVF procedure performed on live TV (on the Today show). Now, months later, the end result is amazing: a beautiful baby girl.”

Rosmarie Waldrop

writes that Burning Deck Press has published Apologies by Kristin P. Bradshaw, poetry.

Howard R. Wolf


Awards & Honors

John U. Bacon

John U. Bacon is a journalist, author, and alumnus of the Knight-Wallace Fellows at the University of Michigan and delivered the 29th Graham Hovey lecture at Wallace House on September 5. The annual lecture honors Knight-Wallace alumni whose subsequent careers exemplify the benefits of sabbatical studies at U-M. “Born and raised in Ann Arbor, Bacon earned an honors degree in history and a Master of Education from U-M. He wrote four acclaimed books on college athletics with a focus on Michigan, but his love for his alma mater did not preclude his objective reporting on two dicey transitions in Michigan’s athletic department. Bacon appears regularly on TV, including HBO, ESPN, Fox Business, MSNBC, Al Jazeera America and the Big Ten Network, and delivers weekly essays for Michigan Radio and occasionally
JOHN U. BACON

TRICIA KHLEIF


Natalie Bakopoulos is the recipient of a Fulbright Scholarship for Winter of 2015. She'll be in Athens, Greece, working on her second novel. Her first was The Green Shore (Simon and Schuster, 2012).

Donald Beagle is Poet of the Lost Cause (University of Tennessee Press, 2008), has been selected for inclusion in the "Essential Civil War Curriculum," a Sesquicentennial Project of the Virginia Center for Civil War Studies at Virginia Tech University. The booklist can be viewed at: http://www.essential.civilwar.vt.edu/1536.html

Jason Bredle is Carnival was selected as an Editor’s Choice for the 2012 Akron Series in Poetry. His other poetry book awards include The Book of Evil, winner of the 2009 Dream Horse Press Chapbook Prize; Standing in Line for the Beast, winner of the 2006 New Issues Poetry Prize; and A Twelve Step Guide, winner of the 2004 New Michigan Press Chapbook Contest. In addition, his music criticism has appeared in Resonance and he’s a contributor to Coldfront Magazine. He is working in Chicago as a linguist.

Jeremiah Chamberlin is the recipient of the U of M's Matthews Underclass Teaching Award. The award "honors significant contributions to the teaching of first- and second-year students in Mathematics, History and Modern Languages, broadly interpreted. This award recognizes faculty members who are enthusiastically interested in and highly dedicated to undergraduate education. Nominees [are] considered on the basis of their outstanding contributions to teaching, the intellectual rigor of their courses, and their ability to inspire a sense of wonder and excitement in their students."

Alex Cigale is the recipient of a $12,500 National Endowment for the Arts Grant Translation Fellowship.

Diane Cook was the Peter Taylor Scholar in Fiction at the Sewanee Writers’ Conference last July.

Christy Duan has won the $1,000 Richard Selzer Prize, in a contest hosted by Des Moines University’s literary journal Abaton, for the nonfiction piece “Where Will You Find Happiness Now.” Her other submission, “Slowly, Slowly,” received an honorable mention. She is a third year medical student at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx.

Tricia Khleif who won a Hopwood Graduate Short Fiction Award in 2010 and a Hopwood Novel Award in 2011, is the recipient of a 2014 Rona Jaffe Foundation Writer’s Award, which is given annually to six women writers who demonstrate excellence and promise in the early stages of their careers. The Awards are $30,000 each and were presented to the winners in New York City on September 18. Tricia received an MFA from the U of M, where she is a lecturer.
Her novel Home Fires was a finalist for the Nancy Pearl Award, given by the Pacific Northwest Writers Association for the best mainstream novel published in 2013. It was also a finalist in the Readers’ Favorite award contest in both general fiction and realistic fiction categories. This is an on-line review company.

In the Peninsula Poets Contest Edition, Poetry Society of Michigan, Fall 2014, Gregory won First Prize in the “Spiritual” category for “Eden.” He won Honorable Mentions in the “Loss” category for “Supermarket Waltz, with Tomato and Improvised Explosive Device” and in the “Love” category for “In Baghdad.”

“The Civil War Photographer” (originally published in the Jet Fuel Review) was selected by Dorianne Laux for inclusion in the forthcoming Best New Poets 2014 anthology.

won the 2013 Asimov’s Science Fiction Readers’ Award for Best Short Story, for “The New Guys Always Work Overtime,” which appeared in the Feb 2013 issue of Asimov’s: http://davideniknelson.com/NewGuys/

Her novel Everything I Never Told You (Penguin Press, 2014) was selected by Amazon Editors as “The Best Book of 2014.” She also won a $1,000 Glimmer Train Press award for her story “Every Little Thing.”

received a 2014 John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Writing Fellowship in poetry. The $50,000 fellowships are awarded in recognition of “achievement and exceptional promise.”

received a $7,500 Dorothy Sargent Rosenberg Poetry Prize. The awards, which were given annually for lyric poems celebrating the human spirit, have been discontinued.

won the 2013 Story Prize Spotlight Award for Byzantium (Graywolf Press). He won $1,000.

is a three-time finalist for the Lambda Literary Award for his anthologies on bisexuality. A 2010 collection of traditional Turkish folk tales, The Uncommon Sense of the Immortal Mullah Nasruddin, won two national awards, The Anne Izard Storytellers’ Choice Award and a Storytelling World Honor Award. In 2004, Ron married Rocco Russo, a family doctor living in Connecticut, and the two presently reside in New Milford. In 2007, Suresha co-founded Bear Bones Books, an imprint of indie GLBTQ publisher Lethe Press based in Maple Shade, N.J. The imprint publishes not only Suresha’s work but also of other authors in the gay/bi men’s “Bear” community.

“Winter’s Approach” won the Current Magazine (Ann Arbor) poetry prize and will be published in an upcoming issue.

was a finalist in the 2014 National Book Critics Circle Award autobiography category for Men We Reaped (Bloomsbury).

Alice’s Sister (Turning Point, 2013) won the gold award in poetry from Foreword Reviews’ “Book of the Year Award.”

recipient of a Minor Poetry Award and a Summer Poetry Award in 1943, a Minor Poetry Award in 1944, and a Major Poetry Award in 1945, died on September 23, 2008 in New York City. The New York Times reports that she was a “member of the piano faculty of Mannes College of Music (1969-1991); she toured biennially with the cultural outreach programs of the United States Information Agency in Europe, Asia, and Central America throughout the 1960s and 1970s. During the early 1980s, Haien turned her energies increasingly toward writing and, in 1986, published The All of It, for which she garnered strong critical praise and the Sue Kaufman Prize for First Fiction awarded by the American Academy of Arts and Letters in 1987. Haien’s second novel, Matters of Chance, was published in 1997.”

Rowland Barber, winner of a Hopwood Minor Drama Award in 1940, died in Portland, Oregon at the age of 92 on September 5, 2012. He was the author of the books Somebody Up There Likes Me (with Rocky Graziano) in 1956; Harpo Speaks (with Harpo Marx), 1961; Harpo Speaks…About New York (with Harpo Marx and an introduction by E. L. Doctorow) in 1961; and The Night They Raided Minsky’s in 1968. He also wrote screenplays for The 30 Foot Bride of Candy Rock (starring Lou Costello) in 1959; the TV movie The Thread of Life in 1960; and the Karl Malden movie Twilight Time in 1983.
Suzanne Hartman-Byerley

winner of a Major Fiction—Short Story Award in 1964, died on May 14, 2013 at the age of 76 in Solon, Ohio. Her short stories were published in Woman’s Day, Cleveland Magazine, Family Circle, and Kansas Quarterly. She taught writing at Case Western Reserve from 1966-1980, where she was also the Director of Communications. In 1984, she became the Director of Communications & Development at the College of Urban Affairs, Cleveland State University and taught workshops for minority writers at Karamu House for many years. She moved to Mendocino, California in 1987 and taught at the College of the Redwoods and was honored as the Associate Faculty of the Year. She was the Co-Director of the Mendocino Writers Conference from 1996-2005.

Ann L. McIntosh

winner of a Minor Essay Award in 1962, died on February 26, 2013 in Monkton, Maryland.

Henrietta (Hetsy) Slote

winner of a 1952 Major Fiction-Novel Award, died in Ann Arbor on November 13. She was 84. After graduating summa cum laude from Mount Holyoke, she used a fellowship from the American Council of Learned Societies to fund enrollment in the English Department’s MA program. She was the recipient of a Fulbright Fellowship and studied the works of Marcel Proust and Henry James at the Universities of Lyon and Aix-Marseilles. She was an editor at the U of M’s Business Administration School and later Assistant to the Dean of the Law School. She was married to novelist Al Slote (a Hopwood Award winner) for 63 years and had three children, one of whom, John, also won a Hopwood Award.

Mary Joan Woods

The newsletter sent to Mary Joan Woods of Dearborn, Michigan, was returned marked “deceased.” Unfortunately, no additional information is available. She was the winner of a Summer Essay Award in 1964.

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 27. If your information arrived after that, it will be included in our next newsletter in July. The cutoff date for that newsletter will be May 20.

Unfortunately, so many of you have personal websites and blogs that we’re unable to make note of them. We’re trying to keep the newsletter to a 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.

The Hopwood Program has a web page address: www.lsa.umich.edu/hopwood/. Visit the English Department’s Helen Zell Writers’ Program site at www.lsa.umich.edu/writers.

A special thank you to wonderful Program Assistants Summer Powers and Juliana Roth, and, of course, to Nicholas Delbanco, who has so splendidly directed the program for so many years.

Do stop by to say hello if you’re visiting Ann Arbor. All best wishes for a wonderful new year.

Andrea Beauchamp
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Return Service Requested