HOW TO CRAWL:

Find friends. Study the map. Pick your path.
Arrive at your first Nevada Humanities Literary Crawl session and go!
Entry to all Nevada Humanities Literary Crawl sessions is free.

Pop in and out of readings if you want to see as many authors as possible, but please be respectful of readers and other participants as you come and go.

In between readings, experience what is happening on the streets: dance performances, scavenger hunts, walking tours, and more.

As you go on your adventure, tweet us @nvhumanities with #litcrawlnv.

Follow us on Instagram @nevada_humanities for news and updates throughout the day.
Share on Instagram: @nevada_humanities #litcrawlnv. Tag us and you could win books!

Did you enjoy the day? Help us make this happen again by doubling down on the humanities and becoming a monthly donor to Nevada Humanities at nevadahumanities.org/donate.

TELLING OUR STORIES

When Nevada Humanities founded the Nevada Humanities Literary Crawl six years ago, we had no idea that it would grow to be the premier literary event in northern Nevada. Now with nearly 100 authors from across the Silver State and beyond, readings, workshops, book signings, activities for young people, and an Epilogue After Party to beat the band, we are thrilled to see the event mature and thrive.

We are honored to welcome writer Kiese Laymon to the Nevada Humanities Literary Crawl this year. Laymon’s book, Heavy: An American Memoir, is a 2019 Nevada Reads selection. He will be addressing the themes in his book—identity, art, friendship, and truth-telling—during his keynote address. His personal narrative illuminates systemic failures; its insights providing a glimmer of hope in their honesty. Join us for this talk, and I will join you as we Crawl the streets of Reno!

Christina Barr
Executive Director
ABOUT NEVADA HUMANITIES

Nevada Humanities connects and transforms communities by sharing and amplifying the stories, ideas, experiences, and traditions of the diverse people of Nevada. By creating and supporting dynamic public programs that inspire engagement, we deepen a collective sense of place and belonging and encourage mutual understanding and empathy, which are the foundations of community and democracy. Nevada Humanities is one of 56 independent, nonprofit state and territorial humanities councils affiliated with the National Endowment for the Humanities. With offices in Reno and Las Vegas, Nevada Humanities creates public programs and supports public projects statewide that articulate the Nevada experience and facilitate the exploration of issues that matter to the people of Nevada and their communities.
NEVADA HUMANITIES PROGRAMS

The mission of Nevada Humanities is to connect and transform communities by sharing and amplifying the stories, ideas, experiences, and traditions of the diverse people of Nevada. Nevada Humanities provides opportunities for the people of Nevada to think creatively and explore the world through our programs and events. We produce programs and events that articulate the Nevada experience, feature local culture and heritage, and facilitate the investigation of ideas that matter to the people of Nevada and their communities.

PROJECT GRANTS TO ORGANIZATIONS

Nevada Humanities provides direct grants to Nevada nonprofit organizations to fund humanities-based public programs that encourage community engagement. Projects include a wide range of programs and events that explore local culture and Nevada’s diverse heritage and unique places. The annual funding proposal deadline for Project Grants is March 10; Mini-Grant applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

THE SALON AND POP-UP SALON PROGRAMS

Part panel discussion, part conversation, and part social event, The Salon and Pop-Up Salon programs bring people together to converse about thought-provoking topics and ideas. The Salon is a welcoming place to learn and share new ideas. Reno’s version of The Salon takes place on the third Friday of every other month at Sundance Books and Music in Reno, and Pop-Up Salon programs can be found statewide throughout the year.

LAS VEGAS BOOK FESTIVAL

The annual Las Vegas Book Festival is a collaborative celebration of the written, spoken, and illustrated word held each October, that features authors participating in panel discussions, book signings, readings, workshops, and special events.

NEVADA HUMANITIES LITERARY CRAWL

The Nevada Humanities Literary Crawl is an annual exploratory event held every September that brings people together to celebrate Nevada’s rich literary talent; authors, poets, and artists give readings, discussions, and more at downtown Reno bars and restaurants.

NEVADA HUMANITIES EXHIBITION SERIES

The Nevada Humanities Exhibition Series, located at our Program Gallery in downtown Las Vegas, showcases the work of Nevada artists, writers, photographers, and other creative thinkers who explore and articulate a sense of place in the Silver State.

Las Vegas Book Festival, 2018.
NEVADA READS
Nevada Reads is a statewide book club that invites Nevadans to read selected works of literature and come together in their communities to share the ideas inspired by the books, offering discussion of topics that matter to people of Nevada.

ONLINE NEVADA ENCYCLOPEDIA
The Online Nevada Encyclopedia (ONE) is Nevada’s primary online resource about the state’s history and contemporary culture. This multimedia educational resource produced by Nevada Humanities interactively explores the history, politics, and culture of the Silver State. Visit the ONE at onlinenevada.org.

YOUNG CHAUTAUQUA
Created by Nevada Humanities in 1993, Young Chautauqua is an award-winning program in which young people learn how to research and develop original Chautauqua presentations. In 2001, Nevada Humanities received a Coming Up Taller Award from the President’s Commission on the Arts and Humanities for developing the national program model for Young Chautauqua. Nevada Humanities produces and distributes The Young Chautauqua Handbook, an educational resource for teachers and communities to facilitate Young Chautauqua programs around Nevada and the world.

NEVADA HUMANITIES AWARDS
Bi-annually, Nevada Humanities Awards honor the achievements of individuals and organizations for making outstanding contributions to Nevada’s communities by using the humanities to strengthen and enhance the lives of the people of Nevada. The next slate of Nevada Humanities Awards will be conferred in Spring 2021.

NEVADA CENTER FOR THE BOOK
Nevada Humanities serves as the Library of Congress affiliate for the Nevada Center for the Book, which is dedicated to promoting literature and literacy throughout the Silver State. Programs include Nevada Reads, the Las Vegas Book Festival, the Nevada Humanities Literary Crawl, the National Book Festival, and additional literary programs produced by Nevada Humanities and its partners.

SPECIAL INITIATIVES
Nevada Humanities offers projects and events that define the humanities in different ways. These initiatives offer new paths for Nevadans to experience, think about, and explore the humanities in their daily lives.

HALCYON PUBLICATION SERIES
Nevada Humanities publishes a number of important and informative books by Nevada authors under the name of Halcyon, Nevada Humanities’ publication imprint. These books are available for purchase at outlets throughout Nevada and by calling Nevada Humanities at 775-784-6587.
**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**ICONS TO LOOK FOR:**

- FAMILY FRIENDLY
- WORKSHOP OR ACTIVITY
- FOOD AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE
- INFORMATION DESK
- PERFORMANCE

**MORNING EVENTS**

**MY NEVADA DRAWING**
Join artist and Nevada Humanities Program Manager Bobbie Ann Howell to create your own one-of-a-kind work on paper prepared with a layer of red iron oxide Nevada soil.
Nevada Museum of Art, 3rd Floor, 160 West Liberty Street, 10:00 am-4:00 pm

**FAMILY READ-ALONG AND CRAFT**
Caregivers and children can read together from an I Spy book and make a craft as part of the Literary Crawl scavenger hunt. Additional hands-on activities abound.
Downtown Reno Library, 301 South Center Street, 11:00 am and 1:00 pm

**I SPY WITH MY LITTLE EYE: SCAVENGER HUNT**
Beginning at the Downtown Reno Library at 11:00 am and 1:00 pm, participate in a family storytime, and then start your scavenger hunt adventure across the Literary Crawl route. Find clues at multiple venues throughout the day with a prize at the end. Scavenger hunt books can be picked up at the Downtown Reno Library (until 2:00 pm), the Terry Lee Wells Nevada Discovery Museum, Sundance Books and Music, the Nevada Museum of Art, and Arts for All Nevada at the Lake Mansion.
Downtown Reno Library, 301 South Center Street, 11:00 am and 1:00 pm

**KEYNOTE EVENT: 12:00-1:00PM**

Listen to writer Kiese Laymon discuss *Heavy: An American Memoir*, a powerful story about complicated families, race in America, and employing art and truth to create healthier and more honest relationships. A Q&A session will be moderated by Nasia Anam, and a book signing will follow the keynote event. *Heavy: An American Memoir* is a 2019 Nevada Reads book.
Nevada Museum of Art, Nightingale Sky Room, 160 West Liberty Street from 12:00 – 1:00 pm; this event is free, but tickets are required. Tickets are available online at nevadaart.org and at the museum while supplies last.
FAMILY READ-ALONG AND CRAFT
Caregivers and children can read together from an I Spy book and make a craft as part of the Literary Crawl scavenger hunt. Additional hands-on activities abound.
Downtown Reno Library, 301 South Center Street, 1:00 pm

NORTHERN NEVADA VETERANS WRITING PROJECT
Part of the David J. Drakulich Foundation for Freedom of Expression’s mission is to improve healing and reintegration outcomes of military and military-connected communities through the arts, humanities, and recreation. Listen as veterans share their stories and their voices. Featuring: Larry Dawson, Rob Garrett, Eric Hobson, Julie King, and Noël Lipana.
Old World Coffee, 104 California Avenue, 1:30-2:15 pm

HAIKU MADLIBS: LETTERPRESS PRINTING WITH BLACK ROCK PRESS
Remember MadLibs? In collaboration with Black Rock Press and Reno Bike Project, come pull and play a MadLib haiku print, and then write a little message on its back. Send your note along with a Reno Bike Project courier for delivery to an unsuspecting stranger. Let the word games begin!
Sundance Books and Music, 121 California Avenue, 1:30-3:30 pm

DINNER IS SERVED
Featuring edible Reno-Tahoe’s managing editor, Jessica Santina, writer Sandra Macias, and photographer Shea Evans, this panel will highlight what goes into developing and producing magazine content that reflects the region, supports local food-and-drink producers and purveyors, and makes people hungry.
Great Basin Community Food Co-op, 240 Court Street, 1:30-2:15 pm

HUMANITIES IN PRISONS
Why are classes in literature, poetry, music, art, theatre, and history so powerful, sometimes even life-saving, in prison settings? Teachers share stories about their experiences working in prisons. Featuring: Susan Chandler, Shaun Griffin, and Erica Wirthlin. Do you have books or writing materials you would like to donate to prison students? Bring your donations today (no wire-spiral notebooks, please).
Pignic Pub & Patio, 235 Flint Street, 1:30-2:15 pm

MUZZLED WORDS
What books can and can’t be read in prison? Moderated by Lydia Huerta, listen to novelist and journalist Ahmed Naji read and discuss his work, including the passages that sent him to jail.
Arts for All Nevada at the Lake Mansion (pavilion), 250 Court Street, 1:30-2:15 pm

BODIES!
From cadavers to embodiment, experience new work by University of Nevada, Reno master of fine arts graduate students and faculty. Listen to five-minute stories and poems all about the body.
Washoe Public House, 275 Hill Street, 1:30-2:15 pm

BOOKIN’ WITH SUNNY
Learn how to write a stellar book review and join in the conversation about the importance of supporting other writers’ work. Come ready to read, write, and respond.
E.L. Cord Museum School, Nevada Museum of Art, 160 West Liberty Street, 1:30-2:15 pm

THE BELIEVER AND NON-FICTION PUBLISHING
Speak with Daniel Gumbiner and Niela Orr as they discuss their experiences editing The Believer magazine.
E.L. Cord Museum School, Nevada Museum of Art, 160 West Liberty Street, 1:30-2:15 pm

WHO ARE WE AND WHERE ARE WE GOING?
Take a quick walking tour with someone who doesn’t know the way. Featuring Leslie Carol Roberts, author of Here is Where I Walk: Episodes From a Life in the Forest. Meet at the Lake Mansion to start the adventure.
Arts for All Nevada at the Lake Mansion (pavilion), 250 Court Street, 2:15-2:30 pm
HAIKU MADLIBLES: LETTERPRESS PRINTING WITH BLACK ROCK PRESS
Remember MadLibs? In collaboration with Black Rock Press and Reno Bike Project, come pull and play a MadLib haiku print, and then write a little message on its back. Send your note along with a Reno Bike Project courier for delivery to an unsuspecting stranger. Let the word games begin!
Sundance Books and Music, 121 California Avenue, 1:30-3:30 pm

THIS SIDE OF THE DIVIDE: STORIES OF THE AMERICAN WEST
Listen to authors who write with keen perception about the lives, work, aspirations, fears, and ethnic roots of the diverse population west of the Continental Divide. Moderated by Danilo Thomas and featuring: Siân Griffiths, Mark Maynard, and Miranda Schmidt.
Old World Coffee, 104 California Avenue, 2:30-3:15 pm

GRAMPA, WILL YOU TELL ME A STORY?
Listen to local cartoonist Brian Crane read from his recent children's book, Grampa, Will You Tell Me a Story?
Sundance Books and Music, 121 California Avenue, 2:30-3:15 pm

FAMILY MATTERS
Stories of love, grief, and hope about the people in our lives that we just don't get to choose. Featuring: Cyndy Cendagorta, Joanne Mallari, and Niela Orr.
Great Basin Community Food Co-op, 240 Court Street, 2:30-3:15 pm

WILD CARDS
From a series of science fiction-y, superhero, shared-universe anthologies (and more), the Wild Cards series is edited by none other than George R.R. Martin. Come listen to some of the authors who are part of the club. Featuring: David Durham and Carrie Vaughn.
Arts for All Nevada at the Lake Mansion (pavilion), 250 Court Street, 2:30-3:15 pm
Parking available behind building.

A TRIBUTE TO ADRIAN LOUIS
Listen to poets and writers read from and reflect on the work of this Nevada-born poet.
Featuring: Everett George, Shaun Griffin, Gailmarie Pahmeier, and Lindsay Wilson.
Washoe Public House, 275 Hill Street, 2:30-3:15 pm

FROM FIRST DRAFT TO LAST CHORD
Every songwriter has their own unique process for creating. Vancouver-based songwriter/recording artist Tariq will share some of his strategies and approaches to craft that created the 10 tracks found on his most recent album. For budding to experienced lyricists, composers, musicians, or anyone who likes songs.
E.L. Cord Museum School, Nevada Museum of Art, 160 West Liberty Street, 2:30-3:15 pm

TALL TALES
Listen to Naseem Jamnia and Ellen Klages in readings and conversation about writing for young adults and retelling stories to make the old new again.
Pignic Pub & Patio, 235 Flint Street, 2:30-3:15 pm

INTERACTIVE STORYTELLING
If you think that interactive, participatory fiction is the future of storytelling, then this workshop is for you. Take part in a role-playing game with author, narrative designer, and Dungeons & Dragons specialist Ashley Warren and participate in a fantastical Nevada-themed story acted out as a group. All ages welcome.
E.L. Cord Museum School, Nevada Museum of Art, 160 West Liberty Street, 2:30-3:30 pm

DANCING IN THE STREETS
Inspired by the poetry of Melanie Perish, Collateral & Co. Contemporary Dance Company presents a dance that explores the Nevada landscape.
Arts for All Nevada at the Lake Mansion (pavilion), 250 Court Street, 3:15-3:30 pm
CHAPTER 3: 3:30-4:30PM

GRAMPA, WILL YOU TELL ME A STORY?
Listen to local cartoonist Brian Crane read from his recent children’s book, *Grampa, Will You Tell Me a Story?*
Sundance Books and Music, 121 California Avenue, 3:30-4:15 pm

WRITING BEHIND BARS
Join a gathering of formerly incarcerated Nevada authors to experience the power of writing from behind bars. Featuring: Shaun Griffin, Susan Chandler, Durrell Grier, Ismael Santillanes, and Cornell Wilkins, from *Inside/Insight* and *Razor Wire*, two writing workshops at the Northern Nevada Correctional Center.
Arts for All Nevada at the Lake Mansion (pavilion), 250 Court Street, 3:30-4:15 pm
Parking available behind building.

QUEERSTORIAS
Learn about activism, organizing, and storytelling happening at the local and national levels among queer and trans people of color. Featuring: Lydia Huerta, Anthony Martínez, and Felicia Perez.
The Loving Cup, 188 California Avenue, 3:30-4:15 pm. Venue is 21+.

Q&A WITH GRAMMAR GIRL
Come with your most pressing questions for Mignon Fogarty, also known as “Grammar Girl”. She will know the answer!
St. James Infirmary, 445 California Avenue, 3:30-4:15 pm

NEVADA POETRY NOW
Washoe Public House, 275 Hill Street, 3:30-4:15 pm

CROSSINGS
From straddling cultures to reconciling religion and sexuality, local writers explore how poetry moves between sites of contradiction. Featuring: Brandy Burgess, Elisa Garcia, Joanne Mallari, Garnet Sanford, and Michelle Wait.
Pignic Pub & Patio, 235 Flint Street, 3:30-4:15 pm

KALEIDOSCOPES:
DIVERSITY IN SCIFI
They give us a glimpse of far-future and magical places, but do science fiction and fantasy novels offer readers another lens through which to view our own world? Featuring: David Durham, Maggie Shen King, and Carrie Vaughn.
1864 Tavern, 290 California Avenue, 3:30-4:15 pm

THE LEGEND OF 1000 COMBAT PAPER CRANES
Come to this workshop to learn more about military service, and help construct origami cranes using combat paper (made from military uniforms).
E.L. Cord Museum School, Nevada Museum of Art, 160 West Liberty Street, 3:30-5:30 pm

RANTS FROM THE PUB
Michael Branch will read from recent books *Rants from the Hill and How to Cuss in Western*, joined by jazz bassist Hannah Branch, for a session of words and music in celebration of the relationship between family and place in the Great Basin Desert.
Ceol Irish Pub, 538 South Virginia Street, 3:30-4:15 pm

WHO ARE WE AND WHERE ARE WE GOING?
Take a quick walking tour with someone who doesn’t know the way. Featuring Leslie Carol Roberts, author of *Here is Where I Walk: Episodes From a Life in the Forest*. Meet at the pub to start the adventure.
Pignic Pub & Patio, 235 Flint Street, 4:15-4:30 pm
CHAPTER 4: 4:30-5:30PM

THE ANXIOUS MIND
When your mind is racing, take a deep breath and listen to these writers and poets. Featuring: Stacy Gnall, Lauren Levin, and David Rondel.
1864 Tavern, 290 California Avenue, 4:30-5:15 pm

LAS VEGAS WRITES
Las Vegas was built on countless disasters—bad turns of the cards, unfortunate rolls of the dice. Join in a discussion of Live Through This, the ninth volume in the Las Vegas Writes series, which extends the dynamic of unnatural disasters beyond the gambling halls and into the streets, homes, and eccentric spaces of Las Vegas. Featuring: co-editors Scott Dickensheets and Geoff Schumacher, as well as contributors C. Moon Reed, Lissa Townsend Rodgers, and Kristy Totten.
St. James Infirmary, 445 California Avenue, 4:30-5:15 pm

NO PLACE LIKE HOME
On the rez, in our minds, and with our legacies, this panel showcases thoughts and writings on place and home. Featuring: Everett George, Amy Kurzweil, and Laura Newman.
Arts for All Nevada at the Lake Mansion (pavilion), 250 Court Street, 4:30-5:15 pm
Parking available behind building.

THE KIDS ARE ALRIGHT
Come listen to the next young Rushdie, Morrison, or Didion. Hosted by Youth Writing Program director, Christopher Coake.
Pignic Pub & Patio, 235 Flint Street, 4:30-5:15 pm

TELLING RENO’S STORY FOR PODCASTS AND RADIO
Listen to the often untold stories of resilience, survival, and a city in transition. Featuring: Alicia Barber, Nico Colombant, Bob Conrad, Anjeannette Damon, and Donald Griffin.
Ceol Irish Pub, 538 South Virginia Street, 4:30-5:15 pm

A WOMAN’S WORK IS NEVER DONE
Poet Vi Khi Nao shares her work alongside historical documents read by archivist Kimberly Roberts.
Washoe Public House, 275 Hill Street, 4:30-5:15 pm

POETRY MEETS DANCE
Use dance as a means for inspiration in this workshop that explores the way words can coexist with and impact bodily expression. Collateral & Co. Contemporary Dance Company will perform a short excerpt from their recent work, “Dust Settled.” A poet and a choreographer will lead participants through conversation and drafting of a poem. Featuring: Matthew Baker and Caitlin McCarty. This workshop will culminate in a simultaneous dance performance and live reading. Writers and non-writers alike are welcome to participate or observe.
Nevada Museum of Art, Wayne and Miriam Prim Theater, 160 West Liberty Street, 4:30-5:15 pm

THE LEGEND OF 1000 COMBAT PAPER CRANES
Come to this workshop to learn more about military service, and help construct origami cranes using combat paper (made from military uniforms).
E.L. Cord Museum School, Nevada Museum of Art, 160 West Liberty Street, 3:30-5:30 pm

WHO ARE WE AND WHERE ARE WE GOING?
Take a quick walking tour with someone who doesn’t know the way. Featuring Leslie Carol Roberts, author of Here is Where I Walk: Episodes From a Life in the Forest. Meet at the pub to start the adventure.
1864 Tavern, 290 California Avenue, 5:15-5:30 pm
ARE YOU THERE GOD? IT’S ME, BILDUNGSROMAN
Poetry and prose on coming-of-age and the stuff of childhood. Featuring: Gayle Brandeis, George Perreault, and June Saraceno. Arts for All Nevada at the Lake Mansion (pavilion), 250 Court Street, 5:30-6:15 pm Parking available behind building.

THE MAN THEY WANTED ME TO BE
Writings on toxic masculinity. Featuring: Christopher Coake, Daniel Gumbiner, and Pan Pantoja. Washoe Public House, 275 Hill Street, 5:30-6:15 pm

LOOSE TONGUES
“Loose tongues” are unrestrained and can be used for various purposes—linguistic, corporeal, and sensual. Join this discussion on the multiple forms of communication among Jotería (Queer Brown) communities, including voicing taboos and rejecting gender binaries, the root of Jotería communicative practices. Featuring: Lydia Huerta, Macario Mendoza-Carrillo, Ignacio Montoya, and Daniel Enrique Pérez. Royce, 115 Ridge Street, 5:30-6:15 pm

TELLING STORIES FROM THE IVORY TOWER
From the popular Thought on Tap team, this panel looks at how scholars are revolutionizing the way they do their work through the use of video, podcasting, and digital platforms as well as increased engagement with popular culture. Featuring: Katherine Fusco, Carlos Mariscal, and Bretton Rodriguez. 1864 Tavern, 290 California Avenue, 5:30-6:15 pm

SPOKEN VIEWS COLLECTIVE SHOWCASE
Join us for a showcase of youth and adult members of Reno’s spoken word collective Spoken Views, emceed by Iain Watson. Pignic Pub & Patio, 235 Flint Street, 5:30-6:15 pm

DON’T SKIP OUT ON THIS
Join 2019 Nevada Reads author Willy Vlautin for a jam session, reading, and conversation about his newest book, Don’t Skip Out On Me. Ceol Irish Pub, 538 South Virginia Street, 5:30-6:15 pm

DANCING IN THE STREETS
Inspired by the poetry of Melanie Perish, Collateral & Co. Contemporary Dance Company presents a dance that explores the Nevada landscape. Sundance Books and Music, 121 California Avenue, 6:00-6:15 pm
EPILOGUE

ONGOING EVENTS

MADLIB HAIKUS
Remember MadLibs? In collaboration with Black Rock Press and Reno Bike Project, come pull and play a MadLib haiku print, and then write a little message on its back. Send your note along with a Reno Bike Project courier for delivery to an unsuspecting stranger. Let the word games begin!
Sundance Books and Music, 121 California Avenue, 1:30-3:30 pm

I SPY WITH MY LITTLE EYE: SCAVENGER HUNT
Beginning at the Downtown Reno Library at 11:00 am and 1:00 pm, participate in a family storytime, and then start your scavenger hunt adventure across the Literary Crawl route. Find clues at multiple venues throughout the day with a prize at the end. Scavenger hunt books can be picked up at the Downtown Reno Library (until 2:00 pm), the Terry Lee Wells Nevada Discovery Museum, Sundance Books and Music, the Nevada Museum of Art, and Arts for All Nevada at the Lake Mansion.
Downtown Reno Library, 301 South Center Street, 11:00 am and 1:00 pm

GO TO THE DOGS
Be on the lookout for the BowWow Book Club, Reno/Sparks Pet Therapy’s literacy program, all around the Nevada Humanities Literary Crawl. Volunteers and their furry friends will be at outdoor locations all day, and you can learn about pet safety and responsible dog ownership while listening, reading, and telling stories.
Multiple venues throughout the day.

EPILOGUE

SAY WHAT? POETRY.
Four poets competing in three rounds. Original and classic poems by well-known poets. You be the judge. Emceed by Elisa Garcia. Featuring: Claire McCully, Shaughn Richardson, Josue Valadez, and Iain Watson.
The Loving Cup, 188 California Avenue, 6:15-7:00 pm. Venue is 21+.

EPILOGUE AFTER PARTY
Rub shoulders with your favorite authors; get them to sign their books. Live music by Tariq, food trucks, beer, and first-come-first-serve free gelato by Bibo Freddo Gelato.
Sundance Books and Music, 121 California Avenue, 6:30-8:00 pm
CONTRIBUTORS, UNABRIDGED

Nasia Anam is an assistant professor of English and global anglophone literature at the University of Nevada, Reno. Her research focuses on representations of the Muslim migrant in postcolonial and colonial literature. She received her doctorate in comparative literature at the University of California, Los Angeles, and has since taught at California Institute of the Arts, Williams College, and Princeton University. Her writing and reviews have appeared in ASAP/Journal, Interventions, Post45 Contemporaries, Verge: Global Asias, Los Angeles Review of Books, and The Aerogram.

Matthew W. Baker grew up in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania but currently lives in Reno and teaches middle and high school English. He received a master of fine arts degree from the University of Nevada, Reno. His work has appeared, or will appear, in The Summerset Review, The Matador Review, Booth Journal, Sundog Lit, Yemassee Journal, and The Meadow, among others, and has been nominated for the Best New Poets anthology. His debut chapbook, Undoing the Hide’s Taut Musculature, will be published in October 2019.

Alicia Barber, PhD, is a professional historian and award-winning writer whose work focuses on the built environment and cultural history of Nevada and the American West. She has produced and hosted the regular history feature “Time & Place with Alicia Barber” for KUNR Public Radio (88.7 FM) since 2017. She is the author of Reno’s Big Gamble: Image and Reputation in the Biggest Little City and the co-founder and editor of Reno Historical, a map-based smart phone app and website dedicated to Reno’s history. She holds a doctorate in American studies from the University of Texas at Austin and directed the University of Nevada Oral History Program at the University of Nevada, Reno from 2009 until 2013, when she founded the historical consulting firm Reno Historical, a map-based smart phone app and website dedicated to Reno's history. She holds a doctorate in American studies from the University of Texas at Austin and directed the University of Nevada Oral History Program at the University of Nevada, Reno from 2009 until 2013, when she founded the historical consulting firm.

Hannah Branch is a junior in the international baccalaureate program at Wooster High School in Reno. She’s a national speech and debate competitor with a passion for writing. She also enjoys music; she plays bass in several jazz bands and writes her own guitar and ukulele music on the side. She is thankful for Reno’s thriving literature and arts community, and everyone who supports it. Branch plans to seek a major in English or political science and pursue a career in political speech writing.

Michael Branch writes creative nonfiction and humor on the environment and life in the American West. He is the University Foundation Professor of English at the University of Nevada, Reno. His creative nonfiction includes pieces that have received Honorable Mention for the Pushcart Prize and been recognized as Notable Essays in The Best American Essays, The Best American Science and Nature Writing, and The Best American Nonrequired Reading. His work has appeared in countless magazines including Slate, Huffington Post, and Orion. Branch is the recipient of the Western Literature Association awards for creative writing and humor writing, the Ellen Meloy Desert Writers Award, and the Nevada Writers Hall of Fame Silver Pen Award. His most recent books are Raising Wild, ‘The Best Read Naturalist’: Nature Writings of Ralph Waldo Emerson, Rants from the Hill, and How to Cuss in Western. Mike is currently writing a book about jackalopes.

Gayle Brandeis is the author, most recently, of the memoir The Art of Misdiagnosis: Surviving My Mother’s Suicide and the poetry collection The Selfless Bliss of the Body. Her other books include Fruitflesh: Seeds of Inspiration for Women Who Write, and the novels The Book of Dead Birds, which won the Bellwether Prize for Fiction of Social Engagement, Self Storage, Delta Girls, and My Life with the Lincolns, a state-wide read in Wisconsin. Her novel in poems, Many Restless Concerns, will be published this December. Her poetry, essays, and short fiction have been published in The New York Times, The Washington Post, O (The Oprah Magazine), The Rumpus, Salon, Longreads, and more. She teaches at Sierra Nevada College and Antioch University Los Angeles.

Brandy Burgess is an education technologist who recently received her master’s degree in religious education from Loyola University, New Orleans. Burgess also moonlights as a local Reno poet and artist. Much of her work focuses on the impact of the information age on intergenerational communication. When Burgess is not writing, running, or working, she can be found canceling plans to stay home in bed with Netflix or a good book.

Cyndy Cendagorta is working on a collection of short stories about broken things, including bodies, children, faith, and love. She comes from a wild Spanish Basque family, and is a special needs mother and disability advocate. She runs a policy consulting company in Reno, where she was born and raised and recently returned to after 20 years away. Cendagorta holds a master’s degree in political science from Washington State University and is a past Women’s Research and Education Institute Fellow. Her stories have been published in The Spectacle, Cagibi, Salmon Creek Journal, Memoir Magazine, and Please See Me. She lives in Reno with her husband and three children.
**Keynote Event:** 12pm
Writer Kiese Laymon
Nevada Museum of Art

**Chapter 1:** 1:30-2:30pm

1. **Family Matters**
   Great Basin Community Food Co-Op | 2:30-3:15pm

2. **Tall Tales**
   Pignic Pub & Patio | 2:30-3:15pm

3. **Wild Cards**
   Arts for All Nevada at the Lake Mansion (pavilion) | 2:30-3:15pm

4. **Adrian Louis Tribute**
   Washoe Public House | 2:30-3:15pm

5. **From First Draft to Last Chord**
   E.L. Cord Museum School, Nevada Museum of Art | 2:30-3:30pm

6. **Interactive Storytelling**
   E.L. Cord Museum School, Nevada Museum of Art | 2:30-3:30pm

7. **Dancing in the Streets**
   Arts for All Nevada at the Lake Mansion (pavilion) | 2:15-2:30pm

**Chapter 2:** 2:30-3:30pm

8. **Dinner is Served**
   Great Basin Community Food Co-Op | 2:30-3:15pm

9. **Humanities in Prisons**
   Pignic Pub & Patio | 2:30-3:15pm

10. **Muzzled Words**
    Arts for All Nevada at the Lake Mansion (pavilion) | 1:30-2:15pm

11. **Bodies!**
    Washoe Public House | 1:30-2:15pm

12. **Bookin' with Sunny**
    E.L. Cord Museum School, Nevada Museum of Art | 1:30-2:15pm

13. **The Believer and Non-Fiction Publishing**
    E.L. Cord Museum School, Nevada Museum of Art | 1:30-2:15pm

14. **Who Are We and Where Are We Going?**
    Arts for All Nevada at the Lake Mansion (pavilion) | 1:30-2:15pm

**Chapter 3:** 3:30-4:30pm

15. **Grampa, Will You Tell Me a Story?**
    Sundance Books & Music | 3:30-4:15pm

16. **Writing Behind Bars**
    Arts for All Nevada at the Lake Mansion (pavilion) | 3:30-4:15pm

17. **Queerstorias**
    The Loving Cup | 3:30-4:15pm, Venue 21+

18. **Q&A with Grammar Girl**
    St James Infirmary | 3:30-4:15pm

19. **Crossings**
    Pignic Pub & Patio | 3:30-4:15pm

20. **Kaleidoscopes: Diversity in SciFi**
    1864 Tavern | 3:30-4:15pm

21. **Nevada Poetry Now**
    Washoe Public House | 3:30-4:15pm

22. **Rants from the Pub**
    Ceol Irish Pub | 3:30-4:15pm

23. **The Legend of 1000 Combat Paper Cranes**
    E.L. Cord Museum School, Nevada Museum of Art | 3:30-5:30pm

**Chapter 4:** 4:30-5:30pm

24. **Who Are We and Where Are We Going?**
    Pignic Pub & Patio | 4:15-4:30pm

25. **The Legend of 1000 Combat Paper Cranes**
    E.L. Cord Museum School, Nevada Museum of Art | 3:30-5:30pm
The Anxious Mind
1864 Tavern | 4:30-5:15pm

Las Vegas Writes
St. James Infirmary | 4:30-5:15pm

No Place Like Home
Arts for All Nevada at the Lake Mansion (pavilion) | 4:30-5:15pm

The Kids Are Alright
Pignic Pub & Patio | 4:30-5:15pm

Telling Reno’s Story for Podcasts and Radio
Ceol Irish Pub | 4:30-5:15pm

A Woman’s Work is Never Done
Washoe Public House | 4:30-5:15pm

Poetry Meets Dance
Nevada Museum of Art, Wayne and Miriam Prim Theater | 4:30-5:15pm

Who Are We and Where Are We Going?
1864 Tavern | 5:15-5:30pm

Chapter 5: 5:30-6:15pm

Are You There God? It’s Me, Bildungsroman
Arts for All Nevada at the Lake Mansion (pavilion) | 5:30-6:15pm

The Man They Wanted Me to Be
Washoe Public House | 5:30-6:15pm

Loose Tongues
Royce | 5:30-6:15pm

Telling Stories from the Ivory Tower
1864 Tavern | 5:30-6:15pm

Spoken Views Collective Showcase
Pignic Pub & Patio | 5:30-6:15pm

Don’t Skip Out on This
Ceol Irish Pub | 5:30-6:15pm

Dancing in the Streets
Sundance Books and Music | 6:00-6:15pm

Epilogue:

Say What? Poetry
The Loving Cup | 6:15-7:00pm, Venue 21+

Epilogue After Party
Sundance Books & Music | 6:30-8:00pm
CONTRIBUTORS CONTINUED

Susan Chandler retired in 2013 after 20 years of teaching in the school of social work at the University of Nevada, Reno. For the last three and a half years, she has been teaching classes in creative writing and cultural perspectives at the Northern Nevada Correctional Center, a medium security state prison.

Christopher Coake is the author of the novel You Came Back and the story collection We’re in Trouble, which won the PEN/Robert Bingham Fellowship for a first work of fiction. His new collection, You Would Have Told Me Not To, will be published in 2020. In 2007, he was named one of Granta’s Best Young American Novelists. His short fiction has been anthologized in collections such as Best American Mystery Stories 2004, The Best American Noir of the Century, and Gutted: Beautiful Horror Stories, as well as in numerous literary journals. A native of Indiana, Coake received a master’s degree from Miami University of Ohio and a master of fine arts degree from Ohio State University. He is an associate professor of English at the University of Nevada, Reno, where he directs the master of fine arts program in creative writing.

Nico Colombant coordinates the Our Town Reno multimedia street reporting collective as part of his job as Lecturer of Digital Media at the Reynolds School of Journalism at the University of Nevada, Reno. Following a series of “in-their-own-words” audio postcards which aired on KUNR and live journalism events funded by the Association of Independents in Radio in 2018, Our Town Reno started its own podcast this year to give the microphone directly to those affected by rising rents, gentrification, and the higher cost of living, as well as street poets and those helping each other out in the Biggest Little City. The podcast archives different voices and testaments as our society quickly shifts and wealth inequalities continue to widen.

Bob Conrad, PhD, is an entrepreneurial journalist based in Reno. He manages ThisIsReno.com, Reno’s online news and events source, which he co-founded in 2009. He earned his doctorate in educational leadership in 2011 from the University of Nevada, Reno, where he researched media coverage of higher education institutions during times of crisis and controversy. Conrad was selected in 2015 to participate in an entrepreneurial journalism training program at the City University of New York’s Graduate School of Journalism. He also works part-time for the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension (Mineral County) supporting risk management and tribal outreach programs.

Brian Crane was born in Twin Falls, Idaho, but grew up in the San Francisco Bay area. He graduated with a degree in art from Brigham Young University in 1973. Crane and his wife, Diana, have lived in Sparks for 35 years. They have seven children and 19 grandchildren. He “retired” from his job as an art director at a Reno advertising agency in 1990 to devote his full attention to his daily comic strip, Pickles, which features Earl and Opal Pickles, who have been married for over 50 years. The comic shows the funny side of family and friendship and is syndicated by The Washington Post Writers Group. In 2001, Pickles was named Best Comic Strip of the Year by the National Cartoonists Society. In 2012 he won the Reuben award for Cartoonist of the Year. Pickles appears in 1000 newspapers around the world.
Las Vegas Weekly, served as managing editor of Las Vegas Life, and worked in a number of positions at the Las Vegas Sun. Dickensheets has edited, co-edited, or contributed to eight volumes of the Las Vegas Writes series, an annual anthology of Southern Nevada writing published in conjunction with the Las Vegas Book Festival, where he is also a member of the festival’s literary committee. He served as an assistant editor of the coffee table book Nevada: 150 Years in the Silver State, the official publication of the Nevada sesquicentennial. He lives in Henderson, Nevada.

David Anthony Durham is the author of seven novels: The Risen, The Sacred Band, The Other Lands, Acacia (John W. Campbell Award Winner, finalist for the Prix Imaginales), Pride of Carthage, Walk Through Darkness, and Gabriel’s Story. His stories have appeared in four of George R.R. Martin’s Wild Cards novels: Fort Freak, Lowball, High Stakes, and Texas Hold ‘Em. Other short fiction has been anthologized in Unbound, Unfettered, It’s All Love, and Gumbo: A Celebration of African American Writing. His novels have been published in French, German, Italian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Spanish, and Swedish. Four of his novels have been optioned for development as feature films. He is currently on the faculty of the Stonecoast master of fine arts creative writing program of the University of Southern Maine and the master of fine arts creative writing program at the University of Nevada, Reno. He has also worked as a writer/consultant on several TV shows.

Shea Evans is a former professional chef turned food culture photographer, with clients ranging from regional food businesses to national brands. He majored in Asian history and Japanese language at the University of Vermont before graduating and heading west. In Tahoe, working as a snowboard instructor by day and a sushi chef at night, he put in over a decade with sharp knives and cold fish before he traded in his knife for a camera. You can find his work at www.sheaevans.com.

Mignon Fogarty is a New York Times bestselling author best known by her online persona, Grammar Girl. Fogarty is the creator and host of the Grammar Girl podcast and the founder of Quick and Dirty Tips, which began as a podcasting network and is now also a large content website, newsletter publisher, and book publisher. Fogarty is the author of seven books about language, including Grammar Girl’s Quick and Dirty Tips for Better Writing. She has been featured in the New York Times, BusinessWeek, USA Today, and more, and has appeared as a guest expert on the Oprah Winfrey Show and the Today Show.

Katherine Fusco writes about the way different media forms shape identity and encourage us to be either cruel or kind to one another. She teaches courses on film, theory, and 19th and 20th century American literature at the University of Nevada, Reno. Fusco has written about pop-culture for a number of national outlets including The Atlantic, Public Books, Avidly, and Harper’s Bazaar. She is also the author of two academic books and winner of the Modern Language Association’s prestigious William Riley Parker Prize.

Elisa Garcia is a Mexican-American spoken word poet from Los Angeles, California. She coached the first Reno team at Brave New Voices in 2016. She competed in the National Poetry Slam with the first Reno team, Spoken Views Collective. Currently, Garcia is the director of Sierra Literary Cooperative and hosts the quarterly variety show Lit at Nite. She teaches poetry workshops at local high schools and performs at events with Spoken Views Collective. She resides in Reno with her kung fu fighting partner Doug, and their tiny black panther Elvira.

Rob Garrett is the president for the board of directors of the David J. Drakulich Foundation for Freedom of Expression. Born and raised in Reno, he earned his bachelor’s degree in fine arts at the University of Nevada, Reno. He owned and operated Garrett’s Custom Picture Frames until September 11, 2001. Garrett is a retired disabled veteran, and served 34 years in the Air Force and Nevada Air National Guard. His personal art therapy is working primarily in car part sculpture and upcycled furniture. His pieces can be seen at the Reno Town Mall or Micano’s in Midtown.

Everett Ray George began writing in high school and was encouraged by his English teacher. He repeated senior year and left without graduating, but eventually received his diploma from an adult education program. In 2015, he wrote a play and formed a theater troupe. The group made their storytelling debut at Brüka Theatre. They’ve performed yearly ever since. George was an intern at the Institute of American Indian Arts master of fine arts program for a week. He’s also the winner of Yale’s Third Annual Young Native Playwriting competition and loser of Reno News and Review’s 95-word fiction contest. He mostly writes at night after work.

Stacy Gnall is the author of Heart First into the Forest. She holds a doctorate in creative writing and literature from the University of Southern California, and is also a graduate of the University of Alabama’s master of fine arts program in creative writing and Sarah Lawrence College. She currently teaches in both the core humanities program at the University of Nevada, Reno and Truckee Meadows Community College, and is at work on her second book project. Poems from this manuscript have been published in Colorado Review, Crazyhorse, The Massachusetts Review, New American Writing, Third Coast, and Another Chicago Magazine.
Durrell S. Grier was born in Los Angeles. He currently lives in Las Vegas, which he considers home. He loves writing. As a child growing up, he often felt socially awkward, or even as a social leper. He had problems communicating his thoughts and ideas to others. However, he realized that he could always communicate better through writing. He discovered that with words you can create a reality that is yours to wield, especially with poetry. In his 33 years on this planet, he has learned that the literary arts expose an essential element of creation itself that he does not experience anywhere else.

Donald Griffin is an alcoholic, addict, and former criminal. He lost his home and his children to these issues, but a housing-first model that helped him get into a safe living situation allowed him to get clean and begin to rebuild his life. Now a spoken word poet and community activist, Griffin volunteers with a number of organizations, including Vocational Opportunities for Inclusive Career Education (VOICE) and Acting in Community Together in Northern Nevada (ACTIONN), in order to change the narrative about people like himself and to help expand the opportunities that got him clean and off the streets. His gift, which he calls the poet’s curse, bridges gaps and takes readers to a different level of reality, separating them from the mind, body, and soul. His writing, which includes pieces like Reno Matrix and Who Does the City Belong To?, defies easy interpretation and questions mainstream conceptions of normalcy. Griffin challenges his audience in every sense of the word, and uses his work to give voice to Reno’s most marginalized communities.

Shaun T. Griffin co-founded and directed Community Chest, a rural social justice agency for 27 years. His most recent book, Because the Light Will Not Forgive Me—Essays from a Poet, was released by the University of Nevada Press in 2019. Anthem for a Burnished Land, a memoir, was released in 2016. He edited From Sorrow’s Well—The Poetry of Hayden Carruth, in 2013. This Is What the Desert Surrenders, New and Selected Poems, came out in 2012. For over three decades, he and his wife, Deborah Loesch-Griffin, have lived in Virginia City. Griffin also serves on the Nevada Humanities Board of Trustees.

Siân Griffiths lives in Ogden, Utah, where she teaches creative writing at Weber State University. Her work has appeared in The Georgia Review, Prairie Schooner, Cincinnati Review, American Short Fiction (online), Indiana Review, and The Rumpus, among other publications. Her debut novel Borrowed Horses was a semi-finalist for the 2014 VCU Cabell First Novelist Award. Her second novel Scapple and her short fiction chapbook The Heart Keeps Faulty Time are forthcoming in 2020. Currently, she reads fiction as part of the editorial team at Barrelhouse and American Short Fiction. For more information, please visit sbgriffiths.com

Daniel Gumbiner is the managing editor of The Believer and the author of The Boatbuilder, which was longlisted for the National Book Award and a finalist for the California Book Awards. He lives in Oakland, California.

Eric Hobson writes what he calls ‘catch and release’ poetry. He writes for its understanding and amusement and, when satisfied with the result, destroys the poem. Hobson has enjoyed poetry all of his life and written for most of his adult years. Recently, he reached a point where he felt the need to ‘go public’ with his writings. He has been published in O Dark Thirty, an online literary journal for veterans and their families, and has won awards on the local level and nationally. He is a retired high school- and college-level teacher. Hobson is a disabled Vietnam veteran who lives in Reno with his wife of 51 years.

Bobbie Ann Howell is a program manager for Nevada Humanities based out of the Nevada Humanities Program Gallery in Las Vegas where she works statewide on programs and projects with her Nevada Humanities colleagues. Howell is from Nevada and grew up in Lee Canyon and Las Vegas. She earned a bachelor of fine arts degree from Abilene Christian University in Abilene, Texas, and received a master of fine arts degree in sculpture and drawing from Southern Illinois University. Howell works from her studio, B.E.S.T. Arts 4 U, in Las Vegas. Her works are exhibited in regional and national exhibitions, and in 2018 she received the Nevada Arts Council Visual Art Fellowship Award.

Lydia Huerta holds a joint faculty position in the Gender, Race, and Identity Program and the Department of Communication Studies at the University of Nevada, Reno. Huerta specializes in 20th and 21st century cultural studies of the Americas, with an emphasis on the relationship between social media, film, and narratives about the US/Mexico border. Her primary research examines the cultural production created in response to the women-killings in Ciudad Juárez since 1993. Other research interests focus on migration, specifically LGBTQI migrants and those that are forced to return to Mexico; Brazil and gender-focused education; and more broadly on social movements, border studies, cultural narratives and public policies created in the United States, Mexico, and Brazil that call attention to specific forms of gendered and racially driven violence such as sexual violence, femicide, and missing/murdered indigenous women.

Naseem Jamnia is a freelance writer and editor, educator and activist for marginalized individuals, and former scientist. They’re the coauthor of Positive Interactions with At-Risk Children, the 2018 Bitch Media Fellow in Technology, and a 2019 Lambda Literary Retreat Fellow. Their work has appeared in The Rumpus, Bitch Media, The Washington Post, Cosmopolitan, and other sites, and they’re the managing editor for Sidequest.Zone, an indie gaming criticism website. A Chicago native, Jamnia is now a master of fine arts in fiction student at the University of Nevada, Reno, where they live with their spouse, dog, and two cats. For more information visit www.naseemwrites.com.

Julie King served in the Army from 1974-1978. She is a Vietnam Era non-combat veteran who used her GI bill to attend the University of Nevada, Reno, where she earned both her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in...
English. King taught English classes at Western Nevada College, Fallon Campus, from 1989-2011. She is also a former Nevada Humanities’ Humanities On The Road speaker and participated in the Nevada Women’s Legacy: 150 Years of Excellence project and publication published in 2014. In 2014, she participated in the Northern Nevada Veterans Writing Project. Much of her writing from that project explores her own and other women’s military experiences and how those experiences shaped them. Currently, she is working with the David J. Drakulich Art Foundation on the Dialogue of War project to examine women’s war experiences through literature, discussion, and other humanities resources.

Maggie Shen King is the author of An Excess Male, one of The Washington Post’s 5 Best Science Fiction and Fantasy Novels of 2017, and a James Tiptree, Jr. and Lambda Literary Award Finalist. She was Goodreads September 2017 Debut Author of the Month. Her short stories have appeared in the New York Times, Ecotone, ZYZZYVA, Asimov’s Science Fiction, and more. Her manuscript Fortune’s Fools won second prize in Amazon’s 2012 Breakthrough Novel Award. King grew up in Taiwan and lives in the San Francisco Bay Area with her family.

Ellen Klages is the author of three acclaimed historical novels: The Green Glass Sea, which won the Scott O’Dell Award and the New Mexico Book Award; White Sands, Red Menace, which won the California and New Mexico book awards; and Out of Left Field, which won the 2019 Children’s History Book Prize and the 2019 Ohioana Book Award. Her novella, Passing Strange, won the World Fantasy and British Fantasy awards in 2018. Her short fiction has been translated into a dozen languages and been nominated for or won multiple Hugo, Nebula, Locus, Mythopoeic, and World Fantasy awards. Klages lives in San Francisco, in a small house full of strange and wondrous things.

Amy Kurzweil is a cartoonist for The New Yorker and the author of Flying Couch: A Graphic Memoir (a New York Times Editor’s Choice and Kirkus Best Memoir of 2016). Her writing, comics, and cartoons have also appeared in The Believer, Longreads, Literary Hub, The Toast, Shenandoah, Hobart, and many other places. Her work has been nominated for a Reuben Award, and she’s received fellowships and honors from The Norman Mailer Center, MacDowell, and Djerassi. Kurzweil teaches widely, and she is currently in residence as a Shearing Fellow with the Black Mountain Institute.

Heather Lang-Cассera is Clark County, Nevada’s current Poet Laureate. She holds a master of fine arts degree in poetry with a certificate in literary translation. In 2017, she was named Las Vegas’ Best Local Writer or Poet by KNPR’s Desert Companion. Her poems have been published by The Normal School, North American Review, Pleiades, and South Dakota Review, among other literary journals, and they have been on exhibit at the Nevada Humanities Program Gallery and the Left of Center Art Gallery. Lang-Cассera edited Legs of Tumbleweeds, Wings of Lace, an anthology of literature by Nevada women, a project supported, in part, by the Nevada Arts Council, which receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts. Lang-Cассera serves as world literature editor for The Literary Review, faculty advisor for 300 Days of Sun, and editor-in-chief for Tolson Books. At Nevada State College, Lang-Cассera teaches creative writing, world literature, and more. Find her at www.heatherlang.casseranet

Kiese Laymon is a black southern writer from Jackson, Mississippi. In his sharply observant, often hilarious work, Laymon does battle with the personal and the political: race and family, body and shame, poverty and place. His bestselling memoir, Heavy: An American Memoir, won the Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Nonfiction and the Christopher Isherwood Prize for Autobiographical Prose, and was shortlisted for the 2018 Kirkus Prize for Nonfiction. Heavy was named a best book of 2018 by The New York Times, Publishers Weekly, NPR, Broadly, BuzzFeed, The Washington Post, Entertainment Weekly, and more. It is a 2019 Nevada Reads book. He is also the author of How to Slowly Kill Yourself and Others in America, and Long Division. He is the Ottilie Schillig Professor of English and creative writing at the University of Mississippi, and has taught at Vassar College and the Iowa Writers’ Workshop. His next novel, And So On, will be published in 2020.

Lauren Levin is a poet and mixed-genre writer, author of The Braid and Justice Piece // Transmission. With Emji Spero, Levin was a development editor for We Both Laughed in Pleasure: The Selected Diaries of Lou Sullivan, edited by Ellis Martin and Zachary Ozma, and with Eric Sneathen, they are editing Camille Roy’s selected prose.
Their gender identity is some mix of belated queer, Jewish great-aunt, and aspirational Frank O’Hara. They are still figuring it out. They live in Richmond, California, are from New Orleans, Louisiana, and are committed to queer art, intersectional feminism, being a parent, and grappling with anxiety.

Noël Lipana is the vice president for the board of directors of the David J. Drakulich Art Foundation. Dr. Lipana also designs moral injury healing at Quiet Terrain, LLC, which uses performing arts to educate communities about moral injury and trauma. He earned his doctorate in social work at the Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work at the University of Southern California where he did work-study at their Center for Innovation and Research on Veterans and Military Families. Lipana is a service-connected disabled-veteran and has served in joint assignments at the strategic, operational, and tactical levels. His twenty years in the Air Force and California National Guard include a tasking as a counter-improvised explosive device operator. The units to which he was attached conducted full spectrum counter insurgency operations in Southern Afghanistan in 2007 and 2008. He has also participated in multiple civil support missions in California and Louisiana.

Sandra Macias began her career as an English teacher in the Washoe County School District. She taught junior high students for five years before taking a job at Hug High School, becoming a member of the first faculty of the brand-new school. She taught English and journalism classes and was the advisor of Soar, the student newspaper, though she had never taken a journalism class in college. Macias later landed a cub reporter job with the Reno Gazette-Journal. She has written for edible Reno-Tahoe as a freelancer since its inception 10 years ago. She is proud to be one of the magazine’s founding contributors.

Joanne Mallari is a Filipino-American, Reno-based poet. She earned a master of fine arts degree in creative writing from the University of Nevada, Reno. She currently works at Upward Bound, a federally funded college preparatory program that serves first-generation and low-income students. Mallari’s poetry has appeared in journals including Crab Orchard Review, Palimpsest, The Meadow, The MacGuffin, and Haight Ashbury Literary Journal, which nominated her work for a Pushcart Prize. She is a contributing writer for bookinwithsunny.com, and she is at work on her first collection of poems, Daughter Tongue. Mallari is the 2019 Nevada Humanities Poet-in-Residence.

Carlos Mariscal is a philosopher of science focusing on the origins of life, universal biology, and the philosophy of astrobiology. He has a bachelor’s degree from New Mexico State University, a doctorate from Duke University, and was a Herzberg postdoctoral fellow in Dalhousie University from 2014 to 2016. He has been an assistant professor in the Philosophy Department at the University of Nevada, Reno ever since, with appointments in the ecology, evolution, and conservation biology program, and the integrative neuroscience program. His work has been published in both scientific journals and philosophy journals and he has an edited anthology forthcoming from Oxford University Press. His public outreach includes speaking to the Northern Nevada Science Alliance, Caveat, and Science Distilled, as well as being a co-founder of Thought on Tap.

Anthony Martinez is a senior studying political science and international affairs and Spanish language and society. Martinez is currently the president of the student government at the University of Nevada, Reno. Some of the initiatives he has achieved include creating the Department of Diversity and Inclusion, working to create an LGBTQIA+ inclusive floor in the Residence Halls, and his research for queer and trans people of color organizations through the McNair Scholars Program. In his early career, Martinez was the appointed student member to the Nevada State Board of Education, his position in the Nevada Association of Student Councils. Martinez’s main priorities are synthesizing and actualizing the ideas of his peers, supporting their success on campus, and helping to equip every student with the skills for success after their time at the university.

Mark Maynard is an English and creative writing professor at Truckee Meadows Community College. His linked short story collection Grind was chosen as the 2017-2018 Nevada Reads book. He is a recipient of a 2019 Nevada Arts Council Fellowship for Literary Arts, and his work has appeared in Lunch Ticket, The Nottingham Review, Tahoe Blues, and The Films of Clint Eastwood: Critical Perspectives from the University of New Mexico Press. His story “Last Call at the Smokestack Club” appears in the anthology This Side of the Divide: Contemporary Stories of the American West. Maynard was the recipient of the 2015 Nevada Writers Hall of Fame Silver Pen Award. He lives in Reno, Nevada, with his wife, Molly, and their five children.

Caitlin McCarty is a writer, dancer, dance teacher, and choreographer. McCarty is passionate about the intersection of literacy and dance and employs poetry and prose in her choreographic work and teaching strategies. She began her dance training in classical ballet at The Conservatory of Movement and graduated from the University of Nevada, Reno in 2016 with a bachelor’s degree in English writing and a minor in dance, where
she came from." He says, "By learning our past we hopes he can pass it down to his Numu Mendoza-Carrillo has found a passion Numu culture and his Mexican heritage. work together to teach others about the project, he began to make children's the use of the Northern Paiute language Montoya to promote and encourage Lake Tribe, and his mentor Dr. Ignacio Today, he is actively conducting research that help empower other students at Macario Mendoza-Carrillo studies art and linguistics at the University of Nevada, Reno. In the past, Mendoza-Carrillo was involved in leadership roles that help empower other students at Truckee Meadows Community College. Today, he is actively conducting research and working on revitalization efforts on the indigenous languages of the area. He works side by side with members of the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, Pyramid Lake Tribe, and his mentor Dr. Ignacio Montoya to promote and encourage the use of the Northern Paiute language (Numu) in the public. In a most recent project, he began to make children's books by working with the elder Ralph Burns. He also manages the facebook page 'Poonetas', where he and his team work together to teach others about the Numu culture and his Mexican heritage. Mendoza-Carrillo has found a passion for the language and culture that he hopes he can pass it down to his Numu family. He says, “By learning our past we can understand who we are and where we came from.”

Ignacio Montoya is an assistant professor at the University of Nevada, Reno. He earned his doctorate in linguistics at the City University of New York. For his dissertation, he offered a novel analysis of word structure in Hebrew, Navajo, and Spanish using a theoretical approach that challenged basic assumptions of the dominant framework of the field. Montoya’s current research interests include a focus on indigenous languages of North America. Since arriving in Reno in 2017, he has been studying Northern Paiute and has been working with members of the Native American community to preserve and fortify the local Indigenous languages: Northern Paiute, Washo, and Shoshone. Prior to embarking on his doctoral program, Ignacio was an elementary and middle school teacher, working in a variety of classroom settings in Los Angeles and New York City. He remains strongly committed to education at all levels as a means of empowering marginalized communities.

Ahmed Naji is a writer from Egypt who is currently living in Las Vegas, where he is a fellow at Black Mountain Institute. His work explores many different themes, including sci-fi, Islamic methodology, sex, friendship, prison literature, music, magic, and masculinity. His novel Using life was shortlisted at Neukom Institute Literary Arts Awards 2018 among the Best Tales of a Fantastic Future. It was also the reason he was sentenced to two years in prison in Egypt for obscenity and disturbing public morals. Naji spent one year in prison and was honored with the PEN/Barbey Freedom to Write Award in the United States in 2016.

Vi Khi Nao is the author of three poetry collections; Sheep Machine, Umbilical Hospital, and The Old Philosopher (winner of the Nightboat Prize for 2014); the short stories collection A Brief Alphabet of Torture (which won FC2's Ronald Sukenick Innovative Fiction Prize in 2016); and a novel, Fish in Exile. Her work includes poetry, fiction, film, and cross-genre collaboration. Her stories, poems, and drawings have appeared in NOON, Ploughshares, Black Warrior Review, and BOMB, among others. Nao holds a master of fine arts degree in fiction from Brown University.

Laura Newman is a 2019 finalist in LitMag’s Virginia Woolf Award for Short Fiction. She is a many-time winner of the Reno News & Review short fiction contest, including a first-place win in 2019. Her second book of short stories, The Franklin Avenue Rookery for Wayward Babies, will soon be available. Newman’s first book, Parallel to Paradise, won the Pointers Global Ebooks gold award for short stories. One of the stories was accepted for the Huffington Post’s 50 Fiction Series. The Reno Gazette-Journal included Parallel to Paradise on their “Bucket List” of top books by Nevada authors or about Nevada. A bit of her work has been boycotted by the Catholic League.


Gailmarie Pahmeier teaches creative writing and contemporary literature courses at the University of Nevada, Reno, where she has been honored with the University Distinguished Teacher Award. She is also on the faculty of the low-residency master of fine arts program at Sierra Nevada College. Her work has been widely published in literary journals and anthologies. She is the author of the poetry collections The House on Breakaheart Road and The Rural Lives of Nice Girls and three chapbooks. She is a former National Literary Panelist for the YoungArts Foundation, and her literary awards include a Witter Byner Poetry Fellowship, three artists fellowships from the Nevada Arts Council (including the prestigious Major Project Fellowship), and the Governor’s Award for Excellence in the Arts. In 2015, she was appointed Reno’s first Poet Laureate, in 2016, she was inducted into the Nevada Writers Hall of Fame, and in 2017, she was awarded the Outstanding Teaching of the Humanities Award from Nevada Humanities.
Pan Pantoja is a poet with Spoken Views Collective and a cited author with LaRue Press. He is the executive artist at the Potentialist Workshop in Reno. Pantoja is the 2019 City of Reno’s Poet Laureate. He is an independent film and stage producer and director and is in a traveling band called Weapons of Mass Creation. Pantoja loves teaching and is proud to be a Nevada Arts Council Artist in Schools + Communities Roster for arts education. He is an artist in residence at Squaw Valley Academy.

Daniel Enrique Pérez is the Associate Dean of Diversity and Inclusion for the College of Liberal Arts, and an associate professor of Chicana/o and Latina/o literature at the University of Nevada, Reno. His research and writing centers on the intersections of gender, ethnicity, and sexuality, especially concerning queer Chicana/o and Latina/o identities. He is a scholar and creative writer who often incorporates poetry into his scholarly work, and vice versa. In addition to his book, Rethinking Chicana/o and Latina/o Popular Culture, he has published several articles, essays, and poems in his field. He is also the editor of a collection of plays entitled Latina/o Heritage on Stage: Dramatizing Heroes and Legends.

Felicia Perez is a public speaker, educator, and author, and currently works as the Innovation Director with the Center for Story-based Strategy. Her previous organizing and member support experience includes work for the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Southern California, the California “No On Prop 21” campaign, Californians for Justice, University of California Santa Barbara External Vice President of Statewide Affairs, and Chair of the National Queer Students of Color Caucus/board member of the United States Student Association (USSA). Perez holds a bachelor’s degree in sociology from the University of California, Santa Barbara and a master’s degree in curriculum and instruction.

George Perreault has worked as a visiting writer in Montana, New Mexico, and Utah, but has called Reno home for over 20 years. His poetry and essays have appeared in dozens of anthologies and journals in the US, Canada, Ireland, England, and India, and have been nominated for both the Pushcart and Best of the Net awards. Perreault has published four full-length collections of poetry, including All the Verbs for Knowing from Black Rock Press at the University of Nevada, Reno. His most recent book, Bodark County, is a collection of poems in the voices of various characters living on the Llano Estacado in West Texas.

Cindi Moon Reed is a sixth-generation Texan writer with coastal aspirations. She never meant to make a life in Las Vegas. Weeks turned into years when she discovered a kindred spirit in this upstart town. From trolling red carpets for celebrity gossip to writing in-depth feature stories, short plays, and slightly self-indulgent personal essays, Reed has explored the kitschy yet endearing pioneer spirit of the Silver State. Formerly the founding arts and entertainment editor of Vegas Seven magazine and an assistant director at Black Mountain Institute, Reed is now a staff writer for the Las Vegas Weekly. She was thrilled to take part in the 9th-annual Las Vegas Writes anthology. Reed she hopes to finally write a book of her own one day or, barring that, strike it rich writing for television.

Shaughn Richardson is an educator and artist who has lived in Northern Nevada since he was a teen. He attended the University of Nevada, Reno, earning both a bachelor’s degree in psychology and a master’s degree in education. He currently teaches social studies at Washoe Inspire Academy, serves on the board of directors at the Holland Project, is a member of the Spoken Views Poetry Collective, and serves on the Reno Arts and Culture Commission. In his free time, he is an emcee in the band 7-Out, and produces a podcast centered around artists and other community leaders in Reno. He is also a supporting member of Reno’s only community radio station, KWNK, where he produces a weekly hip-hop radio show.

Kimberly Roberts grew up all over the American West, but mainly in Colorado. She studied literature and history at Colorado State University and has a master’s degree in the history of photography, landscape, and science from the University of Nevada, Reno, where she is the photograph curator in Special Collections.

Leslie Carol Roberts is professor and chair of master of fine arts writing at California College of the Arts (CCA) in San Francisco. She is also faculty with the Architectural Ecologies Lab at CCA, where she founded the ecopoetics movement with Adam Marcus and Chris Falliers, which explores embodied messaging around climate change. Leslie is the author of Here Is Where I Walk: Episodes from a Life in the Forest and The Entire Earth and Sky: Views on Antarctica, and a chapter in the forthcoming book, Performing Ice. A Fulbright Fellow, she is an affiliated researcher with the Humanities and Social Sciences Group/Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research. Her essays and journalism on food, design, Antarctic tourism, travel, and the sciences have been widely published in the United States and abroad.

Lissa Townsend Rodgers was born in the same region of New York state that gave us Eleanor Roosevelt and Ed Wood. She spent most of her life in New York City, where she edited and wrote for a number of magazines and websites. She then moved to Las Vegas, where she edited and wrote for a number of magazines and websites. She then moved to Las Vegas, where she edited and wrote for a number of magazines and websites, winning three Nevada Press Association awards. She is currently working on a non-fiction book about gangster women to come out with Huntington Press in 2020.

Bretton Rodriguez is a specialist in the literature, history, and culture of medieval and early modern Iberia. His research focuses on the use and manipulation of the past in medieval histories, as well as epics, romances, and history plays. Rodriguez uses the skills of both literary criticism and historical inquiry to examine how these narratives served as political propaganda in support of specific rulers, dynasties, communities, and ideas. He is a teaching assistant professor of core humanities at the University.
of Nevada, Reno. Prior to coming to Nevada, Rodriguez worked as a visiting assistant professor of humanities at Boğaziçi University in Istanbul, and he earned a doctorate in literature from the University of Notre Dame.

David Rondel is an associate professor of philosophy at the University of Nevada, Reno. He teaches an assortment of undergraduate and graduate courses in his areas of specialization (social, political, and legal philosophy and American pragmatism), and has published widely in these areas. In addition to many journal articles and book chapters, he is the author of Pragmatist Egalitarianism, and the editor or co-editor of two books, Pragmatism and Justice and Pessimism of the Intellect, Optimism of the Will: The Political Philosophy of Kai Nielsen. Another edited volume, The Cambridge Companion to Rorty, is currently under contract with Cambridge University Press. He is currently working on a book exploring the connections between philosophy and anxiety.

G. J. Sanford is a queer trans poet and writer from Nevada’s high desert. Her work has appeared, or is forthcoming, in River Styx, Potomac Review, Lady/Liberty/Lit, The Meadow, Rust + Moth, and others. In 2019, her poem “A Fire in Douglas” was selected by judge Kim Addonizio as a finalist in december magazine’s Jeff Marks Memorial Poetry Prize and appeared in the magazine’s May issue. She received a master of fine arts degree from the University of Nevada, Reno in 2019, and currently resides in a tiny apartment with her tiny feline muse, Finn.

Ismael Santillanes, author of Indelicate Angels, lives in the Coachella Valley in California, where he spent his formative years and learned to look upon land seemingly lifeless with wonderment. In Mecca Hills, he saw life as a matter of slight degrees: seed caught in the bark of a mesquite, a drop of sweat upon the seed, a prayer to La Virgencita for life to unravel. This is the xeric mind of the desert, where little is needed to fulfill life’s and poetry’s breath and brevity. It was in a Nevada prison, desert of forsaken love, where he learned to look upon the blank page as he would the desert — to write always from the heart.

Jessica Santina earned her bachelor’s degree in English from Emory University in Atlanta and her master’s degree in English from the University of Nevada, Reno. She has been the managing editor of edible Reno-Tahoe magazine since 2012 and is the former editor of three other regional publications. Since opening her freelance writing and editing business in 2003, she has edited numerous fiction and nonfiction books and dissertations. Her writing credits include ghostwritten books, articles in numerous local and regional publications, and professional copywriting for print and electronic media. She is a managing editor for Lucky Bat Books, a locally owned publishing company, and a longtime contributor to the Reno Moms Blog. Additionally, she is an adjunct writing instructor at the University of Nevada, Reno and Truckee Meadows Community College. Santina lives in Sparks with her husband and daughter and is an avid cook and wine lover.

June Sylvester Saraceno is the author of the novel Feral, North Carolina, 1965, forthcoming in September 2019, and The Girl From Yesterday, forthcoming in January 2020. She has two previous collections of poetry in print: of Dirt and Tar and Altars of Ordinary Light, as well as a chapbook of prose poems, Mean Girl Trips. She serves as humanities and English department chair at Sierra Nevada College, Lake Tahoe, where she teaches in the undergraduate and master of fine arts in creative writing programs. She is the director of the literary speaker series Writers in the Woods, and founding editor of the Sierra Nevada Review. She earned a master of fine arts degree in poetry from Bowling Green State University. For more information visit www.junesaraceno.com.

Miranda Schmidt’s work has appeared in TriQuarterly, Orion, Catapult, Electric Literature, The Collagist, and other journals. She has taught creative writing at the Loft, the University of Washington, and Portland Community College, and will be teaching with Literary Arts Portland and Writers in the Schools this year. Schmidt has edited for the Seattle Review, Phantom Drift, Sun Star Review, Lambda Literary’s Emerge Anthology, and other publications. They are currently at work on a novel about haunting and a series of ecological lyric essays. Schmidt grew up in the Midwest and now lives in Portland, Oregon.

Geoff Schumacher is the senior director of content for the Mob Museum in Las Vegas, and is responsible for its exhibits, artifacts, and public programs. He earned his bachelor’s degree in journalism from the University of Nevada, Reno, and his master’s degree in history from Arizona State University. He had a 25 year career in journalism, with stops at the Las Vegas Sun, Las Vegas CityLife, Las Vegas Mercury, Las Vegas Review-Journal, and Ames (Iowa) Tribune. He is the author of Sun, Sin & Suburbia: A History of Modern Las Vegas and served as editor of Nevada: 150 Years in the Silver State, the official book commemorating the state’s sesquicentennial. He is associate editor of the Nevada Historical Society Quarterly and has edited, co-edited or contributed to seven editions of the annual Las Vegas Writes anthology for Nevada Humanities.
Sunny Solomon holds a master's degree in English and creative writing from San Francisco State University. She is a book reviewer for The Concord-Clayton Pioneer and her poetry and other writing has been published in literary journals; one chapbook, In the Company of Hope; and the collection, Six Poets Sixty-six Poems. Her writing has also appeared online in Tikkon and The Green Man Review. Until retirement, she was the manager of Bonanza Books and Clayton Books in Clayton, California. She owns and manages Bookin’ with Sunny, an online book review site. Solomon currently lives next to the Truckee river in Reno.

Jared Stanley is the author of three collections of poetry: EARS, The Weeds, and Book Made of Forest. He has also authored numerous artists books, chapbooks, and ephemera, including Ignore the Cries of Empty Stones and Your Flesh Will Break Out in Scavengers and Shall. His poems and prose have been published in the New York Times, Poem-a-Day, Triple Canopy, Harvard Review, and Make Magazine, among others. In 2018, Stanley was awarded the Silver Pen Award from the Nevada Writers Hall of Fame. He lives in Reno and teaches in the master of fine arts creative writing program at the University of Nevada, Reno.

Tariq is a Juno-nominated songwriter and recording artist with a music career that spans over two decades. Born in rural Quebec to parents from Pakistan and Fiji, Tariq grew up on a healthy diet of Bollywood soundtracks. In high school, he got his hands on a guitar and started writing songs which sounded more like Cat Stevens and Neil Young than Mohammed Rafi. By the end of the nineties, Tariq had released two full-length albums: Splat and The Basement Songs. The Basement Songs, which came out on EMI Music Canada, earned him national radio play as well as a Juno nomination for “Best New Solo Artist.” Tariq went on to release two albums and an EP independently and through small imprints. In 2009, he joined the ranks of the Vancouver based band, Brasstronaut. They have been putting out music and touring extensively in both Canada and in Europe in support of their records. Tariq’s latest album is Telegrams, a follow up to the 2013 Moonwalker EP. On Telegrams, the songs are like short stories—three-and-a-half minute snippets of fictional lives.

Danilo John Thomas is the author of the chapbooks The Hand Implements and Mulk. His fiction won the 2017-18 Ryan R Gibbs Flash Fiction Award from New Delta Review and other work currently appears or is forthcoming in the Matchbook Vol. 5 from Small Fires Press, Tampa Review, Fugue, and High Desert Journal. He earned a doctorate in creative writing from Florida State University and a master of fine arts degree from the University of Alabama where he was fiction editor for Black Warrior Review. He currently acts as managing editor at Baobab Press in Reno, Nevada.

Kristy Totten is an Emmy-winning journalist and producer at Nevada Public Radio, with bylines at NPR, Rolling Stone, Artsy, and Vice. When she’s not working on the public affairs show “State of Nevada” covering cannabis, homelessness, and the latest scuffle at city hall, she co-produces Spicy Eyes, a sound-rich podcast that explores Las Vegas through the lens of food and culture. Totten owns too many plants, not enough dogs and is a big fan of pho.

Josue Valadez is an educator, creator, and doer of dope stuff. In his eight years working for Washoe County School District, he has taught a variety of subjects and grades, commencing his teaching career in kindergarten. As of lately, he has been teaching English, art, music, and interventions at the middle school level here in Reno. His main goal in life is empowering youth and he’s making his best attempt at being the person he wishes he had growing up. He also runs his own after school programs here in the city with an emphasis in music, hip-hop, art, theater, and collective consciousness. He is part of the Spoken Views Collective and the founder of Peavine Prophets, a musician collective. It is his belief that through honest expression, creation, community, and love we can make this world a better place.

Carrie Vaughn’s latest novels include the post-apocalyptic murder mystery, Bannerless, winner of the Philip K. Dick Award, and its sequel, The Wild Dead. She wrote a New York Times bestselling series of novels about a werewolf named Kitty, along with several other contemporary fantasy and young adult novels, and upwards of 80 short stories, two of which have been finalists for the Hugo Award. She’s a contributor to the Wild Cards series of shared world superhero books edited by George R.R. Martin, and a graduate of the Odyssey Fantasy Writing Workshop. A self-described Air Force brat, she survived her nomadic childhood and managed to put down roots in Boulder, Colorado. Visit her at www.carrievaughn.com.

Willy Vlautin was born and raised in Reno, Nevada. He started playing guitar and writing songs as a teenager and quickly became immersed in music. He founded the band Richmond Fontaine in 1994. The band has ten studio albums and a handful of live recordings and EPs. Driven by Vlautin’s dark, story-like songwriting, the band has achieved critical acclaim, The Independent calling Vlautin, “The Dylan of the Dislocated.” It was a Paul Kelly song, based on Raymond Carver’s Too Much Water So Close to Home that inspired him to start writing stories. Vlautin has published five novels: The Motel Life (2007—New York Times Editor’s choice and notable book, and a major motion picture), Northline (2008), Lean on Pete (2010-Winner of the Ken Kesey Award for Fiction, and a major motion picture), and The Free (2014). His fifth novel, Don’t Skip Out on Me (2018 Shortlisted for the Pen-Faulkner Award, ALA Notable Book of the Year, A Southwest Book of the Year and a 2019 Nevada Reads book) has just come out in paperback. Vlautin currently resides in Scappoose, Oregon.

Michelle Aucoin Wait is a master of fine arts in poetry candidate at the University of Nevada, Reno. Her work has appeared or is forthcoming in Tiferet, Maudlin House, Lady/Liberty/Lit, LandLocked, The Meadow, and others. The female speakers in her poems use explicit language to critique patriarchal structures, and often, these female speakers are oppressed women.
pulled from history and refigured as powerful. Wait’s mixing of the political with religion and mythology, the sacred with the profane, as well as her use of female pleasure and desire as a lens to understand the political through, allows her work to critique patriarchal structures that for centuries have posited women as less than men. She is a transplant from the Deep South and now resides beside a mountain with her family and her four Yorkies.

Ashley Warren is an ENnie-nominated author and narrative designer. She holds a master’s degree in literacy studies from the University of Nevada, Reno, and has been active in Nevada’s literary community for more than a decade. Warren writes fantasy and science fiction and is an adventure designer in the tabletop roleplaying industry, most notably writing interactive stories for Dungeons & Dragons. Warren is the producer of the Uncaged anthology, a collection of feminist myth- and folklore-retellings for Dungeons & Dragons, and the director of the RPG Writer Workshop, which brings new writers into the gaming industry. Her website is www.ashleywarrenwrites.com.

Iain Watson was born in Reno, Nevada, and is a fifth generation Nevadan. He holds a Spanish degree from University of Nevada, Reno, and a master’s degree in education from Sierra Nevada College. Watson is entering his seventh year of teaching and currently teaches third grade at Rita Cannan Elementary School. Watson is the founder and director of the Spoken Views Collective. Aside from writing and performing spoken word poetry, he has written and produced hip-hop music for over 20 years. Iain has brought the longest running poetry open mic to Northern Nevada and has helped organize many poetry and music events as well as help start a youth a chapter of spoken word artists who have competed twice at a national level. Watson has also been involved in local theater, acting in 6:01 AM and Mattress of the Heart. He is currently working on a few poetry and self-produced hip-hop projects.

Cornell Wilkins earned a bachelor’s degree in sociology at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. He is a poet and works as a substance abuse case manager. He has lived in Las Vegas for the last five years.

Lindsay Wilson is an English professor at Truckee Meadows Community College, where he edits the school’s literary journal, The Meadow. He has received a Silver Pen from the Nevada Writers Hall of Fame as well as a Special Mention in the Pushcart Prize XLII. His first collection of poetry was No Elegies, and his poems have appeared in The Missouri Review Online Poem of the Week, Verse Daily, the minnesota review, The Carolina Quarterly, and The Bellevue Literary Review, among others. He is the former Poet Laureate of Reno, Nevada.

Erica Wirthlin works as an instructor at Lake Tahoe Community College and educational advisor with the Davidson Institute. Some of her most rewarding work comes from her time as a volunteer teacher at Northern Nevada Correctional Center where she teaches cultural perspectives and creative writing. She holds a master’s degree in cultural anthropology and a master’s certificate in gender, race, and identity. Her areas of concentration include mass incarceration, labor, and identity.
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