Dear Students, Faculty, Alums, and Friends:

Welcome to fall semester 2015. I hope that summer provided you with ample time to write, travel, spend time with friends and loved ones, and work in meaningful ways. We in Creative Writing appreciate your connection to us and the wonderful news we frequently hear about your successes in writing, teaching, and collaborating in the community of writers.

The news here is that our 60 year-old Poetry Center and American Poetry Archives received renewal as a Research and Service Organization. Steve Dickison, its director, was re-appointed to a joint faculty-staff position, and the center received high praise in its review. It has a new relationship with the university and will be able to move its valuable holdings online more quickly for the poetry world to enjoy. Playwriting is also enjoying its poetry world to enjoy. Playwriting is also enjoying its GreenHouse class, which stages student plays and promotes the work of its playwrights. Fiction will have a presence in the Poetry Center series with John Keene this fall and the annual Gina Berriault event in spring. Writers presence in the Poetry Center series with John Keene this semester; MFA alums Ben Black, Kelly Gilbert, Matthew Iriarte, and in spring Gerardo Pacheco. Carolina de Roberts will also join us. Poet Arisa White will be teaching and working part-time in the Poetry Center in spring. They join Michael David Lukas as 2015-16 faculty. Our tenure-track faculty member ZZ Packer has extended her stay at Radcliffe. She should rejoin us in fall of 2016.

In addition to this, there are new and visiting faculty: Professor of Communication Studies Javon Johnson, a slam and performance poet, is also teaching a course for us this semester; MFA alums Ben Black, Kelly Gilbert, Matthew Iriarte, and in spring Gerardo Pacheco. Carolina de Roberts will also join us. Poet Arisa White will be teaching and working part-time in the Poetry Center in spring. They join Michael David Lukas as 2015-16 faculty. Our tenure-track faculty member ZZ Packer has extended her stay at Radcliffe. She should rejoin us in fall of 2016.

I am asking alums, students, and faculty to consider contributing to our three worthwhile magazines. Because of new rules with Instructionally Related Activity funding and a second funding crisis in the College of Liberal & Creative Arts, there is far lower support for Transfer and Fourteen Hills: The SFSU Review, our 21 year-old and 57 year-old journals. Any funds that you might be able to offer would help them continue to publish two volumes a year each. We have a sponsor for the Michael Rubin Award (more on this later) but also need funding for New American Writing, publishing one issue a year and in its 31st year with that title. All six volumes could be published for $13,000 a year, which, given their excellence, fine reputations and active notice in the literary world, is a small amount. Please consider contributing and also providing funds for the department to give students opportunities to hear guest readers and for CW to cover everyday costs of subscriptions, receptions, judges for contests, many small costs that the college doesn't fund.

You can make contributions right in our main page.

We are pleased this year to have a tenure-track search approved for a writer of fiction and Spanish literary translation. This person will serve our fiction staff and also help us start our 5th degree concentration for the MFA in literary translation next fall.

I hope you have a wonderful year in the department. We are here to advise you, teach you, support you, and help you participate in our community of writers. We are very proud of your accomplishments and hope to hear from you soon.

Best,
Maxine Chernoff, Chair of Creative Writing

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Magazines
Alexai Galaviz-Budziszewski as the recipient of the 2015 Gina Berriault Memorial Award received $1000 and publication in the upcoming issue Fourteen Hills: The SFSU Review 22.1. We were happy to have him as a guest on campus in the Spring for a master class and a public reading in the Poetry Center. Sylvia Telfer won the 2015 Stacy Doris Memorial Poetry Award for her poem “The Bronze Glass of Isa Bell,” for which she received $500 and publication in Fourteen Hills 21.2. Paul Hoover is overseeing the reinvention/revival of New American Writing, as a print on demand literary journal - issue 33 was released June 2015.

Faculty
Anne Galjour was an artist at The Ground Floor at Berkeley Rep 2015 Summer Residency, to develop the third part of her Cajun Trilogy, working title The Alligator Ball. Anne is also happy to report that the documentary about GreenHouse, the annual Spring mini-festival of our graduate playwrights, is almost done. Roy Conboy is already hard at work with play rehearsal and development for the Fringe Goes Long festival. Paul Hoover, has a forthcoming chapbook of poems, From Legend, to be published by Little Red Leaves and poems forthcoming in Poetry and Conjunctions 65: Sleights of Hand, and is interviewed by Jane Joritz-Nakagawa in the forthcoming issue of online journal Sibila. Peter Orner was chosen for a residency at the Passa Porta International House of Literature in Brussels, Belgium and in August, taught at the Cambridge Writers Workshop in Granada, Spain, plus he has a recent story in Tin House 63, Spring 2015. Chanan Tigay’s book of historical nonfiction The Lost Book of Moses will be published in March 2016 by Eco/HarperCollins. Andrew Joron’s latest book of poetry, The Absolute Letter will come out Fall 2016 from Flood Editions. Toni Mirosevich has an essay in Pleiades 35.2
Summer 2015. Toni’s story “The Devil Wind” was a finalist in the 2014 Spokane Prize for Short Fiction. Nona Caspers has work in *Cimarron, Green Mountain, Epoch*; her short story collection *Alley Stories* was a finalist in the Leapfrog Press 2015 Fiction Contest. Michelle Carter’s play *Better* was developed and presented through SuperLab, a collaboration between Playwrights Horizons and Clubbed Thumb in New York. She has also been commissioned to write a new play for Alter Theater. Daniel Langton’s tenth poetry collection will be published by the University of Pittsburgh Press, publication date tba. Semiotext(e) will publish *Communal Nude: Collected Essays by Robert Glück*’s in 2016. In June 2015, Maxine Chernoff attended the 100,000 Poets for Change World Conference in Salerno, Italy and she has poems *Volt, Conjunctions, Plume*, and *Landowich*. Dodie Bellamy’s book of cross-genre essays *When the Sick Rule the World*, is forthcoming from Semiotext(e) (October, 2015) who also published her chapbook earlier in 2015, *The Beating of Our Hearts*, which was in conjunction with the 2014 Whitney Biennial. Barbara Tomash has poems published in a number of journals including *Colorado Review, Denver Quarterly, Witness* and a 20 page folio of work published by *VERSE*. Donna de la Perrière has work in *Volt*, an eight poem featurette in *Talisman* and curated both the Bay Area Poetry Marathon summer reading series and the San Francisco event for 100 Thousand Poets for Change. Matthew Clark Davison has fiction in *Educe Journal, Lumina Journal*, and *Per Contra*.

**Former Faculty**


**Alumni**


**Students**


Congratulations to these outstanding students and alumni. For more student (and alumni) publications, visit [website, creativewriting.sfsu.edu](http://creativewriting.sfsu.edu). Please email us if your publication isn’t listed, and we’ll be sure to include it in the newsletter, and the website.

**MILESTONES**

We fondly remember our alumni who have left us this last year.

Scott Patrick Wagner, MFA Playwriting.
Paul Humann, MA Poetry.

**ADVISING:**

All Creative Writing professors, assistant, associate and full professors, are advisors; the list is posted online at our website and at the department office, HUM 380.

**DEPARTMENT NEWS**

Prospective applicants to our graduate programs, you will receive admission decisions mid to late March.

Students, past and present, faculty past and present: your Creative Writing Department wants to hear from you! Please send us your news for the next Newsletter.

**Events:** Add your voice to the Creative Writing Department by attending events and contributing to the depart-
ment magazines and contests. Be sure to follow us on facebook and tumblr, and to watch our bulletin boards outside the department office (HUM 380) and by HUM 128 for news of local events, publications, and contests.

Also, check out the Poetry Center Schedule online: www.sfsu.edu/~poetry.

Students, Alumni, Faculty and Friends, like us on facebook, follow us on tumblr and for you current students – our twitter page has notices about SFSU items of interest for current students! Go to our website and click on the “f,” “t,” or bird icons. All accounts are public, so you don’t have to have an account with any of the three social media sites to follow us!

BIG THANK YOU’S to all of you who have been so generous in your giving; without your help, the department would have to do out without the many things that make our lives easier. We are dependent as ever upon your generosity, for not only scholarships for our deserving students, our membership fee for AWP, journal subscriptions, the occasional honorary stipend for guest speakers, judges, etc. but also for basic office supplies like paper, whiteout, post-its®, file-folders and pens.

Your tax deductible contribution to The Creative Writing Department Fund, literary journals and scholarship accounts (a full list of our account names below) may be made either online http://www.sfsu.edu/~develop/makeagift.htm or by check to Creative Writing Department San Francisco State University 1600 Holloway Avenue San Francisco, CA 94132

If mailing a check, please make it payable to University Corporation, San Francisco State and be sure to indicate on the memo line and in a brief cover letter the account to which you wish to contribute.


Additional donations maybe be made to one of our endowment accounts, which fund other scholarships and awards. The mailing address is the same, but make your check payable to San Francisco State Foundation. On the subject line please indicate one of the following accounts: *James Milton Highsmith Endowment, *Miriam Ylvisaker Endowment, *Manoogian Endowment *William Dickey Endowment.

All best wishes for a happy and productive Fall 2015 and Spring 2016!

Barbara Eaton, academic office coordinator
Creative Writing at SFSU

SFSU Calendar Highlights

**Fall 2015**
First day of classes: Monday, August 24, 2015
Labor Day Holiday: Monday September 7, 2015*
Drop classes deadline: Friday, September 4, 2015
Add classes deadline: Monday, September 21, 2015
Veteran’s Day Holiday: Wednesday, November 11, 2015*
Fall Break: Monday-Saturday, November 23-28, 2015+
Last day of classes: Friday, December 11, 2015

**Intersession 2016**
Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday: Mon., January 18, 2016*

**Spring 2016**
Faculty meetings, etc.): Monday, January 25, 2016
First day of classes: Wednesday, January 27, 2016
Drop classes deadline: Tuesday, February 8, 2016
Add classes deadline: Friday, February 12, 2016
Spring Break: Monday-Saturday, March 21-26, 2016±
Cesar Chavez Holiday: Thursday, March 31, 2016*
Last day of classes: Tuesday, May 17, 2016
Finals: Wed-Fri, May 18-20, 2016; &
Commencement: Friday, May 27, 2016
Memorial Day Holiday: Monday, May 30, 2016*

* Campus Closure
+ No classes all week, but campus offices are open Mon., Tues., Wed.
± No classes all week, but campus offices are open Mon. - Fri.