

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2022 • RENO, NV  
NEVADA HUMANITIES

# LITERARY CRAWL



WRITE IN THE HEART OF THE GOLDEN WEST

11:00 AM-8:00 PM



#LITCRAWLNV

# HOW TO CRAWL


FIND FRIENDS.  
STUDY THE MAP.  
PICK YOUR PATH.

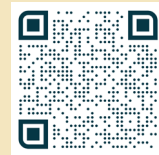


Arrive at your first Nevada Humanities Literary Crawl session and go! Entry to all Nevada Humanities Literary Crawl sessions is free.


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, see what is happening on the streets: dance performances, hop on a Brew Bike for a literary adventure, art installations, and more.

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



**DID YOU ENJOY THE DAY?**  
Help us make this happen again by making a donation to Nevada Humanities, [nevadahumanities.org/donate](https://nevadahumanities.org/donate).

 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!

 Questions? Find our team outside at Sundance Books and Music.

## Telling Our Stories and Exploring the World Around Us

After a two-year pandemic hiatus, we are thrilled to welcome authors, artists, and community members back to the streets of Reno for a Nevada Humanities Literary Crawl reunion like no other. We are excited to see old friends, welcome new friends, and come together to celebrate the written word as we bask in Nevada's literary glory. We are honored to welcome many distinguished writers and poets to the Nevada Humanities Literary Crawl this year. We have filled the California Avenue neighborhood with exciting activities. In addition, author Aimee Nezhukumatathil is delivering our keynote address and will remind us of the power of "Relearning and Remembering Wonder" right when we need it most. We have been reading Nezhukumatathil's delightful book, *World of Wonders: In Praise of Fireflies, Whale Sharks, and Other Astonishments* as part of the statewide Nevada Reads program, exploring the natural world around us in a series of humanities-focused nature programs held across the state. Join us today for the Nevada Humanities Literary Crawl to inspire all, and I will see you as we Crawl the streets of Reno together.

Christina Barr  
Executive Director, Nevada Humanities



credit: Shreesh Taskar

**WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR STORIES, GIVE US A CALL!** Call (775) 276-5103 all day, and tell us what you love about the Nevada Humanities Literary Crawl. We will prompt you with some questions.



[nevadahumanities.org](https://nevadahumanities.org) | [onlinenevada.org](https://onlinenevada.org)

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## 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. 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 define the Nevada experience and facilitate the exploration of issues that matter to the people of Nevada and their communities.



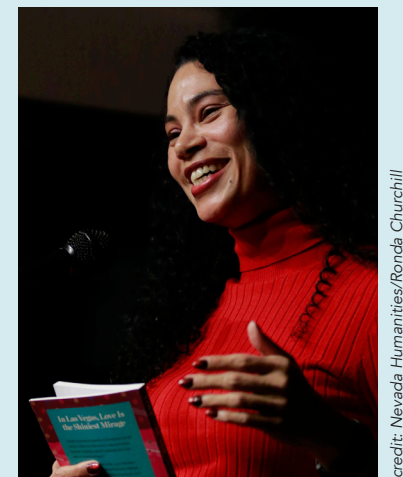
credit: Nevada Humanities/Alisha Funkhouser

2018 Nevada Humanities Literary Crawl



credit: Nevada Humanities/Alisha Funkhouser

2019 Nevada Humanities Literary Crawl



credit: Nevada Humanities/Ronda Churchill

Las Vegas Writes 2021

# Nevada Humanities PROGRAMS

The *Online Nevada Encyclopedia (ONE)* is Nevada's primary online resource about Nevada history and contemporary culture. This multimedia educational resource explores the history, politics, and culture of the Silver State. Visit the ONE at [onlinenevada.org](http://onlinenevada.org).

Through an ongoing series of online essays and creative media created by Nevadans, the award-winning *Humanities Heart to Heart* program documents the lives and communities of the people of Nevada, with reflections on what it means to be human during a time of pandemic—connecting Nevadans to share, watch, and listen to each other's voices and stories.

The *Nevada Humanities Exhibition Series* showcases the work of Nevada's creative thinkers who explore a sense of place in the Silver State. Six curated exhibitions are presented each year for in-person viewing at the Nevada Humanities Program Gallery in Las Vegas and in virtual galleries online at [nevadahumanities.org](http://nevadahumanities.org), inviting visitors to learn more about the Nevada experience. The Nevada Humanities Program Gallery is

*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 define the Nevada experience, feature local culture and heritage, and facilitate the investigation of ideas that matter to the people of Nevada and their communities.*

located at 1017 S. First Street, #190, Las Vegas, in the 18b Arts District.

Through games and the act of play, *Humanities at Play* showcases the significance and practical applications of the humanities in everyday life. Discover *Humanities at Play* on our Twitch channel and learn more on our website for other in-person immersive experiences and events.

The *Nevada Humanities Literary Crawl* is a day long festival about books, ideas, and the humanities that brings people together annually to celebrate Nevada's rich literary talent. Authors, poets, and artists are hosted at readings, discussions, and more at downtown Reno venues. The *Nevada Humanities Literary Crawl* is the largest literary event in northern Nevada.

The annual *Las Vegas Book Festival* is a celebration of the written, spoken, and illustrated word that features authors participating in panel discussions, book signings, readings, workshops, and special events. Founded by Nevada Humanities in 2002, the *Las Vegas Book Festival* is the largest literary event in Nevada.

*Las Vegas Writes* is an anthology of creative writing by Las Vegas writers focused on a chosen theme. Each annual volume highlights a nuanced view of the city as interpreted by writers who live there. *Las Vegas Writes* can be purchased from booksellers online and throughout the state.

The *Nevada Center for the Book* promotes literature and literacy throughout the Silver State. The *Nevada Center for the Book* is the state affiliate of the Center for the Book, which is housed at the Library of Congress. *Nevada Center for the Book* programs include *Nevada Reads*, the *Las Vegas Book Festival*, the *Nevada Humanities Literary Crawl*, the *National Book Festival*, and additional literary programs.

*Nevada Reads* is a statewide book club that invites Nevadans to read selected works of literature and come together in their communities for a host of literary programs to explore and share ideas inspired by the books they read.

Every other year, Nevada Humanities presents the state's *Nevada Humanities Awards*, which honor



credit: Nevada Humanities/Alisha Funkhouser

2019 Nevada Humanities Literary Crawl

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.

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 or at Nevada Humanities' Reno office. Our most recent publication is *Sagebrush to Sandstone: A Humanities Guide to Outdoor Nevada* (2021).

Nevada Humanities offers innovative projects and events that define the humanities in different ways. These *Special Initiatives* offer new paths for Nevadans to experience, think about, and explore the humanities in their daily lives. Projects and events include panel discussions, film series, and online conversation programs.

*A More Perfect Union* is a special initiative where we address topics of relevance to our communities across the state as we think about the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence in 2026. Through panel conversations, film productions, exhibitions, and other events, this initiative deepens our appreciation

for the connections between the humanities and the untold stories in our communities with a commitment to understanding the founding of the United States in all its complexities.

*Nevada Humanities Project Grants* provide direct grants to Nevada nonprofit cultural and educational organizations to fund humanities-based public programs that encourage civic, community, and cultural engagement. Projects include a wide range of programs and events that explore local culture and Nevada's diverse heritage and unique places.

Our *Double Down blog* highlights the voices of people from around Nevada with weekly, thought-provoking humanities posts.

Learn more about Nevada Humanities programs and watch past events at [NEVADAHUMANITIES.ORG](http://NEVADAHUMANITIES.ORG)



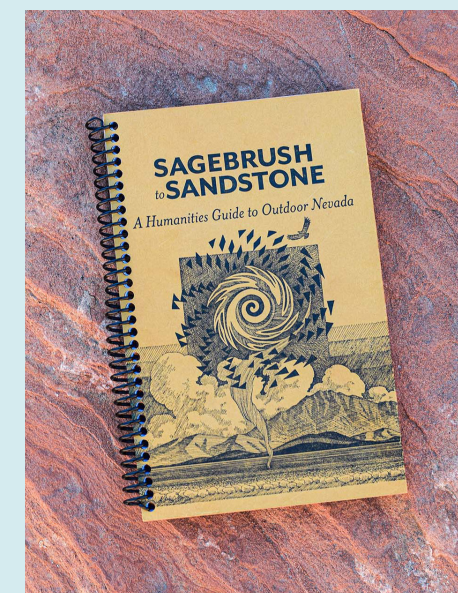
credit: Nevada Humanities/Alisha Funkhouser

2019 Nevada Humanities Literary Crawl



credit: Nevada Humanities/Miranda Alam

2021 Las Vegas Book Festival



credit: Nevada Humanities/Bridget Lera

2021 Sagebrush to Sandstone

# NEVADA HUMANITIES LITERARY CRAWL SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

## ICON KEY



Workshop



Family Friendly



Information



Hands-On Activity



Food & Drink



Water Station

### THE PROLOGUE LAUNCH PARTY FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2022

Nevada Humanities and The Holland Project are hosting an evening of poetry, prose, and a party, as we kick off the beginning of the *Nevada Humanities Literary Crawl*. Tour KWNK Radio, take part in hands-on activities at Laika Press, and explore art and books at The Holland Project. DJ, food + drink, and more.  
140 Vesta Street, 6:00-8:00 pm

### THE EVENING INCLUDES: TINY MOON POEMS

The moon has been an inspiration and muse for probably every poet ever. Maybe it's a cliché, but there's something about the moon that's just so—poetic. Listen to the University of Nevada, Reno's Creative Writing MFA Poetry cohort: Courtney Cliften, Eli Coyle, Caryn Dreibelbis, Penny Lane, Nick Pulito, Erik Soto, and Max Stone share poems inspired by our lovely moon.

Magpie Coffee, 1715 South Wells Avenue, 6:00-7:00 pm

### MORNING EVENTS 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

### NEVADA P.S. I LOVE YOU POSTCARD PROJECT



Send art postcards flying across Nevada (and elsewhere). Create your own postcard to send to another Nevadan through the mail. Nevada Humanities invites Nevadans of all ages to stop by the museum and create a hand-made art postcard of your own. While supplies last.

Nevada Museum of Art, 3rd Floor, 160 West Liberty Street, 10:00 am-4:00 pm

### FAMILY STORYTIME



For children of all ages, with a focus on enjoying literacy and language as a family, and a book themed craft to follow.

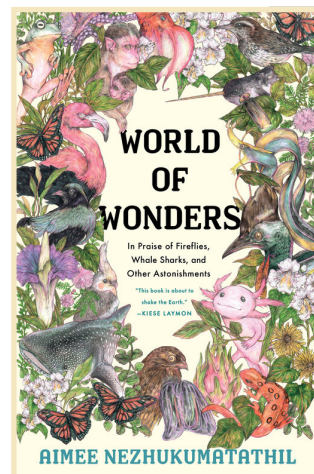
Downtown Reno Library, 301 South Center Street, 11:00 am-12:00 pm

### ON-DEMAND PORTRAIT POEMS



Tell a poet about yourself, and they will write you a poem on the spot.

The Radical Cat, 1717 South Wells Avenue, 7:00-8:00 pm



Credit: Caroline Beffa Photography.

### KEYNOTE EVENT RE-LEARNING & REMEMBERING WONDER: A RECKONING

Listen to writer Aimee Nezhukumatathil talk about poetry, nature, and the wonder all around us. A moderated Q&A session and a book signing will follow the keynote event. Free tickets are available at nevadahumanities.org and at the museum the day of the event, while supplies last.

Nevada Museum of Art, Nightingale Sky Room, 160 West Liberty Street from 11:00 am-12:00 pm

Catch poetry on billboards throughout the city. A collaboration between The Holland Project and writers Aurelio Cortes-Rivera, Felicia T Perez, and Jared Stanley.



## CHAPTER 1 12:00-1:15PM

### THE BAD WRITING WORKSHOP

Led by author and writing scholar Michael Martone. Arrive at this workshop with 100 words of your worst writing. All ages are welcome, but only those with experience with bad writing may attend. Space is limited; registration is required, nevadahumanities.org.

E.L. Cord Museum School, Nevada Museum of Art, 160 West Liberty Street, 12:15-1:15 pm

### AN ORAL HISTORY OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE WEST

Share your personal stories and experiences on camera about living in the West on the frontlines of climate change. This is part of a long-term project hosted by the Desert Research Institute, that weaves science with narrative, adding context to data and research. Come and contribute your own personal story with this film team featuring Jessi LeMay.

E.L. Cord Museum School, Nevada Museum of Art, 160 West Liberty Street, 12:00 pm and ongoing.

### UFOS AND GHOST STORIES

AB Gorham's new artist book *Unidentified Found Object Song (UFO Song)* draws on published documentation of unidentified flying objects and other alien phenomena to create a mysterious visual/reading encounter. Jared Stanley's new chapbook, *The Blurry Hole and Other Stories*

Hop on a Brew Bike starting at 12 pm outside the Nevada Museum of Art. Find out more on page 11.

similarly interrogates strange phenomena. Join the pair for a curious conversation about UFOS and other stories that haunt us.

Horan Pavilion at the Lake Mansion Arts and Cultural Center, 250 Court Street, 12:30-1:15 pm

### TELL TALES OUT OF SCHOOL

Listen to writers and artists talk about re-interpreting and re-telling ancient myths and folktales on their own terms. Featuring: Naseem Jamnia, Eunkang Koh, and Axie Oh.

Sundance Books and Music, 121 California Avenue, 12:30-1:15 pm

Paint With The Sun from 12:00-2:30 pm with Megan Berner. Find out more on page 11.



## CHAPTER 2 1:30-2:30 PM

### FAMILY FUN WITH AIMEE NEZHUKUMATATHIL

Join the Nevada Humanities Keynote poet and author for a family-friendly poetry event amongst the beautiful plant life at the Downtown Reno Library. Ages 1-100.

Downtown Reno Library, 301 South Center Street, 1:30-2:15 pm

### HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE NATIONAL COWBOY POETRY GATHERING

The *National Cowboy Poetry Gathering* is an annual celebration of creativity and life in the rural West, with poetry and music performances ranging from

tear-jerking to laugh-out-loud hilarious. Enjoy selected filmed performances recorded from Gatherings past, presented from the archives of the Western Folklife Center. Hosted by Brad McMullen.

Horan Pavilion at the Lake Mansion Arts and Cultural Center, 250 Court Street, 1:30-2:15 pm

### SPOKEN VIEWS COLLECTIVE SHOWCASE

Join us for a showcase of members of Reno's spoken word collective *Spoken Views*, emceed by Iain Watson.

Pignic Pub & Patio, 235 Flint Street, 1:30-2:15 pm



Ever operated a letterpress? Print a Literary Love Note from 12:30-3:30 pm. Find out more on page 11.



## WRITING IN SOLITUDE



What does it mean to be creative in a solitary place, far from the influences of anything but our actual surroundings? What does silence and nature do for creativity? In this workshop session, two Nevada creative writers explore how and why (when we want to create) we sometimes retreat to quiet, middle-of-nowhere places—and sometimes for long stretches—so we can be completely alone. Featuring Shaun Griffin and Robin McLean.

E.L. Cord Museum School Classroom #1, Nevada Museum of Art, 160 West Liberty Street, 1:30-2:15 pm

## BIGGEST LITTLE DIVORCE CAPITAL

Reno used to be *the* place to get a divorce in this country. Reading from archival documents and literary accounts, join a librarian, an archivist, and a historian as they discuss the history of the divorce industry in Reno. Featuring: Alicia Barber, Donnelyn Curtis, and Kim Roberts.

Sundance Books and Music, 121 California Avenue, 1:30-2:15 pm

## A COLLISION OF TWO UNLIKE THINGS

A Craigslist-inspired poem, or a story where a seedy Reno massage parlor meets the misty peaks of the Pyrenees. Listen to stories full of unexpected connections. Featuring: Casey Bell, Brandy Burgess, and MJ

Ubando. Hosted by Joanne Mallari.

Lake Mansion Arts and Cultural Center, 250 Court Street, 1:30-2:15 pm

## TRANSFORMATION

New fiction by University of Nevada, Reno, MFA graduate students and faculty. Listen to five-minute stories all about change.

The Loving Cup, 188 California Avenue, 1:30-2:15 pm, venue 21+

## CHAPTER 3 2:30-3:30 PM

### THOUGHT ON TAP: WE THE PEOPLE

This conversation explores the concept of “We the People.” Which groups are included in this definition of “the people”? Who gets to make this determination? What does it mean to be included—or excluded—from belonging? Explore these and other questions with the organizers of *Thought on Tap*, a public engagement series from the Core Humanities Program at the University of Nevada, Reno. Featuring: Prisca Gayles, Lydia Huerta, Daniel Morse, and Bretton Rodriguez.

1864 Tavern, 290 California Avenue, 2:30-3:15 pm

### POETIC TRANSMISSIONS

Poets Ari Baniyas and Maxe Crandall read from their new

collections *A Symmetry* and *The Nancy Reagan Collection*, and they discuss influences, trans poetics, and collaboration across genres.

Nevada Museum of Art, Wayne and Miriam Prim Theater, 160 West Liberty Street, 2:30-3:15 pm

### WHAT IT MEANS TO BE WESTERN

Join a conversation about what “Western” really means, featuring poet Gailmarie Pahmeier, artist Brent Holmes, and author of literary fiction of all kinds, including Western gothic, Robin McLean.

Horan Pavilion at the Lake Mansion Arts and Cultural Center, 250 Court Street, 2:30-3:15 pm

### THE HERO'S JOURNEY: LEARNING TO LOVE TROPES AGAIN

Every genre has its tropes—some of them loved, some of them hated. What makes a trope work or fall flat? Speculative fiction writers December Cuccaro, Naseem Jamnia, and Emily Sawan will examine the major tropes in fantasy writing and lead small groups of writers to explore leaning into tropes versus subverting a figure-of-speech. While writing experience is not necessary, genre knowledge is preferred. Supplies provided, and no writing samples are necessary. Ages 13+.

E.L. Cord Museum School, Nevada Museum of Art, 160 West Liberty Street, 2:30-3:15 pm

Be sure to catch Collateral & Co.

Dancing in the Streets at 3:45 pm. Find out more on page 11.



## NEITHER HERE NOR THERE

Listen as writer Daniel A. Olivas and poet Leon Salvatierra discuss the creative process and what it means to write about your community, even when up against the most insurmountable odds. Olivas is the author of *How to Date a Flying Mexican: New and Collected Stories*, and Leon Salvatierra is the author of the dual-language poetry collection, *To the North/Al norte*, both published by the University of Nevada Press.

Ceol Irish Pub outdoors, 410 California Avenue, 2:30-3:15 pm

## CHAPTER 4 3:30-4:30 PM

### HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE NATIONAL COWBOY POETRY GATHERING

The *National Cowboy Poetry Gathering* is an annual celebration of creativity and life in the rural West, with poetry and music performances ranging from tear-jerking to laugh-out-loud hilarious. Enjoy selected filmed performances recorded from Gatherings past, presented from the archives of the Western Folklife Center. Hosted by Brad McMullen.

Horan Pavilion at the Lake Mansion Arts and Cultural Center, 250 Court Street, 3:30-4:15 pm

### IN A WORLD...

Why do we crave otherworldly elements when reading? How

does an author go about adding fantastical things while still making them seem plausible? Join authors Dustin Howard, Laura Newman, Margie Sarsfield, and David Michael Slater for a reading and conversation about magical realism in fiction.

Pignic Pub & Patio, 235 Flint Street, 3:30-4:15 pm

### A TIME AND PLACE FOR EVERYTHING

Readings and conversation by authors Jess Walter and Michael Martone on writing about place. In writing that is place-based the location itself can—or does—

become a character. Learn about the care and attention that goes into writing

about a specific place, as well as the challenges wherein, featuring brand-new work by the authors.

Nevada Museum of Art, Wayne and Miriam Prim Theater, 160 West Liberty Street, 3:30-4:15 pm

### WRITING WORKSHOP: CREATING, DESTROYING

How can poetry help us process difficult transitions? In this workshop, we will use writing prompts to explore what is frightening, lonely, or liberating about reinventing ourselves. No experience necessary and open to all ages. Facilitated by Courtney Cliften, Joanne Mallari, and Manuela Williams. Pen and paper will be provided.

E.L. Cord Museum School, Nevada Museum of Art, 160 West Liberty Street, 3:30-4:15 pm

Don't miss Collateral & Co. Dancing in the Streets at 4:15 pm. Find out more on page 11.



## ART WRITING AND CRITICISM

Journalism with an aesthetic opinion—that's art writing for you! Join a group of art critics as they discuss the ethics of criticism and what it's like to write about art. Moderated by Kris Vagner and featuring Brent Holmes, Holly Hutchings, Josie Glassberg, and Jessica Santana.

Matador Lounge, 445 California Avenue, 3:30-4:15 pm

## HOME MEANS NEVADA

Join community members from around the state for a conversation about what it means to create a home and a community in Nevada, highlighting the perspectives, stories, and lived experiences of DACA recipients in this state. Featuring: Jahahi Mazariago, Nayelli Rico Lopez, and Julián Escutia Rodríguez.

Lake Mansion Arts and Cultural Center, 250 Court Street, 3:30-4:15 pm

## DOCUMENTING A COMMUNITY: THE STORY OF BLACK SPRINGS

Listen to historians and community members talk about their experience gathering stories and archival materials about Black Springs, Nevada. Featuring: Alicia Barber, Demetrice Dalton, and Helen Townsell-Parker.

Ceol Irish Pub outdoors, 410 California Avenue, 3:30-4:15 pm

CHAPTER 5 4:30-5:30PM

DANCE MEETS POETRY

Collateral & Co. shares excerpts from their recent evening-length dance-meets-poetry piece, *Across the Neon Landscape*, that explores the history of some of Nevada's most iconic neon signs. Featuring the poetry of Gailmarie Pahmeier, Melanie Perish, and Max Stone.

Nevada Museum of Art, Wayne and Miriam Prim Theater, 160 West Liberty Street, 5:00-6:00 pm

KEEPIN' IT RURAL

A conversation about rural life in America and its benefits and challenges in the 21st century. Featuring: Executive Director of Nevada Humanities Christina Barr, poet Carolyn Dufurrena, folklorist and ethnomusicologist Meg Glaser, and journalist John Glionna.

Ceol Irish Pub outdoors, 410 California Avenue, 4:30-5:15 pm

NO MAN'S LAND

Join writers Casey Bell and Fakhria Rasikh for a reading and discussion of work that explores feminist subject matters, activism, motherhood, and the human experience for women and girls in both Afghanistan and the United States—and how that differs. These authors have two very different writing styles and backgrounds and will explore the exciting intersections in their work in conversation.

The Loving Cup, 188 California Avenue, 4:30-5:15 pm, venue 21+

BUILDING A BOOK CLUB IN THE TIME OF COVID-19

How have book clubs created spaces of solidarity during the pandemic? What role do they play in connecting us to stories that reflect diverse experiences? Join members of the BIWOC Book Club in a discussion about the transformative power of reading, and share your own book club stories as well. Featuring: Lesley Lechuga Gomez, Lizeth Lechuga Gomez, Joanne Mallari, and MJ Ubando.

1864 Tavern, 290 California Avenue, 4:30-5:15 pm

WHIP LAW

An investigation into Reno's underground whip culture and the City of Reno's response to the phenomenon of houseless bullwhip makers. Listen to a live performance of this episode from the podcast, *The Wind*, and hear interviews with whippers, City Council meetings, and 911 tapes that all raise the question: who gets to take up space in our city's sonic landscape? Featuring Fil Corbitt.

Horan Pavilion at the Lake Mansion Arts and Cultural Center, 250 Court Street, 4:30-5:30 pm

Contribute your personal story with Desert Research Institute for their long-term project *An Oral History of Climate Change in the West*. Find out more on page 6.

CHAPTER 6 5:30-6:30PM

GET HAPPY

Can we manufacture happiness? If so, sign us up! New readings from authors Chris Coake and Claire Stanford.

1864 Tavern, 290 California Avenue, 5:30-6:15 pm

WRITING INSIDE

Join a gathering of formerly incarcerated Nevada authors to experience the power of writing from behind bars. Featuring: John Fenton, Ismael Santillanes, and Kesha Westbrooks.

Lake Mansion Arts and Cultural Center, 250 Court Street, 5:30-6:15 pm

EXPLORING NEVADA

Listen to readings from Nevada Humanities newest publication *Sagebrush to Sandstone: A Humanities Guide to Outdoor Nevada* and learn about this publication's inspiration. Featuring: Angela M. Brommel, Heather Lang-Cassera, Melanie Perish, Tiffany Pereira, Michelle Aucoin Wait, and co-editors Kathleen Kuo and Scott Dickensheets.

The Loving Cup, 188 California Avenue, 5:30-6:15 pm, venue 21+

Across the street from The Loving Cup, at Sundance Books and Music, is an art installation you're not going to want to miss. Take a look at *Eye Refuse*, by Felicia T Perez. Find out more on page 11.

EPILOGUE 6:30-8:30PM

GRAB THE MIC

Bring your poetry and prose to share. Sign up to share a five minute reading of your work in front of a crowd. Pre-register at nevadahumanities.org, and on site.

The Loving Cup, 188 California Avenue, 6:30-7:15 pm, venue 21+

CHARITY KISS

Music from a garage, you guess what it sounds like. Rock out to Reno band Charity Kiss as the sun begins to set.

Sundance Books and Music, 121 California Avenue, 6:30-7:30 pm

POETRY FROM THE PORCH: NEVADA VOICES

Listen to work from the *Nevada Poetry Project* with State of Nevada Poet Laureate Gailmarie Pahmeier.

Sundance Books and Music, 121 California Avenue, 7:30-8:30 pm

NEVADA HUMANITIES LITERARY CRAWL FIELD GUIDE

NOTES

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CHECKLIST

- Get a book signed by a favorite author
Catch a ride on the Brew Bike
Attend the Keynote Event
Watch a Collateral & Co. Dancing In The Streets performance
Make a cyanotype at Painting With The Sun
Take a look at Eye Refuse by Felicia T Perez
Write and send a Literary Love Note
Participate in the Nevada P.S. I Love You Postcard Project
Post or tweet about your crawl on Instagram or Twitter with #litcrawlnv. Tag @nevadahumanities for a chance to win books!
Call us at (775) 276-5103. We have some questions only you can answer.



# ONGOING EVENTS



## CATCH A RIDE ON A BREW BIKE



Listen to poetry, comedy, and other exciting literary insights during your voyage. A rotating cast of writers ready to entertain you while you pedal to the next destination will include: Michael P. Branch, Heather Lang-Cassera, David Gamble Jr., Dustin Howard, Mark Maynard, Claire McCully, Pan Pantoja, and Lindsay Wilson. The Brew Bikes will be running on a loop all day long and will stop at designated stops outside participating venues. Your *Nevada Humanities Literary Crawl* program is your ticket to ride.

Hop on a Brew Bike starting at around 12 pm outside the Nevada Museum of Art. Children are welcome, with an adult.



A pre-registration waiver is required. Scan to sign one before you board.

## PAINTING WITH THE SUN



The cyanotype is an early photographic printing process that uses sunlight and water to create images. Join artist Megan Berner to create original photographs of your own using natural and found objects. All ages welcome and materials provided.

Lake Mansion Arts and Cultural Center Porch, 250 Court Street, 12:00-2:30 pm

## LITERARY LOVE NOTES LETTERPRESS PRINTING WITH BLACK ROCK PRESS



Find Black Rock Press and pull a one-of-a-kind print. Write a message on its back, and send it on its way to be delivered to an unsuspecting stranger. Will you get one back from someone else? Let's fill the day with anonymous messages of hope, humor, and love.

Lake Mansion Arts and Cultural Center, 250 Court Street, stop by between 12:30-3:30 pm

## NEVADA P.S. I LOVE YOU POSTCARD PROJECT



Send art postcards flying across Nevada! Create your own postcard to send to another Nevadan through the mail. Nevada Humanities invites Nevadans of all ages to stop by the museum and create a hand-made art postcard of your own. While supplies last.

Nevada Museum of Art, 3rd Floor, 160 West Liberty Street, 10:00 am-4:00 pm

## AN ORAL HISTORY OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE WEST



Share your personal stories and experiences on camera about living in the West on the frontlines of climate change. This is part of a long-term project hosted by the

Desert Research Institute, that weaves science with narrative, adding context to data and research. Come and contribute your own personal story with this film team featuring Jessi LeMay.

E.L. Cord Museum School, Nevada Museum of Art, 160 West Liberty Street, 12:00 pm and ongoing.

## COLLATERAL & CO. DANCING IN THE STREETS



Catch this amazing dance company in between panels outside 1864 Tavern.

1864 Tavern, 290 California Avenue, 2:45 pm and 4:15 pm

## EYE REFUSE

Pause in your day and spend time with *Eye Refuse*, an artwork by Felicia T Perez. Contemplate the many different ways that we can stop and take a look at both our personal health and that of our national healthcare system. Participants interacting with *Eye Refuse* are asked to take a look at what we call trash and what we may deem no longer necessary.

Outdoors, Sundance Books and Music, 121 California Avenue, ongoing

# NEVADA HUMANITIES LITERARY CRAWL CONTRIBUTORS

**ARI BANIAS** is the author of *A Symmetry* (2021), winner of the 2021 Publishing Triangle Award for Trans & Gender Variant Literature, and *Anybody* (2016), both from WW Norton. His work has been supported by fellowships and residencies at Headlands Center for the Arts, MacDowell, the New York Foundation for the Arts, and the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, Massachusetts, among others. He lives in Chicago.

**ALICIA BARBER** has been researching, documenting, and interpreting the history and cultural landscapes of Nevada and the American West for more than 20 years. A professional historian, writer, and educator, she partners with government agencies, museums, educational institutions, community groups, and others on projects ranging from exhibits, oral history projects, and historic contexts to history-based websites, including Reno Historical and Illuminating Reno's Divorce Industry. Her publications include *Reno's Big Gamble: Image and Reputation in the Biggest Little City*, scholarly articles, magazine columns, and her e-newsletter about Reno development, *The Barber Brief*. She has developed and hosted programs for public radio and television and regularly appears in local media as an expert on Reno and Nevada history. She holds a PhD in American Studies from the University of Texas, Austin, and was the recipient of the 2014 Silver Pen Award from the Nevada Writers Hall of Fame.

**CHRISTINA BARR** has served as the executive director of

Nevada Humanities since 2009. Previously she worked as: Program Outreach Coordinator for the Western Folklife Center, where she produced cultural programs throughout the western region of the United States and for the *National Cowboy Poetry Gathering* in Elko, Nevada; Folklife Program Associate for the Nevada Arts Council; and Archivist/Folklorist for the Vermont Folklife Center. She holds an MA in Folklore from Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada, and a BA in Slavic Cultural Studies from Hampshire College in Amherst, Massachusetts.

**CASEY BELL** has an MFA from the University of Nevada, Reno. Her debut short-story collection, *Little Fury*, is forthcoming from Metatron Press in 2023. Bell's fiction appears or is forthcoming in *Sequestrum*, *Cream City Review*, *New South*, *Reed Magazine*, *The New Limestone Review*, and *Timber*. She was shortlisted for the Iowa Review Fiction Award and was a finalist for the American Short Fiction Halifax Ranch Prize, the University of New Orleans Publishing Lab Prize, and the Calvino Prize. Bell is the co-director of Girls Rock Reno, a music camp for self-identified girls, trans, and gender-expansive youth that offers music instruction, band coaching, and workshops on self-love, social justice, and creative expression. She's also the proud mother of a pug-mix named Maud.

**KRISTINA BERGEN** is a third-year MFA student at the University of Nevada, Reno, working on a young adult fantasy novel for her thesis project.

**MEGAN BERNER** is a visual artist living and working in Reno, Nevada. She graduated with her MFA in Intermedia from the University of Iowa and a BA in Photography from the University of Nevada, Reno. Berner works with digital and experimental techniques such as instant film, digital photographic transfers, and cyanotypes. Her work is greatly influenced by the landscape of her native Nevada home, as well as the vast prairies of the Midwest, mapping and exploration, and countless hours of daydreaming.

**NATASCHA BOERS** is a third-year MFA graduate student in Creative Writing at the University of Nevada, Reno. She writes short stories and flash fiction, and currently, she is working on a novel-length manuscript that is equal parts urban fantasy, horror, and romance. Boers resides in central Reno with her elderly cat, who has been her rock during these difficult times of COVID.

**MICHAEL P. BRANCH** is an award-winning humorist and writer of environmental creative nonfiction and Foundation Professor at the University of Nevada, Reno. He is the author of more than 300 essays and reviews, and 10 books, including *Raising Wild*, *Rants from the Hill*, *How to Cuss in Western*, and *On the Trail of the Jackalope*. His creative nonfiction includes pieces recognized as Notable Essays in *The Best American Essays*, *The Best Creative Nonfiction*, *The Best American Science and Nature Writing*, and *The Best American Nonrequired Reading*.

MORNING EVENTS

8 NEVADA P.S. I LOVE YOU POSTCARD PROJECT Nevada Museum of Art 10:00 am-4:00 pm

9 FAMILY STORYTIME Downtown Reno Library 11:00 am-12:00 pm

8 KEYNOTE EVENT RE-LEARNING & REMEMBERING WONDER: A RECKONING Nevada Museum of Art 11:00 am-12:00 pm

CHAPTER 1 | 12:00-1:15 PM

8 THE BAD WRITING WORKSHOP E.L. Cord Museum School 12:15-1:15 pm

8 AN ORAL HISTORY OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE WEST E.L. Cord Museum School 12:00 pm-ongoing

1 UFOS AND GHOST STORIES Horan Pavilion at the Lake Mansion 12:30-1:15 pm

7 TELL TALES OUT OF SCHOOL Sundance Books and Music 12:30-1:15 pm

CHAPTER 2 | 1:30-2:30 PM

9 FAMILY FUN WITH AIMEE NEZHUKUMATATHIL Downtown Reno Library 1:30-2:15 pm

2 SPOKEN VIEWS COLLECTIVE SHOWCASE Pignic Pub & Patio 1:30-2:15 pm

8 WRITING IN SOLITUDE E.L. Cord Museum School 1:30-2:15 pm

7 BIGGEST LITTLE DIVORCE CAPITAL Sundance Books and Music 1:30-2:15 pm

1 A COLLISION OF TWO UNLIKE THINGS Lake Mansion Arts & Cultural Center 1:30-2:15 pm

6 TRANSFORMATION

The Loving Cup 1:30-2:15 pm

1 FILM HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE NATIONAL COWBOY POETRY GATHERING

Horan Pavilion at the Lake Mansion 1:30-2:15 pm

CHAPTER 3 | 2:30-3:30 PM

5 THOUGHT ON TAP: WE THE PEOPLE

1864 Tavern 2:30-3:15 pm

8 POETIC TRANSMISSIONS

Nevada Museum of Art 2:30-3:15 pm

1 WHAT IT MEANS TO BE WESTERN

Horan Pavilion at the Lake Mansion 2:30-3:15 pm

8 THE HERO'S JOURNEY: LEARNING TO LOVE TROPES AGAIN

E.L. Cord Museum School 2:30-3:15 pm

4 NEITHER HERE NOR THERE

Ceol Irish Pub outdoors 2:30-3:15 pm

CHAPTER 4 | 3:30-4:30 PM

1 FILM HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE NATIONAL COWBOY POETRY GATHERING

Horan Pavilion at the Lake Mansion 3:30-4:15 pm

2 IN A WORLD...

Pignic Pub & Patio 3:30-4:15 pm

8 A TIME AND PLACE FOR EVERYTHING

Nevada Museum of Art 3:30-4:15 pm

8 WRITING WORKSHOP: CREATING, DESTROYING

E.L. Cord Museum School 3:30-4:15 pm

3 ART WRITING AND CRITICISM

Matador Lounge 3:30-4:15 pm



MAP YOUR ROUTE OFFICIAL MAP

1 HOME MEANS NEVADA Lake Mansion Arts & Cultural Center 3:30-4:15 pm

4 DOCUMENTING A COMMUNITY: THE STORY OF BLACK SPRINGS, NV Ceol Irish Pub outdoors 3:30-4:15 pm

CHAPTER 5 | 4:30-5:30 PM

8 DANCE MEETS POETRY Nevada Museum of Art 5:00-6:00 pm

4 KEEPIN' IT RURAL Ceol Irish Pub outdoors 4:30-5:15 pm

6 NO MAN'S LAND The Loving Cup 4:30-5:15 pm

5 BUILDING A BOOK CLUB IN THE TIME OF COVID-19 1864 Tavern 4:30-5:15 pm

1 WHIP LAW Lake Mansion Arts & Cultural Center 4:30-5:30 pm

CHAPTER 6 | 5:30-6:30 PM

5 GET HAPPY 1864 Tavern 5:30-6:15 pm

1 WRITING INSIDE Lake Mansion Arts & Cultural Center 5:30-6:15 pm

6 EXPLORING NEVADA The Loving Cup 5:30-6:15 pm

EPILOGUE | 6:30-8:30 PM

6 GRAB THE MIC! The Loving Cup 6:30-7:15 pm

7 CHARITY KISS Sundance Books and Music 6:30-7:30 pm

7 POETRY FROM THE PORCH: NEVADA VOICES Sundance Books and Music 7:30 pm



**ANGELA M. BROMMEL** is a Nevada writer with Iowa roots and the Clark County Poet Laureate. The author of two books, *Mojave in July* (Tolsun Books) and *Plutonium & Platinum Blonde* (Serving House Books), her poetry has been published in the *North American Review*, *The Best American Poetry* blog, and many other journals and anthologies. In 2017 she was awarded the Helen Stewart Poetry Award, and in 2018 she was a Red Rock Canyon Artist in Residence, serving as the inaugural poet of the program. She serves as Editor-in-Chief for *The Citron Review* and as founding editorial board member for *Tradition Innovation in the Arts, Design, and Media Higher Education*. She earned an MFA in Creative Writing from Antioch University Los Angeles, and an MA in Theatre from the University of Northern Iowa. At Nevada State College, she is the executive director of the Office for the Arts and an affiliate faculty member.

**BRANDY BURGESS** is an education technologist, as well as a local Reno poet and watercolor artist. Much of her work focuses on the impact of the information age on intergenerational communication. Her essay on life during the pandemic, *Combining Like Terms*, appeared in Nevada Humanities' *Humanities Heart to Heart* series. When she is not writing or solving tech problems, she is most likely canceling plans to stay home in bed with Netflix or a good book. She can be found at [brandyburgess.com](http://brandyburgess.com).

**HEATHER LANG-CASSERA** is a 2022 Nevada Arts Council Literary Arts Fellow, was the 2019-2021 Clark County, Nevada, Poet Laureate, and was named 2017 Best Local Writer or Poet by the readers of Nevada Public Radio's

*Desert Companion*. Lang-Cassera serves Nevada State College as a Lecturer teaching College Success and Creative Writing and as a Faculty Advisor for their literary magazine, *300 Days of Sun*. She is a founding Publisher and Editor for Tolsun Books. Her poems and stories have been published in *Las Vegas Writes*, *Lumina*, *The Normal School*, *North American Review*, *Paper Darts*, *South Dakota Review*, and elsewhere. Her book, *Gathering Broken Light* (Unsolicited Press, 2021), was written with the support of a Nevada Arts Council Project Grant, and all royalties go to the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center. [heatherlang.cassera.net](http://heatherlang.cassera.net).

On the Mount Rushmore of Rock n' Roll, towering above the world below, there are seminal icons like Chuck Berry, Paul McCartney, and Jimi Hendrix. Just a few hundred miles away in Reno, Nevada, there are four guys in a band called **CHARITY KISS** who are all afraid of heights. Beginning as the high school band of Patrick Hansen, Nate Drum, and Cole Hendriks, the three used Charity Kiss as a vehicle to learn instruments they'd never touched before. After recruiting the prodigious Noah Linker, Charity Kiss as we know it began cranking out melodic rock tunes to quell the aching masses. They couldn't overthink music even if they tried.

**COURTNEY CLIFTEN** was raised in the Nevada desert. She writes poetry as an MFA candidate at the University of Nevada, Reno. Her poems have appeared in *The Meadow*, *Helen Literary Magazine*, *An Anthology of Emerging Poets*, *The Hunger*, *Caustic Frolic*, and more.

**CHRISTOPHER COAKE** is the author of the novel *You*

*Came Back* (2012) and the story collections *We're in Trouble* (2005), which won the PEN/Robert Bingham Fellowship for a first work of fiction, and *You Would Have Told Me Not To* (2020). In 2007 he was named one of *Granta's* Best Young American Novelists. His short fiction has been anthologized in *Best American Mystery Stories 2004* and *The Best American Noir of the Century*, *Gutted: Beautiful Horror Stories*. His works were published in journals such as *Granta*, *The Southern Review*, *The Gettysburg Review*, *Five Points*, and *The Journal*. A native of Indiana, Coake received an MA from Miami University of Ohio and an MFA from Ohio State University. He is Professor of English at the University of Nevada, Reno, where he directs the MFA program in creative writing.

**COLLATERAL & CO.** is a collaborative, contemporary dance company based in Reno, Nevada. The company explores the intricacies of the human experience and investigates the nuances of everyday life through exploration of written word, physical and emotional experiences, and bodily expression. Collateral & Co.'s body of work includes performances at the Nevada Museum of Art, for TEDxReno, the Virgil, and the *Nevada Humanities Literary Crawl*.

**FIL CORBITT** (they/them) makes a podcast called *The Wind*, a show about listening recorded at a handmade desk in the Sierra Nevada. Their audio work has been featured regionally, nationally, and internationally, including on the award-winning podcast *The City From USA Today*. Corbitt is a current participant in the PRX Google Podcasts Creator Program.

**ELI COYLE** received his MA in English from California State

University-Chico and is currently an MFA candidate at the University of Nevada, Reno. His poetry and prose have recently been published or are forthcoming in: *Barely South Review*, *California Quarterly*, *Camas*, *Caustic Frolic*, *Hoxie Gorge Review*, *New York Quarterly*, *The Normal School*, *Permafrost Magazine*, *Soundings East*, and *The South Carolina Review*, among others.

**MAXE CRANDALL** is a poet, playwright, and director. His performance novel about AIDS archives and intergenerational memory, *The Nancy Reagan Collection*, made the New York Public Library's Best 10 Poetry Books of 2020, LitHub's 65 Favorite Books of 2020, and was a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award in Transgender Poetry. He is the founder of the theater company Beautiful Moments in Popular Culture, and he has received grants and fellowships from the Poetry Project, Poets House, and Onassis USA. Crandall is Associate Director of the Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program at Stanford University.

**DECEMBER CUCCARO** is a south Floridian living in the high desert of Reno with her spouse, cat, and two gobliness chihuahuas. In 2021, she received her MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Nevada, Reno, and attended the Clarion West Writers Workshop on George RR Martin's Worldbuilder Scholarship. Her chapbook *The Price of a Feather* was published by Sword & Kettle Press in 2021. Her short stories can be found in *Three Crows Magazine*, *Apparition Lit*, and *Baffling Magazine*, among others.

**DONNELYN CURTIS** is an

emerita faculty member at the University of Nevada, Reno, where she spent over 23 years in various roles in the University Libraries. During her last 14 years she worked in Special Collections where she was intimately exposed to Nevada's history and literature. She has collaborated with Alicia Barber and Mella Harmon on the development of the Reno historical website and app, as well as on the website Illuminating Reno's divorce industry. Her major retirement project is to bring the complete diaries of Nevadan journalist Alfred Doten to the web, fully transcribed and annotated. After that is accomplished, she plans to enhance and expand the divorce history website.

**DEMETRICE P. DALTON** has been a resident of northern Nevada for over 35 years. She grew up enjoying the clean air and generous amounts of sunshine that only the Silver State can offer. She is a wife, mother, and grandmother. She developed a love for African American and Native American history early on. She has a Fine Arts Degree from the California Academy of Art & Design and is a professional artist, seasonal gallery owner, and retired high school art instructor. She often uses subjects from diverse cultures in her art to promote cultural awareness. She is the Consultant Executive Director of Our Story, Inc., a non-profit that gathers and shares the stories and accomplishments of African Americans in northern Nevada history.

**SCOTT DICKENSHEETS** has been the deputy editor of Nevada Public Radio's *Desert Companion* magazine, as well as editor in chief of *Las Vegas CityLife* and *The Las Vegas Weekly*, and a columnist for *The Las Vegas Sun*. He has

edited or contributed to eight volumes of the annual *Las Vegas Writes* anthology, a program of Nevada Humanities, and has been a long-time member of the literary committee for the *Las Vegas Book Festival*. He is the co-editor of *Sagebrush to Sandstone: A Humanities Guide to Outdoor Nevada*.

**CARYN DREIBELBIS** is in her second year at the University of Nevada, Reno's MFA program in poetry. She is originally from Duluth, Georgia, and practiced law before figuring out her life needed a different balance. She is interested in place, memory, language itself, what authenticity means on the page, and experimenting with form. She wants to participate in a poetic world where poetry is action that allows us to reconnect and make meaningful change.

**CAROLYN DUFURRENA** is a writer, poet, and rancher from Denio and Winnemucca, Nevada, and she is an award-winning author of *Quiet, Except for the Wind: Poems and Stories from the Cold Desert*. She writes regularly for *RANGE* magazine, contributing to and serving as associate editor for 2021's *The Long Trail Home*, recently nominated for a Will Rogers Medallion. She is a Director-at-Large of Women Writing the West, a recent board member of Nevada Humanities, and part-time irrigator and varmint control specialist. [carolyndufurrena.com](http://carolyndufurrena.com).

**JOHN FENTON** is a US Army veteran of the Iraq War. Seven months after his discharge from the Army, Fenton was arrested for a robbery he did not commit, and he was eventually sentenced to 32 years in prison with minimum parole eligibility after 10 years.

Fenton was incarcerated for 10.5 years. After being released on parole, his conviction was overturned in the district court; Fenton was remanded and is awaiting a new trial. During his time in prison, Fenton became involved in Shaun Griffin's *Razor-Wire* poetry workshop. Under the tutelage and compassion of Griffin, Bill Wilborn, and the other men in the group, Fenton found the expression and outlet necessary to heal from the trauma of war, even amongst the barbarism of prison. Fenton's poetry ranges from cathartic to provocative, focusing not only on trauma but the injustices of the trauma we inflict on each other and ourselves. Fenton is the Student Body President of Truckee Meadows Community College, the President of the Truckee Meadows Veteran Club, and the Vice-Chair of the Nevada Student Alliance, and he is engaged in community service, working for and with homeless veterans and young people suffering from addiction. Fenton hopes to attend the University of Nevada, Reno, and continue on to law school.

**DAVID GAMBLE, JR.** is a Deputy Alternate Public Defender at Washoe County Alternate Public Defender's Office in Reno, Nevada.

**PRISCA GAYLES** is Assistant Professor of Sociology and Gender, Race, and Identity Studies at the University of Nevada, Reno. She joined the University and the Reno community in June 2020. Dr. Gayles is an interdisciplinary scholar who investigates how emotions matter in understanding transnational Black social movements. The creation, cultivation, and empowerment of marginalized communities is a part of Dr. Gayles' personal and

professional ethos. When not doing research or teaching about social movements, Dr. Gayles loves to get outdoors to hike and camp in the Sierras, volunteer at local farms and explore Reno's culinary and performing arts offerings.

**MEG GLASER** has roots in northeastern Nevada, where she was raised on the family ranch. Her interests in music, folk arts, and cultural advocacy drew her to seek educational and work experiences in Utah, Washington, and Washington, DC, before circling back to rural Nevada. Prior to returning to Elko, Glaser lived and worked in Washington, DC, serving as a Fellow in the Folk Arts Program of the National Endowment for the Arts, Program Coordinator for the Smithsonian's Festival of American Folklife, and Program Director of the National Council for the Traditional Arts. In 1990, Glaser joined the Western Folklife Center to contribute to the development of its nationally recognized programs giving voice to traditional and dynamic cultures of the American West. As the Center's Artistic Director, Glaser provided leadership in curating exhibitions, performance tours, media, workshops, and events, including the *National Cowboy Poetry Gathering*, until retiring in late 2021.

**JOSIE GLASSBERG** is a garden teacher, art writer, and sometime-artist living in Reno, Nevada. Glassberg attended St. Olaf College for printmaking and took up writing after exhibiting her work for several years. Her work has been published by *Double Scoop Art News*, *Carson CityArts Initiative*, *Fibonacci Magazine*, *Reno News & Review*, and *The Sierra Nevada Ally*. Last year, Glassberg was recognized for

her art criticism by the Nevada Press Association. In her free time, Glassberg likes to hang out with her daughter, dote on her cat, and visit Lake Tahoe. More at [josieglassberg.com](http://josieglassberg.com).

**JOHN M. GLIONNA** began working as a journalist in 1981. He was a Seoul-based *Los Angeles Times* foreign correspondent from 2008 to 2012. Later, as the paper's Las Vegas bureau chief, Glionna covered the American West. He has written extensively about California and co-taught a journalism course at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Glionna is now a freelance writer who divides his time between Las Vegas, San Francisco, and Los Angeles.

**LESLEY LECHUGA GOMEZ** grew up in Sparks, Nevada, and attended the University of Nevada, Reno, for both her BA and MA in Social Work. She currently works for a nonprofit and works with students from low-income backgrounds. She is involved with a local book club geared toward women of color and finds it important to read and share stories written by Black, Indigenous, and people of color.

**LIZETH LECHUGA GOMEZ** was born in Sparks, Nevada, and is a first-generation Mexican-American. She is committed to community service and has done projects for the Kerak Shriner's Hospital and the Alzheimer's Association. When she's not busy serving her community or studying for school, you'll find her head in a book. She will be attending the University of Nevada, Reno, in the fall to pursue a degree in Social Work.

**AB GORHAM** is a book artist and writer from Montana and holds MFAs in Book Arts and Poetry from The University of Alabama. She is the Director of Black Rock

Press, where she teaches book arts in the Book and Publication Arts Program. Recently, Gorham edited a collaborative reading experience of Frank Stanford's *The Battlefield Where the Moon Says I Love You*, published by Third Man Books. Her poems have been published in *American Letters and Commentary*, *DIAGRAM*, and *Gulf Coast*, among others. Her artist books are collected nationally.

**SHAUN GRIFFIN** co-founded and directed Community Chest, a rural social justice agency, for 27 years. His book of essays, *Because the Light Will Not Forgive Me—Essays from a Poet*, was released by the University of Nevada Press in 2019. For over three decades, he and his wife Debby have lived in Virginia City, Nevada.

**BRENT HOLMES** is a creative roustabout, artist, cultural commentator, raconteur, and designer. His art has been exhibited in the Nevada Museum of Art and the Marjorie Barrick Museum. You can find his writing in *Desert Companion* magazine, *The Believer*, and *Double Scoop*. He can tell you stories about glittering ugly cities and dark, beautiful wastelands, but he would rather hear yours.

**DUSTIN HOWARD** is the current City of Reno Poet Laureate and the Advancement Associate at Sage Ridge School in Reno, Nevada. He is the author of the supernatural thriller novel, *Breakvale*, and the poetry collection *Engrams*.

**BOBBIE ANN HOWELL** is a program manager for Nevada Humanities based out of the Nevada Humanities Program Gallery located 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 BFA degree from Abilene Christian University in Abilene, Texas, and received an MFA 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 MORENO** holds a PhD from the University of Texas at Austin, and is an Assistant Professor of Gender, Race, and Identity at the University of Nevada, Reno. She is a feminist anti-colonial interdisciplinary scholar. Her work focuses on the ethics of representation in cultural narratives centered on migration, human rights, violence, race, and gender in film and social media. Dr. Huerta Moreno is the co-editor and author of *Introduction to Latinx Studies: A Social Science & Cultural Studies Reader*, author of the forthcoming *Locating the (Dis)located Voices*, in *Frontiers: A Journal of Women's Studies*, and author of a number of transnational feminist articles and chapters, including the chapter "Alighting on the Digital: Trans Migrant Testimonios." She is the winner of the 2021 Dean's Award for Accomplishment in the Areas of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for outstanding engaged work bridging the academy and community, and the 2022 School of Social Research and Justice Studies Interdisciplinary Activity Award for her range of interdisciplinary teaching, research, service, and advocacy activities.

**HOLLY HUTCHINGS** is a

journalist and podcaster with a knack for being curious, asking questions, and learning. She enjoys making the most out of her research and sharing the best version of the facts that she's learned. Hutchings came to podcasts when she was on a personal search for truth about a decade ago. NPR-family podcasts, soon followed by many others, exposed her to a bigger world and cracked open her mind to how others think and live. She decided then that those were the kinds of stories she wanted to share too. She is a native Nevadan currently living in Reno with her husband and their sons.

**NASEEM JAMNIA** (they/them) is a former neuroscientist and MFA graduate from the University of Nevada, Reno. They are the author of *The Bruising of Qilwa* (Tachyon Publications). Their work has appeared in *The Washington Post*, *Cosmopolitan*, *The Rumpus*, *The Writer's Chronicle*, and other publications. They have received fellowships from Bitch Media, Lambda Literary, and the Otherwise, and they were named the inaugural Samuel R. Delany Fellow from CatStone Books. Naseem is also the managing editor at Sword & Kettle Press, a tiny independent publishing house of inclusive feminist speculative fiction, and the former managing editor at Sidequest.zone, an independent gaming criticism website. A Persian-Chicagoan, Naseem now lives in Reno with their husband, dog, and two cats.

**DAVID KENNEDY** is a fantasy writer, essayist, and poet. He has presented his work at the 2020 Boskone New England Science Fiction Convention in Boston, as well as read his fiction and poetry in local venues around Reno. A Massachusetts native, Kennedy is

now an MFA graduate in fiction from the University of Nevada, Reno. He currently splits his time between reading very old and very new books.

**EUNKANG KOH** works in printmaking, book arts, drawing, painting, and installation to address human desires. Koh has had significant solo exhibitions that include Main Gallery, The Society of Northern Alberta Print-Artists in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada and La Taller in Bilbao, Spain. Koh has also participated in national and international group exhibitions such as Centro Civico Pati Limona in Barcelona, Spain; Art Space Jungmiso in Seoul, South Korea; Mei Lun Gallery at Huan Fine Art Institute in Changsha, China; and Central Booking in New York City, New York. Koh has been invited to artist-in-residencies including Seacourt, Bangor, Northern Ireland; Frans Masereel Centrum in Kasterlee, Belgium; Gualan Original Printmaking Base in Shenzhen, China; Chhaap Printmaking Studio in Baroda, India; and Kala Art Institute in Berkeley, California. She is Associate Professor in printmaking in the Department of Art at the University of Nevada, Reno.

**KATHLEEN KUO** is a Program Manager with Nevada Humanities. Along with Scott Dickensheets, she is the co-editor of *Sagebrush to Sandstone: A Humanities Guide to Outdoor Nevada*.

**PENNY LANE** is a lifelong resident of Reno, Nevada, an alum of Reno High School, Truckee Meadows Community College, and the University of Nevada, Reno. She was a recipient of the University of Nevada, Reno's DQ Award for poetry in 2018 and has had multiple poems published

in *The Meadow*. She plans to pursue an MFA in Creative Writing and anticipates enrollment in a graduate program by fall of 2023.

**JESSI LEMAY** is a photographer and videographer that has spent the better part of two decades telling the story of Nevada and place-identity in the West. In her new role with Desert Research Institute, LeMay is now documenting the stories of environmental research and the fascinating people behind the science.

**JOANNE MALLARI** is a Reno-based, Filipino-American poet. When she started writing poems in sixth grade, her language arts teacher connected her with a program called the Southern Nevada Writing Project. Each participant was featured in a print anthology, and when she saw her work in the table of contents, she embraced writing as her voice to the world. Today, Mallari brings her love of language to the classroom. She has served as a teaching artist for Teen Empowerment, a program sponsored by Sierra Arts Foundation. In 2020, she joined the English department faculty at the University of Nevada, Reno, where she teaches courses in first-year composition and creative writing. Her debut chapbook, *Daughter Tongue*, was published by Kelsay Books. As a teacher and an artist, Mallari believes in creating space for the parts of ourselves and our history that have been denied, lost, hidden, or forgotten.

**MICHAEL MARTONE** was born and grew up in Fort Wayne, Indiana. He attended Butler University and graduated from Indiana University. He holds an MA from The Writing Seminars of

Johns Hopkins University. His most recent books are *The Complete Writings of Art Smith*, *The Bird Boy of Fort Wayne*, edited by Michael Martone, *The Moon Over Wapakoneta*, and *Brooding*. He lives in Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

**MARK MAYNARD** is a writer, teacher, and filmmaker in Reno, Nevada. His 2012 collection of short stories *Grind* (Torrey House Press) was selected as the 2016-2017 *Nevada Reads* book, and he was awarded the Nevada Writers Hall of Fame Silver Pen Award. Maynard teaches English and creative writing at Truckee Meadows Community College in Reno. He was selected as an artist-in-residence in Great Basin National Park and in Nevada's Black Rock Desert in the summer of 2022 and is currently at work on a documentary film about the history of the Picon Punch cocktail.

**JAHAHI MAZARIEGO** is a Salvadoran-American social worker and local artist. She is the eldest daughter of Salvadoran parents who left El Salvador in the 1980s due to the civil war. Although, Mazariego is an American-born citizen, she has centered her profession and artwork in highlighting the strengths and barriers undocumented immigrants face in northern Nevada. Mazariego was the first social worker in Nevada System of Higher Education dedicated to serve undocumented students at the University of Nevada, Reno. In collaboration with community organizations and immigrant advocates, she had the opportunity to advocate for equitable access to higher education and professional licensing. Mazariego's artwork centers her grief related to family separation due to current US immigration policies. Additionally, she utilizes her professional and

personal experiences to create awareness about racialized immigration policies to further educate local social service providers.

**CLAIRE MCCULLY** is a writing professor, a poet, and a TEDx Carson City speaker who lives near Lake Tahoe. Her writing has appeared in various literary journals, and she was a literary combatant in Reno's first Literary Death Match. She recently published an opinion piece with CNN on her rights as a transgender parent and is currently working on fiction and nonfiction prose.

**ROBIN MCLEAN** worked as a lawyer and then as a potter in the woods of Alaska before turning to writing. Her first story collection *Reptile House* won the 2013 BOA Editions Fiction Prize and was twice a finalist for the Flannery O'Connor Short Story Prize. Her debut novel *Pity the Beast* was published November 2021 by And Other Stories and was noted as a best book of fiction of the year in such outlets as *The Guardian*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *White Review*, and was long-listed for the Reading the West Prize. Her second story collection, *Get'em Young, Treat'em Tough, Tell'em Nothing*, is forthcoming, also from And Other Stories, on October 18, 2022 (the same day as the paperback of *Pity the Beast*).

**BRAD MCMULLEN** is the Programs and *National Cowboy Poetry Gathering* Manager at the Western Folklife Center, in Elko, Nevada. Originally from Michigan, he has Master Degrees in Public Folklore and Arts Management from the University of Oregon.

**DANIEL RYAN MORSE** is the author of *Radio Empire*:

*The BBC's Eastern Service and the Emergence of the Global Anglophone Novel* (Columbia UP). He is the Director of Core Humanities and an Associate Professor of English at the University of Nevada, Reno.

**LAURA NEWMAN** is the author of the short story collections, *The Franklin Avenue Rookery for Wayward Babies* (Delphinium Books / HarperCollins) and *Parallel to Paradise* (Le Rue Press). Her stories have been printed in *The Saturday Evening Post* and *Literary Hub*. Her work was awarded finalist in *LitMag's* Virginia Woolf Award for Short Fiction, and she is a multiple-time winner of the *Reno News & Review* short fiction contest. She is currently working on a novella and new story collection.

**AIMEE NEZHUKUMATATHIL** is the author of a book of nature essays, *World of Wonders: In Praise of Fireflies, Whale Sharks, & Other Astonishments*, which was named a finalist for the Kirkus Prize in nonfiction, and four award-winning poetry collections, most recently, *Oceanic* (2018). Awards for her writing include fellowships from the Mississippi Arts Council, Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters Award for poetry, National Endowment of the Arts, and the Guggenheim Foundation. Her writing has appeared in *The New York Times Magazine*, *ESPN*, and *Best American Poetry*. She is a professor of English and Creative Writing in the University of Mississippi's MFA program.

**AXIE OH** is a first-generation Korean American, born in New York City and raised in New Jersey. She studied Korean history and creative writing as an undergraduate at the University of California, San Diego, and

holds an MFA in Writing for Young People from Lesley University. Her passions include K-pop, anime, stationery supplies, and milk tea, and she currently resides in Las Vegas with her dog, Toro (named after Totoro). Oh is *The New York Times* bestselling author of *The Girl Who Fell Beneath the Sea*, *XOXO*, and the Rebel Seoul series.

**DANIEL A. OLIVAS** is the grandson of Mexican immigrants and was born and raised near downtown Los Angeles. He is an award-winning author of fiction, nonfiction, plays, and poetry. Widely anthologized, Olivas has written on culture and literature for *The New York Times*, *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *BOMB*, *Jewish Journal*, *High Country News*, and *The Guardian*. By day, Olivas is an attorney and makes his home in Southern California.

A 2016 inductee in the Nevada Writers Hall of Fame, **GAILMARIE PAHMEIER** has published three full-length works of poetry, *The Rural Lives of Nice Girls*, *The House on Breakaheart Road*, and *Of Bone, Of Ash, Of Ordinary Saints: A Nevada Gospel*, as well as three chapbooks — short collections of poems with a unifying theme. Her work has been included in literary journals *Booth*, *Spillway* and *Descant*, among many others. She served as Reno's first Poet Laureate from 2015-2017. Pahmeier is Emeritus Faculty at the University Nevada, Reno, where she received the University Distinguished Teacher Award and the Alan Bible Teaching Excellence Award, among other distinctions. She holds a bachelor's degree in creative writing from Southern Illinois University and a master of fine arts degree from the University of Arkansas. Pahmeier is currently the Nevada Poet

Laureate and a 2022 Academy of American Poets Laureate Fellow.

**PAN PANTOJA** established his Reno, Nevada, roots in 2005. The objective of Pantoja's work is to find and make beauty from his struggles, and help others do the same. This has been particularly true of his work with at-risk youth, whether in juvenile detention or high school, to find their own beautiful coping mechanisms. Pantoja was the recipient of the Kristine Nagy-Johnson award in 2012 for serving and teaching at-risk youth in the Reno community. Additionally, Pantoja is a National Endowment for the Arts, Black Rock Arts Foundation, government-selected sculptor, Spoken Views Collective Poet, and a signed author of poetry with LaRue Press. Recently, Pantoja served as the City of Reno's Poet Laureate.

**TIFFANY PEREIRA** is an Assistant Research Scientist, Ecologist, and Scientific Illustrator at the Desert Research Institute in Las Vegas, Nevada. She specializes in ecology, conservation, and management of Mojave and Great Basin Desert flora and fauna. She is also an artist who is interested in design and scientific illustration for science communication.

**FELICIA T PEREZ** Born and raised in Southern California, Felicia T Perez is a storyteller at heart. From being an educator, author, public speaker, audio storytelling producer, and mixed media artist, Perez uses stories in hopes of changing larger narratives that are harmful, toxic, and/or unjust. In their art, Perez creates a physical call and response of items, emotions, events, and people, all surrounding issues of healthcare

access. Perez currently resides in Reno, Nevada, with her partner and two very cute dogs.

**MELANIE PERISH** believes reading makes you beautiful. Her poems have appeared in *Sinister Wisdom*, *West Trestle Review*, *The Meadow*, *Calyx*, *Persimmon Tree*, and other small press publications. Her poems were featured as part of the *Nevada Humanities Heart to Heart* program in December 2020 and November 2021. She was included in the Nevada Humanities guide, *Sagebrush to Sandstone: A Humanities Guide to Outdoor Nevada* (Halcyon, 2021), *Desertwood* (University of Nevada Press, 1991), and *di-vêrsé-city* (Austin International Poetry Festival, 2017-2019), *Passions & Gratuities* (Black Rock Press, 2011) and *The Fishing Poems* (Chapbook, Meridian Press, 2017) are current books. *Foreign Voices*, *Native Tongues* (Single Wing Press/ Blurb, 2022) is her most recent collection. These are poems that reflect discoveries through the body and the body politic, in various voices, and invite lessons revealed in the high desert and throughout the state of Nevada. Her poems owe a major debt to other poets with whom she exchanges work and critiques.

**NICK PULITO** is a second-year MFA Candidate at the University of Nevada, Reno. His work explores consumerism, celebrity, identity, place, and other buzzwords. He moonlights as a marketer for an entertainment behemoth; please forgive him.

**FAKHRIA RASIKH** was born in 1998 in Afghanistan. Historical accounts, literature, mythology, and folktales inspired her at an early age. Her first work was inspired by the colonial settlements of the 1600s in

America. She authored a fantastical trilogy based on that called *Ivy Isla*, accounting the adventures of a young girl in pursuit of her soul. Rasikh has authored a fantastical comic series in Farsi called *The Reign of Fire* which reintroduces long-forgotten Persian folktales in the form of a children's storybook. She has also translated *Finland: The Country of White Lilies* into Farsi; a book she found resonant of contemporary Afghan struggles. Her latest work is the translation of *Akbarnama*, which is an Afghan epic poem originally written in 1868, accounting the two Anglo-Afghan wars. She is currently working on a novel called *A Little World*. The story features the identity dilemma of a child who grows up in a post-2001-era Afghanistan where governmental regulations and laws are suddenly liberal, but everyday social life remains highly conservative and patriarchal. In her spare time, she enjoys writing inanimate objects poetry.

**NAYELLI RICO LOPEZ** (she/her/ella) is a DACA beneficiary and first-generation college graduate, and is devoted to providing resources to the immigrant community. Rico Lopez was born in Moroleon, Guanajuato, Mexico, and immigrated with her family to the United States at the age of three. She grew up in the city of Las Vegas, Nevada, and has called it her home since she can remember. Rico Lopez attended Nevada State College, earning her Bachelor of Arts in Communications as a TheDream.US National Scholar in 2021. While at Nevada State College, she was a student worker in the Office of Community, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion where she worked to support their initiatives and was a Peer Mentor to TheDream.US scholars. She was also a founding member of the Dreamers Club and in 2019 served as President. Furthermore, Rico Lopez

was awarded the Outstanding Latina Student Award for the 2019 Hispanic Heritage Month by Clark County Commissioner Lawrence Weekly. She currently serves as the Coordinator for the Undocumented Student Program at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, where she continually works to create and elevate resources, support students, and advocate with and for undocumented students in the Las Vegas Valley.

**DANA JEAN RIDER** is a fiction writer and teacher. She has previously worked as an editor, a grant writer, a shoe salesperson, a tent-pole repair specialist, and a husbandry assistant in a zebrafish research facility. Rider's creative work often centers belief and doubt, exploring the space between the two through stories of friendship, magic, and religious trauma. Her writing is inspired by liminal spaces, folklore, and a firm belief that the world is strange. Originally from Minnesota, Rider now lives in Reno with her partner and their two cats, Snorkel and Dante. She is a second-year MFA student in fiction at the University of Nevada, Reno.

**KIMBERLY ROBERTS** grew up all across the Intermountain West, mainly in Colorado. She studied literature and history at Colorado State University and received an MA in the history of photography and landscape from the University of Nevada, Reno. She has worked in libraries, archives, and museums across the country, including serving for 10 years as the Photograph Curator in Special Collections at the University of Nevada, Reno. She currently works at Nevada Humanities as an archival and administrative consultant and continues to research and publish articles on

the history of photography.

**BRETTON RODRIGUEZ** is the Assistant Director of Core Humanities and a Teaching Associate Professor at the University of Nevada, Reno. In his research, he explores connections between literature and history in medieval Europe, as well as the relationship between political power and the composition of historical narratives. He is currently working on a book project that examines the central role of *conversos*—individuals who converted from Judaism to Christianity, or the descendants of such converts—in writing history in late medieval Iberia. Prior to coming to Nevada, he worked as an Assistant Professor of Humanities at Boğaziçi University in Istanbul.

**JULIÁN ESCUTIA RODRÍGUEZ** is a career diplomat with over 15 years of experience. He studied International Relations at El Colegio de Mexico in Mexico City and received an MA in Public Policy at Victoria University of Wellington in New Zealand. He began his career at the Institute for Mexicans Abroad of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs where he worked directly with the Director and Executive Director to revamp Mexico's relationship with its diaspora. He has worked for the Mexican Foreign Service at the Embassy in New Zealand, the Consulate General of Mexico in Houston where he was Consul for Community Affairs, as well as the Embassy of Mexico in the United States as Regional Affairs Officer and Head of the Consular Coordination and Hispanic Affairs Section, and he currently works as Consul of Mexico in Las Vegas, Nevada.

**LEON SALVATIERRA** is a

Nicaraguan poet who migrated to the United States at the age of 15. In 2020, he won the Juana Goergen Poetry Prize. He is currently teaching culture and literature courses at the University of California, Davis.

**ISMAEL SANTILLANES** is a Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing graduate and author of *Indelicate Angels* who lives in the Coachella Valley in California, where he 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, as in poetry, is needed to fulfill life's breath and brevity. It was in a Nevada prison, desert of love, where he learned to look upon the blank page as he would the desert, a place to write from the heart-blown sand carved.

**JESSICA SANTINA** is an award-winning writer specializing in arts and culture, education, and foodwriting. She received her BA in English from Emory University in Atlanta and her MA in English from the University of Nevada, Reno. Santina's writing credits have included ghostwritten books, articles in multiple local and regional publications, and professional copywriting for print and electronic media. She has received numerous awards from the Nevada Press Association for her critical, entertainment, and feature writing, and she is widely recognized for her theater and arts coverage in *Reno News & Review* and *Double Scoop*. She is a managing partner in Lucky Bat Books, a local publishing company, and managing editor for *edible Reno-Tahoe* and

*edible Sacramento* magazines. Additionally, she is an adjunct writing instructor at the University of Nevada, Reno, and Truckee Meadows Community College. Santana lives in Sparks with her husband and daughter.

**MARGIE SARFIELD** is a Pushcart-nominated writer living in Reno, Nevada. Her work has previously appeared in *Salt Hill*, *CutBank*, *The Normal School*, *Seneca Review*, *Hippocampus*, and elsewhere. She was the recipient of the 2019 Calvino Prize and Midway Journal's -1000 Below Flash Prose Contest, and was a runner-up for Lighthouse Writers Workshop Lit Fest Fellowship. She received her MFA from The Ohio State University and served as the fiction editor for *The Journal*. In a previous life, she made a living writing and publishing romance novels. You can learn more about her at [margiesarsfield.com](http://margiesarsfield.com) or enjoy her good but infrequent tweets at @nightchemicals.

**EMILY SAWAN**, 65th in line to the Throne of Thirds, and Engineer of Accessibility on the Island of Foxes, is a speculative fiction writer, teacher, and visual artist. Her book arts projects have been featured on Ben Denzer's website, she is a current graduate student at the University of Nevada, Reno, and is a founding member of the Heretics' Workshop, a local radical writing group. Sawan may or may not be a horde of rats who puts on their human skin each morning one leg at a time, just like the rest of you.

**DAVID MICHAEL SLATER** is the author of nearly 30 works of fiction and nonfiction for children, teens, and adults. For more, see [davidmichaelslater.com](http://davidmichaelslater.com).

**ERIK MANUEL SOTO** is a

Mexican poet currently finishing his final year of an MFA at the University of Nevada, Reno.

**SPOKEN VIEWS COLLECTIVE** is the premier spoken word poetry collective in northern Nevada that not only showcases local poets, but hosts open mics, poetry slams, and specialized events. The collective also offers workshops and mentorship for poets of all skill levels, and the collective has competed in national slam competitions at both the youth and adult level and collaborated with nationally recognized poets like Michelle Myers and Brandon Leake. The mission of Spoken Views Collective is to create safe spaces and an open platform for expression through the art of spoken word poetry. For more information, please visit [spokenviews.org](http://spokenviews.org).

**CLAIRE STANFORD** is the author of the novel *Happy for You*, which was named a *New York Times* Book Review Editors' Choice. Her work has appeared in *The Rumpus*, *Black Warrior Review*, *Lit Hub*, *Electric Lit*, *Los Angeles Review of Books*, and *Tin House Flash Fridays*, among other publications. She holds an MFA from the University of Minnesota and a PhD in English from the University of California, Los Angeles. She is an assistant professor of English at the University of Nevada, Reno.

**JARED STANLEY** is the author of three books of poetry, most recently *EARS*, the artist's book *Shall*, and numerous chapbooks and ephemera. He lives in Reno, Nevada, and teaches in the MFA program at the University of Nevada, Reno.

**MAX STONE** is going into his third year as an MFA candidate

in poetry at the University of Nevada, Reno. He received his BA in English with a minor in Book Arts and Publication from the University of Nevada, Reno in 2019. He has lived in many other places including, most recently, New York City. His poetry has been published in *Sandpiper Review*, *Night Coffee Lit*, *Caustic Frolic*, *KCB Mag*, and elsewhere. He is also a book artist and retired college soccer player.

**HELEN TOWNSELL-PARKER** was born in California and raised in Black Springs, Nevada. She is the daughter of Jeff and Carrie Townsell, and granddaughter of Ollie and Helen Westbrook. In the early 2000s, Townsell-Parker discovered the history of Black Springs, and in March 2006, she successfully petitioned the County Commissioners to rename the Black Springs Community Center to The Westbrook Community Center. She founded The Westbrook Foundation in 2008 in memory of her grandparents. Its mission, "Youth Empowerment through Educational Scholarships," provided academic scholarships to local graduating seniors to further their education. *A Cry for Help*, which chronicles the building of a Black community in the early 1950s through 2000, was published in 2010, and all historical documents relating to this research are housed at the Nevada Historical Society. Townsell-Parker is a mother and grandmother.

**MJ UBANDO** is a teacher, reader, and eater who was raised in Reno and is currently adulting in Sparks. She taught creative writing and English in local high schools and has an MFA in literary nonfiction from Sierra Nevada University. She was a member of the Spoken Views Poetry Collective and has

coached students in national poetry competitions. Her writing has been featured in *This is Reno*, *The Reno News & Review*, Nevada Humanities online programs (*Humanities Heart to Heart* and the *Double Down Blog*), and at Sundance Books and Music.

**KRIS VAGNER** is the Founder, Editor, and Executive Director of *Double Scoop*, the statewide visual arts publication. She is a veteran Nevada arts journalist, former Arts Editor for the *Reno News & Review*, former writing instructor for the University of Nevada, Reno, a 2019 graduate of the the University of Nevada, Reno's MA in Media Innovations program, and a seven-time recipient of Nevada Press Association awards.

**MICHELLE AUCOIN WAIT** (she/her) holds an MFA in Poetry from the University of Nevada, Reno. Her work has appeared in *Tiferet*, *Maudlin House*, *LandLocked*, *Porkbelly Press*, *The Hunger*, and others. She is a transplant from the Deep South and now resides with her family and her four yorkies beside a mountain in Reno where she teaches literature, poetry, and rhetoric. You can find her on Instagram at [michelleaucoinwait](https://www.instagram.com/michelleaucoinwait) or on Twitter @MWAIT53.

**JESS WALTER** is the author of 10 books, most recently the story collection *The Angel of Rome* and the best-selling novel, *The Cold Millions*. His 2012 novel *Beautiful Ruins* was a #1 *New York Times* bestseller, and he has been a finalist for the National Book Award and winner of the Edgar Allan Poe Award. His work has been translated in over 30 languages, and his short fiction has appeared three times in *Best American Short Stories*. Walter

lives in Spokane, Washington, with his family.

**KESHA WESTBROOKS**, a veteran, and cancer and stroke survivor, has overcome many challenges to achieve her educational goals. She was introduced to her life's new purpose by the College of Southern Nevada's Prison Education Program while incarcerated for a financial crime. Kesha feels a responsibility to share her story to show through action that rehabilitation does happen and to help others release their shame. Kesha was honored by being chosen as the student commencement speaker at the College of Southern Nevada 2022 graduation. Westbrook plans to use her education, along with the lessons she learned through her many personal struggles, to make a positive impact on the lives of others and her community. She stands in the gap for others, the way someone once did for her. Westbrook continues her journey to become a woman and leader that the College of Southern Nevada, her community, her parents, mentors, friends, and especially her two beautiful daughters, can be proud of.

**MANUELA WILLIAMS** is the author of two poetry chapbooks: *Ghost in Girl Costume* and *Witch*. Her work has appeared online in *The Mantle*, *wicked alice zine*, *Thimble Literary Magazine*, *Night Music Journal*, and other places. In 2021, her poem *In December* was nominated for a Pushcart Prize. She is a poetry columnist for *DIY MFA* and lives in Reno, Nevada, with her partner and two cats.

**LINDSAY WILSON** is an English professor at Truckee Meadows Community College where he edits *The Meadow*. He received

a Silver Pen from the Nevada Writers' Hall of Fame, and his poetry has appeared in *The Colorado Review*, *The Missouri Review Online Poem of the Week*, and *The Carolina Quarterly*. His most recent chapbook, *Because the Dirt Here is Poor*, is available from Main Street Rag, and his next full-length book, *The Day Gives Us so Many Ways to Eat*, is due out this fall.

**JESSE JAMES ZIEGLER** is an active working poet, principal photographer, Manager of Monday Night Poetry, and Board Member for Spoken Views Collective. He is a member of the Sierra Literary Cooperative and the Spoken Word/Poetry contributor to *Reno Arts News*. He was the first ever Poet in Residence for the Bruka Theatre and held that position for three consecutive seasons, continuing on as an artistic consultant. Ziegler opened and hosted the world premiere of Brandon Leake's original spoken word play 'Insomnia' (Winner of Season 15 *America's Got Talent*) and was a performance artist at the most recent Utah Arts Festival.



# THANK YOU

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