

JON CHRISTOPHER ELLERY

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EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy, English, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas, 1989.
4.0 GPA.

Major Areas: Drama

American Literature, 1920-present

American Literature, 1870-1920

British Literature, 1914-present

Minor: Classical Greek

Dissertation: “Estranged Stage: A Semiotic and Thematic Approach to the Grotesque in Selected American Drama”

Professor Hamlin Hill, Director

Awards:

Post-doctoral Teaching Fellowship, 1989-90

Dissertation Teaching Fellowship, 1988-89

Student Fellow of the Interdisciplinary Group for Historical Literary Study

Distinguished Graduate Assistant-Teaching Award nominee, 1988

Phi Kappa Phi

ESL Course: Teaching English as a Second Language

Master of Arts, English, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas, 1979. 4.0 GPA.

Bachelor of Fine Arts, Creative Writing, Arkansas Tech University, Russellville, Arkansas, 1975. “With Highest Honors.”

EMPLOYMENT

June 1990-present Angelo State University, San Angelo, Texas 76909. Professor of English.

*September 1999-
June 2000* University of Aleppo, Aleppo, Syria. Fulbright Lecturer in American Literature.

Taught American Poetry, American Novel (including seminar), Diploma Class in American Romanticism and Realism.

Supervised three diploma projects in American literature (on Eugene

O'Neill, Ralph Ellison, and Mark Twain.

- September 1995-
May 1990** Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas 77843
Post-doctoral Lecturer and Graduate Assistant-Teaching, English
Taught Technical Writing, Freshman Composition, Shakespeare, and
Technical Writing for Publication.
Elected President of the Graduate Student Association.
Represented graduate students on the Graduate Committee.
- September 1987-
May 1990** Lee College, Baytown, Texas--Huntsville Extension
Part-time Instructor in units of the Texas Department of Corrections

PUBLICATIONS

- Canticles of the Body* (poetry collection). Portland, OR: Resource Publications, 2018.
Elder Tree (poetry collection). Beaumont, TX: Lamar University Literary Press, 2016.
The Big Mosque of Mercy (poetry collection). Temple, TX: Ink Brush Press, 2010.
All this Light We Live In (poetry collection). Spring, TX: Panther Creek Press, 2006.
Quarry (poetry chapbook). Denton, TX: Mountain Muse Press, 2005.
Whatever Happened to Antara (co-translation of Syrian short stories by Walid Ikhlassi). Austin: University of Texas Press, 2004. (with Asmahan Sallah)

Anthologies and Retrospectives

- “Calf.” (poem) *A Fire to Light Our Tongues*. (Forthcoming)
- “First Concert.” *Words in Concert*. Fort Worth, TX: Fort Worth Poetry Society, 2019: 13.
- “Spring,” “I Lost My Hand,” and “Crossroads” (poems) *Voices of Resilience*. Dallas, TX: SMU Caswell Leadership Program, 2018: 20, 26, 35.
- “Woman with Basket” and “For the Feast of the Immaculate Conception” (poems). *Southern Poetry Anthology, Volume VIII: Texas*. Huntsville, TX: Texas Review Press, 2018: 64-65.
- “Dust Devil” (poem). *Texas Weather Anthology*. Beaumont, TX: Lamar University Literary Press, 2017.
- “Bomb.” (poem). 2018 Texas Poetry Calendar. 20-year Retrospective Issue. Austin, TX: Dos Gatos Press, 2018.
- “Agnes and the Frog Prince” (poem). *Writing Texas, 2015-2016*. Beaumont, TX: Lamar University Literary Press, 2016: 56-57.
- “Everything Flows” (poem). *The Great American wise Ass Poetry Anthology*. Beaumont, TX: Lamar University Literary Press, 2016: 73.
- “Do with Me,” “The Passion of John the Baptizer,” and “All Saints Day.” *Writing Texas, 2014-2015*. Beaumont, TX: Lamar University Press, 2015.
- “Shekinah” (poem). *Union: Poems by Forty Finalists from the 2014 Alexander and Doris Raynes Poetry Competition*. New York: Blue Thread Press, 2014.
- “The Song of the Four Snakes” (short story). *Texas Soundtrack*. Temple and Dallas, TX: Ink Brush Press, 2011.

"Lift-off from DFW Just after Dark" (poem). *Big Land, Big Sky, Big Hair: Best of the Texas Poetry Calendar*. Austin, TX: Dos Gatos Press, 2008.

"Bimaristan Arghun" (poem). *descant Fifty Years*. Fort Worth: TCU Press, 2008.

"Miss Lucy Buries Her Ma" (short story). *Fifteen Years of Fiction: A Retrospective. Concho River Review* 16.1 (Spring 2002): 24-39.

"Mountain Lights," "The Hunt," "Home Repair," "Resistance" (poems). *Southwest: A Contemporary Anthology*. (Albuquerque, N.M.: Red Earth Press), 1977.

Articles, Essays, Reviews (Periodicals)

"A Boy of Bethany." *Rosebud* 60 (Fall/Winter 2015): 52-59.

Review of *Of Snakes and Sex and Playing in the Rain* by Clay Reynolds. *Texas Books in Review* 27. 2 & 3 (Summer/Fall 2007).

"Mideast Peace Long Way Off." Viewpoints. *San Angelo Standard-Times*. Thursday, July 27, 2006: D1.

Review of *You & Yours* by Naomi Nye. *Concho River Review* 20:1 (Spring 2006): 90-91.

Review of *Islam, Fundamentalism, and the Betrayal of Tradition: Essays by Western Muslim Scholars*. *Concho River Review* 18.2 (Fall 2004): 111-13.

"General Boykin's Beatitudes." *Long Shot* 27 (2004): 90-91.

"Absence of 'things' liberating." *San Angelo Standard-Times*. 4 July 2004: p. 6A.

"Will we find the best in ourselves?" *San Angelo Standard-Times*. 23 May 2004: 6A.

"A Conversation with Naomi Shihab Nye." *Concho River Review* 18.2 (Fall 2003): 53-73.

"Letters from Syria." *San Angelo Standard-Times*. 8 June 2003: p. 9A.

"More should help in harvest of peace," guest column, *San Angelo Standard Times*, 11 November 2002.

"Humor reveals much about nation," guest column, *San Angelo Standard Times*, October 2002.

"Israel Should Seek a Just Peace," guest column, *San Angelo Standard-Times*, 20 April 2001.

"Palestinians Not Solely to Blame," guest column, *San Angelo Standard-Times*, 16 October 2000.

"Interview with Walt McDonald," *Concho River Review* 10.1 (Fall 1996).

Review of *The Man Who Would Be God* by Paul Ruffin, *Concho River Review* 8.1 (Spring 1994):107-108.

Review of *Social Movements of the 1960's*. *Journal of the American Studies Association of Texas* 23 (October 1992): 90-91.

Review of *CW2* by Layne Heath, *Concho River Review* 5.2 (Fall 1991):98-100.

Review of *The Gothic Impulse in Contemporary Drama* by Mary Beth Inverso, *Theatre Journal* 42.3 (October 1990): 403-404.

Review of *A Personal War in Vietnam* by Robert Flynn, *Concho River Review* 4.2 (Fall 1990): 82-85.

"Chester Himes." *Bibliography of United States Literature*. Vol. 3. Ed. Matthew J. Bruccoli. Columbia, SC: Manly.

"Oracle and Womb: the Delphic Myth in D.M. Thomas's *The White Hotel*." *Notes on Contemporary Literature* 19 (May, 1989): 3-4.

Review of *The Drive-In* by R.S. Guinn, *SCMLA Review*, Spring, 1988.

Review of *The Vigil* by R.C. Reynolds, *Bryan-College Station Eagle*, 1986.

"The Leaves." *The Christian Science Monitor* (Home Forum Page), October 9, 1984. (Read on *Monitor* Radio, October 1984; *Monitor* Radio Best of the Year, 1984.)

Fiction (Periodicals)

"Plasma." *The Windhover*. [Forthcoming.]

"The Song of the Four Snakes." *Concho River Review* 24.2 (Fall 2010): 6-16.

"Mercy Is One of the Beautiful Names of God." *Descant* 42 (Summer 2003):47-52.

"The Fortieth Prisoner." *Suddenly II*. (Spring 1999).

"Father Figure." *Windhover* 1.1 (January 1997).

"Aunt Pearl's Better than Sex Cake." *CCTE Studies* 58 (September 1993): 40-44.

"Miss Lucy Buries Her Ma." *Concho River Review* 1.2 (Fall 1987): 13-26.

Poetry (Periodicals)

"Apple Tree." *Sufi Journal*. 97 (Summer 2019).

"A Recollection of Evolution in Scuba Diving Class." *Chest: Journal of the American College of Chest Physicians*. 156.1 (July 2019): 185.

"Flames." *Chest: Journal of the American College of Chest Physicians*. 156.1 (July 2019): 186.

"Hillel." *The Windhover*. 23.1 (Feb. 2019): 14

"Live Alive Life Lived Lives Living." *West Texas Literary Review*. Dec. 2018:

"Houses." *The Enigmatist*. 13 (2018):5.

"Lightning." *The Windhover*. 22.2 (Fall 2018): 11.

"Rain." *Crosswinds Poetry Journal*. 3 (2018): 19.

"The Art of Seeing Revealed in the News of Approaching Blindness." *Sufi Journal* 94 (Winter 2018): 28.

"Clare of Assisi." *Switchgrass Review*. 4 (2018): 68.

"Joseph of Arimathea." *The Windhover*. 22.1 (Spring 2018):48.

"Bread." *Phi Kappa Phi Forum*. Winter 2017: 9.

"Candlemas." *Blue Hole*. October 2017: 24.

"Philip and James." *The Windhover*. 21.2 (July 2017): 48.

"Aaron." *West Texas Literary Review*. 2 (June 2017):

"For the Feast of the Nativity" and "Sex on the Beach." *Windward Review*. 15 (2017): 59-61.

"Francis of Assisi." *One Person's Trash: A Literary Journal on Homelessness*. Tacoma/Seattle: One Person's Trash, 2017.

"Sparkler." *The Timberline Review*. 4.1 (Winter/Spring 2017): 11-13.

"Epiphany at the Majestic." *Voices de la Luna*. 9.1 (15 November 2016): 18.

"Dervish" and "Sunday of Divine Mercy." *Blue Hole*. October 2016: 20, 21.

"Bomb." *2017 Texas Poetry Calendar*. Austin, TX: Dos Gatos Press.

"Conjugation." *Voices de la Luna*. 8.3 (15 May 2016): 16.

"Cracking an Egg." *Voices de la Luna*. 8.2 (15 February 2016): 17.

"Alone on a beat-up couch." *Lilliput Review* 196 (Summer 2015): 2.

"Today." *Lilliput Review* 193 (Summer 2014): 3.

"Mild Mid-Winter Evening: A Visitation." *2015 Texas Poetry Calendar*. Austin, TX: Dos Gatos

Press.

- “Shekinah.” *Jewish Currents*. 68.3 (Spring-Summer 2014): 40.
- “For the Feast of St. James, the Lord’s Brother.” *2014 Texas Poetry Calendar*. Austin, TX: Dos Gatos Press.
- “Art.” *The Enigmatist* 8 (June 2013): 33.
- “Ascension.” *Concho River Review* 27.1 (Spring 2013): 106-108.
- “Christmas Eve.” *Concho River Review* 27.1 (Spring 2013): 105.
- “Christ the King Sunday at the Carmelite Hermitage near Christoval.” *2013 Texas Poetry Calendar*. Austin, TX: Dos Gatos Press.
- “Lent.” *Forrest Fest 2012: The Anthology of Forrest Fest 2012*. Lamesa, TX: Forrest Fest.
- “Ash Wednesday.” *descant* 20 (2011): 61-62.
- “Cardinal.” *descant* 20 (2011): 63-64.
- “Walnut Slips” and “Labyrinth at Unidad Park.” *Lilliput Review* 177 (December 2010), 4, 14.
- “Eucharistic” and “At the Kitchen Table.” *The Enigmatist* (June 2010): 24.
- “Horizon.” *Lilliput Review* 176 (June 2010):14.
- “The Pears.” *The Aurorean*. Spring/Summer 2010: 5.
- “Suburb” and “Still Morning.” *Blue Hole: A Magazine of the Georgetown Poetry Festival* (October 2010): 3.
- “Tapestry of *The Last Supper* in the Cafeteria of the Private Academy.” *The Unrorean* 9.2 (Winter/Spring 2010): 1.
- “Source of Light,” *The Enigmatist*. December 2009: 29.
- “For Sale by Owner.” *Crosstimbers*. Spring/Summer 2009: 10.
- “Source of Light.” *Crosstimbers*. Spring/Summer 2009: 14.
- “Across the Line in La Fleur County,” *Crosstimbers*. Fall 2008/Winter 2009: 25.
- “Eucharist at the Canary Hotel.” *Paterson Literary Review* 37 (2009-2010): 258-59.
- “Why There Is No Jealousy among Poets,” *The Texas Observer*. Jan. 9, 2009: 26.
- “Flowers for Li Bai,” *The Enigmatist*, Vol. 1 (Fall 2008): 39.
- “The Ripe and the Unripe Fruit,” *2009 Texas Poetry Calendar*, Dos Gatos Press, 2009.
- “Meat Market in Aleppo,” *Rock & Sling* 5.1 (Summer 2008): 20.
- “Border Crossing.” *Angelo State University Magazine* 1.1 (Spring 2008): 22.
- “Wintergreen Man.” *descant* 46 (2007): 60-62.
- “Mudder.” *Cimarron Review*. 160 (Summer 2007): 60-61.
- “Shooting Infinity from the Bottom of Palo Duro Canyon.” *New Texas: A Journal of Literature and Culture*. 2006: 28-29.
- “Youth Dies in Rollover.” *New Texas: A Journal of Literature and Culture*. 2006: 76-77
- “Night Swimming at Sea Rim.” *AVOCET: A Journal of Nature Poems* 9.3 (Spring 2006): 13-14.
- “Pool.” *Concho River Review* 19.1 (Spring 2005): 82.
- “Hound.” *Tar River Poetry*. 44.2 (Spring 2005): 21-22.
- “Nearest the Mosque,” “Bimaristan Arghun,” and “To Those Who Would Kill Me Because I’m American.” *descant* 44 (2005): 57-60.
- “The Poetry Workshop” and “What Poets Are.” *Muse*² www.muse2.com Nov. 2004.
- “Palm Sunday” and “Defection.” *Texas Observer*. Nov. 5, 2004: 21.
- “DART” and “Washing Will.” *Iron Horse Literary Review* 5.2 (Spring 2004): 110-112.

- “Mr. Rogers Is Crossing the Styx” and “Today in the Garden.” *The Chiron Review*. 74 (Spring 2004).
- “The Cedars,” “Theodicy,” and “Late-Night Drive on the Cap Rock.” *Muse*² www.muse2.com Nov. 2003.
- “Inheritance.” *New Texas* 2001: 71.
- “The Story Prays for the Poet” and “Basic Anatomy of the Chest.” *Windhover* 6 (2001):74-75.
- “Man with No Legs,” “A Small Boat on the Euphrates,” “After Dinner at Dr. Zafari’s House,” and “Excursion in Syrian Mesopotamia.” *Mizna* 11.2 (2001).
- “Texas Vista” and “Lift-off from D/FW.” Flying Crow Production, Texas Poetry Calendar, 1999.
- “Passed Ball” and “Inning toward Success.” (July 1998), *Fan Magazine*.
- “Redemption.” *The Lucid Stone* (Winter 1998).
- “Chords,” “Scanning the Band,” “Passing through Dust Devils.” *NewTexas ‘98* 1998: 174-76.
- “Excavation” and “Furs For Sale.” *Sulphur River Review* 11.1. (Vernal Equinox 1995).
- “Blizzard Strikes.” *Grasslands Review* 10 (Winter 1993).
- “We Are Sorry to Say.” *Borderlands: Texas Poetry Review* 3 (Fall 1993).
- “A Plague Year in Russia.” *The Cloverdale Review 1992/93* (Bristol, IN: Cloverdale), 1993.
- “On the Sistine Chapel Renovation.” *Studio* (Australia) No. 50 (Autumn 1993).
- “Kelly Lake, Revisited.” *New Mexico Humanities Review* No. 36 (1992).
- “Ride.” *Concho River Review* 6.3 (Fall 1992).
- “Cocoon.” *Studio* (Australia) No. 47 (Winter 1992).
- “Essay on the Technique of Hieronymus Bosch.” *Studio* (Australia) No. 45 (Summer 1991-92).
- “Dangling a Leg in Eastern Standard Time.” *Poet* 2.2 (Winter 1990-91).
- “Birthday Poem.” *The Lyric* 71.1 (Winter 1991).
- “Awaiting Labor.” *New Texas ‘91* (Denton: UNT Press), 1991.
- “The Eggs” and “Survivors.” *Riversedge* 5.1 (Fall 1990).
- “Shooting the Wolf,” “Circle of Light,” “Our Daughter Discovers Her Image in the Glass.” *Milkweed Chronicle*, Fall 1984.
- “Travel,” and “Fragments from a Bullet in the Head.” *Negative Capability* 2.2 (Spring 1982).
- “Planting.” *The Christian Science Monitor*. March, 1980.
- “The Snake.” *Bitterroot* Spring 1976.
- “In the Waiting Room.” *The Grapevine* Fall 1976.

PRESENTATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

- “Elegy for Father Frans.” Scissortail Poetry Festival. Ada, OK. April 4-6, 2018.
- Poetry Reading. Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers. 2018 Conference. San Antonio, TX. September 27-29, 2018.
- “‘Sunday of Divine Mercy’ and Other Poems.” Scissortail Poetry Festival. Ada, OK. March 31-April 2, 2018.

- Poetry Reading. Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers. 2015 Conference. Galveston, TX. 17-20 September 2015.
- Poetry Reading, Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers 2014 Conference. Dallas, TX. 19-20 September 2014.
- “An Evening of *A Thousand and One Nights*.” Porter Henderson Library. Angelo State University. 19 September 2013.
- Poems from Festivals of the Body’s Year (book in progress). Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers 2012 Conference. Edinburg, TX. 28 September 2012.
- Invited Poetry Reading. Lamar University. February 2012.
- Poetry Reading. Forrest Fest Poetry Festival. Lamesa, TX. 20-21 April 2012.
- Fiction Reading. Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers 2010 Conference. Fort Worth, TX. 24 September 2010.
- Poetry Reading. Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers 2009 Conference. Lubbock, TX. 25 September 2009.
- Featured Poet, Burnet Poetry Festival, Burnet, TX, October 2008.
- “Clarity, Obscurity, and Ambiguity.” Burnet Poetry Festival, Burnet, TX, October 2008.
- Poetry Reading, Forrest Fest Poetry Festival, Lamesa, TX. April 2008.
- “Texts and Values, the Value of Texts: Thoughts on Education in the Age of Fanaticism.” Guest Speaker Series, Arkansas Tech University, Russellville, AR, 14 November 2007.
- “Bartleby behind Bars: Assertion and Subversion in Melville’s Story of Wall Street.” South Central Modern Language Association Convention (Memphis), November 2007.
- Poetry Reading, Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers Convention (Houston), September 2007.
- Poetry Reading. Scissortail Festival. East Central Oklahoma University. Ada, OK. 5 April 2007.
- Poetry Reading, Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers 2006 Conference. San Angelo, TX, September 2006.
- “Plasma TV” (short story). American Studies Association of Texas 2005 Conference, Wichita Falls, Texas, 18 November 2005.
- Faculty Development and Enrichment Grant. “Under the Mosque of Mercy: Completing a Collection of Syrian Poems,” Summer 2005.
- Poetry Reading, Forrest Fest Poetry Festival, Lamesa, TX. 29 April 2005.
- Poetry Reading, Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers 2004 Conference, San Antonio, TX, September 2004.
- “9/11 Memorial Hymn.” Composed lyrics and spoke at dedication. San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts. 12 July 2004.
- Panelist, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* opening night discussion. Angelo Civic Theatre. 8 May 2004.
- Poetry Reading, Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers 2003 Conference, Fredericksburg, TX, September 2003.
- “Birth of a Nation: The Quest for Individual and National Identity in Walid Ikhlassi’s *What Happened to Antara*.” American Comparative Literature Association 2003 Conference, Cal State San Marcos, 4-6 April 2003.

- “A Glimpse of Arab Culture” (with Asmahan Sallah), ASU Writers Conference, February 2003.
- “Interview with Naomi Nye,” ASU Writers Conference, February 2003.
- “Filled with the Gladness of Living: A Brief Introduction to Arab Culture.” Faculty Luncheon lecture, Angelo State University, 4 December 2002.
- Poetry Reading, Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers 2002 Conference, Beaumont, Texas, 26-28 September 2002.
- “Magic Amidst the Plague: Elements of Magic Realism in *Angels in America* and *Wit*,” Magic Realism Section, South Central Modern Language Association Convention (Tulsa), 2001.
- “Syria: At the Edge of Vision,” Downtown Rotary Club of San Angelo, TX, April 16, 2001.
- “An Education in Syria: Memoirs of a Fulbrighter in Aleppo,” Faculty Luncheon Lecture, Angelo State University, February 28, 2001.
- Faculty Development and Enrichment Grant. “Completing a Translation of Walid Ikhlassi’s *What Happened to Antara*,” Summer 2001.
- Poetry Reading, Midland College, December 5, 2000. Judge, Hilda Simmons Levitt Poetry Contest, Midland College, 2000.
- Poetry Reading (“New Poems Written in Syria”), American Cultural Center, Damascus, Syria, June 8, 2000.
- Administrator and Judge, James R. Nesteby Essay Contest, sponsored by the American Cultural Center in Damascus, University of Aleppo, Syria, Spring 2000.
- Co-organizer, Panel Chair, and Host, First Annual Conference on American Studies, University of Aleppo, Syria, April 27, 2000.
- “Mark Twain and ‘the basis of the American art,’” Al Tishreen University, Latakia, Syria, April 25, 2000.
- Essay Writing Workshop, University of Aleppo, Syria, April 15, 2000.
- Essay Writing Workshop, Al Ba’ath University, Homs, Syria, April 5, 2000.
- “Mark Twain, American,” Al Ba’ath University, Homs, Syria, April 4, 2000.
- Poetry Reading, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt, March 23, 2000.
- “A Mosaic of American Values,” Ain Shams University, Cairo Egypt, March 23, 2000.
- “Maypoles and Separatists, Revolution, Civil War, and Civil Rights: Tracing American Values through Conflict and Character,” Alexandria University, Alexandria, Egypt, March 22, 2000.
- “Longfellow and Whitman: A Glimpse at Modern American Values through American Romantic Poetry,” Damanhour University, Damanhour, Egypt, March 21, 2000.
- “A Mosaic of American Values,” Damanhour University, Damanhour, Egypt, March 21, 2000.
- “University Education and National Values in the United States,” American Cultural Center of Alexandria, Egypt, March 20, 2000.
- “American Duality: Sam Clemens and Mark Twain,” Alexandria University, Alexandria, Egypt, March 20, 2000.
- Conference Director, ASU Writers Symposium in Honor of Elmer Kelton, February 1998 and 1999.
- “Demonstrating Alienation: a Classroom Exercise for Teaching Albee’s *The Zoo Story*,” Conference of College Teachers of English (San Antonio), April 2-4, 1998.
- Fiction reading, *Made of Matter* (excerpt from novel), Texas Association of Creative Writing

- Teachers (Richardson), February 1998.
- “Wo[o/r]dy Allen: Judaism and the Word in *Manhattan*,” 23rd Annual Florida State University Film and Literature Conference, Tallahassee, January 29-31, 1998.
- Organizer and presenter, ASU Film Panels for the University Symposium and the WTU Visiting Professor in Residence Series, Fall 1997.
- Poetry Editor, *Concho River Review*, December 1996-97.
- Poetry reading, Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers Conference (San Antonio), February 1997.
- “Lessons from the Lives of Tolstoy and Twain,” *Windhover* Literary Festival, Mary Hardin-Baylor University, January 1997.
- “Father Figure” (fiction reading), *Windhover* Literary Festival, Mary Hardin-Baylor University, January 1997.
- “What a Difference a Workshop Makes,” Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers (Clear Lake), February 1996.
- Poetry reading, West Texas A&M University (Canyon), June 1995.
- “Write What You Mean,” Texas Association of United Ways Conference (San Angelo), February 1995.
- “The Drowning” (fiction reading), Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers Convention (Waco), February 1995.
- Halloween Reader’s Theatre, Angelo Civic Theatre (San Angelo, TX), October 1995
- Section Chair, Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers Convention (Wimberly), February 1994.
- “Better Than Sex Cake” (fiction reading), College Conference of Teachers of English (San Angelo), March 1994. Winner of Creative Writing Award.
- Co-organizer, Fort Concho Museum Press Literary Festival (San Angelo), 1991-1994.
- Poetry Reading, Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers Convention (Beaumont), February 1993.
- “Father Figure” (fiction reading), South Central Conference on Christianity in Literature (New Orleans), February 1993.
- The Feast of Stephen* (play), Angelo Civic Theatre (San Angelo, TX), December 1992.
- Poetry Reading, American Studies Association of Texas Convention (Lubbock), November 1991.
- “My First By-line” (fiction reading), Regional Fiction Writers Section, South Central Modern Language Association Convention (New Orleans), October 1989.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Featured Poet. *Sufi Journal* 94 (Winter 2018).
- Finalist, Texas Institute of Letters, Edwin “Bud” Shrake Award for Short Nonfiction (for “A Boy of Bethany”), 2015.
- X.J. Kennedy Award for Non-Fiction (for “A Boy of Bethany”), 2015
- Alexander and Dora Raynes Poetry Prize (for “Shekinah”), 2014.

Texas Institute of Letters, inducted April 2009.
 Third Place, Texas Poetry Calendar Contest, Dos Gatos Press, 2009.
 Honorable Mention, Allen Ginsberg Poetry Awards (for “Eucharist at the Canary Hotel”),
 The Poetry Center at Passaic County Community College, Paterson, NJ. 2007
 Betsy Colquitt Award for Best Poem of the Year (for “Bimaristan Arghun.”), *descant*. 2005.
 Teaching Excellence Award, Angelo State University, 2005.
 “Passed Ball” and “Kelly Lake, Revisited” selected for reading on *Themes and Variations*,
 produced by Treehouse Productions for National Public Radio. Nov. 2003.
 “Miss Lucy Buries Her Ma” selected for *Fifteen Years of Fiction: A Retrospective*.
Concho River Review 16.1 (Spring 2002): 24-39.
 English Department Award for Outstanding Service, 2001.
 Fulbright Grant, Syria, 1999-2000.
 Angelo State University Alumni Association, Teacher of the Year in the College of Liberal and
 Fine Arts, 1999.

SERVICE

English Department

Writers Conference Coordinator, 2013-present
 Promotion and Tenure Committee, 1995-present
 Student Recognition Coordinator, 2010-2016
 Graduate Committee, 1995-present
 Undergraduate Advisor, 1998-present
 Peer Review Committee, 2000-present
 Student Recognition Committee, 2007-2010, chair 2008-2010
 Kelton Writers Conference Committee, 1997-2010; chair 1997-98
 Library Committee, 1992-2009
 English Curriculum Committee, 1992-2008
 Freshman English Committee, 1994-99
 Professional Writing Specialist Search Committee Chair, 2006-2007.
 “CV Fundamentals.” Faculty training, 12 October 2004.
 Professional Writing Specialist Search Committee Chair, 2004-2005.
 Medieval/Renaissance Search Committee, Spring 2001
 Visiting Assistant Professor Search Committee, chair. Summer 2004.

University

Editorial Board for the ASU Literary Magazine (*Oasis*), 1995-present.
 NEH Muslim Journey Bookshelf Grant Committee (Porter Henderson Library), 2012-2013.
 Financial Aid Appeals Committee, 2008-2010.
 Academic Integrity Committee, 2008-2009
 Screeners, Faculty Sponsor, 2007-2009.
 University Symposium Committee, 1996-2009; chair 2000-2001.

Faculty Senate, 2005-2008.

University Committee on Tenure and Promotion, 2005-2008; chair 2006-2007.

Core Curriculum Committee, 2002-2005.

Residence Life Alternative Cinema Series, 2004-2007.

Dramaturge, ASU production of *Fahrenheit 451*, Spring 2003.

University Self-Study Editor, Administrative Services subcommittee, 2001-02.

Publications Committee, 1995-present.

Professional

Book Review Editor, *Concho River Review*, 2005-2010.

Texas Institute of Letters, Helen C. Smith Memorial Award for Best Book of Poetry, Judge, 2008.

Texas Institute of Letters, Soeurette Diehl Fraser Award for Best Translation of a Book, Judge, 2004.

Community

San Angelo Peace Ambassadors, 2015 Season of Peace closing ceremony: "Fr. Frans van der Lugt, the Good Shepherd."

Guest Speaker, San Angelo Writers Club. 11 September 2007. Topic: "A Net of Implication: Language, Literature, and Values."

San Angelo Writers Club Junior Writers Contest Judge (Poetry), 2004-2006.

Guest Speaker, University Luncheon Group, San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts, 31 August 2006.

Guest speaker: San Angelo Writers Club. 12 April 2005. Topic: "Poetry and the Language of Association."

Guest speaker, Daughters of the American Revolution, 21 September 2004. Topic: "What the Constitution Means to Me."

Girl Scouts of America, adult volunteer, San Angelo Troop 50, Sept. 2000-2004.

Poetry in the Schools, Crockett Elementary School, May 2003.

Speaker and Panelist, Understanding Islam, Catholic Diocese of San Angelo, TX, January 9, 2002.

"Jesus in Islam," Emmanuel Episcopal Church, December 2001.

Panelist, "Faith Seeking Understanding," Southland Baptist Church, San Angelo, TX, October 24, 2001.

AIDS Awareness Week Volunteer, San Angelo AIDS Foundation, 1998.

National Library Week Volunteer, Reagan Elementary School, 1996-1999, 2000-2001.

CURRENT MEMBERSHIPS

Texas Institute of Letters

Fulbright Alumni Association

Phi Kappa Phi

Texas Association of Creative Writing

Teachers

Academy of American Poets