

Rebecca Bernard
rebeccaibernard.com

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

Assistant Professor, Department of English, Angelo State University Fall 2021-*present*

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in English, Creative Writing, Fiction. August 2021
University of North Texas.
Dissertation Committee: Miroslav Penkov (chair), Jill Talbot, Scott Blackwood
Dissertation: "In the Way of Family"

MFA in Creative Writing, Fiction May 2012
Vanderbilt University
Thesis Committee: Tony Earley (chair), Lorraine Lopez, Nancy Reisman
Thesis: "This Is Us Being Alive"

BFA in Film & Television Production May 2006
New York University, Tisch School of the Arts
Thesis: "The Living Room"

PUBLICATIONS

BOOK

Our Sister Who Will Not Die: Stories. Columbus, OH: Mad Creek Books, August 2022.

FICTION

"Boy on Fire," *Ninth Letter*, forthcoming.

"The hummingbirds have left," *Burnside Review*, forthcoming.

"A Place to Keep Moonlight," *Alaska Quarterly Review*, forthcoming.

"Witness," *Moon City Review*, forthcoming.

"Experience," *J Journal*, Volume 15.2, Fall 2022.

"Postmodern *Seinfeld*," *Wigleaf*, September 28, 2022. [Mythic Picnic award Finalist] [Pushcart Nominee]

"In the Family," *Another Chicago Magazine*, August 16, 2022.

"King Whey," *The Louisville Review*, Issue 91, Spring 2022.

- “The Pleasures of Television,” *Shenandoah*, Volume 71.2, Spring 2022.
- “Lottery,” *SmokeLong Quarterly*, Issue 75, March 2022.
- “Organs Among Us,” *Pithead Chapel*, Volume 11.2. February 2022.
- “Here in the Future,” *North American Review*, Volume 305.2-3. Fall/Summer 2020.
- “In the Dog Park,” *Atticus Review*, March 24, 2020.
- “Nothing is Easy, Hurley,” *Cutbank*, December 30, 2019.
- “Ashes in Queens,” *Great River Review*, Issue 66, 2019.
- “Gardening,” *Colorado Review*, Volume 46.2, Summer 2019
- “The Crush,” *Fiction Southeast*, April 2019.
- “Harold, Protector of the Children,” *Southwest Review*, Volume 103.2, Winter 2018. [Recipient of a McGinnis-Ritchie Award for Fiction, 2019]
- “First Date,” *Witness*, Vol 31.2, Summer 2018.
- “Our Daughters Whose Blood,” *Sou’wester*, Volume 46, Spring 2018.
- “How to be Another Person in Five Days,” *SmokeLong Quarterly*, Issue 56, June 2017.
- “This is Us Being Alive,” *Meridian*, Issue 38, January 2017. [Best American Short Stories of 2018, Distinguished Story]
- “People We All Know,” *Entropy*, November 2016.
- “The Maw of My Heart,” *Bat City Review*, Issue 12, 2016.
- “Openings,” *Epiphany*, December 2014.
- “How to Ensnare a Musk Ox in the Wild,” *McSweeney’s Internet Tendency*, March 2011.

NONFICTION

- “Memory of the Daily,” *Permafrost*, forthcoming.
- “Heroin Chic: On Drugs and Shame,” *Juked*, July 6, 2021.
- “Youth,” *Fugue*, Issue 59, Summer/Fall 2020.
- “Memory Hound,” *Hotel Amerika*, Volume 18, Winter 2020.

“Small Violence,” with Morgan Smith, *Pleiades*, Volume 40.1, Winter 2020.

“Inadvertent Utterances of Sound (Causes of and Places Occurred),” *The Pinch*, Volume 39.2, Fall 2019.

“How We Operate,” *The Journal*, Volume 38.4, December 2014. [Nominated for 2014 Pushcart Prize.]

REVIEWS & INTERVIEWS

Review of *Our Sister Who Will Not Die* by Jenny Maattala in Southern Review of Books, December 19, 2022.

“Where the Badness Lives,” Review of *Our Sister Who Will Not Die* by Emily Choate at Chapter 16, November 1, 2022.

“From Nabokov to Erdrich: Reading Complex Portraits of Criminality,” Lit Hub, August 29, 2022.

“TBR: *Our Sister Who Will Not Die*,” on Leslie Pietrzky’s “Work-in-Progress” Blog, August 29, 2022.

“A Conversation with Naomi Shihab Nye and Rebecca Bernard,” Angelo State University Writer’s Conference in honor of Elmer Kelton, March 2022.

Review of *Staten Island Stories* by Claire Jimenez, *American Literary Review*, January 2020.

Review of *Marriage Story* with Charlie Riccardelli, *American Literary Review*, December 2019.

“Conversation with Jean McGarry,” *Nashville Review*, Summer 2011.

“Conversation with Lydia Peele,” *Nashville Review*, Spring 2011.

“Deleted Scenes,” *The Writers’ Block*, February 2011.

EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

Fiction Editor
The Boiler

November 2020-Present

Managing Editor
American Literary Review

June 2019- May 2020

Production Editor
American Literary Review

June 2018- May 2019

Fiction Contest Co-Coordinator*American Literary Review*

June 2017-December 2017

Fiction Reader*American Literary Review*

October 2016-June 2018

Head Fiction/Music Editor*Nashville Review*

May 2011- May 2012

Fiction/Non-Fiction Editor*Nashville Review*

Sept. 2010-May 2011

**GRANTS, HONORS
& AWARDS**

Nominated for the President's Award for Faculty Excellence in Research/Scholarship, Angelo State University English Department, 2022-2023.

Iron Horse Literary Review Long Story Award, finalist, 2021.

The Non/Fiction Prize hosted by *The Journal* at The Ohio State University, Mad Creek Books, selected by Nick White, 2021.

LitMag Virginia Woolf Award for Short Fiction, longlist, 2021.

Tickner Fellowship, Gilman School, Baltimore, MD, 2021-23, offered.

Outreach Multicultural Scholastic Award, Office of Outreach, University of North Texas, 2020-2021

UNT Foundation Endowed Scholarship, University of North Texas, 2020-2021

Outstanding Teaching Fellow, University of North Texas English Department, 2019-2020

Robert J. Hardin Presidential Scholarship, University of North Texas, 2019

Dean's Graduate Scholarship, University of North Texas, 2019.

Veta Watson Percy Scholarship, University of North Texas, 2019.

Glimmer Train Family Matters Contest, Honorable mention, November/December 2018.

Mary D. Walsh Endowed Scholarship, University of North Texas, Fall 2018.

A Public Space Fellowships, Longlist, 2018.

Smokealong Quarterly, "Ten Most Popular Stories of 2017," December 2017.

The Rumpus, “How to be Another Person in Five Days” in Issue 56 of *Smokelong Quarterly* featured in “This Week in Short Fiction,” May 2017.

Sherman-Barsanti Inspiration Award, University of North Texas, Semifinalist, Spring 2017.

Mary Patchell Scholarship, University of North Texas, varying, 2016-2020.

Madeline P. Plonsker Emerging Writers Residency Prize through &Now Books, *The Maw of My Heart*, Semi-finalist, July 2016.

Phoebe Fiction Contest, Judged by Joshua Ferris, Semi-finalist, May 2016.

Linda Bruckheimer Manuscript Contest, Sarabande Press, Finalist, September 2014.

Curb Creative Writing Fellowship, Curb Center for Art, Enterprise and Public Policy at Vanderbilt University, 2012-2013

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Angelo State University
San Angelo, TX

August 2021-Present

- ENGL 1301, English Composition
- ENGL 2341, Forms of Literature
- ENGL 2326, Intro to American Lit
- ENGL 3344, American Cinema
- ENGL 3355, Fiction & Fiction Writing
- ENGL 4355, Film Criticism
- ENGL 4376, Fiction Workshop
- ENGL 6335, American Fiction

University of North Texas
Denton, TX

August 2016-May 2021

- ENGL 3140, Intermediate Fiction Writing
- ENGL 2100, Intro to Creative Writing
- ENGL 1310, College Writing I
- ENGL 1320, College Writing II

Kentucky State Reformatory
La Grange, KY

Aug. 2015-May 2016

- ENGL 101, Composition through the JCTC prison program.
- ENGL 102, Argument
- ENGL 208, Creative Writing

Ivy Tech Community College
Sellersburg, IN

Aug. 2014-Aug. 2016

- ENGL 111, Composition & Rhetoric.
- ENGL 112, Argument and Persuasion (online and in-person)
- ENGL 202, Creative Writing (online)
- ENGL 221, Technical Writing (online)
- ENGL 075, ENGL 073, ENGL 095 Integrated Reading & Writing, co-requisite courses taught alongside ENG 111.

Jefferson Community and Technical College
Shelbyville, KY

Aug. 2014-May 2016

- ENG 101, Composition
- ENG 102, Argument.
- ENG 092, Writing Lab

Vanderbilt University
Nashville, TN

Aug. 2011-Dec. 2013

- ENGL104W, Prose Fiction, Forms and Techniques.
- ENGL 122, Beginning Fiction Workshop.

RELATED TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Roy K. Robb Corrections Facility
San Angelo, TX

April 2022-Present

- Organize a weekly creative writing class for incarcerated adults.

Denton County Post-Adjudication Courage to Change Program August 2018-March 2020.
Denton, TX

- Founded and organized a bi-weekly program with the Denton County Jail Post-Adjudication Courage to Change program.
- Taught creative writing to incarcerated teens

Vanderbilt University
Nashville, TN

October 24, 2016.

- Invited talk on “Interview, Writing, and the Community.”

Patterson Community Center
Patterson Community Center, Murfreesboro, TN

May 2012

- Organized courses on creative writing for community elders.
- Taught multiple sections of creative writing focusing on both short story and poetry.

Vanderbilt University Writing Studio

Aug. 2010-May 2012

Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN

- Graduate Writing Consultant
- Led in-class workshops on expository writing.
- Liaison to 1st year MFA candidates.

RELATED EXPERIENCE**Mentor**

January 2023 (expected start)

Pen Prison Mentorship Program

Narrative Consultant

August 2022-present

Texas Capital Public Defenders Office

- Assist public defenders on capital cases with developing narratives for trial defense

Project Consultant

December 2010-March 2021

Voices From Our America

- Developed and produced written materials including documentary scripts, a collaborative autobiography for a 95-year old woman, a treatise on ethical biography writing, a 'quote book' featuring community elders, and numerous grants and proposals seeking funding for the organization.
- Facilitated and designed community centered programs for teens and youth.
- Conducted and processed 30+ interviews with elders in the community of Murfreesboro through the Wisdom of the Elders Program.
- Assisted in presentations and exhibitions presenting the work of Voices and Wisdom.

Program Coordinator

Aug. 2012-Aug. 2013

Vanderbilt University Curb Center, Curb Scholars Program

- Organized arts policy programming and initiatives for body of undergraduate scholars including a successful Kickstarter Campaign.
- Composed weekly blog updates for Curb Creative Campus Idea Blog

DEPARTMENT SERVICE

Director, Angelo State University's Writer's Conference featuring Brandon Hobson, Spring 2023.

Faculty Sponsor of the Creative Writing Club and Creative Writing Slam for ASU undergraduates, Angelo State University, Fall 2021-present.

Judge, Gertrude Lucille Robinson Award, The Ohio State University, Spring 2022.

Faculty Advisor of Undergraduate Faculty-Mentored Research Grant "Measuring the Effect of Shifting Social Norms on Lasting Comedic Viability," Angelo State University, December

2021-April 2022.

Student Member of the Rhetoric & Composition Search Committee, University of North Texas, Fall 2019-Spring 2020.

Introduced Marilyn Robinson at UNT Visiting Writers Series, University of North Texas, April 12, 2019

CONFERENCES

Texas Area Creative Writing Teachers, “Getting Crafty: exercises from beginner to beyond,” September 2022.

Sewanee Writer’s Conference, Summer 2011.