

Megan Pillow Davis

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in English

Aug 2019 (expected)

University of Kentucky (Lexington, KY)

Dissertation Title: “Freakish Taxonomies: How the American Freak Show and its Literature Redefines the Archive”

Committee: Marion Rust (chair), Michelle Sizemore, Frank X Walker, Carol Mason

M.F.A. in Creative Writing (fiction)

May 2001

The University of Iowa Writers’ Workshop (Iowa City, IA)

Thesis Title: “The Gosh-Darn Truth and Other Stories”

Committee: Chris Offutt (supervisor), Marilynne Robinson, Frank Conroy

B.A. in English

May 1999

Hanover College (Hanover, IN)

COLLEGE TEACHING AND MENTORING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Composition

2013-present

Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Studies Department, University of Kentucky

- Instructor of record for 10 sections of composition: WRD 110, 111, and 112
- Instructor for both in-person and online courses

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Literature

2017-2019

English Department, University of Kentucky

- Two sections of English 230, Introduction to Literature (spring 2017)
 - Course Title: Treachery, Traps, and Tricksters: Clandestine Narratives from Antebellum America to the Electronic Age
- One section of English 290, Introduction to Women’s Literature (fall 2018)
 - Course Title: Difficult Women in Twentieth Century American Literature

Teaching Assistant, Literature

Fall 2015

English Department, University of Kentucky

- Teaching assistant 90-student Survey of American Literature I course (ENG 251)

Writing Program Administration Teaching Mentor

May 2014-May 2015

Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Studies Department, University of Kentucky

- Served as a mentor for five new masters and Ph.D. students for the 2014-2015 school year

Part-Time Instructor of English

Sept.-Dec. 2001

English Department, Hanover College

- Instructor of record for two sections of Strategies for Composition (English 112)

Graduate Instructor, Rhetoric and Composition

Aug. 1999-May 2001

Rhetoric Department, The University of Iowa

- Instructor of record for four sections of Rhetoric and Composition (Rhetoric 10:001-10:004)

PUBLICATIONS**Fiction**

<i>Atticus Review</i> : “Yell Louder”	September 2019
<i>Pithehead Chapel</i> : “After the Wal-Mart Closes in Your Hometown”	June 2019
<i>Paper Darts, Volume 8</i> : “Break Maidens”	March 2019
<i>Longleaf Review</i> : “In The New World”	March 2019
<i>Collective Unrest</i> : “Jason Can’t Take a Joke”	March 2019
<i>Jellyfish Review</i> : “In the In-Between”	March 2019
<i>X-R-A-Y Literary Magazine</i> : “Lily in the Light”	January 2019
<i>The Ginger Collect</i> : “Laurie In the Closet/Michael With the Knife”	October 2018
<i>Coffin Bell Journal</i> : “The Woman in the Refrigerator”	October 2018
<i>SmokeLong Quarterly</i> : “We All Know About Margo”	September 2018
<i>Brain, Child Magazine</i> : “The Big Bang”	December 2017
<i>Miracle Monacle</i> : “Everything is Breakable”	April 2017

Nonfiction (Reportage, Essays, Reviews, Interviews, and Commentary)

<i>Pidgeonholes</i> : “Definitions of Quiet That Didn’t Make It Into My Dissertation”	May 2019
<i>Brevity</i> : “Whenever Men Think I’m Smiling”	May 2019
<i>Hobart</i> : “Ten Rules for Cooks on the Verge of Collapse”	February 2019
<i>TommyDeanWriter.com</i> : Mini-interview with Megan Pillow Davis	January 2019
<i>SmokeLong Quarterly</i> : interview with Kaitlyn Andrews-Rice	December 2018
<i>Moonchild Magazine</i> : “When Alice Shares an Article About Earthquakes Along the New Madrid Fault” (essay)	October 2018
<i>Longreads</i> : Editor’s Pick/Highlighted essay, “A Gorehound’s Guide to Horror”	October 2018
<i>Electric Literature</i> : “A Gorehound’s Guide To Horror” (essay)	October 2018
<i>SmokeLong Quarterly</i> : Interview on “We All Know About Margo”	September 2018
<i>Memoir Mixtapes</i> : “On Hearing Liz Phair’s ‘Flower’ For the First Time” (essay)	September 2018
<i>Mutha Magazine</i> : “Eggs Five Ways” (essay)	September 2018
<i>Huffington Post</i> : “Love, Loss, and a Surprise Diagnosis: What I Learned From the Birth of My Son” (essay)	April 2013
<i>The Christian Century</i> : “Held in the Light: Norman Morrison’s Sacrifice for Peace and His Family’s Journey of Healing,” (review)	January 2009
<i>Huffington Post</i> : “Vote Your Bible, Not Your Wallet: Dispatch from North Carolina” (commentary)	December 2008

<i>Huffington Post</i> : “The Gloves Are Off: Palin’s Speech Makes Her Fair Game” (commentary)	October 2008
<i>Huffington Post</i> : “Iowa’s Open Access Policy Is Nothing But a Trojan Horse” (reportage/commentary)	March 2008
<i>Huffington Post</i> : “Allen’s Argument Isn’t ‘Vintage,’ It’s Just Old” (commentary)	March 2008
<i>Huffington Post</i> : “The Latest Discussion on the Future of Fuel: Where Were You, Mainstream Media?” (reportage/commentary)	August 2007
<i>Huffington Post</i> : “Should Al Jazeera English Come to America?” (commentary)	November 2006
<i>Huffington Post</i> : “Live From Reykjavik: An Insider’s Look at Iceland Airwaves 2006” (three-part series reportage/commentary)	October 2006
<i>Huffington Post</i> : “Who Cares About Jill Carroll? Brangelina’s Having a Baby” (commentary)	January 2006
<i>Huffington Post</i> : “A Letter to Yoko Ono on the 25 th Anniversary of Her Husband’s Death” (essay)	December 2005
<i>Huffington Post</i> : “Dumping Miller Won’t Save the Times” (reportage/commentary)	November 2005
<i>Huffington Post</i> : “Judith Miller and the War in Iraq: A Case for Evolution” (reportage/commentary)	October 2005
<i>Huffington Post</i> : “The Fate of Gotham” (commentary)	October 2005

Poetry

<i>The Cabinet of Heed</i> : “St. Louis is Everywhere”	September 2018
<i>Still: The Journal</i> : “Three Days After”	June 2017
<i>Solidago Journal</i> : “At the Door”	November 2016
The King Library Press: “Lexington, July,” 25 hand-printed broadside run	April 2016

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND RESIDENCIES

Best Small Fictions nomination for “We All Know About Margo” <i>SmokeLong Quarterly</i>	January 2019
Best Small Fictions nomination for “The Woman in the Refrigerator” <i>Coffin Bell Journal</i>	December 2018
Pushcart Prize nomination for “We All Know About Margo” <i>SmokeLong Quarterly</i>	December 2018
Grand Prize Winner, Halloween Contest 2018 <i>The Ginger Collect</i>	October 2018
Pushcart Prize nomination for “The Woman In the Refrigerator” <i>Coffin Bell Journal</i>	October 2018
The Baltic Writing Residency: Kentucky Writers Fellowship finalist	August 2018
Writing Residency Ragdale Foundation, Lake Forest, Illinois	Summer 2018

Dissertation Fellowship English Department, University of Kentucky	Spring 2018
Semifinalist for publication YesYes Books Fiction Open Reading Period	September 2017
2017-2018 Writing Fellow Pen Parentis, New York, New York	August 2017
Parent Writer Fellowship, second place winner The Martha's Vineyard Institute of Creative Writing	July 2016
Summer Research Fellowship English Department, University of Kentucky	May-August 2016
The Jean G. Pival Outstanding Writing Teaching Assistant Award Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Studies Department, University of Kentucky	May 2016
The King Library Press UK Poetry Broadside Contest graduate winner for "Lexington, July"	April 2016
William J. Sowder Award for Best Graduate Student Critical Paper for "Temporality, Motherhood, and Nation Formation in Lydia Maria Child's <i>Hobomok</i> "	May 2015

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PANELS

<i>SmokeLong Quarterly</i> Featured Reader, Association of Writers & Writing Programs Conference, Portland, OR	March 2019
Pen Parentis representative, Association of Writers & Writing Programs Conference, Portland, OR	March 2019
"'The Undiscovered Country Within': Interior Monologue As Resistance and Revisioning of the 'Tragic Mulatta' in Nella Larsen's <i>Quicksand</i> ," 2019 Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture Since 1900	February 2019
<i>Tiger and Woolf</i> (creative submission), 2019 Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture Since 1900	February 2019
"'Women's Work': Redefining Archive, Reclaiming Personal Narrative, and the Restitutive Power of the Female Academic," Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture 2018	February 2018
<i>The Sleeper</i> prologue (creative submission), Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture 2018	February 2018
Pen Parentis Fellow representative, Association of Writers & Writing Programs Conference, Tampa, FL	March 2018
"Mother Country, Magic Ring: Temporality, Motherhood, and Nation Formation in Lydia Maria Child's <i>Hobomok</i> ," Midwest Modern Language Association Conference, St. Louis, MO	November 2016
"The Personal is Professional" <i>Legacy</i> -sponsored panel, The Society for the Study of American Women Writers Conference, Philadelphia, PA	November 2015
"Narratives of Birth and Prosthesis in Edgar Allan Poe's 'The Philosophy of Composition'," English Graduate Student Conference,	March 2015

University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY	
“‘Into the Magic Ring’: The Temporality of Motherhood in Lydia Maria Child’s <i>Hobomok</i> ,” English Graduate Student Conference, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY	March 2014

INVITED TALKS

InKY Featured Reader, Louisville Literary Arts Association	March 2019
Generative Fiction Workshop, Louisville Literary Arts Association	March 2019
Six-Week Workshop on Novel Writing, Louisville Literary Arts Association	March-April 2019
Featured Reader with Chris Mattingly, Kristi Maxwell, Emily Corwin, and J.R. Morris, River City Revue	November 2018
“Creating a Teaching Portfolio,” Professional Development Session for Writing, Rhetoric and Digital Studies Department, University of Kentucky	March 2018
Advanced Literary Scholarship Roundtable, University of Kentucky English Department Recruitment Event	March 2018
Featured Reader with Jessica Shattuck, Kara Krauze, and Whitney Terrell, Pen Parentis Literary Salons Season Opener	September 2017
Featured Reader with Kiki Petrosino, Ian Stansel, Patrick Wensink, and Phoebe Reeves, <i>Miracle Monacle</i> Issue 9 Launch Party	April 2017
“On Article Construction and Submission,” Workshop for ENG 700 Ph.D. Candidate Tutorial, Dr. Marion Rust, University of Kentucky	February 2017
Featured Reader with Lynnell Edwards, Christopher McCurry, and Jennifer Moore, River City Revue	October 2016
“Reinvigorating Poetic Vocabulary,” Joint Workshop for ENG 321: 20 th Century Poetry and ENG 352: Fiction and Poetry Workshop, Drs. Dee Goertz and Kathy Barbour, Hanover College	May 2016
“On Qualifying Exam Preparation,” Workshop for ENG 700, Ph.D. Candidate Tutorial; Dr. Michelle Sizemore, University of Kentucky	March 2016
“Generic Fluidity: Or, Sometimes a Novel is More than Just a Novel,” Joint Workshop for ENG 321: 20 th Century Poetry and ENG 352: Fiction and Poetry Workshop, Drs. Dee Goertz and Kathy Barbour, Hanover College	May 2014

SERVICE

Managing editor of <i>pluck! The Journal of Affrilachian Arts and Culture</i> , University of Kentucky	2017-present
University of Louisville LGBT Center Volunteer	June 2017-present
Construction of website for University of Kentucky’s English	2016-2017

Graduate Student Organization (EGSO)
“Using Evidence” chapter. *Town Branch Writing Collection*. University of Kentucky Department of Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Studies. Cincinnati, Ohio: Van-Griner Publishing, 2015. 195-217.
Chapter is still in use in the fifth edition of the textbook (2018-2019 edition)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Modern Language Association (MLA)
Association of Writers & Writing Programs (AWP)
Society for the Study of American Women Writers (SSAWW)
Society for Disability Studies (SDA)