2020

Adroit Journal Summer Mentorship Program

learn : collaborate : grow
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ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Now in its eighth year, The Adroit Journal Summer Mentorship Program is an entirely online program that pairs experienced writers with high school/secondary students (including graduating seniors) interested in exploring the creative writing processes of drafting, redrafting, and editing.

This year, the program will cater to the genres of poetry, fiction, and nonfiction.

The aim of the mentorship program is not formalized instruction, but rather an individualized, flexible, and often informal correspondence. Poetry students will share work with mentors and peers on a weekly basis, while fiction and nonfiction students will share work with mentors and peers on a biweekly basis.

The 2020 Adroit Journal Summer Mentorship Program will begin on June 21st and will conclude on August 2nd.

Applications for the 2020 Adroit Journal Summer Mentorship Program will be open via our Submittable server from March 15, 2020 until April 15, 2020 at 11:59pm Pacific Standard Time (PST).

We are very proud of our alumni. Students have subsequently been recognized through the National YoungArts Foundation & United States Presidential Scholar in the Arts designation, the National Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, and the Foyle Young Poet of the Year Awards, among a plethora of other recognition avenues.

Over 65% of mentorship graduates have matriculated at Ivy League universities, Stanford, UChicago, Cambridge, or Oxford. Click here to view the mentorship alumni college list.

QUESTIONS?
Visit us online: https://www.theadroitjournal.org/mentorship
Say hello: adroitmentorship@gmail.com
APPLICATION DETAILS

This year’s program will be open for applications via our submission manager until April 15, 2020 at 11:59 PM PST. Click here to start your application.

Applicants should possess firm work ethic and some familiarity with the writing and workshop processes, and should be comfortable with receiving (and giving) commentary and critique. We are looking for writers with potential: writers with the drive to explore and discuss, the courage to delete and leap.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Applications for this year’s mentorship program consist of three parts—a Writer’s Statement, a Writing Sample, and an (optional) Academic Transcript.

The Writer’s Statement (between 1-2 pages double-spaced) should detail the applicant’s specific interest in pursuing The Adroit Journal’s summer mentorship program. Don’t be afraid to be creative and original. We like that.

The Writing Sample should consist of between four and five poems (max of ten pages, with each poem starting on a new page) or between eight and twelve double-spaced pages of fiction or nonfiction (excerpts are acceptable).

The Academic Transcript is as an optional component that is primarily used as a verification of student status. Transcripts may be official or unofficial, and should ideally be in PDF form. No need to upload multiple transcripts if you’ve changed schools during your high school career—your latest transcript will suffice. If not sent with your application, a transcript is required when accepting a cohort spot.

Students who wish to apply to multiple genres may do so by utilizing both the First Choice and Second Choice options in the mentorship application form. If you wish to apply to more than one genre, please include your writing samples in one file, with your second-choice genre following the first.

Each year, students ask for application tips. Here’s the biggest one we can give: Tell us why you want to spend your summer in this particular program. What about our program specifically compels and excites you? The more specifics, the better.

Please direct additional questions to adroitmentorship@gmail.com.

READY TO START YOUR APPLICATION?

Visit us online: https://www.theadroitjournal.org/mentorship
Get started: https://adroit.submittable.com/submit
TUITION & FINANCIAL AID

Participation in the mentorship for students who do not qualify for financial aid will cost $295 per mentee. Please note that there is no application fee.

The accessibility of the mentorship has long-been one of the program’s most attractive qualities to young writers nationally and internationally. We want to assure mentee applicants for whom tuition will be a barrier that fee remission and robust financial aid will be available.

Applications will be read in accordance with our existing best practices: finding promising writers who will most benefit from working with our chosen mentors. **Financial need will be addressed entirely separately, and will not be an factor on mentorship admission decisions.** Program co-directors will not have access to financial need information until after admission decisions have been made.

We have adopted the Common App’s full list of financial need indicators when assessing financial need of accepted students. Please see below for a full list of these indicators for the 2020-2021 academic year:

- I have received or am eligible to receive an ACT or SAT testing fee waiver.
- I am enrolled in or am eligible to participate in the Federal Free or Reduced Price Lunch Program (FRPL).
- My annual family income falls within the Income Eligibility Guidelines set by the USDA Food and Nutrition Service.
- I am enrolled in a federal, state, or local program that aids students from low-income families (e.g., TRIO programs such as Upward Bound).
- My family receives public assistance.
- I live in federally subsidized public housing, a foster home or am homeless.
- I am a ward of the state or an orphan.
- I can provide a supporting statement from a school official, college counselor, financial aid officer, community leader, or parent/guardian.

Please direct questions regarding tuition and financial aid to this year’s program co-directors via email (adroitsummerprogram@gmail.com).

READY TO START YOUR APPLICATION?

Visit us online: https://www.theadroitjournal.org/mentorship
Get started: https://adroitsubmittable.com/submit
2020 STAFF

PETER LABERGE
Program Founder & Co-Director

JOHN ALLEN TAYLOR
Program Co-Director

TAYLOR FANG
Program Assistant (Poetry)

KRYS TAL YANG
Program Assistant (Prose)
PETER LABERGE founded The Adroit Journal in 2010, and subsequently founded the Adroit Journal Summer Mentorship Program in 2013. His work appears in AGNI, Best New Poets, Crazyhorse, Harvard Review, Kenyon Review Online, Pleiades, and Tin House, among others. He received a 2020 Pushcart Prize for Poetry and has been recognized from TED to Teen Vogue for his work. Peter earned his BA from the University of Pennsylvania and is an incoming MFA candidate and Writers in the Public Schools Fellow at New York University. For more, visit peterlaberge.com and ellipsiswriting.com.

TAYLOR FANG is a high school student from Utah and the 2019-20 National Student Poet of the West. Her writing has been featured by The New York Times, Pulitzer Center, and MIT Technology Review. As a 2017 alumnus of the Adroit Mentorship Program, she is thrilled to return as Poetry Student Assistant this summer. When not writing, she can be found cooking, watching Studio Ghibli movies, and exploring the outdoors.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Gregory Djanikian, Joanna Klink, and Li-Young Lee.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Elena Ferrante, Joy Harjo, and Mary Swenson.

JOHN ALLEN TAYLOR is author of Unmonstrous (YesYes Books, 2019). His poems appear in DIAGRAM, Nashville Review, The Common, Pleiades, and other places. In addition to his role as co-director of the Adroit Journal Summer Mentorship Program, John serves as the senior poetry reader for Ploughshares, coordinates the writing center at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, and bakes sourdough bread. For more, visit johnallentaylor.com.

KRISTAL YANG is a student at Pomona College, studying English with a Creative Writing emphasis. She is originally from San Jose, California. She was the recipient of a 2020 National YoungArts Foundation Award and her work has been featured in Polyphony H.S., Parallax Literary Journal, and The New York Times, among others. Melissa Goodrich was her 2019 Adroit Journal Summer Mentorship Program mentor, and the two can frequently be found exchanging books recommendations and funny tweets.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Octavia Butler, Carmen Maria Machado, and Ariana Reines.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Mahmoud Darwish, Patricia Smith, and James Wright.
2020 MENTORS

Krys Malcolm Belc
Creative Nonfiction Mentor

Marci Calabretta Cancio-Bello
Poetry Mentor

Dorothy Chan
Poetry Mentor

Mario Chard
Poetry Mentor

Elaine Hsieh Chou
Fiction Mentor

Lucas Church
Fiction Mentor

Claudia Cortese
Poetry Mentor

Caroline Crew
Creative Nonfiction Mentor

Melissa Crowe
Poetry Mentor

Meg Day
Poetry Mentor

Dana Diehl
Fiction Mentor

Ryan Dzelzkalns
Poetry Mentor

Natalie Eilbert
Poetry Mentor
## 2020 Mentors (Cont.)

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<th>Genre</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Megan Fernandes</strong></td>
<td>Poetry Mentor</td>
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<td><strong>Kate Folk</strong></td>
<td>Fiction Mentor</td>
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<td><strong>Aricka Foreman</strong></td>
<td>Poetry Mentor</td>
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<td><strong>Michael Frazier</strong></td>
<td>Poetry Mentor</td>
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<td><strong>Melissa Goodrich</strong></td>
<td>Fiction Mentor</td>
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<td><strong>Andrew Gretes</strong></td>
<td>Fiction Mentor</td>
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<td><strong>Emily Harnden</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Faylita Hicks</strong></td>
<td>Poetry Mentor</td>
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<td><strong>Noor Hindi</strong></td>
<td>Creative Nonfiction Mentor</td>
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<td><strong>Ben Hoffman</strong></td>
<td>Fiction Mentor</td>
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<td><strong>Erin Jones</strong></td>
<td>Fiction Mentor</td>
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<td><strong>Sophie Klahr</strong></td>
<td>Fiction Mentor</td>
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<td><strong>Keith Leonard</strong></td>
<td>Poetry Mentor</td>
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<td><strong>Benny Loory</strong></td>
<td>Fiction Mentor</td>
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<td><strong>Angie Sijun Lou</strong></td>
<td>Fiction Mentor</td>
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<td><strong>Erinrose Mager</strong></td>
<td>Fiction Mentor</td>
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<td><strong>Latanya McQueen</strong></td>
<td>Creative Nonfiction Mentor</td>
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<td><strong>Rachel Mennies</strong></td>
<td>Poetry Mentor</td>
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<td><strong>Aram Mrjoian</strong></td>
<td>Fiction Mentor</td>
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<td><strong>José Olivarez</strong></td>
<td>Poetry Mentor</td>
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<td><strong>Emilia Phillips</strong></td>
<td>Poetry Mentor</td>
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<td><strong>Alycia Pirmohamed</strong></td>
<td>Poetry Mentor</td>
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<td><strong>Ruben Quesada</strong></td>
<td>Poetry Mentor</td>
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<td><strong>Michelle Ross</strong></td>
<td>Fiction Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Leslie Sainz</strong></td>
<td>Poetry Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>C.A. Schaefer</strong></td>
<td>Creative Nonfiction Mentor</td>
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2020 MENTORS (CONT.)

ROB SHAPIRO
Poetry Mentor

RAENA SHIRALI
Poetry Mentor

GABRIELLA R. TALLMADGE
Poetry Mentor

ALEXANDRA TANNER
Fiction Mentor

COURTNEY FAYE TAYLOR
Poetry Mentor

CLAIRE WAHMANHOLM
Poetry Mentor

NOAH WARREN
Poetry Mentor

KEITH S. WILSON
Poetry Mentor

JANE WONG
Poetry Mentor

MARCI CALABRETTA CANCIO-BELLO is the author of Hour of the Ox (University of Pittsburgh, 2016), which won the AWP Donald Hall Prize for Poetry and was a finalist for the Florida Book Award and Milt Kessler Award. She has received fellowships from Kundiman, the Knight Foundation, and the American Literary Translators Association, and her work has appeared in The New York Times, Best New Poets, Best Small Fictions, and more. She serves as the poetry editor of Hyphen Magazine and as program coordinator of the Miami Book Fair. For more, visit www.marcicalabretta.com.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Ross Gay, Aimee Nezhukumatathil, and Tracy K. Smith.

Krys Malcolm Berc
Creative Nonfiction Mentor

Krys Malcolm Berc is the author of the flash nonfiction chapbook In Transit (The Cupboard Pamphlet) and the forthcoming memoir The Natural Mother of the Child (Counterpoint). His essays have been featured in Granta, The Rumpus, Black Warrior Review, The Adroit Journal, and elsewhere. He lives in Philly with his partner and their three small children.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Lori Ostlund, Claudia Rankine, and W.G. Sebald.

Marci Calabretta Cancio-Bello
Poetry Mentor
**DOROTHY CHAN**  
Poetry Mentor

**FAVORITE WRITERS**  
Ai, Ching-In Chen, and Douglas Kearney.

**MARIO CHARD**  
Poetry Mentor

**FAVORITE WRITERS**  
Yusef Komunyakaa, Sharon Olds, and Adélia Prado.

**DOROTHY CHAN** is the author of *Chinese Girl Strikes Back* (Spork Press, 2020), *Revenge of the Asian Woman* (Diode Editions, March 2019), *Attack of the Fifty-Foot Centerfold* (Spork Press, 2018), and the chapbook *Chinatown Sonnets* (New Delta Review, 2017). She is a recipient of Cornell University’s Philip Freund Prize in Creative Writing, a finalist for the Ruth Lilly and Dorothy Sargent Rosenberg Poetry Fellowship, and an Assistant Professor of English at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. Her work appears in *POETRY*, *The American Poetry Review*, *Academy of American Poets*, and others.

**FAVORITE WRITERS**  
Keri Hulme, Alice Munro, and George Saunders.

**MARIO CHARD** is the author of *Land of Fire* (Tupelo Press, 2018), winner of the Dorset Prize and the Georgia Author of the Year Award in Poetry. Recent poems have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Poetry*, *Boston Review*, and elsewhere. Winner of the “Discovery” Poetry Prize and a former Wallace Stegner Fellow at Stanford University, he teaches in Atlanta, Georgia, where he lives with his wife and sons.

**FAVORITE WRITERS**  
Yusef Komunyakaa, Sharon Olds, and Adélia Prado.

**ELAINE HSIEH CHOU**  
Fiction Mentor

**FAVORITE WRITERS**  
Paul Beatty, Lorrie Moore, and Viet Thanh Nguyen.

**ELAINE HSIEH CHOU** was a Rona Jaffe Graduate Fellow at New York University, an alumna of the 2018 Tin House Summer Workshop and co-curator of the Sweet & Sour Readings in Chinatown, Manhattan. Her fiction appears in *The Normal School*, *Guernica*, *Black Warrior Review*, *Tin House Online*, and elsewhere.

**FAVORITE WRITERS**  
Keri Hulme, Alice Munro, and George Saunders.

**LUCAS CHURCH**  
Fiction Mentor

**FAVORITE WRITERS**  
Keri Hulme, Alice Munro, and George Saunders.

CLAUDIA CORTESE is a poet, essayist, and fiction writer. Her collection, Wasp Queen (Black Lawrence Press, 2017), was the recipient of Southern Illinois University’s Devil’s Kitchen Award for Emerging Poetry. Her poetry and prose have appeared in Blackbird, Black Warrior Review, Crazyhorse, Gulf Coast, and The Offing, among others, and she writes reviews for Muzzle Magazine. Cortese received an OUTstanding Faculty Ally of the Year certificate from the LGBTQ+ Center at Montclair State University. The daughter of Neapolitan immigrants, Cortese grew up in Ohio and lives in New Jersey.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Toni Morrison, Meghan Privitello, and Anne Sexton.

CAROLINE CREW is the author of PINK MUSEUM (Big Lucks), as well as several chapbooks. Her poetry and essays appear in Conjunctions, DIAGRAM, and Gulf Coast, among others. Currently, she is pursuing a PhD at Georgia State University, after earning an MA at the University of Oxford and an MFA at UMass-Amherst. She’s online here: caroline-crew.com.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Lucie Brock-Broido, Carmen Maria Machado, and Safiya Sinclair.

MEG DAY is the author of Last Psalm at Sea Level (Barrow Street, 2014), winner of the Publishing Triangle’s Audre Lorde Award, and a finalist for the Kate Tufts Discovery Award, and the co-editor of Laura Hershey: On the Life & Work of an American Master. The 2015-2016 recipient of the Amy Lowell Poetry Travelling Scholarship and a 2013 recipient of an NEA Fellowship in Poetry, Day’s work can be found in or forthcoming from Best American Poetry 2020, The New York Times, AGNI, Beloit Poetry Journal, & elsewhere. Day is Assistant Professor of English & Creative Writing at Franklin & Marshall College.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Raymond Antrobus, Audre Lorde, and Adrienne Rich.

MELISSA CROWE is the author of Dear Terror, Dear Splendor (University of Wisconsin Press, 2019), and her work has appeared in or is forthcoming from The Adroit Journal, Baltimore Review, Crab Orchard Review, POETRY, Seneca Review, and Tupelo Quarterly, among other journals. Melissa is the editor of Beloit Poetry Journal and coordinator of the MFA program in creative writing at UNCW, where she teaches courses in poetry and publishing.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Anne Carson, Louise Erdrich, and Sylvia Plath.
**RYAN DZELZKALNS**'s poems appear in Assaracus, DIAGRAM, The Offing, Shanghai Literary Review, Tin House, and others. He received an MFA from New York University and a BA from Macalester College, where he was awarded the Wendy Parrish Poetry Prize. He has worked for the Academy of American Poets and was recently a Fulbright Scholar in Tokyo, where he still lives and works. Read more at RyanDz.com.

**FAVORITE WRITERS**
Anne Carson, Maggie Nelson, and Catie Rosemurgy.

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**DANA DIEHL** is author of Our Dreams Might Align (Splice UK, 2018) and a collaborative collection, The Classroom (Gold Wake Press, 2019). Her chapbook, TV Girls, won the New Delta Review Chapbook Contest, judged by Chen Chen. Diehl earned her MFA in Fiction at Arizona State University. Her work has appeared in or is forthcoming in North American Review, Passages North, Necessary Fiction, Juked, and elsewhere.

**FAVORITE WRITERS**
Aimee Bender, Roxane Gay, and Carmen Maria Machado.

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**MEGAN FERNANDES** is a writer living in New York City. Her work appears in The New Yorker, Tin House, Ploughshares, Denver Quarterly, Chicago Review, Boston Review, Rattle, Pank, The Common, Guernica, the Academy of American Poets, and McSweeney’s Internet Tendency, among others. She is the author of The Kingdom and After (Tightrope Books, 2015). Her second book of poetry, Good Boys, was a finalist for the Kundiman Book Prize (2018), the Saturnalia Book Prize (2018), and was recently released from Tin House Books in February 2020.

**FAVORITE WRITERS**
Gwendolyn Brooks, Anne Carson, and Rainer Maria Rilke.

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**NATALIE EILBERT** is the author of Indictus, winner of Noemi Press’s 2016 Poetry Prize, as well as the poetry collection, Swan Feast (Bloof Books, 2015). Her work has appeared in or is forthcoming from POETRY, Granta, The Jewish Current, The New Yorker, Tin House, The Kenyon Review, and The Brooklyn Rail, among others. She was the recipient of the University of Wisconsin–Madison’s Jay C. and Ruth Halls Poetry Fellowship and is the founding editor of The Atlas Review. She lives and teaches in Madison, Wisconsin and will soon be pursuing a masters of science in environmental writing.

**FAVORITE WRITERS**
Lucie Brock-Broido, Anne Carson, and Jorie Graham.
ARICKA FOREMAN is a poet, essayist, editor and educator from Detroit. She is the author of Dream with a Glass Chamber and Salt Body Shimmer (YesYes Books, 2020), and currently serves as the Board of Directors President for The Offing, a literary magazine dedicated to centering marginalized voices within literary and arts landscapes. Her poems, essays, and features have appeared in The Offing, BuzzFeed, Vinyl, RHINO, The Blueshift Journal, Day One, THRUSH, and Please Excuse This Poem: 100 New Poems for the Next Generation (Viking Penguin), among others. She lives in Chicago.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Ai, Brigit Pegeen Kelly, and Audre Lorde.

KATE FOLK’s work has appeared in McSweeney’s Quarterly, the New York Times Magazine, Prairie Schooner, Granta, Conjunctions, One Story, ZYZZYVA, and elsewhere. She has received support from the MacDowell Colony, the Headlands Center for the Arts, the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, the Vermont Studio Center, and the San Francisco Writers Grotto. She holds a BA from New York University and an MFA from the University of San Francisco, and is a 2019-2021 Wallace Stegner Fellow in fiction at Stanford University.

FAVORITE WRITERS
James Baldwin, Mary Gaitskill, and Kazuo Ishiguro.

KATE FOLK
Fiction Mentor

MICHAEL FRAZIER is a poet and teacher based in Kanazawa, Japan. He received his BA from NYU, where he was the 2017 poet commencement speaker and a co-champion of CUPSI. He's performed at Nuyorican Poets Café, Lincoln Center, and Gallatin Arts Festival, among other venues. A staff reader for The Adroit Journal and an alumnus of Callaloo, his poems appear in Construction, Visible Poetry Project, Day One, and elsewhere. He was most recently named runner-up for the Construction Lit Poetry Contest and a Brooklyn Poets Fellow.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Safia Elhillo, Toni Morrison, and Paul Tran.

MICHAEL FRAZIER
Poetry Mentor

ARICKA FOREMAN is the co-author of the collaborative collection The Classroom (2019) and the author of the story collection Daughters of Monsters (2016) and the chapbook IF YOU WHAT (2012). Her stories appear in American Short Fiction, The Kenyon Review Online, Passages North, PANK, and others, and her honors include the Passages North Waasnode Fiction Prize, the Tucson Festival of Books Fiction Award, the Margaret Sterling Memorial Award, the AWP Intro Award, and the Academy of American Poets Prize. She lives in Tucson.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Aimee Bender, Carmen Maria Machado, and Ocean Vuong.

ARICKA FOREMAN
Poetry Mentor

MELISSA GOODRICH
Fiction Mentor

FAVORITE WRITERS
Aimee Bender, Carmen Maria Machado, and Ocean Vuong.

MELISSA GOODRICH is the co-author of the collaborative collection The Classroom (2019) and the author of the story collection Daughters of Monsters (2016) and the chapbook IF YOU WHAT (2012). Her stories appear in American Short Fiction, The Kenyon Review Online, Passages North, PANK, and others, and her honors include the Passages North Waasnode Fiction Prize, the Tucson Festival of Books Fiction Award, the Margaret Sterling Memorial Award, the AWP Intro Award, and the Academy of American Poets Prize. She lives in Tucson.
ANDREW GRETES is the author of How to Dispose of Dead Elephants (Sandstone Press, 2014), a novel which explores epilepsy through fables. His fiction has appeared in New England Review, Willow Springs, Witness, Sycamore Review, and other journals. In a desperate attempt to increase productivity, he has resorted to naming his writing instruments after mighty swords of antiquity.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Jorge Luis Borges, Kelly Link, and Kurt Vonnegut.


FAVORITE WRITERS
Marie-Helene Bertino, Rachel Khong, and Jenny Offill.


FAVORITE WRITERS
James Baldwin, Toni Morrison, and Patricia Smith.

NOOR HINDI uses the pronouns she/her/hers and is a Palestinian-American poet and reporter. Noor is the Equity and Inclusion Reporter for the Devil Strip Magazine. You can find her words on Lit Hub, The Rumpus, and Gay Magazine. You can also follow her on Twitter @MyNrhindi.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Etel Adnan, Tarfia Faizullah, and Claudia Rankine.

EMILY HARNDEN
Fiction Mentor

NOOR HINDI
Creative Nonfiction Mentor

FAVORITE WRITERS
Etel Adnan, Tarfia Faizullah, and Claudia Rankine.
ERIN JONES received her MFA in Creative Writing from Emerson College where she is now affiliated faculty. She is the former head of marketing at Ploughshares and now regularly contributes to the Ploughshares Blog. Her debut novel, Tinfoil Crowns (Flux Books), was published in 2019. Her work has appeared in The James Franco Review, Rock & Sling, and other publications. She was a 2017 finalist for the Boston Public Library Writer-in-Residence fellowship and calls Boston home.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Annie Dillard, Ottessa Moshfegh, and Tim O’Brien.

BEN HOFFMAN’s fiction has been awarded the Chicago Tribune’s Nelson Algren Award, a Carol Houck Smith Fellowship from the Wisconsin Institute for Creative Writing, a Wallace Stegner Fellowship from Stanford University, and a Literature Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts. His stories appear in Granta, Southern Review, Missouri Review, The Sun, Zoetrope: All-Story, and other journals. Born and raised in Pennsylvania, he lives in Chicago with his wife and son.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Aimee Bender, Emmanuel Carrère, and Steven Millhauser.

SOPHIE KLAHR is the author of Meet Me Here At Dawn (YesYes Books) and the chapbook Versus Recovery (Pilot Books). Her poetry appears in The New Yorker, American Poetry Review, Poetry London, and elsewhere. Her collaborative work with Corey Zeller appears in or is forthcoming from Denver Quarterly, The Shallow Ends, and Sixth Finch. Sophie has been on staff for ten years with Gigantic Sequins, where she co-created and edits Teen Sequins. She was most recently the Philip Roth Resident at the Stadler Center for Poetry, and the 2019-2020 Kenan Visiting Writer at the University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Carl Phillips, Frank Stanford, and Walt Whitman.

KEITH LEONARD is the author of the collection Ramshackle Ode (Mariner/Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2016). His poems are forthcoming in New England Review, Ploughshares, and The Believer. Keith has received fellowships from the Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference, the Sewanee Writers’ Conference, the Sustainable Arts Foundation, the Ohio Arts Council, and Indiana University, where he earned an MFA. He lives in Columbus, Ohio.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Ross Gay, Marie Howe, and Lynda Hull.

KEITH LEONARD is the author of the collection Ramshackle Ode (Mariner/Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2016). His poems are forthcoming in New England Review, Ploughshares, and The Believer. Keith has received fellowships from the Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference, the Sewanee Writers’ Conference, the Sustainable Arts Foundation, the Ohio Arts Council, and Indiana University, where he earned an MFA. He lives in Columbus, Ohio.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Ross Gay, Marie Howe, and Lynda Hull.

FAVORITE WRITERS

ANGIE SIJUN LOU hails from Seattle as well as from Shanghai. Her work appears in The American Poetry Review, Fence, Black Warrior Review, The Adroit Journal, Asian American Literary Review, Hyphen, The Margins, and others. She is a Kundiman Fellow in Fiction and a PhD student in Literature and Creative Writing at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Kool A.D., Theresa Hak Kung Cha, and Ariana Reines.

LATANYA MCQUEEN is author of the novel When the Reckoning Comes, forthcoming from Harper Perennial. Her essay collection And It Begins Like This was published by Black Lawrence Press. Her fiction and nonfiction appear in West Branch, Pleides, New Ohio Review, Florida Review, Bennington Review, Passages North, Black Warrior Review, Ninth Letter, Indiana Review, and other journals. She received her MFA from Emerson, her PhD from the University of Missouri, and the Robert P. Dana Emerging Writer Fellowship from Cornell College. She is currently an Assistant Professor at Coe College.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Eula Biss, Roxane Gay, and Leslie Jamison.

ERINROSE MAGER’s work appears in Fence, The Adroit Journal, DIAGRAM, jubilat, Prelude, New South, Wigleaf, The Collagist, and elsewhere. She earned her MFA from Washington University in St. Louis and is now a Creative Writing and Literature PhD candidate at the University of Denver.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Yasunari Kawabata, Clarice Lispector, and Grace Paley.
ARAM MRJOIAN is a writer, editor, instructor, and PhD candidate at Florida State University. He is the editor-at-large at the Chicago Review of Books and the Southern Review of Books, the assistant editor at the Southeast Review, and the managing editor at TriQuarterly. His writing appears in Gulf Coast Online, The Millions, Cream City Review, Boulevard, Hayden’s Ferry Review, The Rumpus, Joyland, Longreads, and many other publications.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Alexander Chee, Percival Everett, and Rebecca Makkai.


FAVORITE WRITERS

RACHEL MENNIES
Poetry Mentor

JOSÉ OLIVAREZ is the son of Mexican immigrants. His debut collection of poems, Citizen Illegal, was a finalist for the PEN/Jean Stein Award and a winner of the Chicago Review of Books Poetry Prize. Along with Felicia Chavez and Willie Perdomo, he is co-editor of The BreakBeat Poets Vol. 4: LatiNEXT. He was named a Debut Poet of 2018 by Poets & Writers, and was awarded a Ruth Lilly and Dorothy Sargent Rosenberg Poetry Fellowship from the Poetry Foundation in 2019.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Andre 3000, Sandra Cisneros, and Aracelis Girmay.

JOSÉ OLIVAREZ
Poetry Mentor

EMILIA PHILLIPS (she/her/hers) is author of four poetry collections from the University of Akron Press, including the forthcoming Embouchure (2021), and four chapbooks. Winner of a Pushcart Prize and a NC Arts Council Fellowship, Phillips’s poems, lyric essays, and book reviews appear in AGNI, American Poetry Review, Gulf Coast, Kenyon Review, New England Review, The New York Times, Ploughshares, Poetry, and elsewhere. Emilia is an Assistant Professor of Creative Writing, jointly appointed in the Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and Dept. of English’s MFA in Writing Program.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Gabriela Mistral, Morgan Parker, and Wislawa Szymborska.

EMILIA PHILLIPS
Poetry Mentor

EMILIA PHILLIPS
Poetry Mentor

ARAM MRJOIAN
Fiction Mentor

FAVORITE WRITERS
Alexander Chee, Percival Everett, and Rebecca Makkai.
RUBEN QUESADA is the author of Next Extinct Mammal and Exiled from the Throne of Night: Selected Translations of Luis Cernuda. His poems and translations appear in Best American Poetry, The American Poetry Review, TriQuarterly, and others. Quesada has been awarded fellowships and grants from Vermont Studio Center, Napa Valley Writers’ Conference, Squaw Valley Community of Writers, and Santa Fe Art Institute. His chapbook of poetry and literary translations, Revelations, is now available from Sibling Rivalry Press. He serves currently as a blogger for Kenyon Review and as poetry editor of AGNI.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Jericho Brown, Natalie Diaz, and Sharon Olds.

ALYCIA PIRMHOAMED is a Canadian poet living and studying in Scotland. Her chapbook, Faces that Fled the Wind, was selected for the BOAAT Press Chapbook Prize. Her other awards include the 92/Y Discovery Poetry Contest, the Pushcart Prize, the Ploughshares’ Emerging Writer’s Award in Poetry, the CBC Poetry Prize, and the Gulf Coast Poetry Prize. Her work has appeared in publications around the world, and she has received support from Calgary Arts Development via The City of Calgary and from The Royal Society of Literature.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Safia Elhillo, Nazim Hikmet, and Bhanu Kapil.

MICHELLE ROSS is the author of There’s So Much They Haven’t Told You (2017), winner of the Moon City Press Short Fiction Award. Her fiction has appeared in Alaska Quarterly Review, Colorado Review, The Pinch, Wigleaf, and other venues. Her work has been selected for Best Microfictions 2020 and the Wigleaf Top 50 of 2019, as well as been a finalist for Best of the Net 2019 and the Lascaux Prize in short fiction and flash fiction, among other awards. She is fiction editor of Atticus Review.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Mary Gaitskill, Amy Hempel, and George Saunders.

LESLEY SAINZ is a first-generation Cuban-American born and raised in Miami, Florida. A Canto-Mundo Fellow, she received her MFA in poetry from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she was the Editor-in-Chief of Devil’s Lake. Her work has appeared in or is forthcoming from jubilat, Narrative, AGNI, Black Warrior Review, Ninth Letter, and others. She was the Fall 2017 Writer-in-Residence at the Hub City Writers Project, and a 2018-2019 Stadler Fellow at Bucknell University.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Harriette Mullen, Claudia Rankine, and Jean Valentine.

LESLEY SAINZ
Poetry Mentor
C.A. SCHAEFER
Creative Nonfiction Mentor

ROB SHAPIRO received an MFA at the University of Virginia, where he won the Academy of American Poets Prize. His poetry has appeared in AGNI, The Southern Review, Michigan Quarterly Review, Ecotone, The Missouri Review Online, and Prairie Schooner, where his work received the Edward Stanley Award.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Seamus Heaney, Marie Howe, and Natasha Trethewey.

C.A. SCHAEFER’s stories and creative nonfiction appear in Indiana Review, Mid-American Review, Phantom Drift, Passages North, and others. A former editor of Quarterly West, she holds a Ph.D. from the University of Utah. She lives in Salt Lake City with her wife and a small menagerie of cats. Read more at caschaeferwrites.com.

RAENA SHIRALI
Poetry Mentor

RAENA SHIRALI is author of GILT (YesYes Books, 2017), which won the 2018 Milt Kessler Poetry Book Award. She is the recipient of a Pushcart Prize, a VIDA scholarship, a Bucknell Philip Roth Residency, and a “Discovery”/Boston Review Poetry Prize. Her poems have also received prizes from Cosmonauts Avenue and Gulf Coast. Shirali’s poems and reviews appear in American Poetry Review, Academy of American Poets’ Poem-A Day, The Nation, The Rumpus, and elsewhere. She recently co-organized We (Too) Are Philly—a summer poetry festival highlighting voices of color—and serves as Poetry Editor for Muzzle Magazine.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Shirley Jackson, Carmen Maria Machado, and Virginia Woolf.

GABRIELLA R. TALLMADGE
Poetry Mentor

GABRIELLA R. TALLMADGE is a Latinx writer and educator from San Diego who holds degrees in English, Creative Writing, and Counseling. Gabriella’s poetry has received awards from the Hedgebrook Writer in Residence Program, Community of Writers Workshop, the Kimmel Harding Nelson Center for the Arts, and Sewanee Writers’ Conference. In 2014, her poem “Marriage An Animal Language” was chosen by Dorianne Laux for inclusion in Best New Poets. Her work has previously appeared in journals such as The Adroit Journal, The Georgia Review, Crazyhorse, Mid-American Review, Guernica, and Passages North.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Gary Lutz, Marilynne Robinson, and Joy Williams.
ALEXANDRA TANNER was born and raised in Florida and now lives in Brooklyn. The recipient of grants and fellowships from the MacDowell Colony, the Leon Levy Foundation, and the Center for Fiction, Alexandra holds an MFA in Fiction from The New School and has stories featured in Indiana Review, Nashville Review, Hobart, and Last Magazine, among other journals.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Gary Lutz, Marilynne Robinson, and Joy Williams.

CLaire Wahmanholm
Poetry Mentor


FAVORITE WRITERS
Gerard Manley Hopkins, Natalie Shapero, and Wendy Xu.


FAVORITE WRITERS
James Baldwin, Henry James, and Virginia Woolf.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Wanda Coleman, Harryette Mullen, and Mary Ruefle.

COURTNEY FAYE TAYLOR is a graduate of the University of Michigan Helen Zell Writers’ Program. She is a winner of the 92Y Discovery / Boston Review Poetry Prize and an Academy of American Poets Prize. Her poetry appears in Kenyon Review, Ploughshares, The Adroit Journal, TriQuarterly, and elsewhere.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Wanda Coleman, Harryette Mullen, and Mary Ruefle.

NOAH WARREN
Poetry Mentor

COURTNEY FAYE TAYLOR
Poetry Mentor

COURTNEY FAYE TAYLOR is a graduate of the University of Michigan Helen Zell Writers’ Program. She is a winner of the 92Y Discovery / Boston Review Poetry Prize and an Academy of American Poets Prize. Her poetry appears in Kenyon Review, Ploughshares, The Adroit Journal, TriQuarterly, and elsewhere.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Wanda Coleman, Harryette Mullen, and Mary Ruefle.
JANE WONG’s poems appear The Best American Nonrequired Reading 2019, American Poetry Review, Poetry, Third Coast, and others. A Kundiman fellow, Jane has received a Pushcart Prize and fellowships and residencies from the U.S. Fulbright Program, Artist Trust, 4Culture, the Fine Arts Work Center, Bread Loaf, Willapa Bay AiR, Hedgebrook, Jentel, SAFTA, and more. She is the author of Overpour (Action Books) and How to Not Be Afraid of Everything, forthcoming from Alice James Books. She is an Assistant Professor of Creative Writing at Western Washington University.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Theresa Hak Kyung Cha, Lucille Clifton, and Carmen Maria Machado.

KEITH S. WILSON is an Affrilachian Poet and Cave Canem fellow. He is a recipient of an NEA fellowship as well as fellowships/grants from Bread Loaf, Kenyon College, Tin House, MacDowell, Vermont Studio Center, UCross, and Millay Colony, among others. Keith serves as Assistant Poetry Editor at Four Way Review and Digital Media Editor at Obsidian Journal. His first book, Fieldnotes on Ordinary Love, was published by Copper Canyon Press in 2019.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Ray Bradbury, Terrance Hayes, and Claudia Rankine.
Katherine Frain (Poetry, '14)  Taisia Kitaiskaia (Poetry, '16)  Megan Peak (Poetry, '16)
Denise Frohman (Poetry, '18)  Dan Kraines (Poetry, '18)  Maria Pinto (Fiction, '16)
Kate Gaskin (Poetry, '19)  Theophilus Kwek (Poetry, '17)  Jessica Poli (Poetry, '17)
Matthew Gellman (Poetry, '17)  Keegan Lester (Poetry, '16-17)  Ben Purkert (Poetry, '19)
Jennifer Givhan (Poetry, '16)  Paige Lewis (Poetry, '17-18)  Natasha Oladokun (Poetry, '18)
Kimberly Grabowski Strayer (Poetry, '17)  Ananda Lima (Fiction, '18)  Kwame Opoku-Duku (Fiction, '18)
J.P. Grasser (Poetry, '17)  Zach Linge (Poetry, '19)  Christina Qiu (Fiction, '16)
Andrew Gretes (Fiction, '16, '18)  Anni Liu (Poetry, '19)  Doug Ramspeck (Poetry, '17-18)
Benjamin Gucciardi (Fiction, '17)  Antonio López (Poetry, '19)  Julian Randall (Poetry, '17)
Rebecca Hazelton (Poetry, '19)  Lucía LoTempio (Poetry, '15-16)  Brynne Rebele-Henry (Fiction, '18)
Alex Higley (Fiction, '16)  Angie Sijun Lou (Fiction, '19)  Nancy Reddy (Poetry, '16-17)
Kamden Hilliard (Poetry, '17)  Erinrose Mager (Fiction, '18)  Jim Redmond (Poetry, '16)
Jackson Holbert (Poetry, '15)  Madison McCartha (Poetry, '19)  Claire Schwartz (Poetry, '18-19)
Luther Hughes (Poetry, '19)  Lo Kwa Mei-en (Poetry, '17)  Amanda Silberling (Nonfiction, '15)
Christina Im (Poetry, '19)  Matt W. Miller (Poetry, '16)  Glenn Stowell (Fiction, '18)
Kasey Jueds (Poetry, '18)  Bern Mulvey (Poetry, '17)  Charity Young (Fiction, '18)
Caleb Kaiser (Poetry, '13-14)  Aram Mrjoian (Fiction, '19)  Emily Jungmin Yoon (Poetry, '18)
Gina Keicher (Poetry, '16)  Jason Myers (Poetry, '18)  Jenny Xie (Fiction, '19)
Peter Kispert (Fiction, '18)  Sebastian Paramo (Poetry, '19)  Jay G. Ying (Fiction, '18-19)
  Nina Sudhakar (Fiction, '19)  Eshani Surya (Fiction, '18)  Jihyun Yun (Poetry, '19)
MENTEES

MENTORSHIP

TESTIMONIALS

"Adroit took the intimidating world of contemporary creative writing and gave me an entry point. The program offered an artistic guide through my mentor, as well as the community of fellow writers. I met mentees of previous years, mentees and friends of mentees who ran their own publications, and so on. Since the mentorship program is so wide-reaching, participating in the program gave me common ground with many other young writers in the otherwise confusing and chaotic literary world."

SINCE THE MENTORSHIP...
Daniel has represented the Southeast as a National Student Poet. He is author of two chapbooks and a memoir: Holding Myself Hostage in the Kitchen, Grimmening, and In Migration. His work appears in The Adroit Journal, Cosmonauts Avenue, Gigantic Sequins, The Kenyon Review, and elsewhere.

"The Adroit Journal Summer Mentorship Program offered me the incredible chance to work with enthusiastic peers and teachers. The mentorship program encouraged me to take risks with writing and my mentor, Aria Aber, worked with me one-on-one to help me find my unique voice. The program connected me with a supportive community of creative writers, and I would strongly encourage the program to any high school student!"

SINCE THE MENTORSHIP...
Carissa has been named a U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts, a Davidson Fellow in Literature, a Scholastic National Writing Portfolio Gold Medalist, and a two-time YoungArts Finalist in Writing (Poetry) and Visual Arts.

CARISSA CHEN
Poetry, '15
Harvard University, '21

DANIEL BLOKH
Poetry, '16
Yale University, '23
"What made the Adroit Summer Mentorship Program so valuable was its commitment to intimate, intensive, and individualized support and guidance. The unique structure of the program marries personal attention and community engagement, and allows writers to read widely, connect with peers, interrogate their own craft, and engage with complex, nuanced questions about the writing process."

**SINCE THE MENTORSHIP...**
Isabella has been named a YoungArts Finalist for Writing (Poetry), a U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts semifinalist, and a National Scholastic Art & Writing Awards Gold Medalist for Writing Portfolio, as well as the recipient of the $50,000 YoungArts Lin Arison Award for Excellence in Writing.

"I grew up in a small town with few peers passionate about reading and writing fiction. Without a community of artists, I struggled to meet writers to exchange drafts and provide feedback. Friends and mentors weren’t sending me books to read or contests to submit to or encouragement when I struggled with drafts and revisions. The Adroit Journal Summer Mentorship Program provided the accessible community that became integral to my writing practice."

**SINCE THE MENTORSHIP...**
Angelo received the Beinecke Scholarship, the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship, the Adroit Prize for Prose, and the Quarto Best Fiction Prize. He earned his B.A. from Columbia University, and is currently an MFA candidate in fiction at Syracuse University, where he studies with George Saunders.

"The Adroit Journal Summer Mentorship Program was one of the most amazing experiences I’ve ever had. There, I found a community of young writers who were interested in engaging with poetry in a truly exciting way. The program helped me find and develop my poetic voice, explore my poetry, stretch the limits of what poetry could be, and make lasting friendships with like-minded artists."

**SINCE THE MENTORSHIP...**
Aidan has been named a U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts and the recipient of the $50,000 YoungArts Lin Arison Award for Excellence in Writing. His work has appeared in Best New Poets, Indiana Review, Tin House, and elsewhere. His debut chapbook, Exit Pastoral, was released from YesYes Books.

"The program was transformative for me—suddenly, I was intentional about craft, taking criticism, and considering process. Most importantly, I emerged from the program with a supportive community of fellow young writers. I always knew—and continue to know—that I have that community, believers in what I write. The generosity and empathy I’ve experienced is a direct result of the friendships that were born during my summer as an Adroit mentee."

**SINCE THE MENTORSHIP...**
Christina has been recognized as a YoungArts Finalist, Best of the Net finalist, and U.S. Presidential Scholars semifinalist, among others. Her work has appeared in The Adroit Journal, Best New Poets, and elsewhere. She has served as a TEDx speaker and is now an undergraduate at Princeton University.
“There’s so much joy in finding a community around an art form that can be so solitary—it’s an experience that’s both humbling and validating. The writers I connected with during this program are some of the most inspiring people I’ve ever met. This program empowered me to create and critique writing in a caring, constructive environment, and to develop more confidence in my own work. I will always be grateful for my time in this program; it transformed me not only as a writer, but as a person.”

**YASMEEN KHAN**

Fiction, '19

“As a young Nigerian (and African) writer, Adroit is definitely one of the best things that has ever happened to me. The program provided a space for me to share my work with such amazing and brilliant young people. I learned how to workshop and how provide critical feedback, and came away from the program with lifelong access to a supportive community of like-minded artists. It was only after Adroit, I might say, that I had the confidence to commit to fully identify as a writer.”

**SINCE THE MENTORSHIP...**

Yasmeen was recognized as a YoungArts Finalist for Writing (Short Story) by the National YoungArts Foundation, a Best of the Net nominee for fiction, and a Scholastic Art & Writing Awards Gold Medalist & Best-in-Grade Award Recipient, all as a sophomore! We can't wait to see what she does next.

**ERNEST O. OGUNYEMI**

Poetry, '19

“Ernest’s work has appeared in Agbowó, Counterclock, Indianapolis Review, and Mementos: An Anthology of Contemporary Nigerian Poetry. He’s received the Counterclock Arts Collective Grant, the Kreative Diadem Prize for Poetry, and is curating the first Young African Poets Anthology.

“’There is maybe nothing more important for a young writer than a community of like-minded and talented individuals. The Adroit Journal provides every one of the young writers it comes across with that community; the foundation of this community is the mentorship program. I learned so much as a mentee and even more as a mentor. Participating in the program was without a doubt one of the most rewarding experiences I had as a young writer.”

**SINCE THE MENTORSHIP...**

Talin studied English literature at the University of Cambridge, where she graduated at the top of her class. She received her MFA in poetry from the University of Michigan, where she was a Zell Fellow. She is a PhD student in Literature at Harvard University. Her work has appeared in POETRY and elsewhere.

**TALIN TAHAJIAN**

Poetry, '13

University of Cambridge, '17

“As a teen writer at a high school that didn’t offer creative writing, the mentorship was an exercise in different ways of thinking. I developed my craft in ways that, if left to my own devices, I would’ve never thought to try. This exposure to foreign forms and figures, the passionate community of engaged peers, and the personalized access to the kind of mentor-figure who truly cares all set the mentorship apart. As both a mentee and a mentor, I grew from the experience.”

**SINCE THE MENTORSHIP...**

Christina was named a National YoungArts Finalist in Writing (Short Story) and a U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts. Since serving as a fiction mentor in 2016, Christina blossomed as a sharp and refined columnist for The Harvard Crimson and graduated from Harvard University in 2019.

**CHRISTINA QIU**

Fiction, '14

Harvard University, '19

“Christina was named a National YoungArts Finalist in Writing (Short Story) and a U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts. Since serving as a fiction mentor in 2016, Christina blossomed as a sharp and refined columnist for The Harvard Crimson and graduated from Harvard University in 2019.

“As a teen writer at a high school that didn’t offer creative writing, the mentorship was an exercise in different ways of thinking. I developed my craft in ways that, if left to my own devices, I would’ve never thought to try. This exposure to foreign forms and figures, the passionate community of engaged peers, and the personalized access to the kind of mentor-figure who truly cares all set the mentorship apart. As both a mentee and a mentor, I grew from the experience.”

**SINCE THE MENTORSHIP...**

Yasmeen was recognized as a YoungArts Finalist for Writing (Short Story) by the National YoungArts Foundation, a Best of the Net nominee for fiction, and a Scholastic Art & Writing Awards Gold Medalist & Best-in-Grade Award Recipient, all as a sophomore! We can't wait to see what she does next.
"Having seen the mentorship program from both sides, as both mentee and mentor, I can honestly say the program is a profoundly beautiful and affirming experience for both parties. The program not only improved the quality of my writing but also introduced me to an incredible community of writers that has been a critical support network as my writing and I have grown."

**SINCE THE MENTORSHIP...**

Oriana has been named a U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts, a Davidson Fellow in Literature, and a National YoungArts Finalist in Writing (Poetry & Short Story). Oriana continues to write, and served from 2015-2019 as a Prose Reader for The Adroit Journal.

"Wow a million times over. The mentorship program has transformed the way I approached poetry and the writing process. It was deeply insightful and valuable to interrogate what I knew about writing and look at it from side to side and upside down. The program helped me find newness in language and form again, and I met the kindest, most supportive, and most talented friends and fellow writers through the program, who I will always love for their sheer brilliance and generosity of spirit."

**SINCE THE MENTORSHIP...**

After spending the summer studying poetry with Jane Wong, Lydia was recognized as a Foyle Young Poet of the Year, a YoungArts Finalist for Writing (Poetry), a U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts Semifinalist, and a five-time National Scholastic Art & Writing Awards Medalist.

"Apart from finding a writing community, I found a direction to push my writing towards. Particularly for poetry—even though I was writing poems, I lacked awareness of what I could do with poetry, or how I wanted my poems to look. There's a huge jump in development from the poems I wrote at the start of the program to the poems I wrote towards the end, even from a week-to-week basis; honestly, I can't think of another period of time where my poetry grew and developed to that same degree."

**SINCE THE MENTORSHIP...**

Lily has been named a National Scholastic Art & Writing Awards Medalist, YoungArts Finalist (Poetry & Short Story), and semifinalist for the U.S. Presidential Scholar Program. Lily’s work appears in Best New Poets, Poetry, and Tin House, and her debut chapbook is forthcoming from YesYes Books.
It is incredibly difficult (read: impossible) to quantify any given student’s writing skill in the greater context of other students.

Writing is an inherently collaborative, connection-based activity, not a competitive one, so we like to emphasize the former over the course of the mentorship.

That being said, we recognize the unique and meaningful doors that the following awards programs (and many others!) unlock for our students, who are fortunate enough to be recognized at the highest level.

We are grateful for the existence of such opportunities for those they recognize, and encourage students to view rejection as an inevitable component of the submission process, as a force (albeit a frustrating one at times) that all writers face in every stage of their careers.

With this mindset, we are incredibly proud to cheer on our students and alums, whether they choose to enter awards programs or not.
SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS

Each year, the Alliance for Young Artists and Writers partners with more than 100 visual arts and literary arts organizations across the country to bring the Awards to local communities. Each year, teens in grades 7 through 12 apply in 29 categories of art and writing. Panelists look for works that best exemplify originality, technical skill, and the emergence of a personal voice or vision.

Last year, students submitted 350,000 works of art and writing to the Awards; 13,000 works of art and writing were recognized with Gold Keys (the top regional award) and celebrated in local exhibitions and ceremonies. From this batch, the top 2,000 works in the country earned National Medals and were later celebrated at a ceremony at Carnegie Hall. Selections from the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards are published in the National Catalog and The Best Teen Writing, which are distributed to schools and libraries nationwide.

— Alliance for Young Artists and Writers Website

Since its inception in 2013, the mentorship program has educated students who have received more than a hundred National Scholastic Gold and Silver Medals for Poetry, Flash Fiction, Short Story, Personal Essay/Memoir, Dramatic Script, and Senior Writing Portfolio, among others, as well as a host of American Voices Medals, bestowed to work selected as the best of its geographical region.

Between 2013 and 2019, students affiliated with The Adroit Journal ultimately received 113 Gold Medals, 86 Silver Medals, and 10 Silver Medals with Distinction, spanning nearly every Writing category offered.

Last year, the conversion rate from Gold Key to Medal was 15.4% (2,000/13,000). We’re so thrilled to share that the conversion rate for Adroit students was 3.6x that.

WE’RE ESPECIALLY THRILLED FOR OUR FOUR SCHOLASTIC 2020 GOLD MEDALISTS FOR WRITING PORTFOLIO: EMMORY BRINSON, ISABELLA CHO, JEFFREY LIAO, AND JIEYAN WANG.

Congratulations to Emory, Isabella, Jeffrey, and Jieyan! Each has received a $10,000 college scholarship from the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards and Alliance for Young Artists and Writers.

Click here to see a full list of National Scholastic Awards received by Adroit students.

FOYLE YOUNG POETS OF THE YEAR

Each year, two United Kingdom poets have the pleasure of choosing 15 winners and 85 commended poets to be recognized in the Foyle Young Poets of the Year Awards, the largest international poetry contest for teen writers.

In 2019, Jackie Kay and Raymond Antrobus selected winners and commendations from nearly 7,000 poets and nearly 12,000 poems.

— The Poetry Society of the United Kingdom Website

The Adroit Journal has been fortunate to mentor twelve students recognized as Overall Winners of the Foyle Young Poets of the Year Award:

Emily Burns (2012 — New York, USA)
Flora de Falbe (2012 — United Kingdom)
Caroline Harris (2013 — California, USA)
Emma Lister (2013 — United Kingdom)
Rebecca Alifimoff (2014 — Indiana, USA)
Audrey Spensley (2014 — Ohio, USA)
Ben Read (2015 — Washington, USA)
Letitia Chan (2016 — Hong Kong)
Margot Armbruster (2017 — Wisconsin, USA)
Enshia Li (2017 — Canada)
Olivia Hu (2018 — Canada)
Lydia Wei (2019 — Maryland, USA)

Since 2012, students affiliated with The Adroit Journal have received nearly sixty commendations from the Awards.

Click here to watch an interview with Rebecca Alifimoff on BBC World News. Rebecca studied poetry in the 2014 Adroit Journal Summer Mentorship Program.

Click here to see a full list of Foyle Young Poets of the Year Awards received by Adroit students.
YOUNGARTS AWARDS

The National YoungArts Foundation identifies and nurtures the most accomplished young artists in the visual, literary, design and performing arts and assists them at critical junctures in their educational and professional development. Each year, students between the ages of 15 and 18 are recognized as Finalists, Honorable Mentions, or Merit Award Recipients.

YoungArts serves as the exclusive nominating agency for the U.S. Presidential Scholars in the Arts designation, the country’s highest honor for young artists. U.S. Presidential Scholars in the Arts receive a Presidential Medal at the White House and perform at the Kennedy Center and exhibit at the Smithsonian.

YoungArts alumni who have become leading professionals in their fields include Vanessa Williams, Viola Davis, Kerry Washington, Nicki Minaj, and Desmond Richardson, as well as iconic writers Sam Lipsyte, Allegra Goodman, and Naomi Wolf, among others.

— YoungArts Website

Since 2012, The Adroit Journal has supported 101 student writers who have been recognized for Poetry, Short Story, Creative Nonfiction, Dramatic Script, Selection from a Novel, and Spoken Word, as well as Music, Cinematic Arts, and Visual Arts.

Through YoungArts, a number of these students have been recognized through the U.S. Presidential Scholars in the Arts Program. Twelve Adroit students have been named U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts, and twenty-four are semifinalists, including a record-breaking twelve Adroit students in 2020 (results pending).

Amanda Prager (2013 — Cinematic Arts)
Alicia Lai (2014 — Writing - Poetry)
Christina Qiu (2015 — Writing - Short Story)
Oriana Tang (2015 — Writing - Poetry & Short Story)
Isabella Nilsson (2016 — Writing - Short Story)
Audrey Spensley (2016 — Writing - Poetry)
Carissa Chen (2017 — Writing - Poetry)
Aidan Forster (2018 — Writing - Creative Nonfiction)
Jacqueline He (2018 — Writing - Short Story)
Alisha Yi (2018 — Writing - Poetry)
Sophie Paquette (2019 — Writing - Creative Nonfiction)
Cynthia Zhou (2019 — Visual Arts)

Click here to see a full list of YoungArts Presidential Scholar designations received by Adroit students.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2020 YOUNGARTS WINNERS IN WRITING!

Kelsie Bennett (Merit - Spoken Word)
Daniel Blokh (Hon. Mention - Spoken Word)
Emory Brinson (Merit - Poetry)
Isabella Cho (Finalist - Poetry)
Annika Clark (Merit - Short Story)
Ollivia Dupuy (Hon. Mention - Poetry)
Hannah Han (Merit - Short Story)
Isabella Jiang (Merit - Play or Script)
Yasmeen Khan (Finalist - Short Story)
Felix Killingsworth (Merit - Creative Nonfiction)
Sarah Lao (Finalist - Poetry)
Esther Lee (Finalist - Poetry)

Youngseo Lee (Finalist - Creative Nonfiction)
Jeffrey Liao (Finalist - Poetry)
Cynthia Lu (Merit - Poetry)
Frances Mckittrick (Finalist - Play or Script)
Frances Mckittrick (Hon. Mention - Short Story)
Anna Wang (Merit - Poetry)
Grace Wang (Hon. Mention - Short Story)
Jieyan Wang (Finalist - Short Story)
Lydia Wei (Finalist - Poetry)
Krystal Yang (Merit - Short Story)

Click here to see a full list of YoungArts Presidential Scholar designations received by Adroit students.
2020 STUDENTS

MARGARET BALICH (Creative Nonfiction — C.A. Schaefer)
Winchester Thurston School, ‘20 | Pittsburgh, PA

BRYNN BEATTY (Fiction — Ben Hoffman)
Lusher Charter School, ’21 | New Orleans, LA

RACHEL BROOKS (Poetry — Rachel Mennies)
Christian Heritage School, ’21 | Trumbull, CT

CHRISTIAN BUTTERFIELD (Creative Nonfiction — Krys Malcolm Belc)
Bowling Green High School, ’20 | Bowling Green, KY

ALICE CAI (Fiction — Ben Loory)
Fayetteville High School, ’21 | Fayetteville, AR

LUCY CAI (Poetry — Dorothy Chan)
Phillips Exeter Academy, ’21 | Exeter, NH

ALISON CAO (Poetry — Claire Wahmanholm)
Milton Academy, ’22 | Milton, MA

ANNE CAO (Poetry — Rachel Mennies)
Prospect Ridge Academy, ’21 | Broomfield, CO

SPENCER CHANG (Poetry — Raena Shirali)
Taipei American School, ’21 | Taiwan

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Phillips Academy Andover, ’22 | Andover, MA

JENNIFER CHIU (Fiction — Aram Mrjoian)
White Station High School, ’22 | Memphis, TN

ANNE DAVISON (Poetry — Aricka Foreman)
Oxford Spires Academy, ’21 | United Kingdom
2020 STUDENTS

LANE DEVERS (Creative Nonfiction — Caroline Crew)
Interlochen Arts Academy, '21 | Interlochen, MI

KAYA DIERKS (Fiction — Michelle Ross)
The Branson School, '21 | San Francisco, CA

MADELYN DIETZ (Fiction — Angie Sijun Lou)
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JULIA DO (Poetry — Courtney Faye Taylor)
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AANIKI ERAGAM (Poetry — Raena Shirali)
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MANASI GARG (Poetry — Ruben Quesada)
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LIV GOLDREICH (Poetry — Keith Leonard)
Highgate School, '23 | United Kingdom

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2020 STUDENTS

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SHRIRANJANI IYENGAR (Fiction — Melissa Goodrich)
The Overlake School, '20 | Redmond, WA

LYRA JANNETTA (Poetry — Noah Warren)
Coleg Gwent, '21 | United Kingdom

CASSANDRA KESIG (Fiction — Alexandra Tanner)
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ZAIN UL ABIDIN KHAN ALIZAI (Poetry — José Olivarez)
Cadet College Hasanabdal, '20 | Pakistan

DOHYUN KIM (Poetry — Gabriella R. Tallmadge)
North Hollywood High School, '21 | Valley Village, CA

SOPHIE KIM (Poetry — Michael Frazier)
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IRMA KISS-BARATH (Poetry — Natalie Eilbert)
Sentinel Secondary School '21 | Canada
2020 STUDENTS

DIVYASRI KRISHNAN (Poetry — Michael Frazier)
Acton-Boxborough Regional High School, ’21 | Acton, MA

ANNE KWOK (Poetry — Marci Calabretta Cancio-Bello)
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BIANCA DENISE LAYOG (Fiction — Erin Jones)
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JIMIN ALICE LEE (Poetry — Jane Wong)
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SOPHIE MAIN (Poetry — Sophie Klahr)
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LUZ MAÑUNGA (Poetry — Leslie Sainz)
Douglas Anderson School of the Arts, ’20 | Jacksonville, FL

ARIA MIAO (Fiction — Angie Sijun Lou)
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EMMA MIAO (Poetry — Dorothy Chan)
West Point Grey Academy, ’22 | Canada

2020 STUDENTS

SOFIA MILLER (Fiction — Alexandra Tanner)
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SARAH FAHTIMA MOHAMMED (Poetry — Ruben Quesada)
The Harker School, ’23 | Los Gatos, CA

MARJAN NADERI (Poetry — Keith S. Wilson)
Hayfield Secondary School, ’20 | Lorton, VA

CHARLOTTE NEWMAN (Fiction — Aram Mrjoian)
Hunter College High School, ’22 | New York, NY

SEMILORE OLA (Poetry — José Olivarez)
Orange County School of the Arts, ’20 | Irvine, CA

EDITH PATTERSON (Fiction — Kate Folk)
Bishop Seabury Academy, ’23 | Lawrence, KS

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**VIVIEN SONG** (Poetry — Mario Chard)
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**COBIN SZYMANSKI** (Poetry — Ryan Dzelzkals)
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**ELYSE THOMAS** (Poetry — Gabriella R. Tallmadge)
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2020 STUDENTS

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Phillips Andover Academy, '22 | Andover, MA

**SOPHIE ZHU** (Poetry — Keith S. Wilson)
Williamsville East High School, '23 | Williamsville, NY
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Student Alumni</th>
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<tr>
<td>Claire Ahn (Fiction, '19)</td>
<td>Stella Binion (Poetry, '17)</td>
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<td>Olivia Alger (Fiction, '16)</td>
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<td>Rebecca Alifimoff (Poetry, '14)</td>
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<td>Darius Atefat-Peckham (Poetry, '18)</td>
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<td>Lukas Bacho (Fiction, '19)</td>
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<td>Nikita Bastin (Poetry, '16)</td>
<td>Bailey Bujnosek (Fiction, '18)</td>
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<td>Tess Becket (Poetry, '17)</td>
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<td>Walker Caplan (Fiction, '15)</td>
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<td>Matilda Berke (Poetry, '17)</td>
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<td>Rudrakshi Bhattacharjee (Fiction, '17)</td>
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Adelina Ceretto (Poetry, '14)  Lyrik Courtney (Poetry, '17)  Katherine Frain (Poetry, '13)  Yuri Han (Poetry, '17)
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Grace Coberly (Fiction, '17)  Talia Flores (Fiction, '15)  Hannah Han (Fiction, '19)  Heather Laurel Jensen (Poetry, '17)
Ana Maria Cornejo Silva (Fiction, '18)  Aidan Forster (Poetry, '15)  Justin Han (Poetry, '17)  Kaylee Jeong (Poetry, '18)
Catherine Ji (Poetry, '19)
Isabella Jiang (Poetry, '17)
Nadia Jo (Poetry, '17)
Jimin Kang (Poetry, '16)
Alexandra Karaim (Poetry, '16)
Lara Katz (Fiction, '19)
Lilly Keefe-Powers (Fiction, '16)
Masfi Khan (Poetry, '17)
Yasmeen Khan (Fiction, '19)
Safwan Khatib (Dramatic Script, '15)
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Audrey Kim (Poetry, '17)
Elizabeth Kim (Poetry, '16)
Heather Yenna Kim (Poetry, '17)
Katherine Kim (Poetry, '17)
Madeline Kim (Poetry, '14)
Tomas Kontakevich (Poetry, '16)
Anna Kramer (Fiction, '15)
Ananya Kumar-Banerjee (Fiction, '17)
Anthony Lagana (Poetry, '16)
Sarah Lao (Poetry, '19)
Ezra Lebowitz (Poetry, '17)
Sylvan Lebrun (Fiction, '19)
Eunice Lee (Fiction, '17)
Shereen Lee (Poetry, '17)
Julia Lee-Papastavros (Poetry, '17)
Michal Leibowitz (Poetry, '15)
Elizabeth Lemieux (Fiction, '16)
Jocelyn Leuenberger (Fiction, '18)
Morgan Levine (Poetry, '17)
Jane Levy (Journalism, '15)
Enshia Li (Fiction, '17)
Isabella Li (Fiction, '17)
Jessica Li (Fiction, '14)
Qingying (Susan) Li (Poetry, '18)
Jeffrey Liao (Poetry, '19)
Erica Lin (Poetry, '14)
Serena Lin (Poetry, '17)
Emma Lister (Poetry, '14)
Rachel Litchman (Poetry, '16)
Emily Liu (Poetry, '19)
Katherine Liu (Poetry, '16)
Patricia Liu (Poetry, '16)
Helene Lovett (Fiction, '14)
Cynthia Lu (Poetry, '19)
Katie Lu (Fiction, '19)
Margaret Lu (Nonfiction, '17)
Vivian Lu (Poetry, '17)
Juliet Lubwama (Poetry, '18)
Kaja Rae Lucas (Poetry, '19)
Megan Lunny (Fiction, '18)
Grace Lytle (Poetry, '18)
Emily Mack (Poetry, '14)
Tasneem Maher (Poetry, '19)
Duy Quang Mai (Poetry, '19)
Kaley Mamo (Fiction, '16)
Alyssa Mazzoli (Fiction, '16)
Rhiannon McGavin (Poetry, '16)
Molly McGinnis (Poetry, '13)
Frances McKittrick (Fiction, '19)
Brianna McNish (Fiction, '56)
Uma Menon (Poetry, '19)
Abigail Minard (Poetry, '15)
Alyssa Mulé (Poetry, '14)
Solomon Mussing (Poetry, '18)
Meghana Mysore (Poetry, '15)
Jackson Neal (Poetry, '18)
Linh Nguyen (Poetry, '18)
Rebecca Oet (Poetry, '17)
Elise Ofilada (Poetry, '18)
Ernest O. Oganyemi (Poetry, '19)
Fiyinfoluwa Oladipo (Poetry, '19)
Erin O’Malley (Poetry, '17)
Harper Oreck (Poetry, '18)
Annamiciah Pendarvis (Poetry, '19)
Noel Peng (Poetry, '16)
Amanda Prager (Poetry, '13)
Anika Prakash (Poetry, '16)
Christina Qiu (Fiction, '14)
Alexandra Quigley (Fiction, '18)
Meena Rakasi (Nonfiction, '19)
Ben Read (Poetry, '15)
Brynne Rebele-Henry (Poetry, '15)
Joey Reisberg (Poetry, '16)
Jae Haeng Rhee (Fiction, '16)
Abby Richards (Fiction, '19)
Andrew Rickert (Poetry, '17)
Mya Rigoli (Poetry, '19)
Tessa Rudolph (Fiction, '17)
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<th>Maya Salameh (Poetry, '18)</th>
<th>Lily Spiro (Fiction, '14)</th>
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<th>AnQi Yu (Fiction, '17)</th>
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<td>Andrea Salvador (Fiction, '18)</td>
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<td>Abigail Schott-Rosenfeld (Poetry, '13)</td>
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<td>Elena Sénéchal-Becker (Poetry, '15)</td>
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<td>Ashira Shirali (Fiction, '17)</td>
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<td>Tarik Shwaish (Poetry, '17)</td>
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<td>Sahara Sidi (Nonfiction, '17)</td>
<td>Greta Timmins (Fiction, '18)</td>
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<td>Maia Siegel (Poetry, '18)</td>
<td>Stephanie Tom (Poetry, '17)</td>
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<td>Jasmine Simms (Poetry, '14)</td>
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<td>Polina Solovyeva (Fiction, '16)</td>
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ABOUT THE JOURNAL

The Adroit Journal (ISSN 2577-9427) was founded in November 2010 by poet Peter LaBerge. At its foundation, the journal has its eyes focused ahead, seeking to showcase what its global staff of emerging writers sees as the future of poetry, prose, and art.


Masthead

Anthology Presence

Nominations

The journal sponsors the annual Adroit Prizes for Poetry and Prose for high school and undergraduate writers, the annual Djanikian Scholars Program for emerging student and non-student writers, and the Adroit Journal Summer Mentorship Program for high school students from around the world.

We’re looking for work that’s bizarre, authentic, subtle, outrageous, indefinable, raw, paradoxical. We’ve got our eyes on the horizon. Send us writing that lives just between the land and the sky.

ABRIDGED CONTRIBUTORS

Garous Abdolemalekian (Poetry)
Kim Addonizio (Poetry)
Kaveh Akbar (Poetry)
Hala Alyn (Poetry)
Anthony Anaxagorou (Poetry)
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Fatimah Asghar (Poetry)
Ellen Bass (Poetry)
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Jericho Brown (Poetry)
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Jos Charles (Poetry)
Chen Chen (Poetry)
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Diane Glancy (Poetry)
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Nate Marshall (Poetry)
Andrew McMillan (Poetry)
Lydia Millet (Fiction)
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Eric Pankey (Poetry)
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Justin Phillip Reed (Poetry)
James Richardson (Poetry)
Matthew Rohrer (Poetry)
Sam Sax (Poetry)
Danez Smith (Poetry)
Maggie Smith (Poetry)
Arthur Sze (Poetry)
Ned Vizzini (Fiction)
Ocean Vuong (Nonfiction)
Hanif Willis-Abdurraqib (Poetry)
Mark Wunderlich (Poetry)
Javier Zamora (Poetry)