ADROIT JOURNAL SUMMER MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Guidelines theadroitjournal.org/mentorship
Student App Deadline March 12, 2023 @ 11:59pm PT

LEARN : COLLABORATE : GROW

2023 INFORMATION BOOKLET
TABLE OF CONTENTS

4 About the Program
6 Application Details
10 Tuition & Financial Aid
12 2023 Staff
14 2023 Mentors
46 Mentee Testimonials
54 Student News
60 Student Alumni
70 About the Journal
Now in its eleventh year, The Adroit Journal Summer Mentorship Program is an entirely online program that pairs established writers with high school students (including graduating seniors) and gap year students (Classes of ’22 or ’23) interested in learning more about the creative writing processes of drafting, redrafting and editing. This year, the program offers mentorships in the genres of poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction/memoir.

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 creative nonfiction students will share work with mentors and peers on a biweekly basis.

The 2023 Adroit Journal Summer Mentorship Program will begin on June 19th and will conclude on July 31st.

Applications for the 2023 Adroit Journal Summer Mentorship Program will be open via our Submittable platform from February 10, 2023 until March 12, 2023 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 March 12, 2023 at 11:59 PM PST. Click here to start your application.

Applicants should possess a firm work ethic and some familiarity with the writing and revision process; should be comfortable with receiving (and giving) commentary and critique; and should be prompt and generous communicators. Applicants should also possess the will to explore and improve!

HOW DO I APPLY?

Applications for this year's mentorship program consist of four parts. Please note that our walkthrough of the app spans multiple pages—so please read on!

APPLICATION ESSAYS (REQUIRED)

Please note that you must respond all three questions for your application to be considered. We encourage you to double space your responses and include a page break between them, making sure to also include the full question to which you are responding above each answer. (P.S. We find that conventional fonts like Times New Roman, Arial, or Garamond often work best!)

Question #1

In approx. 450–600 words, explore your impulse to write—give us the who, what, where, when, and/or why behind your passion for the genre (or genres) of creative writing to which you are applying. Perhaps you’ll shed light on why you started writing. Or take us on a backstage tour behind your current writing process(es). Or dissect the way(s) writing fits into your life, academically, extracurricularly, philosophically, socially, and/or artistically. Or tell us about how your favorite writers inspire you. Please feel encouraged to reference work(s) from your sample or samples in your response. You might also reference any writing project(s) you have undertaken and/or how you hope your writing might develop in craft and/or theme as a mentorship student this summer.

Read on, on the next page, for our second Application Essay question, and to learn more about the other application components.
APPLICATION DETAILS (CONT.)

Please note that this is a continuation of guidelines that began on the previous page. Be sure to begin reading on that page and continue on to this one!

APPLICATION ESSAYS - CONT. (REQUIRED)

Question #2

In approx. 350-500 words, introduce us to a work of writing or art that moves you. Why does it move you? What's kept it stuck in your head? Examples of selected work may include a poem, series of linked poems, or poetry collection; a short story, short story collection, or novella, or even an excerpt/chapter of a novel; an essay, essay collection, or memoir; a song, EP, or album (of any genre); a literary magazine issue; a piece or series of visual art; a movie; or that idea of yours that immediately sprang to mind! If it's even arguably art but moving and meaningful to you, go for it. Note: Given length constraints, if you select a collection of work (e.g. a collection of poems, stories, or essays; a lit mag issue; etc.), please center your discussion around 3-5 specific pieces of the work.

Question #3

In approx. 150-200 words, what draws you to the Adroit Journal Summer Mentorship Program? Why mentorship? What excites you about our program specifically? How might working with an Adroit mentor support you as a writer?

WRITING SAMPLE (REQUIRED)

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

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're applying in multiple genres, you may include multiple samples in your Writing Sample file. Please abide by writing sample guidelines for each genre and note that we consider all genres independent of their ranking on your app.

APPLICATION DETAILS (CONT.)

Please note that this is a continuation of guidelines that began on page 7. Be sure to begin reading on that page and continue on through this one!

ACADEMIC TRANSCRIPT (OPTIONAL)

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

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION SECTION (OPTIONAL)

The Additional Information Section is an optional component included in the application as an opportunity to share any information that you feel is pertinent to your background and/or mentorship candidacy. Please upload no more than two pages as a .DOC or .PDF file in this section. You may treat this section as an opportunity to upload a resume/activity sheet if you would like, or you can instead share more about situational factors that you have not shared elsewhere.

In offering this section, we hope that you will not feel pressure to fit, squish, or force any content into other areas of your application. Thanks very much for your interest in the mentorship program; we look forward to seeing what you’ve got!

READY TO START YOUR APPLICATION?

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

Please direct additional questions to adroitmentorship@gmail.com.
TUITION & FINANCIAL AID

Participation in the mentorship for students who do not qualify for financial aid will cost $450 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 administrators 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 2022–2023 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 administrators via email (adroitmentorship@gmail.com).

READY TO START YOUR APPLICATION?

Visit us online: https://www.theadroitjournal.org/mentorship
Get started: https://adroit.submittable.com/submit
JOHN ALLEN TAYLOR is author of the chapbook Unmonstrous (YesYes Books, 2019). His poems appear in Sixth Finch, Poetry Northwest, DIAGRAM, The Common, Pleiades, and other places. 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.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Mahmoud Darwish, Patricia Smith, and James Wright.
2023 MENTORS

JENESSA ABRAMS
Fiction Mentor

ELLEN ADAMS
Creative Nonfiction/Memoir Mentor

DANA ALSAMSAAM
Poetry Mentor

SCOTT EDWARD ANDERSON
Creative Nonfiction/Memoir Mentor

KATIE BERTA
Poetry Mentor

MARK KYUNGSOO BIAS
Poetry Mentor

EMMA BINDER
Fiction Mentor

MARIO CHARD
Poetry Mentor

ROB COLGATE
Poetry Mentor

CLAUDIA CORTESE
Poetry Mentor

CAROLINE CREW
Creative Nonfiction/Memoir Mentor

ASA DRAKE
Poetry Mentor
### 2023 Mentors (Cont.)

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<tr>
<th>Fiction Mentor</th>
<th>Poetry Mentor</th>
<th>Creative Nonfiction/Memoir Mentor</th>
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<tr>
<td>Alyson Mosquera Dutemple</td>
<td>Ibe Liebenberg</td>
<td>Bareerah Y. Ghani</td>
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<td>Ryan Dzelzkalns</td>
<td>Maja Lukic</td>
<td>Melissa Michal</td>
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<td>Brad Felver</td>
<td>Rachel Inez Marshall</td>
<td>Melissa Goodrich</td>
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<td>Gabriela Denise Frank</td>
<td>Eduardo Martinez-Leyva</td>
<td>Kechi Nomu</td>
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<td>Michael Frazier</td>
<td>Colleen Mayo</td>
<td>Ernest Ògùnyemí</td>
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<td>Bareerah Y. Ghani</td>
<td>Marcus Ong Kah Ho</td>
<td>Sebastian H. Paramo</td>
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<td>Melissa Goodrich</td>
<td>Kechi Nomu</td>
<td>Emilia Phillips</td>
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<td>Andrew Gretes</td>
<td>Ernest Ògùnyemí</td>
<td>Jacques J. Rancourt</td>
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<td>Jose Hernandez Diaz</td>
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<td>Brionne Janae</td>
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<td>Ricardo Frasso Jaramillo</td>
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<td>Megan Kim</td>
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2023 MENTORS (CONT.)

DEVI SASTRY
Poetry Mentor

STEFFI SIN
Fiction Mentor

JEDDIE SOPHRONIUS
Poetry Mentor

TOLA SYLVAN
Poetry Mentor

REBECCA THOMAS
Fiction Mentor

GALE THOMPSON
Poetry Mentor

JORRELL WATKINS
Poetry Mentor

KATE WISEL
Fiction Mentor

WINNIEBELL XINYU ZONG
Poetry Mentor

JENESSA ABRAMS

**JENESSA ABRAMS** is a fiction writer, essayist, and practitioner of Narrative Medicine. Her work has appeared in publications such as The Atlantic, Tin House, Guernica, Electric Literature, Catapult, Eater, The Rumpus, BOMB Magazine, and The New York Times. She has received fellowships and grants from MacDowell, The New York Public Library, the Norman Mailer Center, and Columbia University, where she earned her MFA in fiction and literary translation. Recently, she earned a Master of Science degree in Narrative Medicine at Columbia University.

**FAVORITE WRITERS**
Annie Ernaux, Yiyun Li, & Roxane Gay.

ELLEN ADAMS

**ELLEN ADAMS** is a writer of essays and fiction, as well as a singer-songwriter working in folk and country traditions. Her work appears in Ploughshares, Black Warrior Review, Kenyon Review Online, and elsewhere, and has been listed as notable in Best American Essays. Her work has been supported by Elizabeth George Foundation, Canada Council for the Arts, Lambda Literary, Artist Trust, Hedgebrook, Helene Wurlitzer Foundation, and Banff Centre, among others. She lives and works in Tiohtià:ke (Montreal), where she’s writing new songs, developing a novel, and revising on a nonfiction book.

**FAVORITE WRITERS**
Miriam Toews, Darcey Steinke, & Susan Sontag.
**DANA ALSAMSAM** is a first generation Syrian-American from Chicago who is currently based in Boston, where she works in arts development and runs a freelance book editing business. Her work has been supported by fellowships from Emerson College and Lambda Literary. Her poems have appeared in the Georgia Review, the Massachusetts Review, the North American Review, the Shallow Ends, Salamander, the Offing, BOOTH, the Common, and others.

**FAVORITE WRITERS**
Kaveh Akbar, Safia Elhillo, Ocean Vuong.

**SCOTT EDWARD ANDERSON** is an award-winning poet, memoirist, essayist, and translator, and the author of *Wine-Dark Sea: New & Selected Poems & Translations* (Shanti Arts, 2022); *Azorean Suite/Suite Açoriana* (Letras Lavadas, 2020); *Falling Up: A Memoir of Second Chances* (Homebound, 2019), which received the 1st Literary Prize from Letras Lavadas/PEN Açores in 2020; *Dwelling: an ecopoem* (Shanti Arts, 2018), winner of the Nautilus Prize; and *Fallow Field: Poems* (Aldrich Press, 2013). Connect with him on Twitter and Instagram @greenskeptic.

**FAVORITE WRITERS**
Elizabeth Bishop, Michael Ondaatje, & John McPhee.

**KATIE BERTA**
Poetry Mentor

**FAVORITE WRITERS**
Terrance Hayes, Bernadette Mayer, & Tommy Pico.

**MARK KYUNGSOO BIAS** is a recipient of the 2022 Joseph Langland Prize, the 2020 William Matthews Poetry Prize, and a semi-finalist for the 92Y Discovery Prize. His work has been published by Academy of American Poets, The Adroit Journal, Best New Poets, The Common, Hayden’s Ferry Review, The Los Angeles Review, The Offing, and PANK, and featured on LitHub and Poetry Daily. A 2021 Tin House Scholar, he has received support from Kundiman and his MFA from the University of Massachusetts Amherst where he was a REAL Fellow. He currently lives in Korea.

**FAVORITE WRITERS**
Theresa Hak Kyung Cha, Victoria Chang, & Peter Gizzi.
EMMA BINDER is a fiction writer from Wisconsin. They received their MFA in Fiction from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and were the 2020 – 2021 Hoffman–Halls Emerging Artist Fellow at the Wisconsin Institute for Creative Writing. In 2022, they received the Gulf Coast Prize in Fiction and the Tupelo Press Snowbound Chapbook Award. Their work has previously appeared or is forthcoming in Pleiades, Gulf Coast, Narrative, The Texas Review, DIAGRAM, and elsewhere. They live in Western Massachusetts, where they’re working on a collection of short stories about queerness, rural life, and survival.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Marilynne Robinson, Danielle Evans, & Jim Shepard.

EMMA BINDER
Fiction Mentor

MARIO CHARD is the author of Land of Fire (Tupelo Press, 2018), winner of the Dorset Prize, a Notable Debut by Poets & Writers Magazine, and the Georgia Author of the Year Award in Poetry. His work has appeared widely in journals and magazines, including The Nation, The New Yorker, Poetry, among others, and his honors include the “Discovery” Poetry Prize and fellowships from the Sewanee Writers’ Conference and the Civitella Ranieri Foundation. A former Wallace Stegner Fellow in Poetry at Stanford University and an inaugural fellow for the U.S. Ledbury Poetry Critics, he lives in Atlanta, Georgia.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Toni Morrison, Alfonsina Storni, & John Milton.

MARIO CHARD
Poetry Mentor

EMMA BINDER (he/she/they) is a Filipino-American poet from Evanston, IL. He holds a degree in psychology from Yale University and an MFA in poetry from the New Writers Project at UT Austin. His work appears in Best New Poets, Prairie Schooner, Washington Square Review, Muzzle, and The Adroit Journal, among others. Currently, he’s assistant poetry editor at Foglifter Journal and a Fulbright scholar conducting research and writing poetry at Toronto Metropolitan University’s School of Disability Studies.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Richard Siken, Tim Dlugos, & Claudia Rankine.

ROB COLGATE
Poetry Mentor

CLAUDIA CORTESE is a queer poet, essayist, and fiction writer. Her debut full-length, Wasp Queen (Black Lawrence Press, 2017), won Southern Illinois University’s Devil’s Kitchen Award for Emerging Poetry. Her work has appeared in The Adroit Journal, Bitch Magazine, Black Warrior Review, Blackbird, Crazyhorse, Gulf Coast, and The Offing, among many others, and her poems have won awards from Baltimore Review, Mississippi Review, and RHINO Poetry. The daughter of immigrants, Cortese grew up in Ohio’s Rust Belt and lives in New Jersey.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Ocean Vuong, Aimee Bender, & Meghan Privitello.

CLAUDIA CORTESE
Poetry Mentor
CAROLINE CREW is the author of the essay collection Other Girls to Burn (University of Georgia Press, 2021), winner of the AWP Prize for Nonfiction, as well as the poetry collection PINK MUSEUM (Big Lucks). She holds a PhD from Georgia State University, as well as an MA from the University of Oxford and an MFA from UMass-Amherst. She's online here: caroline-crew.com.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Carmen Maria Machado, Maggie Nelson, & Harryette Mullen.

ASA DRAKE is a Filipina American poet and writer in Central Florida. She is the recipient of fellowships from Tin House and Idyllwild Arts and is a 2020 92Y Discovery Poetry Contest winner. Her chapbook, One Way to Listen, was selected by Taneum Bambrick as the winner of Gold Line Press's 2021 Poetry Chapbook Contest. Her most recent poems can be found in The American Poetry Review, Copper Nickel, The Georgia Review and Poetry Northwest.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Franny Choi, Victoria Chang, & Kiki Petrosino.

RYAN DZELZKALNS has poems appearing with Catapult, DIAGRAM, The Offing, The 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. His writing has been translated into Latvian (the language of his grandparents) and has been anthologized in a handful of collections. He was a recent Fulbright scholar in Tokyo, where he still lives. Read more at ryandz.com.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Catie Rosemurgy, Anne Carson, & Chen Chen.

ALYSON MOSQUERA DUTEMPLE's work has appeared in Colorado Review, Alaska Quarterly Review, Passages North, DIAGRAM, The Journal, and Wigleaf, among others, and her short story manuscript was recently named a runner-up for the 2022 Flannery O'Connor Award for Short Fiction. Alyson works as an editorial consultant and creative writing instructor in New Jersey, and she is an assistant fiction editor of Pithead Chapel. She's received nominations for Best Small Fictions, Best Microfiction, and a Pushcart Prize, and was twice longlisted for the Wigleaf Top 50.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Joy Williams, William Trevor, & Hanif Abdurraqib.

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FAVORITE WRITERS
Catie Rosemurgy, Anne Carson, & Chen Chen.
BRAD FELVER is a fiction writer, essayist, and teacher of writing. His debut collection of stories, The Dogs of Detroit, won the Drue Heinz Prize and was named one of the Best Books of 2018 by Library Journal and the Washington Independent Review of Books. His fiction and essays have appeared in One Story, New England Review, Colorado Review, Story, Subtropics, and many others. His honors include the O. Henry Award, the Zone 3 Fiction Prize, a fellowship to Bread Loaf, and an Ohio Arts Council Individual Excellence Award. He lives in Ohio with his wife and sons.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Marilynne Robinson, James Salter, & Rick Bass.

GABRIELA DENISE FRANK is a transdisciplinary storyteller, editor, and educator whose work bridges the textual, the sonic, the visual, and the experiential. Her work been nominated for Best of the Net and the Pushcart Prize and deemed notable by Best American Essays. Gabriela serves on the Burien arts commission, on 4Culture’s arts advisory committee, and as creative nonfiction editor and managing editor of Crab Creek Review. Her work is supported by 4Culture, Centrum, Civita Institute, Invoking the Pause, Jack Straw Cultural Center, Marble House, Mineral School, Seattle Public Library, Vermont Studio Center, and more.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Don Mee Choi, Mary Ruefle, & Maud Casey.

MICHAEL FRAZIER is a poet, performer, & educator living in Kanazawa, Japan. He graduated from Gallatin at NYU, where he was the 2017 poet commencement speaker. He’s performed at Nuyorican Poets Café, Lincoln Center, Gallatin Arts Festival, & other venues. His poetry & prose appears in Poetry Daily, The Offing, Cream City Review, RHINO, Visible Poetry Project, Tokyo Poetry Journal, MadeforPax & elsewhere. He’s received fellowships & scholarships from Cave Canem / EcoTheo Collective, Bread Loaf, Callaloo, The Watering Hole, & The Seventh Wave.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Toni Morrison, C.S. Lewis, & Safia Elhillo.

BAREERAH Y. GHANI is a Canadian–Pakistani writer. She has an MFA in Fiction from George Mason University and freelances as a book reviewer at Publishers Weekly. Her work has appeared in The Rumpus, Electric Literature, Moon City Review, and others. You can follow her on Twitter @Bareera_yg or Instagram @bareerah_ghani to learn more about her writing and life.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Arundhati Roy, Jamil Jan Kochai, & Celeste Ng.

GABRIELA DENISE FRANK
Creative Nonfiction/Memoir Mentor

BAREERAH Y. GHANI
Fiction Mentor
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 been anthologized in Best Small Fictions 2019 and has appeared in New England Review, Minnesota Review, Witness, Booth, and other journals. He earned his PhD in English and Creative Writing at the University of Southern Mississippi. In a desperate attempt to increase productivity, Andrew has resorted to naming his writing instruments after mighty swords of antiquity.

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

MELISSA GOODRICH is a writer based in Tucson, Arizona. She received her BA in Creative Writing from Susquehanna University and her MFA in Fiction from the University of Arizona. Her work has appeared in American Short Fiction, Artful Dodge, The Kenyon Review Online, Passages North, PANK, Word Riot, Gigantic Sequins, and others. She is the author of the collaborative collection The Classroom, the fiction collection Daughters of Monsters, the poetry chapbook IF YOU WHAT.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Carmen Maria Machado, Octavia Butler, & Ocean Vuong.


FAVORITE WRITERS
Alberto Rios, Ada Limon, & James Tate.

BRIONNE JANAE is the author of Blessed are the Peacemakers (2021) which won the 2020 Cave Canem Northwestern University Press Poetry Prize, and After Jubilee (Boaat Press, 2017). Brionne is a 2023 NEA Creative Writing Fellow, a Hedgebrook Alum and proud Cave Canem Fellow. Their poetry has been published in Best American Poetry 2022, Ploughshares, and The American Poetry Review, among others. Brionne is the co-host of the podcast: The Slave is Gone alongside poet Jericho Brown and Rogue Scholar Aífe Murray. Off the page, they go by Breezy.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Toi Dericotte, ShaneMcCrae, & Diane Seuss.
MEGAN KIM was raised in the foothills of the Siskiyou Mountains. She is the editor of Frontier Poetry and is currently pursuing her MFA at the University of Wisconsin – Madison. Her work has appeared or is forthcoming in Narrative Magazine, Ninth Letter, and The Adroit Journal, among others, and she has received support from the Kenyon Review Writers Workshop.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Suji Kwock Kim, Tomas Tranströmer, & Jenny Xie.

RICARDO FRASSO JARAMILLO is a poet and writer whose work has been published in The New York Times, The Believer, McSweeney’s Quarterly Concern, and elsewhere. He is 2022–2023 National Book Critics Circle Emerging Critics fellow, as well as a case manager at a high school for immigrant youth in the Oakland Unified School District.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Olga Tokarczuk, Yiyun Li, & Frank Bidart.

IBE LIEBENBERG is an enrolled citizen of the Chickasaw Nation. He lives in Chico California and works as a firefighter, and a lecturer at Chico State University. He is currently enrolled in the MFA program at the Institute of American Indian Arts. He’s been published in The Three Penny Review, POETRY Magazine, Ecotone, North American Poetry, Beloit Poetry Journal, Sugar House Review, American Journal of Poetry, and The Journal of Chickasaw History and Culture.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Ross Gay, Ilya Kaminsky, & Sherwin Bitsui.

MAJA LUKIC is an MFA candidate in poetry at Warren Wilson College. Her work has appeared or is forthcoming in Narrative, A Public Space, The Adroit Journal, Colorado Review, and other journals. Selected pieces published online are available at majalukic.com. She lives in Brooklyn, NY.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Charles Simic, Tomas Tranströmer, & Li-Young Lee.

MAJA LUKIC
Poetry Mentor

IBE LIEBENBERG
Poetry Mentor

MEGAN KIM
Poetry Mentor
EDUARDO MARTINEZ-LEYVA was born on the U.S.-Mexico border to Mexican immigrants. He received his MFA in Poetry and Literary Translation from Columbia University, where he was awarded a Teaching Fellowship. His work appears in Boston Review, The Adroit Journal, Frontier Poetry, Cincinnati Review, Nepantla: A Journal Dedicated to Queer Poets of Color, The Huffington Post, and elsewhere. He was selected by Tracy K. Smith for the Best New Poets 2015 anthology. He’s received fellowships from Canto-Mundo, The Frost Place, and the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Diane Seuss, Cate Marvin, & Tracy K. Smith.

RACHEL INEZ MARSHALL’s poems have appeared in Ploughshares, The Adroit Journal, Mississippi Review, Best New Poets, The Normal School, Hayden’s Ferry Review, and other publications. She earned her MFA from Florida State University and currently lives in Nashville, Tennessee where she works as a Senior Content Designer at Meta.

FAVORITE WRITERS
García Lorca, Anne Sexton, & Frank O’Hara.

COLLEEN MAYO’s writing appears in or is forthcoming from The Sun Magazine, Ninth Letter, Witness, The Baltimore Review, Salt Hill Journal, and elsewhere. Her work has received special mention for the 2019 Pushcart Prize, the Jerome Stern Series Spotlight Award for nonfiction, and an AWP Intro Journals Award for fiction. She’s served a Fulbright Fellowship in South Korea, holds an MFA in fiction from Florida State University, and is currently a Fiction PhD student and Voertman-Ardoin Teaching Fellow at the University of North Texas in Denton, TX. She’s working on a novel set in her hometown of Austin, TX.

FAVORITE WRITER

MELISSA MICHAL’s work focuses on her community’s histories and experiences. She is of Seneca, Welsh, and English descent and is a fiction and screenplay writer, essayist, photographer. She currently resides on Narragansett territory. Melissa’s work appears in The Florida Review, Arkana, Yellow Medicine Review, Transmotion, Presumed Incompetent the second edition, and other spaces. Her short story collection, Living Along the Borderlines (2019), out with Feminist Press, was a finalist for the Louise Meriwether first book prize. She has completed two novels and an essay collection as well.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Cherie Dimaline, Stephen Graham Jones, & Aimee Bender.

MELISSA MICHAL
Fiction Mentor
**KECHI NOMU** is a bi Nigerian writer. Her work has appeared or is forthcoming in Boston Review, Electric Literature, Ploughshares (online), Cosmonauts Avenue, and DIALOGIST. Her essay was named a notable piece in Best American Essays, 2020. In 2019 she was named a semifinalist for the Aura Estrada Short Story Prize. Her poems are included in the Brussels-based Kunstenfestivaldesarts’ The Diasporic Schools project. She is a Stein-Brodey Fellow at NYU where she is completing an MFA in poetry. She is the author of the chapbook Acts of Crucifixion (Akashic Books/African Poetry Book Fund, 2018). She lives in Brooklyn.

**FAVORITE WRITERS**
Natalie Diaz, Hervé Guibert, & Arundhati Roy.

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**ERNEST ÒGÚNYEMÍ** writes from Nigeria. His work has recently appeared/is forthcoming in AGNI, Kenyon Review, The Sun, Banshee, Joyland, Moon-calves: An Anthology of Weird Fiction, and elsewhere. He is the author of the chapbook, A Pocket of Genesis (Variant Literature, 2023). He is working toward a BA in History and International Studies at Lagos State University.

**FAVORITE WRITERS**

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**SEBASTIÁN H. PÁRAMO** is the author of the forthcoming collection Portrait of Us Burning (Northwestern University Press/Curbstone Books, 2023). He received his MFA in poetry from Sarah Lawrence College and Ph.D. in English and Creative Writing from the University of North Texas. His work has received support from the Dobie Paisano Fellowship Program at The University of Texas at Austin, and CantoMundo. He is the founding editor of The Boiler, Poetry Editor for Deep Vellum, and a Visiting Assistant Professor of English at Austin College in Sherman, Texas.

**FAVORITE WRITERS**
Vanessa Angélica Villarreal, Larry Levis, & Vievee Francis.

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**MARCUS ONG KAH HO** is a writer and teacher from Singapore. His stories have appeared or are forthcoming in American Short Fiction, Adroit Journal, Chicago Quarterly Review, Salt Hill Journal, Washington Square Review, and elsewhere.

**FAVORITE WRITERS**
Lydia Davis, George Saunders, & Souvankham Thammavongsa.
JACQUES J. RANCOURT is the author of Brocken Spectre (Alice James Books), Novena (Pleiades Press), and the chapbook In the Time of PrEP (Beloit Poetry Journal). A recipient of a Wallace Stegner Fellowship from Stanford University, his poems have appeared in AGNI, Boston Review, Kenyon Review, and Virginia Quarterly Review. Raised in Maine, he now lives in San Francisco.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Brigit Pegeen Kelly, Larry Levis, & Eavan Boland.

EMILIA PHILLIPS (they/them/theirs) is the author of five poetry collections from the University of Akron Press, including Embouchure (2021), and four chapbooks from various presses. They also write creative nonfiction and book reviews. They are an Associate Professor of Creative Writing in the Department of English; MFA in Writing Program; and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at UNC Greensboro.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Wislawa Szymborska, Gabriela Mistral, & June Jordan.

DEVI SASTRY is a writer and editor from Bangalore, currently living in Brooklyn. Her work revolves around the themes of home, family, and multilingualism, often featuring food as an element that ties these themes together. Devi graduated with a BA from Sarah Lawrence College, where she was awarded the Stanley & Evelyn Lipkin Prize for Poetry. Her poems have appeared in the lickety~split, Bengaluru Review, Dhoop journal, Mag 20/20, and Koukash Review, among other publications. She is currently an MFA Poetry candidate at New York University.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Rajiv Mohabir, Kei Miller, & Natalie Diaz.

STEFFI SIN is a Chinese American writer from San Francisco, with an MFA in creative writing from Arizona State University. Her work has been published in Best Small Fictions 2022, The Kenyon Review, Black Warrior Review, and is forthcoming in The Cincinnati Review and Bennington Review.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Maxine Hong Kingston, Sandra Cisneros, & Phoebe Waller-Bridge.
**JEDDIE SOPHRONIUS** is a poet and writer from Massachusetts. Her work has appeared or is forthcoming in Poetry Northwest, POETRY, Vallum, and elsewhere. Read more of their work at nakedcentaur.com

**FAVORITE WRITERS**
Leila Chatti, Mary Jo Bang, & Carl Phillips.

**TOLA SYLVAN**
Poetry Mentor

**FAVORITE WRITERS**
Jesmyn Ward, Louise Erdrich, & Jane Austen.

**REBECCA THOMAS**
Fiction Mentor

**FAVORITE WRITERS**
Li-Young Lee, Norman Erikson, & Han Kang.

**TOLA SYLVAN**
Poetry Mentor

**FAVORITE WRITERS**
Leila Chatti, Mary Jo Bang, & Carl Phillips.

**GAELE THOMPSON** is the author of Helen or My Hunger (YesYes Books, 2020), Soldier On (Tupelo Press, 2015), and two chapbooks. Winner of the Poetry Society of America’s 2022 Emily Dickinson Award, Gale has received fellowships from the Vermont Studio Center and Kimmel Harding Nelson Center. She is the founder of Jellyfish Poetry and currently works as editor in book development for YesYes Books. Gale lives in the mountains of North Georgia, where she directs the Creative Writing program at Young Harris College.

**FAVORITE WRITERS**

**REBECCA THOMAS**’s work has appeared in Prairie Schooner, ZYZZYVA, The Massachusetts Review, among other places, and has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize. She was the senior editor for Ms. Aligned 3 and serves on the creative board. She received her MFA from West Virginia University. Originally from Orange County, California, she lives with her family and teaches writing in Charlottesville, Virginia.
JORRELL WATKINS is from Richmond, VA. He received fellowships from the Smithsonian Institution, Fulbright Japan, and the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown. His chapbook, If Only the Sharks Would Bite, won the inaugural Desert Pavilion Chapbook Series in Poetry and his debut full-length collection, Play|House is forthcoming in 2024 with Curbstone Books.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Sonia Sanchez, Etheridge Knight, & August Wilson.

KATE WISEL is the author of Driving in Cars with Homeless Men, winner of the Drue Heinz Literature Prize, selected by Min Jin Lee. Her fiction can be found in Prairie Schooner, Gulf Coast, Tin House online, Adroit Journal, The Best Small Fictions 2019, Redivider (as winner of the Beacon Street Prize), W.W. Norton's Flash Fiction America and elsewhere. She was a Carol Houck fiction fellow at the University of Wisconsin–Madison and lives in Milwaukee, where she works as an assistant to music critic Jim DeRogatis and teaches at Columbia College Chicago and Loyola University.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Susan Minot, Denis Johnson, & Justin Torres.

WINNIEBELL XINYU ZONG is a Chinese poet and chapbook editor at Newfound Press. She has been a Frontier Poetry editorial fellow and a publishing intern at Copper Canyon Press. Her recent poems appear in or are forthcoming from POETRY, Swamp Pink, Southern Review, Gasher, and Meridian, among others. Nominated for the Pushcart Prize, Best New Poets, Best of Net, and AWP's Intro Journals Project, Zong holds an MA from Kansas State University and is an MFA poetry candidate at Cornell University. You can find her at winniebellxzong.com.

FAVORITE WRITERS
Aimee Nezhukumatathil, Lily Hoang, & Eve Ewing.
PREVIOUS MENTORS

Aria Aber (Poetry, ‘15)
Jenessa Abrams (Fiction, ‘19-21)
Kenzie Allen (Poetry, ‘17)
Eloisa Amezcua (Poetry, ‘17-19)
Kaitlyn Andrews-Rice (Fiction, ‘19)
Darius Atefat-Peckham (Poetry, ‘22)
Noah Baldino (Poetry, ‘19)
Elizabeth Ballou (Fiction, ‘14)
Samantha Bares (Poetry, ‘15)
Gabrielle Bates (Poetry, ‘17-21)
Krys Malcolm Belc (Nonfiction, ‘19-21)
Allyse Bensel (Poetry, ‘19)
Garrett Biggs (Fiction, ‘16, ‘18, ‘20)
John-Michael Bloomquist (Poetry, ‘18)
Conor Bracken (Poetry, ‘19)
William Brewer (Poetry, ‘16)
Marci Calabretta Cancio-Bello (Poetry, ‘17-20)
Kayleb Ragre Candrilli (Poetry, ‘19)
Stephanie Cawley (Poetry, ‘16)
Nicky Cayless (Poetry, ‘15)
Alexander Cendrowski (Fiction, ‘15)
Dorothy Chan (Poetry, ‘20)
Sylvia Chan (Nonfiction, ‘18)
Victoria Chang (Poetry, ‘18)
Stephanie Chang (Poetry, ‘22)
Mario Chard (Poetry, ‘20-21)
Chen Chen (Poetry, ‘16-17)
Jennifer S. Cheng (Nonfiction, ‘21)
Elaine Hsieh Chou (Fiction, ‘20-21)
Lucas Church (Fiction, ‘19, ‘20)
Hannah Cohen (Poetry, ‘18-19)
Emily Rose Cole (Poetry, ‘17)
Donte Collins (Spoken Word, ‘21)
Katie Condon (Poetry, ‘17)
S. Brook Corfman (Poetry, ‘18)
Claudia Cortese (Poetry, ‘20)
Emily Corwin (Poetry, ‘19)
Kevin Coval (Poetry, ‘18)
Caroline Crew (Nonfiction, ‘16-21)
Melissa Crowe (Poetry, ‘20)
Kyle Dacuyan (Poetry, ‘19)
Armen Davoudian (Poetry, ‘21)
Meg Day (Poetry, ‘20)
Alexa Derman (Fiction, ‘14-15)
Dana Diehl (Fiction, ‘18-21)
Chelsea Dingman (Poetry, ‘19)
Aline Dolinh (Poetry, ‘15)
Michelle Donahue (Poetry, ‘15)
Ryan Dzelzkalns (Poetry, ‘18-21)
Stevie Edwards (Poetry, ‘18)
Trista Edwards (Poetry, ‘16-17)
Natalie Elilbert (Poetry, ‘20)
Cody Ernst (Poetry, ‘15-16)
William Evans (Poetry, ‘19)
Caroline Fairey (Nonfiction, ‘22)
William Fargason (Poetry, ‘16)
Scott Fenton (Fiction, ‘19)
Megan Fernandes (Poetry, ‘20)
Sarah Fletcher (Poetry, ‘13)
Kate Folk (Fiction, ‘20)
Aricka Foreman (Poetry, ‘20)
Aidan Forster (Poetry, ‘18)
Katherine Frain (Poetry, ‘14)
Michael Frazier (Poetry, ‘20)
Denice Frohman (Poetry, ‘18)
Ananya Garg (Poetry, ‘22)
Kate Gaskin (Poetry, ‘19)
Matthew Gellman (Poetry, ‘17)
Jennifer Givhan (Poetry, ‘16)
Kimberly Grabowski Strayer (Poetry, ‘17)
J.P. Grasser (Poetry, ‘17)
Andrew Gretes (Fiction, ‘16, ‘18-21)
Benjamin Gucchiardi (Fiction, ‘17)
Emily Harnden (Fiction, ‘20-21)
Amanda Hawkins (Poetry, ‘22)
Rebecca Hazleton (Poetry, ‘19)
Faylita Hicks (Poetry, ‘20-21)
Alex Higley (Fiction, ‘16)
Kamden Hilliard (Poetry, ‘17)
Noor Hindi (Nonfiction, ‘20)
Ben Hoffman (Fiction, ‘17-'20)
Carlie Hoffman (Poetry, ‘18)
Jackson Holbert (Poetry, ‘15)
Kinsale Hueston (Poetry, ‘22)
Luther Hughes (Poetry, ‘19)
Rochelle Hurt (Poetry, ‘16)
Christina Im (Poetry, ‘19)
Ghinwa Jawhari (Fiction, ‘21)
Kaitlin Jennrich (Poetry, ‘14-15)
Erin Jones (Fiction, ‘20-22)
Kasey Jueds (Poetry, ‘18)
Caleb Kaiser (Poetry, ‘13-14)
W. Todd Kaneko (Poetry, ‘21-‘22)
Kevin Kantor (Spoken Word, ‘21)
Gina Keicher (Poetry, ‘16)
Jasmine Khalil (Poetry, ‘22)
Peter Kispert (Fiction, ‘18)
Taisia Kitaiskaia (Poetry, ‘16)
Sophie Klahr (Poetry, ‘20)
Dan Kraines (Poetry, ‘18)
Theophilus Kwok (Poetry, ‘17)
Peter LaBerge (Poetry, ‘13-20)
Keith Leonard (Poetry, ‘20-21)
Keegan Lester (Poetry, ‘16–17)
Paige Lewis (Poetry, ‘17-18)
Ananda Lima (Fiction, ‘18)
Zach Linge (Poetry, ‘19)
Anni Liu (Poetry, ‘19)
Ben Loory (Fiction, ‘20-22)
Antonio Lopez (Poetry, ‘19)
Lucia LoTempio (Poetry, ‘15-16)
Angie Sijun Lou (Fiction, ‘19-20)
Eриннэ Mager (Fiction, ‘18, ‘20)
Samantha Mann (Nonfiction, ‘22)
Rachel Inez Marshall (Poetry, ‘18-19)
John Paul Martinez (Poetry, ‘22)
Madison McCartha (Poetry, '19)
LaTanya McQueen (Nonfiction, '19–'20)
Rachel Mennies (Poetry, '18–'21)
Lo Kwa Mei-en (Poetry, '17)
Carly Joy Miller (Poetry, '16–19)
Matt W. Miller (Poetry, '16)
Stephen Mills (Poetry, '16)
Bern Mulvey (Poetry, '17)
Aram Mrjoian (Fiction, '19–'20, '22)
Jason Myers (Poetry, '18)
Emily O'Neill (Poetry, '21)
Natasha Oladokun (Poetry, '18)
José Olivarez (Poetry, '20)
Kwame Opuku-Duku (Fiction, '18)
Sebastian Hasani Paramo (Poetry, '19)
Megan Peak (Poetry, '16)
Emilia Phillips (Poetry, '20)
Maria Pinto (Fiction, '16)
Alycia Pirmohamed (Poetry, '20)
Jessica Poli (Poetry, '17)
Ben Purkert (Poetry, '19)
Ruben Quesada (Poetry, '20–21)
Christina Qiu (Fiction, '16)
Caleb Rainey (Poetry, '21)
Doug Ramspeck (Poetry, '17–18)
Jacques J. Rancourt (Poetry, '21)
Julian Randall (Poetry, '17)
Brynne Rebele-Henry (Fiction, '18)
Nancy Reddy (Poetry, '16–17)
Jim Redmond (Poetry, '16)
Jayme Ringleb (Poetry, '19)
Michelle Ross (Fiction, '20–21)
Leslie Sainz (Poetry, '17, '20–21)
C.A. Schaefer (Fiction, '20)
Claire Schwartz (Poetry, '18–19)
Rob Shapiro (Poetry, '20–21)
Raena Shirali (Poetry, '20–21)
Amanda Silberling (Nonfiction, '15)
Steffi Sin (Fiction, '21)
Erin Slaughter (Nonfiction, '21)
Analicia Sotelo (Poetry, '17–18)
Glenn Stowell (Fiction, '18)
Jessica Lynn Suchon (Poetry, '19)
Nina Sudhakar (Fiction, '19)
Eshani Surya (Fiction, '18)
Avia Tadmor (Poetry, '19)
Talin Tahajian (Poetry, '14–15)
Gabriella R. Tallmadge (Poetry, '20–21)
Oriana Tang (Fiction, '15)
Alexandra Tanner (Fiction, '19–21)
Courtney Faye Taylor (Poetry, '19–21)
John Allen Taylor (Poetry, '18)
Jonny Tekli (Poetry, '22)
Gale Marie Thompson (Poetry, '19)
Brian Tierney (Poetry, '17)
Ari Tison (Fiction, '22)
Emma Townley-Smith (Poetry, '13)
Nur Turkmání (Fiction, '22)
"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...**
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.

"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...**
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.
"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 for Writing, and a National Scholastic Art & Writing Awards Gold Medalist for Writing Portfolio. Isabella is also 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 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.

"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 Arison Award for Excellence in Writing. His work appears in Best New Poets, Indiana Review, and Tin House. His debut chapbook, Exit Pastoral, was released from YesYes Books.
"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."

**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.

"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."

**ERNEST ÖGÜNYEMÍ**

Poetry, '19
Lagos State University, '23

"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."

**TALIN TAHAJIAN**

Poetry, '13
University of Cambridge, '17

"There are so many joys 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."

**CHRISTINA QIU**

Fiction, '14
Harvard University, '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.

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 personal 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.

**SINCE THE MENTORSHIP…**

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**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.
“As someone who comes from a rural area with under-funded education, the Adroit Journal Summer Mentorship Program offered invaluable support for my artistic self. I met lifelong friends, gained new perspectives on literature, and made enormous progress in my writing. Most of all, it gave me people who believed in me as a writer—a community that uplifted me to pursue my art fearlessly.”

**ORIANA TANG**
Poetry, ’14
Yale University, ’19

“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.

**JIEYAN WANG**
Fiction, ’19
Harvard University, ’24

“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.”

**LYDIA WEI**
Poetry, ’19
Stanford University, ’24

“Apart from finding a writing community, I found a direction to push my writing towards. Before the program, I was writing poems, but 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.”

**LILY ZHOU**
Poetry, ’16
Stanford University, ’22

“SINCE THE MENTORSHIP...
Oriana has been named a U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts, a Davidson Fellow in Literature, and a YoungArts Finalist in Writing (Poetry & Short Story). Oriana continues to write, and served from 2015-2019 as an Adroit Prose Reader. She even served as a summer mentor for a few summers!

**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.

**SINCE THE MENTORSHIP...**
Jieyan has been named a National YoungArts Finalist for Writing (Short Story), a Scholastic Gold Medalist for Writing Portfolio, and a Presidential Scholar in the Arts semifinalist. As an Intel International Science & Engineering Fair Finalist, she continues apply her scientific background to her short stories.

**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 & Writers Website

Since its inception in 2013, the mentorship program has educated students who have received more than two 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 2022, students affiliated with The Adroit Journal have received more than 300 Gold Medals, more than 200 Silver Medals, and 16 Silver Medals with Distinction, spanning nearly every Writing category offered.

Click [here](#) to see a full list of National Scholastic Awards received by Adroit students.

**NATIONAL STUDENT POETS PROGRAM**

The Institute of Museum and Library Services and the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers partner to present the National Student Poets Program, the nation’s highest honor for young poets (grades 10–11) creating original work.

Annually, five students are selected for one year of service, each representing a different geographic region of the country. The Program believes in the power of youth voices to create and sustain meaningful change, and supports them in being heard.

— Alliance for Young Artists & Writers Website

We are beyond excited for the fourteen mentorship graduates who have subsequently served as National Student Poets since 2017:

Annie Castillo (2017 — Southeast)
Maya Eashwaran (2017 — South)
Joey Reisberg (2017 — Northeast)
Darius Atefat-Peckham (2018 — Midwest)
Daniel Blokh (2018 — Southeast)
Heather Jensen (2018 — West)
Taylor Fang (2019 — West)
Madelyn Dietz (2020 — Midwest)
Manasi Garg (2020 — West)
R.C. Davis (2021 — Midwest)
Aanika Eragam (2021 — South)
Kevin Gu (2021 — Northeast)
Sarah Fathima Mohammed (2021 — West)
Vidhatrie Keetha (2022 — Northeast)

Click [here](#) to learn more about the National Student Poets opportunity.
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 2021, Clare Pollard and Yomi Sode selected winners from nearly 14,500 poems, from 6,500+ poets aged 11-17 from across the world.

— The Poetry Society of the United Kingdom Website

The Adroit Journal has been fortunate to mentor seventeen 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)
Em Power (2020 — United Kingdom)
Maia Siegel (2020 — Virginia, USA)
Ran Zhao (2021 — Hong Kong)
Liv Goldreich (2022 — United Kingdom)
Daniel Liu (2022 — Florida, USA)

Since 2012, students affiliated with The Adroit Journal have received 82 commendations from the Foyle Young Poet of the Year Awards.

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

NATIONAL YOUNGARTS AWARDS

The National YoungArts Foundation identifies and nurtures accomplished young artists in the visual, literary, design and performing arts and assists them at critical junctures in their educational and professional development. 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 mentorship has supported 171 students who have subsequently received YoungArts awards, including 61 YoungArts Finalists, 63 Honorable Mentions, and 84 Merit Award recipients. These brilliant students have been recognized for Poetry, Short Story, Creative Nonfiction, Dramatic Script, 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. Thirteen Adroit students have been named U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts following participation in the mentorship.

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)
Aiden 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)
Isabella Cho (2020 — Writing - Poetry)
Jieyan Wang (2020 — Writing - Short Story)
Madelyn Dietz (2021 — Writing - Short Story)
Elyse Thomas (2021 — Writing - Poetry)
Katherine Vandermel (2021 — Writing - Poetry)
Stella Lei (2022 — Writing - Poetry)

Click here to see a full list of YoungArts and Presidential Scholar recognition received by Adroit students.
STUDENT ALUMNI

Dua Aasim (Poetry, '21)
Oyinloluwa Aderibigbe (Nonfiction, '21)
Claire Ahn (Fiction, '19)
Olivia Alger (Fiction, '16)
Rebecca Alifimoff (Poetry, '14)
Aminah Aliu (Spoken Word, '21)
Julia Allen (Poetry, '13)
Priya Allen (Fiction, '22)
Sophie Allen (Poetry, '16)
Isabella Alvarez (Fiction, '17)
Sarkis Antonyan (Poetry, '22)
Sophie App-Singer (Poetry, '21)
Aidan Aragon (Poetry, '19)
Abeer Arif (Fiction, '22)
Samantha Ardoim (Poetry, '13)
Fareena Arefeen (Poetry, '17)
Margot Armbuster (Poetry, '16)
Ethan Aronson (Fiction, '14)
Darius Atefat-Peckham (Poetry, '18)
Kathryn Azad (Fiction, '22)
Lukas Bacho (Fiction, '19)
Megan Balents (Poetry, '21)
Margaret Balich (Nonfiction, '20)
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Nikita Bastin (Poetry, '16)
Shaliz Bazlidjoo (Nonfiction, '22)
Brynn Beatty (Fiction, '20)
Tess Becket (Poetry, '17)
Yasmin Belkhyr (Poetry, '13)

Kelsie Bennett (Poetry, '19)
Maya Berardi (Poetry, '19)
Anjali Berdia (Fiction, '16)
Matilda Berke (Poetry, '17)
Sophie Bernik (Poetry, '22)
Caroline Bernstein (Fiction, '16)
Gia Bharadwaj (Poetry, '22)
Rudrakshi Bhattacharjee (Fiction, '17)
Dia Bhojwani (Fiction, '22)
Stella Binion (Poetry, '17)
Margaret Blackburn (Poetry, '17)
Nathan Blansett (Poetry, '15)
Dana Blatte (Poetry, '21)
Daniel Blokh (Nonfiction, '16)
Rho Bloom-Wang (Poetry, '22)
Tom Bosworth (Poetry, '18)
Leah Boyd (Poetry, '18)
Elliott Bradley (Poetry, '19)
Gabriel Braunstein (Poetry, '15)
Annabel Brazaitis (Poetry, '16)
Sage Braziel (Poetry, '19)
Bronwen Brenner (Fiction, '17)
Emory Brinson (Poetry, '19)
Helena Brittain (Poetry, '22)
Aluna Brogdon (Fiction, '19)
Rachel Brooks (Poetry, '20)
Wyatt Browne (Poetry, '22)
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Justin Han (Poetry, '17)  
Yuri Han (Poetry, '17)  
Vincent Hao (Poetry, '17)  
Kathryn Hargett (Poetry, '15)  
Jordan Harper (Fiction, '16)  
Caroline Harris (Poetry, '14)  
May Hathaway (Nonfiction, '20)  
Jacqueline He (Fiction, '17)  
Rachana Hegde (Poetry, '16)  
Caden Heiser-Cerrato (Fiction, '22)  
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Angelo Hernandez-Sias (Fiction, '16)  
Miles Hewitt (Poetry, '13)  
Mai Hoang (Poetry, '17)  
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Caldwell Gregg Holden (Fiction, '17)  
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Yong-Yu Huang (Poetry, '21)  
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Max Hunt (Fiction, '17)  
Anastasia Hutnick (Dramatic Script, '15)  
Christina Im (Poetry, '15)  
Annika Inampudi (Fiction, '20)  
Shrirajani Iyengar (Fiction, '20)  
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Harsimran Kaur (Fiction, '22)  
Lilly Keefe-Powers (Fiction, '16)  
Vidhatri Keetha (Poetry, '22)  
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Zelda Kellogg (Fiction, '21)  
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Yasmeen Khan (Fiction, '19)  
Safwan Khatib (Dramatic Script, '15)  
Zain Ul Abidin Khan Alizai (Poetry, '20)  
Megha Khemka (Fiction, '22)  
Felix Killingsworth (Poetry, '19)  
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Madeline Kim (Poetry, '14)  
Sophie Kim (Poetry, '20)  
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Julia Lee-Papastavros (Poetry, '17)  
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Qingying (Susan) Li (Poetry, '18)  
Stella Li (Poetry, '20)  
Yujia Li (Poetry, '22)  
Jeffrey Liao (Poetry, '19)  
Erica Lin (Poetry, '14)  
Serena Lin (Poetry, '17)  
Lauren Lisk (Poetry, '21)  
Emma Lister (Poetry, '14)  
Rachel Litchman (Poetry, '16)  
Amy Liu (Poetry, '21)  
Daniel Liu (Poetry, '22)  
Danju Zoe Liu (Poetry, '21)  
Emily Liu (Poetry, '19)  
Grace Marie Liu (Poetry, '22)  
Katherine Liu (Poetry, '16)  
Patricia Liu (Poetry, '16)  
Samantha Liu (Fiction, '21)  
Sophia Liu (Poetry, '21)  
Zizheng Liu (Poetry, '21)  
Bryana Lorenzo (Fiction, '22)  
Fabiana Loria (Poetry, '21)
Luiza Louback Fontes (Nonfiction, '22)
Helene Lovett (Fiction, '14)
Cynthia Lu (Poetry, '19)
Fiona Lu (Poetry, '22)
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)
Tansee Mah (Poetry, '19)
Duy Quang Mai (Poetry, '19)
Sophie Main (Poetry, '20)
Kaley Mamo (Fiction, '16)
Tinashe Mangwusa (Spoken Word, '21)
Luz Mañungua (Poetry, '20)
Audrey Matzke (Poetry, '22)
Alyssa Mazzoli (Fiction, '16)
Rhiannon McGavin (Poetry, '16)
Molly McGinnis (Poetry, '13)
Frances McKitterick (Fiction, '19)
Bryan McNeal (Poetry, '21)
 Brianna McNish (Fiction, '56)
Zara Meadows (Poetry, '21)
Divya Mehrish (Poetry, '21)
Ama Menon (Poetry, '19)
Aria Miao (Fiction, '20)
Emma Miao (Poetry, '20)
Christina Miles (Poetry, '21)
Sophia Miller (Fiction, '20)
Abigail Minard (Poetry, '15)
Ida Mobini (Fiction, '21)
Sarah Fathima Mohammed (Poetry, '20)
Aamina Mughal (Poetry, '22)
Alyssa Mulé (Poetry, '14)
Olga Musial (Fiction, '22)
Solomon Mussing (Poetry, '18)
Meghana Mysoor (Poetry, '15)
Marjan Naderi (Poetry, '20)
Jackson Neal (Poetry, '18)
Jenna Nesky (Poetry, '22)
Charlotte Newman (Fiction, '20)
Linh Nguyen (Poetry, '18)
Sylvia Nica (Fiction, '21)
Maabena Ni (Poetry, '22)
Tess O'Brien (Fiction, '21)
Rebecca Oet (Poetry, '17)
Aiko Offner (Nonfiction, '21)
Elise Ofilada (Poetry, '18)
Ernest O. Ogünnyemí (Poetry, '19)
Semilore Ola (Poetry, '20)
Fiyinfoluwa Oladipo (Poetry, '19)
Erin O'Malley (Poetry, '17)
Chinonye Omeirondi (Nonfiction, '21)
Harper Oreck (Poetry, '18)
Katherine Oung (Spoken Word, '21)
Katriona Page (Fiction, '21)
Ottavia Paluch (Poetry, '19)
Sophie Paquette (Nonfiction, '18)
Edith Patterson (Fiction, '20)
Luisa Peñaflor (Poetry, '20)
Annamiciah Pendarvis (Poetry, '19)
Noel Peng (Poetry, '16)
Lana Perice (Fiction, '20)
Taylor Petty (Poetry, '15)
Gillian Perry (Poetry, '22)
Emily Pickering (Poetry, '22)
Tre Poole (Fiction, '20)
Em Power (Poetry, '20)
Meghna (Chili) Pramoda (Poetry, '22)
Amanda Prager (Poetry, '13)
Anika Prakash (Poetry, '16)
Katheryn Prather (Poetry, '22)
Isabel Prioleau (Poetry, '20)
Michelle Qiao (Nonfiction, '22)
Christina Qiu (Fiction, '14)
Alexandra Quigley (Fiction, '18)
Gayatri Rajan (Poetry, '20)
Sophia Ramirez (Fiction, '20)
Meena Rakasi (Nonfiction, '19)
Ben Read (Poetry, '15)
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Brynne Rebele-Henry (Poetry, '15)
Laya Reddy (Poetry, '20)
Fiona Reenan (Poetry, '22)
Joey Reisberg (Poetry, '16)
Jae Haeng Rhee (Fiction, '16)
Kaydance Rice (Poetry, '22)
Abby Richards (Fiction, '19)
Andrew Rickert (Poetry, '17)
Mya Rigoli (Poetry, '19)
Deja Robinson (Nonfiction, '21)
Trini Rogando (Poetry, '22)
Lauren Rooney (Poetry, '20)
Sasha Rotko (Fiction, '22)
Tessa Rudolph (Fiction, '17)
Maya Salameh (Poetry, '18)
Andrea Salvador (Fiction, '18)
Isabella Santoni (Spoken Word, '21)
Alex Sayette (Poetry, '21)
Josh Schlachter (Poetry, '16)
Abigail Schott-Rosenfield (Poetry, '13)
Elena Sénéchal-Becker (Poetry, '15)
Vidhima Shetty (Poetry, '17)
Jenny Shi (Poetry, '20)
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Elizabeth Shorkey (Poetry, '20)
Tarik Shwaish (Poetry, '17)
Sahara Sidi (Nonfiction, '17)
Maia Siegel (Poetry, '18)
Alejandro Sigui (Poetry, '20)
Lucy Silbaugh (Fiction, '14)
Amanda Silberling (Poetry, '13)
Jasmine Simms (Poetry, '14)
Olivia Sisson (Poetry, '20)
Ella Sohn (Fiction, '21)
Polina Solovyeva (Fiction, '16)
Griffin Somaratne (Fiction, '17)
Shannon Sommers (Fiction, '15)
Cindy Song (Poetry, '18)
Derek Song (Poetry, '18)
Grace Song (Poetry, '19)
Jane Song (Fiction, '15)  
Vivien Song (Poetry, '20)  
Tyler Sookralli (Poetry, '22)  
Audrey Spensley (Fiction, '14)  
Lily Spiro (Fiction, '14)  
Scott Stevens (Poetry, '16)  
Sarah Street (Poetry, '20)  
Rachel Sucher (Poetry, '17)  
Y.A. Suh (Fiction, '21)  
Dilara Sümübül (Fiction, '22)  
Esther Sun (Poetry, '21)  
Tuesday Sweeney (Fiction, '19)  
Eliana Swerdlow (Poetry, '16)  
Cobin Szymanski (Poetry, '20)  
Talin Tahajian (Poetry, '13)  
Kwan Ann Tan (Fiction, '16)  
Oriana Tang (Poetry, '14)  
Riley Tao (Fiction, '21)  
Ocean Teu (Fiction, '22)  
Alexa Theofanidis (Poetry, '21)  
Elyse Thomas (Poetry, '20)  
Emily Tian (Poetry, '17)  
Katie Tian (Poetry, '22)  
Yvanna Vien Tica (Poetry, '19)  
Greta Timmins (Fiction, '18)  
Stephanie Tom (Poetry, '17)  
Patrick Tong (Poetry, '19)  
Sarah Tran (Fiction, '14)  
Elisa Troncoso-Cabello (Poetry, '21)  
Jonathan Truong (Fiction, '20)  
Caroline Tsai (Poetry, '15)  
Christine Tsu (Fiction, '22)  
Selin Turkyilmaz (Poetry, '16)  
Sakshi Umrotkar (Fiction, '20)  
Jamie Uy (Poetry, '15)  
Katherine Vandermel (Fiction, '20)  
Amelia Van Donsel (Poetry, '17)  
Nikki Velletri (Poetry, '18)  
Smrita Verma (Poetry, '15)  
Shreya Vikram (Fiction, '20)  
Ari Vishin (Poetry, '19)  
Jordan Villegas (Fiction, '16)  
Julie von Bahr (Fiction, '21)  
Priyanka Voruganti (Poetry, '18)  
Sunny Vuong (Poetry, '21)  
Alisa Wadsworth (Fiction, '16)  
Yash Wadwekar (Fiction, '21)  
Nora Wagner (Fiction, '20)  
Lucy Wainger (Poetry, '15)  
Amy Wang (Fiction, '20)  
Anna Wang (Poetry, '18)  
Ashley Wang (Poetry, '22)  
Grace Wang (Poetry, '18)  
Jieyan Wang (Fiction, '19)  
Kexin Wang (Fiction, '20)  
Robin Wang (Poetry, '21)  
Lydia Wei (Poetry, '19)  
Natalie Wei (Poetry, '22)  
Rachael Lin Wheeler (Poetry, '21)  
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Eli Winter (Journalism, '15)  
Allison Wong (Poetry, '21)  
Trudy Wrona (Poetry, '15)  
Valerie Wu (Fiction, '17)  
J. Xiang (Poetry, '20)  
Catherine Xie (Fiction, '22)  
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Cindy Xin (Poetry, '19)  
Jessica Xu (Poetry, '18)  
Madison Xu (Poetry, '22)  
Lily Yanagimoto (Poetry, '20)  
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Maggie Yang (Poetry, '22)  
Sarah Yang (Poetry, '21)  
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Emily Yin (Poetry, '16)  
Charity Young (Fiction, '16)  
Sophie Young (Poetry, '21)  
AnQi Yu (Fiction, '17)  
Iris Yu (Fiction, '21)  
Sheerea Yu (Poetry, '22)  
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Tina Zeng (Fiction, '22)  
Aaron Zhang (Poetry, '21)  
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Carrie Zhang (Poetry, '15)  
Emily Zhang (Poetry, '15)  
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Jessica Zhang (Poetry, '15)  
Margaret Zhang (Poetry, '16)  
Lauren Zhang (Fiction, '22)  
Ray Zhang (Poetry, '22)  
Sarah Zhang (Poetry, '22)  
Aileen Zhao (Fiction, '21)  
Audrey Zhao (Poetry, '15)  
Emily Zhao (Fiction, '15)  
Ran Zhao (Poetry, '21)  
Sophia Zhao (Poetry, '19)  
Zuyi Zhao (Poetry, '17)  
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Cynthia Zhou (Poetry, '19)  
Joyce Zhou (Poetry, '17)  
Lily Zhou (Poetry, '16)  
William Zhou (Fiction, '21)  
Gabrielle Zhu (Poetry, '18)  
Sophie Zhu (Poetry, '20)  
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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 student and non-student writers, and the annual Adroit Journal Summer Mentorship Program for high school students around the globe.

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

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