

FALL 2022 * VOLUME XII, ISSUE I

Words Matter

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH, MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY



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THE MONMOUTH REVIEW: RECAP

by **Melissa Badamo '22M**
and **Sarah Van Clef '22M**

Monmouth University's literary and arts magazine and club, the *Monmouth Review*, provides a safe space for creative writers and artists on campus. The *Monmouth Review* club produces an annual publication highlighting students' creative talents campus-wide. During the construction of the magazine, general club members meet with the e-board members to discuss submission guidelines, club activities, potential outcomes of the submissions, and literary and art networking opportunities.

Students matriculated in any major can submit literature and/or artwork to the *Monmouth Review* via e-campus, under the *Monmouth Review* module. Writers can submit either poetry and/or prose, and artists can submit work in any medium including graphic design, digital photographs, oil and acrylic on canvas, graphite on paper, and more.

After the submission deadline ends on December 19, the e-board will come together to read and evaluate students' work to decide what gets published in the magazine based on overall quality and creativity of the submission. Members of the e-board also meet with writers to edit pieces as necessary, creating a collaborative relationship between editor and writer during the editing process.

"It's wonderful being able to see the wide breadth of talent on campus through the submissions," said Samantha Walton, senior English student and Vice President of the *Monmouth Review*. "I like finding some of my new favorite artists already among the Monmouth population."

As this is a student-run magazine, it is our job as members to prepare students for future publications in other magazines and journals. This becomes a learning opportunity not only for the student submitting the art, but also for the editor. Once the pieces are finalized, the art team collaborates with the literature side to tell a cohesive story, set up the issue, check the e-proofs, and consult with contributors on last-minute edits; then the issue is off to the printer.

The included pieces of literature and artwork are celebrated during the *Monmouth Review's* annual launch party. Writers read their poetry and/or prose, while artists share their artwork and describe the inspiration behind specific creative choices. The fall launch party for issue #65 was held on Dec. 1 (2022), and the spring launch party for issue #66 will be announced at a later date.

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MONMOUTH
UNIVERSITY

ENGLISH

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NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

As we near the end of a busy Fall semester, my first serving as Chair and our first being mostly “back to normal” since the COVID pandemic upended all of our lives in the Spring of 2020, I am grateful for the opportunity to reflect on what I have learned in my first few months on the job and share some of the exciting things that are going on with English at Monmouth.

One of the things I have come to more fully appreciate since becoming Chair is how we who have the privilege of “doing English” at MU stand on the shoulders of those who came before us. This was not only made apparent to me when, in the space of a few weeks in September, we learned about the passing of two retired titans of the English department, Barbara Jaye and Dick Brewer, but it has also been further driven home as we have been given the green light to begin evaluating candidates for our new Caryl and Charles Sills Scholarship, a generous, annual \$15,000 award that our former chair and her husband have recently established and which will be awarded to a rising junior English-Education major. We are looking forward to announcing the 2022-23 and the 2023-24 winners at our Student Awards Ceremony in April, and everyone may look forward to a detailed write-up in our Spring newsletter.

Another of the things that I have enjoyed the most about my new role is how it has afforded me a more comprehensive appreciation for all the diverse things that make our department special. Some of the major highlights of my Fall semester have included attending Ken Womack’s fascinating Visiting Writers Series reading from his forthcoming biography of the Beatles’ roadie, Mal Evans, and spending a Friday evening bowling and socializing with graduate students and faculty at our first-ever Throws and Prose event. Every day, I gain new perspectives on the multitude of ways in which English engages and serves our students and contributes substantively to the intellectual culture and day-to-day life of the university. Looking forward to next semester, I’m especially excited about our 4th annual Toni Morrison Day event, which will be held on February 17 and will feature an in-person talk by Dr. Farah Jasmine Griffin, author of *Read Until You Understand: The Profound Wisdom of Black Life and Literature* (2021). Make sure to save the date!

Many thanks to our students and my colleagues—and a special thanks to my predecessor, Susan Goulding, whose ten years of service, leadership, support, and mentoring we all sincerely appreciate—for a great first semester as Chair. Be well, and have a wonderful winter break!



DR. HANLY APPOINTED NEW CHAIR OF ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

by Sarah Curtis

J.P. Hanly, Ph.D., an Associate Professor, has been appointed as Chair of the English department this Fall 2022 semester. A graduate of the University of Louisville's Rhetoric and Composition Ph.D. program, Dr. Hanly has published articles in the *Journal for the History of Rhetoric*, *Peitho: Journal of the Coalition of Feminist Scholars in the History of Rhetoric and Composition*, and *Rhetoric Review* and has delivered numerous presentations at RSA, CCCC, PCA/ACA, NeMLA, and the Thomas R. Watson Conference. Since coming to Monmouth in 2014, Dr. Hanly has served in several previous administrative roles, including Associate Director of First-Year Composition (FYC) from 2014 to 2017 and Director of FYC from 2017 to 2022. He regularly teaches EN101 and EN102, as well as undergraduate and graduate-level courses in the history of rhetoric, rhetorical and composition theory, and composition pedagogy.

During his initial months serving as English Chair, Dr. Hanly has found that there are always new challenges in store: "Every day brings something unexpected, usually in the form of an email, a request, a challenge that needs to be addressed, or a report somebody's asking for." He acknowledges, however, that he knew that was the nature of the job coming in because he "had a great mentor in Dr. Goulding." Accordingly, when asked about his priorities for his first year on the job, he says, "My main emphasis is to focus on being sure that I'm able to complete the responsibilities of the job. I hope to maintain the real strengths and the culture of our department that was handed to me."

One of the main challenges that Dr. Hanly sees himself as facing as the incoming Department chair is the need to advocate for hiring new English faculty. Over the past couple of years, the department has been hit hard by talented professors moving on to new positions, retirements, and unexpected deaths. Dr. Hanly is stressing to university administrators that the department needs additional tenure-stream creative writing faculty to attract students to our new MFA program and new tenure-stream literature faculty specializing in areas such as African-American and LGBTQ+ literature because "it's important . . . to give our students a thorough understanding of the diversity of the literary tradition, to allow them to engage with a wide, diverse array of texts, authors, and ideas, so I'm advocating, in a time of constrained budget, to meet those needs."

Another of the main challenges that Dr. Hanly mentioned was the need to promote the Department's undergraduate and graduate English programs to new and prospective students, as well as to existing students at Monmouth. Recently, he has been working with Program Administrators and the Department's administrative staff to update the English department website, encouraging the creation of more effective bulletin boards within the department that increase faculty and student awareness of opportunities and events, and identifying ways to improve the university's online marketing efforts. As for the English department itself, Dr. Hanly is proud of what it brings to the university and what it has to offer prospective students: "I'm really



Dr. John P. Hanly, Department Chair

"I hope to maintain the real strengths and the culture of our department that was handed to me."

fortunate to have taken over a department that doesn't need a lot of radical change in that it's a very collegial department that works hard and works well together and is productive of great scholarship and great teaching."

The English faculty is excited to welcome Dr. Hanly to his new position. "I am *thrilled* for Dr. Hanly. The English Chair position is a natural fit for him. He's been a leader in his department since his arrival at Monmouth, and he's been a campus leader, too," says Dr. Werner, an Associate Professor, and the new Director of First Year Composition at Monmouth. "He is empathetic, an excellent mentor, and most importantly, a champion of equity. We all respect Dr. Goulding and have been honored to have her leadership over the past decade, but Dr. Hanly

HANLY Continued on page 12



CONGRATULATIONS SIGMA TAU DELTA MEMBERS!

January 2023 Graduates

Corinne Cavallo *Megan Nielsen*
Kathleen Ruocco *Mikayla Tranberg*
John Vurro

Delta Sigma Chapter Update

The Delta Sigma Chapter congratulates our new Fall 2022 inductees. The induction ceremony, led by the Chapter Executive Board, will be held in Spring 2023. Details will be forthcoming.

Welcome to our Fall 2022 Inductees

Felicia Abline *Grace Cotogno*
Dorothy Doyle *Charlotte Edwards*
Erin Fowler *Liza Gordon*
Allie Gorenc *Debora Graas*
Anna Huber *Meadow Magnani*
Kalysta Mango *Megan McCafferty*
Anaiza Medina *Carlee Migliorisi*
Moriah Roof *Matthew Rossetti*
Nashaviyah Steward

SIGMA TAU DELTA OATH

I shall endeavor to advance the study of literature, to encourage worthwhile reading, to promote the mastery of written expression, and to foster a spirit of community among those who specialize in the study of the English language and of literature, ever keeping in mind our International motto:
Sincerity, Truth, Design.

HOLDING COURT WITH DR. WERNER

by Emma Varga '22

Recently, Associate Professor of Rhetoric and Composition, Dr. Courtney Wright-Werner, was appointed Director of First-Year Composition. While her research focuses map across the field of rhetoric – most notably in New Media studies – her WPA, or Writing Program Administrative work has followed her throughout her educational career, culminating in this new position. Above all, what marks Werner’s professional career, now typified by her appointment as the Director of First-Year Comp., is her in-ailing sense of social justice – her advocacy both for her colleagues in the English-department, and critically, for her first-year composition students.

While discussing the role, it’s clear WPA work serves as the very fabric of her ethos. Fondly, she recalled the foundational, and often epiphanic moments of her WPA work with a clarity and drive that only serves to emphasize her devotion to first-year comp. Indeed, at one point during our conversation, she was moved almost to tears as she recalled her work with students in the Rising Stars Program in 2008, a summer-bridge program that offers minority and low-income students scholarship opportunities, many of whom she remains in contact with to this day. This is perhaps revealing of the kind of learning environment Werner establishes in her composition class-rooms, one which nurtures inclusivity, patience, and intellectual curiosity. Resoundingly, it’s this implicit desire to cultivate an inclusive writing culture within the classroom – of harboring mutually discursive and enriching spaces for her students – that understitches the longstanding work Werner does as Associate Professor, and now, as Director of First-Year Comp.

At length, she discussed the need to make classrooms safe-spaces for her students, spaces which encourage this reciprocity of knowledge. She is enlivened by this reciprocity, explaining, “To be able to have that kind of relationship with your students, and your students can feel that way with you – that you’re in a room committed to learning and committed to taking care of each other – that’s really special, and a lot of first year students don’t have that opportunity at other schools.”

Critically, Werner emphasizes her WPA work as dual in its objectives. At once, she emphasizes the need “...to find ways to support students, particularly in their writing and in their communicative abilities” by way of illuminating the vibrant writing culture on campus. Moreover, Werner also recognizes that empowering her fellow colleagues, including mentoring newly-appointed adjunct professors, is paramount in maintaining such a culture, and more importantly, in the continued advocacy for first-year students at Monmouth.

Upon assuming her role as Director, Werner continues to encourage more members of Monmouth’s English community – both students and faculty alike – to participate in nationally recognized conferences, including, most notably, the Conference on College Communication and Composition. At this conference in 2022, participants addressed the demands to create a more inclu-



Dr. Courtney Werner, Director of FYC

“To be able to have that kind of relationship . . . that you’re in a room committed to learning and committed to taking care of each other – that’s really special, and a lot of first year students don’t have that opportunity at other schools.”

sive writing culture within the classroom, by way of empowering students of color in first-year composition courses.

Moreover, with regular consultation with the English faculty, including with Dr. Patrick Love, who was recently appointed Associate Director of First-Year Composition, as well as the First-Year Composition Committee, other changes include reviewing the recommended textbook list in an effort to ensure that they reflect the timely, pedagogical and ideological practices of Monmouth University. The English Department faculty can also look forward to a host of new professional development workshops, many of which aim to reflect contemporary discourses within the fields of rhetoric and composition. In making such changes, Werner circles back to her core values as WPA, that of the advocacy, for her colleagues and for her students, which she regards with the highest importance.

And the Category is ... RICKY TUCKER

by Tony Clark '22M

On Wednesday, November 9th, I met with Professor Ricky Tucker to discuss his recent book *And the Category Is: Inside New York's Vogue, House, and Ballroom Community* (Beacon Press, 2022), and his Creative Nonfiction course at Monmouth University. I also chatted with him about what sustains him as a writer. I was fortunate to have had the opportunity to take Prof. Tucker's Creative Nonfiction class this semester, where we explored the genre in various mediums such as book, script, and interview writing. Last month, I enjoyed attending Prof. Tucker's feature at the Visiting Writers' Series in the Great Hall, where he brought his book to life.

Tony: Writing a book is an incredible undertaking. What led you to write *And the Category is ...* and what sustained you throughout the process?

Prof. Tucker: What led me to it was being immersed in ballroom subculture. It became more than just entertainment – the people became family and friends to me, and I respect them intellectually and artistically. I was always trying to incorporate ballroom into my work. I had the opportunity to teach a vogue workshop at an AWP Conference (Association of Writers & Writing Programs). There was a colleague of mine who'd later approach me about writing a book about ballroom, and I spent the next 11 years researching.

Tony: Can you tell me a bit about your nonfiction class?

Prof. Tucker: Well I have to say, you all are really flying through the prompts we've done in class! You know, writing prompts can start from anywhere. We've done art critiques, and you know art is such a broad topic – I wanted to see how you all responded. We've also done personal essays and strongly-worded letters, which is a particular brand of nonfiction that can be very funny. We also conducted an interview with someone, which is one of the fewer types of nonfiction where it's not about you. It's not personal, but it's also not fiction.

Tony: What was it like bringing your book to life at the Visiting Writers' Series for a new audience who may not all be familiar with ballroom?

Prof. Tucker: For me, it's all about meeting people where they are, just like in my classes. It was very interesting having you all watch "Vogue" by Madonna, and explaining how she didn't invent the dance but rather was appreciating (and appropriating) the form. The fact that there were some younger, queer students in the audience as well as older folks let me know that there was some foundational knowledge of ballroom. I felt like I was at home during the whole thing.

Tony: Yes, it was a great crowd and we were really appreciative that you were there. Ballroom (and the LGBT community as a whole) has regained a lot of traction in recent years. The work of educating the masses about this community continues to be so important despite the increased representation in shows, such as *Pose*, and legislative wins like marriage equality. I feel like your book will be like an encyclopedia of sorts, especially for future generations looking back at this pivotal moment in history.

Tony: Do you have anything else you'd like to add?

Prof. Tucker: It's been a joy! Thank you. You all have been one of my favorite classes.



(Left to right): Professors Ricky Tucker and Alena Graedon, Interim Graduate Program Director for the M.F.A in Creative Writing.

VISITING WRITERS SERIES WELCOMES ROBERT PINSKY

by Jennifer Rivera '20

On Thursday, November 10, the Visiting Writers Series and Monmouth University Center for the Arts co-sponsored an evening event with Long Branch native, Robert Pinsky. Introduced by Professor Alena Graedon, the evening was moderated by Dr. David Hamilton Golland, Dean of the Wayne D. McMurray School of Humanities. Dr. Golland is the author of *A Terrible Thing to Waste: Arthur Fletcher and the Conundrum of the Black Republican* and the upcoming book, *Living Just to Find Emotion: Journey and Race in Rock Music*.

The event, "An Evening with Robert Pinsky" began with the first question asked by Dr. Golland, which was "Who is Robert Pinsky?" Robert Pinsky is amongst other things, a poet, essayist, translator, collaborator, and teacher. Pinsky is a William Fairfield Warren Distinguished Professor of English and Director of Creative Writing at Boston University. His writing has been awarded the William Carlos Williams prize, the Premio Capri in Italy, PEN/Voelcker Award, the Lenore Marshall prize, the Korean Manhae Award, as well as the Harold Washington Award.

He is also an unprecedented three-time US Poet Laureate, who instituted the Favorite Poem Project. The Project, in which thousands of Americans submitted their favorite pieces of poetry, resulted in several anthologies and DVD videos of readings from people across the country. He was a guest star on *The Simpsons*, playing himself in the episode, "Little Girl in the Big Ten." He is the author of over fifteen books of poetry and prose, ten poetry anthologies, two poetry/jazz albums, and three translated works, including *The Inferno of Dante*. His latest work, and first memoir, *Jersey Breaks: Becoming an American Poet*, was released on October 11, 2022.

Dr. Golland asked what is a "Jersey break"? A "Jersey break" is giving someone a break when you could give them a hard time. In his own words, though, Pinsky said that the answer to that question is answered in a more social way in *Jersey Breaks*. It is not just an autobiographical account of his most fun memories or

most interesting stories from his life, but also an examination of the many influences that made him who he is today. The best sentence in the book, Pinsky said, could be the first line of the preface which reads, "Given my background, a friend asked me, how is it I became a poet rather than a criminal or an optometrist?" Why? His father was an optician and his grandfather had been a criminal in the bootlegging trade during prohibition.

In *Jersey Breaks*, Pinsky reflects on how the influences of his hometown of Long Branch, his family, American society, and American culture worked towards creating who he is. He recalls a tough, mixed, effectively segregated area of white, black, and ethnic families. This formed in Pinsky an early system of identifying people from different races and social classes, and an early awareness that motivated him to write this book. He sought to tell his life story through the lenses of social class and democracy. Through this process he discovered one of his principles was that "We cannot attain or preserve a political democracy or a democratic society unless at the foundation there is a democratic culture. Whatever distinguishes between the excellence of Duke Ellington and Buster Keaton as well as the excellence of Emily Dickinson and George Gershwin and Walt Whitman. Wherever that spirit is, if we can't hold on to that we're finished." This principle he said, is not found in the book, rather it was always in the back of his mind as he wrote about his adventures at Monmouth Junior College and Rutgers as well as instigating a poetry reading at the White House, reading poems with the first lady by Langston Hughes, Whitman, and Frost.




(Left to right): Dr. David Golland, Dean, Wayne D. McMurray School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Author Robert Pinsky.

February 17 2023 **The 4th Annual**

DIGITAL POSTER COMPETITION

Sponsored by the Guggenheim Memorial Library




CALLING ALL ARTISTS
"The presence of evil was something to be first recognized, then dealt with, survived, outwitted, triumphed over."
— Toni Morrison

THIS YEAR'S THEME: RESILIENCE

Toni Morrison Day

Eligibility: Contest open to all full-time, undergraduate students of Monmouth University. All entries should be submitted on an individual basis.
Entry Limit: One poster per student.
Deadline: Contest opens November 15, 2022. Entries must be submitted by Friday, January 27, 2023.
Requirements: Design a poster representing the theme "Resilience" in celebration of Nobel laureate Toni Morrison's birthday. The posters may engage with any aspect of Toni Morrison's work and legacy, including issues related to social justice, race, gender, civil rights, community, identity etc.
Only original work is allowed. If you have a photograph (or images) as part of your poster, please confirm that either you took the photo or you have obtained legal rights to use the photo/images.
Poster designs should contain: The name of the event (Toni Morrison Day) and the date: February 17, 2023. *A small credit line with the student's name.
Poster Size: The poster can be horizontal or vertical, measuring 48" x 36" (ratio of 4:3).
Media: Any mixed media suitable for reproduction as a poster is allowed, including computer-generated graphics. All posters must be original art. No trademarked or copyrighted images or phrases should be used.
Submission Format: Digital designs should be submitted as a 300 dpi JPG or PDF. A traditional painting or drawing, if should be scanned and sent as a 300 dpi JPG or PDF to tonimorrisonday@monmouth.edu
Winners: Three winners for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place for prizes of \$100, \$75 and \$50 respectively will be chosen by a panel of judges (representatives from the English department's committee, the Library, and Art Department) and announced by February 10, 2023.
Display and Rights: The winning poster will be displayed at the University Library AND reproduced on the official Toni Morrison Day webpage. The Department/University will use the poster in whole for display or promotion only. All posters will, however, remain the property of the creator. Entry in the contest constitutes full permission to publish names and photos of winners and contestants without further compensation. The determination of eligibility of entries and any interpretation of these rules is at the sole discretion of the TMD committee and shall be final and binding upon all entrants.

4th Annual Toni Morrison Day Creative Writing Contest



There is no time for despair, no place for self-pity, no need for silence, no room for fear. We speak, we write, we do language. That is how civilizations heal.
— Toni Morrison

This year's theme: RESILIENCE

Sponsored by The Monmouth Review

Eligibility: Contest open to all students at Monmouth University.
Deadline: January 15, 2023

- Only original, previously unpublished poetry and prose may be submitted.
- Submissions will be judged by members of the Monmouth Review editorial board, Monmouth Review club members who are not on the evaluation committee are welcome to submit.
- Three winners will be announced on Toni Morrison Day, February 17, 2023. The winners will receive gift card prizes and their work will be published in the 2023 issue of the Monmouth Review.

Submission guidelines: The submissions may engage with any aspect of Toni Morrison's work and legacy, including issues related to social justice, race, gender, civil rights, Black history, roots, community, identity, spirituality. The focus of Toni Morrison Day 2023 is on Resilience, so submissions on this theme are strongly encouraged.
Submit: Up to two poems (maximum 4 pages total) or one prose piece (maximum 6 pages). No cover letter necessary. Type your name only at the bottom of the file. Submit all work in one file, as Word document (.docx). Submit in the Toni Morrison Creative Writing Contest 2023 folder in the Monmouth Review on e-campus. (Note: It might be unplinned).

THE 4TH ANNUAL TONI MORRISON DAY

This February, author, activist, and academic, Toni Morrison would have turned 92. The first black woman to win a Nobel Prize in Literature, her contributions and influence on the world are immeasurable. Once again in honor of her life and legacy, The Department of English will host its annual Toni Morrison Day. February 17, 2023, will be the date for the 4th annual celebration and we are excited to announce that the majority of the event will take place in person on campus this year.

Digital Poster Competition

Sponsored by the Guggenheim Memorial Library

Eligibility: Contest open to all full-time, undergraduate students at Monmouth University. All entries should be submitted on an individual basis.

Deadline: Contest opens November 15, 2022. Entries must be submitted by Friday, January 27, 2023.

Requirements: Design a poster representing the theme "Resilience" in celebration of Nobel laureate Toni Morrison's birthday. The posters may engage with any aspect of Toni Morrison's work and legacy, including issues related to social justice, race, gender, civil rights, community, identity etc. Only original work is allowed. If you have a photograph (or images) as part of your poster, please confirm that either you took the photo or you have obtained legal rights to use the photo/images.

Creative Writing Contest

Sponsored by The Monmouth Review

Eligibility: Contest open to all students at Monmouth University. Only original, previously unpublished poetry and prose maybe submitted.

Deadline: January 15, 2023.

Submission Guidelines: The submissions may engage with any aspect of Toni Morrison's work and legacy, including issues related to social justice, race, gender, civil rights, Black history, roots, community, identity, spirituality. The focus of Toni Morrison Day 2023 is on Resilience, so submissions on this theme are strongly encouraged.

Submit: Up to two poems (maximum 4 pages total) or one prose piece (maximum 6 pages). No cover letter necessary.

For more information, visit <https://www.monmouth.edu/departement-of-english/toni-morrison-day/>.



DR. FARAH JASMINE GRIFFIN KEYNOTE SPEAKER, 4TH ANNUAL TONI MORRISON DAY

The Department is honored to welcome distinguished Keynote speaker Dr. Farah Jasmine Griffin to campus this year. Dr. Griffin is the inaugural Chair of the African American and African Diaspora Studies Department at Columbia University. Her talk will discuss her newest book, *Read Until You Understand: The Profound Wisdom of Black Life and Literature*, which has received acclaimed reviews from scholars including Ibram X. Kendi. Other events central to this year's theme "Resilience" will include a student symposium, a university-wide book discussion, and the presentation of this year's Creative Writing and Poster Competition winners. Please visit the TMD homepage for the schedule of events.

Dr. Farah Jasmine Griffin (Photo Credit: Peggy Dilliard Toone)

DEPARTMENT STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to our January 2023 Graduates!

<i>Corinne Cavallo</i>	<i>Brianna Paliotta</i>
<i>Allison Long</i>	<i>Jonathan Peralta</i>
<i>John Vurro</i>	<i>Kathleen Ruocco</i>
<i>Rosaria Magliulo</i>	<i>Mikayla Tranberg</i>
<i>Gabriella Mavrookas</i>	<i>Dana Weisman</i>
<i>Megan Nielsen</i>	<i>Zachary Zamora</i>
<i>Artemis Pagan</i>	

MA and MFA Manuscripts Defended

Corinne Cavallo, *The Deer Catcher*. Fall 2022.
Allison Long, *Field Notes for Future Ghosts*. Fall 2022.
John Vurro, *Play, Rewind*. Fall 2022.

Congratulations to English and Elementary Education major, Mary Schuld, who won the National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC) Sloane Prize in Undergraduate Research award. Her poster, "Creating and Restoring Mental Health Education Through Children's Literature," tied for first place at the council's 57th annual conference held on November 2-5, 2022.

Schuld competed against 178 honors students from around the country, and 17 students within the Education and Pedagogy category. "It is really enjoyable to share my passion with others, particularly when they are also interested in that specific topic. I was shocked but excited to win this award. I think it is encouraging that people are recognizing the importance of social emotional learning, and I am proud to have presented on something that can benefit current and future teachers, along with the success of students," Schuld said.

Senior English major, Anna Huber presented parts of her in-progress undergraduate departmental honors thesis on Bobbie Ann Mason's short story, "Shiloh," at two conferences. After successfully presenting at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) in April 2021, Huber shared her research at the Mid-Atlantic American and Popular Culture Association (MAPACA) in November 2022.

Her presentation, entitled, "It Don't Leave You': Norma Jean Moffit and the Trauma of SIDS in Bobbie Anne Mason's 'Shiloh,'" was accepted as part of the "Several Aspects of Death in American Culture" panel. "My preparation was well worth it. The experience [helped me grow] as a student and presenter. The professors with whom I shared my research were very kind and supportive. Their questions validated my work and encouraged me to pursue my studies and theories with enthusiasm," Huber said.

Junior English and Education major Carlee Migliorisi will present "The Mal Evans' Beatles Archive and the Truth About His Untimely Death" with Dr. Kenneth Womack at the Pop Culture Association's (PCA) 2023 National Conference in April 2023. The presentation, a collaborative keynote address, is highlighted as a world premiere on the PCA conference website.



Mary Schuld



Anna Huber



Carlee Migliorisi



Monmouth Review members at Monmouth Hawk Night (top) and Student Involvement Fair (bottom).

MONMOUTH REVIEW (Continued from page 1)

The *Monmouth Review* not only gives club members opportunities to learn about publishing, magazine submission, and the editorial process during on-campus club activities and workshops, but also opportunities to take part in professional trips and other cultural events. In October, members attended *Push to Publish*, a publishing conference sponsored by Rosemont College and the literary arts magazine *Philadelphia Stories*, held at Drexel University. This conference educated students, faculty, and professional writers about various aspects of the publishing industry such as writing query letters, finding literary agents, and more. Attendees had the opportunity to meet with literary agents, publishers, copywriters, and journal editors to discuss how literary journals and magazines including student-run ones, such as *Monmouth Review*, run most effectively. With four graduate students and one undergraduate student in attendance, this marked the first time Monmouth University was represented at this conference.

The *Monmouth Review* collaborated with several clubs/

organizations on campus this fall to host open mics, fostering a supportive space for students to publicly share their writing. At the beginning of the semester, the club collaborated with the Virginia A. Cory Community Garden in organizing an outdoor open-mic in the middle of inspiring greenery and the fall harvest. Afterwards, writers took a tour of the garden as the sun set on a warm day. It was a great opportunity to educate students about Virginia A. Cory Community and how to volunteer and give back to the community.

In October, the club collaborated with *CommWorks: Students Committed to Performance* to host a “Hawk Night” inspired by the national storytelling competition, *The Moth*. Together, the clubs chose the theme of “dreams,” asking students to tell stories or read poetry related to the theme. There were about 20 participants in the competition and over 40 student and faculty attendees. The top three winners, who were judged on both content and performance, won gift cards. This inspiring event allowed students to be their authentic selves to tell stories of their dreams.

In November 2022, The *Monmouth Review* also held a *Write-In Writer’s Retreat* on campus. While the retreat was primarily geared towards the English M.A/M.F.A Program in Creative Writing, Rhetoric and Composition, and Literature, the event garnered a mix of both graduate and undergraduate English students who had the opportunity to focus on their writing assignments, thesis capstones, and other projects of choice. “I thought the write-in was so much fun!” said Breanna Guinta, an undergraduate student and general member of the *Monmouth Review*. “I got a chance to edit a little over 8,000 words for my novel and even wrote an article for *The Outlook*. I also got to hang out with other members of the club. I’m glad I attended and can’t wait for the *Monmouth Review* to host another write-in event in the future.” We hope that the *Write-In* will become a staple event on which the M.A and M.F.A Programs in English/Creative Writing will collaborate in future semesters.

For the spring semester, the *Monmouth Review* is preparing to participate in the English Department’s annual Toni Morrison Day by hosting a creative writing contest open to students of any major. We encourage students to submit poems and prose addressing themes present in Morrison’s work, including race, gender, and identity, and especially resilience, which is focus of Toni Morrison Day 2023. The top three winners of last year’s contest were published in issue #65 of the *Monmouth Review* and the 2023 winners will have their work celebrated in the upcoming issue.

Overall, the *Monmouth Review* is looking forward to hosting an abundance of events like these in the spring to celebrate the creative minds on campus and help foster and sustain a community of writers and artists.

STUDENTS' "WINDOWS AND MIRRORS" PROJECTS SUPPORT SOCIAL JUSTICE INITIATIVE

by Professor Linda Sacks

"Windows and mirrors" is a term first used by Emily Style for the National SEED Project. SEED (Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity) partners with communities, institutions, and schools to drive societal change toward social justice.

Children's author and artist Grace Lin reminds teachers and parents that children need books that are windows and mirrors. Children need to see themselves in the books they read as well as understand cultures that are different from their own. Today, in America's diverse classrooms, books can serve as mirrors for some students and windows for others.

One evening this fall, Dr. Nicole Trainor, a member of the Monmouth University School of Education faculty and Student Advisor for Long Branch Public Schools, visited Prof. Linda Sacks' EN 470 class – Theory and Practice of Writing. As a participant in the Social Justice Academy, Dr. Trainor worked with Long Branch elementary school teachers to initiate the "Windows and Mirrors" project this past spring. Pre-K and Kindergarten teachers selected books that portrayed characters and cultures different from mainstream culture. After a class read-aloud, the students were given a writing assignment that prompted them to reflect on an aspect of the book. The project was so successful that Dr. Trainor wanted to expand it through 5th grade.

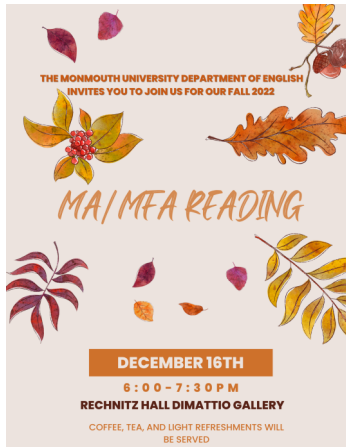
In order to help Dr. Trainor achieve this goal, the EN 470 students selected children's books that were both windows and mirrors. After carefully examining the books, they determined whether they would appeal to all students and how they could be used for a classroom writing assignment. Some of books recommended by the EN 470 students were *Alma and How She Got Her Name* by Juana Martinez-Neal, *Tomatoes for Neela* by Padma Lakshmi, *In Our Mothers' House* by Patricia Polacco, *The Colors of Us* by Karen Katz, and *New Kid* by Jerry Craft.

The projects will be shared anonymously with Dr. Trainor for potential use in the Long Branch schools.



(Top to bottom): *Alma and How She Got Her Name* (Candlewick, 2018), *Tomatoes for Neela* (Viking Books for Young Readers, 2021), *In Our Mothers' House* (Philomel Books, 2009), *The Colors of Us* (Square Fish, 2002), and *New Kid* (Quill Tree Books, 2019).

Images taken from: www.amazon.com



MA/MFA Reading, December 16, 2022



Katherine Dykstra



Sam Lipsyte

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please join us for our end-of-semester reading by those MA and MFA students who are completing their degrees this semester. The MA/MFA Reading will be held in the DiMattio Gallery in Rechnitz Hall on Friday, December 16, 6-7:30pm. We look forward to seeing you!

We are pleased to announce that [Katherine Dykstra](#) has been appointed as our new Spring 2023 Writer-in-Residence. She holds an MFA in creative writing from the New School and spent many years as senior nonfiction editor at Guernica and teaching narrative nonfiction in NYU's continuing studies program. Dykstra was named "an artist to watch" by Creative Capital for her work on the Paula Oberbroeckling story in her debut nonfiction book, *What Happened to Paula: On the Death of An American Girl* (W.W. Norton & Company, 2021). She will be giving a Visiting Writers Series reading (date and time TBD).

In the spring, Professor Dykstra will also be teaching EN-615, Craft Seminar (Where Narrative Meets Nonfiction: On researching the personal and personalizing the research), on Tuesday evenings.

The Visiting Writer Series and the MFA Program will be co-sponsoring an evening reading by the writer [Sam Lipsyte](#). Lipsyte, a Guggenheim Fellow, has had his fiction and nonfiction work published in *The New Yorker*, *Harper's*, *The New York Times* and *Best American Short Stories* among other places. His novella *Friend of the Pod* and his novel *No One Left to Come Looking for You* (Simon & Schuster, 2022), were both published in Fall 2022.

Lipsyte's Visiting Writers Series reading is tentatively scheduled for Monday, February 27, 2023 from 6-7pm.

HANLY (Continued from page 3)

is her natural successor, and we're lucky to have him at the helm of the department."

When asked what makes majoring in English at Monmouth so great, Dr. Hanly says, "There are so many different things you can do as an English major, so many different directions you can go." He went on to explain further: "You might have an interest in creative writing, you might want to study literature as a means of moving on to a career in law or library science, or you might want to study rhetoric as a means of moving into teaching writing. We also have many English education students as well, so it's hard to zero in on the one thing that makes it so cool, but I think that all of us, all of us different faculty members with our unique interests, love language. We all love reading and writing, and we hope we can inspire that love of language and literature in our students to help them find success in whichever path they choose."

FACULTY NEWS



Dr. Stanley Blair gave the lecture, "Hello from Bushy Hollow: Henry Morford's New Monmouth, Middletown NJ, c. 1838-1843," on September 15, 2022. The lecture was co-sponsored by the Monmouth County Historical Association and the Monmouth County Library.



Dr. Mihaela Moscaliuc participated in the 9th edition of "Poets in Transylvania," an international festival that gathered poets from 15 countries for three days of poetry readings and discussions about "Art and Social Action" in October. In September, she was a featured reader and speaker at Gettysburg College and Frostburg University, and a guest on PWN's Debut Review Podcast.



Dr. Kris Bluemel led a Northern Modernism Seminar at Newcastle University in England in September 2022. The seminar, "Gardens in the Gorse: Rural Britain's Modernist Cultures," was co-sponsored by the Leverhulme Foundation and Newcastle University.



Dr. Lisa Vetere wrote the chapter, "Horrors of the Horticultural: Charles Brockden Brown's 'Wieland' and the Landscapes of the Anthropocene," in the volume, *Dark Scenes from Damaged Earth: The Gothic Anthropocene* (University of Minnesota Press, 2022).



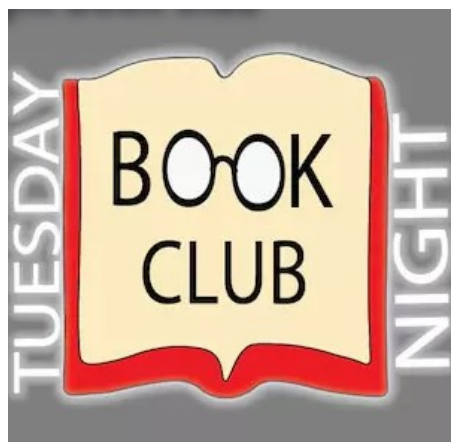
Prof. Amanda Connelly co-wrote the chapter, "Sense of Belonging in Higher Education: Developing and Measuring a Sense of Belonging Across Student Programs" in *Implementing Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging in Educational Management Practices* (IGI Global, 2022, 52-76).



Dr. Kenneth Womack will present a collaborative keynote address, "The Mal Evans' Beatles Archive and the Truth About His Untimely Death," with junior English and Education major Carlee Migliorisi. The address will be presented at the Pop Culture Association's (PCA) 2023 National Conference in April 2023.



Dr. Heide Estes will be a featured panelist for the lecture, "Ecogrief and the Premodern Environment" on Thursday, December 15, 2022. The event is presented by The Oecologies Research Cluster. Dr. Estes is in residence at the University of Bonn, Germany from October 2022 through January 2023.



JOIN THE TUESDAY NIGHT BOOK CLUB SPRING 2023 SCHEDULE

January 17, 2023: Viet Thanh Nguyen's *The Sympathizer*

February 21, 2023: Questlove's *Music Is History*

March 14, 2023: Edith Wharton's *The Custom of the Country*

April 11, 2023: T.S. Eliot's *The Waste Land*

May 9, 2023: Anthony Doerr's *Cloud Cuckoo Land*





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(Right, clockwise) The film crew of *Miranda's Victim* transformed one of the English Department entrances into an Arizona land-scape for the movie; The Monmouth Review presented "A Poetry Reading in the Garden" in the Community Garden in early September; Dr. Kenneth Womack's Visiting Writers Series reading in September was well attended; Sigma Tau Delta (STD) held a Welcome Pizza Party for its' Fall 2022 inductees; Dr. Mihaela Moscaliuc, far right, posed with gathered poets for the 9th edition of *Poets in Transylvania*; The winners of the Monmouth Hawk Storytelling Event, Hayley Curtis, Giovanna Territo, Ashley Zingillioglu, pose for a picture.

SNAPSHOTS FROM FALL 2022

