

Jennifer McGuiggan

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EDUCATION

M.F.A. in Writing, Vermont College of Fine Arts, Montpelier, VT (2011)

Area of Concentration: Creative Nonfiction

Intensive Semester Study with Sascha Feinstein, Douglas Glover, Patrick Madden, and Robert Vivian

Workshops with Laurie Alberts, Mark Cox, Connie May Fowler, Christopher Noël, Mary Ruefle, Sue William Silverman, and Larry Sutin

Creative Thesis: *For All We Learned, The Sea*

Advisor: Robert Vivian

Critical Thesis: "Spinning a Web of Wonder: Capturing and Conveying Awe on the Page"

Advisor: Patrick Madden

Graduating Lecture: "The Secret Life of Language"

Advisor: Robert Vivian

B.A. in English, *magna cum laude*, Grove City College, Grove City, PA (1998)

RELATED COURSEWORK

AWP Conference, 2011 and 2012

River Teeth Nonfiction Conference, Ashland University, May 2013

RESIDENCIES

Received partial grant for a month-long writing residency (January 2014) at Vermont Studio Center, Johnson, VT

PUBLICATIONS

Work-In-Progress

For All We Learned, The Sea (essay collection)

E-book

Alchemy Daily: 30 Days of Writing Prompts, Inspiration, & Magic. 2011.

Book

Editor, contributor, and publisher, *Lanterns: A Gathering of Stories*. 2009. (anthology of prose, poetry, and photography by seven women)

Essays

"Sugar Baby." *Extract(s)*. August 1, 2013.

"Changing Places: The Scottish Highlands." *Dixon Hill*. June 2012.

“What It’s Like Living Here: Greensburg, PA.” *Numéro Cinq*. May 2012.

“A Lesson in Kindness 22 Years in the Making.” *Kind Over Matter*. January 23, 2012.

“Literary Citizenship.” *Hunger Mountain* blog. August 11, 2011.

“The Awkward Phase.” *Magpie Girl*. August 2011.

“Collecting Sea Stories.” *Gypsy Girl’s Guide*. September 28, 2010.

“Being Brave, with Baggage.” *SoulRetreats: How to Host a Tribe with Art and Soul*. August 2010.

“How to Write: Climb the mountain, explore the plateau.” *LizLamoreux.com*. June 2, 2010.

“Overcoming Your Natural Sticking Points.” *Magpie Girl*. October 2009.

Articles

“Be Present Retreats: Community & Creativity.” *Mingle* (from Stampington & Co.). Autumn 2011.

“Putting the Food Back into School Food.” *JUST CAUSE Magazine*. July/August 2009.

“Motor City Bligh Busters.” *JUST CAUSE Magazine*. May 2009.

“The Westmorland Celebrates 50.” *Pop City*. May 27, 2009.

“The Pittsburgh Project: Building Community, Building Lives.” *Pop City*. December 10, 2008.

“A Passion for All Things Wine.” *Pop City*. August 27, 2008.

“Beleza: A Story of Hope and Friendship and Social Justice.” *Pop City*. August 20, 2008.

“The Carnegie International: Life on Mars, Here in Pittsburgh.” *Pop City*. May 7, 2008.

“250 & Fit: Power in Numbers.” *Pop City*. February 13, 2008.

“Land Use the Sustainable Way.” *Pop City*. November 28, 2007.

“Those Thoroughly Modern Libraries.” *Pop City*. September 26, 2007.

“Greening the Neighborhoods.” *Pop City*. August 16, 2007.

“The Afterlife of FORE Systems.” *Pop City*. June 20, 2007.

“The Great Adventure of Grassroots Racing.” *Pop City*. May 9, 2007.

“Greening Our Chemical World.” *Pop City*. December 13, 2006.

“Hatching Entrepreneurs.” *Pop City*. September 13, 2006.

“The Price is Right.” *Pop City*. August 9, 2006.

“Something Old, Something Green.” *Pop City*. June 27, 2006.

“Celebrating African American Culture.” *Pop City*. June 14, 2006.

“Caring for Your Pet During Hard Times.” *Care.com*. February 8, 2010.

“Fluffy or Chubby? Pets and weight.” *Care.com*. January 18, 2010.

“Veterinarians: How to Choose a Vet.” *Care.com*. January 11, 2010.

“Turtles, Tortoises, and Snakes: Safety Tips for Reptiles.” *Care.com*. January 4, 2010.

“The BARF Diet: Is a raw diet right for your pets?” *Care.com*. January 3, 2010.

“How to Choose a Pet Carrier.” *Care.com*. March 4, 2009.

“Pet Food Recalls.” *Care.com*. March 2, 2009.

“Unusual Pets and Creepy Crawlies!” *Care.com*. March 1, 2009.

“Have Pet. Will Travel? (Part 2).” *Care.com*. January 20, 2009.

“How to Choose a Pet Bird.” *Care.com*. January 17, 2009.

“Have Pet. Will Travel? (Part 1).” *Care.com*. January 10, 2009.

“Moving Day with Pets.” *Care.com*. May 23, 2008.

“Keeping Your Cat Healthy.” *Care.com*. May 20, 2008.

“First Aid for Cats: All about handling an emergency.” *Care.com*. April 4, 2008.

“Kitty Litter Etiquette.” *Care.com*. April 27, 2007.

“Petworking! Social Networking for Animal Lovers.” *Care.com*. February 20, 2007.

“For Us This is Real Life! McGinnis Family, McGinnis Sisters, Special Food Stores.” *E-Magnify.com*. May 2004.

“Success by Design: Renee DeMichiei Farrow, Decorating Details, LLC.” *E-Magnify.com*. May 2004.

“Variety is the Spice of Business: Trudy Barefoot, H. Fred Barefoot Trucking, Inc.” *E-Magnify.com*. February 2004.

“Adventures in Law: Leaving the Rat Race: Elaine Cribbs Rizza, The Rizza Group.” *E-Magnify.com*. November 2003.

“Professional Pampering: Dorothy Andreas, The Sewickley Spa.” *E-Magnify.com*. October 2003.

“Moving Forward: Steve Clay, Lori Daniels, and Karen Sarabok, Momentum, Inc.” *E-Magnify.com*. August 2003.

“Baking the Perfect Pretzel: Ann Benzel, Benzel’s Pretzel Bakery.” *E-Magnify.com*. May 2003.

“Telling Stories in a Digital Age: Martha O’Grady, Panta Rhei Media, Inc.” *E-Magnify.com*. April 2003.

“Old Fashioned Ethics and Ethnic Food: Helen Mannarino, Pierogies Plus.” *E-Magnify.com*. March 2003.

“Here’s to Simplifying Your Life: Patty Kreamer, Kreamer Connect.” *E-Magnify.com*. February 2003.

“No Wall to Success: Eve Picker, no wall productions, inc.” *E-Magnify.com*. January 2003.

“A Positive Impact: Angie Singer Keating, Reclamere, Inc.” *E-Magnify.com*. September 2002.

“When Duality Equals Balance: Ava DeMarco, Little Earth Productions, Inc.” *E-Magnify.com*. July 2002.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Lecturer, “The Secret Life of Language,” MFA in Writing Program, Vermont College of Fine Arts, July 2011
(www.vcfa.edu/writing)

Sole proprietor and workshop leader, The Word Cellar Writing Workshops, 2011 – present
Small group, MFA-style workshops
(www.thewordcellar.com/the-word-cellar-workshops/)

Sole proprietor and writing coach/mentor, The Word Cellar Writing Guild, 2003 – present
Individual, customized mentoring sessions, including written editorial feedback and coaching conversations
(www.thewordcellar.com/guild/)

Storytelling Workshop Leader, Soul Sisters Conference, Portland, OR, October 2013
Main session speaker to projected audience of 100 attendees
(www.magpiegirlgatherings.com)

Course creator and teacher, *Alchemy: The Art & Craft of Writing*, online, 2010 – 2012
Created the curriculum for and taught this creative writing course five times to a total of 136 students
(www.thewordcellar.com/online-course/)

Course creator and teacher, *Alchemy Inspiration: Start Writing*, online, 2012
Created the curriculum for and taught this creative writing course twice to a total of 39 students
(www.thewordcellar.com/alchemy-inspiration/)

Guest, *Poem It Out*, online, 2012
(www.lizlamoreux.com/poem-it-out/)

Course creator and teacher, *Alchemy Daily: 30 Days of Writing Prompts*, online, 2011
Created the curriculum for and taught this creative writing course three times to a total of 85 students; content now available as an e-book
(www.thewordcellar.com/alchemy-daily-ebooklet)

Mentor and workshop leader, Pen & Paper Retreat, Manzanita, OR, February 2011
(www.bepresentretreats.com)

Teacher, “One-moment Memoirs,” wishstudio’s wishBIG ecamp, online, February 2012

Co-teacher, “Emerge,” Live it to the Full Courses, online, July 2011 and January 2012
(www.liveittothefull.com/)

Presenter, Writing Lab Panel, 2010 BlogHer Conference, New York, NY, August 2010
(www.blogher.com/conferences)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Sole Proprietor; Freelance Writer, Editor, & Writing Coach: The Word Cellar, 2003 – present
(www.thewordcellar.com)

Assistant Editor: *The Writing Life*, *Hunger Mountain: The VCFA Journal of the Arts*, April 2011 – January 2012

Creative Nonfiction Reader: *Hunger Mountain: The VCFA Journal of the Arts*, 2010 – 2013

Online Media Coordinator: Seton Hill University's E-Magnify center for women entrepreneurs, Greensburg, PA, January 2001– June 2006

Support Staff, Language Technologies Institute, School of Computer Science, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA, October 1999 – January 2001

International Volunteer, Soup Kitchen Coordinator, Forest YMCA, London, England, September 1998 – August 1999

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Member, Association of Writers and Writing Programs, 2009 – present

REFERENCES

Douglas Glover

Faculty Advisor, Vermont College of Fine Arts
douglas.glover@vcfa.edu
(518) 583-8892

Patrick Madden

Faculty Advisor, Vermont College of Fine Arts
madden@byu.edu
(801) 422-6439

Sue William Silverman

Workshop Leader, Vermont College of Fine Arts
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Robert Vivian

Faculty Advisor, Vermont College of Fine Arts
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(989) 463-3593