

MASTER OF FINE ARTS IN

WRITING

SARAH
LAWRENCE
COLLEGE
GRADUATE
STUDIES

An ethos of generosity guides the MFA in Writing Program at Sarah Lawrence—a belief that thriving as a writer can go hand in hand with helping other writers thrive.

Sarah Lawrence's MFA in Writing faculty members are both distinguished writers and devoted mentors. At the heart of our program are biweekly, one-on-one student-teacher conferences, in which our faculty engages with your work in depth, accompanying you every step of the way as you explore the possibilities of your art.

Our vibrant community of writers features monthly student readings, the student-run literary magazine *Lumina*, and a student-run annual poetry festival, as well as our literary colloquium, a weekly series of talks by faculty members, visiting writers, and publishing industry professionals.

OVERVIEW

- ▶ Students choose to concentrate in fiction, poetry, creative nonfiction, and speculative fiction.
- ▶ Each semester, full-time students participate in a workshop and a craft class and attend our literary colloquium. Each student also meets biweekly with workshop faculty in one-on-one conferences.
- ▶ Taking a workshop in another genre is permitted; taking craft classes outside one's genre is not only permitted but encouraged.
- ▶ During their second year in the program, students become eligible to serve as teaching assistants at the State University of New York at Purchase. Many of our students also teach or tutor at other local venues, such as high schools, prisons, and community colleges.
- ▶ Sarah Lawrence MFA students can take full advantage of the College's proximity to the New York City literary scene.

FACULTY

Our faculty members receive Pulitzer Prizes and Guggenheim fellowships. They include National Book Award and Pen/Faulkner Award nominees and poet laureates. They are exemplary models of personal commitment to artistic literary expression. The Princeton Review has consistently recognized our teachers as among the very best in the country.

Faculty members include Jo Ann Beard, Carolyn Ferrell, Suzanne Gardinier, Matthea Harvey, Cathy Park Hong, Marie Howe, Kate Knapp Johnson, Mary La Chapelle, Jeffrey McDaniel, Mary Morris, Brian Morton, Dennis Nurkse, Victoria Redel, Joan Silber, and Vijay Seshadri.

Recent guest faculty members have included Tina Chang, Vinson Cunningham, Nicole Dennis-Benn, Melissa Febos, Aracelis Girmay, Rachel Eliza Griffiths, Garth Risk Hallberg, James Hoch, David Hollander, Timothy Kreider, Paul La Farge, Leigh Newman, Stephen O'Connor, Nelly Reifler, Martha Rhodes, David Ryan, Jacob Slichter, Martha Southgate, Alice Truax, Tiphonie Yanique, Monica Youn, and Kate Zambreno.

FICTION, POETRY, CREATIVE
NONFICTION, & SPECULATIVE FICTION

THE PROGRAM

The MFA in Writing can be completed on a full-time basis in two years or part-time in three or four years. Students are required to complete four writing workshops, one per semester (five credits each); four craft-of-writing classes, one per semester (four credits each); four semesters of the literary colloquium (one credit per semester); and a master's thesis.

ADMISSION

Applicants to the MFA in Writing program must have received a Bachelor of Arts or equivalent degree from an accredited college or university.

FINANCIAL AID

Assistance for students in our graduate writing program is available through several fellowships, including Grace Paley fellowships for writers of fiction or speculative fiction, Jane Cooper fellowships for poetry writers, and Randall Jarrell fellowships for nonfiction writers.

Also available are the Vijay Seshadri Fellowship for poets and nonfiction writers, and the Michele Toleda Myers fellowship for writers in all genres.

More than half of Sarah Lawrence's graduate students work on campus in a variety of positions: as research assistants for undergraduate faculty, as assistants in the writing program, in the College library or financial aid office, and at other sites on campus.

Each year, three MFA in Writing students serve in paid positions as mentors in the undergraduate Writing Center.

The writing program also offers scholarship assistance for students who demonstrate financial need.

ABOUT SARAH LAWRENCE COLLEGE

Sarah Lawrence is located on a wooded suburban campus just 30 minutes north of Midtown Manhattan. Offering both graduate and undergraduate degrees, the College is nationally known for academic rigor and commitment to developing students as individuals. Sarah Lawrence College is also noted for cross-disciplinary study and integrated learning, making it an ideal academic setting for the MFA in Writing program.

GRADUATE STUDIES

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