

Creative Writing and Writing for the Performing Arts

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FALL 2010 REGISTRATION INFORMATION

There will be a lot of changes for the upcoming Fall 2010 registration season. The first major change is that the CRWT and the THEA courses will be jointly as **CWPA** Creative Writing and Writing for the Performing Arts.

All of the subject matter will remain the same, but the listing will be different. For example CRWT 262 will be listed as CWPA 262 and THEA 266 will be listed as CWPA 266. These are the same courses and you will receive the same amount of credit as you would before. The only change is the name.

This will not affect any of the courses that you have already taken. All courses taken that counted toward graduation

requirements still count.

Registration Dates

GROWL Appointments open on the dates listed below.

Continuing Students:

May 17–June 4, 2010

Make- Up Dates

June 7 –11, 2010

September 8–15, 2010

September 20–October 8, 2010

New Students:

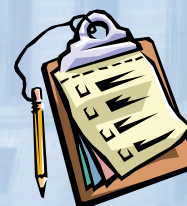
August 16–20, 2010

Make- Up Dates

August 23 –27, 2010

September 8–15, 2010

September 20–October 8, 2010



Things to consider before registering:

- * Make sure that you have cleared any holds that you may have.
- * Contact your advisor and discuss which classes you would like to take.
- * If you wish to enroll in CWPA 299, make sure you get permission from the professor who you would like to work with.

C H A N G I N G F A C E S

Goodbye Chuck

We said farewell to the Creative Writing Department Chair, Professor Chuck Whitney at the end of March. He accepted a position as the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at Northwestern School of



Communication.

Professor Tom Lutz has assumed responsibilities as the new department chair.

Hello to Chuck

Professor Chuck Evered has assumed the responsibilities as the graduate advisor for the

Theatre component of the program. He is stepping in for Professor Russin for the remainder of the year and has agreed to serve as advisor for the 2010–2011 academic year.

STUDENT AND ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

Our students and alumni have all been very busy this quarter.

Student Achievements

Victoria Tulacro's latest efforts "A Small Hole" and "Bird Bones" will be published in the spring issues of *Ghost Town* and *The Chaffey Review* respectively.

Angela Thompson-Brenchley's "Focused" has been chosen for publication in the spring issue of *The*

Chaffey Review.

Abbe Loomer's play "The God Shaped Hole" will be showing at the Mean Theatre April 30–May 1, 2010. Please arrive early, as seating is limited.

The current cohort will be holding an MFA Reading on April 24, 2010 at 8:00 p.m. in the Humanities Theatre Lab, Room 411. Admission is free. Please arrive early, as seating is limited.

Alumni Achievements

Alba Cruz-Hacker's poem "[Psalm for Haiti](#)" was chosen as the official poem for the campaign "Iberoamerican Consulates in Los Angeles United for Haiti"

Vanessa Hua's story "[The Fare to Yangshou](#)" appeared in the *New York Times Magazine* this April.

Brian Oglesby's short play "Nebraska by Noon" was the National Finalist for the John

Jill Scott Coe's [Teacher at Point Blank: Confronting Sexuality, Violence, and Secrets in Suburban School](#) is scheduled to come out in Fall 2010.

Since January, Victoria Patterson has published in *The Millions* (twice), *Literary Mama*, *Beatrice*, *Three Guys One Book*, and *Five Chapters*, and was a finalist for The Story Prize.

*Odrienne's**Corner:*

*Always let
generosity and
compassion be
a part of your
nature.*

Our professors have been winning awards and publishing as well.

Juan Felipe Herrera was selected for a 2010 [Guggenheim Fellowship](#) in poetry. His [Los Vampiros de Whittier Boulevard](#) was published in Mexico City.

Chris Abani published his fifth volume of poetry [Sanctifum](#) in April of this year.

Chuck Evered's new play "[Class](#)" will be debuting at the

FACULTY

Cape May Theatre in Cape May, New Jersey in May 2010.

Reza Aslan recently appeared yet again on [The Daily Show with Jon Stewart](#) to promote his new book, [Beyond Fundamentalism: Confronting Religious Extremism in the Age of Fundamentalism](#)

Robin Russin's reviews of [Los Angeles Noir 2 and Orange County Noir](#) was recently published in the *Los Angeles Times*.

Laila Lalami's latest novel [Secret Son](#) was longlisted for the Orange Prize in Fiction.

Michael Jayme's new novel [This Time Tomorrow](#) was published in February.

(see more next page)



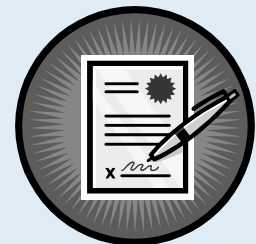
ANNOUNCEMENTS

We would like to thank everyone who came out to our first open house. Many of our applicants accepted their offers after attending. We still have a few who are thinking, but they'll make the right choice.

Fall 2010 Cohort as of 4/15/10

Kristen Brownell (Nonfiction)
Tanya Frank (Nonfiction)
Yvette Doss (Fiction)
Lygeia Fergallo (Fiction)
Jonathan Hahn (Fiction)
Jason Holmes (Fiction)

Brian Jeppesen (Fiction)
Samantha Lamph (Fiction)
Brian Marcelo (Fiction)
Marcus Renner (Fiction)
Rachelle Cruz (Poetry)
Angel Garcia (Poetry)
Allen Ivers (Screenwriting)
Ryan Peckingpauh (Screenwriting)



Welcome

LOS ANGELES REVIEW OF BOOKS

The *Los Angeles Review of Books*, which will launch this coming fall, is housed in the Creative Writing Department, and has received its first funding from UCR's College of Humanities, Arts, and Sciences, UC's Humanities Research Initiative, the Rosenthal Foundation, and private donors. Several other grant applications are in and the *LARB* is actively fundraising. *LARB* will be edited by Tom Lutz, and has signed on an impressive list of Contributing Editors, including Jonathan Lethem, Jeffrey Eugenides, T.C. Boyle, Jane Smiley, Rabih Alameddine, Daniel Alarcón, Aimee Bender, Carolyn See, Michael Pollan, Barbara Ehrenreich, Barry Glassner, Manuel Castells, David St. John, Marilyn Chin, Yiyun Li, Bernard Cooper, Antonio Damasio, Maria Amparo Escandon, Janet Fitch, Sesshu Foster, Jonathan Gold, Dana Goodyear, Rigoberto Gonzalez, Joy Harjo, Ilya Kaminsky, John Rechy, Walter Kirn, Chris Offutt, Marisela Norte, Al Young, Matthew Zapruder, and many of our own faculty across the university. We hope to be able to provide *LARB* Research and Editorial Fellowships as well as paid internships in the near future, perhaps as early as this summer. Contact for *LARB* is LARBeditorial@gmail.com.

Los Angeles Times FESTIVAL OF BOOKS

The *Los Angeles Times* Festival of Books this weekend (April 24-25) features a number of authors associated with the MFA program. (We cribbed this quick from the schedule just published, so forgive us if we missed anyone.)

UCR Faculty/Students

Reza Aslan
Gayle Brandeis
Ching-In Chen
Alex Espinoza
Michael Jaime-Becerra
Laila Lalami
Victoria Patterson
Susan Straight

PD Faculty/Students

Tod Goldberg
Seth Greenland
Dinah Lenney
M.G. Lord
Rachael Resnick
Rob Roberge
Mark Haskell Smith
Deanne Stillman
David Ulin
Rob Roberge
Mark Haskell Smith
Deanne Stillman
David Ulin

Recent Visitors

Michelle Huneven
Betsy Amster
Charles Bowden
Elena Karina Byrne
Judith Freeman
Eloise Klein Healy
T. Jefferson Parker
Christopher Rice
Jane Smiley
Joseph Wambaugh



Tod Goldberg offers an '[Annotated Guide](#)' to the festival on his blog.

Contributing Editors of the *Los Angeles Review of Books*

Bruce Bauman
Aimee Bender
T.C. Boyle
Leo Braudy
James Brown
Elena Karina Byrne
Ron Carlson
Cecil Castellucci
James Brown
Elena Karina Byrne
Ron Carlson
Cecil Castellucci
Marilyn Chin
K.C. Cole
Marc Cooper
Robert Crais
Samantha Dunn
Hope Edelman
Alex Espinoza
David Freeman
Judith Freeman

FACULTY (CONTINUED)

Stephanie Hammer's essay "Our Friend the Professor" has been published in the *Hayden's Ferry Review* spring/ summer issue. She was also featured as a part of their online blog's "[Contributor Spotlight](#)".

Gayle Brandeis published [My Life with the Lincolns](#), released in March of this year.

The latest issue of [Black Clock](#) featured pieces by Susan Straight, Tom Lutz, Chris Abani, and Rob Roberge.

Mike Davis's "Labor War in the Mojave" is in a recent issue of [The Nation](#).

Susan Straight and Rob Roberge have stories in the new [Orange County Noir](#), edited by Gary Phillips.

Henry Holt announced that Andrew Winer's new novel, [The Marriage Artist](#), would be its lead fiction title this fall.

Send announcements for next month's newsletter to adrienne.thomas@ucr.edu

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRS OF CREATIVE WRITING AND THEATRE

Welcome to the first edition of the MFA newsletter. We will be publishing this on the third Friday of each month. If you have any news you would like included in the next issue, please let Adrienne know a week in advance.

All academic departments and programs are reviewed every five or seven years by outsiders—this standard practice is often pro forma, nobody learns much of anything, and the report molds away in a drawer until the next one, five or seven years later. Our MFA program review this year was bound to have some news, though, because it was the first review the program has ever had and because the program has grown so fast. Even since I arrived four short years ago, the number of graduate students has more than tripled and the faculty has grown almost as fast. There were bound to be growing pains.

We have a lot to be proud of in those four short years. Faculty have won three Guggenheims and have been awarded a raft of other prizes, our graduate students and faculty are publishing up a storm, and the national profiles of both our main campus MFA and the Palm Desert Low Residency program have soared. The report lauded us for these accomplishments.

The report also pointed to some weaknesses, and the faculty has been meeting to address them and plan for the future. We have been rewriting the MFA Handbook and some of the program requirements, and these will be available soon. The Handbook will be what is called (somewhat hyperbolically) a ‘living document,’ which means it will be revised each year as we move forward, with input from students and faculty. We have rededicated ourselves to our goals of being among the finest MFA programs in the world, giving our students the best possible educational experience, and creating a culture in which we all kick ass together.

We encourage you to meet everyone on the faculty in both departments and to talk with your colleagues. Try to attend as many readings, performances, lectures, and panels that you can and utilize all the resources available to you at UCR. The network that you develop here is an important asset that can support you throughout your career.

While classes and activities can keep you busy, you should have some fun. So Juan Felipe Herrera is working with Adrienne Thomas and students to plan an MFA Prom this spring (details to follow), and we hope to see you all there.

Tom Lutz and Eric Barr

MFA FACULTY CONTACTS



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Professor Lutz

Department Chair, Creative Writing

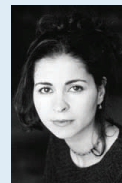
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Professor Abani

MFA Program Director

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Professor Lalami

Faculty Advisor, Creative Writing

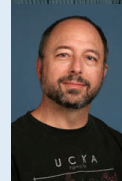
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