

Wolff Cottage Writers-in Residence: 2018

February 2018

Jeff Walt



Jeff Walt was born and raised in rural Pennsylvania among a community of coal miners, bricklayers, and railroad workers. His chapbook, *Soot*, was awarded co-winner of the Keystone Chapbook Prize (Seven Kitchens Press, 2010). He's been awarded several writing residencies including the Kalani Eco-village on the Big Island of Hawaii. His poems have appeared in journals such as *Los Angeles Review*, *Poetry International*, *The Sun*, *Inkwell*, *New Millennium Writings*, and in various anthologies. Several poems from *Soot* were selected and scored by composer David Sisco and performed at Carnegie Hall on November 14, 2014

March 2018

Kristina Martino



Kristina Martino was born in New York raised in Massachusetts and lived in Iowa City. A creative writer and visual artist, she holds MFAs from the Iowa Writers' Workshop and the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts. Her poetry has been published widely, and her visual art work has been exhibited from Oregon to Hungary and extensively on the Eastern Seaboard from Baltimore to Massachusetts. Kristina currently lives in Sunderland, Massachusetts.

April 2018

Charissa Menefee



Charissa Menefee is a poet, playwright, director and performer. She is on the faculty of the MFA Program in Creative Writing & Environment at Iowa State University. She was a recent finalist for the Julie Harris Playwright Award. She is the co-founder of Tomorrow's Theatre Tonight, a reading and development series that introduced Arizona audiences to new plays for nine seasons, and was a Tennessee Williams Scholar at the Sewanee Writers' Conference. After spending many years in the mile-high mountain town of Prescott, Arizona she now lives in Ames, Iowa.

April 2018

K.L. Cook



K. L. Cook is the author of three award-winning books of fiction: *Last Call*, winner of the Prairie Schooner Book Prize; *The Girl from Charnelle*, a novel that won the Willa (Cather) Prize in Contemporary Fiction; and *Love Songs for the Quarantined*, winner of the Spokane Prize for Short Fiction. His work has been published widely in literary journals, magazines, and anthologies. He teaches in the MFA Program in Creative Writing & Environment at Iowa State University and the low-residency MFA in Writing Program at Spalding University in Louisville, Kentucky. During his residency, he will be working on a novel, "Shakespeare West", about a classical theatre festival in Arizona. He currently lives in Ames, Iowa.

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May 2018

Robert Mullin



Robert Mullin is a Mississippi writer and labors under all the disabilities that condition entails. He follows respectfully in the footsteps of Mississippi family members who have preceded him -- newspaper editors, poets and historians, song-writers and propagandists, politicians, partisans. Recently relieved of the exigencies of making his way in the world, he has set out to publish writings accumulated in the course of four decades, among which is his current in-progress short story collection, *14,5 (quatorze-virgule-cinq)*. Former editor of *The Nicaraguan Academic Journal* and author of a picaresque novel *Come To Jesus*, R. Mullin currently resides in Jefferson, Mississippi.

June 2018

Sarah Barber



Sarah Barber is author of *The Kissing Party*, published by the National Poetry Review Press in April 2010. Her poems have appeared in *Poetry*, *Crazyhorse*, *FIELD*, *The Journal*, *The Georgetown Review*, *Malahat*, *Fugue*, *Crab Orchard Review*, *Columbia Poetry Review* and *Ninth Letter*, among other places. She teaches creative writing and Renaissance literature at St. Lawrence University in Canton, NY.

July 2018

Mira Dougherty-Johnson



Mira Dougherty-Johnson writes on the East End of Long Island, where she works as a librarian and lives with her husband and two teenage sons. She recently got her MFA at Stony Brook University's Southampton Arts and has work published in *Fourth Genre*, *The Southeast Review*, *The Southampton Review*, *Tupelo Quarterly*, and *Vela*. Mira is currently working on a novel about what happens when an artist couple's best work is their children. Set in New York City in the early 1980s, this family must learn to forge new conduits to each other, or they will be destined to be the distant versions of themselves already hanging on museum walls.

August 2018

Lisa DeMasi



Lisa DeMasi's Work has been featured in several anthologies, including *The Best of Vine Leaves Literary Journal*. Her essays have been published in numerous literary journals, including *The Crux*, *Fiction Southeast*, *Gravel*, *East Bay Review* and *Shark Reef*, and in several media outlets. Lisa considers Massachusetts her home, but has lived in Connecticut, Vermont, New York State and two other planets called Wyoming and Arizona. She earned a B.A. from Regis College and an MBA from Babson College, and holds a Master certificate in Reiki. She is an avid cyclist and loves hiking with her dog, Sabrina.

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Lee Gay



Lee Gay has lived all her life in Hohenwald, Tennessee and is the daughter of William Gay, a widely admired Tennessean who authored several best selling novels. One of his short stories appeared in our own *Blue Moon Cafe* anthology, along with Lee's first published story. She now has a completed novel, a partially completed one and several stories and poems. Lee is currently working on a memoir chronicling her life in rural Tennessee. The working title is "All my Babies are Thoroughbreds". She is a lifelong Cubs fan and loves cats, politics and Bob Dylan. As for her inspiration, she says, "My hero has always been by father and I guess it's because of him that I started writing."

October 2018

Caroline Sposto



In 1995, Caroline co-founded Sposto Interactive, a digital creative agency where she spent over twenty years helping craft messages for major corporations. When her two daughters went off to college, she sold her interest in her business and returned to the artistic pursuits she put on hold. She publishes steadily in several genres, and has garnered literary recognitions including awards from "The Saturday Evening Post," "Family Circle Magazine," Garrison Keillor's *Common Good Books Poetry Prize*. She is also an actor, filmmaker and corporate trainer. She is honored to be invited to the *Fairhope Center for the Writing Arts*.

November 2018

Jane Harrington



Jane Harrington teaches literature and writing at Washington & Lee University, and she is a fellow at the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts (VCCA). As a Fairhope Center for the Writing Arts writer-in-residence in 2018, Jane is so looking forward to the solitude of the Wolff Cottage, where she plans to bring to fruition a full-length work of fabulist fiction she has been researching and writing for years: *A House of Pomegranates & Other Tales*.

December 2018

Emily Nemens



Emily Nemens's fiction has appeared or is forthcoming in *The Gettysburg Review*, *n+1*, *Blackbird*, and *The Iowa Review*; and she has two chapbooks, including the hybrid project *Butcher Papers*. Her illustrations have been served as coeditor and prose editor of *The Southern Review*, a literary quarterly published at LSU. featured in *The New Yorker* and in *Studs Terkel's Working: A Graphic Adaptation* (in collaboration with Harvey Pekar), and her political illustration blog was featured on MSNBC, Salon.com, and Jezebel. She was born in Seattle, educated at Brown University and Louisiana State University, and since 2013