

M. Mack, MFA
mxmackpoet@gmail.com

EDUCATION

M.F.A. in Creative Writing with concentration in poetry, May 2012
Awarded competitive graduate teaching assistantship; 4.0 cumulative GPA
Thesis project: poetry manuscript in dramatic forms that investigate conscious gendered embodiment
George Mason University
Awarded “Outstanding Graduating MFA Student in Poetry” by GMU English Department, Creative Writing faculty

B.A. in English (Honors) with concentration in poetry, May 2009
Magna Cum Laude
George Mason University
College of Humanities and Social Sciences
English Department
Awarded “Outstanding Graduating Student in Honors” by GMU English Department, faculty Dean's List, Spring 2006 to Spring 2009

Minor in Art and Visual Technology with concentration in photography, May 2009
George Mason University
College of Visual and Performing Arts
Department of AVT/ School of Art

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

“Poets Theater, Dramatic Forms, and ‘Impossible Theater’: Toward a Cross-Genre Queer Canon”
Written M.F.A. exam, Summer 2011
Four-hour, three-essay exam culminates two years of research into twenty poets and a rationale proposing common themes.
Exam received a “pass with honors”

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

George Mason University, Fairfax, VA

Teaching Interests: composition, writing to learn, writing across the curriculum, literature, arts, social sciences (including sociology, gender studies, queer studies)

Adjunct faculty with Honors College

HNRS 122: Reading the Arts

Fall 2012

Developed a section of Reading the Arts, requirement for Honors College incoming freshmen, based on the physicality of reading and performing artistic texts. Emphasized book arts, collaboration and response, and the importance of materials.

Fulfilled pedagogical cycle as Graduate Teaching Assistant (one year as tutor in writing center, two years as independent instructor, student in two pedagogical courses). Designed syllabi and course

materials based on departmental learning goals for three discrete courses. Taught two courses per semester in English Department:

Introduction to Creative Writing Spring 2012
Advanced elective course for undergraduates. 300-level course. Designed a course that emphasized craft elements beyond or across genre. Taught hybrid genres such as prose poem and impossible theater.

Introduction to Composition Spring 2012, Fall 2011, Fall 2010
First year composition. Writing-intensive General Education requirement for undergraduates. 100-level course. Designed and revised a course emphasizing writing to learn, learning to write in the disciplines. Course is bookended by a case study project in which students examine themselves as writers.

Reading and Writing About Texts Spring 2011
Introductory literature course. Writing-intensive General Education requirement for undergraduates. 200-level course. Designed a course focused on the intersections of gender and genre. Taught five cross-genre texts that dealt with cultural constructions of gender and identity.

Graduate Tutor, Writing Center Fall 2009, Spring 2010
Tutored undergraduate, graduate, and nondegree students of all disciplines. Developed resource materials and workshop presentations. Facilitated Family Weekend Essay Contest scoring.

For elective course credit as a graduate student, acted as Teaching Assistant and Co-teacher for this Women and Gender Studies course:

Introduction to LGBTQ Studies Spring 2010
Advanced elective course for undergraduates. 300-level class. Teaching Assistant and Co-teacher with Ric Chollar, director of LGBTQ Resources. Collaborated in revising the semester's syllabus and creating the schedule, helped with adopting a new text and revising the reading, adapting the course to a two-day format. Wrote and facilitated a workshop based on student needs, "Who and What is Queer?"

EDITING EXPERIENCE

Editorial Staff Manager, *Falling for the Story* anthology, 2006 to present
Coordinate the annual publication of anthology of writing by students of Northern Virginia Writing Project teachers. In 2011, I redesigned the submission system, took charge of publicity, and managed the editorial staff in addition to what I have done in prior years. I coordinate the NVWP office staff and communicate with editors-in-chief, edit and prepare the pieces for the layout editor, complete managerial and administrative tasks.

Founding Co-Editor, Gazing Grain Press, June 2012 to present
Founded a small book press with two other editors. Proposed and won funding from Fall for the Book literary festival for an annual chapbook contest. Will select, edit, layout, and publish winning chapbook in Fall 2012.

Managing Editor, *So to Speak: a feminist journal of language and art*, May 2011 to June 2012

Reader of submissions, Fall 2009 to Spring 2012

Co-managed a staff of ten editors and thirty readers of an international literary journal staffed by GMU M.F.A. graduate students. Edited submissions and completed layout and design of two

issues of journal. Handled event proposals. Managed submissions and subscriptions. Communicated with artists and the printer. Read and scored submissions.

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE AND AWARDS

Vision Award for Social Justice, 2009 and 2010

GMU Office of Diversity Programs and Services, selection committee receives nominations

Outstanding Mentor Teacher, 2012

GMU English Department, Composition faculty

Mentor teacher, fall 2011

Mentored a GTA one year behind me. I opened my class to my mentee once per week, counseled mentee on observations, and provided guidance on lessons taught by mentee.

Mentor tutor, 2009-2010

Mentored an undergraduate peer tutor in fall 2009 as part of standard mentoring program. In spring 2010, I mentored a graduate M.F.A. peer who was observing the peer tutoring class.

SafeZone trainer, 2008 to present

Facilitate trainings as part of a team. Revise and develop training materials. As part of an advanced team of trainers, develop materials and adapt training for specialized trainings for University officials, such as Provost's team and Office of Equity and Diversity Services.

Pride Week planning committee, 2007 to 2011

Help facilitate and contribute to a group of individuals from across the University in developing a week of programming and activities for annual LGBTQ Pride Week.

Student leader, Pride Alliance, 2007 to 2009

As an undergraduate, I was an executive board member of Pride Alliance for three years. As co-chair for 2008-2009, I submitted awards applications and we won Student Organization of the Year and a University Life award.

PRESENTATIONS AND READINGS

AWP Chicago 2012

Panelist, Troubling the Label: What Makes a Text Feminist?

Presented by *So to Speak: a feminist journal of literature and art*

Proposed panel for AWP 2012 with other members of *So to Speak* editorial circle.

Represented *So to Speak* editorial circle on panel after a scheduled panelist could not attend the conference. Prepared a five-minute statement and handled audience questions.

Featured Reader, Loud Fire, GMU graduate student reading series, January 2011, January 2012

Featured reader with 30-minute timeslot

Featured Reader, Art Carnage at The Soundry, July 2011, August 2011

Read poems as a featured reader with five-minute timeslots

Guest Author, NVWP Student Summer Institute, July 2011

Gave a reading and facilitated a craft talk and writing workshop during a four-hour block for the SSI advanced institute for rising 11th and 12th grade students. As part of teacher-led interest groups, gave a 45-minute bookmaking craft lesson earlier in the day for a group of students in grades 5 through 8.

Introduced Eric Pankey at NVWP Summer Institute and Student Summer Institute, Summer 2010

Wrote and delivered introductions to the current fellows of the Invitational Summer Institute and to the advanced Student Summer Institute.

PUBLICATIONS AND AWARDS

Wicked Alice, forthcoming March 2013

The prose poem-thing sequence “Not This” will appear.

Gargoyle #60, forthcoming summer 2013

The prose poem sequence “What Toast?” will appear.

Semi-finalist, 1913’s 2012 prize for first books

Honorable Mention, 2012

Mary Roberts Rinehart award in poetry

GMU Graduate Creative Writing Program annual departmental awards

Judge: David Keplinger

GALLERY EXHIBITIONS

Featured Artist, Call and Response, fall 2010

Feature of Fall for the Book literary festival. Partnership of GMU Creative Writing M.F.A. and AVT book arts students. Collaborated with printmaker Patrick Sargent whose work in response to my poem “Crisis” was featured on the show postcard. Patrick and I spoke on the artists' panel at the gallery opening.

Best in Show, Featured Artist, Reve(a)ling Feminist Art, spring 2010

Annual juried feminist art show from GMU Women and Gender Studies. In Juried show, won Best in Show for fine-art photography series “Toy Trouble: Restructuring Gendered Playthings.”

Curator, “What is Queer Art?”, 2010

Curated an open sub-show as a collaboration for Women's History Month and Pride Week.

Featured Artist, Material Word, fall 2009

Feature of Fall for the Book literary festival. Partnership of GMU Creative Writing M.F.A. and AVT book arts. Faculty juried show. Showed artist books “INK,” “Scar,” and “Investigate the [In]visible.”

Featured Artist, Reve(a)ling Feminist Art, spring 2009

Annual juried feminist art show from GMU Women and Gender Studies. Showed six fine-art prints “Sex in Gender's Clothing.” Showed kinetic sculpture “Fixed Binaries.”

Resume including professional experience available.