

THE NEW SCHOOL

Office of Admission / 72 Fifth Avenue, 3rd floor / New York, NY 10011

Discover the Writer's Life in New York City

The graduate writing program seeks applications from aspiring writers of diverse background and experience. All applicants must declare a concentration and submit a writing portfolio demonstrating that they possess the skills and a sufficient body of quality work to advance to graduate-level study. Details about the portfolio and other application materials are provided on the website.

New students enter in the fall semester only. The priority application deadline is January 15.

APPLY AT WWW.NEWSCHOOL.EDU/WRITING

Office of Admission

The New School
72 Fifth Avenue, 3rd floor
New York, NY 10011

212.229.5630
nsadmissions@newschool.edu



International Students

Applicants who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents must provide proof of English language proficiency. Documentation necessary to obtain a visa for entry into the United States is provided after a student has been accepted into a degree program.

THE NEW SCHOOL CREATIVE WRITING

MASTER OF FINE ARTS

www.newschool.edu/writing

CREATIVE WRITING AT THE NEW SCHOOL

Eight Decades of Innovation

1934.
Gertrude Stein
Lectures in America

1940.
W.H. Auden
Poetry and Culture

1961.
Robert Lowell
English Poetry from
Wyatt to Yeats

1962.
Frank O'Hara
Poetry Workshop

1963.
LeRoi Jones
(Amiri Baraka)
American Poetry

1970.
John Ashbery and
Pearl London

1995.
Lucille Clifton

2005.
Philip Gourevitch

2006.
Walter Mosley

2008.
John Ashbery,
David Lehman,
Robert Polito
(standing)

2010.
Rae Armantrout

2010.
Robert Pinsky

2010



1995



2005



2010



1970



2006



2008



1962



1963



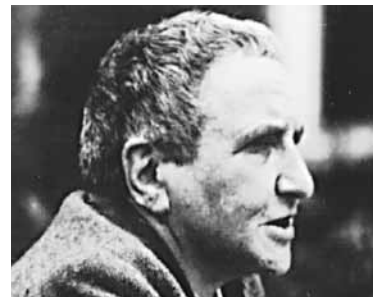
1940



1961



1934



Situated in New York City's Greenwich Village, The New School has been a vital center for writing and writing instruction since 1931. In that year, Gorham Munson, a Manhattan editor and influential member of the Alfred Stieglitz circle, introduced his now-legendary workshop in creative writing.

"We can't claim a first," Munson subsequently recalled. "Credit for the first goes to Amherst for inviting Robert Frost to be a poet-in-residence. But when The New School began to offer writing courses, the professional writer was a rare animal on the classroom platform. We led the way in revolutionizing the teaching of writing. For notice that all of us in those years were practicing writers. We washed the typewriter ink off our hands as we started for class."

Since 1996, The New School has offered the Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Creative Writing, with concentrations in fiction, poetry, nonfiction, and writing for children.

The New School Writing Program offers the opportunity to study the craft of writing under the direction of master teachers who are themselves distinguished practitioners. The approach emphasizes the study of literature as a vital artistic discipline, a creative activity, rather than as a field for historical analysis or an object for interpretation, as in English, literary

studies, or comparative literature departments. In seminars and workshops, writing teachers who operate in The New School's practitioner tradition approach works of art from the inside out, moving inevitably from close attention to language, craft, and form into history and culture, engaging the full complexity of a work, and resisting critical narrowness, insularity, and reduction.

The tradition of experienced writers reflecting on their own practices and disciplines offers a uniquely powerful vantage for the study of literature of the past, since for writers learning or tracking their art, the past is inescapably the present. Think of W.G. Sebald, in 1999, discovering how to write *The Rings of Saturn* by reading Sir Thomas Browne's "Hydriotaphia, Urn Burial; or, A Discourse of the Sepulchral Urns Lately Found in Norfolk" of 1658. Think of young Elizabeth Bishop creating her early poems under the spectral tutelage of George Herbert and Gerard Manley Hopkins.

Through nearly eight decades of continuous innovation, the New School Writing Program has welcomed a vivid and diverse who's who of American poets, novelists, and essayists, including, from the past to the present, Robert Frost, W.H. Auden, Robert Lowell, Amiri Baraka, Frank O'Hara, Kenneth Koch, Stanley Kunitz, Kay Boyle, May Sarton, Horace Gregory, Marguerite Young, William Goyen, Richard Yates, John F. Bardin, Edward Hoagland, David Ignatow, Alfred Kazin, Anatole Broyard, Carolyn Kizer, Daniel Halpern, Carol Muske Dukes, and Gilbert Sorrentino. More recent faculty include Hilton Als, Pearl London, Hayes Jacobs, Hugh Seidman, Jhumpa Lahiri, Bernadette Mayer, David Trinidad, David Markson, Bob Holman,

David Rosenberg, Nicholas Christopher, Jason Shinder, Susan Wheeler, Peter Carey, Lucy Grealy, and Liam Rector.

When we launched the MFA in Creative Writing in the 1990s, our aim was to assemble a faculty of distinguished and emerging writers that could be described as the contemporary equivalent of this brilliant legacy.

The other crucial component of any great graduate writing program is, of course, the students. When we started the MFA in Creative Writing program, one aspiration was to take full advantage of our geographical location in New York City—home to so many gifted writers and so many vital magazines and publishers. The achievements of our graduates are so varied and numerous that we can only urge you to visit the Alumni and Friends section of our website at www.newschool.edu/writing/ for a sample of their books, CDs, stories, poems, and essays; the notable literary journals they have launched; and the lively reading series they curate.

The New School Writing Program follows the workshop method of teaching: An experienced writer-teacher gives guidance to students by focusing on their manuscripts and on the creative acts of revision and self-editing through workshops and individual conferences. This program provides a framework and sustained blocks of time for students to focus intensively on developing their craft and creating a substantial body of work. Both in the classroom and through readings and lectures by distinguished visitors, the New School Writing Program seeks to animate and intensify the writer's life.

THE WRITING FACULTY

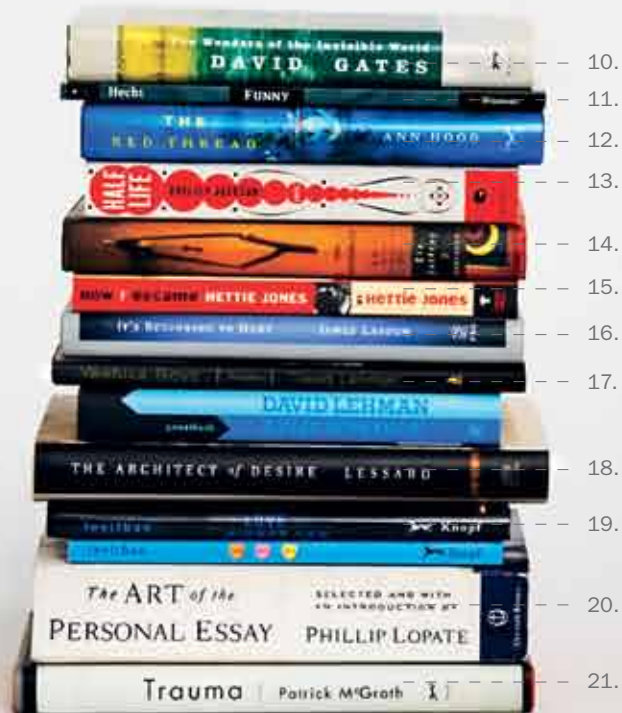
Published Authors and Experienced Teachers

Writing programs, whatever else they might involve, are communities, and those communities emanate from the talent, seriousness, and commitment to teaching of the faculty. Ours is an active and widely published faculty, many of whom work in multiple literary genres and artistic disciplines. Ours is a faculty galvanized by their lives as teachers and mentors at The New School.

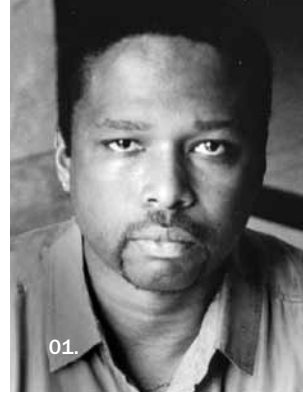
Led by director Robert Polito, a prize-winning biographer and poet, fiction coordinator Helen Schulman, and poetry coordinator David Lehman, the New School graduate writing faculty is unsurpassed anywhere in the United States. To list our faculty is to represent the richness and variety of modern American fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and children's literature.

Find detailed biographical information about all current members of the faculty on the website at www.newschool.edu/writing.

01. Jeffery Renard Allen – Holding Pattern
02. Robert Antoni – blessed is the fruit – Divina Trace – My Grandmother's Erotic Folktales
03. Catherine Barnett – Into Perfect Spheres Such Holes Are Pierced
04. Susan Bell – The Artful Edit
05. Mark Bibbins – The Dance of No Hard Feelings
06. Peter Cameron – Someday This Pain Will Be Useful to You
07. Susan Cheever – American Bloomsbury
08. Jonathan Dee – The Privileges
09. Elaine Equi – Ripple Effect – Voice-Over
10. David Gates – The Wonders of the Invisible World
11. Jennifer Hecht – Funny
12. Ann Hood – The Red Thread
13. Shelley Jackson – Half Life
14. Zia Jaffrey – The Invisibles
15. Hettie Jones – How I Became Hettie Jones
16. James Lasdun – It's Beginning to Hurt
17. David Lehman – Yeshiva Boys – A Fine Romance
18. Suzannah Lessard – The Architect of Desire
19. David Levithan – Love – Boy Meets Boy
20. Phillip Lopate – The Art of the Personal Essay
21. Patrick McGrath – Trauma
22. Honor Moore – The Bishop's Daughter – Poems from the Women's Movement
23. Meghan O'Rourke – Halflife
24. Dale Peck – Body Surfing
25. Darryl Pinckney – High Cotton
26. Robert Polito – Farber on Film – A Reader's Guide to James Merrill's *The Changing Light at Sandover* – Hollywood & God – Savage Art
27. Helen Schulman – a day at the beach – p.s.
28. Tor Seidler – Mean Margaret
29. Laurie Sheck – A Monster's Notes
30. Darcey Steinke – Jesus Saves
31. Benjamin Taylor – Tales Out of School
32. Jackson Taylor – The Blue Orchard
33. Paul Viola – Overnight
34. Sarah Weeks – So B. It
35. Brenda Wineapple – Hawthorne – White Heat
36. Stephen Wright – The Amalgamation Polka



THE WRITING FACULTY



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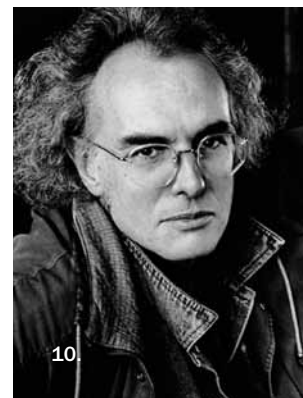
- 01. Jeffrey Renard Allen
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- 06. Susan Cheever
- 07. Peter Cameron



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- 08. Jonathan Dee
- 09. Elaine Equi
- 10. David Gates
- 11. Jennifer Michael Hecht
- 12. Ann Hood
- 13. Shelley Jackson
- 14. Zia Jaffrey



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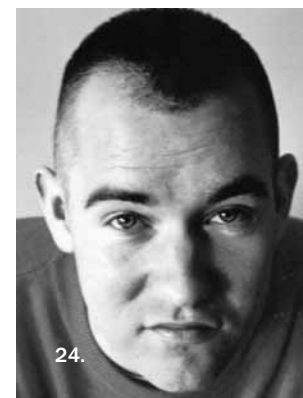
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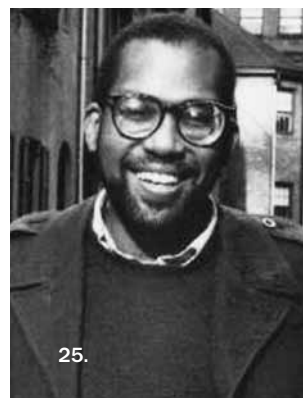
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- 30. Darcey Steinke



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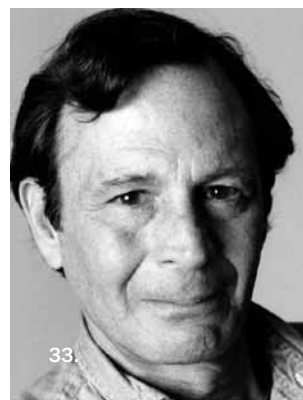
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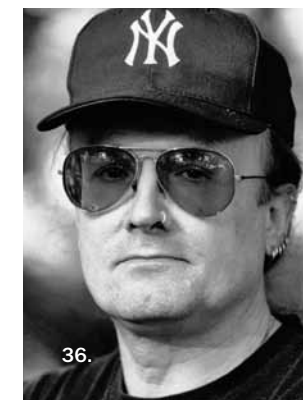


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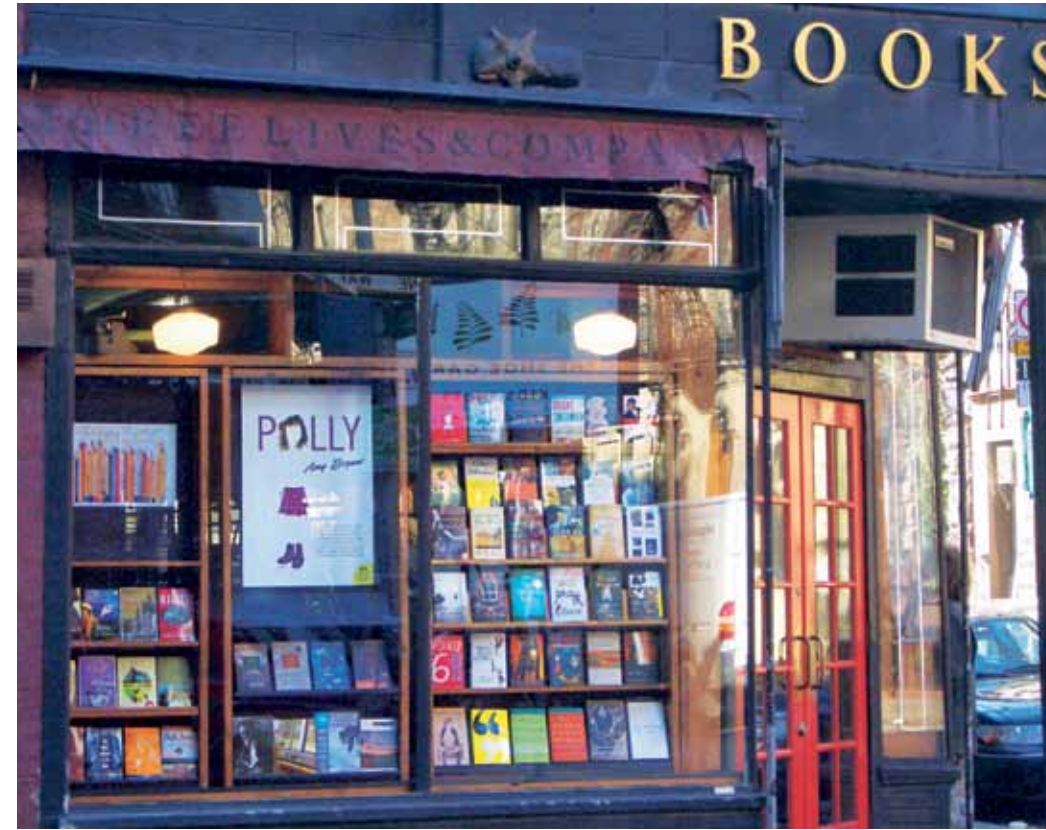
- 31. Benjamin Taylor
- 32. Jackson Taylor
- 33. Paul Violi
- 34. Sarah Weeks
- 35. Brenda Wineapple
- 36. Stephen Wright



36.

THE WRITER'S LIFE IN NEW YORK CITY

A Community of Letters



The New School Writing Program reflects the amplitude and diversity of the writer's life in New York City. Students in the program maintain their own reading series and edit and publish their own journal, *LIT*. The New School has established creative partnerships with many other New York City cultural institutions and every year a host of distinguished writers take part in wide variety of events that enhance the classroom experience of our students. The program enjoys lively collaborations with the Poetry Society of America, the Academy of American Poets, PEN, CLMP Poet's House, and Cave Canem, among others.

Presenting as many as 100 literary events each academic year, The New School is proud of what may be the preeminent university public reading series in the nation. Every fall, The New School hosts the National Book Award reading, and in the spring we present both the National Book Critics Circle Award Reading and host the gala awards ceremony the following night. Recently we staged a festival in honor of poet John Ashbery, a tribute to *New Yorker* editor Alice Quinn, and the Ghana Writers Conference Reading. The New School Writing Program also believes writers must engage all arts—hence film festivals spotlighting Samuel Fuller, Edgar G. Ulmer, and experimental documentaries; celebrations of writer/artists Manny Farber and Joe Brainard; a lecture series on music and democratic speech, curated by Greil Marcus; a series of talks on the Constitution in Crisis featuring Cass Sunstein, Eric Foner, Elaine Scarry, and Bryan Stevenson; and Robert Pinsky reading his poems as part of a quartet with musicians Vijay Iyer, Ben Allison, and Andrew Cyrille.

The New School demonstrates its commitment to progressive publishing through literary evenings devoted to anthologies and journals like *The Believer*, *Tin House*, *Conjunctions*, *McSweeney's*, *Fence*, *Open City*, *BOMB*, *Artforum*, *Agni*, *Best American Poetry*, and *Best American Movie Writing*.

New School writing students have recently heard such established and emerging writers, critics, and artists as Lydia Davis, Yusef Komunyakaa, Paul Auster, C.K. Williams, Anne Carson, Peter Carey, George Saunders, Caryl Phillips, Bradford Morrow, Jo Ann Beard, Kate Braveman, Kelly Link, Lucie Brock-Broido, James Ellroy, Susan Choi, Nathaniel Mackey, Joanna Klink, Terese Svoboda, Joe Wenderoth, Steve Erickson, Jacqueline Woodson, Walter Dean Myers, Lynne Tillman, Wayne Koestenbaum, Michael Harper, John Ashbery, Harry Matthews, Fanny Howe, Frank Bidart, Dana Gioia, Lou Reed, James Tate, Marie Ponsot, Jorie Graham, Richard Howard, Robert Creeley, Charles Bernstein, Jane Hirshfield, Jayne Cortez, Mark Doty, Verlyn Klinkenborg, Mary Karr, Jonathan Safran Foer, Nick Flynn, Percival Everett, Philip Gourevitch, Brenda Hillman, Charles Simic, Ann Lauterbach, and John Edgar Wideman.

Upon graduation, writers are encouraged to submit selections from their writing theses to a chapbook contest sponsored by the Writing Program. The winners are chosen by a panel of independent judges. Each winner receives 100 copies of a 250-copy chapbook press run published by The New School. Many of these chapbooks have subsequently led to book contracts and full-length publications.

The Writing Program honors the historic legacy of The New School as a home for the "public intellectual" in the tradition initiated here by writing instructors Anatole Broyard, Robert Lowell, and Frank O'Hara in the early 1960s.



MASTER OF FINE ARTS IN CREATIVE WRITING

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The MFA curriculum is a 36-credit course of study, currently with four concentrations: fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and writing for children. The program emphasizes literature as a vital artistic discipline, a creative activity. Writing workshops are balanced with literature seminars for the first three semesters. Workshops are always in the student's concentration, but you may elect to take some seminars outside your own field.

In your final term of residence, you work closely with an advisor or advisors in independent study leading to the completion of both a Writing Thesis and a Literature Project within your concentration: fiction, nonfiction, poetry, or writing for children.

Every semester in residence, you also earn one credit for the Writer's Life Colloquium. This requirement is met by participation in a minimum of eight approved literary or related events at The New School, including craft seminars (Fiction Forum, Poetry Forum, etc.), special readings, publishing roundtables, and visiting writer residencies.

For a full description of concentrations, workshop and seminar requirements, and the final writing thesis and literature project, visit www.newschool.edu/writing.

The creative writing graduate program is designed to be completed in two years of full-time study. All courses and most Writer's Life Colloquium events are conveniently scheduled in the evening. At this time, part-time study is not an option, and, due to the integral nature of the curriculum, transfer credits are not accepted.

FINANCING YOUR EDUCATION

Visit www.newschool.edu/studentservices to see current tuition and fee schedules.

All applicants are considered for merit scholarships. US residents and permanent residents should file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, available online at www.fafsa.ed.gov (the FAFSA school code is 002780).

The New School participates in all federal and New York State need-based financial assistance programs, including campus employment and student loans. All need-based financial assistance is awarded in accordance with federal formulas and regulations.

Toward the end of the second semester, MFA students can apply for teaching assistantships in the Riggio Honors Program, a program for gifted undergraduates funded by the Leonard and Louise Riggio Writing & Democracy Initiative.

STUDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES

For more information about the costs of attending graduate school and financial assistance, see the Financing Solutions Guide on the website at www.newschool.edu/admin/finaid or speak to an admission counselor at an information session (see Visit The New School) or email nsadmissions@newschool.edu.

HOUSING

The New School has a variety of residence halls in the vicinity of the Greenwich Village campus, including a number of options for graduate students. Applicants who are interested in university housing should apply as soon as they receive their admission decision; spaces are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. More information and application forms are available at www.newschool.edu and student services.

THE NEW SCHOOL IN BRIEF

- Founded in 1919
- Chartered as a university in 1934
- Located in New York City
- University enrollment: 10,000 students in all degree programs

The New School is a private university in New York City offering undergraduate, graduate, and continuing education programs in the liberal arts and social sciences, management and policy analysis, design, and the performing arts. The academic divisions of the university are The New School for General Studies, The New School for Social Research, Milano The New School for Management and Urban Policy, Parsons The New School for Design, Eugene Lang College The New School for Liberal Arts, Mannes College The New School for Music, The New School for Drama, and The New School for Jazz and Contemporary Music. Visit www.newschool.edu for up-to-date information about The New School.

STAY CONNECTED

www.facebook.com/thenewschool
www.twitter.com/thenewschool

VISIT US/TALK TO US

Learn more about the graduate program in Creative Writing in person. Group and individual information sessions are held throughout the year at which you can discuss the program of study, career directions, costs, and financial aid. Admission representatives also travel to other cities in the United States to meet prospective students who cannot come to New York City. Learn about and sign up for upcoming admission events at www.newschool.edu/writing.

The New School is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Institution.

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The information published here represents the plans of The New School at the time of publication. The university reserves the right to change without notice any matter contained in this publication, including but not limited to tuition, fees, policies, degree programs, names of programs, course offerings, academic activities, academic requirements, facilities, faculty, and administrators. Payment of tuition or attendance at any classes shall constitute a student's acceptance of the administration's rights as set forth above.

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