

# CAITLIN D. MCGILL

## EDUCATION

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EMERSON COLLEGE, Boston, MA—M.F.A. Creative Writing

2015

**Creative Nonfiction Thesis:** *Museum of Endangered Sounds: Essays Toward a Memoir*

Committee: Jabari Asim, Richard Hoffman

**Awards:**

**President's Award**, chosen by Emerson College President Lee Pelton, for the highest level of academic and creative achievement, across all 10 graduate programs, based on thesis

**First Place**, Nonfiction Graduate Writing Contest

**Full-Tuition Fellowship**

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA, Orlando, FL—B.A. English (*summa cum laude*) 2012

Concentration: Creative Writing

Honors in English

**Creative Multi-Genre Thesis (fiction & nonfiction):** *A Crimson Trail*

Committee: Jocelyn Bartkevicius, María Cristina Santana, Darlin' Neal

**Awards:**

Honors in the Major Thesis Grant

Jean C. Combs/English Department Award

Promising Scholar Award

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

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*Essays*

"On Desire." *Indiana Review*. Summer 2021.

- **Winner of the 2020 Creative Nonfiction Prize.** Full review, by Bassey Ikpi, available [here](#)
- **Finalist** for the [2021 Chautauqua Janus Prize](#)
- **Notable essay in *The Best American Essays 2022***

"[Not a Dream.](#)" *The Los Angeles Review*. April 2021.

"[For the Voter Stuck in Silence.](#)" *McSweeney's*. November 2020.

"[Looking for Relief.](#)" *Gastronomica: The Journal for Food Studies*. Fall 2020.

"[How to Disappear.](#)" *CutBank*. Spring 2020.

- **Notable essay in *The Best American Essays 2021***

"He Who Shines." *Under the Gum Tree*. Fall 2019.

"[There You Are.](#)" *The Chattahoochee Review*. Winter 2018.

"[Morning Glory.](#)" *Punctuate Magazine*. December 2018.

"[Sirens.](#)" *Entropy Magazine*. Summer 2018.

"[I Teach, Therefore I Essay](#)" ([extended meditation](#)). *Mike Steinberg Blog*. April 2018.

"[Uncertainty.](#)" *War, Literature, & the Arts*. March 2018.

"[Paved in Gold.](#)" *Consequence*. February 2018. Republished in *Wrath-Bearing Tree*, January 2020.

[“On Breaking the Rule of Detachment.”](#) *GrubWrites*, February 2018.

“Breaking Boundaries.” *Solstice*. August 2017.

- **1 of 5 finalists in *Solstice’s 2017 Summer Contest***

[“Beyond Grief.”](#) *Blackbird: an online journal of literature and the arts*. May 2017.

[“I Teach, Therefore I Essay.”](#) *Inside Higher Ed*. April 2017.

[“My Father Voted for Trump.”](#) *Vox*. 15 November 2016.

“Museum of Endangered Sounds.” *The Southeast Review*. Winter 2017.

- **1 of 2 finalists in *The Southeast Review’s 2016 Narrative Nonfiction Contest***

“Items to Survive.” *Iron Horse Literary Review*. Fall 2015.

“On Delight.” *Two Cities Review*. Fall 2015.

- **Runner-up, 2015 Prose Nonfiction Contest**

“Silent Interrogations.” *The Southeast Review*. 33.2. Summer 2015.

- **Notable essay in *The Best American Essays 2016***

“How Much for That Pair of Shoes?” *Crab Orchard Review*. 20.1. Winter/Spring 2015.

- **Winner, 2014 Rafael Torch Literary Nonfiction Award**

- **Finalist, 2016 Tom Howard/John H. Reid Fiction & Essay Contest**

“In the Dark.” *Spry Literary Magazine*. Spring 2013.

### ***Fiction***

“Alligator Alley.” *Gravel Magazine*. Fall 2015.

“To Sleep.” *Gravel Magazine*. Fall 2015.

“Waning.” *Cleaver Magazine*. Summer 2015.

“Don’t You Understand?” *Stolen Island*. Spring 2015.

“Open Wide.” *Oblong Magazine*. Spring 2015.

“On Disappearing” & “I’m Sorry.” *Short, Fast, and Deadly*. Spring 2015.

“Tripping.” *50wordstories.com*. Winter 2015.

- **Winner, 50wordstories Story of the Week Award**

“Silhouettes.” *Prairie Margins*. Spring 2012.

“Gus.” *Sphere Literary Magazine*, Issue 7. Winter 2012.

### ***Journalism & Reviews***

“Mary Bonina’s *My Father’s Eyes?*” (Review). *Solstice Literary Magazine*. Spring 2014.

“No Lust Lost” (Orlando Ballet review). *Orlando Weekly*. 21 April 2011.

“The Shadow of Death” (Music feature). *Orlando Weekly*. 7 October 2010.

### ***Anthology***

“The Girl Who Lives in the Stars” (Fiction). *America is Not the World*. Pankhearst, 2015.

## **BOOKS**

*When They Wondered Where I Went* (memoir; nearing completion)

Many of the awards, grants, and residencies listed below have funded this project

Two essays from this book were Notables in *The Best American Essays* series: 2016 & 2021

**Summary:** When I was sixteen, I began dating a twenty-two-year-old: an intensely alluring, and soon abusive, drug-addled man with a tenuous tether to reality. For six years, he

controlled me, and I hid the truth from my family. *When They Wondered Where I Went* is a Miami-based, coming-of-age memoir about escaping this tortured relationship and cult-like mind control, losing and reclaiming myself and my family, the inheritance of silence, and the human desire to believe in the unseen.

***Look Away: Essays on Desire*** (in-progress)

One essay from this book won the 2020 *Indiana Review* Nonfiction Prize, was a finalist for the 2021 Chautauqua Janus Prize, and was a Notable in *The Best American Essays 2022*

***Paved in Gold*** (hybrid memoir; in progress)

With my [St. Botolph Emerging Writer Award](#), I traveled to Slovakia to begin research

## SELECTED HONORS & AWARDS

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### WRITING

**Associate Artist**, Atlantic Center for the Arts, 2023

**Fellowship**, The Ragdale Foundation, 2023

**Work-Study Scholar/Staff**: Bread Loaf Writers' Conferences (2022, 2019, 2018, & 2016)

**Residency**, [The Helene Wurlitzer Foundation of New Mexico](#), 2022

**Finalist**, [Chautauqua Janus Prize](#), 2021

**Pushcart Prize Nominee**, 2021

**Finalist**, [Money for Women/Barbara Deming Memorial Fund](#), 2021

**Residency**, [Newnan ArtRez](#), 2021; *author interview in The Newnan Times-Herald*

**Winner**, 2020 *Indiana Review* Creative Nonfiction Prize

**Honorable Mention**, [Miami Book Fair Emerging Writer Fellowship](#), 2020

**Fellowship Grant Recipient**: 2019 Somerville Arts Council/MA Cultural Council

**Finalist**, [CutBank's 2020 Big Sky, Small Prose Contest](#)

**Residency**, Kimmel Harding Nelson Center for the Arts, 2019

**Fine Arts Work Center**, Scholarship Recipient in Poetry, 2019

**Finalist**: *Iowa Review* Award in Nonfiction, 2018

**Finalist**: [The Southampton Review's 2018 Frank McCourt Memoir Prize](#)

**Finalist**: [2018 Hunger Mountain Creative Nonfiction Prize](#)

**Fellow**, The Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, 2018

**Finalist:** [The Chattahoochee Review's 2018 Lamar York Prize in Nonfiction](#)

**Winner**, [2016 St. Botolph Club Foundation's Emerging Artist Grant in Literature](#)

**Invited Emerging Writer:** 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Boston Public Library Literary Lights Gala

**Finalist:** 2016 Tom Howard/John H. Reid Fiction & Essay Contest

**Finalist:** [The Southeast Review's 2016 Narrative Nonfiction Contest](#)

**Professional Development Grant**, Graduate Student Association, Emerson College, 2014

**The Rafael Torch Literary Nonfiction Award**, *Crab Orchard Review*, 2014

## TEACHING

**Departmental Teaching Award Nominee**, Emerson College

**Affiliated Faculty Professional Development Grants**, Emerson College, (multiple years)

**"Innovation in Communication" Grant**, Emerson College, 2018

## TEACHING

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### HARVARD UNIVERSITY, Cambridge, MA

**Teaching Fellow, Graduate School of Education**

**2019-Present**

EDU T210M: Creative Nonfiction Writing Workshop

- Teach graduate-level workshop of 12 students (online & in-person)
- Co-teach graduate-level lecture for 35-85 students

EDU T210Y: Writing the Opinion Piece

### EMERSON COLLEGE, Boston, MA

**Affiliated Faculty, Writing, Literature, & Publishing**

**2014-Present**

WR317: Nonfiction Topics Workshop—"Writing America"

WR316: Intermediate Nonfiction Workshop

LI303: The Art of Nonfiction

WR216: Introduction to Nonfiction Workshop

LI210: American Women Writers (including online)

LI204: Frontline Writing

LI120: Introduction to Literature Studies

WR121: Research Writing—"Literary Architecture & Multi-Genre Narratives"

WR101: Introduction to College Writing—"The Power of Storytelling"

**Creative Writing Courses for High School Students** 2013-2015  
for [emersonWRITES](#), a free program for Boston-area students: Multi-Genre Writing  
for Pre-Professional Summer Program: Flash Fiction Workshop

**Teaching Assistant** 2013-2015  
LI303: “The Art of Nonfiction,” with Senior Writer-in-Residence, Richard Hoffman

**WRITERS WITHOUT MARGINS, Boston, MA**

**Creative Writing Workshop Facilitator** 2017-Present  
Lead workshops at Wyman Re-Entry Program (a men’s post-incarceration and addiction recovery center), at The St. Francis House (the largest day shelter in MA), and at the Boston Public Library

**GRUBSTREET, Boston, MA**

**Creative Writing Instructor** 2018-Present  
“Imagining the Gaps in Memoir: How to Write a Story When the Story Runs Out”  
“The Personal is Historical”  
“Productive Procrastination: Embracing Side Projects When Writing Trauma and Loss”

**NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY, Boston, MA**

**Lecturer, College of Social Sciences & Humanities** 2017-Present  
AWD3314: “Advanced Writing in the Disciplines: Arts, Media, & Design” (online)  
AWD3315: “Advanced Writing in the Disciplines: Interdisciplinary” (online)  
AWD3306: “Advanced Writing in the Health Professions” (online)  
ENGW1111: “First-Year Writing”  
Online Learning Training at the Advanced Teaching & Learning Research Center  
Ongoing Pedagogy Seminars: Social Justice, Teaching Online, Adv. Interdisciplinary Writing

**MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF PHARMACY AND HEALTH SCIENCES  
UNIVERSITY**

**Writing Instructor, College of Arts and Sciences** 2015-Present  
HUM450: “War Literature” (online); conceived and designed course  
LIB 112: Expository Writing II, Introduction to Literary Genres  
Online pedagogy trainings

**Writing Center Associate** 2015-2018  
Supported students writing in fields such as medicine, humanities, and business  
Co-designed rhetoric and tutoring guides  
In-person and virtual (managed My WC Online program)

**NOONAN SCHOLARS SUMMER ACADEMY, Wheelock College, Boston, MA** 2015-2017

Co-taught and designed intensive Intro to College Writing courses for high school juniors

## SELECTED PANELS, PRESENTATIONS, & READINGS

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**READER**, Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, Work-Study Scholar/Staff, 2022, 2019, 2018, 2016

**PRESENTER**, Muse and the Marketplace 2022 & 2018: "Imagining the Gap in Nonfiction: How to Write a Story When the Story Runs Out"

- Co-led with Alex Marzano-Lesnevich (*The Fact of a Body: A Murder and a Memoir*)

**READER**, Newnan Carnegie Library, 2021

**PRESENTER**, Muse and the Marketplace 2019: "From Personal History to Social History: How to Get Beyond the ME in Memoir"

- Co-led with Alysia Abbott (*Fairyland: A Memoir of My Father*)

**PANELIST & MODERATOR**, 2019 AWP Conference: "I Teach, Therefore I Essay: Essaying the Classroom"

- With Jennine Capó Crucet, Gail Griffin, Mg Roberts, and Marjorie Sa'adah

**PANELIST**, 2018 AWP Conference: "A Question of Class: The Art of Writing from Below the Middle"

- With Jonathan Escoffery, Jeannine Ouellette, Bao Phi, & Michael Torres

**READER**, Dire Literary Series, The Middle East Rest. & Club, 2018

**PRESENTER**, Engaging Practices: UMass Boston Conference on Teaching Composition: "Yes Your Professor Writes Essays for Fun," 2016

**SCHOLAR**, Boston Rhetoric and Writing Network Summer Institute, MIT, 2016 & 2017

**READER**, New Voices, New Visions: An Evening with the 2016 Emerging Artist Award Winners, St. Botolph Club Foundation, 2016

**READER**, Faculty/Alumni Reading Series, Emerson College, 2016

- Invited by Jerald Walker, Faculty and National Book Award finalist

**READER**, TENT Conference Scholars, Yiddish Book Center, 2016

**PANELIST**, "One City One Story at Emerson College," 2014

**NONFICTION READER**, Breakwater Reading Series, Brookline Booksmith, 2014

**READER**, Graduate Series, Emerson College, 2013, 2014, 2015

## SELECTED COMMUNITY & PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

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**EMERSON COLLEGE, Boston, MA**

<b><a href="#">Proyecto Carrito</a></b>	<b>2014-2016</b>
In our translingual community of students, maintenance workers, faculty, & staff, we create translingual rhetorical situations & networks that build campus conditions to support writing across borders, and blur institutional borders between immigrant workers & students	
<b>Writing Workshop for Speech Language Pathologists (SLPs) in Training</b>	<b>2018</b>
Invited to create/lead class for 100 Communication Sciences & Disorders graduate students	
<b>Curriculum Revision Working Group</b>	<b>2017</b>
With senior writing faculty, revised WR121: Research Writing curriculum	
<b>Writing Successful Conference Proposals, First-Year Writing Program</b>	<b>2017</b>
Presentation on writing and publishing conference proposals and presentations	
<b>Ta-Nehisi Coates Discussion Group, Social Justice Center</b>	<b>2016</b>
Strategies for teaching <i>Between the World &amp; Me</i>	
<b>Assessment in Action Research Study, Iwasaki Library</b>	<b>2016</b>
Measured library instruction impact on student learning (American Library Association)	
<b>Inclusive Excellence Faculty Fellows Program, Social Justice Center</b>	<b>2015</b>
Selected as 1 of 15 fellows, for guided study, self-examination, and pedagogical training	
<b>Mentor, First-Year Writing Program</b>	<b>2015-2018</b>
Provided monthly pedagogical advising to new graduate student instructors	
<b>Teaching Practicum</b>	<b>2014-2015</b>
Weekly pedagogy training with First-Year Writing directors Tamera Marko & John Trimbur First-Year Writing Program award: <b>CCCC's 2013 Program Certificate of Excellence</b>	
<b>First-Year Writing Student Showcases</b>	<b>2015 &amp; 2016</b>
<b>WR101 Task Force, First-Year Writing Program</b>	<b>2015-2016</b>
Helped re-design curriculum, and pilot new program	
<b>Teaching about Ferguson, Emerson College Faculty Discussion Group</b>	<b>2014</b>

**COMMUNITY, EDITORIAL, & VOLUNTEER WORK**

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<b>Bread Loaf Writers' Conference Staff, Ripton, VT</b>	<b>2022, 2019, 2018</b>
<b>GrubStreet, Editorial <a href="#">Consultant</a>, Boston, MA</b>	<b>2018-Present</b>
<b><i>Ploughshares</i>, Staff Reader, Boston, MA</b>	<b>2012-2014</b>
<b>Write Boston, Instructor &amp; Tutor, Boston, MA</b>	<b>2013-2014</b>

- Taught multi-genre creative writing workshop for high school students exploring career paths
- Tutored high school students in assignment comprehension, idea development, analysis, and state exam prep. Worked closely with students learning to read, write, and speak English

***The Florida Review*, Editorial Intern, Orlando, FL** **2011**

- Rated, proofread, and edited submissions; worked with editors to publish bi-annual issues; co-organized Florida Writers' Conference; hosted guest authors such as Nick Flynn

***Orlando Weekly*, Editorial Intern & Freelance Writer, Orlando, FL** **2010-2012**

***The Cypress Dome*, Nonfiction Editor & Promotions Manager, Orlando, FL.** **2010-2011**

- Read submissions; co-edited issues; hosted Kevin Canty, Joy Harjo, & Laura Kasischke

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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Association of Writers and Writing Programs

Bread Loaf Writers' Conference

Boston Rhetoric and Writing Network (BRAWN)

## REFERENCES

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**Richard Hoffman**, Professor Emeritus, Emerson College: [rchoffman@comcast.net](mailto:rchoffman@comcast.net)

**Maria Koundoura**, Professor, Emerson College: [maria\\_koundoura@emerson.edu](mailto:maria_koundoura@emerson.edu)

**Nancy Sommers**, Faculty, Graduate School of Education, Harvard University:

[nancy\\_sommers@gse.harvard.edu](mailto:nancy_sommers@gse.harvard.edu)

**Jerald Walker**, Professor, Emerson College: [gerald\\_walker@emerson.edu](mailto:gerald_walker@emerson.edu)

## LANGUAGES

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Proficient in Spanish