



# The Hopwood Awards Ceremony

April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022



# The 2022 Hopwood Program Awards Ceremony

April 6th, 2022

## Order of Events

<b>Welcome and Opening Remarks</b>	Meg Sweeney
<b>Acknowledgement of 2020 and 2021 Award Winners</b>	Rebecca Manery
<b>Presentation of Awards</b>	Meg Sweeney, Rebecca Manery, Jim Burnstein, Cody Walker
<b>Introduction of the Hopwood Lecturer</b>	Julie Buntin
<b>Hopwood Lecture</b>	Jia Tolentino
<b>Closing Remarks</b>	Meg Sweeney

### **Hopwood Committee**

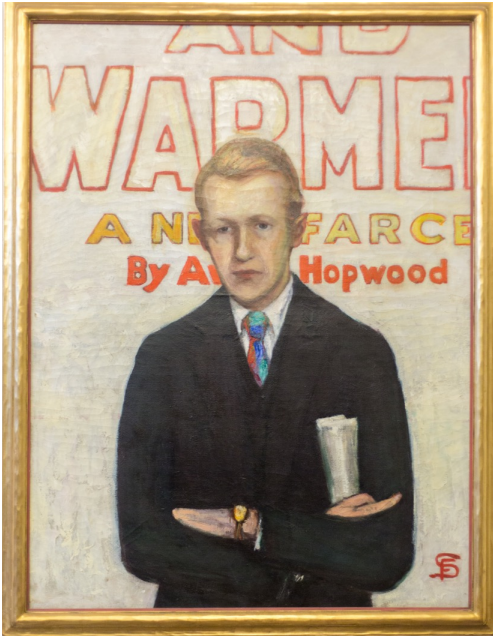
Ghassan Abou-Zeineddine, Jim Burnstein,  
Jeremiah Chamberlin, Tung-Hui Hu, Dave  
Larsen, Laura Thomas, Cody Walker

### **Hopwood Staff**

Meg Sweeney, Hopwood Director  
Rebecca Manery, Hopwood Program Manager  
Sarah Miles, Hopwood Program Assistant

### **Program and Ceremony Credits**

Cover Design by Raquel Buckley  
Program Design by Sarah Miles  
Videotaping by Jennifer Galvão  
Live Captioning by ai media



*Portrait of Avery Hopwood by  
Florine Stettheimer*

## Words of Welcome

from the Hopwood Program Manager

Avery Hopwood wrote his first play in 1905 as a senior at the University of Michigan. Fifteen years later, he had four plays running concurrently on Broadway and had become the most commercially successful playwright of his time. At the height of his success, he established a bequest for the future Avery Hopwood and Jule Hopwood prizes at the University of Michigan for “the best creative work in the fields of dramatic writing, fiction, poetry, and the essay,” especially “the new, the unusual, and the radical.”

The Hopwood Awards contests were first held in 1931. Since 1932, the Hopwood Awards Ceremony has included the Hopwood Lecture, an opportunity for a prominent writer to speak on a subject of importance to young writers. This year we are delighted that the Hopwood Lecturer is Jia Tolentino, a staff writer at *The New Yorker* and the author of the essay collection, *Trick Mirror*. Jia won two Hopwood Awards while earning her MFA in creative writing at the University of Michigan, and we are delighted to welcome her back to Ann Arbor. We hope you can join us at 5:30 p.m. on April 7th for a reading and Q&A with Jia in the Rackham 4th floor Amphitheatre.

Although we are excited to be able to hold an in-person ceremony for the first time since 2019, we are also live streaming the ceremony and Jia’s reading for those who wish to attend virtually. Please use this link for both events: <https://tinyurl.com/ZellWriters> (no registration required).

We are grateful to the students, faculty, staff, donors, and judges whose participation and support made this year’s awards possible. We hope that you will join us in thanking all of those who foster a tradition of writing excellence at the University of Michigan.

Rebecca Manery  
Hopwood Program Manager

# The 2022 Hopwood Award Contests



## Avery Hopwood and Jule Hopwood Awards in Creative Writing

**Graduate and Undergraduate Hopwood Contests**

**Hopwood First- and Second- Year Contests**

**Hopwood Award Theodore Roethke Prize**

*Photo by Raquel Buckley*

## Other Awards Administered by the Hopwood Program

- Academy of American Poets • Andrea Beauchamp Prize • Arthur Miller Prize •
- Bain-Swiggett Poetry Prize • Chamberlain Award for Creative Writing •
- Cora Duncan Award in Fiction • David Porter Award for Excellence in Journalism •
- Dennis McIntyre Prize • Frank and Gail Beaver Script Writing Prize
- Geoffrey James Gosling Prize • Helen J. Daniels Prize • Helen S. and John Wagner Prize •
- Jeffrey L. Weisberg Memorial Prize in Poetry • John Wagner Prize •
- Kasdan Scholarship in Creative Writing • Keith Taylor Award for Excellence in Poetry •
- Leonard and Eileen Newman Writing Prizes in Dramatic Writing and Fiction •
- Marjorie Rapaport Award in Poetry • Meader Family Award •
- Michael R. Gutterman Award in Poetry • Naomi Saferstein Literary Award •
- Paul and Sonia Handleman Poetry Award • Peter Phillip Pratt Award in Fiction •
- Robert F. Haugh Prize • Roy W. Cowden Memorial Fellowship •
- Roy and Helen Meader Award • Stanley S. Schwartz Prize •

# The Avery Hopwood and Jule Hopwood Awards in Creative Writing

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## Hopwood Drama

Preliminary Judge | Shawntai Brown  
Final Judges | Khadijah Queen and Marisa Carr

### Winners

Aaron Klein, *First Place*

“Home Free”

Class of 2022, SMTD BFA Performance

Caroline New, *Second Place*

“Albeit, Amelia”

Class of 2022, Helen Zell Writers’ Program

Julie Cadman-Kim, *Third Place*

“How to Care for Your Confederate Relative”

Class of 2022, Helen Zell Writers’ Program

Karis Clark, *Fourth Place*

“Alien Nation”

Class of 2022, School of Secondary Education

David Williams, *Fourth Place*

“The Sleuth of Bears and Anguish of the Marrow”

Class of 2026, English Language and Literature

### Finalists

Sarah Cripsey

”Dying for a Coffee”

Class of 2022, SMTD Acting

Nicholas Daly,

“How Can I Help You?”

Class of 2023, SMTD Theater

Claire Vogel

“The In Between”

Class of 2021, SMTD Theater

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## Hopwood Screenplay

Preliminary Judges | Emily Jade Foley and Cindy Davis

Final Judges | Julia Zak and Tian Jun Gu

### Winners

Ben Servetah, *First Place*

“u, me and catastrophe”

Class of 2023, LSA Film, Television, & Media

Jessica Curney, *Second Place*

“Sunshine”

Class of 2022, LSA Creative Writing & Literature

Sophia Raines, *Second Place*

“The Look of Love”

Class of 2022, LSA Film, Television, & Media

Reyana Patterson, *Third Place*

”Matriarchs”

Class of 2022, LSA Film, Television, & Media

Jason Fine, *Third Place*

“Theater”

Class of 2023, LSA Film, Television, & Media

### Finalists

Zora Kwasnik

”Deadbeat”

Class of 2023, LSA Film, Television, & Media

Tomi Drucker

“Frames”

Class of 2025, LSA Comparative Literature

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## Hopwood Novel

Preliminary Judges	Nawaaz Ahmed and Mo Daviau
Final Judges	Brit Bennett and Matthew Salesses

### Winners

Jennifer Galvão, <i>First Place</i> “Water Dogs: an excerpt” Class of 2023, Helen Zell Writers’ Program	Kabelo Motsoeneng, <i>First Place</i> “What We Inherit” Class of 2023, Helen Zell Writers’ Program
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### Finalists

Julie Cadman-Kim “Six-Letter Word” Class of 2022, Helen Zell Writers’ Program	Darina Sikmashvili “Now We Are All Holy Girls” Class of 2022, Helen Zell Writers’ Program
Amitai Ben-Abba “Magikombucha” Class of 2027, Comparative Literature	

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## Hopwood Award Theodore Roethke Prize

Preliminary Judge	Traci Brimhall
Final Judge	John Murrillo

### Winners

Abigail McFee, <i>First Place</i> “Entrails” Class of 2022, Helen Zell Writers’ Program	Robert Laidler, <i>Second Place</i> “felo de se & punnett squares & true stories about the southern woods” Class of 2022, Helen Zell Writers’ Program
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### Finalists

Maia Elsner “Corona-19” Class of 2023, Helen Zell Writers’ Program	Brian Gyamfi “Brown Weapons” Class of 2024, Helen Zell Writers’ Program	Tamar Ashdot “JFK – TLV” Class of 2023, Helen Zell Writers’ Program
Matthew Busto “Making Lunch in America” Class of 2022 Helen Zell Writers’ Program	Caroline New “Taxonomy of Salt” Class of 2022, Helen Zell Writers’ Program	A Shaikh “LDR submission” Class of 2023, Helen Zell Writers’ Program
Sarah Abou Rashed “Theories of Return” Class of 2023, Helen Zell Writers’ Program	Urvi Kumbhat “This Day of Tender Witness” Class of 2022, Helen Zell Writers’ Program	

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## Hopwood Graduate Poetry

Preliminary Judges | Diane Seuss and Kaveh Akbar  
Final Judges | Airea D. Matthews and Victoria Chang

### Winners

Brian Gyamfi, *First Place*  
“What People Will Say”  
Class of 2024, Helen Zell Writers’ Program

Abigail McFee, *Third Place*  
“Entrails”  
Class of 2022, Helen Zell Writers’ Program

Robert Laidler, *Second Place*  
“Pivot”  
Class of 2022, Helen Zell Writers’ Program

David Villaverde, *Fourth Place*  
“Scenes from a Room”  
Class of 2022, Helen Zell Writers’ Program

### Finalists

Tariq Elsaid  
“On Vagrancies of Hope and Grief”  
Class of 2022, School of Social Work

Caroline New  
“All the Little Beasts”  
Class of 2022, Helen Zell Writers’ Program

Maya Day  
“Excess”  
Class of 2025, English Language & Literature

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## Hopwood Graduate Fiction

Preliminary Judges | Yalitza Ferreras and Amber Wheeler Bacon  
Final Judges | Kate Milliken and Akil Kumarasamy

### Winners

Urvi Kumbhat, *First Place*  
“The Black Hole of Calcutta” &  
“The Hooghly River”  
Class of 2022, Helen Zell Writers’ Program

Sean Civale, *Third Place*  
“Inheritances”  
Class of 2023, Helen Zell Writers’ Program

Julie Cadman-Kim, *Second Place*  
“God's Image”, "956 Pioneer Circle", "The Center  
of the Circle", "Mary Esther's Man", "Our Man", &  
"Lot's Wife"  
Class of 2022, Helen Zell Writers’ Program

Anna Widdowson, *Fourth Place*  
“The Speckled Gourd”  
Class of 2023, Helen Zell Writers’ Program

### Finalists

Joshua Oliver  
“This Is California” &  
“If You Leave Me Now”  
Class of 2023,  
Helen Zell Writers’ Program

Darina Sirkmashvili  
“Negligence”  
Class of 2022,  
Helen Zell Writers’ Program

Lilia Popova  
“The Twins”  
Class of 2023,  
Medical School & Public Health

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## Hopwood Graduate Nonfiction

Preliminary Judges

Ames Hawkins and Dariel Suarez

Final Judges

Esme Weijun Wang and Jenny Bouilly

### Winners

Chandrica Barua, *First Place*

“silent women at the kitchen table”

Class of 2025, English Language & Literature

Abigail McFee, *Third Place*

“Pelvis with the Distance”

Class of 2022, Helen Zell Writers’ Program

Catherine Brist, *Fifth Place*

"Taxonomy" and "Living Things"

Class of 2025, Women and Gender Studies & English

Zoe Carpenter, *Second Place*

“Blues Came Down On You”

Class of 2023, Helen Zell Writers’ Program

David Villaverde, *Fourth Place*

“Solastalgia”

Class of 2022, Helen Zell Writers’ Program

### Finalists

Sara Abou Rashed, *Fifth Place*

“In the Tent of Memory”

Class of 2023, Helen Zell Writers’ Program

Joshua Oliver

“Everyone’s Asking About You”

Class of 2023, Helen Zell Writers’ Program



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## Hopwood Undergraduate Poetry

Preliminary Judges | Tarfia Faizullah and Albert Abonado  
Final Judges | Airea D. Matthews and Victoria Chang

### Winners

Alejandro Derieux-Cerezo, *First Place*  
“Can Any of Those Poems Save the Bees?”  
Class of 2022, LSA Physics & English

Hiba Dagher, *Second Place*  
“the bird in my throat | Talia Boutros”  
Class of 2022, LSA English

Rachna Iyer, *Second Place*  
“songs for ma”  
Class of 2022, Psychology & Creative Writing

### Finalists

Yumna Dagher  
“Lamb's Eye Poems”  
Class of 2024, LSA English

Fez Fessenden  
“Body Farm”  
RC Creative Writing, Drama & Literature

Tahani Almujaheed  
“Conversations over Adeni Chai & other poems”  
Class of 2022, LSA English & International Studies

Olivia Evans  
“Creation Myths”  
RC Creative Writing & Literature

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## Hopwood Undergraduate Fiction

Preliminary Judges | Erica Plouffe Lazure and Stephanie Vanderslice  
Final Judges | Kate Milliken and Akil Kumarasamy

### Winners

Vivian Chiao, *First Place*  
“detritus from the glove compartment of my 2010 honda civic”  
Class of 2022, LSA History & Creative Writing

Francisco Fiori, *Second Place*  
“The Comfort in Her Knife” & “Carousel Girls”  
Class of 2023, LSA English

Jena Vallina, *Third Place*  
“My Apocalypse”  
Class of 2022, LSA Creative Writing & Literature

Gabrielle Byrnes, *Fourth Place*  
“The Many Lives of Stevie Ives”  
Class of 2022, LSA Film, Television, & Media

Lucy Petee, *Fifth Place*  
“Anteros”  
Class of 2024, LSA

### Finalists

Clare Sahijdak  
“Three Short Stories on Identity”  
Class of 2023, LSA English

Madelyn Agne  
“Metro Academic & Classical High’s 2022 Spring Production of Hamlet”  
Class of 2023, LSA Creative Writing & Literature

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## Hopwood Undergraduate Nonfiction

Preliminary Judges | Piper J. Daniels and Alexandria Peary  
Final Judges | Esmé Weijun Wang and Jenny Boully

### Winners

Patience Young, *First Place*  
“Detroit Moan”, “Trumbullplex in Prose”  
& “Rotten Teeth”  
Class of 2022, LSA Creative Writing

Penny Kane, *Second Place*  
“Prison Is No Place for a Vagina”  
Class of 2022,  
CASL Criminal Justice, Pub Health, Communications

Nikolai Kesson, *Second Place*  
“Ascend”  
Class of 2022,  
Stamps Art

### Finalists

Francesca Duong  
“My Mother, the Mango Seed Eater” & “The  
Scream”  
Class of 2022,  
LSA Asian Studies & Computer Science

Jessica Kwon  
“In the aisles of a grocery store” &  
“Burning the Scripts of Asian America”  
Class of 2023, LSA English

Jingqi Zhu  
“Watch You Heal” &  
“The Ethnic Character of  
Chinese Restaurant Syndrome”  
Class of 2023,  
LSA Biopsych, Cognition, Neuroscience

Rachna Iyer  
“Essays from 2021”  
Class of 2022, LSA Psychology and Creative Writing

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## Hopwood First- and Second-Year Poetry

Judges | Michael M. Weinstein and Monica Rico

### Winners

Zoya Uzzaman, *First Place*

“Poems”

Class of 2024, LSA

Jenna Good, *Second Place*

“Little Blue Girl”

Class of 2022, LSA English

Elizabeth Wolfe, *Third Place*

“In the Middle Hour”

Class of 2024, RC Creative Writing

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## Hopwood First- and Second-Year Fiction

Judges | Cherline Bazile and Asher Dark

### Winners

Nadir Gerber, *First Place*

“Doll Funeral”

Class of 2024, LSA Asian Studies

Julia Watt, *Second Place*

“Chlorsomax”

Class of 2024, LSA Sociology (Law, Justice, Soc Change)

Andrew Nakamura, *Third Place*

“Radiance”

Class of 2024, LSA Creative Writing

Arianna Ontko, *Fourth Place*

“Moving Day”

2025, LSA

Payton Aper, *Fifth Place*

“The Midterm”

Class of 2024, LSA Earth & Environmental Sciences

Lindsey Rosenblatt, *Fifth Place*

“The Doll”

2025, LSA

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## Hopwood First- and Second-Year Nonfiction

Judges | Annesha (Sengupta) Mitha and Sofia Groopman

### Winners

Isabela Kellogg, *First Place*

“On Standing on the Steps of

Rashomon’s Irish Gift Shop”

Class of 2025, LSA

Lily Price, *Second Place*

“Frat Bed”, “What was taken in 2020”,

“Grapes”, & “Super Kroger”

Class of 2024, LSA Film, Television, & Media

Olivia Donach, *Third Place*

“Beautiful Bones”

Class of 2025, School of Nursing

Allison Choi, *Fourth Place*

“Rockburne’s Burn-out Brainchild” &

“Don’t (read: do?) Talk to Strangers on the Internet”

Class of 2025, LSA Creative Writing and Literature

# Other Awards and Prizes Administered by the Hopwood Program

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## Academy of American Poets Prize

Judges | Katie Hartsock and Derrick Austin

### Undergraduate Winner

Alejandro Derieux-Cerezo  
“Cabela’s Commercial Disguised as a List of Better Left Unsaid”  
Class of 2022, LSA Physics & English

### Graduate Winner

David Villaverde  
“Ori”  
Class of 2022, Helen Zell Writers’ Program

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## Andrea Beauchamp Prize

### Winner

Urvi Kumbhat  
“The Black Hole of Calcutta” and “The Hooghly River”  
Class of 2022, Helen Zell Writers’ Program

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## Arthur Miller Award of the University of Michigan Club of New York Scholarship Fund

Judge | Terry Blackhawk

### Winner

Steve Liu  
“The Kowloon Gardener of Forever”  
Class of 2023, LSA English

### Finalists

Ben Servetah  
“u, me and catastrophe”  
Class of 2023, LSA Film, Television & Media

Sarah Rooney  
“The Stuff I Can’t Stuff in a Suitcase”  
Class of 2023, LSA Political Science

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## Bain-Swiggett Poetry Prize

Judges | Katie Hartsock and Derrick Austin

### Winner

Amanda Hayes  
“Fire Season”  
Class of 2023, Helen Zell Writers’ Program

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## Chamberlain Award for Creative Writing

### Winners

Joshua Olivier  
"This Is California" &  
"If You Leave Me Now"  
Class of 2023,  
Helen Zell Writers' Program

Darina Sirkashvili  
"Negligence"  
Class of 2022,  
Helen Zell Writers' Program

Lilia Popova  
"The Twins"  
Class of 2023,  
Medical School & Public Health

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## Cora Duncan Award in Fiction

Judge | Thisbe Nissen

### Winner

Grace Fabbri  
"The Way to Keep Going"  
Class of 2023, LSA English

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## David Porter Award for Excellence in Journalism

Judge | Zahir Janmohamed

### Winner

Jessica Kwon  
"Burning the Scripts of Asian America"  
Class of 2023, LSA English

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## Dennis McIntyre Prize for Distinction in Undergraduate Playwriting

### Winners

Aaron Klein  
"Home Free"  
Class of 2022,  
SMTD BFA Performance

Karis Clark  
"Alien Nation"  
Class of 2022,  
School of Secondary Education

Sarah Cripsey  
"Dying for a Coffee"  
Class of 2022,  
SMTD Acting

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## Frank and Gail Beaver Script Writing Prize

### Winner

Mitchell Salley  
"Darlings"  
Class of 2022, LSA Film, Television & Media

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## Geoffrey James Gosling Prize

### Winners

Jennifer Galvão  
"Water Dogs: an excerpt"  
Class of 2023, Helen Zell Writers' Program

Kabelo Motsoeneng  
"What We Inherit"  
Class of 2023, Helen Zell Writers' Program

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## Helen J. Daniels Prize

### Winner

Patience Young  
“Detroit Moan”, “Trumbullplex in Prose”, and “Rotten Teeth”  
Class of 2022, LSA Creative Writing

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## Helen S. and John Wagner Prize

### Winner

Brian Gyamfi  
“What People Will Say”  
Class of 2024, Helen Zell Writers’ Program

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## Jeffrey L. Weisberg Memorial Prize in Poetry

Judges | Katie Hartsock and Derrick Austin

### Winners

Christine Zeng, First Place “whole” Class of 2025, LSA Computer Science	Jenna Good, Second Place “Wildflowers” Class of 2022, LSA English
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## John Wagner Prize

### Winner

Chandrica Barua  
“silent women at the kitchen table”  
Class of 2025, English Language & Literature

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## Kasdan Scholarship in Creative Writing

Preliminary Judge | Frank Beaver  
Final Judges | Rachel Parsons and The Kasdans

### Winners

Justin Levine, <i>First Place</i> “By the Time I Get to Phoenix” Class of 2022, LSA Film, Television & Media	Jason Offenhartz, <i>Second Place</i> “Runaway” Class of 2022, LSA
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## Keith Taylor Award for Excellence in Poetry

Judge | Matthew Thorburn

### Winner

Olivia Evans  
“Sweet beasts”  
Class of 2023, RC Creative Writing & Literature

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## Leonard and Eileen Newman Writing Prize for Dramatic Writing

### Winners

Ben Servetah “u, me and catastrophe” Class of 2023, LSA Film, Television, & Media	Jessica Curney “Sunshine” Class of 2022, LSA Creative Writing & Literature	Sophia Raines “The Look of Love” Class of 2022, LSA Film, Television, & Media
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## Leonard and Eileen Newman Writing Prize for Fiction

### Winners

Vivian Chiao “detritus from the glove compartment of my 2010 honda civic” Class of 2022, LSA History & Creative Writing	Francisco Fiori “The Comfort in Her Knife” & “Carousel Girls” Class of 2023, LSA English
Gabrielle Byrnes “The Many Lives of Stevie Ives” Class of 2022, LSA Film, Television, & Media	Jena Vallina “My Apocalypse” Class of 2022, LSA Creative Writing and Literature

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## Marjorie Rapaport Award in Poetry

Judges | Katie Hartsock and Derrick Austin

### Winners

Aelita Klausmeier “December” Class of 2023, LSA Mathematics	Olivia Evans “Trans Creation Myth” Class of 2023, RC Creative Writing & Literature
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## Meader Family Award

### Winners

Abigail McFee “Teneral” Class of 2022, English Language & Literature	David Villaverde “Scenes from a Room” Class of 2022, Helen Zell Writers’ Program	Tariq Elsaid “On Vagrancies of Hope and Grief” Class of 2022, School of Social Work
Caroline New “All the Little Beasts” Class of 2022, Helen Zell Writers’ Program	Maya Day “Excess” Class of 2025, English Language & Literature	

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## Michael R. Gutterman Award in Poetry

Judges | Katie Hartsock and Derrick Austin

### Winners

Brian Gyamfi  
“An Argument with Dragons”  
Class of 2024, Helen Zell Writers’ Program

David Villaverde  
“Squaring the Circle”  
Class of 2022, Helen Zell Writers’ Program

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## Naomi Saferstein Literary Award

### Winner

Ben Servetah  
“u, me and catastrophe”  
Class of 2023, LSA Film, Television & Media

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## Paul and Sonia Handleman Award

### Winner

Alejandro Derieux-Cerezo  
“Can Any of Those Poems Save the Bees?”  
Class of 2022, LSA Physics & English

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## Peter Phillip Pratt Award in Fiction

Judge | Thisbe Nissen

### Winners

Vivian Chiao, *First Place*  
“Wireframe Heart”  
Class of 2022, LSA History & Creative Writing

Steve Liu, *Second Place*  
“Brother Bird”  
Class of 2023, LSA English

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## Robert F. Haugh Prize

### Winner

Vivian Chiao  
“detritus from the glove compartment of my 2010 honda civic”  
Class of 2022, LSA History & Creative Writing

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## Roy and Helen Meador Award

### Winners

Zoya Uzzaman  
“Poems”  
Class of 2024, LSA

Isabela Kellogg  
“On Standing on the Steps of  
Rashomon’s Irish Gift Shop”  
Class of 2025, LSA



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## Roy W. Cowden Memorial Fellowship

Judge

| Terry Blackhawk

### Winners

Karis Clark  
“Giddy Up!”  
Class of 2022,  
School of Secondary Education

Vivian Chiao  
“Wireframe Heart”  
Class of 2022,  
LSA Hist. & Creative Writing

Wroxanna Work  
”Pressed”  
Class of 2022,  
LSA Creative Writing & Literature

### Finalists

Aedin Seck  
“Magdala”  
Class of 2023,  
Film, Television & Media

Evangeline Yeh  
“Under My Skin” & “Comfort Food”  
Class of 2022,  
Cognitive Science & Linguistics

Roshni Veeramachaneni  
“The Brothers Desai”  
Class of 2021,  
Creative Writing & Literature

Anisa Panahi  
“The Other Side”  
Class of 2022,  
English Language & Lit

Jacqueline Burant  
“Violet”  
Class of 2022,  
CAS & School of Management

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## Stanley S. Schwartz Prize

### Winner

Francisco Fiori  
“The Comfort in Her Knife” & “Carousel Girls”  
Class of 2023, LSA English

# 2022 Hopwood Lecturer

# Jia Tolentino



*Photo credit: Elena Mudd*

Jia Tolentino is a staff writer at *The New Yorker* and the author of the essay collection *Trick Mirror*.

Please join us at a **reading and Q & A with Jia on Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm in the Rackham Amphitheatre** (915 E. Washington St.).

You can also attend virtually at <https://tinyurl.com/ZellWriters>.

Signed copies of *Trick Mirror* will be available for purchase on site from Black Stone Bookstore & Cultural Center.

**The reading is free and open to the public.**

# The 2022 Hopwood Judges

**Albert Abonado** (*Hopwood Poetry*) is a poet and essayist. He is the author of the poetry collection *JAW* (Sundress Publications). He has received fellowships from the New York Foundation for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts. He holds an MFA from the Bennington Writing Seminars and teaches creative writing at SUNY Geneseo and RIT. His writing has appeared in *The Colorado Review*, *Hobart*, *Poetry Northwest*, *The Laurel Review*, *The Margins*, *Zone 3*, and others. Every first Tuesday of the month, Albert co-hosts the New Ground Poetry Open Mic. He lives in Rochester, NY with his wife.

**Nawaaz Ahmed** (*Hopwood Novel*) is a transplant from Tamil Nadu, India. Before turning to writing, he was a computer scientist, researching search algorithms for Yahoo. He holds an MFA from University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, where he won several Hopwood awards for his fiction and non-fiction. He is the recipient of residencies at Macdowell, VCCA, Yaddo, and Djerassi. He is a former Kundiman and Lambda Literary Fellow. His first novel "Radiant Fugitives" was published by Counterpoint Press in August 2021. He currently lives in Brooklyn.

**Kaveh Akbar's** (*Hopwood Poetry*) poems appear in *The New Yorker*, *Paris Review*, *The New York Times*, *Best American Poetry*, and elsewhere. He is the author of two books of poetry—*Pilgrim Bell* (Graywolf 2021) and *Calling a Wolf a Wolf* (Alice James 2017)—and the editor of *The Penguin Book of Spiritual Verse*. Born in Tehran, Iran, Kaveh teaches at Purdue University and in the low-residency MFA programs at Randolph and Warren Wilson college. He serves as Poetry Editor for *The Nation*.

**Derrick Austin** (*Single Poem Contests*) is the author of *Tenderness* (BOA Editions, 2021), winner of the 2020 Isabella Gardner Poetry Award and a Golden Poppy Award nominee, and *Trouble the Water* (BOA Editions, 2016) selected by Mary Szybist for the A. Poulin, Jr. Poetry Prize. His debut collection was honored as a finalist for the 2017 Kate Tufts Discovery Award, the 2017 Thom Gunn Award for Gay Poetry, the 2017 Lambda Literary Award for Gay Poetry, and the 2017 Norma Faber First Book Award. A chapbook, *Black Sand*, is forthcoming from Foundlings Press in early 2022.

**Frank Beaver** (*Kasdan Scholarship*) is the Arthur F. Thurnau Professor Emeritus of Screen Arts and Cultures and Communication Studies at the University of Michigan where he taught film for 35 years. For 25 years he was the film critic for Michigan's state-wide NPR radio stations WUOM-WFUM-WVGR. He is the author of *Dictionary of Film Terms: The Aesthetic Companion to Film Art*. He received the North Carolina Playwriting Prize and, as a Doctoral student at Michigan, won Hopwoods in the Drama and Essay categories.

Born and raised in Southern California, **Brit Bennett** (*Hopwood Novel*) earned her MFA in fiction at the University of Michigan. Her debut novel *The Mothers* was a New York Times bestseller, and her second novel *The Vanishing Half* was an instant #1 New York Times bestseller. Her essays have been featured in *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times Magazine*, *The Paris Review*, and *Jezebel*.

**Dr. Terry Bohnhorst Blackhawk** (*Arthur Miller Prize and Cowden Fellowship*) is a poet, educator, and Founder/Executive Director (1995-2015) of InsideOut Literary Arts Project, a 510©3 program that inspires Detroit-area youth to "think broadly, create bravely, and share their voices with the wider world." Blackhawk's full-length poetry collections include *body & field*, *Escape Artist* (winner of the 2002 John Ciardi Prize), *The Dropped Hand*, *The Light Between*, and *One Less River*, named a Top 2019 Poetry Title by Kirkus Reviews. She received the Pablo Neruda Prize from Nimrod International, a three-year grant from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, and a National Endowment for the Humanities Teacher-Scholar sabbatical award to study Emily Dickinson. Dr. Blackhawk was twice named Michigan Creative Writing Teacher of the Year. She is a Kresge Arts in Detroit Literary Fellow, an inductee into the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame, and recipient of the Horace Mann Award for "victories for humanity" from her alma mater, Antioch College.

**Jenny Bouly** (*Hopwood Nonfiction*) is a 2020 Guggenheim Fellow in General Nonfiction. She is the author of *Between-and-Between: Essays on the Writing Life*. Her previous books include *not merely because of the unknown that was stalking toward them*, *The Book of Beginnings and Endings: Essays, [one love affair]\**, *of the mismatched teacups*, *of the single-serving spoon: a book of failures*, and *The Body: An Essay*. A ลูกครึ่ง (half-child), she was born in Thailand and grew up on the southwest side of San Antonio, Texas. She attended Hollins University, where she double majored in English and Philosophy and then went on to earn an MA in English Criticism and Writing. Her other degrees include an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Notre Dame and a Ph.D. in English from the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. She currently teaches at Bennington College and the Bennington Writing Seminars.

**Cherline Bazile** (*Hopwood Poetry*) is a Haitian American writer from Florida. She received her MFA from the University of Michigan.

**Traci Brimhall** (*Theodore Roethke Prize*) is the author of four poetry collections: *Come the Slumberless from the Land of Nod* (Copper Canyon); *Saudade* (Copper Canyon); *Our Lady of the Ruins* (W.W. Norton), winner of the Barnard Women Poets Prize; and *Rookery* (Southern Illinois University Press), winner of the Crab Orchard Series in Poetry First Book Award. Her poems have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Poetry*, *The Believer*, *The New Republic*, *Orion*, *New York Times Magazine*, and *Best American Poetry*. She's received fellowships from the Wisconsin Institute for Creative Writing and the National Endowment for the Arts. She's the Director of Creative Writing at Kansas State University and lives in Manhattan, KS.

**Shawntai Brown** (*Hopwood Drama*) is a Detroit writer, media commentator, literacy coordinator and teaching artist. Her work centers on empowering communities through experiences that educate, challenge and entertain. She has a Bachelor of Arts in creative writing from Western Michigan University and a Master of Arts in Literacy Learning from Marygrove College. Her plays have been performed in New York, Chicago and across Michigan, including her episodic series *eLLe*, centering queer women experiences, now in its 10th year. She is a board member and playwright with *Extra Mile Playwrights Theatre* and a 2020 Kresge Live Arts Fellow.

**Marisa Carr** (*Hopwood Drama*) is a playwright from Milwaukee, now living in Chicago after a decade in the Twin Cities. Her work has been seen at Milwaukee Rep, The Guthrie, Pillsbury House + Theater, the Playwrights' Center, Montana Repertory Theater, Intermedia Arts, and University of Iowa MFA Program. Selected awards and honors include: Victory Gardens Playwrights Ensemble (2021-2024), Montana Repertory Theater Warren Miller Commission (2021), Goodman Playwrights Unit (2020-2021), American Blues Theater Blue Ink Award Finalist (2020), Bay Area Playwrights' Festival Finalist (2019), McKnight Fellowship in Playwriting Finalist (2019) and Jerome Artist Fellowship Finalist (2019). Marisa is Co-Founder/former Artistic Director of the Turtle Theater Collective, a Twin Cities-based company committed to producing high-quality, contemporary work that explores Native experiences and subverts expectations about how and when Native artists can create theater, and has taught playwriting for theaters including the Guthrie and Jungle Theatre. She is Turtle Mountain Ojibwe from the Turtle clan.

**Victoria Chang's** (*Hopwood Poetry*) new book of poetry is *The Trees Witness Everything* (Copper Canyon Press, 2022). Her nonfiction book, *Dear Memory* (Milkweed Editions), was published in 2021. *OBIT* (Copper Canyon Press, 2020), was named a *New York Times* Notable Book, a *Time* Must-Read Book, and received the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize, the Anisfield-Wolf Book Award in Poetry, and the PEN/Voelcker Award. It was also longlisted for a National Book Award and named a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award and the Griffin International Poetry Prize. She has received a Guggenheim Fellowship, and lives in Los Angeles and is a Core Faculty member within Antioch's low-residency MFA Program.

**Piper J. Daniels** (she, her) (*Hopwood Nonfiction*) is a queer antiracist intersectional feminist and composer of literary collage. Her debut essay collection, *Ladies Lazarus*, won the Tarpaulin Sky Book Award, was longlisted for the PEN Diamonstein-Spielvogel Award For the Art of the Essay, and was a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award in LGBTQ nonfiction. She is the founder of Epiphany Author Services, an editorial assemblage that centers the work of disabled, BIPOC, and LGBTQIA+ writers from inspiration to publication. Her work appears most recently in *Believer Magazine*, *Essay Daily*, *Foglifter*, and the *Texas Review*.

**Asher Dark** (*Hopwood Fiction*) is a 2021 alum in Fiction of the Helen Zell Writers' Program, where he won a Hopwood Award for playwriting. His publications include *Story Quarterly*, the *Baffler*, and *Philadelphia Magazine*. He lives in South Philly and is finishing a novel.

**Mo Daviau** (*Hopwood Novel*) is the author of the novel *Every Anxious Wave* (St. Martin's Press, 2016), which won a Hopwood Award for the novel in 2012 and was a finalist for the Oregon Book Awards' Ken Kesey Prize for Fiction in 2017. Her essays have been published in *The Rumpus*, *Nailed Magazine*, *The Offing*, and *The Toast*, among others. Born and raised in Southern California, Mo is a proud alumna of Smith College and is a 2013 graduate of the Helen Zell Writers' Program. She currently lives in a giant old house in the Highland Park neighborhood of Los Angeles, where she is hard at work on her third novel.

**Cindy Davis** (*Hopwood Screenplay*) has written feature-length screenplays for Pixar, Fox, Disney, Working Title, Miramax, New Line, and ABC Family. She has also worked for Disney Imagineering, designing attractions for Disney World, Shanghai Disneyland, and California Adventure's Avengers Campus which opened in June 2021. Her feature film credits include *SPIES IN DISGUISE*, the English language screenplay for the Oscar-winning film *SPIRITED AWAY*, and the Oscar-nominated films *HOWL'S MOVING CASTLE* and *FERDINAND*. Cindy has taught classes at University of Southern California, Loyola Marymount University, Art Center College of Design, and UCLA Extension, and is a recipient of the UCLA Extension Outstanding Instructor Award in Screenwriting. Additionally, she is co-creator of the screenwriting guide, *Cut to the Chase*. Cindy received an MFA in screenwriting from the University of Southern California and a B.S. in cellular and molecular biology from University of Michigan. She also is a graduate of UCLA's Professional Program in Screenwriting

**Tarfia Faizullah** (*Hopwood Poetry*) is the author of two poetry collections, *Registers of Illuminated Villages* (Graywolf 2018) and *Seam* (SIU 2014). Tarfia's work appears widely in periodicals both in the U.S. and abroad and is translated into several languages. In 2016, Tarfia was recognized by Harvard Law School as one of 50 Women Inspiring Change. Tarfia is a 2019 United States Artists Fellow, and lives in Dallas, TX.

**Yalitza Ferreras** (*Hopwood Fiction*) is the recipient of a 2020 Rona Jaffe Foundation Writers' Award and a recent Steinbeck Fellow at San Jose State University. She won the 2020 Bellevue Literary Review prize in fiction and her stories have appeared in *Best American Short Stories*, *Kenyon Review*, *The Southern Review*, *Aster(ix) Journal*, and *The Colorado Review* among other publications. She received her M.F.A. from the University of Michigan and has received fellowships from Djerassi Residents Artists, Yaddo, Ucross, *Voices of Our Nations*, and *Tin House Writing Workshop*.

**Emily Jade Foley** (*Hopwood Screenplay*) is an Executive Producer and Head of Development at Hear/Say Productions. Collaborating with mentor Frances McDormand, she co-produced Best Picture Oscar winner *NOMADLAND*, directed by Chloe Zhao, in which she also played the role of "Emily". Prior to taking on produciorial roles, she gained experience on the sets of The Coen Brothers' *THE BALLAD OF BUSTER SCRUGGS*, Martin McDonagh's *THREE BILLBOARDS OUTSIDE EBBING, MISSOURI*, and Lisa Cholodenko's *OLIVE KITTERIDGE*, as well as in the edit suite of John Carney's *BEGIN AGAIN*. Currently, she is executive producing Sarah Polley's *WOMEN TALKING*, starring Claire Foy, Rooney Mara, and Jessie Buckley. Emily graduated from UM in 2009 and currently resides in Brooklyn, MI.

**Sofia Ergas Groopman** (*Hopwood Nonfiction*) is a writer and editor from New York City. She has an MFA from the Helen Zell Writers' Program at the University of Michigan, where she received the Hopwood Award for Fiction, the Hopwood Award for Nonfiction, and the Chamberlain Award for Creative Writing. Her essays, reviews, journalism, and fiction have appeared or are forthcoming in *The New York Times*, *Vice*, *The Paris Review Daily*, *Joyland*, and *The Gettysburg Review*. In 2020, she was a semi-finalist for the *Sewanee Review* non-fiction contest (selected by Melissa Febos). She has an AB from Harvard College in history and literature and has worked in the editorial departments of Penguin Random House and HarperCollins as an acquiring editor.

**Tian Jun Gu** (*Hopwood Screenplay*) is a first-generation Chinese-American screenwriter and producer. As a student at the University of Michigan, he won a Hopwood Award and a Naomi Saferstein Literary Award. Tian Jun's credits include HOUSE OF CARDS, Y: THE LAST MAN, and MONARCH.

**Katie Hartsock** (*Single Poem Contests*) is the author of *Bed of Impatiens* (Able Muse, 2016). Her work has appeared in *Kenyon Review*, *Ecotone*, *The Threepenny Review*, *POETRY*, *32 Poems*, *Thrush*, *The New Criterion*, *The Greensboro Review*, *Image*, *Arion*, *Pleiades*, *Birmingham Poetry Review*, and *Nimrod*, and is forthcoming in *Iron Horse Literary Review*, *The Raintown Review*, and *Plume*. Her current projects include *Songs of the Iliad*, a hybrid text combining translation with vignettes of the epic's ancient audiences. Selections of her translations appeared in *Exchanges: Journal of Literary Translation*. She holds a PhD in Comparative Literary Studies from Northwestern University and a MFA from the University of Michigan, where she received a Hopwood Award in poetry. She is an assistant professor of English at Oakland University and lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan, with her husband and sons. Her second book of poems, *Wolf Trees*, is forthcoming from Able Muse Press in late 2022.

**Ames Hawkins** (*Hopwood Nonfiction*) is a transgenre writer and award-winning author of *These are Love(d) Letters* (literary nonfiction). Named as one of Chicago's Guild Literary Complex's 30 Writers to Watch, their work appears in a number of edited volumes, and they have published across a range of academic and literary publications such as *Pre/Text*, *Constellations*, *Palaver Journal*, *enculturation*, *Slag Glass City*, *The Feminist Wire*, *The Rumpus*, and *Water~Stone Review*. Hawkins has been an invited curator at the Museum of Contemporary Photography and has exhibited work at the University of Buffalo. A Professor of English and Creative Writing at Columbia College Chicago, they co-hosted and co-produced the scholarly podcast *Masters of Text* ([mastersoftext.com](http://mastersoftext.com)).

**Zahir Janmohamed** (*David Porter Award*) is a visiting assistant professor of English at Bowdoin College. He received his MFA in fiction at the University of Michigan where he received awards in fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and playwriting. In 2019, the podcast he co-founded about food, race, gender, and class called *Racist Sandwich* was nominated for a James Beard Award. His articles have appeared in *The New York Times*, *Foreign Policy*, *Guernica*, *The Washington Post*, *The San Francisco Chronicle*, *Newsweek*, *CNN*, *NPR*, *The Boston Review*, *The Guardian*, *McSweeney's*, *Scroll*, *The Wire*, *The Hindu*, *The Economic Times* and many other publications. Prior to beginning his writing career, he worked at Amnesty International, where he directed the organization's advocacy work on the Middle East and North Africa, and in the US Congress, where he served as a senior foreign policy aide.

**Rachel Parsons** (*Kasdan Scholarship*) has been an Assistant at Kasdan Pictures since 2019. She holds a BFA in Acting from Chapman University. Over the course of her career in the film industry, Rachel has read thousands of scripts. This is her second time judging the Kasdan Scholarship in Creative Writing for the Hopwood Program. She is currently writing three screenplays, including an adaptation of a nonfiction diary series.

**Akil Kumarasamy** (*Hopwood Fiction*) is the author of the interlinked story collection *Half Gods*, which was named a *New York Times* Editors' Choice and a finalist for the PEN/Robert Bingham Prize, and was awarded the Bard Fiction Prize and the Story Prize Spotlight Award. Her work has appeared in *Harper's*, *American Short Fiction*, *BOMB*, and elsewhere. She has received fellowships from the University of East Anglia, the Provincetown Fine Arts Work Center, Yaddo, and the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture. She is an assistant professor at the Rutgers-Newark MFA program. Her debut novel, *Meet Us by the Roaring Sea*, is forthcoming with FSG in August 2022.

**Airea D. Matthews'** (*Hopwood Poetry*) first collection of poems is the critically acclaimed *Simulacra*, which received the prestigious 2016 Yale Series of Younger Poets Award. Matthews earned a 2020 Pew Fellowship and was recently named Poet Laureate of Philadelphia for 2022-2023. In 2016, she received both the Rona Jaffe Foundation Writers' Award and the Louis Untermeyer Scholarship in Poetry from the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference. Matthews holds a B.A. in Economics from the University of Pennsylvania as well as an M.F.A. from the Helen Zell Writers' Program and an M.P.A. from the Gerald Ford School of Public Policy, both at the University of Michigan. She is an assistant professor and directs the poetry program at Bryn Mawr College where she was presented the Lindback Distinguished Teaching award.

**Kate Milliken** (*Hopwood Fiction*) is the author of the story collection IF I'D KNOWN YOU WERE COMING, winner of the 2013 Iowa Award for Short Fiction, and the novel KEPT ANIMALS, which was long listed for the First Novel Prize. She holds an MFA from the Bennington Writing Seminars and has received fellowships from Yaddo, Tin House, and the Vermont Studio Center. Kate's work explores themes of displacement, queer identity, the natural wonder and inherent threat of the California landscape. After years of bouncing between Chicago and Los Angeles, Kate and her family are now settled in Northern California.

**Annesha (Sengupta) Mitha** (*Hopwood Nonfiction*) is a fiction graduate of the Helen Zell Writers' Program at The University of Michigan. Her work is featured or forthcoming in The Northwest Review, American Short Fiction, McSweeney's Quarterly Concern, Catapult, and more. She has been awarded fellowships by Storyknife Writers' Retreat, Breadloaf Writers' Conference, and Kundiman.

**John Murrillo** (*Theodore Roethke Prize*) is the author of Up Jump the Boogie, finalist for the Kate Tufts Discovery Award and the Pen Open Book Award, and Kontemporary Amerikan Poetry, winner of the Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award and the Poetry Society of Virginia's North American Book Award, and finalist for the PEN/Voelcker Award for Poetry and the NAACP Image Award. Other honors include the Four Quartets Prize from the T.S. Eliot Foundation and the Poetry Society of America, two Larry Neal Writers Awards, two Pushcart Prizes, the J Howard and Barbara MJ Wood Prize from the Poetry Foundation, an NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellowship, and fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, MacDowell, Bread Loaf Writers Conference, Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, Cave Canem Foundation, and the Wisconsin Institute for Creative Writing. Recent poems have appeared in Best American Poetry 2017, 2019, and 2020. He directs the creative writing program at Wesleyan University.

**Thisbe Nissen** (*Cora Duncan Award and Peter Phillip Pratt Award*) is the author of three novels: The Good People of New York, Osprey Island, and Our Lady of the Prairie. She's also co-author of The Ex-Boyfriend Cookbook, a book of stories, recipes and art collages. Her first collection of short fiction was Out of the Girls' Room and into the Night, published in 1999. A new story collection, How Other People Make Love, came out in 2021 from Wayne State University Press. Thisbe is a graduate of Oberlin College, and the Iowa Writers' Workshop. She's an improvisational quilter, a collagist, photographer, rug-maker, and vegetable gardener, and she teaches fiction writing at Western Michigan University. Currently at work on a hybrid flash memoir and a quilt novel, Thisbe lives in rural southwest Michigan with her husband, writer Jay Baron Nicorvo, and their son, cats, and chickens. Peek in at [www.thisbenissen.com](http://www.thisbenissen.com).

**Alexandria Peary** (MFA, MFA, PhD) (*Hopwood Nonfiction*) serves as New Hampshire Poet Laureate. She is the author of nine books, including Control Bird Alt Delete, Prolific Moment: Theory and Practice of Mindfulness for Writing, and Battle of Silicon Valley at Daybreak. The recipient of a 2020 Academy of American Poets Laureate Fellowship, her work has received the Iowa Poetry Prize; Best of NH (for inspiring artist); several Pushcart and Best of the Net nominations; and Notable Essay in Best American Nonfiction. She specializes in mindful writing and gives talks and workshops on the topic, including a webcast for National Novel Writing Month; a TEDx talk, "How Mindfulness Can Transform the Way You Write"; and the 2021 keynote for the Secondary School Writing Centers Association. Alexandria is the architect and host of the popular webinar on mindful writing for the National Council of Teachers of English.

**Erica Plouffe Lazure's** (*Hopwood Fiction*) collection of short fiction, Proof of Me + Other Stories, won the New American Press Fiction Prize and will be published in March 2022. She is the author of two flash fiction chapbooks, Sugar Mountain (2020) and Heard Around Town (2015) and her short stories have appeared in McSweeney's Quarterly Concern, Carve, Greensboro Review, American Short Fiction, The MacGuffin, and elsewhere. She lives and teaches high school in Exeter, NH and can be found online at [ericaplouffelazure.com](http://ericaplouffelazure.com).

**Khadijah Queen**, PhD (*Hopwood Drama*), is the author of six books, most recently *Anodyne* (Tin House 2020), winner of the William Carlos Williams Award from Poetry Society of America. Her fifth book is *I'm So Fine: A List of Famous Men & What I Had On* (YesYes Books 2017), praised in *O Magazine*, *The New Yorker*, *Rain Taxi*, and elsewhere as “quietly devastating” and “a portrait of defiance that turns the male gaze inside out.” Her verse play *Non-Sequitur* (Litmus Press 2015) won the Leslie Scalapino Award for Innovative Women's Performance Writing. The award included a staged reading at the New Ohio Theater and a full production at Theaterlab, both directed by Fiona Templeton and performed by The Relationship Theater Company in New York City. A zuihitsu about the pandemic, “False Dawn,” appeared in *Harper's Magazine* in 2020. She teaches creative writing, literature and poetics at Virginia Tech.

**Monica Rico** (*Hopwood Poetry*) is a Mexican American CantoMundo Fellow, Macondista, and Hopwood Graduate Poetry Award winner who grew up in Saginaw, Michigan. She holds an MFA from the University of Michigan's HZWP and works as the Program Manager for the Bear River Writers' Conference. She is the author of *PINION*, winner of the 2021 Four Way Books Levis Prize in Poetry selected by Kaveh Akbar. Her poems have appeared in *Beloit Poetry Journal*, *The Nation*, *Poet Lore*, *Witness*, *The Missouri Review*, the museum of americana, *Gastronomica*, *Terrain.org*, *Frontier*, *The Rupture*, *Waxwing*, *Essay Daily*, *The Fiddlehead*, *Poetry Daily*, *Sporklet 12*, *The Breakbeat Poets Vol.4 LatiNext*, *Anomaly*, *Pleiades*, *Black Warrior Review*, *BOAAT*, and *Split this Rock*.

**Matthew Salesses** (*Hopwood Novel*) was adopted from Korea. He is the author of the bestsellers *CRAFT IN THE REAL WORLD* and *THE HUNDRED-YEAR FLOOD*, as well as the PEN/Faulkner finalist *DISAPPEAR DOPPELGÄNGER* *DISAPPEAR*, among other books. A new novel, *THE SENSE OF WONDER*, and a collection of essays, *TO GRIEVE IS TO CARRY ANOTHER TIME*, are forthcoming in 2023 and 2024 from Little Brown. He teaches in the MFA/PhD program at Oklahoma State University.

**Diane Seuss** (*Hopwood Poetry*) is the author of five books of poetry. Her most recent collection is *frank: sonnets* (Graywolf Press 2021), winner of the PEN/Voelcker Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award for Poetry. *Still Life with Two Dead Peacocks and a Girl*, (Graywolf Press 2018) was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award and the Los Angeles Times Book Prize in Poetry. *Four-Legged Girl* (Graywolf Press 2015) was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize. Her sixth collection, *Modern Poetry*, is forthcoming from Graywolf Press in 2024. Seuss is a 2020 Guggenheim Fellow. She received the John Updike Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters in 2021. She taught in the creative writing program at Kalamazoo College for many years, and has been a visiting professor at Colorado College, the University of Michigan, and Washington University in St. Louis. She was raised by a single mother in rural Michigan, which she continues to call home.

**Dariel Suarez** (*Hopwood Nonfiction*) was born and raised in Havana, Cuba. In 1997, at age fourteen, he immigrated to the United States with his family during the island's economic crisis known as The Special Period. Dariel is now the author of the novel *The Playwright's House*, finalist for the Rudolfo Anaya Fiction Award, and the story collection *A Kind of Solitude*, winner of the Spokane Prize for Short Fiction and the International Latino Book Award for Best Collection of Short Stories. An inaugural City of Boston Artist Fellow, his work has been awarded the First Lady Cecile de Jongh Literary Prize and has appeared in numerous publications and anthologies, including *Best American Essays*, *The Threepenny Review*, *The Kenyon Review*, *LitHub*, *Prairie Schooner*, and *Michigan Quarterly Review*. Dariel currently resides in the Boston area with his wife and daughter.

**Matthew Thorburn** (*Keith Taylor Award*) is the author of six books of poetry, including *The Grace of Distance*, a finalist for the Paterson Poetry Prize, and *Dear Almost*, which received the Lascaux Prize. His new book, *String: A Story in Verse*, is forthcoming from Louisiana State University Press in 2023. His poems have also appeared in *The American Poetry Review*, *Poetry*, *The Southern Review* and other journals, as well as in *The Best American Poetry 2020*. He lives in New Jersey.



Professor of Creative Writing and Director of the Arkansas Writers MFA Workshop, **Stephanie Vanderslice** (*Hopwood Fiction*) has published many books on creative writing pedagogy, as well as *The Geek's Guide to the Writing Life*, named a top writing book by *Poets and Writers* and *The Writer* magazine, and the novel, *The Lost Son*. She is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Association of Writers and Writing Programs and was the founding chair of the Creative Writing Studies Association.

**Esmé Weijun Wang** (*Hopwood Nonfiction*) is the New York Times-bestselling author of *The Collected Schizophrenias: Essays* and *The Border of Paradise: A Novel*. She received the Whiting Award in 2018, was named one of *Granta's* Best of Young American Novelists of 2017 and won the Graywolf Nonfiction Prize in 2016. She can be found at [esmewang.com](http://esmewang.com).

**Michael M. Weinstein's** (*Hopwood Poetry*) poems and essays have appeared in venues including *Boston Review*, *The Kenyon Review*, *The Iowa Review*, *Conjunctions*, *The LARB Quarterly Journal*, *Poets.org*, *Narrative*, *The Adroit Journal*, *32 Poems*, *Best New Poets 2020*, *The Los Angeles Review of Books*, and *The New Yorker*. Prior to receiving his MFA at the University of Michigan, he earned a Ph.D. in English Literature at Harvard and served as a Fulbright scholar in Siberia. He now lives in Tucson, Arizona.

**Amber Wheeler Bacon** (*Hopwood Fiction*) is a writer, editor and literacy coach. She has an MFA from the Bennington Writing Seminars and is on the board of directors of the South Carolina Writers Association. Her work has appeared in *Epiphany*, *Five Points*, *Post Road*, *New Ohio Review*, *Crazyhorse* and *Witness*, and you can find her writing online at *Ploughshares*, *CRAFT* and *Fiction Writer's Review*. She's the recipient of the 2018 Breakout Writers Prize sponsored by The Author's Guild and a scholarship from Bread Loaf Environmental. In 2020, her story collection was one of five finalists for Hub City Press's C. Michael Curtis Short Story Book Prize and a finalist for Moon City Press's Short Fiction Award. She's been a staff reader for *Ploughshares*, a fiction editor at *Four Way Review*, and currently serves as daily editor at the *Southern Review of Books*. She teaches writing at Coastal Carolina University.

**Julia Zak** (*Hopwood Screenplay*) runs Cinetic Media's film and television division. She highlights female voices and people of color by fighting for stories about those who have been systemically erased or cast in the shadows of others' stories. Zak is currently overseeing a diverse slate of projects that reflects this ethos. She is currently pitching a queer female gangster series and is also working on a project that reveals the rise and downfall of a youth-focused retail company. Zak previously worked at Red Wagon Entertainment and WME.

# Description of Named Prizes and Awards Administered by the Hopwood Program

## **Academy of American Poets Prize**

Two awards of \$100 are offered by this national organization for poems submitted by University of Michigan undergraduate and graduate students. This contest was endowed by Sharon Galley Sherrow in memory of her late husband, David Galley, a 1966 graduate of the University of Michigan.

## **Andrea Beauchamp Prize**

An award donated by Professor John Wagner to the first-place winner in the Hopwood Graduate Short Fiction division.

## **Arthur Miller Award of the University of Michigan Club of New York Scholarship Fund**

An award for demonstrated achievement by a sophomore or junior in the writing of drama, fiction, poetry, or screenplay. The award was established to honor University of Michigan graduate and Hopwood Award winner Arthur Miller.

## **Bain-Swiggett Poetry Prize**

An award for the best poem in traditional form submitted by a University of Michigan student.

## **Chamberlain Award for Creative Writing**

An award given in honor of Chamberlain sisters, Elinor, Margaret, and Dorothy, who were graduates of the University of Michigan in the 1920s. All three had careers in the field of writing with the oldest, Elinor, receiving a Hopwood Fiction Award in 1951. The award is given to a University of Michigan student who has demonstrated excellence in the writing of short fiction.

## **Cora Duncan Award in Fiction**

An award recognizing excellence in a single short story in honor of Cora Duncan, a five-time Hopwood winner (1951, 1952, and 1953), a brilliant and influential high school teacher, and a great mentor to young writers.

## **David Porter Award for Excellence in Journalism**

An award established by Andrea Sachs, Larry Kirshbaum, and the English Alumni Board to recognize outstanding student journalists, named in honor of David Porter, Professor of English and Comparative Literature at the University of Michigan and Chair of the English Department from 2015 to 2020.

## **Dennis McIntyre Prize for Distinction in Undergraduate Playwriting**

An award established in 1990 by the family, friends, and former students of playwright, screenwriter, and Hopwood Award winner Dennis McIntyre to honor excellence in undergraduate playwriting.

## **Geoffrey James Gosling Prize**

An award donated by Mrs. Enid M. Gosling to the first prize winner in the Hopwood Novel division. The prize is in memory of her son.

## **Helen J. Daniels Prize**

An award donated by Professor Marilyn M. Rosenthal, who wrote: "When I won my Hopwood in the Major Essay division [in 1970], I used a pseudonym composed of my three children's first names, Helen J. Daniels. I am delighted to name this undergraduate essay prize for them. Excellent essay writing is of vital importance in a world troubled with the dis- and misinformation and the political manipulation of language. It is a special pleasure to recognize and reward young essayists at the University of Michigan."

### **Helen S. and John Wagner Prize**

An award donated by Professor John Wagner to the first-place winner in the Hopwood Graduate Poetry division.

### **Jeffrey L. Weisberg Memorial Prize in Poetry**

The family and friends of Jeffrey L. Weisberg established as a memorial two annual prizes in poetry for the best poems submitted by first- and second-year students at the University of Michigan.

### **John Wagner Prize**

An award donated by Professor John Wagner to the first-place winner in the Hopwood Graduate Essay division.

### **Kasdan Scholarship in Creative Writing**

Endowed by University of Michigan alumni Lawrence and Meg Kasdan, the award recognizes excellence in the writing of drama or screenplay.

### **Keith Taylor Award for Excellence in Poetry**

This award recognizes an outstanding undergraduate poet who best exemplifies the spirit of Keith Taylor's writing and life, exploring the human condition and its relationship to the world around us. The award was donated by Ann Arbor novelist Steve Gillis in honor of Keith Taylor, a poet, writer, and recently-retired A.L. Becker Collegiate Lecturer, director of the Bear River Writers' Conference and coordinator of the English Department's undergraduate creative writing program.

### **Leonard and Eileen Newman Writing Prizes in Dramatic Writing and Fiction**

Throughout their lives, Leonard and Eileen Newman supported the arts and cultural enrichment for their community and for their favorite academic institutions, including the University of Michigan.

### **Marjorie Rapaport Award in Poetry**

This award is presented with thanks to Mrs. Phyllis Rapaport in memorial to her daughter Marjorie.

### **Meader Family Award**

Established by the late Hon. George Meader and his family and friends, Mr. Meader was a Republican member of Congress from 1950 to 1964 and worked as an attorney in Ann Arbor and Washington, D.C. The award is also in honor of his daughter, Barbara Ellen Meader, and his wife, Elizabeth Barbara Meader.

### **Naomi Saferstein Literary Award**

An award to the top-ranking undergraduate in the Hopwood Drama or Hopwood Screenplay division donated by Mrs. Irene Miller and friends and family of Hopwood Award winner Naomi Saferstein.

### **Paul and Sonia Handleman Award**

An award to an undergraduate who has demonstrated excellence in the writing of poetry in the Romantic tradition. The family notes that this award "honors the memory of a husband and wife who for nearly fifty years of their loving relationship shared a fascination for poetry—especially the verse of the English Romanticists. An appreciation of these great poems served to cement their bond, and it uplifted their spirits by infusing them with a sense of the nobility, the magnificence, the glory that are within reach of humankind."

### **Peter Phillip Pratt Award in Fiction**

An award recognizing excellence in a single short story in honor of Peter Phillip Pratt, a winner of a 1985 Hopwood Award, who went on to be influential in Michigan public policy, investing his endless energy to better our state in many ways, including by expanding access to early childhood education.

### **Robert F. Haugh Prize**

An award to the first-place winner in the Hopwood Undergraduate Fiction division, donated by Mrs. Georgia C. Haugh and the family and friends of Professor Robert F. Haugh. Professor Haugh was Director of the Hopwood Awards Program from 1965 to 1972.

### **Roy and Helen Meador Award**

Given each year to an undergraduate on the basis of financial need and writing talent, the award was established by Helen Meador in memory of her husband, Roy Meador, who was a writer and bibliophile. Mr. Meador was a commercial and science writer for many years in Ann Arbor, as well as a freelance writer, antiquarian, fiction writer, and the author of *Book Row*, a history of the antiquarian book trade in New York City.

### **Roy W. Cowden Memorial Fellowship**

These fellowships were made possible by contributions of Hopwood winners and other students of Professor Cowden, who was the Director of the Hopwood Awards Program from 1935 until 1952. These awards are made on the basis of financial need and writing talent.

### **Stanley S. Schwartz Prize**

An award donated by Ann Arbor novelist Steven Gillis in memory of his father. Mr. Gillis writes of his father, “Stanley Schwartz came to the University of Michigan in 1947 to study English and creative writing. A track star for the University, Stan ran the quarter mile on the University’s then record-setting middle distance relay team at the Milrose Games. Graduating with honors, he attended the University of Michigan Law School and went on to become one of the country’s most successful and influential attorneys. As the founding partner in Sommers, Schwartz, Silver, and Schwartz, Stan blazed the trail for birth trauma litigation, authoring several books while devoting himself to protecting the interests of aggrieved parents.”



*Photo by Raquel Buckley*

# Congratulations and thanks to everyone who participated in the Hopwood Awards contests!

**The 2023 Hopwood Awards contests will open for submissions beginning September 1, 2022.**

For more information about the Hopwood Awards and the Hopwood Program, visit our website at [lsa.umich.edu/hopwood](https://lsa.umich.edu/hopwood).



*Photo by Raquel Buckley*

**The Hopwood Room is located at 1176 Angell Hall, 435 S. State Street, Ann Arbor.**

**For Hopwood Room hours and more information please email [hopwoodprogram@umich.edu](mailto:hopwoodprogram@umich.edu).**