

Reading Matters

Vol. 39 No. 8

April 2025

PUBLICATIONS

- **Traci Brimhall**, "Divination" (poem). *SWWIM* 7 Mar. 2025: <https://www.swwim.org/swwimeveryday/2025/3/7/divination>

PRESENTATIONS

- **Traci Brimhall**, "Not Cue Cards or Assignments: The Magic of the Poetry Prompt in the Creative Writing Classroom" (panelist). *Association of Writers and Writing Programs*. Los Angeles, CA. 27 Mar. 2025.

Wednesday Night Poetry Series (reading). *AWP*. Los Angeles, CA. 26 Mar. 2025.

Reading from *Love Prodigal*. Brooklyn Poets. Brooklyn, NY. 21 Mar. 2025.

"The Lost Poetry of Amelia Earhart" Riley County Historical Society/Flight Crew Coffee. Manhattan, KS. 11 Mar. 2025.

- **Phillip Marzluf**, "Nostalgic Masculinity and Travel in Early Twentieth-Century Mongolia." *Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference*. Columbus, OH. 14 Mar. 2025.

- **Theresa Merrick**, "How Colleges are Responding to AI." Webinar for the American Association of Colleges and Universities AI Week series (online). 25 Mar. 2025.

AWARDS

- **Traci Brimhall** has been named the 2025 Poet-in-Residence at the Guggenheim Museum
- **Phillip Nel's** *How to Draw the World: Harold and the Purple Crayon and the Making of a Children's Classic* (Oxford UP, 2024) has won the PROSE Award in Literature from the Association of American Publishers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Mark Crosby** has received promotion to full Professor, effective July 1, 2025.
- Six English majors became new members of our local chapter of the international English honor society, Sigma Tau Delta.
- **Karin Westman** represented Kansas State and the College of Arts and Sciences in Washington, D.C., on March 11 for the 2025 Humanities Advocacy Day, visiting with congressional staff to lobby elected officials for funding for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), Title VI/Fulbright-Hayes, and the National Archives (NARA).

FEATURED IN MEDIA

- **Traci Brimhall** was interviewed on PBS/KTWU's *Inspire* program for Women in Poetry, 20 Mar. 2025.

NEWS FROM ALUMNI

- **Colwill Brown**, a former graduate student, published their

first novel, *We Pretty Pieces of Flesh* (Henry Holt). In its starred review, *Kirkus Reviews* says it is "nearly the equal in honesty and subtlety to Elena Ferrante's Neapolitan novels." (Known as Sarah Hannaway when at K-State, Brown was in the English MA Program 2013-2014 with a concentration in Creative Writing.)

- **Julie Hensley** (MA '99) will publish her third book and debut novel, *Five Oaks* (Lake Union Publishing) in May 2025; it is available for pre-sale. Julie was also a Featured Author at the 20th Annual Scissortail Writing Festival, April 3-5, 2025, at East Central University in Ada, OK.

- **David Murphy** (MA '08) has published *Wherever Fact May Lead Me: A Ranking of the Sherlock Holmes Stories* (Dreamevrie 025).

- Desiree Shippers (BA '19) received a Rising Professional Award from the College of Health and Human Sciences for her work in advertising and documentary filmmaking: <https://www.hhs.k-state.edu/news/2025/03/24/the-college-of-health-and-human-sciences-will-recognize-11-accomplished-alumni-selected-to-receive-the-college-of-health-and-human-sciences-rising-professional-award-on-march-27/>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **Friday, April 4, 3:30-4:30pm**, Lecture by Dr. Karen Sands-O'Connor on "Whose Country is This Anyway? Representation of Black People/British Spaces in Children's and YA Books."

- **Sunday, April 6, 3:00-4:30pm**, Celebration of life for University Distinguished Professor Emeritus and Poet Laureate of Kansas Jonathan Holden.
- **Wednesday, April 9, 3:30-4:30pm**, “What's Next?: Faculty Lightning Talks on Work in Progress.”
- **Friday, April 11, 3:30-4:30pm**, Reading by fiction writer Gene Kwak.
- **Saturday, April 12, 9:00am-3:00pm**, All-University Open House.
- **Thursday, April 24, 6:00pm-9:00pm**, “Fantastic Ekphrastic Evening: Poetry and Art Extravaganza.”
- **Friday, April 25, 3:30pm-4:30pm**, “Older and Wiser Writing Project Panel.”
- **Saturday, April 26, 11:00am-3:00pm**, Kansas Science Festival.
- **Wednesday, April 30, 3:30-5:00pm**, “Doing DH: Annotating Sherlock Holmes.”

Reading Matters is a monthly publication of the Department of English, ECS Building, 1612 Steam Place, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506-6501. Editors: Philip Nel, Karin Westman, and Josh Allen. The deadline for the next issue of *Reading Matters* is **March 28, 2025** at 5 p.m. Central Time. Please send your news to Philip Nel via email at <philnel@ksu.edu>. Thank you.