

Reading Matters

Vol. 40 Nos. 9

May 2026

PUBLICATIONS

• **Traci Brimhall**, "Learning How to See" (poem). *The Nation*, 7 April 2026, p. 80.

"Dreams in April" (poem). *The Atlantic*, 5 April 2026: <https://www.theatlantic.com/books/2026/04/poem-traci-brimhall-dreams-in-april/686678/>

"Two Truths and a Lie" (poem). *Ploughshares*, vol. 52, no. 1, Spring 2026, p. 46.

"Contender" (poem). *The Pushcart Book of Twenty-First Century Poetry and Prose*. Ed. by Philip Schultz and Bill Henderson, Pushcart Press, Wainscott, 2026.

• **Mark Crosby**, "Blake in the Marketplace, 2025." *Blake An Illustrated Quarterly*, vol. 59, no. 4, Spring 2026: <https://blakequarterly.org/index.php/blake/article/view/416/743>.

"An immense number of verses on One Grand Theme": Blake's *Milton*, An Introduction." *William Blake's Milton, Poetas do Mundo series*, trans. Juliana Steil, Editora Universidade de Brasília, 2025: <https://loja.editora.unb.br/literatura/milton-um-poema-em-dois-cantos-9365/p>.

• **Marci McMahon**, Marie T. Mora, and Ala R. Qubbaj, eds., *Advancing Latinas in STEM Academic Careers*. Emerald Publishing Limited, 2026.

• **Philip Nel**, Lissa Paul, and Nina Christensen, editors, *Λέξεις-Κλειδιά για την Παιδική Λογοτεχνία*. [Keywords for Children's Literature, Second Edition, in Greek.] With a new foreword for this edition. Greek translation by Ioanna Vrachoritou. Scientific Ed. Vasiliki Vasiloudi. *Βιβλιοπωλείο Gutenberg*, 2026: <https://www.dardanosnet.gr/product/lexeis-kleidia-gia-tin-paidiki-logotechnia/>.

• **Naomi Wood**, review of Kristen Poole's *Philip Pullman and the Historical Imagination: Seventeenth-Century Literature, Science, and Religion in His Dark Materials and The Book of Dust*. *Children's Literature Association Quarterly*, vol. 50, no. 2, 2025, pp. 250-252.

PRESENTATIONS

• **Traci Brimhall**, readings at:
• Cheyenne Bottoms Wetlands, Great Bend, KS. 26 April 2026.
• Botanica, Wichita, KS. 22 April 2026.
• L.A. Times Book Festival, Los Angeles, CA. 18 April 2026.
• Nature of Our Times Reading, Online. 11 April 2026.
• Nature of Our Times Reading, Online. 8 April 2026.
• Scissortail Poetry Festival, OK. 3 April 2025.

• **Nava Eghdami** (MA '26), "When Time Stops: Emily Dickinson, Memory, and the Poetics of Spectral Temporality." 2026 *Popular Culture Association (PCA/ACA) National Conference*. Atlanta, GA. 10 April 2026.

• **Tanya González**, "State of Higher

Education Now" (Plenary session, invited panelist). *LatinaXo Studies Association*. U of Texas, Austin. 28 March 2026.

• **Michele Janette**, "War Crimes and Word Choice: A Case Study in Using a Danish Translation Assignment to Teach the Vietnam War." *Asian American Studies Annual Conference*. Honolulu, HI. 3 April 2026.

"CAALS Sponsored Roundtable: Continental Drift: A Critical Conversation and Poetry Reading with Mai-Linh Hong" (respondent). *Asian American Studies Annual Conference*. Honolulu, HI. 2 April 2026.

• **Rachel Koontz** (MA '27), **Mia McCormick** (BA '27), **Kara Northway**, and **Montana White** (BA '27), "Decentering Shakespeare: Literary and Pedagogical Plot Twists in Early English Drama" (roundtable). *Cavalier Conference on Writing and Literature*. Johnson County Community College. Overland Park, KS. 10 April 2026.

• **Kara Northway**, "'Because the idle mind is an ocean of thoughts': The Shared Scribblings of Early English Actors." *Meeting of the Shakespeare Association of America*. Denver, CO. 2 April 2026.

• **Ruth Okon** (MA '27), "Juju as Technology and the Reconfiguration of Socio-Economic Order: Africanfuturism in *Akata Witch*." *ChALC Conference*. Manhattan, KS. 25 April 2026.

“The End of Human War: Autonomous Weapons and Technological Dystopia in *War Machine*.” *K-State Grad Forum*. Manhattan, KS. 22 April 2026.

• **Lisa Tatonetti** with Tai Edwards, *Flooding Kaw Nation: Submerged Cities, Desecrated Graves, and Kaw Lake* (film Showing and Talk Back). Kaw Library and Learning Center, Kaw City Oklahoma, 18 April 2026.

AWARDS

• **Mary Adeyemo** (MA '26) received a 2026 Patricia Boze Libraries Memorial Scholarship for her contributions to K-State Libraries as a Library Ambassador: <https://www.k-state.edu/news/articles/2026/05/purple-praise-college-unit.html>

• **Ruth Okon** (MA '27) received a 2026 M & H International Scholarship from the K-State Alumni Association: <<https://www.k-state.edu/news/articles/2026/05/purple-praise-college-unit.html>>.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

• Twelve English majors have been inducted into Phi Beta Kappa: **Mara Aberle** (BA '26), **Macey Adams** (BA '26), **Jo Benson** (BA '26), **Carly Bond** (BA '26), **Luke Clifton** (BA '27), **Lee Ellwood** (BA '26), **Emily Haines** (BA '26), **Sarah Hemenway** (BA '26), **Rylan Jackson** (BA '26), **Jaidyn Koehler** (BA '26), **Mia McCormick** (BA '27), and **Emma Stacy** (BA '27).

• **Nava Eghdami** (MA '26) will be attending the State University of New York (SUNY) at Albany's English Ph.D. program starting this fall. She received a full assistantship.

• **Faezeh Rostami** (MA '26) will be attending Texas Tech University's English PhD program, with a focus on Film and Media Studies, starting

in Fall 2026. She was awarded the Graduate Recruitment Fellowship and a TA position as well.

• Sixteen English majors and M.A. students were inducted into Sigma Tau Delta.

FEATURED IN MEDIA

• **Traci Brimhall**,
• KMUW, Wichita, Interview with Jedd Beaudoin. 21 April 2026.
• KTWU/PBS, Poetry Out Loud. 17 April 2026.
• KJHK, Lawrence, Poetry Power Hour with Max Bryan. 5 April 2026

NEWS FROM ALUMNI

• **Katie Cline** (MA '20) received her Ph.D. (2026) in American Culture Studies from Bowling Green State University.
• **Tolu Daniel** (MA '23) published “The Curious Bondage of Inattentiveness” in *The Common Reader: A Journal of the Essay* (1 May 2026): <https://commonreader.wustl.edu/the-uneasy-bondage-of-human-inattentiveness/>.

• **Sierra Knipe** (MA '25) will be attending the English Ph.D. program at the University of California - Riverside, starting this fall. She was awarded the Dean's Distinguished Award and a TA position.

• **Chelsea Osademe** (MA '19) received her Ph.D. (2026) in American Studies from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. She will continue on a PRODiG+ Fellowship in the English Department at Stony Brook University (Long Island, NY) that will promote to a tenure track position in her third year.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

• **Friday, May 1, 4:30-6:00pm**, Annual Awards Celebration.

• **Thursday, May 14, 5:00-6:00pm**, Creative Writing Celebration Reading.

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 **August 30, 2026** at 5 p.m. Central Time. Please send your news to Philip Nel via email at <philnel@ksu.edu>. Thank you.