

# The Annual Report

clarion west writers workshop • 2020/21



## Our Mission

We support emerging and underrepresented voices by providing writers with world-class instruction to empower their creation of wild and amazing worlds. Through conversation and public engagement, we bring those voices to an ever-expanding community.

## Board Chair's Message



TOD MCCOY  
(CW '10)  
Board Chair

The past two years were...well, let's call them "challenging." The pandemic really threw a wrench into things. We postponed the Clarion West Six-Week Summer Workshop in 2020 for the first time in our 37-year history. Instead, we went virtual, just like the rest of the world, and stared at each other's Zoom faces.

We made it through 2020 with online classes and events, and then pushed into holding the 2021 workshop online. Congrats to the class of 2021! We hope to return to in-person classes in 2022, but the pandemic has forced us to become more agile — if things go south again, we are prepared to go virtual again.

Because we went virtual, we increased the number of online classes offered. They continue to do well and fill up — have you

seen what we're offering? Go check it out! ([clarionwest.org/type/online/](http://clarionwest.org/type/online/))

Our biggest gala and fundraiser, Nerdlesque, is transforming into an even larger event in 2022 called Clarion West After Dark, and it will be AMAZING. Keep an eye out — you don't want to miss it!

The makeup of the board also changed a little in the past year. For the first time, we welcomed new board members virtually without having met them in person. Such are the times! New board members Shweta Adhyam, Betsy Aoki, Linda Breneman, Huw Evans, and Scott Sherman joined the board during the pandemic. Alas, long-time board member Miriah Heatherington stepped down as Treasurer. Her sure hand and eagle eyes will be missed! We're also ecstatic to welcome back former board member Zola Mumford!

Clarion West is looking to expand its Board of Directors, with a particular emphasis on budgeting, fundraising, human resources, and event management. If you are interested in contributing, please contact Marnee Chua ([director@clarionwest.org](mailto:director@clarionwest.org)) or myself ([todmccoy@gmail.com](mailto:todmccoy@gmail.com)). We're open to those outside the Seattle area.

We are all hopeful that 2022 will lean toward normalcy. I'm personally looking forward to the day we can burn our masks. ♦

**"The summer itself was one of the most challenging and creatively stimulating workshops I have been a part of. I was blessed to be part of a cohort of the most caring, creative, and incisive writers. The staff created a culture of building up each other's work and helping it grow within the author's vision...I know we're in a life-long community who support each other's careers and imaginations."**



Lue Palmer  
(CW '21), Octavia  
Butler Memorial  
Scholarship  
Recipient

# Executive Director's Message



MARNEE CHUA  
Executive Director

I am so pleased to share the Clarion West 2020-2021 Combined Annual Report, a testament to our collective community power. There's been a lot to do and think about over the past two years, but I'm forever grateful to everyone who has stepped forward to focus on the speculative fiction community — making an impact that will continue to enrich and enhance the lives, dreams, and creations of readers and visionaries for years to come.

Seeing where and how we can help, our team stepped in, rolled up our sleeves, and got to work. I'm so proud of what Clarion West has achieved and of our plans for the future. Through public engagement, student surveys, and work with experts in the field, Clarion West seeks to create safe and inclusive programming for writers. Your support of our mission has meant the world to our team and the communities we serve. As we look forward to returning to more in-person events, determining what our Six-Week Workshop will look like in the future, and imagining new writing workshops and classes to meet the needs of today's writers, I am thrilled to introduce three of our newest team members.

Stefani Cox joins the team as our Communications Specialist, helping to manage our messaging, communications with alumni and community, and improving our outreach efforts. Stefani is a writer and poet based in Los Angeles with an MFA from UC Riverside.

Amy Hirayama is joining the workshop team as our Residential Workshop Administrator, supporting programs based here in Seattle. Amy is in an MFA program at the University of Washington and serves as an apprentice in Seattle Arts and Lectures' Writers in the Schools Program.

Writer and educator María Alejandra Barrios joins the workshop team in a new position for Clarion West, the Workshop Facilitator. María has an MA in Creative Writing from The University of Manchester and currently lives in Brooklyn. She will be joining the Six-Week Workshop as a classroom facilitator and support for the staff, students, and instructors.

Together we can build the world we want to live in — one story at a time.

It's my great honor to build this community with you! ♦



Stefani Cox



Amy Hirayama



María Alejandra Barrios

## Clarion West

### 2022 Board of Directors

Tod McCoy | *Chair*  
Misha Stone | *Vice Chair*  
M. Huw Evans | *Secretary*  
Shweta Adhyam  
Betsy Aoki  
Linda Breneman  
Susan Gossman  
Jon Lasser  
Zola Mumford  
Nisi Shawl  
Yang-Yang Wang  
Gordon B. White  
Marnee Chua | *ex officio*

### Staff

Marnee Chua | *Executive Director*  
Jae Steinbacher | *Residential Workshop Coordinator*  
Amy Hirayama | *Residential Workshop Administrator*  
María Alejandra Barrios | *Workshop Facilitator*  
Rashida J. Smith | *Online Program Coordinator*  
Stephanie Malia Morris | *Online Program Administrator*  
Evan J. Peterson | *Fundraising & Outreach Coordinator*  
Stefani Cox | *Communications Specialist*  
Elly Bangs | *Database Specialist*  
Erik Owomoyela | *Back-end Developer*  
Suzanne Tompkins | *Special Project Coordinator*

### Volunteers

Kate Schaefer | *Database Volunteer*  
Kyra Freestar | *Copy Editor*  
Tom Whitmore | *Copy Editor/Proofreader*  
Jon Lasser | *Development Committee*  
Kevin Orme | *Development Committee*  
Elsa Sjunneson-Henry | *Accessibility Committee*  
Elise Wordelf | *Accessibility Committee*

# Accessibility update



Author Nalo Hopkinson reads during her July 14 livestream for the 2020 Summer of Science Fiction and Fantasy reading series, held virtually with the Six-Week instructors despite postponing the workshop. Laurie Reinhardt from the Hearing, Speech & Deaf Center (HSDC) is shown in the bottom right interpreting the reading in ASL. If you missed the reading series, you can still catch it on our YouTube channel: [YOUTUBE.COM/CLARIONWEST](https://www.youtube.com/clarionwest).

Over the last two years, Clarion West has cemented its commitment to providing accessible programming. We are making adjustments to lower the barriers affecting people from a variety of backgrounds and abilities, and we will continue to address needs on an ongoing basis.

Here is an update of the work we've done to date and what we will be focusing on moving forward:

## The Clarion West website

We've added the [User Way](#) accessibility widget to assist with visual adaptations for our website as an interim measure toward ensuring a greater variety of access to our site. We understand that this app alone is not a long-term solution and we are planning to work with consultants to ensure ongoing improvements, including better content, video, and image descriptions.

We have added an [accessible information page](#) and attempt to link to it on almost every class and workshop page.

**“I am absolutely delighted at all the support being given to everyone and all the effort made to accommodate people.”**

—2021 Write-a-thon participant

## Online classes and events

We have invested in closed captioning features for online classes and events, with live captioning or ASL interpreters upon request.

With instructor permission, class recordings are available after each class for students to review at their own pace.

Slides and other materials are provided as far in advance of each class as possible.

## Physical accessibility

Clarion West has made a commitment to only partner with facilities that provide ADA accessible spaces and other accommodations. Whenever possible, we seek to partner with other nonprofit organizations to maximize these efforts, share resources, and ensure the best possible experiences for all participants.

The 2022 workshop will be held in accessible housing located a short distance from the Highline College campus in Des Moines, WA.

As we look toward the future, we will be looking into additional adaptive devices, opportunities to improve services, and feedback for all of our programming. If you see a need for increased accessibility that we have not yet identified, please let us know the issue as well as any suggestions you have to reduce barriers to accessibility. ♦

# Financial Statements

TOD MCCOY (CW '10)  
Board Chair

At the end of 2019, the Clarion West Board of Directors launched a growth initiative with the following primary goals:

- Increase programming and opportunities for emerging writers;
- Increase organizational capacity to partner with accessible housing facilities;
- Provide sustainable income and benefits for staff.

As a result of this initiative, Clarion West has increased staff hours, provided health reimbursement benefits for qualifying staff, and added new team members. These actions have allowed us to provide a greater number of programs for writers on a year-round basis. We will continue to add programs by working closely with instructors, our community, and the board to determine the best way to make programs affordable, offer scholarship opportunities, continue to improve our accessibility overall, and keep the programs sustainable for the long term.

Although we had to postpone the Six-Week Workshop in 2020, the organization was able to add staff and pivot to provide hundreds of online classes and programs — many of them offered for free or at a reduced cost — to more than 1,000 writers in the Puget Sound region and around the world. Our team continues to revise and manage an ongoing suite of classes and workshops online, with plans to provide in-person options again as soon as the conditions around the COVID-19 pandemic make it feasible.

The organization's focus on sustainable programming, increased staff time and benefits, and accessibility are reflected in the significant changes you see in our budget between 2019 and 2021. The opportunity provided to Clarion West by the generous bequest of Vonda N. McIntyre has meant that we are able to manage growth through this period of significant uncertainty. ♦

	Jan - Dec 2021	Jan - Dec 2020	Jan - Dec 2019
<b>REVENUE</b>			
Corporate Contributions	\$ 20,523.73	\$19,714.27	\$15,606.00
Individual Giving	\$11,499.22	\$26,561.07	\$29,106.00
Write-a-thon	\$19,521.24	\$24,151.58	\$23,448.00
GiveBIG	\$292.55	\$5,721.50	\$5,018.00
Speculative Fiction Trivia Night	-	\$2,373.97	\$3,659.00
Nerdlesque Gala	\$48,705.42	-	-
Grants	\$70,155.00	\$41,000.00	\$24,900.00
Scholarship Funds Donated	\$5,900.00	\$38,050.00	\$55,058.00
Instructorships	\$12,200.00	-	\$26,200.00
Six-Week Workshop Income	\$61,727.64	\$12,095.70	\$43,020.00
One-Day Workshop Income	-	\$5,550.00	\$16,000.00
Two-Day Workshop Income	-	\$1,365.00	-
Online Workshop Income	\$66,495.09	\$70,482.62	\$2,805.00
Women in SF Giving Circle	-	\$500.00	\$700.00
Vonda N. McIntyre Lit. Trust Income	\$2,606.49	\$1,542.03	\$846.60
PPP Forgiven	\$30,034.00	\$19,698.00	-
Dividend & Interest Income	\$6,291.12	\$6,576.15	\$53.70
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$355,951.50</b>	<b>\$275,381.89</b>	<b>\$246,420.30</b>

<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Outreach and Promotion	\$57,283.30	\$44,035.70	\$38,061.00
Six-Week Workshop	\$91,434.20	\$18,180.20	\$108,084.00
One-Day Workshop	-	\$15,675.00	\$15,863.00
Online Workshop	\$122,529.50	\$98,097.80	\$412.00
Administration	\$108,233.60	\$57,556.50	\$33,334.00
Fundraising	\$68,613.00	\$36,489.90	\$14,614.00
Literary Trust Expenses	-	-	\$260.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$451,231.68</b>	<b>\$270,035.04</b>	<b>\$210,628.00</b>
Surplus	-\$95,280.18	\$5,346.85	\$35,792.30

<b>Allocation of Funds from Savings and Investments*</b>			
Grants Applied	\$10,000.00	-	-
Scholarships & Instructorships Applied	\$43,152.00	-	-

<b>Investment Accounts</b>			
	<b>End of 2021</b>	<b>End of 2020</b>	<b>End of 2019</b>
Original Investment Fund	\$114,174.20	\$88,667.60	\$73,954.99
Vonda N. McIntyre Bequest Fund	\$421,104.30	\$448,446.30	\$383,465.42
Funds Distributed from Bequest	\$70,000.00	-	\$19,207.00

\*At this time, Clarion West operates on a cash basis accounting method.

**The Clarion West Board of Directors is seeking a treasurer.**  
An important role during growth and change.  
Email us ([director@clarionwest.org](mailto:director@clarionwest.org)) to learn more!

# Congratulations to our 2021 Octavia E. Butler and Worldbuilder Scholars



JAE STEINBACHER (CW '14)  
Residential Workshop Coordinator

## Octavia E. Butler Memorial Scholarship Recipients

In the summer of 2021, the Carl Brandon Society generously donated two full scholarships to Clarion West students. Lue Palmer of Toronto, Canada, and shakirah peterson of Los Angeles, California, were each recipients of the Octavia E. Butler Memorial Scholarship.

Since 2007, the Carl Brandon Society has donated this scholarship in Octavia's name to writers of color attending Clarion and Clarion West. Octavia attended the Clarion Writers Workshop in Pennsylvania in 1970 and taught at the Clarions for many years; this scholarship offers BIPOC writers a similar opportunity to emerge into the speculative fiction scene.

Lue Palmer is a Jamaican-Canadian writer at work on their first novel, *The Hungry River*. Set against the backdrop of climate change and following the revenge of a group of spirits, it chronicles a love between Black communities and nature over 250 years and into the future.

shakirah peterson is an MFA candidate in creative writing at Louisiana State University. Her work has been supported by the Hurston/Wright Foundation, Voices of our Nations Arts (VONA), and Clarion West. Born and raised in South Central Los Angeles, she now breathes in Baton Rouge with her cat, fable.

## Worldbuilder Scholarship Recipient

George R. R. Martin awarded his Worldbuilder Scholarship to December Cuccaro of Miami, Florida.

The Worldbuilder is a full scholarship funded by George R. R. Martin and anonymously judged by Martin's team. The scholarship is awarded to a student with strong worldbuilding skills. Martin says: "Every great story requires interesting characters, an engrossing plot, evocative prose, an important theme... but epic fantasy also requires a memorable setting. A 'secondary universe,' as J.R.R. Tolkien termed it, a world both like and unlike our own, with its own rich history and geography and customs, its own beauties and terrors."

December Cuccaro is a South Floridian living in the high desert of Reno with her spouse, cat, and two gobliness chihuahuas. In 2021, she received her MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Nevada, Reno. Her work can be found in *Three Crows Magazine*, *Apparition Lit*, and *Sword and Kettle Press*.

Martin also wrote about Isabel Cañas, Clarion West's inaugural Worldbuilder Scholarship recipient, and her forthcoming novel *The Hacienda* on his blog: <https://georgerrmartin.com/notes/blog/2021/06/01/paying-it-forward/>. ♦



(Top left to right) shakirah peterson and Lue Palmer (both CW '21) were recognized as Butler Scholars at an online ceremony.

(Bottom right) December Cuccaro (CW '21), Worldbuilder Scholarship Recipient.

## Scholarships

by the numbers 2020-21

**\$42,037** Total disbursed

**93%** of Six-Week students received assistance

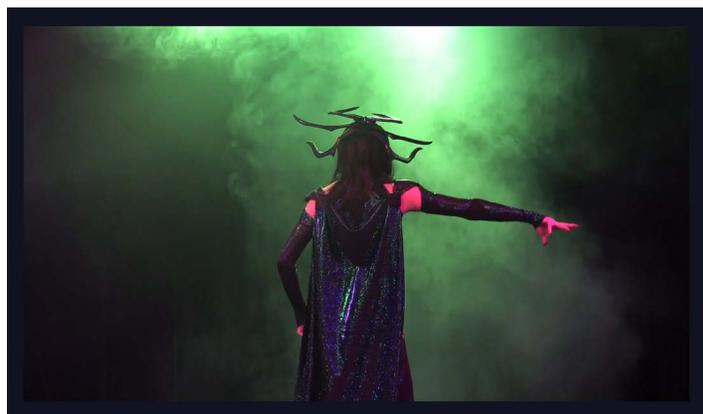
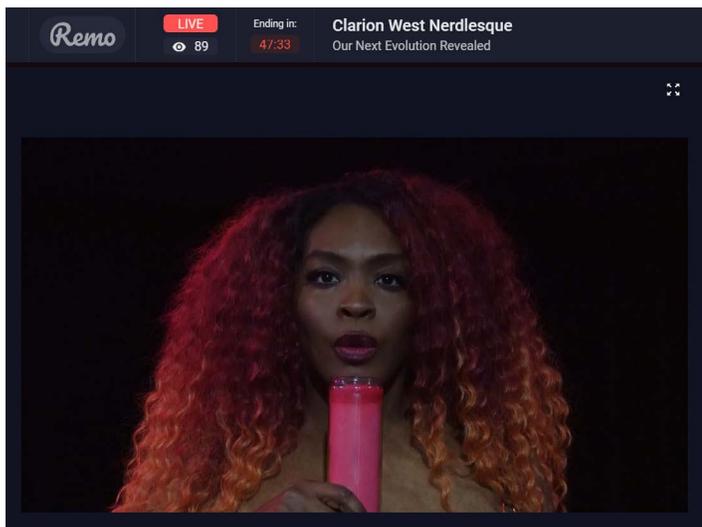
**60%** received full assistance

**174** Online class discounts given

**275** BIPOC scholarships provided

# Thank You for Your Support of Clarion West

FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 1, 2020 TO DECEMBER 31, 2021



EVAN J. PETERSON  
(CW '15)  
Development and  
Outreach Coordinator



Clockwise from left: Performer Briq House, performer Crystal Storm, Nerdlesque guests at the Class of 2017 table visiting during a break. Attendees were able to visit other tables, chat, mingle, and watch the show together!

Over the past few years, people often needed a reason just to keep going in what seemed like apocalyptic conditions. The world's writers needed something — anything — to look forward to. In January 2020, I had the honor of joining the Clarion West staff officially after several years as a volunteer. The sudden global crisis left Clarion West, a small nonprofit with a dedicated core of supporters, unmoored in a strange new void. We were unable to run our flagship program, the Six-Week Summer Workshop, to say nothing of public readings and weekend workshops.

All of us on staff shifted our focus over the last two years to growing online programming, including scores of free(!) writing workshops via Zoom, our two largest Write-a-thons ever, and livestreaming

dozens of professional panels. In 2021, we held the Six-Week Workshop online for the first time, with seven amazing instructors and fifteen brilliant writers from the Philippines to Brazil to Canada.

You, the donors, made this possible. Instead of languishing as an organization and a community, we've flourished. We've expanded our staff to fulfill new and needed roles, we've significantly reduced barriers to access, and we've created paid work opportunities for professional writers, editors, and teachers. We held our first ever gala fundraising event, entirely online, which was a big risk with a huge payoff. Thanks to donors like you, we earned \$40,000 to provide the services listed above. We've gone from a small grassroots effort kept alive by the fans and alumni

to suddenly being a globally-talked-about source of education and community for nerds, weirdos, and atypical creators.

And so I thank you. "Thank you" seems too small of a statement. Clarion West is changing lives on an international scale, and I don't think it's an exaggeration to say we're saving some lives as well. Speculative fiction can get very grim, but it can also be an expression of hope and belief in the essential goodness of humankind. *You, our donors, keep that hope alive.* On the next page, we recognize some of our largest financial donors, but every contribution counts — every dollar, every volunteer hour, and every word of support and affirmation exchanged among the amazingly talented writers and creators in this community. ♦

**These organizations and individuals provided significant grants to support Clarion West, its writers, and its online programs in 2020-21:**

- \$55,000 — The Sherman Family Foundation
- \$22,500 — Arts Fund Washington Grant
- \$16,000 — Amazon Literary Partnership
- \$10,000 — National Endowment for the Arts (NEA Art Works Grant)
- \$9,046 — Jeffrey Lemkin
- \$7,500 — BIPOC Scholarships for Online Programs
- \$5,175 — City of Seattle Office of Arts & Culture
- \$2,975 — Hydra House Books
- \$2,200 — 4Culture
- \$1,983 — Kyle Dustin Rose Foundation
- Kate Gentry & Huw Evans
- N. K. Jemisin
- Cheryl Hou



**A sincere thank-you to our named scholarship donors!**

Scholarships made in memory of the following honored individuals:

- \$30,400 — Michael & Elliot Alexander Scholarships
- \$2,600 — K. C. Ball Memorial Travel Fund
- \$1,050 — Poul & Karen Anderson International Travel Assistance Fund donated by Greg and Astrid Bear
- Vonda N. McIntyre Scholarship donated by Linda Deneroff (2019)



OFFICE OF ARTS & CULTURE  
SEATTLE



**Full and partial scholarships are generously supported by the following:**

- \$10,000 — Blue Corn Creations Scholarship
- \$8,400 — Anonymous
- \$5,000 — Christopher Hahn and Tegan Moore
- \$4,800 — Flores Scholarship supported by Isabel Cañas

**The following distinguished scholarships were awarded in 2021:**

- The Octavia E. Butler Memorial Scholarship, awarded to shakirah peterson and Lue Palmer
- The Worldbuilder Scholarship, awarded to December Cuccaro

**A sincere thank you to our 2021 named fellowship donors!**

Fellowships given in honor of the following individuals:

- \$5,000 — Debbie J Rose Memorial Instructorship
- \$5,000 — Sally Klages Memorial Fellowship contributed by Ellen Klages
- \$2,200 — Susan C. Petrey Fellowship supported by the Oregon Science Fiction Convention

**Thank You, Nerdlesque Sponsors:**

- \$5,050 — Breneman Jaech Foundation
- \$2,625 — Kyle Dustin Rose Foundation
- \$1,000 — The Clarion West Class of 2017
- \$1,000 — The Clarion West Class of 2012
- \$500 — Hydra House Books
- \$500 — Paper Boat Booksellers
- \$500 — Choice of Games

**New Scholarships!**

- Flores Scholarship: a full-tuition scholarship award given to one student who identifies as Latinx/e.
- Space Cowboy Scholarship: a partial scholarship available to a student in need.



**Clarion West**  
by the numbers 2020-21

**3**  
New roles/positions

**1,069**  
Write-a-thon participants

**309**  
Total programs offered

**5,018**  
Total participants

**61**  
Free classes

**24**  
Teen classes

**17**  
Free streaming panels & readings

**4,348**  
YouTube views

# An Update on the Works of Vonda N. McIntyre

MARNEE CHUA  
Executive Director

In 2019, Clarion West was the recipient of the literary assets of Vonda N. McIntyre, who wished that the organization manage her literary copyrights in perpetuity. Clarion West has since formed an active rights management committee, including board members Susan Gossman, Tod McCoy, Nisi Shawl, and executive director Marnee Chua.

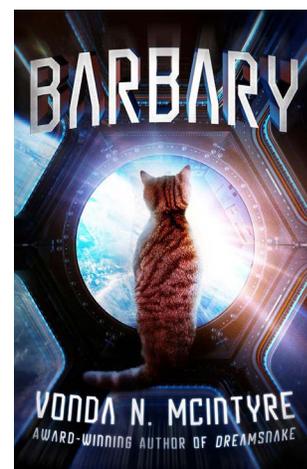
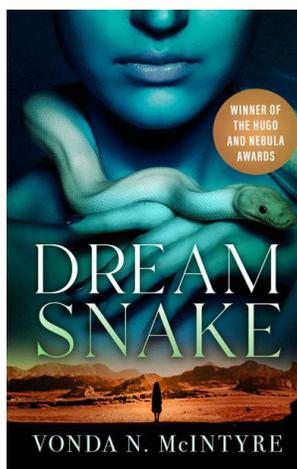
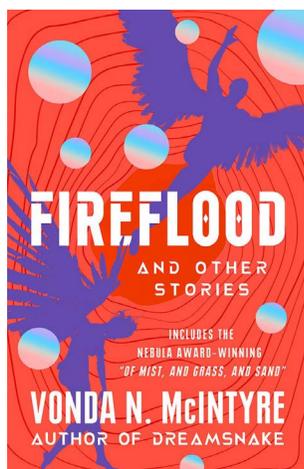
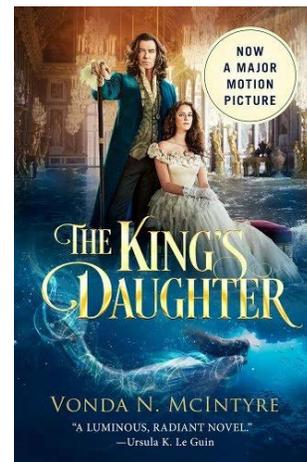
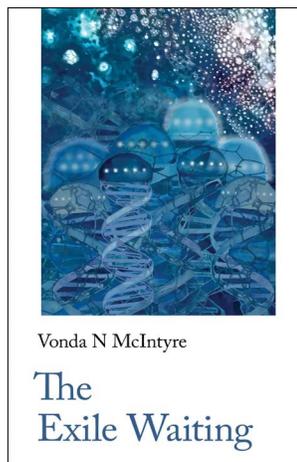
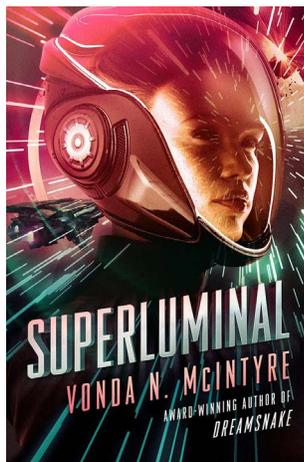
## Publication Updates

*The Exile Waiting* was republished as a new edition through Handheld Classics in October of 2019 with a beautiful new cover and afterword by Una McCormack. Also included in this edition was the first republication of McIntyre’s short story “Cages,” originally published in 1972, in which she first created the pseudosibs and their terrible origins.

A collection of Vonda’s short stories has been edited and is being reviewed as part of a feminist science fiction classic series that we hope will be announced later this year.

In October 2021, Open Road Media republished the following books digitally, with new cover art:

- *The Starfarer Series* in two collector’s volumes ([Books 1-2](#) and [Books 3-4](#))
- *Fireflood: And Other Stories*
- *Barbary*
- *The Moon and The Sun* (with a new cover and title matching the film re-



COPYRIGHT EARNINGS	2021	2020
Literary Agent Sales (ongoing)	\$2,135.54	\$1,287.94
Book View Cafe Sales	\$310.57	\$238.70

lease, *The King’s Daughter*, also available in paperback)

- *Dreamsnake* (also available in paperback)

Multiple international renewals for both *Dreamsnake* and *The Moon and The Sun*, including renewals of foreign language prints from Croatia, Germany, Russia, and Brazil, have been ongoing throughout the last two years.

Vonda’s short story, “Steelcollar Worker,” will be part of the [Book View Cafe](#) reprint and update of the anthology *Spawn of Rocket Boy and the Geek Girls* coming out later this year.

Finally, Clarion West continues to seek guidance on her final novel, *The Curve of*

*the World*, which has not yet found a home with a publisher.

For questions relating to the literary trust of Vonda N. McIntyre, you can reach our managing committee at [contractmanager@clarionwest.org](mailto:contractmanager@clarionwest.org).

The estate posts updates on our dedicated Twitter ([twitter.com/VNMcIntyre-LitEs](https://twitter.com/VNMcIntyre-LitEs)) and memorial website ([vondanmcintyre.net/](http://vondanmcintyre.net/)).

## Film update

The movie adaptation of *The Moon and The Sun*, filmed in 2014, was finally released to theaters in North America on January 21, 2022, under the title *The King’s Daughter*. The film is now available to rent through Amazon Prime. ♦

# Supporting an International Community of Writers

TANIA CHEN  
Online Class Participant

My name is Tania Chen, and I am a Chinese-Mexican queer writer living in Mexico City. I guess I consider myself primarily a speculative horror writer. I love horror, whether it's in film format, or book, or art. I think horror just speaks to me in ways that other genres do not.

I was excited to take an online class by Liz Hand, *The Haunting of YOUR House*, in October 2020. That was my first class with Clarion West. After that, I applied to Laurie Penny's Novella Writing Bootcamp at Clarion West, and it changed my life.

I think things happen for a reason, and at that point in my life, I came across a Twitter post, and I decided to take my chances and apply [for Laurie's workshop]. I unexpectedly got that yes! I went in with zero expectations; I had never done a writing workshop before, and I was just blown away by the organization and the commitment, the quality, and just how dedicated everyone was to writing.

From there, things just began snowballing, and a couple of months later I had my first story accepted in an anthology by Neon Hemlock, *Unfettered Hexes: Queer Tales of Insatiable Darkness*, edited by dave ring. (You should all really check that one out because it's also an amazing work of love by dave, and it's just an incredible project as well.)

I always loved writing. I always wanted to publish, but I didn't have the support or the knowledge to become involved in the community in the way that I have now, and again that is thanks to the support



Tania Chen, participant in Laurie Penny's 2021 Novella Writing Bootcamp, lives in Mexico City.

of Clarion West. They not only offered me a chance through the workshop, but they also helped me connect to the online speculative community.

And for international writers like myself, geographical location is the biggest barrier, because attending any class that is on site is just financially impossible for most of us. The fact that Clarion West has done their classes online, I think that it's a lot of work and it shows a lot of dedication on their part to actually want to enrich the community and to support BIPOC (Black, indigenous, and people of color) writers abroad.

A lot of us live in countries that are not as liberal as the U.S., so there are a

lot of other struggles that we go through and a lot of other obstacles that we face in our home countries. And by having this door open to the speculative community online and in the United States, and to be in touch with publishers there, and other writers that live there, it's enriching. I love meeting other writers. I love seeing what they are working on. I think it's important that we all have a voice and that we all have a chance to express this voice.

Especially during these times of the pandemic, I think that art, whether it's written or drawn, whether you're a singer or an actor, is what's nourishing us. It nourishes a part of ourselves that is easy to forget when you're caught in the everyday struggles of work and ... you know, capitalism as they say.

Personally, I write because I want to inspire other people. I want to express what's inside of me, but I also want that whatever I share inspires others to share their own stories or that it sparks something in them. Because a lot of times reading what other writers are doing makes me happy. I also want to have that effect on other people. I want them to feel things, to feel encouraged, and to feel like they should also write and share, if that's what they'd like to do. This is also one of the reasons why I am a slush reader for *Nightmare* and for *Strange Horizons*.

The second reason why I like to write is that I want to help others. I think of my situation, and I think of where I was a year ago, and I think of all the incredible support that I got from Clarion West and from everybody that I met through it, and I want to be able to do the same for other people, especially for other BIPOCs. I want them to know that your voice matters and you should share it. I want to be knowledgeable enough that people can come to me and ask me questions, because that's how you pull each other up. That's so important; we are all writers and we are not in competition with each other. We are here to share our stories, and the most important thing is to make a strong community that supports each other.

I just want to say thank you to everybody at Clarion West. Thank you to all my friends online. You are all amazing. I love you so much. ♦

**“[Teaching for Clarion West] was a revelation for me...watching a group of up-and-coming writers transform over the course of a single week...was one of the most inspirational things I've ever done. And so I continue to support Clarion West.”**



N. K. Jemisin

2016 Clarion West instructor, author of *The City We Became* and the *Broken Earth* trilogy

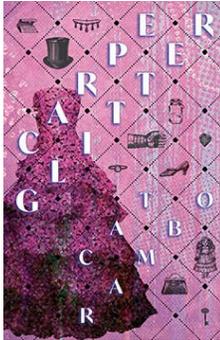
# Award-Winning Alumni

Over the past two years, Clarion West alumni have earned numerous awards and achievements, and we congratulate all of them — the following represents only a partial list. **We are also thrilled that Clarion West was nominated for an [IGNYTE Ember Award](#) in 2021!**

## Nebula Award winners

Best Short Story:  
A. T. Greenblatt (CW '17) "Give the Family My Love"

Best Novelette:  
Cat Rambo (CW '05) Carpe Glitter  
Meerkat Press

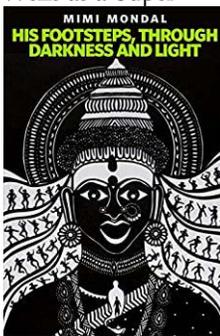


## Nebula Nominations

Best Short Story:  
Eugenia Triantafyllou (CW '19) "My Country Is a Ghost"  
Vina Jie-Min Prasad (CW '17) "A Guide for Working Breeds"  
Nibedita Sen (CW '15) "Ten Excerpts from an Annotated Bibliography on the Cannibal Women of Ratnabar Island"  
Shiv Ramdas (CW '16) "And Now His Lordship Is Laughing"

Best Novelette:  
A. T. Greenblatt (CW '17) "Burn or the Episodic Life of Sam Wells as a Super"

Caroline M. Yoachim (CW '06) "Shadow Prisons of the Mind"  
Siobhan Carroll (CW '09) "For He Can Creep"  
Mimi Mondal (CW '15) "His Footsteps, Through Darkness and Light"



Caroline M Yoachim (CW '06) "The Archchronology of Love"



Best Novella:  
Vylar Kaftan (CW '04) "Her Silhouette, Drawn in Water"

Best Game Writing:  
Phoebe Barton (CW '19) The Luminous Underground

## Hugo Award

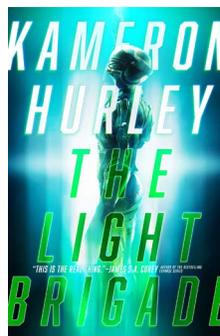
Sheree Renée Thomas (CW '99) hosted the 2021 Hugo Awards in Washington, D.C. with Malka Older

## Hugo Award nominations

Best Short Story:  
Nibedita Sen (CW '15) "Ten Excerpts from an Annotated Bibliography on the Cannibal Women of Ratnabar Island"  
Shiv Ramdas (CW '16) "And Now His Lordship Is Laughing"  
Vina Jie-Min Prasad (CW '17) "A Guide for Working Breeds"

Best Novelette:  
Siobhan Carroll (CW '09) "For He Can Creep"  
Caroline M Yoachim (CW '06) "The Archchronology of Love"  
A. T. Greenblatt (CW '17) "Burn, or the Episodic Life of Sam Wells as a Super"

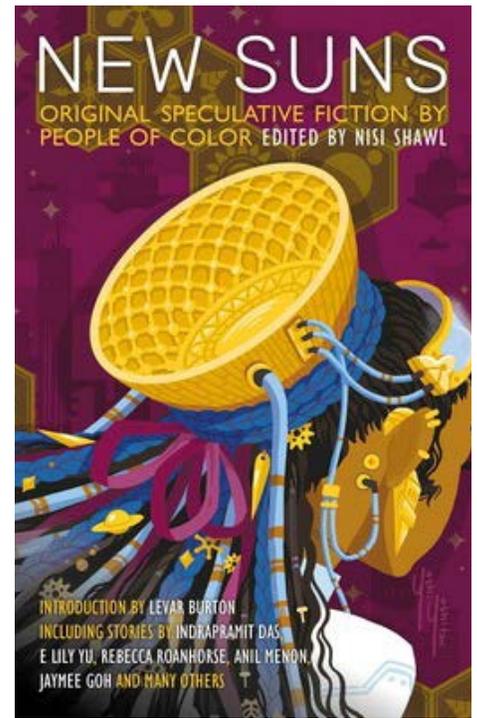
Best Novel:  
Kameron Hurley (CW '00) *The Light Brigade*



Best Semiprozine:  
Tina Connolly (CW '06) Escape Pod  
Catherine Krahe (CW '11) Strange Horizons

Best Related Work:  
Iori Kusano (CW '17) FIYAHCON

**Astounding Award for Best New Writer nomination**  
Nibedita Sen (CW '15)



## Pushcart Nomination

Colleen (Celdae) Anderson (CW '87) "Telltale Moon"

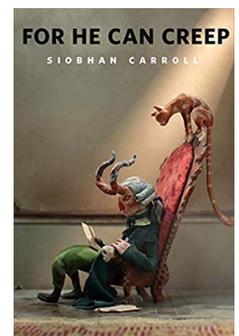
## World Fantasy Award winner

Best Anthology: Nisi Shawl (CW '92) *New Suns: Original Speculative Fiction by People of Color*

## World Fantasy Award nominations

Professional Contributions to the Genre: Sheree Renée Thomas (CW '99) Dark Matter et al.

Best Novelette:  
Siobhan Carroll (CW '09) "For He Can Creep"

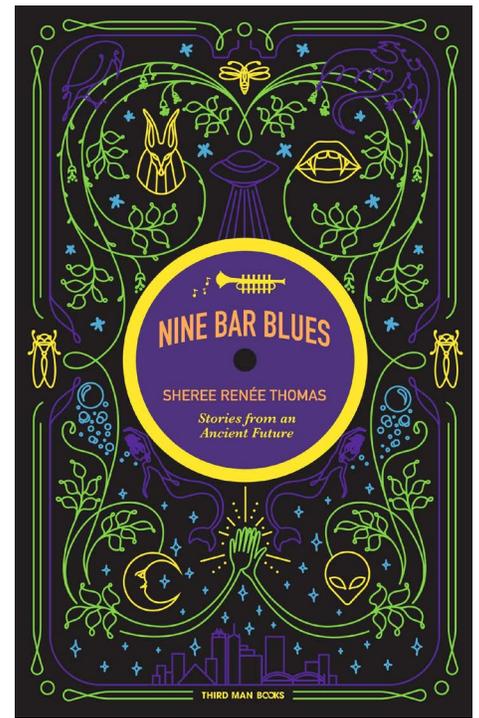
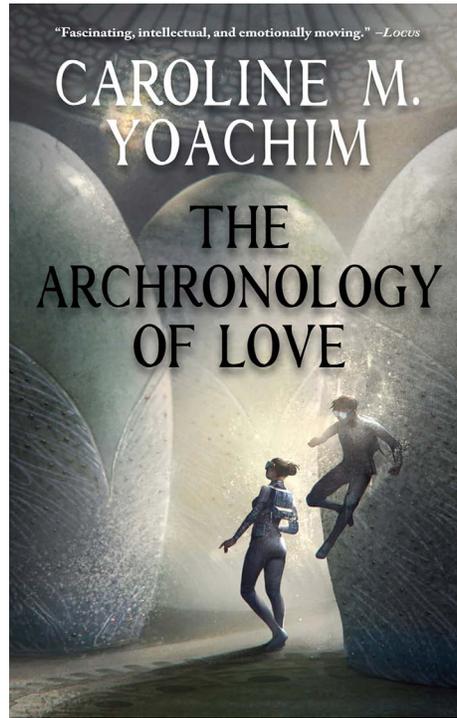
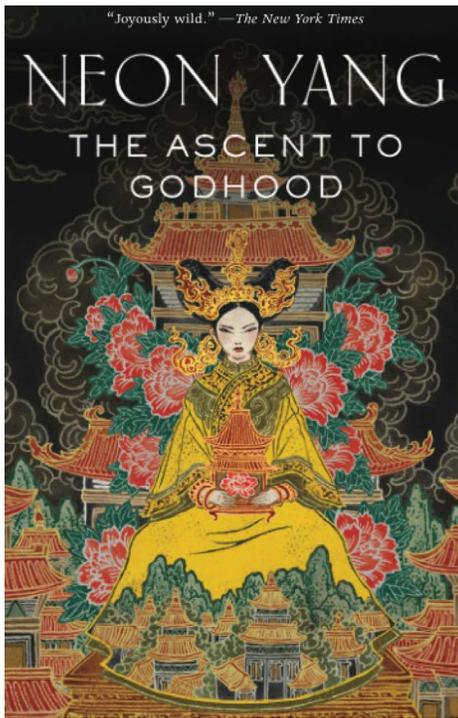


## British Fantasy Award winner

Best Anthology:  
Nisi Shawl (CW '92) *New Suns: Original Speculative Fiction by People of Color*

## British Fantasy Awards nominations

Best Horror Novel: Dr. Helen Marshall (CW '12) *The Migration*



Best Fantasy Novel: **Dr. Helen Marshall** (CW '12) *The Migration*

Best Collection:  
**Maura McHugh** (CW '06) *The Boughs Withered When I Told Them My Dreams*



Best Novella:  
**Neon Yang** (CW '13) "The Ascent to Godhood"

### IGNYTE award winners

Best Anthology/Collected Work:  
**Nisi Shawl** (CW '92) *New Suns: Original Speculative Fiction by People of Color*

Best in Speculative Poetry: **Woody Dismukes** (CW '18) "A Conversation Between the Embalmed Heads of Lampião and Maria Bonita on Public Display at the Baiano State Forensic Institute, Circa Mid-20th Century."

### IGNYTE award nominations

Best Short Story:  
**Christopher Caldwell** (CW '07) "Canst Thou Draw Out the Leviathan"  
**Eugenia Triantafyllou** (CW '19) "My Country Is a Ghost"

Best Novelette:  
**Sheree Renée Thomas** (CW '99) "Love Hangover"  
**Justin C. Key** (CW '15) "One Hand in the Coffin"

Best in Speculative Poetry:  
**Millie Ho** (CW '19) "Hungry Ghost"

Best Anthology/Collected Works:  
**Sheree Renée Thomas** (CW '99) *Nine Bar Blues*

Best Fiction Podcast: **Tina Connolly** (CW '06) *Escape Pod*

Best Creative Nonfiction: **Nibedita Sen** (CW '15) "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Excellence"

Community Award:  
**Nisi Shawl** (CW '92) & **K. Tempest Bradford** (CW '03) *Writing the Other*  
**Chinelo Onwualu** (CW '14) & **Michael Matheson** (CW '14) *Anathema Magazine*

Ember Award:  
**K. Tempest Bradford** (CW '03) *Clarion West*

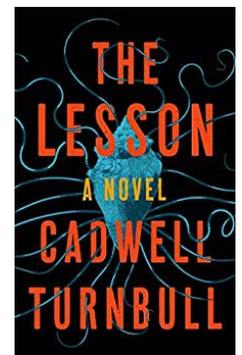
**Shirley Jackson award winner**  
Short Fiction: **Indrapramit Das** (CW '12) "Kali\_Na."

### Starburst Brave New Words Award winner

**Nisi Shawl** (CW '92) *New Suns: Original Speculative Fiction by People of Color*

### Neukom Institute Literary Award for Debut Speculative Fiction

Debut Novel:  
**Cadwell Turnbull** (CW '16) *The Lesson*



**Writers of the Future Award**  
3rd Quarter: **Trent Walters** (CW '99)

**Eugie Foster Memorial Award for Short Fiction winner**  
**Siobhan Carroll** (CW '09) "For He Can Creep"

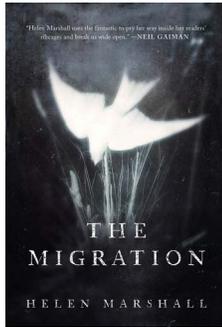
### Sunburst Award for Excellence in Canadian Literature of the Fantastic winner

Short Story: **Rebecca Campbell** (CW '15) "The Fourth Trimester is the Strangest"

# Award-Winning Alumni, cont.

## Sunburst Award for Excellence in Canadian Literature of the Fantastic nomination

Adult Fiction:  
Dr. Helen Marshall (CW '12)  
*The Migration*



## European Science Fiction Society nomination

Best Author: Maura McHugh (CW '06)

## Asimov's Readers' Award nominations

Best Novella: Tegan Moore (CW '15)  
"The Work of Wolves"

Best Novelette: Andy Duncan (CW '94)  
"Charlie Tells Another One"

## Dwarf Stars Award nomination, Science Fiction Poetry Association

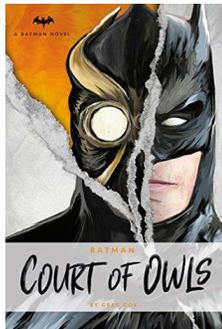
Colleen Anderson (CW '87)  
"The knife blade flutters"

## Theodore Sturgeon Memorial Award nomination

A. T. Greenblatt (CW '17)  
"Give the Family My Love"  
Caroline M Yoachim (CW '06)  
"The Archonology of Love"

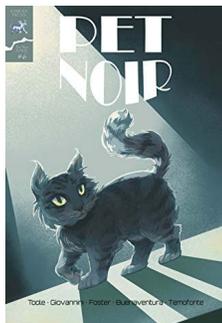
## Scribe Award winner

Original Novel (Speculative):  
Greg Cox (CW '84) *Batman: The Court of Owls*



## Scribe Award nomination

Graphic Novel:  
Anne Toole (CW '11) *Pet Noir*



## PEN Translates Award winner

Lawrence Schimel (CW '91)

## Dream Foundry short story contest finalist

Rodrigo Assis Mesquita (CW '18)

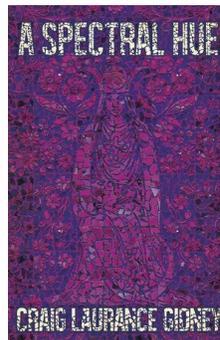
## Locus Award winners

Best Anthology: Nisi Shawl (CW '92)  
*New Suns: Original Speculative Fiction by People of Color*

Special Award: Inclusivity and Representation Education: Cynthia Ward (CW '92), Nisi Shawl (CW '92) & K. Tempest Bradford (CW '03) for work through *Writing the Other*

## Lambda Literary Award nomination

LBGTQ SF/F/  
Horror (book):  
Craig Laurance Gidney (CW '96)  
*A Spectral Hue*



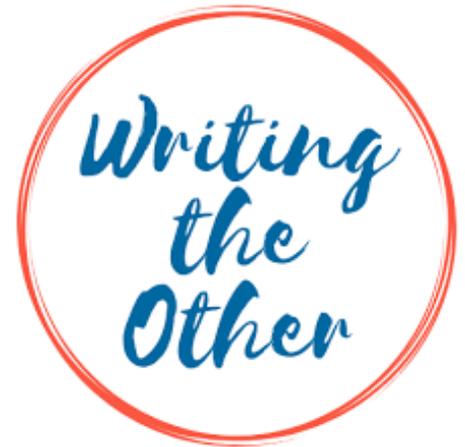
## Aurealis Award nomination

Best Science Fiction Novella:  
Marlee Jane Ward (CW '14)  
"Prisoncorp"  
Best YA Short Story: Marlee Jane Ward (CW '14)  
"Rats"



## Rhysling Award nomination

Short Poem: Millie Ho (CW '19)  
"Hungry Ghost"



## Thom Gunn Award for Gay Poetry nomination

Translator: Lawrence Schimel (CW '91)

## Guest of Honor

Sheree Renée Thomas (CW '99)  
WisCon 45 and DisCon III

## Alumni Achievements

by the numbers 2020-21\*

- 94** Short stories
- 12** Novels
- 4** Novellas
- 1** Novelette
- 56** Awards/nominations/recognitions
- 4** Short story collections
- 2** Graphic novels
- 40** Poems
- 1** Poetry collection
- 3** Essays
- 1** Video game
- 2** Short story translations
- 1** Poetry translations
- 2** Films

\*As reported by CW friends and alumni. May not represent complete numbers.