

The Annual Report

clarion west writers workshop • 2022



Kerstin Hall (CW '22) with the Verisimilitoad. Credit: Sam Davis (CW '22)

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)
Outgoing Board
Chair

As my term as Board Chair comes to an end, I'm pleased to look back over the past three years and see what we've accomplished, despite the many challenges we've faced. 2022 was no less challenging than 2021, or 2020 for that matter. While the pandemic was still a threat, we were glad to be able to hold the Six-Week Workshop in person for the first time since 2019 — with careful precautions — because the immersive, in-person experience is important to the organization, our community, and possibly the only option for some writers. Unfortunately, housing continues to be an issue. We were hopeful that we'd put down roots and form a partnership in 2022, but regrettably, we are still looking for a housing option that is financially affordable and meets our programmatic needs.

Housing will continue to be an issue for the foreseeable future, but due

to the support of our community, the organization is flexible and adaptable enough to have options when we need them. With the adoption of online technologies in conjunction with interest from students from all over the world, Clarion West is able to host a virtual Six-Week Workshop when necessary.

I'm very proud of our accomplishments over the last three years. Since the pandemic hit in 2020, we launched our online programs, produced *The Pocket Workshop*, held two excellent Six-Week Workshops, grew the summer Write-a-thon, and hired an amazing team to manage it all.

In 2023, both Gordon White (CW '17) and Betsy Aoki (CW '16) are stepping down from the board. We are all sorry to see them go, but excited to see what they do next! New additions to the board of directors since January 2022 include Jon Lasser (CW '16), Elsa Sjunneson, and Dominica Phetteplace (CW '07). I hope you'll join me in giving them all a warm welcome!

Finally, I'd like to congratulate the class of 2022! We look forward to all the great works you will write and produce. I'd also like to thank everyone in our community who supports Clarion West as volunteers, donors, mentors, instructors, and amplifiers — you're helping to keep Clarion West moving forward despite the challenges ahead.

Sincerely,
Tod McCoy (CW '10) ♦

Clarion West by the numbers 2022

18 Six-Week Workshop students graduated
3,034 total program participants
37 paid classes offered
25 free classes offered
6 free streaming panels/readings
600+ reading attendees/viewers
81 writing sprints/sessions offered
606 Write-a-thoners
27 countries represented
2,500,000 estimated words written during Write-a-thon

127 Flash Fiction Workshop participants
134 BIPOC access seats provided
122 alumni publications reported
\$269,632 total donations
\$81,323 individual/small business contributions
\$25,873 corporate contributions
\$162,436 grants
437 individual donors

A Special Thank You to Donors



Evan J. Peterson
(CW '15)
Development and
Outreach Coordinator

Last year was an emotional whirlwind — again. You helped us stay afloat as we navigated through a return to the in-person Six-Week Writers Workshop and many other adventures. Long-time supporters joined new donors, and ensured that our programs continued for another year. “Thank you” seems to be an understatement; we offer our gratitude through the following updates, details, and shout-outs.

Your generosity directly supported:

- Scholarships and discounts for financial need, BIPOC, and other underrepresented writers in speculative fiction
- Accessible virtual and physical classrooms and facilities for all of our programs
- Honoraria for world-class instructors year-round
- Free public readings and panels for writers
- And paid staff positions with health benefits. (This last one is a big deal for me and several others on staff!)

2022 Clarion West After Dark Gala

On Friday, October 21, we held our second-ever online gala, Clarion West

After Dark. Emcee Sasha Summer Cousineau dazzled us with her cosmic costume and expertise in hosting. Our guest of honor, Expanse series co-author Daniel Abraham (CW '98, Instructor '18), treated us to a rare reading of “The Last Flight of the Cassandra.” We shared our “red carpet” selfies. We bid on rare items and experiences such as a voice/podcast-ing lesson with Cecil Baldwin (Welcome to Night Vale). We raised \$35,742 at this event alone! You, our incredibly supportive community, made this happen.

We thank all of the auction item donors and bidders, with a special thank-you to our 2022 Gala sponsors:

- Zook & Oleson Gardening
- Becky Bruhn, videographer
- Mighty House Construction
- Paper Boat Booksellers
- Brenda Cooper
- Town Hall Seattle
- Team Arsenic (Clarion West Class of 2016)
- Libro.fm
- The Stranger
- and Revel Rouser Events!

Grants and Major Donors

In 2022, Clarion West received \$162,436.00 in grants from private and public donors, corporations, and organizations. Our grantors and major donors make it possible for us to go beyond our organization’s overhead expenses and offer scholarships, free and accessible classes and public programming, and free seats in our fee-based classes. They also help ensure that professionals we hire to teach for us receive a reasonable rate for their expertise and time. ►►



Clarion West class of 2022 with instructors Annalee Newitz and Charlie Jane Anders.

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*

Donations, cont.

These organizations and individuals provided significant grants to support Clarion West, its writers, and our online programs in 2022:

- \$59,000 4Culture Recovery Fund Project
- \$30,000 The Sherman Family Foundation
- \$20,000 The Breneman-Jaech Foundation
- \$10,000 The National Endowment for the Arts
- \$8,000 Amazon Literary Partners
- \$6,100 City of Seattle Seattle Arts & Culture
- \$2,500 4Culture Sustained Support Grant



OFFICE OF ARTS & CULTURE
SEATTLE

A sincere thank-you to donors who supported named scholarships in 2022!

- \$15,200 Michael and Elliot Alexander Scholarships
- \$4,800 The Flores Scholarships donated by Isabel Cañas
- \$4,800 The Flores Scholarships through Google Employee Match
- \$1,000 The Vonda N. McIntyre Scholarship by Linda Deneroff
- \$2,500 The Susan C. Petrey Memorial Scholarship donated by the Portland Science Fiction Convention
- \$1,000 The Poul and Karen Anderson Memorial International Travel Fund donated by Greg and Astrid Bear

CULTURE

The following named instructorships donated in 2022 support the honorariums, travel, room, and board for the award-winning authors who teach for the Six-Week Workshop, thank you!

- The Debbie J. Rose Memorial Instructorship donated by Dustin Kyle Timber Rose
- The Sally Klages Memorial Instructorship donated by Ellen Klages

Generous donations made in 2022 toward full and partial scholarships:

- \$4,800 Anonymous
- \$4200 Norwescon Scholarship supported by a grant from the Norwescon
- \$600 The Space Cowboy Scholarship supported by Space Cowboy Books



The following distinguished scholarships were awarded in 2022:

- \$9600 The Octavia E. Butler Memorial Scholarships, provided by the Carl Brandon Society, awarded to Naomi Day and Wen-yi Lee
- \$9600 The Worldbuilder Scholarship, provided by the George R. R. Martin Foundation, awarded to Tania Fordwalker and Yvette Lisa Ndlovu

Scholarships Awarded in 2022 from previously donated funds:

- \$4800 The Blue Corn Scholarship Fund supported by the Blue Corn Creations and anonymous donors
- \$3,235 SFWA Scholarship supported by a grant from the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers Association (made in 2020)
- \$1,400 The Jeremy Bearimy Scholarship
- \$1,000 The Space Bear Scholarship Fund donated by Christopher Hahn and Tegan Moore

And thank you to the businesses who have matched the donations of their employees:

- Google
- Takeda Millennium Pharmaceuticals
- Genentech
- King County
- Microsoft
- PayPal Giving Fund

In imagination we trust,
Evan J. Peterson (CW '15) ♦



TOR·COM



amazon literary
partnership

Scholarships

Flores Scholars 2022

Recent graduate Isabel Cañas (CW '18) founded the Flores Scholarship for students who identify as Latinx/e. Isabel received the first Worldbuilder Scholarship, provided by George R. R. Martin. The Worldbuilder Scholarship covers tuition, fees, and lodging for one student each year. Paying this forward, Isabel created the Flores Scholarship, which was awarded to inaugural recipients Ana Hurtado (CW '22) and Alex V. Cruz (CW '22) in 2022.



Born in Venezuela and raised in Ecuador, Ana Hurtado explores these postcolonial environments through magical realism. She earned an MFA in Creative Writing & Environment from Iowa State University in 2017 and now teaches creative writing at Universidad San Francisco de Quito. Her work has been published by The Magazine of Fantasy & Science Fiction, Strange Horizons, and

Fireside Magazine, amongst others. She is a 2018 Tiptree Fellow, and LeVar Burton has read one of her stories for his podcast LeVar Burton Reads.

Alex V. Cruz is the first Dominican writer to attend Clarion West, where he discovered his passion for magical realism and his Dominican culture.



Alex attended the Tin House: Young Adult workshop and is a graduate of Columbia University in New York City. His most recent short story, "Marisol and the Gallina Dichosa," can be found in *Quislaona: A Dominican Fantasy Anthology*.

(Pictured from top left onward: Isabel Cañas (CW '18), Ana Hurtado (CW '22), Alex V. Cruz (CW '22).)

Octavia E. Butler Memorial Scholars & Worldbuilder Scholars

In 2022, we doubled up on scholars, as students accepted in both 2020 and in 2022 were recognized for these awards.

The Carl Brandon Society generously donated two full scholarships to Clarion West students. Naomi Day (CW '22) and Wen-yi Lee (CW '22) were each recipi-

ents of the Octavia E. Butler Memorial Scholarship. Naomi was initially selected as a Butler Scholar in 2020, and Wen-yi was selected this year upon her acceptance.

George R. R. Martin awarded two Worldbuilder Scholarships in 2022. Tania Fordwalker (CW '22), of Tasmania, was selected to receive a Worldbuilder Scholarship in 2020, and Yvette Lisa Ndlovu (CW '22), of Zimbabwe, was selected in 2022, upon her acceptance. ♦



(top row, left to right) Butler Scholars Naomi Day (CW '22) and Wen-yi Lee (CW '22)

(bottom row, left to right) Worldbuilder Scholars Tania Fordwalker (CW '22) and Yvette Lisa Ndlovu (CW '22)

Message from the Director

Dear Community,

What a pleasure it was to have our students (and instructors) come to Seattle in 2022! Despite the many challenges we faced last summer, we had beautiful weather, amazing instructors, talented students, and new partners! You can find the reading series on our YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@clarionwest>.

I'm truly proud of our staff for their work last year, and I'm pleased to share results of our three-year review of workshop practices and culture. Between 2020–2022, Clarion West underwent an extensive review of our workshop methods to bring them up to date with the expectations and reality of current and future writers.

The final report for this project in-

cludes an examination of various critique methods and committee recommendations for their application in the Six-Week Workshop and beyond: <https://www.clarionwest.org/2023/04/25/final-report-on-clarion-wests-evolving-workshop-culture-project/>.

The main goal of this project, providing a safer space for participants to explore concepts of race, class, gender, and sexual orientation within and beyond the genre of speculative fiction, will continue to evolve but is now centered in everything the organization does.

As a final step, Clarion West developed a set of core values to guide the design, facilitation, and culture of the program moving forward: <https://www.clarionwest.org/resources/workshop-methods/>.



Marnee Chua
Executive Director

It's no coincidence that a lot of our success over the last few years has been a direct result of careful planning and enacting our vision, mission, and goals. As we complete our 2023–2025 Strategic Plan, I'm excited to see what we do next.

Thank you to all of our community for making this work possible!

Sincerely,
Marnee Chua ♦

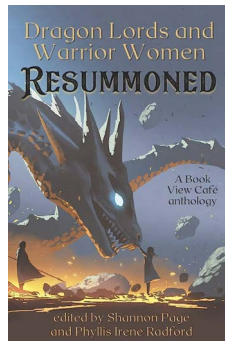
The Literary Works of Vonda N. McIntyre

We are thrilled to announce that the works of Vonda N. McIntyre will now be represented by Jennie Goloboy with the Donald Maass Literary Agency on behalf of Clarion West.

Jennie will be helping the organization seek a publisher for Vonda's one remaining unpublished novel, *The Curve of the World*.

A new short story collection is in the works with Goldsmith Press, including a previously unpublished story of Vonda's. You can continue to find Vonda's works through Open Road Media and Bookshop.org.

The Book View Cafe has released two anthology reprints that include



Vonda's short stories:

- *Dragon Lords and Warrior Women: Resummoned*, edited by Shannon Page and Phyllis Irene, with two of Vonda's short stories, "Night Harvest Cuvée Rouge" and "The Natural History and Extinction of the People of the Sea" with illustrations by Ursula K. Le Guin.
- *Spawn of Rocket Boy and the Geek Girls*, edited by Phyllis Irene Radford and Shannon Page, with Vonda's story, "Steelcollar Worker."



Copyright Earnings

- 2022: \$18,694.93
- 2021: \$2,606.49

For inquiries about *The Curve of the World* and Vonda's other stories, please contact Jennifer Goloboy with the Donald Maass Literary Agency:

- Rights inquiries: rights@maassagency.com
- Other matters: info@maassagency.com ♦

"As a friend of Vonda McIntyre's, I want to help inspire writers to achieve their best writing, and she supported Clarion West. By establishing the Vonda N. McIntyre scholarship in her name, we remember Vonda and continue to assist aspiring writers to hone their craft."

-Linda Deneroff

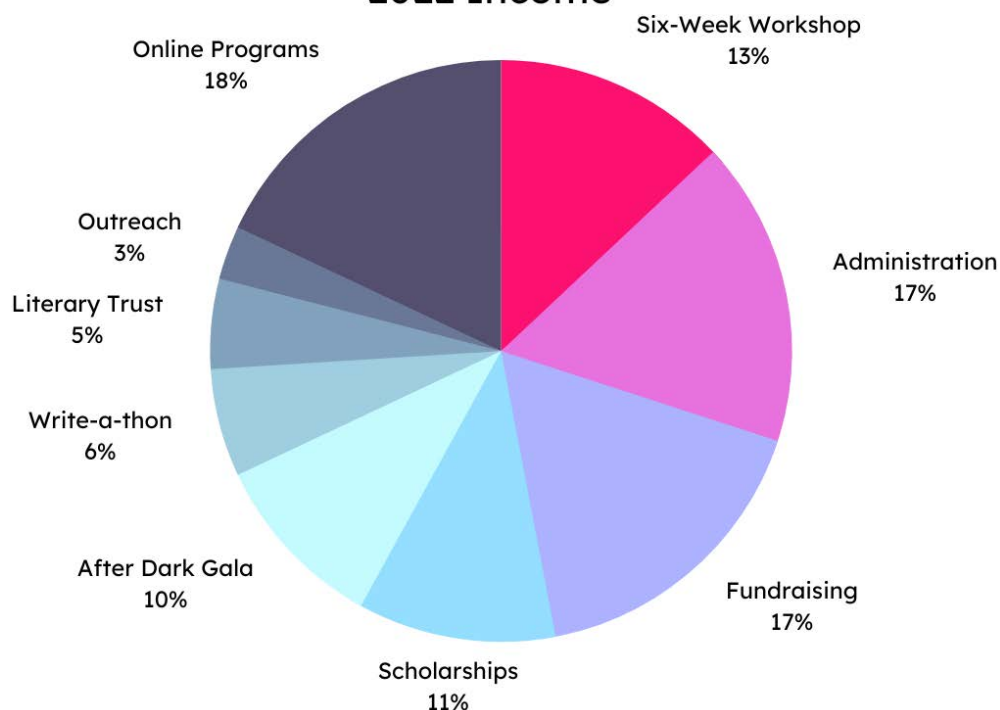
ACCESSIBILITY GOALS



Financials

For the period of January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022

2022 Income



Total 2022 Revenue: \$355,667
Total 2022 Expenses: \$532,968

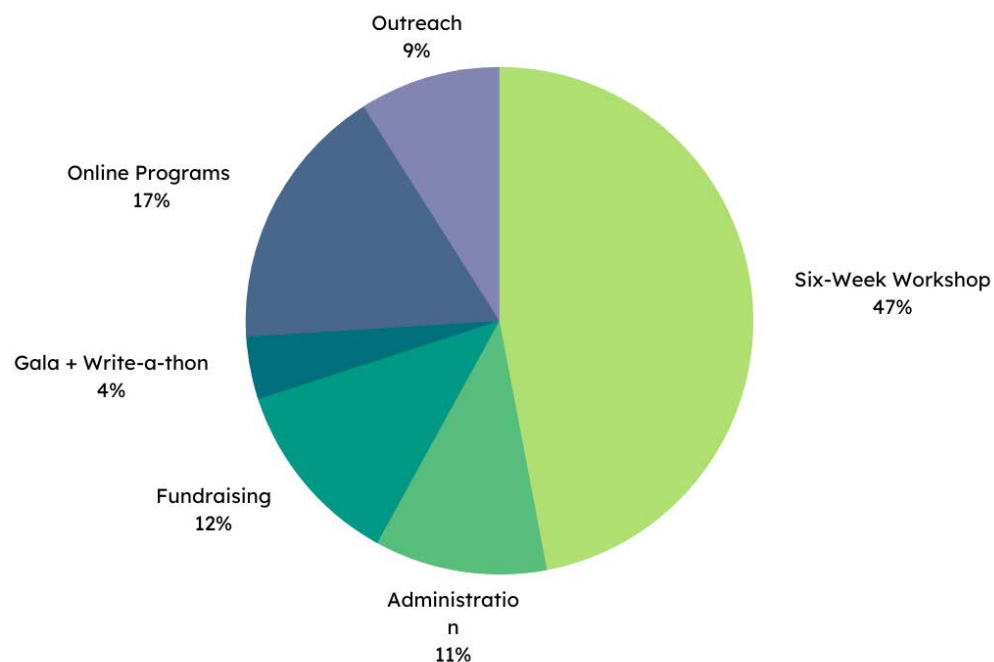
Allocations:

Scholarship funds: \$45,935
 Instructorship funds: \$15,200
 Investment funds toward growth: \$117,906

"I've really really really appreciated these online courses. They've made it easy to learn and easy to access materials, with teachers I'd probably never be able to take classes from otherwise."
 -Ellen Saunders, online class participant

"Clarion West's consistent work toward accessibility, including recording workshops so we can access them after the fact, really makes a difference for those of us not able to access or participate in lots of other classes and programs."
 -Darcey W., Write-a-thon participant

2022 Expenses



Community Partners

These organizations helped provide classes, special programming, hosted events, and more during our 2022 programming!

- Tor.com (Write-a-thon Flash Fiction Workshop sponsor)
- Sistah SciFi & Isis Asare (Write-a-thon Week 1 partner)
- Seattle Urban Book Expo (Write-a-thon Week 2 partner)
- Horror Writers Association (Write-a-thon Week 3 partner)
- Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers Association (Write-a-thon Week 4 partner)
- Take This (Write-a-thon Week 5 partner)
- Two-Hour Transport (Write-a-thon Week 6 partner)
- Town Hall Seattle (Summer reading series)
- Seattle Public Library (Summer reading series)
- University Bookstore (Summer reading series)

Award-Winning Alumni

We congratulate our alumni for their 2022 accomplishments! (As reported by alumni, does not constitute a full list.)

Nebula Award nominees

Best Novella:

Eugenia Triantafyllou ('19) "The Giants of the Violet Sea"

Best Novelette:

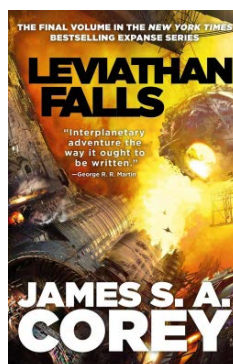
P.H. Lee ('22) "Just Enough Rain"

Caroline M. Yoachim ('06) "Colors of the Immortal Palette"

Hugo Award winner

Best Dramatic Presentation, Short Form:

Daniel Abraham ('98) The Expanse: "Nemesis Games"



Hugo Award nominees

Best Novelette:

Caroline M. Yoachim ('06) "Colors of the Immortal Palette"

Best Editor, Short Form: Sheree Renée Thomas ('99)

Locus Award nominees

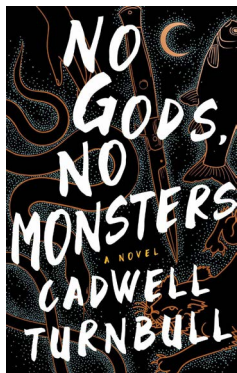
Science Fiction Novel:

Daniel Abraham ('98) (James S.A. Corey) *Leviathan Falls*

Cat Rambo ('05) *You Sexy Thing*

Fantasy Novel:

Cadwell Turnbull ('16) *No Gods, No Monsters*



Thomas ('99)

Ignyte Award nominees

Best Short Story:

Kel Coleman ('22) "Delete Your First Memory For Free"

Best in Creative Nonfiction:

Monte Lin ('19) "Where Will You Place

Us When We Are Dead?"

Best Novelette:

Caroline M. Yoachim ('06) "Colors of the Immortal Palette"

An Owomoyela ('08) "The Equations of the Dead"

Best Anthology/Collected Works:

Usman T. Malik ('13) *Midnight Doorways: Fables from Pakistan*

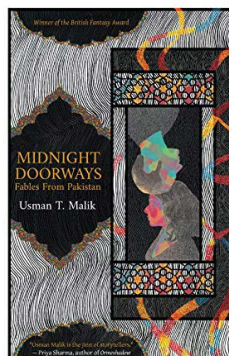
The Ember Award:

Sheree Renée Thomas ('13)

The Community Award:

Michael Matheson ('14) *Anathema* magazine

Chinelo Onwualu ('14) *Anathema* magazine



Washington State Book Award winner

Fiction:

E. Lily Yu ('13) *On Fragile Waves*

Rhysling Award nominee

Best Long Poem:

Colleen Anderson ('87) "Cinnabar" and "Topsy Turvy"

National Poetry Series nominee

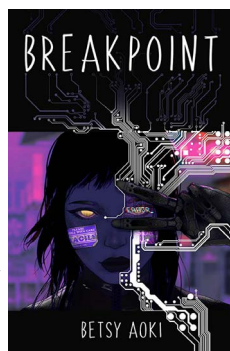
Betsy Aoki ('16) *Breakpoint*

Patricia Bibby First Book Award winner

Betsy Aoki ('16) *Breakpoint*

Whiting Award winner

Nana Nkweti ('15) "Night Becomes Us"



Best Science Fiction and Fantasy 2022

Caroline M. Yoachim ('06) "Colors of the Immortal Palette"

Justin C. Key ('15) "The Algorithm Will See You Now"

Kel Coleman ('22) "Delete Your First Memory For Free"

Rich Larson ('14) "Tripping Through Time"

Commonwealth Short Story Prize winner

Alexandra Manglis ('17) "Losing Count"

World Fantasy Award winner

Collection:

Usman T. Malik ('13) *Midnight Doorways: Fables from Pakistan*

World Fantasy Award nominee

Short Fiction:

Usman T. Malik ('13) "#Spring Love, ➡

Alumni Achievements

by the numbers 2022*

56 Short stories

7 Flash fiction stories

12 Novels

2 Novellas

3 Novelettes

52 Awards/nominations

1 Audiobook

1 Fiction podcast series

3 Short story collections

26 Poems

2 Poetry collections

1 Poetry anthology

2 Nonfiction books

1 Essay

2 Video games

2 Table-top games

1 Interview

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

Award-Winning Alumni, cont.

#Pichal Pairi”

Varsha Dinesh ('22)

“The Demon Sage’s Daughter”

Special Award – Professional:

Sheree Renée

Thomas ('13) for editing F&SF

Washington Science Fiction Association Small Press Award for Short Fiction nominees

Elly Bangs ('17) “Space Pirate Queen of the Ten Billion Utopias”

Steve Miller ('73) (co-authored with Sharon Lee) “Standing Orders”

Adam Shannon ('17) “A Stranger Goes Ashore”

Kristina Ten ('19) “Fisherman’s Soup”

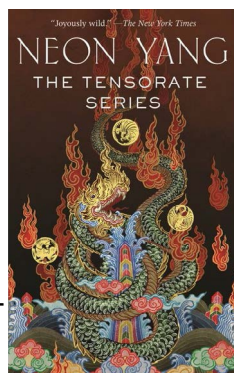
Prix Aurora Award for Best Short Story winner

Phoebe Barton ('19) “The Mathematics of Fairyland”

Lambda Literary Award

LGBTQ Speculative Fiction:

Cadwell Turnbull ('16) *No Gods, No Monsters*



Lambda Literary Award nominee

Neon Yang ('13) *The Tensorate Series*

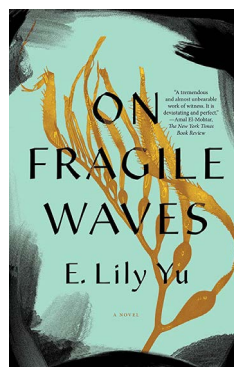
MacDowell Fellowship awardee

M.L. Krishnan ('19)

Coppice Prize

Honorable Mention:

M.L. Krishnan ('19)



Shirley Jackson nominee

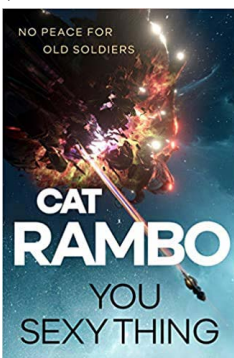
Best Novel:

Cadwell Turnbull ('16) *No Gods, No Monsters*

Short Fiction:

Carlie St. George ('12) “Forward, Victoria”

Gordon B. White ('17) “Gordon B. White is Creating Haunting Weird Horror”



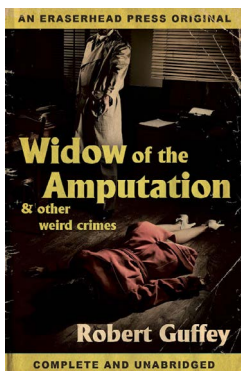
UNESCO City of Literature Writer in Residence

Georgina Kamsika ('12)

Wonderland Book Award nominee

Best Collection:

Robert Guffey ('96) *Widow of the Amputation and other Weird Crimes*



Canada Council for the Arts Research and Creation grantee

Yilin Wang ('21)

Tafseer Chapbook Prize winner

Yilin Wang ('21) *The Lantern and the Night Moths*

“Clarion West was one of the most generative and insightful experiences I’ve had the privilege to participate in as a writer, an opportunity made possible for me by the Blue Corn Scholarship. Being able to focus on refining my voice, push the boundaries of my creative vision, and then receive razor-sharp feedback from a variety of storytellers with a vast range of perspectives was beyond rewarding.”

-Sloane Leong (CW '22), Blue Corn Scholar

“As a Hispanic writer, and possibly the first Dominican to attend the six-week program, I am extremely thankful to Clarion West and my cohort for embracing my writing style with all its *sazón* and *Spanglish*.”

-Alex V. Cruz (CW '22), Flores Scholar

“It is my hope that The Flores Scholarship not only opens the door for more Latinx/e voices to enter SFFH spaces, but also for them to make a tremendous splash and leave their mark on the genre.”

-Isabel Cañas (CW '18), Flores Scholarship donor

Seeking new board members!

We’re always looking to expand the Board of Directors, with a particular emphasis on budgeting, fundraising, human resources, event management, and help executing the new strategic plan. We are aware that many barriers to accessing our community exist, especially for writers of the Global Majority, or those identifying as Black, Indigenous, or People of Color (BIPOC). We believe that these communities must be centered in the work we do. Hence, we encourage interest from people with these identities or who are members of other marginalized communities. If you are interested in learning more about board membership, please contact Marnee Chua (director@clarionwest.org). We’re open to those outside the Seattle area.

Got other skills?

We welcome editors, online instructors, housing and space resources, and donations! Feel free to reach out, we’d love to hear from you!