

Laura S. McKee

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EDUCATION

2007-2009	Stanford University	Wallace Stegner Fellowship
2005	University of Maryland	M.F.A, Creative Writing/Poetry
2002	University of Tennessee, Chattanooga	B.A. Humanities/Writing

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2023-present	University of Georgia (UGA) , Coordinator of Writing Across the Curriculum, Academic Professional Associate, English Dept.
2018-2023	Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) , Lecturer II (promoted in 2022)/Lecturer I, Writing Rhetoric and Professional Communication(WRAP)/Comparative Media/Studies.
2018	Emory University , Visiting Lecturer in Poetry, Creative Writing Program.
2013-2018	University of West Georgia (UWG) , Lecturer (promoted in 2018)/Instructor; Co-director STEM-to-STEAM Composition Program.

AREAS OF INTEREST

Narrative poetry and hybrid poetic genres
Explorations of science and technology in contemporary literature (poetry, fiction, nonfiction)
Contemporary Southern and Appalachian literature (poetry, fiction, nonfiction)
Creative Writing, STEM/STEAM writing, and First Year Writing pedagogies
Writing across the Curriculum/Writing in the Disciplines
Collaborative teaching, especially in interdisciplinary contexts

PUBLICATIONS

Book

2023	<i>Creature, Wing, Heart, Machine</i> , Winner of Zone 3 Press (Austin Peay State University), First Book Award in Poetry, selected by Tiana Clark
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Poetry

2022	“Alva Wants to Open the Spam Email Because the Subject Says ‘My Dear,’” <i>Zone 3</i>
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2022 "Alva and Thistle," *Zone 3*
 2020 "Alva and the Ode to a Punching Bag," *Massachusetts Review*
 2020 "Alva Watches the Previous President Fly Away," *Narrative*
 2020 "Alva and the Magnetic Resonance," *Michigan Quarterly Review*
 2019 "Midnight Cowboy Always Makes Her Cry," *Narrative*
 2019 "Alva and the Beast," *Fusion Magazine*, Berklee College of Music
 2019 "The Birth of Alva," *Cincinnati Review*
 2019 "21st Century Nature Beast," *Muse/A*
 2019 "Alva and the Asteroid," *Muse/A*
 2018 "Alva and the Fishermen," *New Madrid*
 2018 "On Getting Dumped in the Desert," *New Madrid*
 2017 "Alva Goes to the Neuro-Ophthalmologist," *EuropeNow Journal*
 2016 "In the Taxi," *Natural Bridge*
 2016 "The Broken Heart is a Bridge," *Natural Bridge*
 2016 "Cocktail," *Copper Nickel*
 2016 "Morning," *Connotation Press*
 2016 "Parking Lot Pastoral," *Connotation Press*
 2016 "Alva and the Soldier's Letter," *Connotation Press*
 2016 "Alva's Prayer," *Connotation Press*
 2016 "Spy Sonnet: Samaritan," *Madcap Review*
 2016 "Spy Sonnet: Border Crossing," *Madcap Review*
 2016 "Spy Sonnet: Gravity," *Madcap Review*
 2016 "Story," *Chattahoochee Review*
 2016 "Alva and the Complex Pool," *The Georgia Review*
 2015 "Parable of the Sleepwalker," *Crazyhorse*
 2015 "Wing," *Grist*
 2015 "Alva the Mockingbird," *Birmingham Poetry Review*
 2015 "Alva and the Field," *Birmingham Poetry Review*
 2014 "Portrait of Vanishing Woman," *Oversound*
 2014 "Postcards from the Demilitarized Zone," *RealPoetik*
 2014 "Shark's Tooth," *Blackbird*
 2014 "Company Town," *Blackbird*
 2014 "Adam at the Garden's Edge," *Blackbird*
 2014 "Alva and the Blackbird," *Appalachian Heritage*
 2014 "The Creek," *Appalachian Heritage*
 2013 "Wave" (prose poem), *New England Review Digital*
 2012 "Sunday Morning, 1918," *The Louisville Review*
 2012 "Passing Beek-Elsloo," *The Louisville Review*
 2012 "Cathedral Radio," *B O D Y*

2012	"Landscape with Cain and Abel," <i>B O D Y</i>
2012	"Medusa's Boredom," <i>B O D Y</i>
2012	"Dead Giveaway," <i>Ninth Letter</i>
2012	"The Anatomical Heart," <i>Ninth Letter</i>
2011	"Notes on the Healthy Mind," <i>Gulf Coast</i>
2010	"Spy Sonnet: Alias," <i>Indiana Review</i>
2009	"Chattanooga," <i>New South</i>
2009	"The Marine," <i>The Rumpus</i>

Essays and Reviews

2017	Book Review: "Howell's <i>American Purgatory</i> proves to be haunting dystopian poetry," <i>ArtsATL</i>
2014	Essay: "Ordinary Eros," <i>Blackbird</i>
2011	Essay: "You Can't Go Home Again," <i>The HillVille</i>
2009	Essay: "Pow'r," <i>The Owls</i>
2009	Theater Review: "War Music," <i>The Rumpus</i>
2008	Book Review: "Rae Armantrout's <i>Next Life</i> ," <i>Mantis: A Journal of Poetry and Translation</i>

Fiction

2017	"Lullwater: Chapter One," <i>B O D Y</i>
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Multimedia/Artistic Collaborations

2019	"The Alva Album" with sound design by Ben Williams, <i>Category: Other Podcast</i>
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Reprinted Work and Work in Translation

2025	"Alva and the Magnetic Resonance," and "Alva on Getting Dumped in the Desert," <i>Objects in This Mirror, An Anthology of Legacy</i> , eds. Danielle Hanson and Julia Beach, Press 53
2019	"Alva Goes to the Neuro-Ophthalmologist," <i>Strane</i> , translated by Mirza Purić into BCS (Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian)
2017	"Border Crossing," <i>Best of the Net 2017</i> , ed. Eduardo C. Corral, Sundress Press
2017	"Medusa's Boredom" and "Parable of the Sleepwalker," <i>Bona</i> (literary magazine based in Sarajevo), translated by Selma Asotić and Zerina Zahirović into BCS
2017	"Alva and the Complex Pool," <i>Best New Poets Anthology 2016</i> , ed. Mary Syzbist, University of Virginia Press

- 2015 “Alva Considers the Valley” (originally “Sunday Morning, 1918”), *Nema Magazin* (a BCS journal of international writing)
- 2012 “The Marine,” *The Rumpus Original Poetry Anthology*, ed. Brian Spears

Works in Progress

“Reliquary” (working title): A novel set in both 8th-century Europe and the near future that explores the early holy relic trade and the rise of technocracies in the 21st century.

“Minor Goddess” (working title): A collection of poems focused on mythology, motherhood, technology, and the environment.

RECENT TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

UGA, Coordinator of Writing Across the Curriculum:

Work closely with two writing programs, The Writing Intensive Program (WIP) and The Jill and Marvin Willis Center for Writing (UGA’s writing center), to support programmatic and curricular initiatives focused on enhancing student writing and writing instruction across campus.

- Design and teach courses in science writing and writing pedagogy
- Facilitate curriculum development and collaborations that support STEM writers and writing
- Foster collaborations between units and programs across campus to support writing across the curriculum
- Explore opportunities to bring STEM and the Humanities into conversation and support cross-disciplinary collaborations and conversations
- Mentor graduate students in writing program administration, writing workshop development, and writing pedagogy best practices.
- Develop and lead writing workshops for multiple disciplines and writing genres
- Coordinate writing center staff and workshop schedules and manage a number of writing center logistics, events, and communications

Courses taught:

- ENGL 3860W: Science Writing for General Audiences (designed for English and STEM majors)
- WIPP 7001: Pedagogy of Writing in the Disciplines

MIT, Lecturer II/Lecturer I:

Developed curriculum and taught writing and communication focused classes and lab sections within STEM courses in collaboration with MIT faculty.

Courses collaboratively taught:

- Product Engineering Processes (Mechanical Engineering)
- Measurement and Instrumentation (Mechanical Engineering)

- Design of Electromechanical Robotic Systems (Mechanical Engineering/Ocean Engineering)
- Advanced Undergraduate Research (Computer Science/Electrical Engineering)
- Computer System Engineering (Computer Science/Electrical Engineering)
- Robotic Manipulation (Computer Science/Electrical Engineering)
- Robotics: Science and Systems (Computer Science/Electrical Engineering)
- Analog Electronics Lab (Computer Science/Electrical Engineering)
- Structure of Materials (Materials Science and Engineering)
- Thermodynamics of Materials (Materials Science and Engineering)

**University of West Georgia Co-director of STEM-to-STEAM Composition Program;
Instructor/Lecturer:**

Co-directed interdisciplinary STEM-to-STEAM (STEM + the Arts) composition program: a partnership between the English Department and the College of Science and Mathematics to improve writing and humanistic, critical thinking for students majoring in STEM fields.

- Designed and taught courses in first-year writing, creative writing, literature, and STEAM-focused first-year writing.
- Co-led team of faculty focused on pedagogical innovation and writing curriculum for STEM majors and first-year writing.
- Faculty writing consultant in the University Writing Center for undergraduate and graduate students across disciplines.

Courses taught:

- English 1101 and 1102: Introduction to Composition (both literature and STEAM-focused sections)
- Introduction to Creative Writing

ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Maryland University College—Europe, Adjunct Assistant Prof., 2006-2014.
Instructor of composition, literature, and creative writing courses for US servicemen and women. Taught face-to-face classes (2006-2007) on US and NATO military bases in the Netherlands and Germany; taught online (2007-2014) for members stationed worldwide through UMUC-Europe's Distance Education program.

Courses taught:

- English 101 and 102
- Introduction to Creative Writing
- Advanced Expository Writing; Modern Poetry
- Introduction to Writing

Georgia Gwinnett College, English Instructor. 2012-2013.

- Taught Introduction to Academic Writing I and II
- Writing tutor across the curriculum for undergraduates in the Writing Center

Stanford University, Instructor, Creative Writing, Continuing Studies Program. 2009-2011.

Courses taught:

- Finding Your Form: An Introduction to Creative Writing
- Writing the Great Poem (online)
- Creative Nonfiction: How to Tell the Story
- Introduction to Creative Nonfiction: Telling the Stories of Your Life
- In Fine Form: An Introduction to Poetry, Fiction, and Creative Nonfiction.

Stanford University, Teaching Assistant. 2009.

Leader of weekly discussion groups for sophomore-level literature course Masterpieces of Contemporary Literature.

Stanford University, Levinthal Tutorial Fellow. 2008-2009.

Led independent studies in creative writing (poetry) with Stanford undergraduates.

Stanford University, Education Program for Gifted Youth (EPGY), Writing Instructor. 2008

Instructor of 2-week Creative Writing course (poetry, fiction, nonfiction) for middle-school students in Seoul, South Korea.

Institut Universitaire de Formation des Maîtres, Language Assistant. 2005-2006

Lead Instructor of conversational English classes for student teachers training to teach in the French public school system.

- Developed curriculum and led classes in basic English conversation skills and English pedagogy in Châteauroux, France.

University of Maryland, Graduate Teaching Assistant. 2004-2005.

Instructor of record for first-year writing and creative writing courses.

Courses taught:

- Introduction to Academic Writing
- Introduction to Creative Writing (fiction, nonfiction, and poetry)
- Poetry Workshop

HONORS, GRANTS, AND RESIDENCIES

2025	Hambidge Center for the Creative Arts and Sciences, Writing Residency
2023	Zone 3 Press Poetry Book Award Winner, Judge: Tiana Clark
2022	St. Botolph Club Foundation Emerging Artist Award in Literature (\$3000)
2022	Mass Cultural Council Artist Fellowship Grant in Poetry (\$5000)
2022	Ghost Peach Press Book Prize: Finalist
2021	Copper Nickel Jake Adam York Book Prize in Poetry: Semi-finalist
2019	Hambidge Center for the Creative Arts and Sciences Writing Residency Fellow
2019	University of Wisconsin Press Poetry Series' Brittingham and Felix Pollak Book Prizes: Semi-finalist
2019	Palette Poetry Prize: Finalist

2018	Orison Book Prize in Poetry: Semi-finalist
2018	Virginia Center for the Creative Arts Writing Residency Fellow Vermont Studio Center Writing Residency
2018	Vermont Studio Center Writing Residency
2018	Orison Book Prize in Poetry: Finalist
2016	Martha Saunders Excellence in Teaching Writing Award, University of West Georgia
2015	Sewanee Writers Conference Tennessee Williams Scholar, University of the South
2015	Hub City Press: New Southern Voices Poetry Book Prize: Finalist
2014	Crab Orchard Series in Poetry Open Competition: Finalist
2014	Crab Orchard Series First Book Competition: Finalist
2013	Hub City Press New Southern Voices Poetry Book Prize: Finalist
2012	Sound Archives Research Fellowship, Berea College
2010	Dorothy Sargent Rosenberg Memorial Poetry Prize
2006	Bread Loaf Writing Conference Waiter Scholarship
2005	Folger Shakespeare Library Lannan Fellow
2003-2005	MFA Program Graduate Fellow, University of Maryland
2003	Girls Incorporated of Chattanooga Fellow (developed and taught writing program curriculum for middle-school girls and assisted in organizing Community Conversation on Serving Girls Conference)

SELECTED PUBLIC READINGS

2024	PT Knitwear (featured reader with live sound design by Ben Williams), NY, NY.
2024	Charis Bookstore Poetry Showcase (featured reader), Atlanta, GA.
2024	Carmichael's (featured reader in conversation with Erin Keane), Louisville, KY.
2024	A Celebration of Georgia Poets (featured reader), Georgia Center for the Book, Decatur Library, Decatur, GA.
2024	<i>Birmingham Poetry Review</i> Online Poetry Series (featured reader), Zoom.
2024	Malaprops Bookstore (feature readers), Asheville, NC
2023	Brookline Booksmith, (featured reader), Boston, MA
2023	The Generalist/Atlas Books (featured reader), Johnson City, TN
2023	Avid Bookshop Poetry Series (featured reader), Athens, GA
2023	Bookish (featured reader), Atlanta, GA
2023	Book Launch Celebration and Reading with Tiana Clark (featured reader) Austen Peay State University, Clarksville, TN
2022	William Corbett Poetry Series (featured reader), MIT
2022	St. Botolph Club Foundation Emerging Artist Award Reception (reader), Boston, MA
2019	Blacksmith Poetry Series (featured reader), Cambridge, MA
2019	Word Barn (featured reader), Exeter, NH
2018	Vermont Studio Center Fellow Reading (featured reader), Johnson, VT
2017	<i>B O D Y</i> Journal Reading (featured reader), Shakespeare & Sons Bookstore, Prague, Czech Republic
2016	Third Thursday Poetry Series (featured reader), Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art, Auburn University

- 2015 Avid Bookstore Reading Series (featured reader), Athens, GA
- 2014 University of West Georgia Creative Writing Reading Series (featured reader),
Underground Books, Carrollton, GA
- 2014 *The Georgia Review* Reading Series (featured reader), The Globe, Athens, GA
- 2013 *Oversound Journal*/University of South Carolina MFA Program Reading (featured
reader), Columbia, SC
- 2013 New Southern Voices (featured reader), Hub City Writers Project, Spartanburg, SC
- 2012 Voices from the Past (reading and presentation of archival research), Berea College
Sound Archives
- 2009 Great Overland Book Co. Poetry Series (featured reader), San Francisco, CA
- 2008 Stegner Reading Series (featured reader), Stanford University
- 2006 Bread Loaf Writers' Conference (waiter-scholar reading), Middlebury College
- 2005 Grace Church Poetry Series (reader), Washington DC

INTERVIEWS AND PRESS

- 2025 "Review of *Creature, Wing, Heart, Machine* by L.S. McKee," Danielle Hanson,
Cider Press Review, Fall 2025
- 2024 Review: "Creature, Wing, Heart, Machine," Kate Hanson Foster, *Birmingham Poetry
Review*, Spring 2024.
- 2024 *Lock the Quill Podcast* with Daniel Braunstein, (MIT Pappalardo Lab, Dept. of
Mechanical Engineering), "Talking with the Engineer about Poetry: L.S. McKee on
Creature, Wing, Heart, Machine," MIT.
- 2024 *Plain Reading Podcast* with Katy Scrogin, "Epics, Personas, and Writing Across the
Disciplines with L.S. McKee."
- 2024 "Sometimes it sings a silent, canary-throated song: A Conversation with L.S. McKee
about Creature, Wing, Heart, Machine," *Tupelo Quarterly*, September 2024 issue.
- 2023 "Poet L.S. McKee explores tensions of love in an era of AI and technology," Beth
Ward, *ArtsATL*
- 2023 "In Collapse There is Light: Three new collections illuminate times of
transformation," Emily Choate, *Chapter 16* (Tennessee Humanities Council)
- 2023 "New Work by NER authors, Fall 2024 (Part One)," *New England Review*
- 2020 "Ten Questions with L.S. McKee," *Massachusetts Review*
- 2018 "Instructor Invited to Hone Craft at Residency," University of West Georgia Faculty
Spotlight , UWG Newsletter
- 2016 *The Writer' Block*, Episode 51 (radio interview), July 2016, Auburn University
- 2009 *Stanford Storytelling Project* (radio interview), Episode 207: "Questions of
Travel," Stanford University

CONFERENCES AND LITERARY FESTIVALS

- 2025 International Writing Across the Curriculum Conference (IWAC), Panel: "Writing
Programs as Flexible Collaborative," Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO
- 2025 UGA Active Learning Summit, Panel: "The Power of Peer Review: Improving
Writing and Critical Thinking, University of Georgia, Athens, GA

2025	Clemson Literary Festival (featured reader), Clemson University, Clemson, SC
2024	Decatur Book Festival, Poetry Panel (featured reader), Georgia Center for the Book, Decatur Library, Decatur, GA
2024	Meacham Writers' Conference, (featured reader), University of TN at Chattanooga
2024	Birdcoat Quarterly Offsite Reading (featured reader), AWP Conference, Kansas City, MO
2021	Engaging Practices Conference (workshop co-leader), "Our (not so) Subtle Social Justice Praxis: How to Navigate Constraints to Make Actionable Change," University of Massachusetts, Boston
2019	BRAWN (Boston Rhetoric and Writing Network) Summer Institute, attended workshops, including "Practices that Facilitate Future Learning from Current Knowledge: Fostering 'Transfer' as Rhetorical Flexibility" with Christian Donahue and "Advancing the Narrative: Writing for STEM" with Deanne Harper
2019	<i>Muse/A Journal</i> Association of Writers and Writing Programs (AWP) Conference Off-site Reading (featured reader)
2017	Decatur Book Festival (panel moderator), "Tales of the Backcountry Rivers: Taylor Brown and Scott Gould," Decatur, GA
2016	Interdisciplinary Humanities Conference (reader and panelist), "Alva and the Beast: Generational Intersections in the Persona Poem," University of West Georgia
2016	University System of Georgia STEM SUMMIT (presenter), "STEAM English: Innovations in Composition Pedagogy," Middle Georgia State University
2016	Innovations in Pedagogy Conference (panelist), "STEM to STEAM: Supporting Student Composition and Creativity across Disciplinary Boundaries," University of West Georgia
2003	Community Conversation on Serving Girls in the Tennessee Valley (assistant organizer), Chattanooga, TN
2000-2003	Meacham Writers' Conference (assistant organizer), University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

SERVICE

University of Georgia

2025-2026	Faculty Learning Community, "Climate Change Across the Curriculum"
2024	Futures of Writing presenter and participant, day-long conference during Maymester to discuss and support writing initiatives and collaborations at UGA
2023-2024	Faculty Learning Community, Center for Teaching and Learning, "Teaching TAs to TA"
2023-present	UGA Futures of Writing Working Group (formerly Writing Working Group), The Office of the Vice President for Instruction

MIT

2023	Judge for Karmel Writing Prizes: Robert A. Boit Writing Prize in Short Fiction
2022	Judge for Karmel Writing Prizes: Robert A. Boit Writing Prize in Short Fiction

2021	Scorer for Summer Freshman Entrance Exam
2021	Judge for Karmel Writing Prizes: Robert A. Boit Writing Prize in Short Fiction
2021	Judge for Karmel Writing Prizes: Rebecca Blevins Faery Prize for Undergraduate Autobiographical Essay
2021	Presenter to WRAP staff (summarized research relevant to WRAP's pedagogy and curriculum from the Rice Visual Rhetoric Symposium)
2020	Host and online workshop facilitator for 2.009 Ideas Fair with MIT Mechanical Engineering students and a representative from the Harvard Art Museum
2020	Discussion coordinator for MIT WRAP Program Summer Anti-Racist Reading and Pedagogical Discussion Group (coordinated discussion on bell hooks)
2020	Scorer for Summer Freshman Entrance Exam
2020	Scorer for Summer Graduate Writing Make-Up Exam
2020	Judge for Karmel Writing Prizes: Robert A. Boit Writing Prize in Short Fiction
2020	Judge for Karmel Writing Prizes: Rebecca Blevins Faery Prize for Undergraduate Autobiographical Essay
2020	Judge for Karmel Writing Prizes: Boit Manuscript Poetry Prize
2020	Judge for Karmel Writing Prizes: Ellen King Prize for First-Year Writing
2020	Workshop presenter, CMS/W Online Pedagogy (team planning and meetings with CMS/W faculty during transition to online teaching. Presented my experience with asynchronous online teaching during spring break)
2020	Session moderator, IAP Pleasure of Poetry (led discussion on two robotics-focused poems: Jill McDonough's "The Rise and Fall of Robots" and Franny Choi's "Turing Test_Love")
2020	Developer and leader, IAP Workshop: Innovative Language and Poetry (explored figurative language in poetry to enhance writing across genres and disciplines)
2019	Judge for Karmel Writing Prizes: Robert A. Boit Writing Prize in Short Fiction
2019	Judge for Karmel Writing Prizes: Rebecca Blevins Faery Prize for Undergraduate Autobiographical Essay for Inaugural Autobiographical Essay Prize
2019	Host to speakers from Harvard Art Museum, 2.009 Ideas Fair
2019	Scorer for Summer and Fall Freshman Entrance Exam
2019	Scorer for Summer Graduate Writing Exam

University of West Georgia

2018	Faculty Team Leader, EPIC Program (English Pathways in Integrated Curriculum) in First-Year Writing, University of West Georgia. Faculty leader in redesigning all first-year writing (FYW) curriculum through an interdisciplinary lens; co-wrote and developed (on a small team) new standard department rubrics for all major essay assignments and developed standards for FYW assignment design, including multimodal assignments; led a team of new EPIC faculty in collaborative pedagogical practices
2015	Presentation to COSM (College of Science and Mathematics) faculty of STEM to STEAM initiatives and pedagogy, University of West Georgia

Literary and Arts Organizations

2021	Judge, Poetry Residency Committee, Hambidge Center for Creative Arts & Sciences
2019	Judge, 2018 Plattner Award in Poetry, <i>Appalachian Review</i>
2016	Reader and organizer, The Borders Project Reading (gathered work from literary collaboration between Sarajevo Writers Workshop and Narrative Collective), The Goat Farm Arts Center, Atlanta, GA
2015	Reader and organizer, Narrative Collective Reading/Launch, The Goat Farm Arts Center, Atlanta, GA
2015-2019	Cofounder, Narrative Collective literary arts organization and writers' collective, sponsored by grant from the Goat Farm, a premier visual arts and performing arts space in Atlanta. Narrative Collective fostered the work of serious, regional writers, while building a vibrant literary community that engaged collaboratively with artists and writers in Atlanta, Sarajevo, and Boston
2008-2009	Coordinator, Wallace Stegner Fellow Reading Series, Stanford University
2004-2005	Coordinator, Graduate Reading Series, University of Maryland