

## *Curriculum Vitae*

**TC Tolbert, MFA, WEMT**

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### **Professional Profile**

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- Tucson Poet Laureate, April 2017-April 2020
- Writer in Residence, Pratt Institute. 2019-2020.
- Accomplished trans, genderqueer, and queer poet demonstrating consistent publishing history with multiple national presses. Deeply immersed in the field of trans\* and genderqueer poetry and poetics.
- Dedicated teacher and innovator in the classroom. Excels in curriculum development, student-centered and dialogic pedagogy, experiential learning, and creating an inclusive, expansive, equitable, and just learning environment.
- Collaborator and community builder. Committed to working and learning across disciplines and building bridges between people and ideas previously unimagined.
- Literary arts non-profit administrator. Seasoned in conceiving and building programs from the ground up. Extensive background of community collaboration and cross-cultural dialogue specifically related to youth, the arts, trans embodiment, and social justice.

### **Education**

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- Wilderness E.M.T., Wilderness Medicine Institute, 2018. National Certification.
- E.M.T., Pima Community College, 2017. Arizona and National Certification.
- M.F.A., Creative Writing: Poetry, 2005, University of Arizona.
- B.A., English, minor in History, *Magna Cum Laude*, 1998, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

### **Research and Writing Interests**

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- Trans and genderqueer poetry and poetics, with an emphasis on formal choices made in relation to trans and genderqueer subjectivities.
- Trans and genderqueer literary and cultural studies, specifically read through critical race theory, queer theory, feminist theory, and affect theory.
- Trans and queer spiritualities alongside grief and necropolitics.
- Intersectional feminism with specific focus on dismantling white supremacy, colonialism, toxic masculinity, and cis-heteronormativity.
- Compositional Improvisation and its relationship to trans embodiment, research, epistemology, and ontology.
- Interdisciplinary approaches to writing and reading, with an emphasis on radical liberated embodiment, community building, cross-cultural engagement, and intimacy in public space.
- Vulnerability, experimentation, failure, risk.

### **Publications: Books and chapbooks**

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- *Turning to bear the last leaves of stargazer fall*. Phoenix: Rinky Dink Press, 2018.
- *Conditions/Conditioning* (collaboratively written with Jen Hofer). Colorado Springs: New

Lights Press, 2014.

- *I:Not He:Not I*. Milwaukee: Pitymilk Press, 2014.
- *Gephyromania*. Boise: Ahsahta Press, 2014.
- *spirare*. New York: Belladonna Press, 2012.
- *territories of folding*. Tucson: Kore Press, 2011.

### Publications: Collections

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- *Troubling the Line: Trans and Genderqueer Poetry and Poetics*, co-edited with Trace Peterson. New York: Nightboat Books, 2013. Lambda Literary Award Finalist.
- *Evening Will Come: A monthly journal of poetics*, Issue 24, December 2012. *Trans/Queer Issue*.

### Selected Publications: Poems and Essays

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- “This is what you are missing, Melissa,” “What I told you while the keys,” “Dear Melissa – for Liz,” and “In someone else’s house” in *American Poetry Review*, 2019.
- “Dear Melissa (on each body)” and “Felo-de-se Melissa” in *The Nation*, 2019.
- “Dear Melissa – who has never been holy” in *Colorado Review*, 2019.
- “Evidence of Weather” and “6.9.18” in *Tusculum Review*, 2019.
- Selections from *Word Problems* and “Dear Melissa” in *READING QUEER: POETRY IN A TIME OF CHAOS*, Anhinga Press 2018.
- “Dear Melissa – I wish you” featured in Academy of American Poets Poem-A-Day, March 21, 2018.
- “Because here,” “Consequence,” “This is an attempt to not move,” and “Dear Melissa – No” in *The Equalizer*, 2018.
- “Twenty Years Later” poetry and collage, in *Thresholds Journal*, 2018.
- Five haiku from the series, “Mo(u)rning” in *Morning/Mourning*, Le Petit Press 2018.
- “I got 99 problems but a dick ain’t one” and “Buttress” in *Electric Gurlisque*, Saturnalia Press 2018.
- “W n lov g ts cu t” in *The Tiny*, 2017. This poem was nominated for a Pushcart Prize.
- Selections from “Dear Melissa” in *HOLD, A Journal*, 2017.
- Selections from *Word Problems* in *Bettering American Poetry 2015*, Bettering Press, 2017.
- “Poem in search of chemistry” and selections from “the outside that is gathered” in *Small Po[r]tions Literary Journal* 2016.
- “Dear Melissa – a curve billed thrasher” featured in Academy of American Poets Poem-A-Day, May 6, 2016.
- Selections from *Word Problems* in *PEN America: A Journal for Writers and Readers*, Issue #19 Hauntings, 2016.
- “falls in falling made (w)hole” in *Tripwire 10*, Spring 2016.
- Lyric essay selections from *Moving what can be still/moved* in *Macaroni Necklace* 2016.
- “Relationshapes: When We Notice Our Breathing, We Quiet It,” in *A Literary Field Guide to the Sonoran Desert*, University of Arizona Press 2016.
- Excerpts from “Word Problems,” *PEN Poetry Series*, selected by Danniell Schoonebeek, 2015.
- “American Apparel,” “Before Place,” “Chrysanthemum,” and “Hanging is a Misnomer” in *Fanzine*, 2015.

- “Discourses of Disaster and How Does It Feel To Be Alive?” “Vena Amoris,” “Buttress,” and “Can I Change?” in *Writing the Walls Down: A Convergence of LGBTQ Voices*, Trans-Genre Press, 2015.
- “From Passing...” *Original Plumbing (OP) #16*, 2015.
- “Untitled: Breathing,” *Bombay Gin 41*, 2015.
- “Betty Skinner,” “Kandy Hall,” and “Terry Golston” in *Sierra Nevada Review*, 2015.
- “held down in a body you are no longer,” *Cream City Review 39.1*, 2015.
- “Artegun Konyale Madden,” “Ashley Sinclair,” and “Diamond Williams” in *1001 (IPRC)* 2015.
- “What are stories made of?” “hold that face,” “Do you believe in god?” and “what were you like as a kid,” in *Hick Poetics*. Lost Roads Press, 2015.
- “On the other side of the wall is a bench: A haibun,” in *Anthology of New American Poets*. Sidebrow Books, 2014.
- “Red, left. Light blue, right. Or, So many ways to say yes” in *The Force of What’s Possible: Avant-Garde Poetics*. Nightboat Books, 2014.
- “Speaking in Tongues” in *The Queer South*. Sibling Rivalry Press, 2014.
- “Buttress,” “shoulder gratitude,” and “Spending Log” in *Stolen Island*, 2014.
- Excerpts from *Exhales: 2008-2012* in *All Accounts and Mixture: Cutbank*. 2014.
- Selections from *What Binds the Body is Blessed* in *Everyday Genius*. 2014.
- Selections from *the littlest death* in *Feminist Formations*. Winter 2013.
- “(a)Bundle, (a)Bridge” in *Emergency Index*. Ugly Duckling Presse, 2013.
- “Who Recognizes This as a Place” in *The Volta*. 2012.
- “When I speak” and “hold that face” in *Dangerous Sweetness*. 2012.
- “Declination Suture” in *glitter tongue*. 2012.
- “with or without accompaniment” in *The Dictionary Project*. 2012.
- “How do you say and when you see end?” and “If Trespassing is Never Outlawed, Who is Shamed?” in *Eleven Eleven*. 2012.
- “What is the formula for a line?” and “Why would a beautiful girl like you want to be nothing but a boring old man?” in *Drunken Boat*. 2011.
- “Tau(gh)t” in *EOAGH*. 2011.
- “A Polar Covalent Bond” in *Courageous Creativity*. 2011.
- “Complimentary” in *Shampoo*. 2010.
- “The Trapping Sessions” in *Jubilat*. 2010.
- Section of *Gephyromania* in *Volt*. 2010.
- “And What of CPR in the 1<sup>st</sup> Place” in *The Pinch*. 2008.
- “The Complete and Normal Failure of Art” and “The Palinode” in *The Drunken Boat*. 2008.
- “Thaw” in *Literature in Unexpected Places*. Kore Press, 2007.

## Works in Progress

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- *Symphysis*. The poems in this collection integrate themes of systemic violence against transgender people with suicidal ideation, sexual abuse, transformation, resilience and transcendence – moving into and beyond the individual and collective death-drive.

## Projects and Cross-Community Collaborations

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- January 2019 Poem-A-Day curator. Academy of American Poets.
- In Our Own Voices producer, KXCI. I am in the process of producing 6 mini-programs related to LGBTQ+ poetry and art for KXCI, Tucson's independent and local radio station, to be aired locally and via nation-wide affiliates in Spring 2019.
- Poetry Off the Page, a monthly community-wide service project I'm curating across Tucson in 2019, in collaboration with UA Poetry Center, that includes Poetry Habitat for Humanity Builds, poetry blood drives with Red Cross, among other service activities.
- Poet's Corner, University of Arizona Poetry Center Educational Blog. Biweekly interviews with poets about revision and process. Fall 2018 - present.
- "Invisibility and Resistance: Violence Against LGBTQIA+ People," installation and exhibit at Jewish History Museum. I consulted on the creation of the exhibit, gave a Gallery talk, and led a docent training related to LGBTQIA+ identities. 2017.
- "A Want Without a Goal," sound installation published on *textsound*. 2014.
- "Speech Acts," a video poetry series featuring trans and genderqueer poets. Produced in collaboration with Noah Saterstrom and published quarterly in *Trickhouse*. 2013-2014.
- *Troubling Tucson: Trans and Genderqueer Poetry Symposium*. Creator and curator for first ever trans and genderqueer poetry symposium, featuring panels, presentations, and readings by CA Conrad, Dawn Lundy Martin, Joy Ladin, Samuel Ace, Ian Ellasante, Rocket, Rae Strozso, Hannah Ensor, and D'lo. 2013.
- "A Modest Proposal," text-based installation and collaboration with Gregory Sale, Phoenix Museum of Art. 2012.
- *Made for Flight*. Creator and director of youth empowerment workshop series that incorporates transgender history, ally development, creative writing, and kite building to commemorate the lives of trans and genderqueer individuals who have been murdered in the last year. 2010-present.
- *Movement Salon*. Compositional improvisation collective featuring 5 modern dancers, 2 musicians, and 2 text-based artists. 2007- present.
- Guest artist, *Literature in Unexpected Places*, Marana High School with Kore Press. 2011.
- Resident artist in *Invisible City*, a site-specific artist laboratory in downtown Tucson's public spaces. 2008.
- Thru-hiker, Appalachian Trail. 2001.

## Honors and Awards

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- Academy of American Poets Laureate Fellowship, 2019.
- Tucson Poet Laureate. Appointed by Mayor Jonathan Rothschild in April 2017.
- Featured as one of the "New American Poets" by Poetry Society of America, 2015.
- *Gephyromania* was selected as one of the "Best Poetry Books of 2014" by *Entropy* and one of the top 5 books of 2014 by Eileen Myles for *The Gay and Lesbian Review*.
- Recognized as one of the top "Literary Advocates of 2014" by *Entropy*.
- Recognized as one of the "Top 100 Trans Possibility Role Models in the US" by GLAAD, 2014.
- New Works Award, Tucson Pima Arts Council. 2014.
- Artist Residency, Byrdcliffe Arts Colony, New York. 2012.

- New Works Award, Tucson Pima Arts Council. 2012.
- Individual Artist Award, Arizona Commission on the Arts. 2012.
- Stanley Feldman Certificate of Honor for Individual Artist in the Community, Human Relations Commission of Tucson. 2011.
- Kurt Hahn Award, Colorado Outward Bound School. 2010.
- 1<sup>st</sup> place, Arizona Statewide Poetry Contest, selected by Linda Russo. 2010.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> runner up, Arizona Statewide Poetry Contest, selected by Olga Broumas. 2006.
- Louis Bernal Photography Award. 2006.
- 1<sup>st</sup> place, Academy of American Poets Award at UA, selected by Matthea Harvey. 2004.

### **Professional Development and Community Outreach Service**

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- In Our Own Voices producer, KXCI. I am in the process of producing 6 mini-programs related to LGBTQ+ poetry and art for KXCI, Tucson's independent, and local radio station, to be aired locally and via nation-wide affiliates in Spring 2019.
- Culturally Responsive Pedagogy, Kore Teaching Institute. 8-hour training. Tucson, AZ. October 2018.
- Brave Hearts LGBTQ Prisoner Benefit and Auction, collaborator and co-organizer. Working with LGBTQ prisoners on the inside and a collective of artists and activists on the outside, we held a benefit reading and auction that raised over \$4000 to go directly to LGBTQ prisoners in Tucson, AZ. Spring 2018.
- Guest judge, Oro Fino Chapbook Competition. Educe Press. Spring 2018.
- "Writing the Open Heart/Writing the Heart Open," a weekend poetry workshop at Pima Community College. Tucson, AZ. March 2018.
- Guest lecturer, Winter Tangerine Queer Writer's Workshop, December 2017.
- PEN Poetry Series guest editor, October 2015 – October 2016.
- Grief Support Leader, Camp Erin Weekend for Grieving Youth, Tu Nidito. October 2016.
- Co-curator, "If Your Body Could Talk, What Would It Say?" Unsilencing Anatomies, October, 2016.
- Planning committee member, International Trans Studies Conference, 2015.
- The Trans Issue of *The Offing*, co-editor, 2015.
- Planning committee member, Black Life Matters Conference, 2014-2015.
- Arts and culture co-editor, *The Feminist Wire*. 2013-present.
- Volunteer facilitator, Camp Born This Way – a weekend retreat for transgender and gender-creative children ages 5-12 and their families. 2012-2014.
- Read Between the Bars, books to prisoners collective member. 2009-2013.
- Guest judge for UA Poetry Center Hattie Lockett Award. 2011.
- Interview Curator, *Trickhouse*. 2010-2012.
- Guest judge for University High School's Poetry Outloud Competition. 2008-2009.
- LULAC Youth Leadership Conference planning committee and writing contest judge. 2007.
- Executive Director Search and Hiring Committee, Wingspan. 2007.
- Youth zine editor and coordinator, Eon/Wingspan. 2007.
- Co-facilitator, Tucson Family Arts Festival with The Poetry Center. 2007.
- Tucson Transgender Awareness Week planning committee. 2006 – 2012.

- Coordinator of Transgender Poetry Reading at the University of Arizona. 2006 and 2007.
- Volunteer Crisis Advocate, Wingspan Anti-Violence Project 24-hour Crisis Line. 2006.
- Volunteer, Eon - LGBTQ youth center. 2004.

### **Professional Presentations/Selected Readings**

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- Guest faculty, Desert Nights, Rising Stars Writers Conference, Arizona State University. Phoenix, AZ. February 2019.
- Keynote, Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets Conference. Stevens Point, WI. November 2018.
- Featured Guest, Commonplace Podcast: Conversations with Poets and Other People, hosted by Rachel Zucker. May 2018.
- Visiting Writer, SUNY-Geneseo. Geneseo, NY. April 2018.
- Visiting Writer, Natalie Diaz's workshop, Arizona State University. Phoenix, AZ. March 2018.
- Featured reader, Lunch Poems, UC Berkeley. February 2018.
- Featured reader, POG, Tucson, Arizona. January 2018.
- Featured reader, Bend Public Library, Bend, Oregon. November 2017.
- "Culpable Ignorance: Surrendering White Innocence." Panelist. Thinking Its Presence Conference, Tucson. 2017.
- Featured reader, Arizona Senior Pride, October 2017.
- Mentor and guest faculty, Lambda Literary Emerging Writers Retreat. Los Angeles, California. August 2017.
- Featured reader, Büro für Bestimmte Dinge, Berlin, Germany. July 2017.
- Visiting Writer, University of Louisville. Louisville, March 2017.
- Keynote speaker, Queering AZ Youth Conference. Phoenix, February 2017.
- Visiting Writer, Reed College. Portland, Oregon. February 2017.
- MFA Colloquium Guest Lecture, Sarah Lawrence College. New York, January 2017.
- Visiting instructor, Manhattan Country Day School. New York, January 2017.
- Featured reader, Segue Reading Series. New York, January 2017.
- Opening reader, Dar Williams at The Rialto. Tucson, 2017.
- Featured reader, Small Press Traffic. San Francisco, California. December 2016.
- Featured reader, Arizona Senior Pride. Tucson. October 2016.
- "Pedagogies of Trans Cultural Production." Panelist. Trans\* Studies International Conference, Tucson. September 2016.
- Poetry roundtable and reading. Trans\* Studies International Conference, Tucson. 2016.
- Weeklong guest teacher, Summer Writing Program, Naropa's Jack Kerouac School of Disembodied Poetics. July 2016.
- Weeklong guest lecturer and chapel speaker, Punahou School. Honolulu, Hawai'i. May 2016.
- Featured reader, Tinfish Press series. Honolulu. May 2016.
- In Whose Image: Trans and Genderqueer Writers on Magic, Spirituality, and the Bodies of G-d. Curator and panelist. AWP, Los Angeles. April 2016.
- "Cunty Faggots – Who Can Say Wut?" Panelist. AWP, Los Angeles. April 2016.
- Keynote Women's History Month and Rosehill Speaker, Lewis-Clark State College, Idaho. March 2016.

- “Attending/To Attend: Failure as the End Where We Start” guest lecture, Gender and Women’s Studies, University of Oregon. 2015.
- “Poetic Embodiments.” Panelist and reader. Somatechnics Open Embodiments Conference, Tucson. April 2015.
- “Literary Production and the Gift Economy.” Panelist. AWP, Minneapolis. April 2015.
- “Radical Improvisation: Detritus, An Opera in Three Acts.” Panel presentation. &Now CalArts. March 2015.
- Featured reader, The Poetry Project, New York City. March 2015.
- Featured reader, Ghosts and Projectors Writing Series, Idaho. December 2014.
- Featured reader, New Writing Series, UCSD. November 2014.
- Featured reader, What Where Series, Naropa. October 2014.
- “Tracing Erasures: A)cross Body Wor(l)ds” presentation. Naropa MFA, October 2014.
- Presenter and featured reader at UNITED Conference, Northern Michigan University. September 2014.
- LGBTQ Graduation Keynote, Northern Arizona University. May 2014.
- Featured reader, New Directions Conference, “[Dis]Embodied Disciplines: Blurring Boundaries in the Academy,” Tucson. April 2014.
- Featured reader, Counterpath. Denver. February 2014.
- Association of Writers and Writing Programs (AWP), Trans and Genderqueer Poetry and Poetics panel. 2013.
- Featured guest reader and lecturer. Pace University. 2012.
- Featured guest reader and lecturer. Houston Technical Community College. 2012.
- Tendencies: Poetics and Practice with Sarah Schulman and D’Lo. CUNY. 2012.
- Performance of *spirare*. \*Belladonna reading series with Juliana Spahr. New York. 2012.
- “Transgender/Transgenre.” Deep Dish Lunchtime Lectures, University of Arizona. 2012.
- Bad Shadow Affair featured reader, Denver. 2011.
- Tucson Lit Press Fest, UA Poetry Center. 2011.
- Tucson Festival of Books, 2011.
- Featured speaker, UA Take Back the Night. 2010 and 2011.
- LGBTQ UA graduation ceremony reading of commissioned poem, “Reclaim.” 2009.
- Reading and performance, *Bent: Subversive Realities in Visual Media*. 2008.
- Reading and performance, POG at the Drawing Studio. 2008.
- “LGBTQ Youth and the Prism Project” conference call training for over 1,000 Center for Substance Abuse Prevention grantees. Co-presenter. 2008.
- “We Belong: LGBTQ Youth and Substance Use Prevention” at the Joint Meeting for Adolescent Treatment Effectiveness (JMATE), Washington, DC. 2008.
- “LGBTQ Youth and The Prism Project” at the International Foundation for Gender Education (IFGE) Conference, Tucson, AZ. 2008.
- Other Voices featured reader, Antigone. 2007.
- EDGE featured reader, Casa Libre. 2007.
- Transgender Awareness Week, opening reader for Kate Bornstein. 2007.
- “We Belong: Homelessness, Substance Use, and HIV Risk among LGBTQ Youth” at JMATE, Washington, DC. 2007.

- “Eon and Introduction to LGBTQ Youth” at Arizona Coalition to End Homelessness’s Statewide Conference to End Homelessness, Phoenix, AZ. 2006.
- “Your Body Does This: A Multimedia Critique of Gender” at New Directions in Critical Theory Conference, University of Arizona. 2005.

## **Relevant Teaching and Professional Experience**

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### **Core Faculty**

Low Residency MFA Program

Oregon State University, Cascades, OR

06/14-present

Develop and teach courses in the craft, community, and profession of creative writing with an emphasis on poetry and poetics. Courses are multi-modal and applicable to writers across genre and range from individual correspondence to large group discussion/workshop/lecture. Emphasis on balance of risk and technical proficiency.

- Courses taught include: “What We See When We Cannot See: Literatures of Passing;” “Give Me Time or Give Me Money: Grant Writing and Artist Statements;” “Killing Me Softly: The Aestheticization of Violence;” “Two-Way Mirrors: Conceptual Processes as Personal and Political;” “Compositional Improvisation and the Writer’s Life;” “Queering Space: Openness within Constraint”
- Through experiential learning, applied critical inquiry of a variety of creative texts, reflective writing, and a rigorous yet generative attention to detail in discussion, writers are given the tools to develop their craft as they become more fully aware of its larger context.

### **Senior Instructor Specialist**

University of Arizona Poetry Center, Tucson, AZ

09/16-present

Work as a professional writer implementing poetry curriculum to K-12 students in the Tucson Community while mentoring, supervising, and co-teaching with UA students. Facilitate the creation and completion of poems by each K-12 student for inclusion in a perfect bound anthology. Mentor students in reading, writing, and public speaking.

### **Lecturer**

University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

01/11-present

Pima Community College, Tucson, AZ

01/08-12/13

Develop and implement classroom based and online writing curriculum for English 100, 101, 101A, 102, and 306 with an emphasis on critical inquiry, student centered pedagogy, and decentralizing power in public space. Classes utilize feminist, trans, queer, and anti-racist lens texts in order to encourage critical cultural and rhetorical analysis in order to reflect upon the value of narrative and its influence on public discourse. Participate in the Trans Studies Initiative, including curriculum building and outreach.

- Create, teach, and develop the first Trans Literature course in the country. This groundbreaking course brings a variety of critical and theoretical perspectives to bear on poetry, fiction, and creative non-fiction written by trans and genderqueer authors in the last 30 years. In addition to analyzing the discourses utilized by trans and genderqueer authors, we examine the cultural narratives surrounding trans and genderqueer bodies, the impacts of those narratives, and how alternative or counter narratives may be produced.
- Facilitate the acquisition of effective narrative, argumentative, analytical, and reflective writing skills across a variety of skill levels and interests, with a particular interest in first



generation and, so called, at risk students.

- Through experiential learning and applied critical inquiry, students learn to quickly and accurately discern the appropriate use of a variety of rhetorical strategies for a variety of audiences.
- Facilitate the development of a critically reflective process that students can carry over into other classes and, hopefully, other areas of their lives. Specifically analyze constructions of intimacy, femininity, masculinity, and race in public space. Explore the rhetoric of connection, disconnection, and trust. Apply this knowledge to issues of power, privilege, and personal freedom.
- Emphasized inquiry based narrative analysis. Whose story is being told? Who is telling it? How is it being told? To what end?
- Create a classroom environment that emphasizes inclusion, community, justice, equity, inquiry, vulnerability, and growth.

### **Assistant Director**

Casa Libre en la Solana, Tucson, AZ

08/09-2015

Develop innovative trans and queer social justice art and literacy projects for non-profit literary community center. Collaborate with a variety of local and national writers and artists to increase the visibility, sustainability, and vibrancy of Tucson's trans, queer, and allied communities through arts and letters. Oversee coordination of ongoing event and reading series. Maintain individual and mass-market communication. Provide a venue for emerging trans, queer, and allied writers and artists.

- Created, implemented, and facilitated *Troubling Tucson: Trans and Genderqueer Poetry Symposium*. This weekend of readings, workshops, and events brought over 100 of the most dynamic contemporary trans and allied poets and artists together to build community, share work and resources, and collaborate on a vision for multivalent trans poetics.
- Created, implemented, and facilitated *Made for Flight* project with over 500 LGBTQ youth to explore personal narrative, identity, and empowerment. Project includes trans ally development, kite building, and youth poetry readings. Expanded project to New York, Texas, and Pennsylvania. Responsible for growth and continuation across the country.
- Co-organize and co-facilitate *Trickhouse Live*, an integrative arts series that brings together people working with words, images, sounds, videos, and a variety of performances on a monthly basis. Curate events to engage audience members and increase collaboration across genre and identity.
- Compose monthly essays on the intersections of trans identity, public space, and art – distributed via monthly event newsletter and website.
- Coordinate several ongoing monthly literary events and reading series.
- Assist with grant-writing, fiscal development, and other fundraising opportunities.

### **Course Director and Lead Instructor**

04/03-present

Outward Bound Wilderness School, Newry, ME and Leadville, CO

Co-facilitate, prepare for, and lead alpine backpacking, canoeing, and rock-climbing wilderness experiences for youth, young adult, and mature adult groups with an emphasis on character development, leadership, and service.

- Specialize in development and facilitation of special population courses including grieving youth, LGBTQ youth, cancer survivors, and at-risk populations.
- Establish route and evacuation plans for 7, 14, and 22-day wilderness courses and maintain

physical and emotional safety throughout these courses.

- Oversee and ensure high-quality food, gear, and personal packing for groups up to 14.
- Facilitate Assistant Instructors' professional development; co-prepare, implement, and evaluate their development plans.
- Role model and teach honest, open communication, effective feedback, and active listening.
- Earned "Kurt Hahn Award" for instilling the Outward Bound mission and inspiring compassion in our students in 2010.

### **Prism Project Coordinator and Youth Outreach Specialist**

Pima County Health Dept and Wingspan, Tucson, AZ

10/05-10/07

Coordinated staff from 4 agencies to implement the federally funded Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) substance abuse prevention project, Prism, for LGBTQ youth of color and their peers.

- Responsible for fiscal management of \$499,000, 5 year federal grant.
- Responsible for coalition building and facilitating communication among various youth and health agencies, managing a variety of needs and goals among collaborators.
- Successfully developed and finalized Prism curriculum and worked closely with staff to implement the Prism workshops series to over 100 youth.
- Successfully coordinated 3 youth retreats and 2 staff retreats, emphasizing community building, peer-to-peer resources, and youth empowerment.
- Successfully developed and conducted LGBTQ 101 training for over 1,000 youth across southern Arizona.
- Co-organized "Transgender Awareness Week" at Eon, which brought in over 20 youth per event and co-organized community-wide "Transgender Awareness Week."
- Staffed the Eon "Lounge" drop in center – providing crisis intervention, resources, and positive support for LGBTQ youth, ages 13-23.

### **Graduate English Instructor**

08/03-05/05

University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

Developed and implemented writing curriculum for English 101, 102, and 209.

- Created and implemented daily lesson plans that led students to develop their analytical and creative writing skills.
- Enabled collaborative approaches to complex issues, with an emphasis on research, critical analysis, creative perspective, and revision.
- Met with each student individually at least twice a semester to offer and receive feedback.

### **Course in Development**

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- **Trans and Genderqueer Literature** (currently teaching). Literary and cultural analysis of poetry, fiction, and creative non-fiction by trans and genderqueer authors. We explore theoretical, cultural, and political contexts as we analyze the evolving literary discourses on trans and genderqueer experiences.
- **What We See When We Cannot See: Literatures of Passing** (currently teaching). "Passing" can be understood as the ability, or experience, of a person identified with one social group to exist within, or to be accepted as, a member of another social group. This course will analyze the themes, purposes, and practices of "passing" as they have been

rendered in North American literature, art, and film across identity and culture.

- **Failing Bodies: Compositional Improvisation and the Practice of Trans.** In this fully embodied, experiential course, we will study, inhabit, and practice the art of compositional improvisation – working in the moment to create dynamic, rigorous, complex, and fully realized pieces without rehearsal or planning. Building on the chance, (Soma)tic, conceptual, and collaborative techniques of poets, dancers, and musicians from the last 50 years, we will explore the limits of our attention, bodies, and ability in an effort to expand the range of what is possible for our own writing and creative work. Experimental, risky, playful, vulnerable, decidedly anti-capitalist, and queer – here we will analyze and experience Jack Halberstam’s “queer art of failure” in the hopes that we can further realize new forms, modes, and measures of success.
- **Rhetorical Gays: Born this way? The development of identities and voices - from homosexual to queer.** Here we are in 2016, when most Americans have seen the rainbow flag and know it relates to “gay pride,” but how did this symbol gain currency in mainstream America? How did our national discourse go from “Boston Marriage” to “Legalize Gay”? Or from “homosexual acts” to “LGBT”? This course will trace the development of rhetorical agency and how it has been given, taken, or denied Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer identified people in the last 150 years. By examining the myriad intersections and divisions in political, cultural, economic, and personal discourse relating to LGBTQ identities and experiences, we will attempt to identify the material impact of these discourses on our everyday lives.