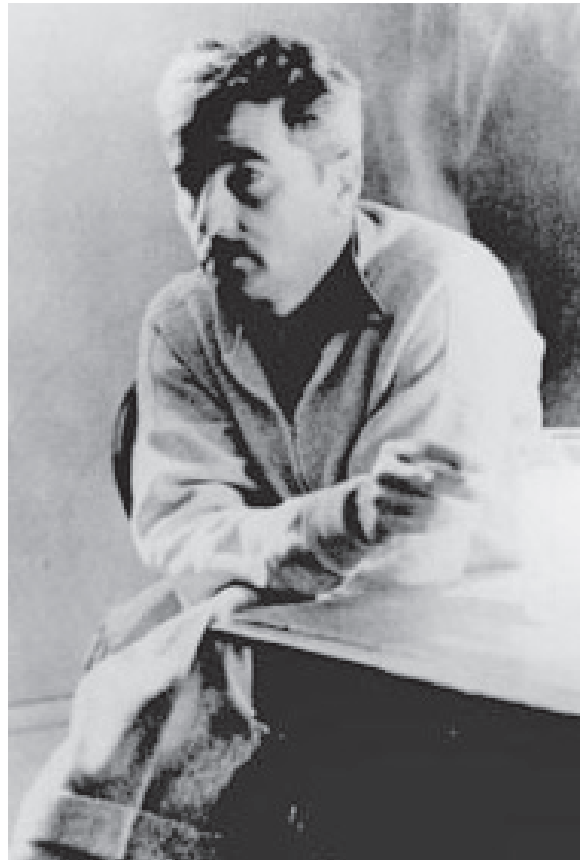


# 2014 William Faulkner - William Wisdom Creative Writing Competition Winners and Runners-up



*William B. Wisdom, Faulkner Scholar*



*William Faulkner, Nobel Laureate*

\* Novel \* Novella \* Book-length Non-Fiction \*  
\* Short Story \* Novel-in-Progress \* Essay \* Poetry \*  
\* Short Story by a High School Student\*

**The Generous Underwriters of the 2014 Competition are Recognized on Page 20.  
Winners, Runners-Up, and Other Finalists are announced here.  
For others who placed, visit our Web Site:  
[www.wordsandmusic.org](http://www.wordsandmusic.org)**

Winners and finalists will be formally presented at *Faulkner for All*, Sunday, November 23, 2014, the  
Faulkner Society's Black Tie Annual Meeting

*For 2015 Guidelines and Entry Form, visit [http://www.wordsandmusic.org/2015 Guidelines](http://www.wordsandmusic.org/2015%20Guidelines)*

# 2014 Novel Winner

Selected By Literary Agent  
Jeff Kleinman, Judge

## Judge's Comments

*Engaging, interesting characters and premise. I stayed up late to finish reading because I didn't want to put it down. The voice is terrific and the premise is wonderful. A very amusing, appealing voice and good narrative urgency – it's fun to read. The characters come out best in the sections where their love of food, and for others through food, is fully apparent. Highly likable characters and lovely descriptions of food and cooking. The strong narrative voice hooks the reader from the beginning. It's Quirky, humorous, and has a strong sense of atmosphere.*



Jeff Kleinman



## Kitchens of the Great Midwest

By J. Ryan Stradel, Los Angeles, CA

J. Ryan Stradel's writing has appeared in *Hobart*, *The Rattling Wall*, *The Rumpus*, *Joyland*, and the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, among other places. He's the editor of the **2014 California Prose Directory** anthology, associate editor at *Trop Magazine*, and co-fiction editor at *The Nervous Breakdown*. Since being named a finalist in the *William Faulkner – William Wisdom Creative Writing Competition*, his first novel, **Kitchens of the Great Midwest**, has been acquired by Viking and is on the fast track for publishing in 2015. A native of Minnesota, he's lived in Los Angeles for 16 years, but still misses "pine trees, freshwater fish, shamelessly heavy food, and Midwesterners, the nicest people in the world."

## Other Novel Finalists

**Advice for the Wicked**, Glen Pitre, New Orleans, LA

**A Stone for Bread**, Miriam Herin, Greensboro, NC

**Mask of Sanity**, Jacob Appel, New York, NY

**Scoop the Loop**, Charles Holdefer, Brussels, Belgium

**The Lenin Plot**, Barnes Carr, Houston, TX

**The Truth Project**, Tad Bartlett, New Orleans, LA and

J. Ed Marston, Chattanooga, TN

*Jeff Kleinman is a literary agent, intellectual property attorney, and founding partner of Folio Literary Management, LLC, a New York literary agency which works with all of the major U.S. publishers (and, through subagents) with most international publishers. He's a graduate of Case Western Reserve University (J.D.), the University of Chicago (M.A., Italian), and the University of Virginia (B.A. with High Distinction in English). As an agent, Jeff feels privileged to have the chance to learn a lot about an incredible variety of new subjects, meet an extraordinary range of people, and feel, at the end of the day, that he's helped to build something – a wonderful book, perhaps, or an author's career.*



Ladee Hubbard

## Second Place

### The Talented Tenth

**Ladee Hubbard, Champaign, IL**

**Ladee Hubbard** is a writer living in Champaign, IL with her husband, Christopher Dunn, and two children, Isa and Joaquin. She grew up in St. Thomas, USVI and St. Petersburg FL. She received a BA in English from Princeton University, a PhD in Folklore and Mythology from the University of California, Los Angeles, and her MFA from the University of Wisconsin. A former visiting professor in the African and African Diaspora Studies program at Tulane University, her fiction and poetry have been published by *Rosebud*, *The Crab Orchard Review*, *The MacGuffin*, and *Rhino Poetry*. The 2009 Rhino poetry anthology featured her poem *Colossus*. In 2007 she was a finalist for the Glimmer Train Short Story Award for New Writers and in 2008 she won the Faulkner Society's gold medal for best short story.

### Judge's Comments

*Compelling premise that is both emotionally wrought and fast-paced. Solid narrative urgency, plot details unfold with nice pacing. The story has a very good voice and premise, in fact a very compelling premise. The stakes are high for its characters and the descriptions of people and settings are heartfelt. A novel with a unique perspective, overall a very entertaining story.*



Daniel Turtel

## Fourth Place

### Sunrise for Asphodel

By Dan Turtel, New York, NY

**Daniel Turtel** is a Manhattan based fiction writer. He grew up in Asbury Park and graduated from Duke University in 2013 with a degree in Mathematics and creative writing. **Sunrise for Asphodel** is his first full-length novel. He currently is working on **For Every Man, A Country**, a finalist in 2014r's Novel-in-Progress category and **Of Light and Violence** on the short list for finalists in the *Faulkner – Wisdom Creative Writing Competition*.

## Third Place

### The Invention of Violet

**Amy Boutell, Santa Barbara, CA**

**Amy Boutell** has an MFA from the Michener Center for Writers and has published short stories and nonfiction in *Post Road*, *New Letters*, *Nimrod*, *Other Voices*, *Delirious Hem*, *The Coachella Review*'s arts and culture blog, and the **California Prose Directory**. Her work has received recognition from the Ragdale Foundation, the Norman Mailer Writers Colony, and Summer Literary Seminars. She lives in Santa Barbara, CA and is an instructor at the University of California, Santa Barbara



Amy Boutell

### Judge's Comments

*The novel has a good premise, the story features a likeable protagonist, and the descriptions of the clothes are well done with vibrant descriptions.*

### Judge's Comments

*The narrator is likable despite his depravity, creating a complex engagement with the reader. Some beautiful writing with a compellingly flawed narrator. Stunning poetic imagery throughout. The novel has an interesting voice and a good sense of rhythm.*





Kay Sloan

## Judge's Comments

*An evocative exploration of the lives of four members of the "greatest generation" who are more than willing to reveal their sins, furies, and many detours from greatness—as each in her or his turn contemplates their shared, and scandalous history. The piece tells the story of two couples who were wild and politically radical as young adults in the 30s, and how their indiscretions colored everything else that followed. But it becomes an evocation of how time adjusts all wounds, and attitudes, and how even identity and ego and "who we are" wear away—the hardship of this fact, and also the beauty of it.*



Moira Crone

# 2014 Winner

## Novella

### Give Me You

By Kay Sloan, Cincinnati, OH

Selected By Fiction Writer Moira Crone, Judge

**Kay Sloan** grew up in south Jackson and left Mississippi for Santa Cruz, where she graduated from the University of California. Her first publication was a poem she wrote to her mother in an effort to explain how a Southern Baptist daughter could become a hippie. *Southern Exposure* was kind enough to print it. Sloan went on to publish two novels, **Worry Beads** and **The Patron Saint of Red Chevys**. Respectively, they received the Ohioana Award for Fiction and distinction as a Barnes and Noble "Discover Great New Writers" book. Her poetry chapbook, **The Birds Are On Fire**, won the New Women's Voices prize at Finishing Line Press. Her essays, poetry and stories have appeared in *The Paris Review*, *Southern Review*, *Fiction*, *Threepenny Review*, and *Nimrod*, among other venues. An Ohio Arts Council Award supported the writing of her current novella, **Give Me You**, written as writer-in-residence at Provincetown's Fine Arts Work Center. With a doctorate in American Studies, Sloan has written three books on American cultural history. **The Loud Silents: The Origins of the Social Problem Film**, and a documentary, **Suffragettes in the Silent Cinema**, distributed by WomenMakeMovies, have been called groundbreaking work in silent film history. Her first book, co-authored with William H. Goetzmann, **Looking Far North: The Harriman Expedition to Alaska, 1899**, catalyzed the PBS documentary **The Harriman Expedition: Re-Traced**. She is now working on a book on white Southerners who rejected their dominant culture to join the Civil Rights Movement. Sloan earned her advanced degrees in American Studies from the University of Texas and now teaches literature and cultural history at Miami University of Ohio.

**Moira Crone** has published three novels and three books of stories, including **What Gets Into Us**. Her work appears in **Oxford American**, **TriQuarterly**, **Habitus**, and **New Orleans Review**. Winner of the Faulkner Society's gold medals for both Novella and Short Story, her stories have been selected for **New Stories From The South**, five times. In 2009 she received the Robert Penn Warren Award for Fiction from the Southern Fellowship of Writers for her body of work. Moira Crone is a fable maker with a musical ear, a plentitude of nerve, and an epic heart for her beleaguered, if often witty, characters. Her previous novel, **The Not Yet**, was published in 2012. Her new novel, **The Ice Garden**, is a Fall, 2014, release.



Dixon Hearne

### *Judge's Comments*

*This novella is what would happen if Eudora Welty's **Why I Live at the PO** grew up and had nine children, and stuffed them all in one village. It has many of the same elements—enough eccentrics to start five freak shows, a very nosy postmaster, a town that rallies to defend their crazies, and to top it off, three days of testimony in a Baton Rouge courthouse meant to keep everybody in one small town in everyone else's business until the end of time. Good, funny writing, and quirky characters.*

# *Second Place, Novella*

## **Tickfaw to Shongaloo** By Dixon Hearne, Madison, MS

**Dixon Hearne** teaches and writes in Mississippi and Louisiana. Much of his writing draws greatly from the rich images in his daily life growing up along the graceful river traces and bayous in West Monroe, LA. After many years of university teaching and writing for research journals, his interests turned toward fiction and poetry—and the challenge of writing in a different voice. He is the author of several recent books, including **Native Voices, Native Lands**, and **Plantatia: High-toned and Lowdown Stories of the South**—nominee for the Hemingway Foundation/PEN award and winner of the Creative Spirit Award-Platinum for best general fiction book. Twice nominated for the Pushcart Prize, he received the Spur Award. He is editor of several recent anthologies, including **A Quilt of Holidays**. His work can be found in *Oxford American*, *New Orleans Review*, *Louisiana Literature*, *Big Muddy*, *Cream City Review*, *Wisconsin Review*, *Post Road*, *New Plains Review*, *Mature Living*, *Weber-Contemporary West*, *Woodstock Revisited*, **The Southern Poetry Anthology: IV-Louisiana**, and the forthcoming in **Down the Dark River** (Southeast Louisiana University Press). Dixon's new novella, **Tickfaw to Shongaloo**, has been acquired by Southeast Missouri State University Press. He is currently at work on new short story and poetry collections. He is a frequent presenter and an invited speaker at the Louisiana Book Festival and other events.

## *Other Novella Finalists*

- A Different Life**, Philip Erickson, St. Paul, MN
- Cold War**, Farah Halime, Brooklyn, NY
- Further**, Deborah Jannerson, New Orleans, LA
- Juanita**, Kent Dixon, Springfield, OH
- Not the Usual Sleep**, Tim Knowles, Brewster, NY
- Resistance**, Amina Gautier, Chicago, IL
- Tansy**, William Thrift, Columbia, SC
- The Act of Theft**, Robert Raymer, Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia
- The Little Girls**, Lori Fennell, Lake in the Hills, IL
- The Year We Froze**, Stan Kempton, New Orleans, LA
- Witness**, Melanie Naphine, Frankston, **Victoria**, Australia
- Yankees Angels**, Robert H. Cox, New York, NY

# 2014 Winner

## Non-Fiction

### Book

#### Shakespeare's Royal Bastard

By Lawrence Wells of Oxford, MS

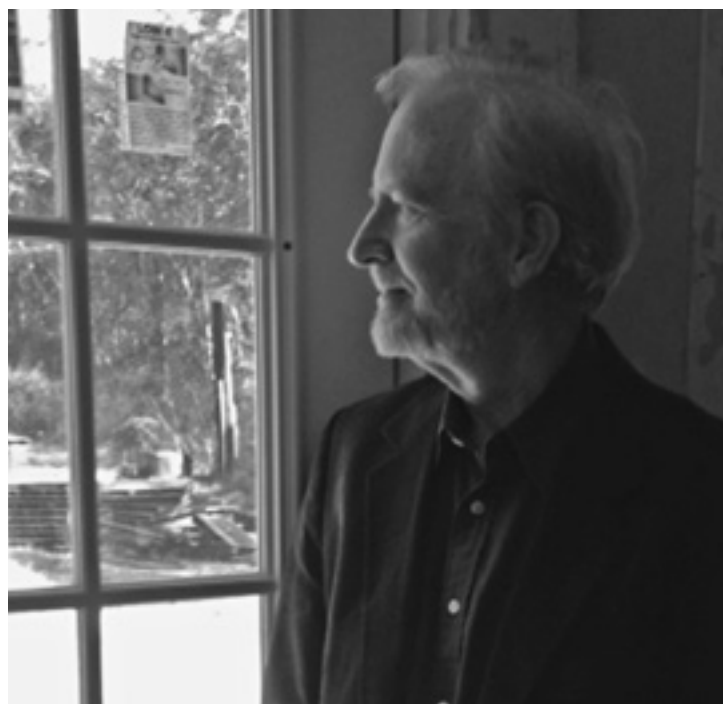
Selected by Literary Agent  
Deborah Grosvenor, Judge

#### Judge's Comments

*Part memoir, part literary mystery, part an examination of what constitutes fiction vs reality, this is the charming, often humorous account of a writer hired by the University of Mississippi to help a wealthy elderly woman write a book proving Shakespeare's true identity in exchange for her large donation to the school. The author seamlessly weaves together several stories in this book: his evolving relationship with his eccentric patron and his own family, his search for the "real" Shakespeare, and the bawdy Elizabethan narrative he writes for his benefactor. The stories all work together and keep one turning the pages until the surprising but satisfying conclusion of this tender memoir.*



Deborah Grosvenor



Lawrence Wells

**Lawrence Wells** had his first novel, **Rommel and the Rebel**, published by Doubleday in 1986. He studied writing under Hudson Strode at the University of Alabama, and Evans Harrington at the University of Mississippi. Wells has written three novels and edited six non-fiction books including **William Faulkner: The Cofield Collection**. With his wife the late Dean Faulkner Wells, he operated Yoknapatawpha Press in Oxford, MS, published a quarterly journal, the *Faulkner Newsletter*, and founded the Faux Faulkner Contest. He also scripted an Emmy-winning PBS regional documentary, **Return to the River**, and is a frequent contributor to *American Way* and *Southwest Spirit* magazines and the *New York Times Syndicate*. He earned his B.A. and M.A. in English at University of Alabama and his Ph.D. at the University of Mississippi. Married to Dean for 38 years, he lives in Oxford, MS.

#### Other Finalists

**Against the Wind**, Frances Haysman, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada  
**Hummingbird**, Kenneth Neil Rubenstein, Hove, England, UK  
**Life as a Personal Trainer: Bad Music, Creepy Perverts, and Cottage Cheese**, Ken Kashubara, Bloomfield Hills, MI

*Deborah Grosvenor has worked in book publishing for more than 20 years as an editor and literary agent, and has edited or represented several hundred fiction and nonfiction books in the areas of history, biography, politics, current affairs, memoir, the environment, the military, the South, and science, among others. Her best-known acquisition as an editor was a first novel, **The Hunt for Red October** by Tom Clancy. Deborah also signed up the debut work of bestselling author Homer Hickham, **Torpedo Junction**, and helped launch bestselling author Stephen Coonts's first novel, **Flight of the Intruder**. She owns Grosvenor Literary Agency.*





Mary Bradshaw

# Runner-Up Non-Fiction

## Stronger

By Mary Bradshaw of Flowood, MS

**Mary Bradshaw**, who lives with her daughter Jen in Flowood, MS, spent hours in unsuccessful searches in the shelves of bookstores and libraries for help in dealing with the tumultuous years of her daughter's anorexia, a disease she had suffered from herself. Finally, she sat down and wrote the book she needed. She is a previous finalist in the *William Faulkner- William Wisdom Creative Writing Competition's* Essay Category.

## Judge's Comments

*Told in the strong voice of a mother who is finally forced to recognize her daughter's anorexia—a disease from which she herself had suffered—this book offers a compelling narrative of a family's battle against a disease that is far more serious than most realize, how it nearly destroys them, and how they ultimately surmount it together.*

# Runner-Up Non-Fiction

## Redheaded Jewess of New Orleans:

## You Can't Imagine This Life

By Cindy Lou Levee, Baton Rouge, LA

**Cindy Levee**, a native of Louisiana, many seasons before Katrina, changed her last name from Levy to Levee in honor of the embankments built to hold back the waters of the Mississippi and Lake Pontchartrain from the land she grew up on. Cindy also publishes under the name Dr. Cynthia Levy. With her husband of 25 years and their 22-year-old son, along with other macrobiotic souls, she camps in the wilderness and cooks outdoors over wooden fires.

## Judge's Comments

*In this illuminating book, the author uses the life and letters of a prominent Southern Jewish matriarch as a way to offer social commentary on what it is like to be a Jewish woman in the South and how Jewish women have contributed enormously to our country's social and political development.*



# 2014 Winner

## Short Story

### *Omeer's Mangoes*

By N. West Moss, West Milford, NJ

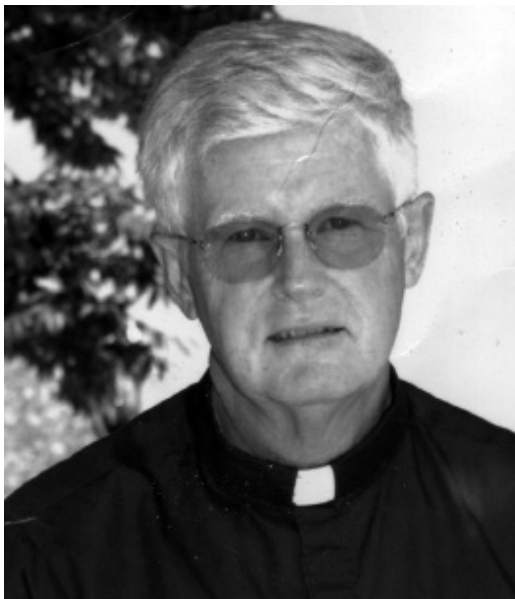
Selected by The Rev. Patrick Samway, S.J., Judge



N. West Moss

### *Judge's Comments*

For years, the stories of Mavis Gallant in *The New Yorker* that focused on Paris were among the best published in English during the latter part of the 20th century. In her own way, this author explores New York City and particularly Bryant Park in *Omeer's Mangoes* as Omeer struggles to find some significance in his rather ordinary life. The last word of this story, "Incredible," sums up how incredibly well conceived and written this story is.

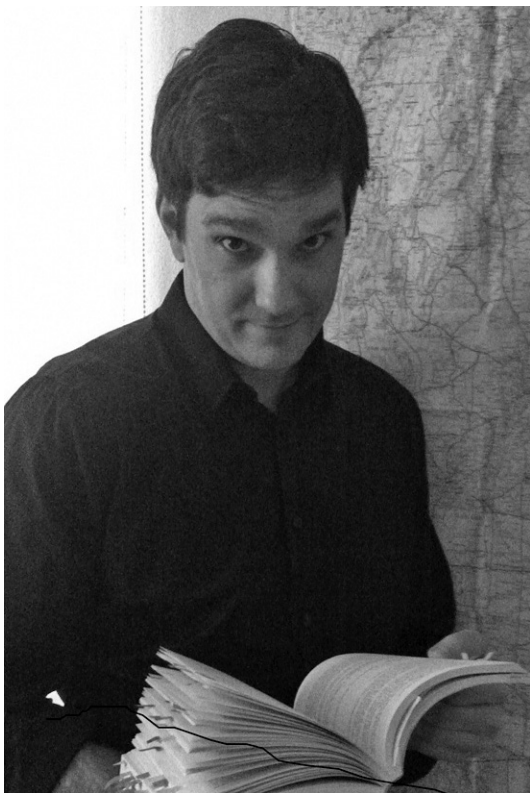


The Rev. Patrick Samway, S.J.

N. West Moss is a writer and a teacher with ties to New Orleans. Her whole family is buried up in Metairie Cemetery, and she's hoping to return to New Orleans to live at some point in the future, before she ends up in Metairie with the rest of her ancestors. Her winning story, *Omeer's Mangoes* is part of a collection of short stories set in Bryant Park in New York City. Her work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *Hospital Drive*, the *Westchester Review*, *The Blotter*, and *Okra*. In 2013, West won the gold medal for best essay in the *William Faulkner – William Wisdom Creative Writing Competition* and her essay was published in the 2013 edition of *The Double Dealer*. This year, West also placed second in the Novel-in-progress competition with her first novel, currently under agent review, **Dove on the Door**, which is set in New Orleans. Currently, she is at work on a young adult novel called **Camp Bibby**.

Patrick Samway, S.J., today divides his time between Philadelphia, PA, where he is Professor of English at Saint Joseph's University, and Port au Prince, Haiti, where, St. Joseph's and the Jesuit order established a system of grammar schools, after the devastating earthquake. He is author of *Walker Percy: A Life*, which was selected by *The New York Times Book Review* as a notable book of 1997 and as a main selection of the Catholic Book Club. He has edited *A Thief of Peirce: The Letters of Kenneth Laine Ketner and Walker Percy* and a volume of essays of Walker Percy entitled *Signposts in a Strange Land*. He co-edited *A New Reader of the Old South*, *Stories of the Old South*, *A Modern Southern Reader*, *Stories of the Modern South*, *Faulkner and Idealism: Perspectives from Paris* and *A Gathering of Evidence: Essays on William Faulkner's Intruder in the Dust*, Author of *Faulkner's Intruder in the Dust: A Critical Study of the Typescripts*, Fr. Samway has completed a book-length manuscript: *I Am Properly Back Where I Started From: Flannery O'Connor to Her Editor Robert Giroux*. He also wrote *Educating Darfur Refugees: A Jesuit's Efforts in Chad*. Fr. Samway, who received his Ph.D. in English from the University of North Carolina, has been a Fulbright Lecturer at the University of Nantes and the University of Paris, Bannan Scholar at the University of Santa Clara, Associate Professor of English at Boston College, Adjunct Associate Professor of English, Fordham University, and Associate Professor of English, Loyola University, New Orleans. For 15 years he was Literary Editor of *America*, a weekly Jesuit opinion journal. For two years after he was Will and Ariel Durant Professor of Humanities at St. Peter's College, Jersey City, NJ before moving to St. Joseph's University.





Andrés Carlstein



Emily Choate

### *Judge's Comments*

*This story dramatically relates how Nadine comes to terms with the previous amorous relationships of her co-worker Brant, as they sell fireworks whose names provide a wonderful description of their increasingly tense relationship: Incoming!, Napalm Rampage, Exploding Night Arsenal, and Last Chance. Such explosive pyrotechnic devices provide a wonderful comment on the structure of this story.*

## *Second Place*

### *Short Story*

#### *The Lindbergh Baby*

By Andrés Carlstein, Iowa City, IA

**Andrés Carlstein** received his MFA in fiction from the Iowa Writers' Workshop, where he was an Arts Fellow. He's been a MacDowell Colony Fellow and Yaddo Residency Fellow, and his short stories have been finalists for the Doug Fir Fiction Prize and the Gertrude Stein Fiction Award. His work also has appeared in *Connu* and *The Miami Herald*. He is also the author of the non-fiction travelogue *Odyssey to Ushuaia, a Motorcycling Adventure from New York to Tierra del Fuego*. He currently works as a professor and is finishing a novel, *The Red Gaucho*, which was a 2014 finalist for the *William Faulkner – William Wisdom Creative Writing Competition* Novel-in-Progress Award.

### *Judge's Comments*

*Retrospective stories about wartime, as Tim O'Brien revealed in his *The Things They Carried*, can have inherent drama and power to reveal the depths of the human condition. In *The Lindbergh Baby*, written by Andrés Carlstein, the principal character, a veteran of the first Gulf War, both laments the death of his wife due to a car accident and anticipates the relationship he will have with his young son, Jesse. In this tightly woven story, what is not said between father and son is as powerful as the war conflicts that are revealed.*

## *Third Place*

#### *Sky Fire Shrine Machine*

By Emily Choate, Pegram, TN

**Emily Choate** has been awarded writer's residencies at Vermont Studio Center, Kimmel Harding Nelson Center for the Arts, and ISLAND (Institute for Sustainable Living, Art, and Natural Design). Emily's writing has appeared in or is forthcoming from *The Florida Review*, *Chapter 16*, *Yemassee*, and *Nashville Scene*. A graduate of Sarah Lawrence College's MFA program, Emily belongs to the Peauxdunque Writers Alliance and has attended writers' conferences, including *Words & Music*, *Bread Loaf*, *Sewanee*, and *Tin House*. She has taught writing and literature, held various library jobs, and currently freelances. A native of Nashville, she now lives at the wooded edge of the city and is working on a novel.

## *Other Finalists*

*For other finalists in the Short Story Category, go to end of brochure.*

# 2014 Winner

## Novel

### In Progress

**The Morning After**  
By Maurice Carlos Ruffin,  
New Orleans, LA

Selected by Novelist M. O. Walsh, Judge

**Maurice Carlos Ruffin**, a practicing attorney and new restaurateur, is a charter member of the Peauxdunque Writers Alliance, a New Orleans group formed from the *Words & Music Writers Alliance*, and a graduate of the University of New Orleans Creative Writing Workshop. He is winner of the 2014 Iowa Review Fiction Awards Contest, the 2014 So to Speak Journal Prize, and the 2013 Joanna Leake Thesis Prize. His work can be seen in *The Iowa Review*, *Redivider Magazine*, *Callaloo*, the *Apalachee Review*, and **Unfathomable City**, a recently published New Orleans atlas edited by Rebecca Solnit and Rebecca Snedecker. Maurice, who has placed in the competition in other years, this year also was a short story finalist and was awarded second place in the essay category.

### Judge's Comments

*All of the Lights* is more than a novel in progress. It is an absolute gift. The story of a black lawyer in an all-white firm, battling personal demons and marital challenges, racism and the complications of ambition, this is a novel with every level of conflict you could ask for: internal, external, familial, racial, social, immediate, and looming. Yet, in spite of this, *All of the Lights* also manages to be quickly paced and funny. It feels heartfelt and true because the author is the real deal and his characters—BL, Penny, and Nigel—are the benefactors of his skill. So, of course, are we. This is a novel to fly through once for pleasure and then return to savor the little things you may have missed; all the gems scattered about in the author's clear prose and insight. Ruffin seems to know what makes us human, what makes us interesting, and a book like *All of the Lights*, the promise of it, is the reason I read. I'll be shocked if we don't see this one on bookshelves soon.

### Other Finalists

For a listing of other finalists in the Novel in Progress category, turn to the end of this brochure.



Maurice Carlos Ruffin



M. O. Walsh

**M.O. Walsh**, who won the Faulkner Society's Novel-in-Progress award two years ago for *Whiteflies*, since has completed and sold this novel, now called *My Sunshine Away*, to Amy Einhorn Books/Putnam. Foreign rights already have been sold to UK, Brazil, Israel, Italy, and the Netherlands. The book is due out in Spring, 2015. Currently, M. O. is running the Writers Workshop (MFA) program at the University of New Orleans and he is Fiction Editor for the literary journal *Bayou*. His fiction and essays have appeared in *The New York Times*, *Oxford American*, *Epoch* and *American Short Fiction* and been anthologized in *Best New American Voices*, *Best of the Net*, *Louisiana in Words*, and *Bar Stories*. His first short story collection, *The Prospect of Magic*, won the Tartt's First Fiction Prize, was a Finalist for the Eric Hoffer Award in General Fiction, and was an Editor's Pick for **Best Book of 2010** by *Oxford American*.



# 2014 Novel In Progress Runners-Up



N. West Moss, West Milford, NJ

## Dove on the Door

N. West Moss is a writer and a teacher with family ties to New Orleans. Her work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *Hospital Drive*, the *Westchester Review*, *The Blotter*, *Okra*, and elsewhere. In 2013, West won the gold medal for best essay in the Faulkner–Wisdom Competition and her essay was published in the 2013 edition of *The Double Dealer*. This year, West is winner of the Gold Medal for Best Short Story. Her Novel-in-progress *Dove on the Door*, which is set in New Orleans, currently is under agent review and she is at work on a young adult novel called *Camp Bibby*.



Krista Wilson, Marietta, GA

## Plexus

Krista Wilson's third novel, *Plexus*, is her first foray into young adult fiction, signifying a return to the novels she read as a kid: Ray Bradbury, Piers Anthony, J.R.R. Tolkien, and C.S. Lewis. She read all the Harry Potter and Lemony Snicket series aloud to her children. So, after writing two mainstream novels, both previous finalists in Faulkner–Wisdom Competition, she decided to write what she loves to read. Krista holds a B.A. in English and an M.Ed. in English education from Auburn University. She has taught at five colleges and universities, and she now teaches middle school language arts in Marietta, GA, giving her a legitimate excuse to read young adult literature.



Jacob Appel, New York, NY

## The Other Side

Jacob M. Appel—who previously has won the Faulkner Society's gold medals for best short story and best essay, both of which have been published in *The Double Dealer*—also has placed in other categories. He is author of two published novels, *The Man Who Wouldn't Stand Up* and *The Biology of Luck*; a short story collection, *Scouting for the Reaper*; and an essay collection, *Phoning Home*. His short fiction has appeared in more than 200 leading literary journals including *Agni*, *Colorado Review*, *Gettysburg Review*, *Southwest Review*, *Threepenny Review*, *Virginia Quarterly Review*, and *West Branch*.

## Judge's Comments

*Dove on the Door* has one of the best openings chapters I've read in a long time. We follow a young nun, Sister Marie Claire, through the streets of New Orleans during the yellow fever epidemic of 1847 to check on a woman they've not heard from in a while. As we navigate the sweltering heat of the French Quarter in summer, covering our mouths to avoid the smoke and smell of people burning the linens of the dead, the writer sums up our situation in lines of great beauty and simplicity, such as: "July," she thought. Not a promising word."

In a market that seems glutted with dystopian futures, *Plexus* manages to feel absolutely fresh and new. The writer's ability to juggle the jargon and complications of the new world in ways that keep the reader charging along without confusion are only a part of the success of this novel in progress. The main achievement is in the protagonist, Sofia. This writer has created an entire world for us. We are lucky to have it.

It is all too often underestimated, how much skill it takes for a writer to pull off humor in a novel. Yet I blazed through the first fifty pages of *The Other Side* with a huge smile on my face. There is something sly and knowing in the way this writer builds a story around a high school teacher coming face to face with a group of dedicated—you won't believe this—Civil War Deniers. This is a fun ride by a skillful and awfully smart writer.





Marilyn Moriarity

## Judge's Comments

*A compelling pilgrimage through the mysteries and histories that bloodlines, literature, and kinship bequeath to us, **Swerves** reminds us of the heady work it takes to situate ourselves in time and place. Engaging tough questions about inheritance and nationality, this eloquent and skillful essay brings to readers a clear-sighted vision and the confident measures of a riveting, necessary voice.*

**Jane Satterfield**, who won the Faulkner Society's Gold Medal for Best Essay, is author of the recently released narrative non-fiction book, **Daughters of Empire: A Memoir of a Year in Britain and Beyond**. A highly accomplished poet, her most recent collection is **Her Familiars**, published in 2013 by Elixir Press. Her poem **Elegy with Trench Art and Asanas** won the 2013 49th Parallel Award from **The Bellingham Review**. She is author of two previous books of poems: **Assignment at Vanishing Point** and **Shepherdess with an Automatic**. Her other awards include a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship in poetry, the Florida Review Editors' Prize in non-fiction, and the Mslexia women's poetry prize. In 2013, she was awarded the 49th Parallel Poetry Prize from **The Bellingham Review** for her poem **Elegy with Trench Art and Asanas**. Satterfield is the literary editor for the **Journal of the Motherhood Initiative** and she teaches at Loyola University, Maryland. Born in England and raised in America, she probes what it means to reconcile the legacies of intertwined lineages

# 2014 Winner

## Essay

*Swerves*

By Marilyn Moriarity, Roanoke, VA

Selected by

Poet & Essayist Jane Satterfield, Judge

**Marilyn Moriarity** lives in Roanoke, VA, where she teaches English literature at Hollins University. She received her Ph.D. in English from the University of California, Irvine, and her B.A. and M.A. from the University of Florida. Book publications include **Moses Unchained**, which won the A.W.P. prize in Creative Nonfiction and **Writing Science through Critical Thinking**, a textbook. She also has edited and introduced a book on postmodern architecture. Her fiction and nonfiction have been published in *The Antioch Review*, *The Antioch Review Blog*, *The Kenyon Review*, *Mondo Greco*, *Nimrod*, *Quarterly West* and elsewhere. She previously has won the Katherine Anne Porter Prize for fiction, the University of Utah Novella Prize, and the Peregrine Prize for fiction. Her memoir was a finalist for the 2006 A.W.P. prize in creative nonfiction and her novel-in-progress, **The Book of Rivers and Cities**, was also a finalist in this year's *Faulkner-Wisdom Competition*.



Jane Satterfield



Maurice Carlos Ruffin

## Judge's Comments

In this dark portrait of a mid-eighties New Orleans suburban childhood disrupted by parental substance abuse, healing is a hard-won process. The vivid and resonant prose of *A History in Motion* reveals a writer's fierce ambition to survive and transcend a parent's suffering, as well as heartfelt tenderness and hope despite the disquieting signs surrounding him.

# Second Place, 2014 Essay

## *A History in Motion*

By Maurice Carlos Ruffin, New Orleans, LA

**Maurice Carlos Ruffin** is a charter member of the Peauxdunque Writers Alliance, New Orleans chapter of the *Words & Music Writers Alliance*, and a graduate of the University of New Orleans Creative Writing Workshop. He is a winner of the 2014 Iowa Review Fiction Awards Contest, the 2014 So to Speak Journal Prize, and the 2013 Joanna Leake Thesis Prize. His work has been published or is forthcoming in the *Iowa Review*, *Redivider Magazine*, *Callaloo*, the *Apalachee Review*, and **Unfathomable City**, a recently published New Orleans atlas edited by Rebecca Solnit and Rebecca Snedecker. Maurice has placed in the competition previously and has read new work at our annual meeting of the *Words & Music Writers Alliance*. In addition to his rapidly developing career as a writer, is a practicing attorney and a newly minted restaurateur.

**Editor's Note:** It's never happened before in the history of the *Faulkner - Wisdom Competition*, but in three categories of the 2014 competition, including Novel-in-progress, all preliminary round judges selected one entry as the standout, as their first choice. In the case of preliminary readers for Novel-in-progress, all of them sent back words to the effect: "**All of the Lights** is the clear winner." Maurice is receiving the Gold Medal in that category. He also is a finalist this year in the short story competition.

## Other Essay Finalists

- Age Compression*, Anne Webster, Atlanta, GA
- A Trip to the Post Office*, C. W. Cannon, New Orleans, LA
- Desdemona*, Kathleen Nolan Grieshaber, Metairie, LA
- Gathering Around the Table*, Stephanie Bond, Auburn, AL
- Good Fences*, Michael DeVault, Monroe, LA
- Invisible*, Pat Gallant, New York, NY
- Hidden*, Virginia Campbell, New Orleans, A
- My Father's Sad Story About the War*, Ruth Moon Kempher, St. Augustine, FL
- Remarry*, Janet Taylor-Perry, Ridgeland, MA
- Remembering Saleem*, Patricia Saik, Bay St. Louis, MS
- Shedding History*, Jacqueline Guidry, Kansas City, MO
- Sincerely*, Mary Bradshaw, Flowood, MS
- Tyrone Power: The Myth Who Dared to Live*, Dr. Henry Hoffman, Gretna, LA
- War Effort*, Lottie Brent Boggan, Jackson, MS
- Without Regret*, Stan Kempton, New Orleans, LA





Claire Dixon

## Judge's Comments

I admire everything about this poem, starting with the title which is comprised of words I have never before seen together. I love the sound of the title and the sheer strength of these two verbs. The force and confidence of the first line builds on the sense of strength in the title. If this poem was a story, I would suggest that the details in the first stanza introduce us to our protagonist in ways that anchor us as readers, the same way the "rich leather belt" anchors the "tailored pants." The specific image details are ordinary and universal, but they imply much about the speaker and his sense of responsibility. Every stanza begins with the phrase "It is responsible," and it is repeated over ten times in the poem. The poem is so beautifully crafted and lyrical that the repetition never seems redundant and is part of the framework that enables the poem to soar. The second stanza deals with the metaphysical issues of simply trying to live in the world in a responsible way and arrives at the gorgeous image of the "flutter and whirl" of thrushes and hummingbirds on the imagined day of the speaker's death. The third stanza's last image of mopping up spilled beer because it's the right thing to do implies that at the very least, we must be responsible for our own behavior in all its manifestations

# 2014 Winner

## Poetry

### *Flutter and Whir*

By Claire Dixon, Baton Rouge, LA

Selected By  
Marjory Wentworth, Poet Laureate,  
South Carolina

**Claire Dixon** was born in Manchester England and grew up in Ontario, Canada. She studied Creative Writing at Montreal's Concordia University, earning a bachelor's degree, then moved to Baton Rouge, LA to join Louisiana State University's MFA in Creative Writing program. Following graduation from the MFA program, Claire enrolled in LSU's School of Library and Information Science, where she obtained an MLIS degree. Claire has published poetry in journals including *StorySouth*, *The Matrix*, and the *Hobble Creek Review*. She won LSU's William Jay Smith award for poetry in 2007. She has presented academic work at the American Folklore Society's and the Oral History Association's annual meetings, and worked as a librarian before beginning her current position as an analyst on a records management project for a government agency. Claire lives in Baton Rouge with her husband, Rion Wilson, their daughter, Phoebe, and their dogs and cats. Close to completing a full-length poetry manuscript she is "very grateful for the encouragement that this award brings."



Marjory Wentworth

**Marjory Wentworth**, Poet Laureate of South Carolina, has been nominated for five times for the Pushcart Prize for poetry. Poetry books include *Noticing Eden*, *Despite Gravity*, and *The Endless Repetition of an Ordinary Miracle*. She co-edited *Taking a Stand*, *The Evolution of Human Rights*, nominated for 2013 WOLA (Washington Office on Latin America) Duke Human Rights Book Award, and the 2011 SIBA (Southern Independent Booksellers Alliance) award for nonfiction. She co-edited *Seeking*, *Poetry and Prose inspired by the Art of Jonathan Green* and is author of the children's story *Shackles*, nominated for a 2010 SIBA Award for Best Children's and Young Adult Book and winner of a Silver Medal in the 2009 Moonbeam Children's Book awards. Her latest book, *New and Selected Poems*, was a Spring, 2013 release by the University of South Carolina Press.

**Note: For other poetry finalists, see end of brochure.**





Daniel Dwyer

# Second Place

## Poetry

For John Parker  
By Daniel Dwyer

**Daniel Dwyer** was born and raised in New Orleans, LA. After Hurricane Katrina he relocated to St. Louis, Missouri for several years before returning to Louisiana to get his B.A. in creative writing at Southeastern Louisiana University. While at Southeastern, Daniel studied under influential writers such as Dr. Richard Louth, Bev Marshall, and Dr. Jack Bedell. Currently, Daniel has once again moved to St. Louis with his wife Terri, who teaches writing at Washington University. Daniel's poetry comes from a keen observation and love for the infinite facets that make up the human experience. Daniel developed his point of view in practice on numerous writing marathons across Louisiana stage by the National Writing Project. His poetry celebrates "the everyday events that are the foundation for the towering mysteries of life."

### Judge's Comments

*What a brave poem, so honest and direct. There is always anger when a loved one attempts suicide. One is left with such intense conflicting emotions, which are captured perfectly in the tone of this poem. The anger and sarcasm are painfully true to the experience. I admire the poem for its conciseness: the short lines, without an unnecessary word. Each line reveals a particular detail about John Parker and the method he used in his suicide attempt and the subsequent rescue attempt, until the devastating line toward the end: "Why, we will never know why?" What makes this poem soar is the final couplet: "Your tongue was the only thing/carried to the sky." It startled and surprised me in the best possible way.*



Constance Boyle

## Third Place Poetry

**Constance E. Boyle** was born and raised in New Jersey, then earned her B.A. at the University of Denver. She received an MFA from Goddard. Her chapbook **Double Exposure** placed first in the 2005 Plan B Press competition. Her poems have appeared in literary journals including *So to Speak*, *poemmemoirstory*, *Sliver of Stone*, *Green Fuse*, and *The Human Touch*. She has 11 poems in an anthology, **la forza di vita caffeinated** and her poem *dance 101* won the 2012 Colorado Authors Poetry Award. An Associate Clinical Professor Emeritus at University of Colorado, she writes poetry and fiction, teaches writing workshops, and edits, part-time. Since being named runner-up in the *Faulkner - Wisdom Competition*, Ms. Boyle's poem which placed, *Flying*, has been acquired for publication by *So To Speak* for that publication's Fall, 2014 edition.

*The poem is written in three distinct sections; each one begins with a word and its definition, which is paired with a short prose poem describing a moment in a particular woman's life. The definitions are unique, incorporating breath spaces and numbers like you'd see in a dictionary definition, depending on the poem, suggesting the use of erasure. The definitions are litanies on the words white and flying, and they serve to expand our ideas about each word in a meditative way. The sweep of this poem is dazzling.*

### Judge's Comments:



Adia Heisser, left, shown here with a school friend at a New Orleans Saints Game.

## Judge's Comments

***Phases** immediately jumped out as being an accomplished and satisfying example of what a good story should be: an interesting conflict set up right away, well observed details, an original voice, which sounds real and convincing, in this case, almost breathless in its urgency to tell what happened. The plot of **Phases** is simple enough: a young adult named Lil' Bit, the "you" of the story, is sent away from the city by his or her mother to live with an uncle in the country. Lil Bit hates life in the country—hates the "damp ass air and hick ass people." She (or he: Lil Bit's gender isn't clear) both misses his/her mother and resents her for abandoning him/her. At the end, Lil Bit is reunited with his/her mother. The telling of the story is clear and artfully managed—which might sound easy enough to do, but as writers know, is very difficult to accomplish. The story feels economical and purposeful. The story accomplishes this through well-focused paragraphs, each one detailing some observation or event. The effect is as if the author is laying out a series of photographs that, taken together, tell an entertaining, compelling narrative of a young person caught between a wish for independence and a yearning for home.*

# 2014 Winner

## High School Short Story

*Phases*

By Adia Heisser, New Orleans, LA

Selected by Fiction Writer George Bishop, Judge

**Adia Heisser** is a Level IV student in the Creative Writing Program at the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts. In her free time she enjoys reading and writing. Some of her favorite books are **Ada** by Vladimir Nabokov, **One Hundred Years of Solitude** by Gabriel García Márquez, and **The Sound and the Fury** by William Faulkner. Adia enjoys the freedom writing gives her to explore the world through different perspectives. "Writing provides a personal connection between writer and reader and I am honored that the Pirate's Alley Faulkner Society has given me the opportunity to build that connection with a larger audience."



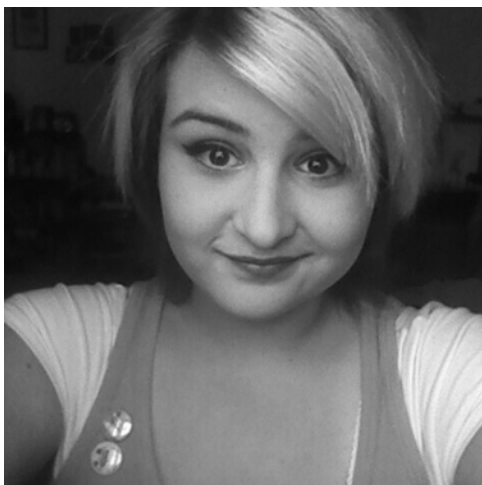
George Bishop

## Other Finalists

**Other finalists in the High School Story Competition can be found on the last page of this brochure.**

**George Bishop** is author of the recently released novel, **Night of the Comet**, which deals with family failures between father and son. His previous novel is **Letter to My Daughter**, which at its core is a story of the collateral damage of war. The novel is narrated by a 50-year-old Baton Rouge housewife in a letter to her runaway daughter. The narrator recalls letters she received from her boyfriend, Tim, who signs up to fight during the Vietnam War because he's poor and has no other options. Says Bishop, "Though I'd hesitate to say that **Letter to My Daughter** is about Vietnam, I certainly believe it is the Vietnam episodes which give the book its moral center." Bishop holds an MFA from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. After eight years of acting in commercials, stage plays, and guest starring roles in TV sitcoms, he traveled overseas and spent most of the last decade living and teaching in Slovakia, Turkey, Indonesia, Azerbaijan, India, and Japan. His stories and essays have appeared in publications such as **The Oxford American**, **The Third Coast Press**, and **American Writing**. He lives in New Orleans.





Kimberly Pollard of Belle Chasse, LA, left, Second Place; Rachel Marbaker of Colorado Springs, CO, Third Place; and Luis Eduardo Bermudez Ham of Guadalajara, Mexico, Fourth Place.



## 2014 Runners-Up High School Short Story

**Kimberly Pollard. Second Place for *Fly Away*,** is a 15-year-old sophomore at the New Orleans Center For Creative Arts, where she studies Creative Writing. She lives in Belle Chasse, LA. She also won a silver medal for a flash fiction piece in Scholastic's Art and Writing competition in 2014. She enjoys writing, listening to music, and walking around New Orleans.

### Judge's Comments

*Fly Away* is a delightfully weird story in which a woman's wife turns into a fly and, being a fly, she has a very short lifespan. What could easily have been a silly or just too bizarre premise, instead is full of compelling, complicated by details of the couple's prior relationship. The two—Amelie, the narrator, and Ava, the fly—were trying to have a baby, via artificial insemination, but failed. I liked this story especially for the details of the fly's behavior and the couple's prior relationship; whether invented or real, both seemed utterly believable.

**Rachel Marbaker, Third Place for *And So He Drifted*,** is an avid academic, a high school senior who divides her time between two passions—mathematics and writing—along with marching band, choir, and environmental stewardship. Rachel is “thrilled to receive recognition for this story because its theme, Alzheimer's disease, a topic too often ignored.” *And So He Drifted* is Rachel's first nationally recognized piece, and she would like to express her gratitude to the Pirate's Alley Faulkner's Society for giving her this opportunity. Additionally, Rachel would like to thank her teacher and mentor, Ms. Marisa Foltz, for helping her to develop her prose and voice.

*And So He Drifted* is about Peter, who wanders asylum halls, crippled and demented. Flashbacks are to his glory days as a famous cosmetics maker obsessed with finding the formula for eternal youth. The story ends with a nice surprise and sharp, moment-to-moment details breathe life and believability into the writing.

***The Monsters That Hide in Tin Houses*** is a masterful foray into speculative fiction exploring themes like the one-per-cent against us, privacy, and invasion of it, lack of engagement with others, fear of losing self-identity, fear of what scientific research in such areas as cloning will do to humanity. It's an unusual, imaginative look at what we could become in the not too distant future.

**Luis Eduardo Bermudez Ham, Fourth Place for *The Monsters That Hide in Tin Houses*,** raised in picturesque Guadalajara, Mexico, had a childhood in which he was torn between soccer and martial arts. He rejected both when his eyes gained control and his mind turned to art. Although his appreciation of art began somewhat late, he is making up for lost time. He enjoys music, photography, and writing and, while he longs for the talent to paint, he is happy producing images with words. Currently, he is in the Creative Writing Program at the Idyllwild Arts Academy in California, where he romanticizes the impossible and reads a lot of Neruda.



## *Other Finalists: 2014 Short Story*

*An Iron Lung Child*, Lottie Brent Boggan, Jackson, MS  
*Can We Discuss This After I Am Dead*, Rebecca Eder, Peoria, IL  
*Codes*, Nancy Antle, New Haven, CT  
*Den of Rhyme*, Craig Faris, Rock Hill, SC  
*Ferocious Faith*, Bruce Wexler, Elmhurst, IL  
*First Things First*, Teddy Jones, Friona, TX  
*Flock Apart*, Tad Bartlett, New Orleans, LA  
*Happy Story*, Brendan Minihan, Jr., New Orleans, LA  
*Indelible Myth*, William Coles, Salt Lake City, UT  
*Infidelity*, Kirsty Gunn, London, England, UK  
*Kirkegaard in the Desert*, Charles Broome, New Orleans, LA  
*Kiss Him for Me*, Richard Gazala, New Orleans, LA  
*Love and Other Birds*, Nancy Rowe, New Orleans, LA  
*Mustang Sally and her Road Rage Zen*, Robert Hambling Davis, Newark, DE  
*My Uncle's Arm*, Paul Negri, Clifton, NJ  
*Rich Women on Wednesdays*, Michael Devault, Monroe, LA  
*The Boy Who Would Be Oloye*, Maurice Ruffin, New Orleans, LA  
*The Last View of Delft*, June English, Baton Rouge, LA  
*The Man Who Feared Women*, Paul Negri, Clifton, NJ  
*The Twilight Club*, Leslee Becker, Fort Collins, CO  
*Three Graces and A Tractor Beam*, Armand St. Martin, New Orleans, LA  
*Through The Body of Mary*, Joyce Miller, Cincinnati, OH

## *Other Finalists: 2014 Novel In Progress*

**A Delicate Dance**, Austin Gary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada  
**Beautiful Men and Me**, Robin Martin, Brooklyn, NY  
**Broken**, Janet Taylor-Perry, Ridgeland, MS  
**Fire on the Island**, Timothy Jay Smith, Nice, France  
**For Every Man, A Country**, Dan Turtel, New York, NY  
**Magdalena**, Candi Sary, Costa Mesa, CA  
**Melting the Blues**, Tracy Chiles McGhee, Washington, DC  
**Mabel**, M. L. Dunser, Columbia, MS  
**Nostalgia's Eternal Serenade**, Nishith Singh, Lafayette, LA  
**Sea Butcher**, Brent Benoit, New Orleans, LA  
**The Escapists**, John Vanderslice, Conway, AR  
**The Final Voyage of Odysseus**, Joel Freiburger, Glen Elyn, IL  
**The Independent Contractor**, Matthew Minson, Spring, TX  
**The Miser**, Shane Finkelstein, New Orleans, LA  
**This Year's Girl**, Geoff Schutt, Chestnut Hill, MA  
**You Remind Me of Someone**, Ledia Xhoga, Brooklyn, NY

## *Other Finalists: 2014 Poetry*

*Aftermath – A Soldier's Story In Three Parts*, Stan Kempton, New Orleans, LA  
*Bummer*, Nettie Parker Bauman, West Hartford, CT  
*Carpe Diem*, M. L. Dunser, Columbia, MS  
*Changing Lines*, Craig Black, Darrow, LA  
*Deadly Dandelion Dreams*, Helen Archeris, Newark, NJ  
*Electric Mail*, Julie E. Bloemeke, Alpharetta, GA  
*First Crush*, Jacob Appel, New York, NY  
*On Your Ninety-Second Birthday, Count Backward by Ones*, Belinda Straight,  
Grief, Tina Hayes, Washington, DC  
*Imagined Chaos*, Jennifer Moffett, Ocean Springs, MS  
*L'Ombre De L'Avenir*, Stephen Thomas Roberts, Lagrangeville, NY  
*Lo Que Queda/What Remains*, Maria Beruvides & Maria O'Connell, Lubbock, TX  
*Lost Love Lounge*, Cassie Pruyn, New Orleans, LA  
*My Inner Child, Leslie Daniels*, Thorold, Ontario, Canada  
*Of Cork and Feathers*, Melinda Palacio, Santa Barbara, CA  
*Presence*, James, Bourey, Dover, DE  
*Returning to that Mineral State*, Nancy Dafoe, Homer, NY  
*Saturday Stops*, J. Ed Marston, Chatanooga, TN  
*Sleep on a Clothesline*, Faith Garbin, Ocean Springs, MS  
*The Catch*, Mary Louise Nix, Mandeville, LA  
*The Homeless Trilogy*, Pat Gallant and Paul Saluk, New York, NY  
*The Kiss*, Petra Perkins, Highlands Ranch, CO  
*Thunder on the Edge of Silence*, Edward Greer, New York, NY  
*Winter Flight*, Yvonne Ellingson, Mill Valley, CA

## *Other Finalists: High School Story*

*A Dead World: Val*, Hannah Lam, Metairie, LA  
*Andre*, Sarah Rolinsky, Covington, LA  
*A Rural Recalculation*, Laura Hausman, New York, NY  
*A Shooting Star Runs Through Everything*, Knox Van Horn, New Orleans, LA  
*City in the Sky*, Lisa Jackson, New Orleans, LA  
*Defiance*, Anna Marie Beard, Collierville, TN  
*Empire*, Helen Lovett, New Orleans, LA  
*Haunt*, Peyton Brunet, New Orleans, LA  
*Money Road*, Alex Gracen Hendon, Mandeville, LA  
*Monochromatic*, Magda Andrews-Hoke, Philadelphia, PA  
*Oh Writers, Writers*, Ana Maria Garcia Lopez de Cardenas, Mexico City, Mexico  
*Puzzles*, Marisa Clogher, New Orleans, LA

*Continued on Next Page...*

# *Our Patrons*

The 2014 *William Faulkner–William Wisdom Creative Writing Competition* is made possible by the generosity of our underwriters. We wish to express our undying gratitude for the ongoing patronage of the following women, men, and organizations for their support of writers and their readers.

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Judith “Jude” Swenson in memory of the late James Swenson

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## *Poetry Prize*

David Speights in Memory of the late Marti Speights

## *High School Story Prize*

Nancy Moss and the Moss Family in Memory of the late Hartwig Moss, III

## *...Other Finalists Continued*

*Sententia*, Jordan Blanchard, New Orleans, LA

*The Deadbolt Man*, Kinsey Presley-Hornung, Bloomington, IN

*Settling Dust*, Emily Cameron, Idyllwild, CA

*The Extra Closet*, Genevieve Lovern, Abita Springs, LA

*The Peephole*, Madeleine Granovetter, Glen Ridge, NJ

*The Pretty One*, Claudia Leger, Slidell, LA

*Those Girls*, Taylor Triplett, New Orleans, LA