

Poetry at Bennington | Virtual Series Features National Book Award Winner, Guggenheim Fellows



Bennington College Media Relations

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Virtual Fall 2021 Poetry at Bennington Series Features National Book Award Winner, Guggenheim Fellows

Bennington, VT: [Poetry at Bennington](#), an [endowed program](#) of short-term residencies that brings established and emerging poets to Bennington College for readings and close work with students, has announced its [Fall 2021 lineup](#) of featured poets.

This fall, in line with public health best practices, all Poetry at Bennington readings will be presented remotely over Zoom. All events occur from **7:00-8:30 pm E** free, open to the public, and can be accessed and shared from the [Poetry at Bennington webpage](#).

"This fall, we are excited to host a number of distinctive, accomplished, socially conscious American poets who write compellingly and innovatively about culture the natural world, and the health of the planet," said Poetry at Bennington Director [Michael Dumanis](#).

On [Wednesday, September 29](#), Brenda Shaughnessy will read from her poetry. Shaughnessy is the author of five poetry collections, including *The Octopus M* (Knopf, 2019); *So Much Synth* (Copper Canyon, 2016); and *Our Andromeda* (Copper Canyon, 2012), a finalist for the Kingsley Tufts Award, the International G Prize, and the PEN Open Book Award.

On [Wednesday, October 6](#), Justin Phillip Reed will read from his poetry. Reed is the author of two poetry collections, *The Malevolent Volume* (Coffee House, 2020) and *Indecency* (Coffee House, 2018), which won the the National Book Award and the Lambda Literary Award for Gay Poetry.

On [Wednesday, October 27](#), Sandra Lim and Ladan Osman will read from their poetry. Lim is the author of three books of poetry: *The Curious Thing* (Norton, 2021); *Wilderness* (Norton, 2014), selected by Louise Glück for the Barnard Women Poets Prize; and *Loveliest Grotesque* (Kore Press, 2006). Osman is the Somali-born author of *Exiles of Eden* (Coffee House, 2019), a hybrid work of poetry, photography, and experimental text; and *The Kitchen-Dweller's Testimony* (U of Nebraska Press, 2015), winner of the Sillerman First Book Prize for African Poets.

On [Wednesday, November 10](#), Camille Dungy and Deborah Landau will read from their poetry. Dungy is the author of four poetry collections, most recently *Trophic Cascade* (Wesleyan, 2017) and *Smith Blue* (Southern Illinois University Press, 2011), a finalist for the Poetry Society of America's William Carlos Williams Award. Landau is the author of four collections of poetry, most recently *Soft Targets* (Copper Canyon, 2019), winner of *The Believer* Book Award, and *The Uses of the Body* (Copper Canyon, 2015).

About the Fall 2021 Featured Poets

[Camille Dungy](#) is the author of four poetry collections, most recently *Trophic Cascade* (Wesleyan, 2017) and *Smith Blue* (Southern Illinois University Press, 2011), a finalist for the Poetry Society of America's William Carlos Williams Award. Her essay collection *Guidebook to Relative Strangers: Journeys into Race, Motherhood, and History* (Norton, 2017) was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award. Dungy is also the editor of *Black Nature: Four Centuries of African American Nature Poetry* (University of Georgia Press, 2009), a Guggenheim Foundation and National Endowment for the Arts fellow and two-time NAACP Image Award nominee in Fort Collins, Colorado, and is a University Distinguished Professor at Colorado State University.

[Deborah Landau](#) is the author of four collections of poetry, most recently *Soft Targets* (Copper Canyon, 2019), winner of *The Believer* Book Award, and *The Uses of the Body* (Copper Canyon, 2015), featured on NPR's *All Things Considered*, and included on "Best of 2015" lists by *The New Yorker*, *Vogue*, *BuzzFeed*, and *O, The Oprah Magazine*. Her writing has appeared in *American Poetry Review*, *Best American Poetry*, *The Best American Erotic Poems*, *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times*, *Paris Review*, *Poetry*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Please Excuse This Poem: 100 New Poets for the Next Generation*, and *Women's Work: Modern Poets Writing in the Present*. A Guggenheim Foundation fellow, she directs the creative writing program at New York University.

[Sandra Lim](#) is the author of three books of poetry: *The Curious Thing* (Norton, 2021); *The Wilderness* (Norton, 2014), selected by Louise Glück for the Barnard Women Poets Prize; and *Loveliest Grotesque* (Kore Press, 2006). Her poems have appeared in *The Baffler*, *The New Republic*, *The New York Review of Books*, and *Poetry*. She has been recognized with fellowships from the Getty Research Institute and the Guggenheim Foundation, as well an Award in Literature from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the Levis Reading Prize, and a Pushcart Prize. Born in Seoul, Korea, she grew up in the San Francisco Bay Area, and is now an Associate Professor of English at the University of Massachusetts Lowell.

[Ladan Osman](#) is the Somali-born author of *Exiles of Eden* (Coffee House, 2019), a hybrid work of poetry, photography, and experimental text; and *The Kitchen-Dweller's Testimony* (U of Nebraska Press, 2015), winner of the Sillerman First Book Prize for African Poets. Her writing has been translated into over ten languages and honored with a Whiting Writers Award, a Hurston/Wright Legacy Award, and a Lannan Foundation fellowship. Her work in documentary film includes the shorts *Underground* and *Sun of the Soil*, included in the Cannes International PanAfrican Film Festival and the New York African Film Festival. Her directorial debut, *Tropics*, a docuseries about four young Black women musicians from Chicago, is streaming on TOPIC. Osman lives in Brooklyn.

[Justin Phillip Reed](#) is the author of two poetry collections, *The Malevolent Volume* (Coffee House, 2020) and *Indecency* (Coffee House, 2018), which won the National Book Award and the Lambda Literary Award for Gay Poetry. His chapbook is *A History of Flamboyance* (YesYes Books, 2016). His work has appeared in *American Review*, *Bennington Review*, *Best American Essays*, *Callaloo*, *Kenyon Review*, and *Obsidian*. A 2019 Poetry Foundation Ruth Lilly and Dorothy Sargent Rosenberg Poetry Fellow, raised in the Pee Dee region of South Carolina, he presently lives in St. Louis.

[Brenda Shaughnessy](#) is the author of five poetry collections, including *The Octopus Museum* (Knopf, 2019); *So Much Synth* (Copper Canyon, 2016); and *Our Andromeda* (Copper Canyon, 2012), a finalist for the Kingsley Tufts Award, the International Griffin Poetry Prize, and the PEN Open Book Award. Her work has appeared in *Best American Poetry*, *Harpers*, *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, *O, The Oprah Magazine*, *The Paris Review*, and *Poetry*. The recipient of fellowships from the Japan/US Friendship Commission, the Guggenheim Foundation, the Howard Foundation, and the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, she is Associate Professor of English and Creative Writing at Rutgers University-Newark.

About Poetry at Bennington

Since its establishment in 2012, Poetry at Bennington has brought more than 50 poets to campus, including Poets Laureate and Pulitzer Prize winners, along with a diverse range of emerging and established poets. During the short-term residencies, the poets give public readings and engage directly with students through q

and-answer sessions, craft lectures, master classes, group writing exercises, and individual consultations. The events are free and regularly attract students from neighboring colleges, as well as poetry enthusiasts across southern Vermont and western Massachusetts.

Past visiting poets include Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award Winners Timothy Donnelly, Ross Gay, Matthea Harvey, Dawn Lundy Martin, and Ariana Reines; Poets L Joy Harjo, Charles Simic, Mark Strand, and Natasha Trethewey; MacArthur "Genius" Grant Award Winners Claudia Rankine and C.D. Wright; National Book Award Winners Daniel Borzutzky, Robin Coste Lewis, Mark Doty, and Terrance Hayes; and Pulitzer Prize Winners Rae Armantrout, Jericho Brown, and Jorie Graham.

About Bennington College

Bennington College's alumni include twelve Pulitzer Prize winners, three U.S. poets laureate, four MacArthur Geniuses, and countless *New York Times* bestsell National Book Award recipients.

Recent graduates have gone on to attend PhD and MFA programs in literature and creative writing at Stanford University, the Iowa Writers' Workshop, NYU, UC Columbia University, Cornell University, the University of Massachusetts, Arizona State, and Brown University. Graduates have had poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction journalism, and book reviews published or accepted by *The Atlantic Wire*, *The Awl*, *Boston Review*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *Denver Quarterly*, *The Guardian*, *Angeles Review of Books*, and *Ploughshares*.

Rooted in an abiding faith in the talent, imagination, and responsibility of the individual, Bennington invites students to pursue and shape their own intellectual interests and in doing so to discover the profound interconnection of things. Learn more at bennington.edu.

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