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Bennington Writing Seminars Selects Puloma Ghosh as Residential Teaching Fellow

Bennington, **VT**: Puloma Ghosh, a rising fourth-term MFA candidate in fiction, has been selected as the fourth <u>Residential Teaching Fellow</u> at the <u>Bennington Writing Seminars</u>, working in the classroom for a full term beginning in Spring 2020. The fellowship, currently held by Fellow <u>Jeanie Riess</u>, is the first of its kind in the country to offer full-time undergraduate teaching experience in a low-residency MFA format. Benefits include full tuition remission for one term, housing and board, and enrollment in an on-campus class.

Applications to the Bennington Writing Seminars are due by <u>March 1, 2020</u> for admission to the June residency or <u>September 1, 2020</u> for admission to the January residency.

Ghosh will assist Bennington faculty member Phillip B. Williams in his course, The Devil. Her responsibilities will include grading, advising, assisting in the development of course materials, guest lecturing, and research. Ghosh will also gain experience in arts administration while assisting Bennington faculty member Michael Dumanis with duties at The Bennington Review, along with continuing her regular MFA coursework.

"We conceived this Fellowship to give Bennington Writing Seminars students a unique opportunity to have full-time teaching experience and also to work closely with our literary partners," said Mark Wunderlich, Director of the Bennington Writing Seminars. "We're thrilled to have Puloma here as the fourth Residential Teaching Fellow and excited to see the collaboration she'll bring to *The Bennington Review*, given her experience in arts administration."

This competitive fellowship is open to Bennington MFA students rising into their second, third, or fourth term. Students are mentored one-on-one with the on-campus faculty member with whom they are working as a teacher, as well as by the faculty mentor with whom they have been assigned to work on their manuscript. Ghosh studied with Bennington faculty member and novelist <u>Stuart Nadler</u> this past term.

Previously, Ghosh served as a Research Assistant for a classroom-based project with the Tufts Center for Engineering Education and Outreach, where she helped facilitate critical thinking activities with diverse students. She worked in arts administration for nearly two years as the Assistant Director of the Abigail Ogilvy Gallery, and she wrote for and interned at *Artscope Magazine*. Her work has been recognized with an honorable mention by *Ploughshares* Emerging Writers (2018), shortlisted for the Meridian Editor's Prize (2018), and she was a finalist for the Grubstreet Emerging Writers Fellowship (2017). In 2014, she won the Morse Hamilton Fiction Prize from Tufts University.

"I'm so excited for this opportunity to gain teaching experience within the low-residency format and to be more involved in the rich literary life on Bennington's campus during my final term," said Ghosh.

About the Bennington Writing Seminars

Steeped in the Bennington College's literary legacy, <u>Bennington Writing Seminars</u> is consistently named one of the top low-residency Masters of Fine Arts in Writing programs. Founded in 1994, the Seminars was one of the first low-residency graduate writing programs in the country. During this two-year, low-residency program, students commit as much to reading as to writing and conceive reading lists that strengthen and broaden their knowledge. Students perform critical literary analysis and craft bold new works of fiction, nonfiction, or poetry inspired by their discoveries. They finish with a polished thesis and a parting lecture. All this with the expert guidance of authors who, throughout individualized instruction, become familiar with and develop a stake in students' work.

Stay in touch with the Bennington literary scene, including Bennington Writing Seminars <u>alumni</u> and candidates, via Twitter:

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