

PEN/USA Bennington Writing Seminars Emerging Voices Scholarship Announced

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The Bennington Writing Seminars, in partnership with PEN Center USA, has announced three recipients of its MFA scholarship for Emerging Voices. The \$10,000 scholarship has been awarded to fiction writer Shari Poindexter (EV '01). The Writing Seminars has also extended two additional scholarships to fiction writers Monica Carter (EV '10) and Davin Malasarn (EV '08).



The Emerging Voices Scholarship was established last year thanks to the generosity of the January Class of 2017. It is open to writers who are graduates of the prestigious [PEN Center USA Emerging Voices Fellows program](#).

Shari Poindexter is a doctoral candidate in Occupational Therapy at USC who has led seminars and workshops on a range of healthcare issues specifically for cancer survivors and underserved populations. She is also a Hospice volunteer. Poindexter was a PEN Center USA Emerging Voices Fellow, and she earned a John Densmore Scholarship at UCLA and a May Merrill Miller award for outstanding short story.

Monica Carter is Program Director of the Lambda Literary Foundation's LGBTQ Writers-in-Schools program. She was a PEN Center USA MARK Program Fiction Fellow, a Lambda Literary Foundation LGBT Emerging Writer Fellow, and a PEN Center USA Emerging Voices Fellow.

Davin Malasarn is Lead Writer and Director of Presidential Communications at Cal Tech. He has a Ph.D. in biology, and was a PEN Center USA Emerging Voices Fellow. He is a two-time Pushcart Prize nominee, a finalist for Glimmer Train's Very Short Fiction Contest, and was a featured writer for the New Short Fiction Series.