

The 12th Lewes Creative Writers' Conference

Presenter Bios



Sandra Beasley

is the author of *Count the Waves*; *I Was the Jukebox*, winner of the Barnard Women Poets Prize; *Theories of Falling*, winner of the New Issues Poetry Prize; and *Don't Kill the Birthday Girl: Tales from an Allergic Life*, a memoir about living with disability. She also edited *Vinegar and Char: Verse from the Southern Foodways Alliance*. She lives in Washington, D.C., and teaches with the University of Tampa low-residency MFA program.



Linda Blaskey

Linda's poetry and short stories have appeared in many journals and anthologies. Her poem, "Rest Stop, Eighty-Seven Miles From Asheville," was chosen for Raleigh, NC's Poetry on the Bus project and her short story "The Haircut" was selected by InterAct Theatre's Writing Aloud! program for dramatic presentation at the Adrienne Theater in Philadelphia. She is poetry/interview editor for *The Broadkill Review* and coordinator for the Dogfish Head Poetry Prize. She is the recipient of two fellowship grants in poetry from Delaware Division of Arts. Her chapbook, *Farm*, was published by Bay Oak Publishers and her full-length collection, *White Horses*, was published by Mojave River Press in Spring of 2019. *Walking the Sunken Boards*, a collaborative poetry collection with three other poets, was published in April 2019 by Pond Road Press.



Michele Chynoweth

is the best-selling and award-winning author of *The Faithful One*, *The Peace Maker*, *The Runaway Prophet* and *The Jealous Son*, edgy, contemporary suspense/romance novels that re-imagine Old Testament stories in the Bible. Michele is also an inspirational speaker, college instructor and book coach who helps other writers become successful authors through her editing, proofing, publishing and marketing assistance services. A graduate of the University of Notre Dame, she and her husband live in North East, Maryland.



Richard Peabody

a poet, editor, and publisher, wears many literary hats. *Guinness on the Quay*, his latest volume of poetry, was recently published by Salmon Poetry in Ireland. In 1976, he founded *Gargoyle Magazine*, which will release issues 70 and 71 this year. He taught at Johns Hopkins University for 15 years and has edited (or co-edited) 26 anthologies including *Mondo Barbie* and *A Different Beat*.

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David Teague

is Professor of Literature and Creative Writing at the University of Delaware Associate in Arts Program in Wilmington.

Teague is the author of six books for children: *Franklin's Big Dreams*, *The Red Hat*, *Saving Lucas Biggs*, *Connect the Stars*, *Henry Cicada's Extraordinary Elktonium Escapade*, and *How Oscar Indigo Broke the Universe and Put It Back Together Again*, many of which have received starred reviews from *Kirkus*, *Library Journal*, and other influential publications.

He is currently a UD Community Engagement Fellow and a director of the Just Write! Wilmington initiative, a creative writing program for underserved children in Wilmington, as well as a participant in 100 Men Reading, a local literacy collaborative.

Dr. Teague holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Hendrix College, a Master of Arts in Literature from the University of Virginia, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Literature from the University of Virginia.



Billie Travalini

is a writer, poet, and editor, and the recipient of the 2019 Delaware Division of the Arts Masters Award in Literature, Fiction. In 2014, she received the Governor's Award for the Arts, Education. In 2018, she received the Delaware Press Association's Communicator of Achievement Award and was named the 2018-2019 National Communicator of Achievement. Her recent work has been published in *The Moth*, *Bath Flash Fiction Anthology*, *Lakeview International Journal of Literature and Arts*, and *Selected Stories* from the 14th International Conference of the Short Story (English-Chinese), among others. Her memoir, *Blood Sisters*, was a finalist for the Bakeless Publication Prize and the James Jones Award, and won the Lewes Clark Discovery Prize. Her edited work includes *On the Mason Dixon Line: an Anthology of Contemporary Delaware Writers* (with Fleda Brown), *No Place Like Here: An Anthology of Southern Delaware Poetry and Prose*, and *Teaching Trouble Youth A Practical Pedagogical Guide*. A longtime advocate for at-risk kids, she is the co-founder and coordinator of the Lewes Creative Writers Conference, teaches creative writing at Wilmington University and is busy at work on *Rush Limbaugh and the French Apple Pie and Other Stories* and *Rules to Survive Childhood*, a sequel to *Blood Sisters*.