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Samantha Edmonds

EDUCATION

PhD in English—Creative Writing University of Missouri	
Dissertation: A World to Hold Us All: A Speculative Memoir Advisors: Phong Nguyen, Trudy Lewis, Donald Quist, & Rebecca Hayes	
MFA in Creative Writing—Fiction University of Tennessee	2019
Thesis: <i>Blood/Wire: A Novel</i> Advisors: Chris Hebert, Margaret Lazarus Dean, & Michael Knight	
Advisors. Chris Hebert, Margaret Edzards Dean, & Michael Kinght	
MA in English & Comparative Literature University of Cincinnati	2017
Thesis: A Preponderance of Starry Beings: Stories	
Advisors: Michael Griffith & Chris Bachelder	
BA in English—Creative Writing & Literature (double major) Miami University	2015
Honors Thesis: "Humanity 2.0: A Novella"	
Magna Cum Laude	
CEL ECTED DUDI ICATIONS	
SELECTED PUBLICATIONS	
Book	
A Preponderance of Starry Beings: Stories TriQuarterly Books Northwestern University Press	2025
Chapbooks (Fiction)	
The Space Poet Split/Lip Press	2020
Pretty to Think So Selcouth Station Press	2019
Short Fiction	
"Star Stuff" The Writer's Chronicle (reprint)	2025
"Addiction" and "Sincerity" Doubleback Review (reprint)	2023
"The Bean and the Boneyard" Joyland	2021
"The Ways You Lose" New Ohio Review	2020
"Magdalene Waiting" The Florida Review	2020
"Collide" Michigan Quarterly Review	2020
"A 100% True Totally Not Fictional Ghost Story" & 4 others The Wardrobe	2020
"The Adventures of Earthgirl and Starboy" Ninth Letter Pushcart Special Mention	2019
"Thoughts on Raising Girls Freshly Feral" Hayden's Ferry Review	2019
Reprinted in Best Small Fictions 2020	
"Manic Pixie Dream Girl: Noun" & 2 other pieces Peatsmoke: A Literary Journal	2019
"The Man and the Moon." The Normal School	2019
"Galaxy Defenders Stay Forever" The Mississippi Review Pushcart Nominee	2019

"Samson Collapsing" Passages North	2019
"Mother, May I Go to the Shower Show" The Pinch	2018
"The Space Poet" Black Warrior Review	2018
"Earthbound John" Day One	2017
"Mama Says" Phantom Drift	2017
Reprinted in Burnt Offering: An Anthology Inspired by Fire Porkbelly Press 2020	
"Donor" Identity Theory	2017
"Futureborn" The Indiana Review	2017
Reprinted in the <i>Path of Totality</i> chapbook <i>Indiana Review</i> 2017	
"White Dwarf Seeks Red Giant for Binary Orbit" Hobart	2017
"Semele Burning" Monkeybicycle	2017
"Star Stuff" Pleiades	2016
"Icarus Drowning" Midwestern Gothic	2016
"World Enough" S/tick	2016
"Invisible Boyfriend" Emerge Literary Journal	2013
minore Beymond Emerge Emerumy vous num	2015
Creative Nonfiction	
"A Small Ugly Thing" The Champagne Room	2025
"Heaven's Whatever" Fourth Genre	2024
"Eulogy for Carpenter Bees" The Pinch	2023
"An Incomplete List of Sad Beautiful Things" North American Review	2023
Reprinted in <i>Elements of Creative Writing</i> NAR Press 2023	
"Mama Asks, Haven't You Been Lucky to Know Gracious Men" Creative Nonfiction	2022
"Chin Up, Extroverts! We Will Crowd Again" The New York Times	2020
"Love and Other Artificial Intelligences" Gay Magazine	2020
"Sophia Hanson Wants to Believe" The Rumpus Best American Essays Nominee	2019
"On the Front Porch Steps with a Cigarette" Entropy	2019
"My Day in Dollywood" Us of America	2017
"One Bedroom, One Bathroom, and One Big Dalmatian" Ravishly.	2017
"I Went Out with My High School Crush as an Adult" Elite Daily	2017
"I Used to Idolize Johnny Depp—Now, My Heart is Breaking" Ravishly	2017
"How I Caught a Dad on Pokémon Go" Ravishly	2017
"The Cost of Driving Cross-Country" The Billfold	2017
"How to Be" Santa Fe Writers Project Quarterly	2015
Reprinted in Santa Fe Writers Project Annual Print Anthology 2017	
"Things My Love Life & My Writing Career have in Common" McSweeney's Internet	
Tendency	2015
Craft & Critical Essays	
"Six Star-Gazing Books to Celebrate the Perseid Meteor Shower" Reactor Mag	2025
"Fandom Made the Good Omens Miniseries Better (& Gayer) than the Book" Syfy Wire	2019
"Getting to the Heart of SFF's Most Tear-Inducing Moments: The 'Riders of Rohan'	
Phenomenon" Tor	2019
"Ditch the Quotes: Teach Your Students to Italicize Dialogue" AWP: The Writer's	
Notebook	2019
"Reading Feminist Futurism in the Age of the 'Female' Virtual Assistant" Literary Hub	2019

"On Obsession" Black Warrior Review	2018
"Enchanted Prose: Lyrical Language as Strength in the Mythic Novel" Ploughshares	2018
"The Shattered Novel: Rules of Fragmented Fiction" Grist: The Writing Life	2017
Journalism	
"How Much Would You Spend to Save Your Pet's Life?" The Outline	2020
"The Miraculous Journey of a Captive-Bred Hermit Crab" The Outline	2019
"Spooky-Cheap Halloween Decorations for Teachers on a Budget" We Are Teachers	2018
"The 9 Best Outdoor Date Ideas in Kentucky" RootsRated	2018
"Teacher Personalities as Told Through the Avengers" We Are Teachers	2018
"11 Times Spock Taught Us to Better Humans" Crixeo	2018
"Easy Ways to Make Your Home More Magical" Yahoo! News	2018
"This Tennessee Train will Take You on a Romantic Trip—with a Side of Murder"	
Livability	2018
"8 Ways Dating is a Lot Like Teaching" We Are Teachers	2018
"15 Teaching Dresses to Make You Feel like Miss Frizzle" We Are Teachers	2018
"10 Times <i>Doctor Who</i> Season Ten was the Most Progressive" <i>Crixeo</i>	2017
"What Dogs & the 'Doggo' Meme Can Teach Us About Inclusion and Consent" Bustle	2017
"Parents, Please Stop Bringing Your Kids to the Dog Park" <i>Dogs Today Magazine</i> . "9 Memorable Ways to Get on the Water in Kentucky with the Whole Family"	2017
RootsRated	2017
"London Study Abroad Experience Enhances Students' Love of Literature" Miami	
University: Department of English Website	2014
"The Blue Room Reading Guide" Peirenepress.com	2014
Poetry	
"When I Say I Can't Sing" Elysium Review	2024
Artwork & Other Creative Pursuits	
"Off the Plank: Pirate City USA" audio performance WSHU Public Radio	2024
"Off the Plank: The Daring Rescues of Ida Lewis" audio performance WSHU Public Radio	2024
"Lake Cumberland, "Lake Okeechobee," and "The Eye" acrylic on canvas december	2024
"The Eye" acrylic on canvas Doubleblack Review	2023
Book Reviews	
"Full Up of Feeling' for <i>The Lightness</i> by Emily Temple" <i>Kenyon Review</i>	2020
"A Feverish Dream': On Joao Gilberto Noll's Lord" Kenyon Review	2020
"You Know You Want to Read This: Kristen Roupenian's You Know You Want This"	
Tupelo Quarterly	2019
"How to Survive the Rest of Your Life: Vanessa Blakeslee's <i>Perfect Conditions</i> "	_019
Grist: The Writing Life	2018
"People are Finally Getting Sick of Nostalgia in TV and Movies" VICE	2018
"Netflix's Thirteen Reasons Why is Bad Fiction" The Scold	2017
"Department of Spectacular: Jenny Offill's Department of Speculation"	
The Cincinnati Review Blog	2015
"Why We Like It: 'Raisin Man' by Chelsea Bieker" <i>The Cincinnati Review Blog</i>	2015
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Interviews (Interviewer)	
"A Conversation with Elizabeth Kadetsky" Assay: A Journal of Nonfiction Studies	2021
"Oh, the Horror: A Conversation with Kristen Roupenian About Genre, Adolescence	,
and Not Knowing the Rules" Grist: A Journal of the Literary Arts	2019
Interviews (Interviewee)	
"Samantha Edmonds's Head is in the Clouds (and in Clifton)" Cincinnati Magazine	
"Meet the Galaxy Defenders" i news	2020
"Present-Tense Future: A Conversation with Sam Edmonds" <i>The Adroit Journal</i> "Mizzou PhD Student's Op-Ed Lands in the New York Times" University of Misso	2020 uri
College of Arts & Sciences newsletter	2020
Episode 107 <i>The Fandom Files</i> podcast	2019
Project Bookshelf Sundress Publications	2019
Shitty First Drafts podcast, Episode Two. May 2019.	
Episode Five: "There's a Bird in This One" Just the Gist Please podcast	2019
Author Spotlight: "Samantha Edmonds on the choose-your-own adventure style	
and the 'breakdown of control'" Santa Fe Writers Project	2017
Contributor's Spotlight Midwestern Gothic	2016
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	
Assistant Professor English 20	24—present
Berry College	24—present
Advanced Fiction Workshop	
Intermediate Fiction, "Collaborative Worldbuilding"	
Introduction to Creative Writing, "Explorations in Three Genres"	
First-Year Seminar in College Writing, "Rhetoric in Fantasy Gaming Commu	inities"
Graduate Instructor English	
·	2019—2024
Intermediate Fiction (2 sections), "Collaborative Worldbuilding"	_019 _0_1
Intermediate Creative Nonfiction, "Experimental Nonfiction"	
Introduction to Fiction (6 sections), "Craft, Community, & Citizenship"	
Introduction to Creative Nonfiction, "Exploring Genres"	
Honors Introduction to Creative Writing (independent study)	
Themes of Literature, "Aliens in the Family: On Science Fiction and Belongin	າອ"
Professional Writing	 5
First-Year Writing & Composition I (6 in-person sections, 4 online)	
	2017—2019
Introduction to Creative Writing, "Explorations in Prose" (fiction & CNF)	
First-Year Writing & Composition I (6 sections)	
Composition II, "Inquiry and Research"	
University of Cincinnati	2015—2017

Adjunct Instructor English Pellissippi State Community College ProjectGRAD Intro to Creative Writing (3 sections) University of Cincinnati First-Year Writing & Composition (online)	2019 2017	
Writing & Reading Tutor English University of Missouri Student Success Center (graduates and undergraduates, online) University of Tennessee Thornton Athletic Center (student athletes) Judith Anderson Herbert Writing Center (undergraduates) University of Cincinnati Langsam Academic Writing Center Miami University Rinella Learning Center	2023—present 2017—2019 2016—2017 2012	
Elsewhere Focus on Learning Center (ACT), Columbia MO Varsity Tutors (ACT & creative writing)	2020—present 2020—2021	
Volunteer Teacher English Young Writers' Institute Fiction Workshop, "Fairy Tales & Magical Realism" Institute of Reading Development Reading Development courses (pre-k to adults) African School Advancement Program ESL (in Arusha, Tanzania)	2018 2016—2017 2012	
EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE		
Founder & Editor-in-Chief Happy Captive Magazine	2014—2015	
Prose Editor (Fiction & CNF) Sundress Publications Tales from Manila Ave by Patrick Joseph Caoile stories 2025 Pure Fear, American Legend by Laura Dzubay stories 2024 Ruin & Want by José Araguz memoir 2023	2022—present	
Fiction Editor Doubleback Review Grist: A Journal of the Literary Arts	2019—2025 2018—2019	

Audio Editor	2021 2022
The Missouri Review	2021—2022
Assistant Prose Editor Sundress Publications *Kneel Said the Night* by Margo Berdeshevsky memoir 2022	2019—2022
Guest Editor The Wardrobe	2018
Editorial Assistant/Intern The Missouri Review The Cincinnati Review Miami University Press Camp Olvido by Lawrence Coates 2015	2019—2022 2015 2013—2014
Fountain by Tote Hughes 2014 Peirene Press (in London, England)	2014
Reader Sundress Publications Open Reading Period (Poetry) Best of the Net Anthology (Fiction & CNF) The Missouri Review Grist: A Journal of the Literary Arts Miami University Press Novella Contest The Cincinnati Review	2019—2024 2018—2021 2019—2020 2017—2018 2017—2018 2015—2017
Freelance Copy Editor & Proofreader F+W Media	2016—2017
PROFESSIONAL SERVICE	
Berry College Cultural Events Committee Evans School Faculty Advisor Ballroom Dance Group Panelist Graduate School Q&A English Department	2025—2026 2024 2024
University of Missouri English Department Grad Student Representative Creative Writing Studies Committee Subcommittee: AWP Prep and Planning Peer Mentor Various Welcome Day Events	2022—2024 2021—2024
Contributor Composition Newsletter Visiting Writing Series Coordinator Dissertation Writing Panel Presenter Intro to Graduate Studies Course	2023 2022—2023 2023
Dissertation Writing Panel Presenter Intro to Graduate Studies Course Grad Student Representative Undergraduate Studies Committee	2022—2023

Social Chair English Graduate Student Association Rater Undergraduate Honors Thesis Competition	2020—2022 2023
Final Judge LED Undergraduate Writing Competition	2022
Final Judge Kerr Award for Fiction	2022
Introduction Tina May Hall Reading	2021
	2021, 2022, & 2023
Presenter New Student Recruitment Panel	2020
University of Tennessee English Department	
MFA Representative Graduate Students of English	2017—2019
Introduction Jamel Brinkley Reading	2019
Organizer Vanderbilt & University of Tennessee Joint Reading AW	-
Presenter MFA Informational Meeting for Undergraduates	2018
University of Cincinnati English Department	
President English Graduate Organization	2016—2017
Grad Student Representative Graduate Studies Committee	2016—2017
First-Year Student Representative English Graduate Organization	2015—2016
Event Organizer Miami & University of Cincinnati Joint Reading A	WP DC 2017
Miami University English Department	
President Sigma Tau Delta	2012—2015
Vice President Students for the Promotion of Writing	2013—2015
Event Organizer Oxford Writing Festival	2014—2015
Series Coordinator Sigma Tau Delta Reading Series	2013—2015
Bookfair Volunteer Miami University Press AWP LA	2016
Bookfair Volunteer Miami University Press AWP Minneapolis	2015
Event Organizer Students for the Promotion of Writing Open Mic	2014
Other Service	
Classroom Visitor multiple universities	
Louisiana State U first-year writing classes Dr. Jordi Alonso	2024 & 2025
U of Tennessee Intermediate CNF Dr. Erin Elizabeth Smith	2024
U of Missouri Intro to Fiction Dr. Hayli Cox	2022 & 2023
Westminster College Editing/Publishing course Dr. Jeremy I	Reed 2019 & 2020
Founder Open Community Workshop in Columbia, MO	2019—2024
Panelist MFA Informational Presentation at Miami University	2023
Community Outreach Director Sundress Academy for the Arts	2018—2019
Organizer "With a Little Help from My Friends: A Reading" Girls F Camp & Sundress Academy for the Arts	Rock Oct. 2018
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OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Rater | Advanced Placement English Language & Composition Test and Research Projects | College Board AP Program

2020—present

Co-Host McWho: An American Podcast for McFly	2020—present
Bookseller and Special Events Assistant Joseph-Beth Booksellers	2014—2017
Staff Writer Recensio: The Yearbook of Miami University	2014—2015
Intern (book-buying) Joseph-Beth Booksellers	2014
Administrative Assistant Miami University English Department	2013—2014
SELECTED HONORS AND AWARDS	
External Awards and Nominations National Competitions	
Longlist Perennial Press Chapbook Award (The Space Poet)	2022
Contributor Best Small Fictions ("Thoughts on Raising Girls Freshly Feral	2020
Nomination Best American Essays ("Sophia Hanson Wants to Believe")	2020
Special Mention Pushcart Prize ("The Adventures of Earthgirl and Starboy	7") 2019
Nomination Pushcart Prize ("Galaxy Defenders Forever")	2019
First Place Split Lip Press Turnbuckle Chapbook Contest	2019
Longlist Wigleaf Top 50 ("White Dwarf Seeks Red Giant for Binary Orbi	*
Finalist Masters Review Short Story Award ("Galaxy Defenders Forever")	•
Finalist Ohioana's Walter Rumsey Marvin Grant	2016 & 2017
University of Missouri English Department	
Recipient Peden Award for Outstanding Teaching in Creative Writing	2024
First Place Kerr Award for Excellence in Fiction ("Love Spell")	2024
First Place Kerr Award for Excellence in Nonfiction ("Monstrous Water")	
Second Place Kerr Award for Excellence in Poetry ("Mama Asks" and oth	
First Place Kerr Award for Excellence in Nonfiction ("Sophia Hanson")	2023
Second Place Mahan Short Fiction Prize ("The Night Island")	2023
Recipient Hien & Emily Nguyen Creative Writing Award for Residency T	
First Place Mahan Short Fiction Prize ("Galaxy Defenders Forever")	2022
First Place McKinney Fiction Award ("Adventures of Earthgirl and Starbo	y") 2021
Second Place Mahan Short Story Award ("Hannah Hearts Bess")	2021
Recipient Huggins Scholarship for Excellence in Graduate Studies	2019
University of Tennessee English Department	
First Place Graduate Student Writing Awards ("Love Spell for Sort-Of Vin	rgins") 2019
University of Cincinnati English Department	
Recipient Graduate Student Research Fellowship	2017

READINGS

Miami University | English Department

Recipient | Miami University Dean's Scholar

Recipient | Robert Kettler Memorial Scholarship in English

2014 & 2015

2014

External Invited Readings

Champagne Room Virtual Release Party online	July 2025
The Mercantile Library: An Evening with Samantha Edmonds Cincinnati, Ohio	July 2025
Starry Beings Release Party at River & Hill Books Rome, GA	June 2025
Unbound Book Festival Columbia, MO	April 2022
Split Lip Press AWP Off-Site Reading Philadelphia, PA	March 2022
Best Small Fictions Contributor Reading Series Online	February 2021
Chiasmus Reading Series Online	February 2021
A Novel Idea Reading Series Online	December 2020
Down Book Release Party Online	November 2020
Santa Fe Writers Project AWP Off-Site Reading San Antonio, TX	March 2020
PANK Off-Site AWP Reading San Antonio, TX	March 2020
Split/Lip Press Off-Site AWP Reading San Antonio, TX	March 2020
Pretty to Think So Reading and Release Party Knoxville, TN	July 2019
Poets in Pajamas Reading Series Online	November 2018
The Only-Tenn-I-See Reading Series Knoxville, TN	November 2018
Third Man Records Reading Series Nashville, TN	October 2018
With A Little Help From My Friends Knoxville, TN	October 2018
Flash in the Morning AWP Off-Site Reading [accepted] Tampa, FL	March 2018
Sundress Reading Series Knoxville, TN	January 2018
Tongue and Groove Reading Series Cincinnati, OH.	July 2017
Midwestern Friendlies Reading Series Urbana-Champaign, IL	October 2015

Departmental & University Readings

Poissant Reading Series Berry College	November 2024
Monica Hand Reading Series University of Missouri	October 2019 & March 2022
Sneak Peak Reading Series University of Missouri	October 2021
Yellow Dog Fundraising Reading University of Missouri	December 2019
Graduate Creative Writing Awards University of Tennessee	April 2019
University of Tennessee AWP Off-Site Reading Portland, OR	March 2019
Vanderbilt and Tennessee AWP Off-Site Reading Tampa, FL	March 2018
Vanderbilt Reading Series Nashville, TN	February 2018
Grist Reading Series: True Horrors University of Tennessee	November 2017
Last Word University of Cincinnati	April 2017
Miami and Cincinnati AWP Off-Site Reading Washington, DC	February 2017
English Graduate Reading Series University of Cincinnati	November 2015
Spring Street Graduate Reading Series Miami University	February 2015
Students for the Promotion of Writing Miami University	September 2014
Oxford Writing Festival Miami University (three times)	2013—2015
Sigma Tau Delta Reading Series Miami University (six times)	2013—2015

CONFERENCES, PRESENTATIONS, AND RESIDENCIES

Organizer | Chief or Solo Presenter

SAFTA Writers Workshop Online	2021
Biomythography: Using Myth and Speculation to Enhance Your Memoir	
Escape the Plot Forest: Plotting and Storytelling Online Summit	2020
Strangeness & Surprise: How Not to Betray Your Reader with the Gotcha! Moment	
SAFTA Writers Workshop Knoxville, TN	2019
Redefining Humanity: How Speculative Genres Can Humanize Our Differences	
MEGAA Symposium on Conformity and Resistance Oxford, OH	2016
No Family is Safe: Questions of Sexual Deviance and Kinship in Original Short Fict	ion
Humanities NOW Graduate Conference Cincinnati, OH	2016
Undermining 'Midwestern Nice': Representations of the People of the Midwest and	
Breaking Stereotypes in 20th and 21st Century Literature	
Panelist	
Association of Writing & Writing Programs Kansas City, MO	2024
Show (Me), Don't Tell: Missouri Writers Grappling with the State of Their State	
New Orleans Poetry Festival Online	2021
On Ordering a Manuscript: Trends, Tips, and Helpful Questions	
Pedagogy Panel University of Missouri Composition Orientation	2020
Local, Local, Local: Brainstorming the Problem-Solving Essay	
Slayage Conference on the Whedon-verses Montreal, Quebec, Canada	2020
Defining the Boundaries of Personhood in the Buffy-verse [accepted; conference	
cancelled]	
NEXUS Conference Knoxville, TN	2018
Creative Writing in the Digital Age: Interactive Fiction	
Composing Underground: Inventions and Subversions Cincinnati, OH	2017
The Opposite of Loneliness: How Prose Poetry Bridges the Gap Between Genres	
Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture since 1900 Louisville, KY	2017
Futureborn: Science Fiction in the Contemporary Literary Landscape [accepted]	
Harper Lee: Revisions Conference Munich, Germany	2016
Asleep at the Watch: Publishing Harper Lee's Rough Draft [accepted]	
Composing Variations Cincinnati, OH	2016
Pretty to Think So: Composing Gender and Identity in Fiction Using Fragments	
Humanities Education and Resource Association Conference New Orleans, LA	2016
The Unshakeable Humanity in the Craker Core: Using Margaret Atwood's Oryx an	d
Crake to Better Understand What Makes Us Human	
Society for the Study of Southern Literature Boston, MA	2016
Bless Your Heart: Using Southern Literature to Teach Rhetorical Analysis [accepted	1]
Shakespeare's Day: Popular Culture and the Deep Past Columbus, Ohio	2016
The Fictionalization of History: How Stories Shape Our Understanding of the Past	
Moderator	• • •
Unbound Book Festival Columbia, Missouri	2024
Saving Throws: The Influence of Roleplaying Games	
Panelists: Kazim Ali, Stephanie Hedge, Matt Bell	
Unbound Book Festival Online	2021
Queer Narratives in YA:	

Panelists: Linsday Sproul and Michael Barakiva

Staff

Retreat Coordinator | Survivors' Retreats & Poetry Retreats | Sundress Academy 2018—2019

for the Arts

Attendee

Coop Resident | Sundress Academy for the Arts | Knoxville, TN

2019

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Association of Writers and Writing Programs (AWP)

Creative Writing Studies

Humanities Education and Research Association (HERA)

2015—present
2019—2024
2016—2017

References

Phong Nguyen **Trudy Lewis** Erin Elizabeth Smith Department of English Department of English Department of English University of Missouri University of Missouri University of Tennessee 1211 McClung Tower 008 Tate Hall 327 Tate Hall Columbia, MO 65201 Knoxville, TN 37996 Columbia, MO 65202 nguyenpv@missouri.edu lewistr@missouri.edu esmith83@utk.edu