

Danielle Gasparro

Literary, Musical, & Teaching Artist



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Hudson Valley & NYC

EDUCATION

M.F.A. in Creative Writing, Poetry Concentration 2021

New England College

Thesis manuscript: *(keep for poem?)*

Advisor: Chen Chen

Award: Joel Oppenheimer Scholarship

B.A. in English, *magna cum laude*, Creative Writing Concentration 2012

Florida State University

Awards & Achievements: FSU Grant recipient; Faculty and Friends Club Scholarship recipient; nonfiction winner, *Kudzu Review* annual publication contest; enrollment in graduate-level courses (by invitation of Program Director Erin Belieu)

PUBLICATION

"Life Support." *Shift: A Journal of Literary Oddities*, 2022 (poem)

"Learning Disability." *Shift: A Journal of Literary Oddities*, 2022 (poem)

"A Case for the Rocking Chair." *Chronogram*, 2015 (poem)

"Sawdust." *The Daily Palette: An Iowa Review Curation*, 2013 (poem)

"Self-Directed Study." *The Daily Palette: An Iowa Review Curation*, 2013 (poem)

"Divine Pistachio Ice Cream Pie." *The Daily Palette: An Iowa Review Curation*, 2013 (poem)

"Calling." *The Daily Palette: An Iowa Review Curation*, 2013 (poem)

"Opening Up One's Heart and Mind to Another in an Attempt to Explore the Bedrock of a Vital, Romantic Partnership Only to Continually be Left Standing Alone in the Driftwood of Self-Discovery: A Review." *Kudzu Review*, 2012 (nonfiction/humor essay)

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

- The correlation between emotional and academic literacy, and the efficacy of their curricular integration.
- Literature as an agent of humanitarian change.
- The confluence of poetry and palliative care best practices.
- Developing pedagogy around the study of literary recitation as a craft.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Artist

2013 - present

Mid-Hudson Library System | Hudson Valley, NY

Kirkwood Community College | Iowa City, IA

Program Titles: *It's a Bird...It's a Plane...It's a Poem! Demystifying the Poetic Form* (adult poetry appreciation course/workshop); *Unbind Your Style* (creative writing workshop for teens)

Conceptualize, create curriculum for, and lead interactive literary programs for adults and teens. Initiate and cultivate meaningful partnerships with programming directors and staff. Compose course description and graphically design promotional materials. Adapt/restructure curriculum to align with varying program formats (e.g., two-hour afternoon or evening workshop, daylong seminar; weekend workshop retreat, multi-week series, multi-month course).

Guest Presenter

2022 & 2021

Brandeis University | Waltham/Boston, MA (2022)

College of Western Idaho | Boise, ID (2021)

Lecture title: *The Poetics of Trust*

A thoughtful examination of how poetry functions as a relationship, and the ways in which a reader's trust in a poem's speaker can be evidenced as a new standard of evaluative excellence. Lecture given in sync with dynamic slideshow to enhance central thesis ideas. Lecture excerpt used as course discussion board prompt (College of Western Idaho). In-class writing prompt to be given as lecture supplement (Brandeis).

Guest Presenter

2019

Uplift Heights Preparatory High School | Dallas, TX

Lesson title: *Poetry as Philanthropy*

Presented hour-long lesson and discussion aimed at illuminating and investigating the vital role poetry plays in benefiting both individual and societal well-being. Designed graphics-centered lesson packets to animate key concepts and enhance student engagement.

Writing Tutor

2015

Private middle-school student | Rhinebeck, NY

On weekly basis, customized instruction to advance writing skills and reading comprehension while fostering enthusiasm and curiosity for all aspects of literacy. Tutelage across three months resulted in English grade improvement from C to A.

MUSICAL ARTIST INITIATIVES

From 1998 - 2018, my primary artistic focus was on my work as nationally touring singer-songwriter and pianist. Across these years I built an extensive repertoire of original material, a devoted national and UK following, and valued critical acclaim. Highlights of my music career include:

- Regular performances in landmark New York City listening rooms including: Rockwood Music Hall; The Bitter End; Caffe Vivaldi; The Living Room; CBGB's 313 Gallery.
- Five self- and co-produced studio recordings: *The Day You Left* (full-length album); *Satisfied Mind* (full-length album); *Big Movie Screen* (four-song EP); *birdsong* (full-length album); *Chime* (digital single).
- Eight self-produced regional, national, and UK tours.

- Guest appearances on NPR affiliate stations in several U.S. cities (New York City, Boston, Seattle, San Francisco, Houston, Tulsa, Orlando, and others) and on BBC Radio 1 programming.
- Participation in two exclusive songwriting retreats hosted by Chris Difford, lauded singer, songwriter, and co-leader of the UK band Squeeze.
- Trio-role as creator, producer, and host of monthly live interview and performance series, "Second Sundays at Rockwood Music Hall," which featured established and emerging singer-songwriters such as Madeleine Peyroux, Elizabeth Ziman, and Richard Julian.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Communications Specialist

2016 - 2018

Project-based | Remote

Work performed in contracted partnership with exclusive client portfolio of entrepreneurs, creatives, and graduate students.

Executed high-priority editorial, communication, and marketing projects through any number of the following services: proofreading; copy, line, and developmental editing; e-newsletter content design; marketing collateral design (digital and print); lecture transcription and editing.

Communications Assistant to the Founder

2009 - 2015

Lighthouse Partners | Remote

Business strategy consulting firm servicing developers of innovative digital technologies.

Designed, wrote, edited, and produced branded marketing content and collateral (digital and print). Assiduously represented Founder in written and verbal correspondence with clients and vendors.

Communications Assistant

2005 - 2009

New Leaders | New York, NY & Remote

National education non-profit devoted to developing transformational school leaders and advancing practices across classrooms, schools, and districts.

Developed and managed multi-phased campaigns, projects, and events that expanded national program awareness, attracted superior applicants, secured program funding, and onboarded new program cohorts. Wrote copy for, designed, and produced comprehensive marketing materials for use across targeted recruitment campaigns. Composed and submitted successful grant applications.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Mac & PC fluency
- Zoom, Google Meet, Skype
- Microsoft Office Suite, Adobe Acrobat Pro, Google Docs
- Adobe Photoshop
- Wix, Squarespace, WordPress, Issuu
- Constant Contact, MailChimp
- iMovie, Windows Movie Maker, SoundCloud, Vimeo
- Facebook, Instagram, Twitter

CHARITABLE WORK

"Song Sweet Song" National House Concert Tour & Fundraiser 2008 - 2011
My deepest drive as an independent touring artist was to foster human connection through song. For several years, I prioritized intimate house concerts hosted by beloved fans across the country as my "venue" of choice. To give back to the communities of those who elected to support my art and journey in such a direct, meaningful way, a portion of every concert's proceeds was donated to a local, host-selected charity that housed, served, and offered hope for homeless citizens.

FEATURED READINGS & ONGOING COMMUNITY EVENTS

"An Evening of Poetry" at Adriance Memorial Library 2022
Featured guest artist, National Poetry Month.

Hudson Valley Writers Center Open Mic 2022
Monthly participant.

Brooklyn Poets "Yawp" Reading Series 2021 - present
Monthly participant.

Kentucky Women Writers Annual Conference 2015
Featured poet/conference attendee selected by committee to read during closing event.

REFERENCES

Provided upon request.