

The Northern Review

Exploring human experience in the North

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Northern Literature

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Authors

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Tara Borin: Originally from London, Ontario, Tara now makes her home near Dawson City, Yukon, in traditional Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in territory, where she writes poems and wrangles three kids. Her work has recently appeared both online and in print at *Mother's Always Write*, *Mom Egg Review*, and *Petal Journal*. taraborinwrites.com

Yvonne Blomer lives in Victoria, British Columbia, where she is the city's poet laureate. Her most recent books include *Sugar Ride: Cycling from Hanoi to Kuala Lumpur* and *As if a Raven* (both with Palimpsest Press), and *Refugium: Poems for the Pacific*, edited by Yvonne (Caitlin Press, 2017). www.yvonneblomer.com

Kersten Christianson is a raven-watching, moon-gazing, Alaskan. When not exploring the summer lands and dark winter of the Yukon, she lives in Sitka. She holds an MFA in Creative Writing/Poetry (University of Alaska Anchorage) and recently published her first collection of poetry *Something Yet to Be Named* (Aldrich Press, 2017).

Norm Easton: I was raised in Vancouver's East End on Burrard Inlet. My father was a small-trawl fisherman before WWII. *Fishing for My Father* is an extract from my effort to understand our relationship. I became a sailor, then a landlocked Subarctic anthropologist. *Redoubt* reflects our extremes from home to here.

The Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute (GSCI) was established as the cultural and heritage arm of the Gwich'in Tribal Council in response to concerns about the decline of Gwich'in culture and language and the need to implement heritage resource issues identified in the land claim legislation and policy. gwichin.ca/about

Jennifer Houle is a New Brunswick writer. Her work has appeared in numerous literary journals and her first book, *The Back Channels* (Signature Editions), won the 2016 J.M. Abraham East Coast Literary Award for best poetry collection in Atlantic Canada. Her first visit to the Yukon, in 2017, inspired much new writing.

Jason Jobin grew up just outside of Whitehorse. His passion for writing carried him south where he earned a BA and MFA in the University of Victoria's Writing Program, ultimately teaching there on matters of Fiction, Screenwriting, and Hip Hop. He currently lives and writes in Victoria, British Columbia.

Lulla S. Johns is Dene from the Yukon–Alaska border. She is from the Raven clan; language group is Upper Tanana. She attended Lower Post Residential School 1955–61, Coudert Residence 1962–65, and grades 11 & 12 in Victoria, BC. She has a BA from UVictoria, 1993. She worked as a manager with federal & First Nation governments in the Yukon.

Dixon J. Jones lives in Fairbanks, Alaska with his wife Marion Avrilyn Jones and their cat Bug. His poems have appeared in *Cirque*, *FIELD*, *Ice Floe III*, and *Windfall*.

Carolyn Kremers lives in Fairbanks, Alaska. Her books include *Upriver* (poetry), *The Alaska Reader* (anthology), and *Place of the Pretend People: Gifts from a Yup'ik Eskimo Village* (memoir). During 2008-09 and 2015-16, she was a Fulbright Scholar at Buryat State University in Ulan Ude, Russia. www.pw.org/content/carolyn_kremers_1.

Joanna Lilley is the author of the poetry collections, *If There Were Roads* (Turnstone Press) and *The Fleece Era* (Brick Books), as well as the short story collection, *The Birthday Books* (Hagios Press). Joanna is from the United Kingdom and now lives in Whitehorse, Yukon. joannalilley.com.

Nancy Lord's work is informed by a deep connection to the landscape and cultures of coastal Alaska and northern communities. She served as the Alaska Writer Laureate from 2008 to 2010 and is the author of ten books of non-fiction, fiction, and memoir including, most recently, *pH: A Novel* (WestWinds Press/Alaska Northwest Books, 2017).

Kirsten Madsen was runner-up for the 2015 CBC Short Story Prize. Her work has appeared in *Prairie Fire*, *The New Quarterly*, and *Event*. She was a finalist in the *Malahat Review* and *The New Quarterly* fiction awards in 2017 and the Writers' Union of Canada short story competitions in 2011 & 2015.

Leslie McCartney has, over almost twenty years, led oral history and other projects in the Canadian Subarctic, Alaska, England, and Ireland, all of which involved archiving audio-visual recordings in large collections. She has been the curator of oral history at the University of Alaska Fairbanks since 2012.

Gillian McKee has lived alongside northern ravens for thirty years in the Northwest Territories and Yukon. By day she works on land use planning with the Yukon government. By night she retreats to her rural property near Whitehorse where she is inspired to capture the landscape in word and fabric.

Kyle C. Mellen's stories appear in journals such as *EPOCH*, *The Georgia Review*, *The Gettysburg Review*, and *Parcel*, and have received the Alaska Literary Award and the Sherwood Anderson Fiction Award. He lives in Fairbanks, Alaska.

S. Hollis Mickey is an interdisciplinary artist living in Anchorage, Alaska. She was awarded the 2015 Rhode Island State Council on the Arts Fellowship in New Genres. Her texts have been published in audio & print, most recently in *Cirque*, audio chapbooks "Latin Verbs," "Morning Show," and "Hair Room." hollismickey.com

murray munn, ex-Saskatchewanian, is a Whitehorse-based writer in various genres and a musician who first arrived in the Yukon in 1979. murray is an unemployed librarian who enjoys editing and proofreading ... an expert procrastinator, he hopes to get a CD out and perhaps a book ... maybe someday.

Jason Namey is a graduate student at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, where he edits prose for *Permafrost Magazine*. His stories appear or are forthcoming in *Puerto del Sol*, *Juked*, *Hobart*, *Moon City Review*, *NANO Fiction*, and elsewhere.

Annie Osburn is an MFA candidate at the University of Wyoming, and splits her time between Laramie and McCarthy, Alaska. She has worked as a lawyer, housekeeper, guide, nanny, and teacher.

Jeremy Pataky is the author of *Overwinter* (University of Alaska Press, 2015). His work has appeared in the *Colorado Review*, *Black Warrior Review*, *The Southeast Review*, *Cirque*, *Camas*, *Ice Floe*, *Anchorage Press*, and several anthologies. Jeremy earned an MFA at the University of Montana. He splits his time between Anchorage and McCarthy, Alaska.

Michael Eden Reynolds has published poems in magazines across Canada, as well as in Alaska. He published a book of poems, *Slant Room*, with Porcupine's Quill in 2009. Michael works as an addictions and mental health counsellor in Whitehorse, where he has lived since 1995.

Linda Schandelmeier grew up on a 160-acre homestead near Anchorage and now lives, writes, and gardens near Fairbanks. She is the author of *Listening Hard Among the Birches* (poetry, 2002). Her latest book *Coming Out of Nowhere, An Alaska Homestead Memoir* will be published by University of Alaska Press in Fall 2018.

Bren Simmers is the author of two books of poetry: *Night Gears* (Wolsak and Wynn, 2010) and *Hastings-Sunrise* (Nightwood Editions, 2015), which was a finalist for the City of Vancouver Book Award.

Jerome Stueart served as a trolley conductor in Whitehorse. His writing has been published in *Geist*, *Geez*, *Ice-Floe*, *Lightspeed*, and *Fantasy*, and his collection of stories, *The Angels of Our Better Beasts*, was longlisted for the Sunburst Award. He now teaches writing at the University of Dayton in Ohio.

Susan Sugai is a retired oceanographer, instructor, and research administrator from the University of Alaska Fairbanks, where she now is a non-degree-seeking student in creative writing. Her poetry appeared in *Seattle Review*, *Greenfield Review*, and *Harpoon* about thirty years ago.

Mary Thaler has worked on eight oceanographic missions on Canadian ice-breaking ships in the Beaufort Sea, northern Baffin Bay, and the Arctic Archipelago. She has also worked in Iqaluit as a policy analyst. She is now a full-time writer in Québec City. marythaler.wordpress.com

Tahirih Walsh grew up in British Columbia and the Yukon, including Whitehorse and Haines Junction. She has a BA in cultural anthropology from UBC and worked in international education for over ten years. She is a recent graduate of SFU's The Writer's Studio. Her writing explores themes of place and belonging.

Katie Zdybel's writing has been published in *North of Ordinary*, *Shambhala Sun*, and on *CBC Canada Writes*. Her first draft-novel was a quarter-finalist for the Amazon Breakthrough Novel Award and she has received the Yukon Advanced Artist Award. She's an MFA student in Creative Writing at UBC and reviews for *PRISM Magazine*.

Joe Zucchiatti lives in Whitehorse. He recently took part in a hokey, local writing contest that awarded him 200 lineal feet of baseboard, a light fixture, and two gallons of paint from the hardware store, proving that the writing of poetry is, above all things, a practical endeavour.