

Wendy Vardaman & Sarah Busse Poets Laureate Projects

2015

- Ongoing curators for Common Council reading series
- conference papers: Associated Writers & Writing Programs (AWP)--panels in April (Minneapolis)
- Bus Lines Metro
- Write Your Madison project with Madison Museum of Contemporary Art
- Olbrich Gardens Reading
- Publishing bilingual book as Cowfeather by Rubén Medina (UW-Madison Professor of Latin@ Studies)

2014

- Ongoing curators for Common Council reading series
- conferences: Associated Writers & Writing Programs (AWP), Popular Culture Association (PCA)
- published anthology of Latino writers by Oscar Mireles (ed.), *I Didn't Know There Were Latinos in Wisconsin*
- co-edited and published a new anthology of prose about poetry, *Local Ground(s)--Midwest Poetics*
- Bus Lines--working on expanding program and partners, now includes Edgewood College students
- continuing "Beyond the Water's Edge" exhibit, Lussier Center
- Olbrich Gardens Reading
- experimented with Women's Write-In series

2013

- Ongoing curators for TEMPO and Common Council reading series
- *Echolocations: Poets Map Madison*, an anthology Fall 2013, (related partnership with Poetry Jumps off the Shelf & Madison B-Cycle)--this anthology was a fundraiser for the MCF acorn fund for the poet laureateship--we donated \$800 to this fund in 2013
- developing poetry content for new WI Book Festival with Passing the Mic/First Wave and with Forward Theater; Public Poets conversation
- poetry content for project with Forward Theatre
- Dane Co. Lakes & Watershed Commission, 25th Anniversary Photography & Poetry exhibit, Steering Committee & poetry curators

- women's manuscript group
- Olbrich Gardens reading
- Bus Lines with Metro Transit
- partnership with Wormfarm Institute and CAIS at UW: De-Composium event; Pass Words contest fall
- conferences: Society for the Study of Midwestern Literature (SSML); Midwestern MLA
- poetry events at Madison Central Library, South Library

2012

- Olbrich Gardens Reading (a 3-hour poetry marathon of about 15 readers and Bus Lines winners)
- Initiated quarterly Common Council readings
- Wisconsin Poets' Calendar 2013 (editors, layout) (this was a project with the Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets)
- Began working on *Echolocations: Poets Map Madison*

News

WI State Journal--announcement about new PLs 2012

Madison Library Homepage

http://badgerherald.com/news/2012/01/31/mayor_names_two_madi.php

http://www.themadisontimes.com/news_details.php?news_id=1719

Council for WI Writers blog 2-8

Isthmus notice-2-9

Channel 27 News 2-11

Madison Magazine, with Fabu, "Best of Madison 2012"--Editor's Choice Award

WI State Journal, Poet Laureates WI & Madison:

http://host.madison.com/wsj/news/local/poetry-in-devotion-committee-seeks-nominations-for-next-statewide-ambassador/article_72ae3326-099d-11e2-8f4e-001a4bcf887a.html

Channel 27 Buslines- 6-26-13

<http://www.wkow.com/story/22680893/2013/06/25/student-poetry-marking-madison-buses>

Isthmus and Cap Times stories about *Echolocations* (11-13)

Madison Times and Capital City Hues stories on book by Oscar Mireles, Fall 2014

Isthmus story on Bus Lines, "The Madison Experience in Verse" (1/5/2015)

<http://www.isthmus.com/daily/article.php?article=44296>

Laureate appearances/meetings/news for Sarah & Wendy

2012

1-31 WORT evening news, Sarah Busse

2-11 Madison Library-South Goodman Branch, w/ Bruce Dethlefsen, Fabu, Andrea Musher & Hibiscus, Inaugural Reading

2-16 WORT, Radio Lit, Broadcast of Inaugural Reading

2-19 WFOP Winter Reading Series, Avol's (Wendy)

2-23 WORT, Radio Lit, (Sarah)

2-26 Books & Beats, Stu Levitan

3-7 Meeting Shoshauna Shy, Poetry Jumps Off the Shelf (Informational)

3-9/10 Art Show (Banned Art in Protest), Goodman Community Center--display, reading & video presentation

3-14 Arts Day, Madison, in attendance

3-17 Meeting Laurel Bastian, Poetry in Prisons (Informational)

3-19 Prairie Voices Celebration (Sun Prairie, K-12 literary awards/magazine event-Sarah, guest speaker)

3-19 & 20 Line Breaks Festival (in attendance, Wendy)

3-21 3-28 West Neighborhood Community Center Meeting (Sarah)

3-24 Poetry Out Loud Finals (Judge, Wendy)

3-27 Meeting Paul Terranova, Ex. Dir Lussier Center/other Center directors,
(Informational)

3-28 Meeting Willie Ney, First Wave, (Informational)

3-28 Central Neighborhood Community Center Meeting (Wendy)

4-5 WORT, Radio Lit, (Wendy)

4-9 UW-Green Bay, panel on publishing for English Dept.

4-10 City Council Organizational Committee Meeting (to discuss reading poems to open
city council meetings)

4-15 Fox Cities Book Festival, panel for publishers, and Laureates' reading

4-16 Attended the Sixth Annual Nelson Institute Earth Day Conference (Wendy)

4-17 Crestwood Elementary School (Sarah)

4-18 Meeting with Nick Schweitzer (Informational)

4-24 Meeting with David Wells (Informational)

5-1 Read poem at City Council Meeting (Sarah)

5-4 MMoCA, Magic & Metamorphosis reading/art exhibit

5-12 Council for Wisconsin Writers Banquet to honor annual award winners (Sarah to
receive Lorine Niedecker Award, Wendy is runner-up for short non-fiction award)

5-20 Olbrich Gardens Invitational-readers/organizers

6-2 Midwest Small Press Festival, Milwaukee

6-16 Southeast WI Book Festival, Waukesha, panel moderator (Wendy)

7/21-22 Teaching workshop in University of Iowa's Summer Writing Festival (Sarah)

7/23-27 Attended Hip Hop Educators' Institute, UW-Madison (Wendy)

7-28 Kickapoo Co. Fair Featured Reader (Sarah)

8-12 Read "She Is So Fragile, This Figure, Set Here to Stand," to commemorate the replica Statue of Liberty re-Dedication, Warner Park(Sarah)

8-17-19 Poetry Camp

8- Judges for "Pass Words," poems for the Reedsburg Fermentation Festival

9-1 Issued Call for Work, joint Cowfeather Press-Poetry Jumps Off the Shelf anthology of poems set in Madison

9-18 Read poem at City Council Meeting (Wendy)

10- composed "Letters to Obihiro," a poem to honor Obihiro, Japan (Madison's Sister City)(Sarah)

11/ 2-4 Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets' Conference

11/9-11 Wisconsin Book Festival events: Performance Poetry; Creative Publishing; Poetry in Unexpected Places (organizers & moderators for these 3 panels--Sarah & Wendy); Council for WI Writers panel on supporting WI writers (Wendy)

11-14 Creative Writing Festival at Whitewater, Keynote Speaker/2 workshops (Wendy)

12-3, Featured Reader Harmony Cafe, Appleton, WI (Sarah)

12-6: Featured Poet, Carroll University (Waukesha)--two class visits and a reading in the evening (Sarah)

12-11: Introduce Moises Villavicencio Barras, featured reader at Common Council (Sarah)

2013

ongoing--work on *Echolocations: Poets Map Madison*, an anthology -partnership with Poetry Jumps off the Shelf; developing poetry content for new WI Book Festival; poetry content for project with Forward Theatre

1-8 TEMPO Meeting (Sarah)

1- Judge for South East Wisconsin Scholastic Writing Awards (Wendy)

1-16: meeting with Wormfarm and CAIS to discuss summer symposium, collaboration and possible grant opportunities

1-17: featured reader at Fort Atkinson (Sarah)

1-20: featured reader at Winter Festival of Poets, Madison (Sarah)

2-4 Oakhill Correctional (Wendy)

2-11: meet book group and discuss poetry (Sarah)

2-12 TEMPO Meeting (Wendy)

2-13 Meeting with Greg Mickells, Madison Library Director

2-17: workshop in Mineral Point (Sarah)

2/ 17-22: artist's retreat/residency at Shake Rag Alley (Sarah)

2-23: Discuss Lorine Niedecker's poetry in Fort Atkinson (Sarah)

3-1 MMoCA/ WFOP reading for Ellsworth Kelly Exhibit

3- 5: introduce Danez Smith, featured reader at Common Council

3-8 Public Humanities Conference, UW (Wendy attended)

3-13 Arts Day Madison (in attendance)

3-15 Symposium on Race & Place, UW (Wendy attended)

3-16 Judge, Poetry Out Loud (Wendy)

3-23 AllWriters' Celebrity Saturday Workshop, Waukesha

3-25 UW-Green Bay advanced poetry class

3-28: Read in Duluth at Teatro Zuccone, with former Duluth Poet Laureate Jim Johnson (Sarah)

4- Judges for the Rising Phoenix Poetry Contest, UW-Greenbay

4-9 Meeting with Gwen Rice, Forward Theatre

4-14 Reading with BJ Best, Madison (Sarah)

4-15 Nelson Institute Sustainability Symposium (Wendy attended)

4-16 Meeting Conor Moran (book festival); Meeting Oscar Mireles (anthology of Latino poets, anthology "Black & Brown")

4-21 Attended Spoken Word event at Overture Center (Derek Johnson's group, Wendy)

4-25 WORT radio (Sarah)

4-26 Debut Madison B-Cycle "Poetic Bikes" with Poetry Jumps Off the Shelf

4-27 WFOP Conference

5-3 Meeting--Wormfarm Institute's Passwords contest

5/9-11 Society for the Study of Midwestern Literature (Michigan State University) 2 Panels, Individual readings

5-14 Attended Media Savvy Girls (Project Girl) at WI Academy (Wendy)

5-21 Meeting with Kelly Park Snider, Project Girl

5/31-6/1 Midwest Small Press Festival, Milwaukee (Wendy)

6-1 Publication of *Luz de Todos los Tiempos / Light of All Times* by Madison poet Moises Villavicencio Barras

6/6-9 Poetry Manuscript Retreat Group, organized and led with 6 other women poets invited (no charge to them)

6-13 Meeting with Dane Co. Lakes & Watershed Commission, 25th Anniversary Photography & Poetry exhibit

6-14 Uri-Eichen Gallery, Chicago, 14 Protest broadsides part of "Battles in the State Capitols- Wisconsin, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio"

6-15 Center for Integrated Agricultural Studies-UW/ Verse Wisconsin/WormFarm Institute "De-Composium: Land, Food & Transformation" on Culture & Agriculture, co-organized

6-18 Common Council, introduced poet Norma Gay Prewett

6-23 WFOP-Madison Poets Laureate Olbrich Gardens Invitational Reading & Conversation (organizers)

6-24 Buslines publicity for Channel 27, Meeting with Metro

6-25 Meeting with Willie Ney for Book Festival/Passing the Mic (Wendy)

6-26 Meeting with Fabu (Wendy)

6-27 Meeting with Dane Co. Lakes & Watershed steering committee; Lisa Mettauer, Madison Public Library (Wendy)

6-28 Meeting with Oscar Mireles, IDK anthology project

7/15-19 Hackathon, UW-Madison Wisconsin Institute of Discovery (Wendy), Interview appeared on WID website: "Artful Hacking," [Wisconsin Institute of Discovery](#), August 2013

7/22-26 Hip Hop in the Heartland, 8th Educators' Institute (participants, Sarah & Wendy)

summer-fall meetings with JVN Project, Kelly Hiser (public humanities intern in digital publishing, Madison Library,

9/ Common Council (Oscar Mireles)

9-8, 10-6, & 10-11, Readings for Cowfeather Press books: Appleton, Madison Central Library, Woodland Pattern Book Center-Milwaukee

10- Curators, Passwords (Poems on the Farm Art DTour, Wormfarm Institute)

10-3 Informational meeting, Madison Central Library with Kelly (Public Humanities intern) about digital publishing

10-8 TEMPO reading (Sarah)

10-18-20 WI Book Festival event, Public Poets; Festival event with Forward Theater; Passing the Mic-- Curators for pedagogy panel

10-24 Wisconsin Historical Society--Poets from collaboration with Forward Theater present work with actors from *Sons of the Prophet*

10-26 Presenter, Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets, from Brain to Book (Wendy)

10- Publication of *Echolocations, Poets Map Madison*, print and Kindle editions (Sarah & Wendy co-editors and publishers)

10- Publication of *Turn Up the Volume: Poems About the States of Wisconsin*, (poetry about First Amendment rights in Wisconsin, Wendy co-edited)

10-30 Opened the Capital Area Conference on Sustainability with poem, explanation of *Echolocations*

11- 2 Dane Co. Exhibit Reception/Reading, Poems & Photos on display November-December at South Madison Library, traveling through 2014

11- Forward's production of *Sons of the Prophet*, Poems on display through November

11/7-10 Midwestern Modern Language Assoc. Meeting, Milwaukee, Panel organizer/presenter and reader (Wendy)

11-12 TEMPO Bazaar--sold *Echolocations*, info about Madison PLship

11-15 Turn-Up the Volume reading, Milwaukee (Wendy)

11- 23 Launch of *Echolocations* anthology, Madison Central Library (afternoon) / Bubbler poetry program (morning), collecting local poems

12/3 Dane Co. meeting about outreach for Co. Executive (Wendy)

12/ Common Council Reading

12/5 Meeting--Lussier Center about spring exhibit/ workshop

12/12 Echolocations reading, Mystery to Me Bookstore, Madison

2014

1-16 Children's Museum, MAC Honors Event, poem/reading (Sarah)

1- Judge for South East Wisconsin Scholastic Writing Awards (Wendy)

1- 20-Martin Luther King Youth Day-Wisconsin Institute of Discovery--workshop & Bus Lines presentation

1- Curators, Bus Lines Poetry for 2014, extended partnership to Edgewood College typography class

1- 25 Woodland Pattern Poetry Marathon (Milwaukee, Wendy)

1-26 WFOP Winter Reading Series (Wendy)

2-1-work-in with women poets--South Madison Library

2-2 Monona Terrace Madison Poetry & Photography exhibit opening & reading, poems from *Echolocations*

2-6-SOARS at Sherman Middle School--poetry workshops

2- 28 AWP (Association of Writers and Writing Programs) national meeting in Seattle (presenter, Sarah)

3-4 Poetry at Common Council

3-7-MMoCA: Real/Surreal exhibit, readers (Sarah & Wendy)

3-11-work-in with women poets--Central Madison Library

3-12 Arts Day, Madison (Wendy, attended)

3-27 Bridge reading at the Chazen Museum (Wendy)

4-4 Lussier dinner for continued "Beyond the Water's Edge" Exhibit at Lussier March-April

4-10 Reading with Milwaukee PL, Jim Chapson, Marquette University, Milwaukee (Wendy)

4-16 National meeting of Popular Culture Association, panel on performance & poetry (presenter, Wendy)

4-21 Eat Local::Read Local, Madison, Featured Reader (Wendy)

5-15 Reading in Ft. Atkinson (Wendy)

6-17 Poetry at Common Council (Faustina Bohling)

6- 24 Madison Community Foundation, annual fundraising dinner, wrote poem about community at their request to read at the close of the dinner

6-29 Olbrich Gardens Reading (organizers)

7-11 Featured reader, Allwriters Studio Friday Night Free for All, Waukesha (Sarah)

7- 24 Featured reader, Saints & Strangers, The Book Cellar, Chicago (Wendy)

7-27 Featured reader, Poetry & Pints, Madison (Wendy)

8- 11 Featured reader, Linneman's, Milwaukee (Wendy)

9-10 Latino Art Fair

October Published two new books through Cowfeather: *I Didn't Know Their Were Latinos in Wisconsin: Three Decades of Hispanic Writing*, ed. Oscar Mireles, and *Local Ground(s)--Midwest Poetics*, ed. Sarah Busse & Wendy Vardaman

9-28 & 10-4 Readings for *I Didn't Know Their Were Latinos in Wisconsin* in Madison and Milwaukee

10-7 Poetry at Common Council (Nakila Robinson, read by Rain Wilson)

11-13 Bridge reading at the Chazen (Sarah)

11-19 Digital Launch Party for *Local Ground(s)--Midwest Poetics* (anthology)

November-Feb 15 (w/ MMoCA) Call for Work, Write Your Madison

November-Jan 31 (with Metro Transit) Call for Poems, Write Your Madison

12-2 Poetry at Common Council (Joe Briggs)

2015

1-31 Woodland Pattern Poetry Marathon (participants)

2-1 Reading at Woman Made Gallery (Chicago, Wendy, featured reader)

February-March Judging Bus Lines and working with Edgewood College to design work

January-March Write Your Madison initiative in conjunction with MMoCA

2-10 MAC meeting

3-3 Common Council Poetry with HeyMiss Progress (Sabrina Madison)

3-5 WORT Radio Show

3-6 MMoCA Write Your Madison Reading, in conjunction with art exhibit on Madison

4-9 AWP (Assoc. Writers and Writing Programs) Minneapolis, on City Poets Laureate (panelist Sarah) and on Midwest Poetics (organizer/panelist Wendy) and Festival of Language Readings (Wendy)

5-17 Olbrich Gardens Poetry Reading (will include Bus Lines winners, other poets) (organizers)

September Bubbler 4-week Class in Poetry Chapbooks (Sarah & Wendy) Madison Central Library, Free