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## Curriculum Vitae

### Education

- Currently pursuing Master's of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) in Fiction Writing at Purdue University.
- Graduated *summa cum laude* from the University of Southern California with a B.A. in Creative Writing and a minor in Entrepreneurship; received Renaissance Scholar recognition for diversity in studies. (2009)
- Studied abroad for a semester at the University of East Anglia in Norwich, England; took courses in Creative Writing and English Literature. (2008)
- Studied abroad for a summer at the Cambridge University International Summer School Programme; took courses in English Literature and Elizabethan Poetry. (2007)

### Publications

- Short fiction has appeared in the literary journals Monkeybicycle, Arcadia Journal, Zahir, Cicada, Bartleby-Snopce, All Things Girl, Lady Jane's Miscellany, Palaver, Istanbul Literary Review, The Newport Review, The Greensilk Review, flashquake, Encounter, Page Forty-Seven, Eve's Harvest, Long Story Short, Eclectic Flash, and The Hudson Valley Literary Magazine.
- Nonfiction has appeared in The Los Angeles Times, Family Circle, Writer's Digest, The Writer, Attribute, Motherwords, CO-ED, Writing, Listen, Justine, and nine *Chicken Soup for the Soul* books; have also written for business-focused websites such as iMediaConnection.
- Two self-published books: *3 a.m.* (a collection of short stories, 2005) and *There's a Huge Pimple On My Nose* (a collection of stories and poems for children, 1998.)
- Y.A. novel manuscript represented by Foundry Literary + Media in New York City.

### Employment History

- Editor/Publisher of *Dancing With The Pen: A Collection of Today's Best Youth Writing* (January 2011) which became an Amazon.com best-seller, reaching a #2 ranking in the "literature anthologies" category in its first week of release. The anthology features short fiction, essays, and poetry written by sixty students in middle school and high school, hailing from all across the United States and abroad: Canada, Singapore, and New Zealand.
- Assistant Fiction Editor for Sycamore Review. (August 2010-present)
- Staff writer for [www.TweenParent.com](http://www TweenParent.com): wrote articles of interest to "tweens" (ages 10-12) and their parents, including an interview with *Ella Enchanted* author Gail Carson Levine. (2009-10)
- Staff writer for the website [www.GradtoGreat.com](http://www.GradtoGreat.com): wrote feature news articles. (2009-10)

- Monthly columnist for Listen Magazine: interview young people; write the dialogue and storyline for a comic strip. (September 2004-present)
- Program Coordinator for the Young Writers Program of the Santa Barbara Writers Conference: organized guest speakers, moderated panels with authors and agents, and taught workshops for young writers. (June 2006-2009)
- Featured speaker at various conferences and events, including: Southern Expressions Writers Conference, Jack London Writers Conference, Cal Lutheran Authors Faire, Santa Barbara Book Fair, American Association of University Women, National League of American Pen Women (Simi Valley Branch), Ventura County Writers Club, Ventura County Reading Association, Rotary Clubs, Kiwanis Clubs, Lions Clubs, and more than 80 elementary, middle, and high schools.

### **Leadership and Volunteer Endeavors**

- Founder and President of Write On! For Literacy ([www.writeonbooks.org](http://www.writeonbooks.org)) to encourage kids to discover joy, confidence, and a means of self-expression and connection with others through reading and writing. Currently in the process of becoming a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Hold biannual essay contests and award scholarships for young writers to attend the Santa Barbara Writers Conference Young Writers Program. (2001-present)
- Founder and President of Write On! Books publishing company that publishes anthologies of work by young writers. (2010-present)
- Organize an annual Holiday Book Drive that has bought, collected and donated nearly 12,000 new books (estimated worth: \$80,000) to disadvantaged kids. (2001-present)
- Founder and Instructor of the Write On! Summer Writing Camp for young creative writers ages 8-18 in Ventura, California. (2008-present)
- Youth Director for the nonprofit organization SPAWN: Small Publishers, Artists, and Writers Network. (August 2009-present)
- Vice-President of Give Running, a nonprofit organization that collects, cleans, and donates used running shoes to orphans in underdeveloped nations including Uganda, Sudan, and Mexico. More than 9,200 shoes have been donated. (2006-present)

### **Scholarships, Prizes, Honors**

- Received a “Q-Award” for Excellence in Teaching, Fall 2010 semester.
- Honored as one of five national “Best of You” award winners by Glamour Magazine and Sally Hansen for leadership and service endeavors. (2010)
- Recipient of the Entrepreneurial Values Award and Top Ten Business Plan Award from the University of Southern California Greif School of Entrepreneurship. (2009)
- Dzanc Books “Best of the Web” nominee for short story “DING!” published in Bartleby-Snopce literary magazine. (2010)
- First place, Southern Illinois Writers Guild Short Story Contest, for “Goosepimples.” (2010)
- Pushcart Prize nominee for short story “Numb” published in Monkeybicycle. (2009)
- First Place, Hamilton Writers Guild Short Story Contest, for “A Real Beauty.” (2009)
- Undergraduate Fiction Prize from the University of Southern California for short story “Woman, Running Late, in a Dress.” (2009)
- University of Southern California Associates Trustee Scholar. (2009)
- National Finalist for the Marshall Fellowship and the Mitchell Fellowship. (2008)

- One of five national Liberty Mutual Responsible Scholars for community service and academic excellence. (2008)
- One of twelve seniors at the University of Southern California selected for “Order of the Torch,” an academic, leadership and service group. (2008)
- One of seven national Jim Murray Memorial Foundation Scholars for academic and journalistic excellence. (2007)
- Dean’s Prize recipient, University of Southern California, College of Letters, Arts & Sciences. (2007)
- Youngest guest on the nationally syndicated, Emmy-nominated PBS book talk show “Between the Lines,” which has also featured authors Mario Puzo, Sidney Sheldon, and Ray Bradbury. (2006)
- Honored by the American Red Cross of Ventura County as the “Young Woman of the Year” for literacy and humanitarian work. (2006)