

Christen Barron

EDUCATION | Savannah College of Art and Design: Savannah, Georgia

Master of Fine Arts in Writing (November 2015)

- SCAD Outstanding Achievement Award, School of Liberal Arts (2016)
- SCAD Outstanding Achievement Award, Graduate Writing Department (2016)

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dramatic Writing (June 2011)

- Georgia Hope Scholar (2008-2011)
- Dean's List (2007-2011)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE | Texas A&M University-San Antonio: San Antonio, Texas

Lecturer in English (Fall 2017 to present)

- Create innovative lesson plans and syllabi to meet Texas A&M University course descriptions
- Teach writing courses in the First-Year Composition Program (FYC) sequence
- Track students' progress via Blackboard online tools
- Meet with students during office hours
- Adapt teaching style and curriculum to meet the needs of a diverse population of nontraditional and first-generation students.
- Serve on various departmental committees, including the First-Year Composition (FYC) committee, the Creative Arts and Performance Studies (CAPS) committee, and an ad-hoc website design committee
- Advise FYC program director regarding curriculum and program development
- Participate in departmental meetings
- Incorporate instructional technology such as Digication into the classroom
- Participate in monthly professional development workshops on topics such as diversity, assessment, and instructional technology
- Promote student participation in FYC program events on campus
- Redesign existing FYC courses for online delivery
- Create engaging digital content to enhance student learning in online environments

Adjunct Writing Instructor (Spring 2017)

- Create lesson plans and syllabi to meet Texas A&M University course descriptions
- Teach writing courses in the First-Year Composition Program sequence
- Track students' progress via Blackboard online tools
- Meet with students during office hours

TEACHING AND EDITING EXPERIENCE | *Gemini Ink: San Antonio, Texas*

Writers in Communities Instructor (Summer 2017-present)

- Co-create curriculum for community-based writing workshops
- Co-teach mixed media writing workshops and creative nonfiction workshops at local community centers and public schools
- Plan and facilitate student open-mic performances and exhibitions
- Edit student writing for publication

TEACHING EXPERIENCE | *Saint Leo University: Savannah, Georgia*

Adjunct Writing Instructor (Spring 2016 to fall 2017)

- Create engaging lesson plans and syllabi to meet Saint Leo University course descriptions
- Teach sections of English 121, English 122, and Basic Composition Skills
- Track students' progress via BrightSpace D2L and other online tools
- Meet with students during office hours

TEACHING EXPERIENCE | *SCAD: Savannah, Georgia*

Graduate Mentor (Spring 2015 to fall 2015)

- Schedule bi-weekly meeting with assigned mentees
- Provide guidance on coursework and campus life
- Tutor students in English 123 coursework and other writing-related assignments
- Attend rigorous training sessions on topics related to student success

Writing Instructor for SCAD Summer Seminars Program (Summer 2015)

- Create lesson plans to meet SCAD-assigned course description
- Teach a class of 10-15 students per week
- Give individualized feedback on student writing
- Collect and edit student work for closing exhibitions

Teaching Assistant for WRIT 455 Writing for New Media II (Spring 2015)

- Comment on student papers and projects
- Give presentations on new media topics
- Develop student assignments using emerging technology
- Lead class discussions

TEACHING AND EDITING EXPERIENCE | *Deep Center: Savannah, Georgia* Master Writing Fellow (2013-2014)

- Co-develop creative writing workshop curriculum geared towards high school/advanced writers
- Review candidate portfolios and make admission decisions
- Administer a weekly workshop tailored to writing competitions
- Collect and pre-edit student work for annual e-publication
- Strategize creative solutions for workshop improvement
- Guide students through the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards application process

Writing Fellow (2011-2016, 2021-present)

- Lead an innovative weekly creative writing workshop for Deep's Young Author Project
- Use contemporary fiction to teach core writing skills and promote literacy
- Collect and edit selected student works for publication in Deep's biannual anthologies
- Write chapter introductions for Deep's biannual anthologies

Teaching and Research Intern, Publications and Contests (Fall 2011)

- Facilitated the writing contest initiative that placed Deep students in the top 10% of Creative Communication Contest applicants

WRITING WORK EXPERIENCE | *SA Flavor: San Antonio, TX* Freelance Blogger (2017)

- Write 300-800 word reviews
- Research the local food and beverage scene for article leads

WRITING WORK EXPERIENCE | *Savannah Weddings Magazine: Savannah, Georgia* Freelance Writer (Winter 2015 to Fall 2016)

- Interview brides and planners about local weddings
- Write 300-500 word articles

WRITING WORK EXPERIENCE | *Electric Lemonade: Savannah, Georgia*

Freelance Web Content Writer (Winter 2016)

- Write and design content for business homepages
- Use SEO best practices to write informational articles on various subjects

WRITING WORK EXPERIENCE | *SCAD: Savannah, Georgia*

Writer/Editor for SCAD CLC Coca-Cola Consumer Conversion Project (Fall 2014)

- Write and copy edit content for published process book
- Serve on a concept-generating design team

PUBLICATIONS | *Fiction and Nonfiction*

"The Writer's Desk with Christen Barron" (2025), craft interview/conversation with Gemini Ink

"An Island Homecoming" (2016), *Savannah Weddings Magazine*

"High Drama" (2016), *Savannah Weddings Magazine*

"Rain and Shine" (2016), *Savannah Weddings Magazine*

"Why I Don't Come to Pickney Hills Anymore" (2016), *Document*

"Missed Connections" (2014), *Document*

"Rising Up" (2013), *Black Fox Literary Magazine*

"How I Lost Catcher" (2011), *YARN Literary Review*

"Saltwater Taffy, Baby, Rock Candy Blues" (2011), *District Quarterly*

"My Everyone Else" (2010), *District Quarterly*

PUBLIC PERFORMANCES/READINGS

Featured Performer, "Why I Don't Come to Pickney Hills Anymore (2025), Gemini Ink Spring Open House

PUBLICATIONS | *Scholarly*

"Openings, Risks, and Antiracist Futures at a Hispanic-Serving Institution" (2020, with Lizbett Tinoco, Scott Gage, Ann Bliss, Petra Baruca, and Curt Meyer), *The Journal of Writing Assessment*

PANELS AND PRESENTATIONS | *Writing Pedagogy*

“Merging Passion and Profession: Unifying the Teacher/Writer Identity,” Gemini Ink Writers Conference (2018)

“Service-Learning and FYC,” Texas A&M-San Antonio First-Year Composition Brown Bag Lunch Series (2018)

“WIC Writers Panel: Negotiating the Workshop Space,” Gemini Ink Writers Conference (2019)

“Using Labor Based Gradings to Resist Racism and Colonial Frameworks,” Conference on College Composition and Communication (2021)

“ChatGPT in the Writing Classroom,” Center for Academic Innovation at Texas A&M-San Antonio (2023)

“Using Technology to Engage Dual Credit Students,” Faculty Development Session for Dual Credit and Early College High School faculty at Texas A&M-San Antonio (2023)

“The Dual Credit Kaleidoscope: Book Discussion” First-Year Composition Coffee and Composition series at Texas A&M-San Antonio (2024)

“FYC Brown Bag: Teaching First-Year Composition with *Mosaic*” (2025)

COMMITTEE SERVICE | *Texas A&M-University San Antonio*

Creative Arts and Performance Studies (CAPS) Committee (Member 2021-2023; Co-chair 2023-present);

First-Year Composition (FYC) Committee (2017-present)

Department of Language, Literature, and Arts (LLA) Website Committee (2021)

FYC Adjunct Search Committee (2021-2022, as needed)

CREATIVE PROJECTS AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Co-developed an online writing workshop, “In Response to the River” in collaboration with Gemini Ink and San Antonio River Foundation (2020)

Edited and designed the digital publication, “Quarantine River Zine” in collaboration with Gemini Ink and San Antonio River Foundation (2020)

Wrote and produced a series of instructional writing videos for the Gemini Ink YouTube channel (2020)

Developed an innovative and accessible online course shell in collaboration with Texas A&M San Antonio’s Electronic Courseware Development Project (2021-2022)

Co-taught a series of virtual creative writing workshops for the Deep Center's nationally-recognized Young Author Project (2022-2023)

Edited and wrote chapter introductions for Volumes 13 and 14 of the *Young Author Project* anthology in collaboration with the Deep Center in Savannah, Georgia (2022-2023)

Provided technology and administrative support for "The Six-Minute Memoir," a workshop hosted by Gemini Ink and award-winning novelist, Mary Helen Stefaniak (2022)

Co-developed a series of in-person youth writing workshops for Gemini Ink in collaboration with local nonprofits, including San Antonio Parks and Recreation, Empower House, Girls, Inc., and Rise Inspire Academy (2016-2019, 2023-2025)

Edited broadsides and anthologies featuring writing from Gemini Ink workshops (2016-2023)

Coordinated a radio performance of student writing by former San Antonio Poet Laureate, Andrea "Vocab" Sanderson (2023)

Chief Manuscript Editor for multimedia anthology, *The Poetry of Transformation* featuring youth authors from Gemini Ink's Rise Inspire Academy workshop (2023-2024)

Chief Manuscript Editor for *When the Storm is Over: Poems from Krier*, a poetry anthology featuring students from Cyndi Taylor Krier Juvenile Correctional Treatment Center (2024)

Supervising Faculty/Editor for *Mosaic*, a student-led literary magazine at Texas A&M-University San Antonio (2024-present)

Co-developed and presented a series of creative journaling and creative nonfiction workshops for San Antonio Metro Health District employees in collaboration with Gemini Ink (2024-present)

Interim Partner Classes Program Coordinator for Gemini Ink (Summer 2024)

Presented a mini flash fiction workshop for A&M-SA Writing Club (Fall 2024)

Developed "Beyond the Blank Page," a six-week, beginner-level Creative Writing course for Gemini Ink's Public Classes Program (2025)

Chief Manuscript Editor for creative writing anthology, *Without it Being a Dream* featuring youth authors from Gemini Ink's Rise Inspire Academy workshop (2025)

Chief Manuscript Editor for *Like a River Flows: Poems from Krier*, a poetry anthology featuring students from Cyndi Taylor Krier Juvenile Correctional Treatment Center (2025)

AWARDS AND NOMINATIONS

Gemini Ink: Teaching Artist of the Year (2024)

Gemini Ink: Clary Clack Scholarship (2024)

Gemini Ink: WIC Conference Scholarship (2018)

United Way 37th Annual Volunteer Recognition & Awards Nominee (2016)

SCAD Outstanding Achievement Award, School of Liberal Arts (2016)

SCAD Outstanding Achievement Award, Graduate Writing Department (2016)

SCAD Gutstein Prize (2016)

SCAD AWP Conference Grant (2014)

SCAD Jason Andler Memorial Scholarship (2014)

SCAD Combined Honors Scholarship (2013-2015)

Best American Nonrequired Reading Series Nominee for "How I Lost Catcher" (2012)

Society of Professional Journalists Mark of Excellence Award for "Saltwater Taffy, Baby. Rock Candy Blues" (2012)