

DAVID HOLPER
4007 Cedar St..
Eureka, CA 95503
(707) 601-3049
eurekapoetlaureate@gmail.com

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH, College of the Redwoods, Eureka, CA, 1999-Spring 2021. Teach both online and face-to-face and tutor transfer level college English classes, including advanced composition, literature, tutor training, and creative writing (both poetry and prose). Served as Department Chair in 2010-2011. Chaired the Book of the Year Committee 2000-2005 and 2008 and coordinated the campus literary magazine, the Seven Gill Shark Review Literary Magazine at the Eureka campus from 2005-present. Successfully wrote numerous grants totaling approximately 100K for a variety of department, division, and campus-wide projects. Academic Senate Co Chair 2009-2011.

ENGLISH TEACHER, Jesuit High School, Carmichael, CA, 1995-1999. Taught sophomore and junior level composition and literature, which involved extensive curricular development, as these courses were redesigned department-wide. Responsible for computer writing lab development, including hard and software decisions, in service training of all English faculty, and grant writing and development for major lab improvements. Also served as Assistant Coach to Jesuit's Cross Country Team, which won State Championships for 1993-1995.

ENGLISH INSTRUCTOR, Sacramento City College, 1991- 1999. Taught all levels of composition, including English 57 (developmental), English 1A, English 1C (Critical Thinking & Composition), English 15 (Creative Writing), and English 57, a remedial composition class for UC Davis students (achieved the highest pass rate among 25 instructors). Experienced in standard classroom teaching numerous reentry and ESL students. Developed an innovative curriculum, including taped feedback, comprehensive grammar review (computerized option), and regular in-class publication and reading.

ENGLISH INSTRUCTOR, Solano College, Suisun City, CA 1994-1995. Taught English 350/355 & English 1. English 350/355 involved preparing reentry and ESL students for their CME, as well as coordinating a reading and writing lab, in addition to classroom instruction. Achieved a 91 & 95 percent pass rate with fall and winter sections. Helped to develop new writing lab three-part assignments, including reading, writing, and class components.

ENGLISH INSTRUCTOR, Yuba College, Marysville, CA, 1994. Taught one section of remedial composition, English 51L, which is a course in the improvement of reading and writing of paragraphs in preparation for longer essays, roughly equivalent to English 150 at College of the Redwoods.

ENGLISH TEACHER, Christian Brothers High School, Sacramento, CA, 1991-1993. Taught upper-division English courses in an ethnically diverse student body, including Advanced Placement literature and composition, composition and rhetoric (junior-year writing requirement), composition and logic (senior-year writing requirement), world literature, creative writing, and journalism. Chaired the "Respect Committee," which put on a one-day in-service training on issues of multiculturalism; served on the Computer Committee, implemented a junior-level "College Entrance Essay" curriculum proposal, and provided after hours tutorials for nearly 200 seniors writing their college entrance essays.

ENGLISH INSTRUCTOR/TEACHING ASSISTANT, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 1989- 1991. Taught five semesters of English composition 112 & 112 C (Computerized). Augmented my pedagogy by training and taking classes with Peter Elbow, Charlie Moran, and Anne Herrington, with

particular emphasis on multiculturalism in writing, reading, and discussion. Experienced teaching in networked classrooms. Course Director and student evaluations showed consistent excellence in teaching.

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

Masters of Fine Arts in English, magna cum laude, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, July, 1991. Dissertation: ten short stories entitled *Language Lessons & Other Stories*, most of which have been published (*see Publications*). Thesis advisor: John Wideman, two-time Pen Faulkner Award Winner. Also studied with Peter Elbow, Valerie Martin, Jay Neugeboren and Tamas Aczel.

Basic Russian Course, with honors, Defense Language Institute, January 1985. Semi-fluent in reading, writing, and speaking. Reviewed and improved language skills Russian at the US Army Foreign Language Training Center, Munich in 1986 and at UMass Amherst in 1989. Have also traveled in Russia.

Bachelor of Arts in English literature, cum laude, Humboldt State University, 1983. Studied with Jorie Graham, Jim Galvin, & Judith Minty. Edited the literary annual, *Toyon*, in 1983. As editor, participated in reading/lecture series that brought Raymond Carver, Tess Gallagher, and other writers to HSU. Organized public and broadcast readings of poetry/fiction for the community. Completed journalism minor, including reporting for the school paper, *The Lumberjack*.

Publications:

BOOKS

- 1) Tuluwat Island: poetry chapbook about California coastal locations accepted for publication at Finishing Line Press in Feb. 2021
- 2) Bord for En: poetry book about the pandemic (out for publication)
- 3) *The Bridge*. A collection of poetry published by Sequoia Song Publishing, 2019
- 4) *64 Questions*. A collection of poetry published by March Street Press, 2008
- 5) Footprints in the Snow: book about writing and fiction (out for publication)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- 1) Article about hiking Gary Snyder's route of the circumnavigation of Mt. Tamalpais, *North Coast Journal*, November 18, 2021
- 2) Review of *Defending Giants* for the *North Coast Journal*, Spring 2017
- 3) Review of *Across the Grid of Streets* published in *The Chimaera* Fall 2008
- 4) Review of *Bundle of Tinder* published in *The Chimaera* Feb. 2009
- 5) "Learning to Trust Your Intuition" column in *Relief Journal* Oct. 2009
- 6) "Reading List" column in *Relief Journal* Nov. 2009

POETRY OUT LOUD

Served as judge for California Poetry Out Loud 2020-2021.

Served as judge for Eureka High School, Northcoast Preparatory & Performing Arts Academy, Humboldt County.

Served as poetry performance coach for Humboldt County, 2018

EUREKA POET LAUREATE 2019-2021

- 1) Coordinated hybrid poetry/art show in September 2020, which involved having one of the Youth Poet Laureates help judge all art and poetry entries and select the winning pair
- 2) Created a website to introduce the community to a range of 20 local poets, Fall 2019

- 3) Against the Wind Festival Youth Night Coordinator: Fall 2019
- 4) Mensa Talk, January 2020 at Samoa Cook House
- 5) Met with one of the Youth Poet Laureates
- 6) September Serenade Reading at Humboldt County Library, Fall 2019
- 7) September Reading at HSU Library, Fall 2019
- 8) Helped coordinate window poems with City of Arcata, Spring 2020
- 9) Helped coordinate window poems with City of Eureka, Spring 2020
- 10) Co edited *Behind the Mask*, a poetry chapbook of 40 local poets writing about the pandemic
- 11) Created a Facebook site for local poetry called *Poetry on the Edge*
- 12) Read my poem "Newer Miracles" at the Humboldt County Office of Education for the Jan. 2020 Equity Summit
- 13) Did a video of reading two recent poems on Public Access Channel 8, Fall 2019
- 14) Did several radio interviews reading poetry in Fall 2020 with Vanessa Vrtiak and Therese Fitzmaurice to promote the hybrid show and to share current poems
- 15) Submitted the *Behind the Mask* book to the HSU pandemic archive project
- 16) Did three TV interviews to promote the *Behind the Mask* project and the Hybrid show
- 17) Did a successful GoFundMe campaign to fund the hybrid show
- 18) Did numerous newspaper interviews for articles about the GoFundMe, the hybrid show, and the *Behind the Mask* chapbook
- 19) Did several interviews for the Poet Laureate program start and myself as the new Poet Laureate
- 20) Presented several times to the Eureka City Council on activities in the Poet Laureate Program and read a poem each time
- 21) Coordinating with the Eureka Chapter of the NAACP to help them organize a Josiah Lawson Festival (one of the three projects I proposed in my Poet Laureate application).
- 22) Planning for a spring reading on Public Access Channel 8 (and Zoom) of some of the poems written during my tenure as City of Eureka Poet Laureate: April 2021

POETRY

Featured Poet in Fishbowl Poetry, Fall 2019
 Finalist for "Chernobyl Spring" and "Epithalamium" in 1000 Below, Midway Journal Contest, 2019
 Honorable Mention for "Unified Field Theory" in Poetry Matters Contest, 2019
 Winner of Barbara Curiel Award for "Depaysement" in Toyon, Spring 2019.
 First Place in *Rotting Post Humor Contest*, "The Dead Grandmother," Fall 2016
 Honorable Mention for "The Bridge" in *Gemini Magazine* poetry contest, summer 2014
 Jodi Stutz Award Winner, Toyon, 2014 for "Cana de Azucar"
 Featured Poet in *Third Wednesday*, May 2012
 Awarded "Editor's Choice" for "Doppelganger" in *Relief Journal* 3.1
 Awarded "Editor's Choice" for "Doubt" in *Relief Journal* 5.1
 Nominated for Pushcart Prize by *Relief Journal* 4.2 for "Doubt"

- 1) "62 Cadillac" in *Perigee*, #28, 2010.
- 2) "Abundance" in *Toyon SoundBoard*" 2007/2008.
- 3) "Acacias" in *Relief Journal*, 3.2
- 4) "Afreet of White Privilege" in *Nationalism Anthology: Africa vs America Vol II*
- 5) "Answer" in *Poetry in the Cathedral*, 2012
- 6) "Ars Poetica" in *Hot Metal Press*, Spring 2007
- 7) "Aubade" in *Plough*, Issue #9
- 8) "Bittersweet" in *Northcoast Journal*, July 30, 2009
- 9) "Before Travel" in *Northcoast Journal*, July 24, 2008
- 10) "Boketto" published in *Your Daily Poem*, August 2nd, 2018.

- 11) "Bored to Death" in *First Things*, Summer 2012
- 12) "Caesura" in *Toyon*, 2006/2007
- 13) "Cana de Azucar" published in *Literariedad*, Fall 2016
- 14) "Charlottesville" in *Nationalism Anthology: Africa vs America Vol II*
- 15) "Civilization" in *Relief Journal*, 5.1
- 16) "Cliché" in the *Northcoast Journal*, Sept. 12, 2007
- 17) "Combustion" in *Third Wednesday*, May 2012
- 18) "The Comma's Complaint" in *The Northcoast Journal*, 1/1/08
- 19) "Culacinno" published in *Your Daily Poem*, August 2nd, 2018.
- 20) "Darshan-abhilashi" in *First Things*, 2019
- 21) "Dear Miss Merrill" in *Third Wednesday*, Spring 2012
- 22) "Dépaysement" in *Inquietudes Literary Journal*, Nov. 5, 2018
- 23) "Ditching the Tour" in *Relief Journal*, 3.2
- 24) "Don Juan Fails in English" in *Your Daily Poem*, Feb. 13, 2012
- 25) "Doppelganger" in *Relief Journal*, 3.1
- 26) "Doppelganger" in *Toyon SoundBoard*" 2007/2008.
- 27) "Doubt" in *Relief Journal*, 4.2
- 28) "Dramatic Irony" in *The Externalist*, Fall 2007
- 29) "Duende" in *Fishbowl Poetry*, Week of October 21, 2019
- 30) "Dustceawung" in *Fishbowl Poetry*, Week of October 21, 2019
- 31) "Ethnicity" in *Toyon*, 2006/2007
- 32) "Fernweh" in *Fishbowl Poetry*, Week of October 21, 2019
- 33) "Flaner" in *Fishbowl Poetry*, Week of October 21, 2019
- 34) "For Those Who Remained" in *Third Wednesday*, May 2012
- 35) "Gattaro" published in *The Northcoast Journal*, Oct. 25, 2018
- 36) "Giving Notice" in *The Northcoast Journal*, 12/19/2013
- 37) "God's Speed" in *Third Wednesday*, May 2012
- 38) "Goldfish" in *Main Channel Voices*, Fall 2007
- 39) "Graveside" in *Toyon SoundBoard*" 2007/2008.
- 40) "Gurfa" in *Toyon*, Spring 2019.
- 41) "Hamartia" in *The Rambler*; Fall 2007
- 42) "Heaven Comes Last" in *Relief Journal*, 6.2, Spring 2013
- 43) "Heliotropism" in *The Northcoast Journal*, March 2, 2011
- 44) "Hiking the Skunk Cabbage Trail" in *Third Wednesday*, May 2012
- 45) "Hinges" in *Poets & Writers*, Spring 2007
- 46) "How to Be an American Poet" in *Toyon SoundBoard*" 2007/2008.
- 47) "Icebreaker" in *Northcoast Journal*, Nov. 12, 2009.
- 48) "If You Want to Save the World" in *Third Wednesday*, May 2012
- 49) "Ilunga" in *Fishbowl Poetry*, Week of October 21, 2019
- 50) "In Medias Res" in *Third Wednesday*, Fall 2007
- 51) "Invoking the Muse" in *Toyon*, 2006/2007
- 52) "Jonah's Lament" in *Plough*, Issue #9
- 53) "The Kestrel" in *Joy Journal Anthology*, Spring 2017
- 54) "Lemmings" in *Steelhead Special*, Iss. 53
- 55) "Listen to the Voice That Speaks within Your Heart" in *I Come from the World*, Spring 2017
- 56) "Litany" in *The Inner Patriot*, 2009.
- 57) "Looking Glass" in *Perigee*, #28, 2010.
- 58) "Magic Hour" in *Conversations Across Borders*, 2012
- 59) "Mirozdaniye" in *Third Wednesday*, May 2012
- 60) "Nabokov Explains the Value of Secondary Sources" in *Toyon*, 2005
- 61) "Newer Miracles" published in *Literariedad*, Fall 2016
- 62) "Night Terrors" in *Rock & Sling*, Summer 2008

- 63) "Noise" in *Hot Metal Press*, Spring 2007
- 64) "Objective Correlative" in *Third Wednesday*, Spring 2012
- 65) "On Overpopulation" in *Third Wednesday*, May 2012
- 66) "One Great River: in *Eel River Reporter*, Vol. 13, Spring 2011
- 67) "Pathetic Fallacy" in *The Northcoast Journal*, April 24, 2008
- 68) "Pelmeni" in *2nd & Church: Food Issue*, Winter 2016
- 69) "Petrichor" in *Inquietudes Literary Journal*, Nov. 5, 2018
- 70) "Rain in Summer" in *Joy Journal Anthology*, Spring 2017
- 71) "(Re)vision" in *Hot Metal Press*, Spring 2007
- 72) "Riding Backwards" in *Hot Metal Press*, Spring 2007
- 73) "Road to Emmaus" in *Relief Journal* (upcoming).
- 74) "Seven Rides to Remember" in *Pilgrimage*, Fall 2013
- 75) "The Six Things a River Might Say" in *The Kerf*, 2007
- 76) "The Six Things a River Might Say" in *The North Coast Journal*, Feb. 26, 2009
- 77) "The Six Things a River Might Say" in *The Steelhead Special*, #51.
- 78) "The Six Things a River Might Say" in *Friends of the Eel River*, Spring 2009
- 79) "Subtracting the Darkness" in *Deronda Review*, Vol. VIII, No. 2.
- 80) "To Pewetole Island" in *You Can Hear the Ocean: An Anthology of Classic and Current Poetry*.
Brighten Press, 2019.
- 81) "A Song to the Ordinary People of the World" in *Relief Journal*, 3.1
- 82) "Sonnet for Jacob" in *Inside English*, Fall 2005
- 83) "Sonnet for Joy" in *Joy Journal Anthology*, Spring 2017
- 84) "Starting Fires" in *Language & Culture.net* in Fall 2008
- 85) "Stepmonsters" in *The Northcoast Journal*, Aug. 10, 2010
- 86) "Subjectivity" in *The Cherry Blossom Review*, Winter 2007
- 87) "Submission Guidelines" in *Third Wednesday*, May 2012
- 88) "Talking with the Dead" in *Poets & Writers*, Spring 2005
- 89) "The Things We Know about Rivers" in *Eel River Reporter*, Vol. 13, Spring 2011
- 90) "The Trees at Gettysburg" in *The Inner Patriot*, 2009.
- 91) "This Most Necessary Thing" in *Third Wednesday*, May 2012
- 92) "Tying Shoelaces" in *Toyon SoundBoard*" 2007/2008.
- 93) "Unsayings the Poem" in *The Northcoast Journal*, March 24, 2011
- 94) "Weltschmerz" in *Relief Journal*, 3.1
- 95) "Weekend Plans" in *Ruminare* Winter 2009/2010 Issue #14: Jest
- 96) "Weekend Plans" in *yourdailypoem.com* 2010.
- 97) "What Matters More" in *Northcoast Journal*, March 18, 2010
- 98) "X" in *Third Wednesday*, Spring 2012
- 99) "You Abide" in *Rock & Sling*, Summer 2008

FICTION

- 1) "Some Things I'm Not Telling" in *Gihon River Review*, 2006
- 2) "The Pool" in *Painted Bride Quarterly*, Double Issue 53/54.
- 3) "Scream" in *Response*, Spring/Summer 1994.
- 4) "Long Sweet Rain" in *New Virginia Review*, Volume 10, #1.
- 5) "Red Cat and di Croaking Lizard" in *Callaloo*, Volume 16, #3.
- 6) "Static" in *South Carolina Review*, Volume 27, #1 & 2.
- 7) "Language Lessons" in *Grand Street*, July 1992 issue.
- 8) "Stink" in *Massachusetts Magazine*, Spring 1991.
- 9) "A Song About Luck" in *Quarterly West*, Summer/Fall 1990.
- 10) "Mawgwa Ooman" in *Shooting Star Review*, Summer 1990.
- 11) "A Man Named Grey" in *The Greccourt Review*, Smith College's Annual, Spring 1990.
- 12) "Home Before Dark" (revised) in *Stories*, issue #22, Fall 1989 .
- 13) "Home Before Dark" in *Toyon*, Humboldt State's Literary Annual, 1983.

LANGUAGES

Semi-fluent in Russian: reading, speaking, & writing.

RECOMMENDERS

George Potamianos: Dean of Humanities and Communication, College of the Redwoods
(707) 476-4559

Ken Letko: English Department Colleague
(707) 465-2360

Cyndy Phillips: Publisher and English Department Colleague
(707) 502-0523

Leslie Castellano: Eureka City Council Member
(707) 616-3104

Therese Fitzmaurice: Humboldt Poetry Slam Co-Founder
(707) 498-3565

Vanessa Vrtiak: Humboldt Poetry Slam Co-Founder
(707) 496-9404