**CRAFT TALK**
Proximity & Distance: Approaches to Revising Poetry & Prose
2-3:15 p.m.

**READING**
6-7:30 p.m.
Table Rock Room
Plemmons Student Union

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**2023 Juanita Tobin Memorial Reading**
Poet
RICARDO NAZARIO-COLÓN
Thursday, March 23

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**CRAFT TALK**
3:30-4:45 p.m.

**READING**
6-7:15 p.m.
Table Rock Room
Plemmons Student Union

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**Co-Sponsored by The Schaefer Center Presents**
Former U.S. Poet Laureate

**NATASHA TRETHEWEY**
Thursday, April 20

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**CRAFT TALK**
3:30-4:45 p.m.

**READING**
6-7:30 p.m.
Blue Ridge Ballroom
Plemmons Student Union

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**Poets**
NICKOLE BROWN
AND
JESSICA JACOBS
Thursday, April 27
His forthcoming books under contract are *Affrilachian Poets*. His work has been widely published and anthologized in print journals and magazines, including *Haw* and *Odd Botany*, published by Orison Books (2017), and her novel *Odd Botany* (2021) won the 2019 Dzanc Books Prize for Fiction. Jessica directs the low-residency MFA writing program of West Virginia Wesleyan College and is Associate Professor of Creative Writing at Hollins University as well as the Nonfiction Editor for Orison Books.

Thorpe Moeckel earned an MFA in Creative Writing from University of Virginia in 2002, where he was a Henry Hoynts and Jacob K. Javits Fellow. He has taught in the writing program at Hollins University since 2005; a former trail and river guide, he loves to explore the good woods, waterways, and ridges around Virginia and West Virginia, both in writing and with family and friends in real time. His first book of poems, *Odd Botany*, won the Gerald Cable Book Award in 2000, as well as the George Garrett Award for New Writing from the Fellowship of Southern Writers. In subsequent poetry books, *Making a Map of the River, Venison, and Arcadia Road*, as well as two nonfiction books, *Watershed Days and Down by the Ena, Down by the Haw*, Moeckel has stayed close to the woods and rivers of the Appalachians while exploring a variety of themes. Widely anthologized, his work has appeared in journals and magazines, including *Field, Open City, The Antioch Review, Poetry Daily, Taproot, Orion, Poetry, The Southern Review,* and *Virginia Quarterly Review*. His work has been awarded a Kenan Fellowship at UNC-Chapel Hill, a Sustainable Arts Fellowship, and a National Endowment of the Arts Fellowship.

**JESSIE VAN EERDEN & THORPE MOECKEL**

**Thursday, March 2**

A West Virginia native, Jessie van Eerden’s work has appeared in *The Oxford American, River Teeth, Image, Bellingham Review, New England Review,* and in numerous anthologies. She was selected as the 2007-2008 Milton Fellow with Image and Seattle Pacific University for work on her first novel, *Glorybound* (WordFarm, 2012), winner of ForeWord Reviews’ 2012 Editor’s Choice Fiction Prize. Her second novel, *My Radio Radio*, is published by Vandalia Press (2016); her collection of portrait essays, *The Long Weeping*, published by Orison Books (2017), won the 20th annual Foreword INDIES Book of the Year Award in the essay category; and her novel *Call It Horses* (2021) won the 2019 Dzanc Books Prize for Fiction. Jessie directs the low-residency MFA writing program of West Virginia Wesleyan College and is Associate Professor of Creative Writing at Hollins University as well as the Nonfiction Editor for Orison Books.

**RICARDO NAZARIO-COLÓN**

**Thursday, March 23**

Dr. Ricardo Nazario-Colón was born in the South Bronx, New York City, and raised in the highlands of Puerto Rico. He lives in the Appalachian region of North Carolina, where he works as the inaugural Chief Diversity Officer and Inclusive Executive at Western Carolina University. He also serves as President of the Appalachian Studies Association, 2022-23. He was the former Chair of the University of North Carolina System Diversity and Inclusion Council and the Governor’s Advisory Council on Hispanic Latino Affairs. In 1991 as an undergraduate at the University of Kentucky, he became a co-founder of the Affrilachian Poets. His work has been widely published and anthologized in print and online publications. He is the author of the chapbook *The Recital* (Winged City, 2011) and the poetry collection *Of Jibaros and Hillbillies* (Plain View Press, 2010). His forthcoming books under contract are *The Moor of the Bronx* (Finishing Line Press) and *Latinx Voices in Appalachia* (University Press of Kentucky).

**NATASHA TRETWEWEY**

**Thursday, April 20**

Natasha Trethewey served two terms as the 19th Poet Laureate of the United States (2012-2014). She is the author of five collections of poetry, *Monument* (2018), which was longlisted for the 2018 National Book Award; *Thall* (2012); *Native Guard* (2006), for which she was awarded the Pulitzer Prize, *Belloq’s Ophelia* (2002); and *Domestic Work* (2000), which was selected by Rita Dove as the winner of the inaugural Cave Canem Poetry Prize for the best first book by an African American poet and won both the 2001 Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters Book Prize and the 2001 Lillian Smith Award for Poetry. She is also the author of the memoir *Memorial Drive* (2020). Her book of nonfiction, *Beyond Katrina: A Meditation on the Mississippi Gulf Coast*, appeared in 2010. She is the recipient of fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Guggenheim Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation, the Beinecke Library at Yale, and the Bunting Fellowship Program of the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard. At Northwestern University she is a Board of Trustees Professor of English in the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences. In 2012 she was named Poet Laureate of the State of Mississippi and in 2013 she was inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

**NICKOLE BROWN & JESSICA JACOBS**

**Thursday, April 27**


Jessica Jacobs is the author of *Take Me with You, Wherever You're Going* (Four Way Books), named one of Library Journal’s Best Poetry Books of the year. Her debut collection, *Pelvis with Distance* (White Pine Press), won the New Mexico Book Award in Poetry, was an Over the Rainbow selection by the American Library Association, and was a finalist for the Lambda Literary and Julie Suk Awards. Her chapbook *In Whatever Light Left to Us* was published by Sibling Rivalry Press. Co-author of *Write It!,* she is currently at work on parallel collections of essays and poems exploring spirituality, Torah, and Midrash.

The Visiting Writers Series is named in honor of the late Hughlene Bostian Frank (class of 1968), a 2013 Appalachian Alumni Association Outstanding Service award recipient, past member of Appalachian’s Board of Trustees and Appalachian State University Foundation, long time member of the College of Arts and Sciences Advancement Board and generous supporter of Appalachian State University.