

# ENGLISH DEPT NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 2

SEPTEMBER 9, 2020

Contact us at: [English@sandiego.edu](mailto:English@sandiego.edu)



Web: [www.sandiego.edu/cas/english](http://www.sandiego.edu/cas/english)



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## Important Dates

- **Sep 12:** Saturday Classes held (make-up for Monday, Labor Day)
- **Sep 13:** National Grandparents Day
- **Sep 19:** Rosh Hashana
- **Sep 22:** Fall Equinox (First Day of Autumn)
- **Sep 22:** California Native American Day
- **Sep 28:** Yom Kippur
- **Oct 1:** Full Moon
- **Oct 1:** Cropper Series: Kleese Laymon
- **Oct 2:** Intersession 2021 Registration begins
- **Oct 5:** Midterm Grades due
- **Oct 12:** Indigenous People's Day
- **Oct 12:** Spring 2021 Registration begins
- **Oct 16:** Boss's Day
- **Oct 17:** Sweetest Day

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## English Dept Announcements

### 2020-2021 Cropper Series Kicked Off With Jericho Brown, Pulitzer Prize Winning Poet



"Jericho Brown's Got A Lot to Say: Pulitzer Prize-Winning Poet Kicks Off Cropper Series" by Julene Snyder.

When Jericho Brown — winner of the 2020 Pulitzer Prize in Poetry for his most recent book, *The Tradition* — thinks something is funny, everyone within earshot knows it. His laugh isn't just infectious, it's a booming, joyful explosion.

More than 100 people joined the kick-off event to the Fall 2020 Lindsay J. Cropper Memorial Writers Series on September 3 to hear Brown read from his work, talk about his craft and take

questions. He is still much beloved on campus; he joined the USD faculty in the fall of 2007 as an assistant professor of English, holding the position until 2012.

"USD is a very special place for me," he said to a rapt audience who dialed in via Zoom. "It was my first full-time job after I finished school." Now the director of the Creative Writing Program and a professor at Atlanta's Emory University, he seemed delighted to see the faces of past colleagues, calling out greetings to some before he began the reading.

See remainder of USD News article at: <https://www.sandiego.edu/news/cas/detail.php?>



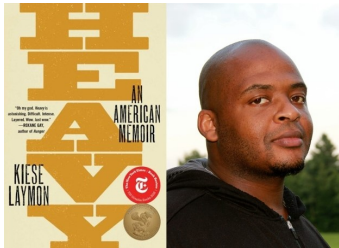


## English Dept Announcements

### Upcoming Cropper Series Craft Talks

#### Fall Readings and Craft Talks

Thursday, October 1, 12:30 p.m., Craft Talk and Reading with Kiese Laymon



Kiese Laymon is a Black southern writer from Jackson, Mississippi. In his observant, often hilarious work, Laymon does battle with the personal and the political: race and

family, body and shame, poverty and place. His savage humor and clear-eyed perceptiveness have earned him comparisons to Ta-Nehisi Coates, Alice Walker, and Mark Twain. He is the author of the award-winning memoir *Heavy*, the groundbreaking essay collection *How to Slowly Kill Yourself and Others in America*, and the genre-defying novel *Long Division*. Laymon's powerful bestselling memoir, *Heavy*:

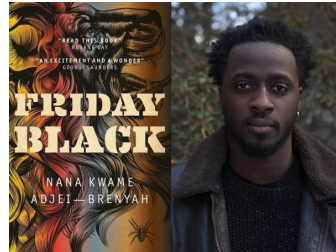
*An American Memoir*, won the 2019 Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Nonfiction, and the 2018 Christopher Isherwood Prize for Autobiographical Prose, and was named one of the 50 Best Memoirs of the Past 50 Years by *The New York Times*. It is a nominee for the Hurston/Wright Legacy Award in Nonfiction. *Heavy* was named a best book of 2018 by the *New York*

*Times*, *Publishers Weekly*, NPR, *Broadly*, *Buzzfeed*, *The Washington Post*, *Entertainment Weekly*, was named one of the 50 best memoirs since 1969 by *The New York Times*, and was a finalist for the 2018 Kirkus Prize for Nonfiction. The audiobook, read by the author, was named the Audible 2018 Audiobook of the Year.

**"I, TOO,  
SING AMERICA.  
I AM  
THE DARKER  
BROTHER."**

**—"I, Too"  
BY LANGSTON  
HUGHES**

Thursday, October 29, 12:30 p.m., Craft Talk and Reading with Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah



Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah is the *New York Times*-bestselling author of *Friday Black*. Originally from Spring Valley, New York, he graduated from SUNY Albany and went

on to receive his MFA from Syracuse University. His work has appeared or is forthcoming from numerous publications, including the *New York Times Book Review*, *Esquire*, *Literary Hub*, the *Paris Review*, *Guernica*, and *Longreads*. He was selected by Colson Whitehead as one of the National Book Foundation's "5 Under 35" honorees, is the winner of the PEN/Jean Stein Book Award, and a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle's John Leonard Award for Best First Book and the Aspen Words Literary Prize.

In a recent Statement of Solidarity written after the murder of George Floyd and in the wake of protests against police brutality, the Department of English noted that, "It is precisely in times like these that we witness the unique capacity of literature to remind us of the innate dignity of all human life." Since its inception in 2004, the Cropper Center has prioritized bringing a diversity of voices to campus, to both enliven our campus community's encounter with the written word, and, by extension, to help cultivate a collective understanding of the broad array of human experiences. Guided by these values, and in light of the English Department's recent reaffirmation of its "commitment to the enduring work of anti-racism," the Cropper Center is proud to announce that the 2020/2021 Lindsay J. Cropper Memorial Writers Series will be a celebration of Black creative work exclusively.

We look forward to seeing you online for these virtual events! More info: [www.sandiego.edu/cropper](http://www.sandiego.edu/cropper), or contact Professor Brad Melekian, director of the Cropper Center, at [melekian@sandiego.edu](mailto:melekian@sandiego.edu).



## English Dept Announcements

### English Community Spotlight

In this section, we share what members of the USD English community are doing!



**Dr. Ivan Ortiz** is the new Faculty Advisor for National Fellowships. He will be working with Cassandra Gomez (Pre-Health) on outreach for national scholarships and fellowships like Fulbright, Rhodes and Marshall. If you are interested in learning more about national fellowships and scholarships, please contact Dr. Ortiz at [iortiz@sandiego.edu](mailto:iortiz@sandiego.edu).



**Dr Halina Duraj** is the 2020-2021 Faculty Advisor for the *Alcala Review*. She writes “I’m delighted to begin my first semester as the faculty advisor to the great team of students running the *Alcala Review* literary journal. I’ve been so impressed with the dedication, drive, creativity, and professionalism of this team, led by Editor-in-Chief Thomas Dolan, and I’m very much looking forward to working with them. This year, the *Alcala Review* team is adapting, as we all are, to a virtual environment, though the *Alcala Review* is as strong and vibrant as ever, enriching our department’s literary community. This semester, the *Alcala Review* members will be releasing the Spring 2020 issue delayed by the Covid-19 crisis, is appointing new genre editors in Prose and Poetry, and is excited to begin accepting submissions for the Spring 2021 issue. They’re also very excited to include a series of original content for the *Alcala Review* website, including interviews and “revisiting” of members’ favorite books. And of course, we’re all hoping that the *Alcala Review* team can begin to hold in-person events again, such as the annual publishing party—a wonderful celebration of undergraduate writing, visual art, and student collaboration.

It’s a special honor to serve for the first time as the faculty advisor to the *Alcala Review* in its current form, because I remember, many years ago, collaborating with Hugh Burkhart in the Copley Library to create a simple, digital site where the winners of the Lindsay J. Cropper Undergraduate Creative Writing Contest could be published online every year. That simple web site in USD’s digital repository was a placeholder for what we hoped the *Alcala Review* someday might become with student initiative and leadership—the current, student-led interdisciplinary literary journal that showcases not only contest winners but so much innovative and excellent literary and visual art by USD undergraduates. The *Alcala Review* is now a community, not just a publication, with a team of staff members working together to enrich our intellectual life on campus. It’s exciting for me to see how far the *Alcala Review* has come in these years—it’s a much-needed reminder of how leadership, creativity, and diligence can bring art alive for a community in a very real, tangible way. This reminder, embodied by the hard work of the members of the *Alcala Review*, feels more essential than ever.

Thank you to the English Department for supporting the *Alcala Review*! For more information, you can contact *Alcala Review* Editor-in-Chief Thomas Dolan ([tdolan@sandiego.edu](mailto:tdolan@sandiego.edu)) or me, Professor Halina Duraj ([hduraj@sandiego.edu](mailto:hduraj@sandiego.edu)).”

**Prof. Deborah Sundmacher** is the Writing Center Director. She shares the following about the Writing Center and its services:

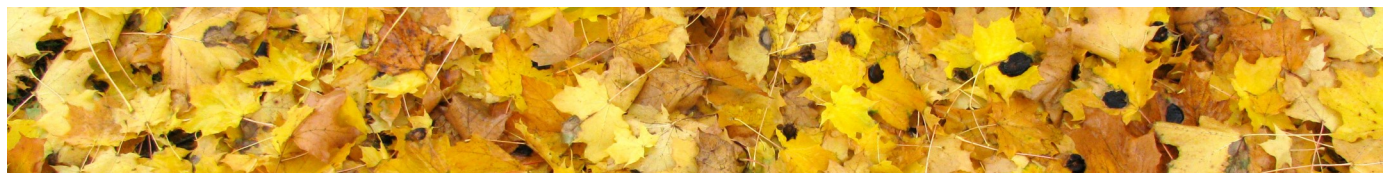


“The Writing Center is thrilled with its new space in the Learning Commons. Although Founders 190B will always hold a special place in our hearts, the new Center is spacious and inviting, with a large glass entrance way that looks out at the atrium, which will be a hub of student activity once we are all back on campus. The new Writing Center itself features state-of-the-art design with semi-private tutoring spaces that have noise absorbing panels and overhead light fixtures which also mitigate excessive sound. Writing Center consultants have their own room within the Center where they can relax and hang out with friends. And just outside, there is a gas fire pit and a grassy area with Adirondack chairs for lounging. Everyone misses the in-person tutoring and the camaraderie born of our shared interests, and we all look forward to the day when we can expand into our new home.” (See Page 6 for picture of the new space!)



“I GIVE AWAY  
THE NIGHT  
SO HE CAN HAVE  
THIS SLUMBER”

—“WHERE IS SHE :::  
KOTÉ LI YÉ”  
BY R. ERICA DOYLE



# English Dept Announcements

## USD Votes!



Let's help increase student voter turnout! The USD Votes Campaign is working to make USD a national leader in voter registration, education, and turnout. All of USD's staff and students can register for free for Voice of San Diego's virtual Politifest to learn about important issues facing San Diegans and Californians this November. Register at: <https://www.voiceofsandiego.org/politifest/>. For more information visit the USD Votes website [www.sandiego.edu/vote](http://www.sandiego.edu/vote) and follow @usdvotescampaign on Instagram.



## Camino-Founders Renaissance Renovation Project

Pictured here is an update on the Camino-Founders Hall Renaissance Renovation Project, in full swing since May 2020. Photo is from USD's Planning, Design & Construction Department's Instagram account, @USD\_PDC. Follow them for updates on all of USD's construction projects!

The Renaissance Project, renovating Camino Hall, Founders Hall, and Sacred Heart Hall, is scheduled to be completed by Fall 2021. More info at: [www.sandiego.edu/facilities/facilities-services/planning-design-and-construction/featured-projects/](http://www.sandiego.edu/facilities/facilities-services/planning-design-and-construction/featured-projects/).



**"I WILL NOT WALK POLITELY ON THE PAVEMENTS ANYMORE"**

**—"I MUST BECOME A MENACE TO MY ENEMIES" BY JUNE JORDAN**

## Save the Date: Senior Project Conference

Mark your calendars now for the English Department's annual Senior Project Conference!

**Monday, October 19th**  
**4:00—7:00 p.m.**

English major seniors will present from their senior research projects. More info: [marcelle@sandiego.edu](mailto:marcelle@sandiego.edu).





## Student News

### Welcome English Majors & Minors!

The English Department welcomes the following new English majors & minors:

- **Lucia Brotherton**, English and History double-major
- **Eden Van Saun**, English major, with History and Spanish minors

Welcome to the Department of English!



**"SURELY,  
HISTORY HAS  
NOT FORGOTTEN  
TO NAME US?"**

**—"MY MOTHER AND  
LUCILLE CLIFTON  
HAVE TEA"  
BY PARNESHIA  
JONES**

### *The Alcalá Review* Accepting Submissions

*The Alcalá Review* is currently accepting submissions for publication in our Spring 2021 issue. The deadline is October 30, 2020. Go to [alcalareview.org](http://alcalareview.org).

ALCALAREVIEW.ORG  
DEADLINE: OCT 30

THE  
ALCALÁ  
REVIEW

SUBMISSIONS

FICTION, POETRY,  
NONFICTION,  
PHOTOGRAPHY,  
VISUAL ART

 University of San Diego



Get Research Ready



Free workshops all semester.

[www.sandiego.edu/library/services/workshops.php](http://www.sandiego.edu/library/services/workshops.php)



### Copley Library Workshops

Check out Copley Library's fall workshop schedule, which can be found at: <https://www.sandiego.edu/library/services/workshops.php>, or view at the workshop calendar itself: <https://libcal.sandiego.edu/calendar/events/?cid=6680&t=d&d=0000-00-00&cal=6680&inc=0>.





## Student News

### Update from the Writing Center

The Writing Center opened September 2nd for online operations for the Fall 2020 semester. The services and goals of the center remain the same as they would in-person, but reformatted to a virtual setting to offer assistance to student writers in their writing process remotely.

How do you schedule an appointment and access online appointments with the Writing Center? Check out this video with instructions: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aHWMYf4DfY&feature=youtu.be>.

More on the Writing Center services at: <https://www.sandiego.edu/cas/writing/writing-center/>.



*The new Learning Commons building, where the Writing Center has new their new space!*



*The new Writing Center space!*



*The new Writing Center space in the Learning Commons*

### Sigma Tau Delta, English Honor Society

English majors and minors!

If you've completed 2 courses above English 121 and have a major GPA of 3.4 or above and a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above, apply for Sigma Tau Delta! Sigma Tau Delta is an international English Honors Society. Every semester we hold a variety of fun English-themed events, including trivia nights, movie screenings, and even an annual formal ball. Come join our community of literature lovers today and further your connections with our English department!

For more information, email [cjewett@sandiego.edu](mailto:cjewett@sandiego.edu) or look at our Instagram, [@usd.sigmataudelta](https://www.instagram.com/usd.sigmataudelta).



**SIGMA TAU DELTA**  
INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH HONOR SOCIETY

**"YOU DANCING IN  
THE KITCHEN,  
ON THE SIDEWALK,  
IN THE SUBWAY  
WAITING FOR THE  
TRAIN BECAUSE  
STEVIE WONDER,  
HÉCTOR LAVOE,  
LA LUPE"**

**—"YOU ARE WHO  
I LOVE"  
BY ARACELIS  
GIRMAJ**



## Student Career Assistance

### English Career Event: Create Your Future in Content Creation & Production

English's fall career event, "Create Your Future in Content Creation & Production" will be on Tuesday, October 20, 2020, 12:30-1:30pm. will feature panelists **Lauren Cody Hoffman**, Content and Copy Consultant, Lauren Cody Creative, and **Alyssa Powers**, Content Marketing Manager, Karl Strauss Brewing Company.

Learn how USD alumni have created thriving careers in content creation! Content is what we see when we search the internet for information, browse social media, watch YouTube videos, view viral memes and gifs, and read news stories, blogs, and other highly entertaining and/or carefully researched genres.

Content connects us to ideas, images, lifestyles, and trends so we can imagine how brands and products can enhance our lives. By crafting ideal situations and personas to captivate and inform, content creators have surpassed traditional marketing as the number one driver of consumer spending and brand imaging. In the process, they have blazed exciting new career paths using their talent and skills in English/Communication and creative writing.

Join us to learn how to meet the challenges and pursue the rewards of a career in content creation! The panelists:

**Lauren Cody Hoffman**, 2013 (English, with Creative Writing emphasis), is a writer and content specialist who prides herself in being a chameleon of industries. Working with a client roster of big players in entertainment, fashion, CPG and tech, Lauren com-

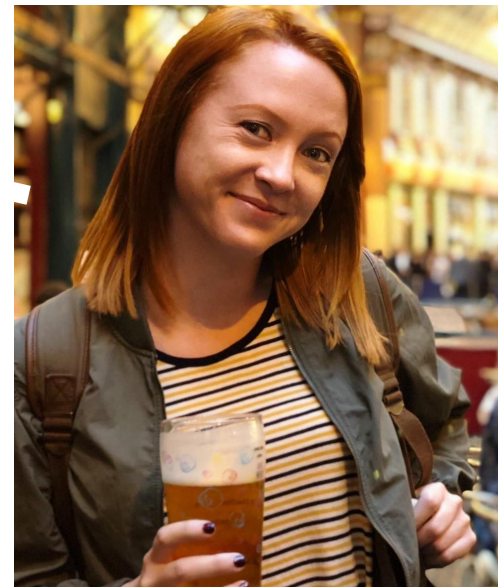
bines her mastery of the written word with a backing in business strategy to connect consumers to the brands that enrich their lives. When she's not working, you can find her in the boxing ring, on the water or shopping online.

**Alyssa Powers**, 2012 (Communication Studies), is a content marketer and copywriter with a passion for expressing a brand's voice through the written word. Empathetic by nature, she enjoys being part of a team and collaborating on projects. With nearly ten years of craft brewery marketing experience, Alyssa is extremely well versed in all things beer. Her copywriting projects include beer descriptors and labels, menu copy, beer and food pairings, email marketing, and press releases to name a few. Alyssa's love for the brewing industry permeates her professional and personal life, and she can regularly be found at tasting rooms all over town, IPA in hand.

Register for this virtual event at: <https://www.sandiego.edu/events/cas/detail.php?focus=77740>. For more information, please contact Dr Timothy Randell at [trandell@sandiego.edu](mailto:trandell@sandiego.edu).



*Lauren Cody Hoffman*



*Alyssa Powers*

**"YOU WHO ARE OUT  
JUST GET IN LINE  
BECAUSE WE ARE  
MARCHING,  
YES WE ARE  
MARCHING TO  
THE MUSIC OF  
THE TIME."**

**—"WE ARE  
MARCHING"  
BY CARRIE LAW  
MORGAN FIGGS**





## Student Career Assistance

### C-Dev Events

Check out these upcoming Career Development Center fall events! Go to: <https://www.sandiego.edu/careers/>.

Make an appointment to meet with the College of Arts and Sciences Career Counselors Katie Freedman and Raven Moniz on Handshake: <https://sandiego.joinhandshake.com/login>.

**HOW TO STAND OUT IN AN INTERVIEW**

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17  
12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. PDT  
REGISTER AT [bit.ly/HITS011](http://bit.ly/HITS011)

OR

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2  
4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. PDT  
REGISTER AT [bit.ly/HITS012](http://bit.ly/HITS012)

**"I MUST BECOME THE ACTION OF MY FATE."**

**—"I MUST BECOME A MENACE TO MY ENEMIES"**  
BY JUNE JORDAN

**TORERO TREK**  
VIRTUAL

**MARKETING**

TRACK 1: OCTOBER 28  
TRACK 2: OCTOBER 30

**TRACK 1**

**seer**

... MORE COMING SOON

**TRACK 2**

COMPANIES COMING SOON

Virtual Career Exploration Trips  
Apply by October 11

[SANDIEGO.EDU/CAREERS/TREKS](http://SANDIEGO.EDU/CAREERS/TREKS)

**RESU MANIA**

**ROUNDS**  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3  
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

**RULES**  
SCHEDULE YOUR 15 MIN VIRTUAL RESUME APPOINTMENT ON HANDSHAKE. SELECT "RESUMANIA" AS APPOINTMENT TYPE. [bit.ly/HITS010](http://bit.ly/HITS010)

**TRAININGS**  
BEFORE JOINING US, DRAFT A RESUME IN A BROBIE FOD. CHECK OUT SAMPLES IN OUR TORERO CAREER GUIDE. [bit.ly/UCSDResumania](http://bit.ly/UCSDResumania)

**LATE TO THE MATCH**  
HAVE QUESTIONS OR WANT TO DROP IN THE DAY OF? VISIT OUR COZY LOBBY ROOM FROM 9AM-5PM. [bit.ly/UCSDexLobby](http://bit.ly/UCSDexLobby)

### Polaris Call for Submissions

*Polaris*, Ohio Northern University's undergraduate journal of literature and art, is now accepting submissions for its 71st issue, slated for release in April 2021.

*Polaris* is committed to publishing undergraduates in fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and all art genres. The deadline is February 1, 2021, and our submissions guidelines can be found at our website, [www.polaris.onu.edu](http://www.polaris.onu.edu).\*



**POLARIS LITERARY MAGAZINE**

**CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS!**

Submit your poetry, fiction, nonfiction, and visual art work!

First and second place winners receive cash prizes.

For more information and submission guidelines, visit:

[POLARIS.ONU.EDU](http://POLARIS.ONU.EDU)

Submissions are accepted

Sep. 01, 2020 - Feb. 01, 2021

\*Disclaimer: Paid and unpaid internship or job opportunities, and other information posted here for informational purposes only. The postings do not constitute an endorsement by the University of San Diego of the opinions or activities of the internship, job opportunity or information posted.





## Student Career Assistance

### College Magazine Writer Opportunity

Are you ready to gain real-world experience and advance your writing? College Magazine's professional writing program is a 4-month commitment that includes a 7-week intensive training where you'll uncover your voice, interview dream sources and write meaningful articles that readers love. Writers who succeed in the first 4 months often continue into our editorial internship program. Working closely with our editors, writers receive one-on-one feedback. Writers also learn social media, WordPress HTML, and the SEO knowledge necessary for the real world of magazine journalism.

The writer position is 10 hours a week on a flexible schedule. It's a volunteer, intensive and challenging writing experience. Our graduates have gone on to careers at Vox,

NBC, USA Today, Redbook, National Geographic, Random House and more. We welcome applicants from all majors and all colleges. Previous writing experience for a college-level publication is recommended.

To apply please send your resume and writing sample to [editorial@collegemagazine.com](mailto:editorial@collegemagazine.com), with subject "College Magazine Writer Application." The deadline is September 30, 2020 by 6 p.m. EST. \*

**COLLEGE**  
MAGAZINE.COM

### Frontier Award for New Poets

Open to new and emerging poets, Frontier Poetry is hosting a contest to find the best single poem – they describe it as one full of color and fire, that strikes hot... Paige Lewis, Camonghne Felix, and Jake Skeets are judging. The winning poet will receive \$3000 and publication for their poem, and second and third place receive \$300 and \$200 respectively. All ten finalists will be recognized. Get started at: <https://www.frontierpoetry.com/poetry-awards/>. The entry fee is \$20 and the deadline is September 20, 2020. \*



"IT'S MIDDAY,  
AND YOU ARE BOTH  
YEARS BEFORE  
THE YOU TO WHOM  
THIS POEM  
WHISPERS"

—"PREAMBLE"  
BY TONYA M.  
FOSTER



### English Alumni: What Are You Doing Now? Let Us Know!



English alumni: Send us your updates & photos!  
Please email to [English@sandiego.edu](mailto:English@sandiego.edu). We look forward to hearing from you. Thank you—



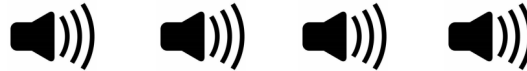
## Faculty News

### Dennis Clausen Novels Published as Audiobooks



**Dr. Dennis M. Clausen** has been selected by his publisher, Sunbury Press—Brown Posey Imprint, for an on-going series of audiobook versions of his novels. *My Christmas Attic*, the first book to be produced as an audiobook, is the story of a young boy in the early 1950's who struggled with the challenges of dyslexia at a time when little was known about the condition or how to treat it. The audiobook version of the novel will be narrated by a professional voice actor. Both the print and audiobook versions are dedicated to USD's special needs students. The print version is already available, and the audiobook version will be launched on September 15th of this year.

Congratulations, Dennis!



### Cynthia Caywood speaking at Pandemic & Transformation Series



Dr. Cynthia Caywood will be speaking this week in the Pandemic and Transformation series on Wednesday, September 9, 4 p.m., along with Dr. Terry Bird. Their topics:

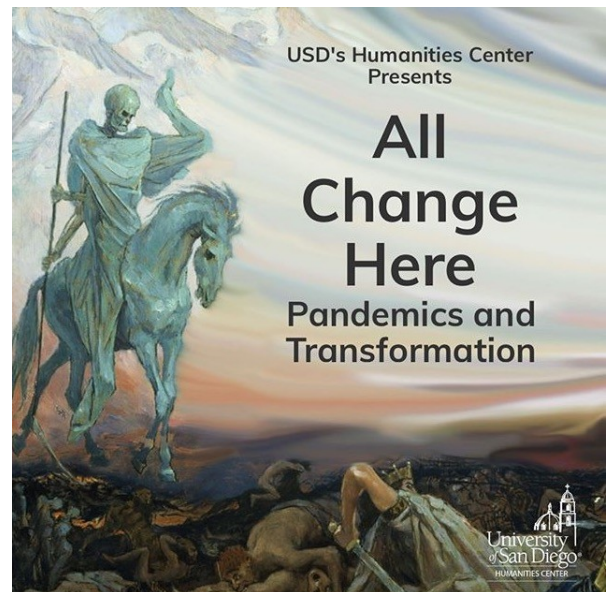
Transforming a City:

Cynthia Caywood: "Journals of a Plague

Year: Samuel Pepys, Daniel Defoe, and the Great London Plague of 1665."

Terry Bird: "Spillover: The Making of the Plague Pathogen"

The series is on Wednesday, from 4 to 5:15. You can register at the Humanities Center website or at: <https://www.sandiego.edu/events/detail.php?focus=77341>.



### Writing Center Assistance

Hello faculty,

We are happy to announce that the USD Writing Center will be available to assist your students while they are learning remotely for the Fall 2020 semester. We have made our peer-to-peer writing consultations available online beginning today, Sept. 2nd and we would be happy to have one of our staff visit your online classroom and explain the services provided. Simply write an email to [writingcenter@sandiego.edu](mailto:writingcenter@sandiego.edu) and we will schedule a time to visit your class.

Also, The Writing Center is available to the children of faculty (and all USD employ-

ees) who are in high school and learning remotely. If you think your child(ren) would be interested in working with a Writing Center Consultant, please contact Deborah Sundmacher at [deborah1@sandiego.edu](mailto:deborah1@sandiego.edu) so that we can plan our staffing needs.

For more information about our services for the Fall semester, click on the following link; <https://www.sandiego.edu/news/cas/detail.php?focus=77590>.

Sincerely,  
The USD Writing Center Staff

**"PASSES TIME.  
PASSES TIME.  
PAST TIME LIGHTS  
UP MY LITURGICAL  
TENDENCIES,  
ILLUMINES PAST TIME,  
MY LOVELIES."**

**—"PREAMBLE"  
BY TONYA M. FOSTER**

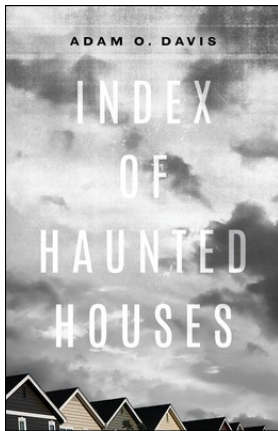


## Other Announcements

### Warwick's Presents a Free Live Virtual Event with Award Winning Poet & Photographer Adam O. Davis

On Wednesday, September 9th at 4:00pm Warwick's will host **Adam O. Davis** as he discusses his debut poetry collection, *Index of Haunted Houses*, in conversation with Professor of Literature at U.C. San Diego Kazim Ali. This is a free virtual event on Facebook Live.

Adam O. Davis is poet, photographer, and teacher at The Bishop's School in La Jolla, CA. The recipient of the 2016 George Bogin Memorial award from the Poetry Society of America, he has received grants and fellowships from The Bishop's School, Columbia University, the Prague Summer program for writers, and Vermont Studio Center. His work has appeared in many journals, including *The Believer*, *Boston Review*, *The Cincinnati Review*, *Denver Quarterly*, *The Paris Review* and *журнал*.



This is a book of ghost stories, and for the most part, ghosts are jealous monsters, intent upon our destruction. They never appear overtly here, yet we gradually become aware of the spirits in haunted houses in the way they tread over creaky floors, slam doors, and issue sudden gusts of wind. These poems are Koan-like—the fewer the words, the more charged they are. The engine driving the sense of haunting and loss is money, which Davis describes as “federal bone” boiling around us. Bison in Nebraska are reduced to bones, “seven/standing men/tall” fodder for the fertilizer used by farmers in the 1800s. There is, too, an equality to the hauntings—every instance has its moment, and persists, despite being in the past, present, or future. *Index of Haunted Houses* is spooky and sad—a stunning debut, one that will surprise, convince, and most of all, delight.

Kazim Ali was born in the United Kingdom and has lived transnationally in the United States, Canada, India, France, and the Middle East. His books encompass multiple genres and he is also an accomplished translator. Ali taught at including Oberlin College, Davidson College, St. Mary's College of California, and Naropa University and is now Professor of Literature at UC San Diego. His newest book, *The Voice of Sheila Chandra*, is forthcoming in October.

For more info on this event: <https://www.warwicks.com/event/davis-2020>. \*



**“I RUN DOWN  
THE SIGNS  
HALF-EXPECTING  
TO FIND  
MY NAME  
PROTESTING  
IN INK.”**

**—“FACING US”  
BY AMANDA  
JOHNSTON**

