



ALASKA PACIFIC UNIVERSITY
LOW-RESIDENCY MASTER OF FINE ARTS IN CREATIVE WRITING
SUMMER RESIDENCY: JULY 11 – JULY 22, 2026
SCHEDULE

“The only happiness you have is writing something new, in the middle of the night, armpits damp, heart pounding, something no one has yet seen. You have only those brief, fragile, untested moments of exhilaration when you know: you are a genius.”

“How to Become a Writer”
Lorrie Moore

A Quick Tour of Campus

Grant Hall – Morning Talks, Workshops, Afternoon Lectures

All day-time events and activities during the residency will be held in Grant Hall, the first building on the left, as you climb the hill onto campus. There is a big flagpole out front. Parking can be found on the right of the crosswalk, in front of the building across the street.

We'll be on the second floor, near the back of the building. Passing through the front doors, go through the lobby. The stairs will be on your right.



Carr-Gottstein – Evening Reading on Sunday, July 12

The evening reading on the second day of the residency will be in Carr-Gottstein, the second building on your left, as you enter campus. It is a purple-pink building with big windows. Parking is on the left, as soon as you pass the building.

The lecture hall is on the first floor. Passing through the glass front doors, take a left and go to the end of the gallery, to the last set of double doors on the right, past the bathrooms.



Atwood Center – Lunch

Lunch will be in Atwood, the third building on the left, entering campus. It is a big white building with fountains in front. We will be walking to lunch from Grant Hall by way of a foot path at the back of the building that leads straight to the back of Atwood. The dining area is on the second floor.



Mlakar House – Opening Dinner

The president's house is located on a driveway through the woods, past Carr-Gottstein. Parking is across from the sign for the house on the road, in the Carr-Gottstein lot. It is a short walk up the driveway. At the top of the hill, you will find the best view of the Chugach Mountains in Anchorage, in my opinion.



4101 University Drive, Anchorage, AK, 99508

Community Reading Series – Betti's

Most residency days, we will end the day with a reading at Betti's, the new business **in the old Writer's Block location** in Spenard.

3956 Spenard Rd, Anchorage, AK 99517

The readings will be 6pm – 7pm, and NOT 7pm – 8pm, as in previous years and as stated on previous drafts of the residency schedule.

Betti's is more bookstore and less café, as compared to Writer's Block. Packaged snacks and canned beverages will be available, but **it will not be a place to grab dinner** beforehand or during the reading.

They will be opening Betti's just for us on these evenings, so please plan to get there between 5:45pm – 6pm. Any earlier, and you might end up waiting in the parking lot for a bit, before they open the doors.

Every night, **I'd like to get started right at 6pm and end no later than 7pm. Three readers, 19-20 minutes each.** I will give a short intro and then turn it over to the first reader, and the reading will go from there.

The readings will be in the back corner room, and not in the central space of the building, which is now filled with bookshelves.

All evening readings are open to the public, except for the student reading on Monday, July 20, which you will notice is not advertised in the poster in the following pages.

The reading on July 20 will be more of a private event, but feel free to welcome anyone you like. And if you are receiving this document, you are invited, too!





The low-residency Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing program at Alaska Pacific University presents:

On-Campus MFA Residency Keynote Reading



Eowyn Ivey

*Author of **The Snow Child**, **Black Woods Blue Sky**, **To The Bright Edge of the World***

Sunday, July 12, 2026

Join APU students, faculty, and staff on campus!

7:00pm Dessert Reception hosted by the Alaska Center for the Book

7:30pm Contributions to Literacy in Alaska (CLIA) awards ceremony

7:45pm Reading with author Eowyn Ivey



Carr-Gottstein Lecture Hall, Room 102
4225 University Dr.
Anchorage, AK 99508



The low-residency Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing program at Alaska Pacific University presents:

The 2026 Summer Community Reading Series

6:00pm at BETTI'S, 3956 Spenard Rd, Anchorage, 99517



Monday, July 13

Lynn Mellor
Iver Arnegard
Julia O'Malley



Tuesday, July 14

Corinna Cook
Ray Ball
Lauren Scantlebury



Thursday, July 16

John Messick
Anne Coray
Dave Onofrychuk (reading
the work of Mike Gordon)



Friday, July 17

Andrea Hackbarth
Martha Amore
Marybeth Holleman



Saturday, July 18

Jamey Bradbury
Susanna Mishler
Pamela Huber

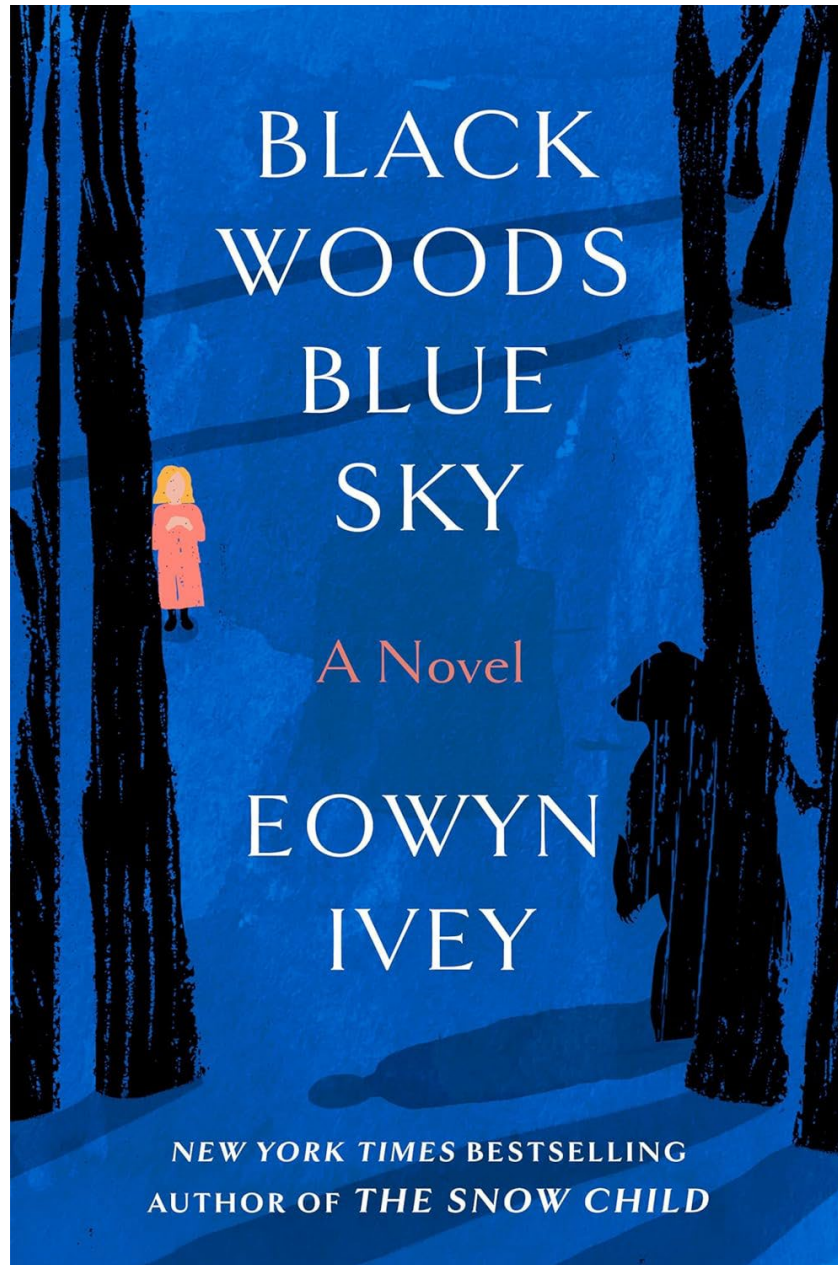


Tuesday, July 21

MFA Graduating
Class of 2026

BETTI'S IS LOCATED AT THE FORMER WRITER'S BLOCK LOCATION

Common Text – *Black Woods, Blue Sky* by Eowyn Ivey



To be read by students and mentors by Sunday, July 12.

Saturday, July 11

Time	Event	Location
5:00pm	Reception	Mlakar House
6:00pm	Opening Dinner, catered by Peppercini's	Mlakar House

Sunday, July 12

Time	Event	Location
9:30am	Coffee & Continental Breakfast	Grant 232
9:30am	Director and Mentors Meeting	Grant 230
10:30am	Keynote: Eowyn Ivey "A Writer's List of Rules (to Break, Follow, Modify or Ignore as Needed)"	Grant 231
12:00pm	Brunch (provided)	Atwood
1:00pm	MFA Graduation Timeline Overview from Summer 1 to Summer 3	Grant 231
2:00pm	Campus Tour Time for mentors and students who went on the tour last year to meet to discuss the fall semester. Time for the director and graduating students to meet and discuss colloquium preparation.	
3:00pm	Time for mentors and students who went on the tour to meet and discuss the fall semester.	
5:00pm	Dinner (on own)	
7:00pm	Dessert Reception, hosted by the Alaska Center for the Book	Carr-Gottstein Gallery
7:30pm	Contributions to Literacy in Alaska (CLIA) Awards Ceremony	CG Lecture Hall
7:45pm	Reading: Eowyn Ivey	CG Lecture Hall

Monday, July 13

Time	Event	Location
8:15am	Coffee & Continental Breakfast	Grant 232
8:45am	Morning Talk: Julia O'Malley, "How Stories Find You: Notes on the Work of Listening"	Grant 231
9:45am	Break	
10:00am	Workshop 1	Grant 224
	Leader: Lynn Bastoky (guest lecturer)	
	Participants: Jamey Bradbury (fiction mentor), Andrea Hackbarth (poetry mentor), Poetry Student 1, Fiction Student 1, Fiction Student 2, Thesis Student 3	
	Work Submitted by: Fiction Student 1 Fiction Student 2	
	Workshop 2	Grant 228
	Leader: Iver Arnegard (guest lecturer)	
	Participants: Corinna Cook (nonfiction mentor), John Messick (nonfiction mentor), Julia O'Malley (guest lecturer), Thesis Student 1, Thesis Student 2, Nonfiction Student 1, Nonfiction Student 2	
	Work Submitted by: Nonfiction Student 1 Nonfiction Student 2	
12:00pm	Lunch (provided)	Atwood
2:00pm	Lecture 1: Iver Arnegard, ""Psychology of Word Choice in Prose"	Grant 231
3:00pm	Break	
3:15pm	Lecture 2: Lynn Bastoky, "The Unreliable Narrator with Intention: All Narrators Are Ultimately Unreliable"	Grant 231
4:15pm	Break	
5:00pm	Dinner (on own)	
6:00pm	Reading: Lynn Bastoky, Julia O'Malley, Iver Arnegard	Betti's

Tuesday, July 14

<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
8:15am	Coffee & Continental Breakfast	Grant 232
8:45am	Morning Talk: Lauren Scantlebury, “When and Where: Making Space and Time for Writing”	Grant 231
9:45am	Break	
10:00am	Workshop 1	Grant 315
	Leader: Ray Ball (guest lecturer)	
	Participants: Corinna Cook (nonfiction mentor), John Messick (nonfiction mentor), Jamey Bradbury (fiction mentor), Andrea Hackbarth (poetry mentor), Lauren Scantlebury (guest lecturer), Thesis Student 1, Thesis Student 2, Thesis Student 3, Nonfiction Student 1, Nonfiction Student 2, Fiction Student 1, Fiction Student 2, Poetry Student 1, MFA for a Day 1	
	Work Submitted by: MFA for a Day 1 (nonfiction) Poetry Student 1	
12:00pm	Lunch (provided)	Atwood
2:00pm	Lecture 1: Ray Ball, “The Enduring Art of Ekphrastic Writing”	Grant 231
3:00pm	Break	
3:15pm	Colloquium Presentation 1: Thesis Student 1	Grant 231
4:15pm	Break	
5:00pm	Dinner (on own)	
6:00pm	Reading: Corinna Cook, Lauren Scantlebury, Ray Ball	Betti’s

Wednesday, July 15 – Mini Retreat Day

<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
9:00am	Time for mentors and students to meet to discuss the fall semester, if need be	
9:30am	Coffee & Continental Breakfast	Grant 232
10:00am	James Dommek Jr., author of <i>Midnight Son</i> (Audible Original), writer and star of <i>Blood & Myth</i> (Hulu Original Documentary)	GH 231
12:00pm	Lunch (provided)	Atwood
1:00pm	Time for mentors and students to meet to discuss the fall Semester, if need be	
2:00pm	Time for students to reflect on their own what they've learned so far	

Thursday, July 16

Time	Event	Location
8:15am	Coffee & Continental Breakfast	Grant 232
8:45am	Morning Talk: Anne Coray, "A Flower Gathering: Editing the Literary Anthology"	Grant 231
9:45am	Break	
10:00am	Workshop 1 Leader: Corinna Cook (nonfiction mentor) & Jamey Bradbury (fiction mentor) Participants: Thesis Student 1, Thesis Student 3 Fiction Student 1, Fiction Student 2, MFA for a Day 2, MFA for a Day 3 Work Submitted by: MFA for a Day 2 (nonfiction) MFA for a Day 3 (nonfiction)	Grant 224
	Workshop 2 Leader: Anne Coray (guest lecturer) & John Messick (nonfiction mentor) Participants: Andrea Hackbarth (poetry mentor), Poetry Student 1, Nonfiction Student 1, Nonfiction Student 2 Work Submitted by: Poetry Student 1 Nonfiction Student 1	Grant 228
12:00pm	Lunch (provided)	Atwood
2:00pm	Lecture 1: Corinna Cook "Fact, Fact, Image, or, Fragments"	Grant 231
3:00pm	Break	
3:15pm	Colloquium Presentation 2: Thesis Student 2	Grant 231
4:15pm	Break	
5:00pm	Dinner (on own)	
6:00pm	Reading: Anne Coray, John Messick, Dave Onofrychuk	Betti's

Friday, July 17

Time	Event	Location
8:15am	Coffee & Continental Breakfast	Grant 232
8:45am	Morning Talk: Corinna Cook, “Making Mood and Metaphor”	Grant 231
9:45am	Break	
10:00am	Workshop 1	Grant 224
	Leader: Andrea Hackbarth (poetry mentor) & John Messick (nonfiction mentor)	
	Participants: Poetry Student 1, Thesis Student 1, Nonfiction Student 1, Fiction Student 2, MFA for a Day 2, MFA for a Day 4	
	Work Submitted by: MFA for a Day 2 (nonfiction) MFA for a Day 4 (poetry)	
	Workshop 2	Grant 228
	Leader: Jamey Bradbury (fiction mentor)	
	Participants: Corinna Cook, Thesis Student 2, Thesis Student 3, Nonfiction Student 2, Fiction Student 1, MFA for a Day 5, MFA for a Day 6	
	Work Submitted by: MFA for a Day 5 (fiction) MFA for a Day 6 (fiction)	
12:00pm	Lunch (provided)	Atwood
2:00pm	Lecture 1: Jamey Bradbury, “Try, Then Try Again: A Scientific Method of Revision”	Grant 231
3:00pm	Break	
3:15pm	Colloquium Presentation 3: Thesis Student 3	Grant 231
4:15pm	Break	
5:00pm	Dinner (on own)	
6:00pm	Reading: Martha Amore, Andrea Hackbarth, Marybeth Holleman	Betti’s

Saturday, July 18

Time	Event	Location
8:15am	Coffee & Continental Breakfast	Grant 232
8:45am	Morning Talk: John Messick, "The Relationship Between Writer and Reader, or, A Brief Summary of Theory"	Grant 231
9:45am	Break	
10:00am	Workshop 1	Grant 224
	Leader: Susanna Mishler (guest lecturer)	
	Participants: Andrea Hackbarth (poetry mentor), Corinna Cook (nonfiction mentor), Poetry Student 1, Thesis Student 2, Nonfiction Student 1, MFA for a Day 4, MFA for a Day 7	
	Work Submitted by: MFA for a Day 4 (poetry) MFA for a Day 7 (nonfiction)	
	Workshop 2	Grant 228
	Leader: Jamey Bradbury (fiction mentor)	
	Participants: Fiction Student 2, Thesis Student 1, Nonfiction Student 2, MFA for a Day 8, MFA for a Day 9	
	Work Submitted by: MFA for a Day 8 (fiction) MFA for a Day 9 (fiction)	
	Workshop 3	Grant 315
	Leader: John Messick (nonfiction mentor)	
	Participants: Fiction Student 1, Thesis Student 3, Guest 1, MFA for a Day 10, MFA for a Day 11	
	Work Submitted by: MFA for a Day 10 (fiction) MFA for a Day 11 (fiction)	
12:00pm	Lunch (provided)	Atwood
2:00pm	Lecture 1: Susanna Mishler, "A Fine Contrivance"	GH 231
3:00pm	Break	
3:15pm	Lecture 2: Andrea Hackbarth, "Literary Apple Trees: Grafting and Cross-Pollination"	GH 231
4:15pm	Break	
5:00pm	Dinner (on own)	
6:00pm	Reading: Susanna Mishler, Pamela Huber, Jamey Bradbury	Betti's

Sunday, July 19

FREE DAY – No obligations on the schedule

Monday, July 20

Time	Event	Location
8:15am	Coffee & Continental Breakfast	Grant 232
8:45am	Morning Talk: Jamey Bradbury, “He, She, Me, We: Adventures in POV”	Grant 231
9:45am	Break	
10:00am	Workshop 1	Grant 224
	Leader: Martha Amore (guest lecturer)	
	Participants: Jamey Bradbury (fiction mentor), Andrea Hackbarth (poetry mentor), Poetry Student 1, Thesis Student 3, Fiction Student 1, MFA for a Day 12, Fiction Student 2	
	Work Submitted by: MFA for a Day 12 (fiction) Fiction Student 1	
	Workshop 2	Grant 228
	Leader: Thesis Student 1	
	Participants: Corinna Cook (nonfiction mentor), John Messick (nonfiction mentor), Nonfiction Student 1, Nonfiction Student 2, Thesis Student 2, MFA for a Day 13	
	Work Submitted by: MFA for a Day 13 (nonfiction) Nonfiction Student 2	
12:00pm	Lunch (provided)	Atwood
2:00pm	Lecture 1: Martha Amore, “Writing Your Monsters”	Grant 231
3:00pm	Break	
3:15pm	Lecture 2: John Messick, “Autofiction, Biomythography, and Wonderworks: Writers Who Defy Genre to Speak Real Truth”	GH 231
4:15pm	Break	
5:00pm	Dinner (on own)	
6:00pm	Reading: First- Year and Second-Year MFA Students	Betti’s

Tuesday, July 21

<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
8:15am	Coffee & Continental Breakfast	Grant 232
8:45am	Morning Talk: Martha Amore, "Travel as Research for the Creative Writer"	Grant 231
9:45am	Break	
10:00am	Workshop 1	Grant 315
	Leader: Martha Amore (guest lecturer)	
	Participants: Corinna Cook (nonfiction mentor), John Messick (nonfiction mentor), Jamey Bradbury (fiction mentor), Andrea Hackbarth (poetry mentor), Carrie Aldrich (guest lecturer), Pamela Huber (guest lecturer), Poetry Student 1, Thesis Student 1, Thesis Student 2, Thesis Student 3, Nonfiction Student 1, Nonfiction Student 2, Fiction Student 1, Fiction Student 2	
	Work Submitted by: Fiction Student 1 Fiction Student 2	
12:00pm	Lunch (provided)	Atwood
2:00pm	Lecture 1: Carrie Aldrich, "Your Voice, Your Vision: Crafting the MFA Thesis"	GH 231
3:00pm	Break	
3:15pm	Lecture 2: Pamela Huber, "Narrative Foraging: Creative Research for Writers"	GH 231
4:15pm	Break	
5:00pm	Dinner (on own)	
6:00pm	Reading: Graduating Students	Betti's

Wednesday, July 22

Time	Event	Location
8:15am	Coffee & Continental Breakfast	Grant 232
8:45am	Morning Talk: Andrea Hackbarth, “Making Room for Uncertainty and Surprise”	Grant 231
9:45am	Break	
10:00am	Workshop 1	Grant 224
	Leader: Thesis Student 2	
	Participants: John Messick (nonfiction mentor), Corinna Cook (nonfiction mentor), Thesis Student 1, Nonfiction Student 1, Nonfiction Student 2	
	Work Submitted by: Nonfiction Student 1 Nonfiction Student 2	
	Workshop 2	Grant 228
	Leader: Andrea Hackbarth (poetry mentor) & Thesis Student 3	
	Participants: Jamey Bradbury (fiction mentor), Poetry Student 1, Fiction Student 1, Fiction Student 2	
	Work Submitted by: Poetry Student 1 Fiction Student 2	
12:00pm	Lunch (provided)	Atwood
	Residency Evaluations Final Student-Mentor Meetings of the Residency	Grant 231
2:00pm	Mentor Panel: Jamey Bradbury, John Messick, Andrea Hackbarth	Grant 231
3:00pm	James Dommek Jr.’s <i>Blood and Myth</i> true crime film (optional)	Grant 228
4:30pm	Director and Mentor meeting	Grant 230
6:00pm	Closing Dinner for students and mentors	Uncle Joe’s, 11700 Old Seward Hwy