

The 6 o'clock sea and sand  
is listening

the darkening creek  
the blood


and the church of sky  
tolling peace

naked as watertight  
changing and the same

Vincent Ferrini

Visit us at:  
[gloucesterwriters.org](http://gloucesterwriters.org) - [maudolsonlibrary.org](http://maudolsonlibrary.org)  
[facebook.com/GloucesterWritersCenter/](https://facebook.com/GloucesterWritersCenter/)  
[facebook.com/MaudOlsonLibrary/](https://facebook.com/MaudOlsonLibrary/)

BACK



# GLOUCESTER WRITERS CENTER

ANNUAL REPORT  
APRIL 1, 2016-MARCH 31, 2017

FRONT



## Letter from the Co-Directors

Dear Friends,

This annual report contains the words and pictures of those whose devotion and hard work made possible the many events of the fiscal year that ended on March 31, 2017.

Our seventh year was one of vitality and transition at the Gloucester Writers Center. In June, over 300 people attended the launch of the Maud / Olson Library and celebrated with an open house at 108 East Main Street followed by “A Night At The Tavern” in downtown Gloucester. Our budget grew and our fundraising kept pace.

Against the backdrop of these turbulent times, The Gloucester Writers Center provided a safe haven for writing, stories, dialogue and visioning. Our commitment to inclusion, without regard to tribe or station, remained central to our mission.

With growth came growing pains that were productive and necessary as we charted our course for the next seven years. As founders and co-directors, we stepped off the board as voting members in January when the board adopted a policy to clarify staff and board roles. The Nominating Committee worked on board responsibilities and invited new members, spanning the generations, to join. President André Spears made plans to become President Emeritus in June while continuing his focus on the GWC’s Maud / Olson Library Project, which he spearheaded. We worked on expanding our classes and workshops under the leadership of the Board Education Committee.

Having planted the seeds this past year, we welcome the new energy and leadership that will propel us forward. As always, our door is open to you - we would like to hear your comments and ideas. Thank you for your ongoing support of the Gloucester Writers Center.

*Annie Thomas Henry Ferrini*

Henry Ferrini and Annie Thomas

## Community Education Outreach

by Amanda Cook  
Community Education Coordinator

Since its beginning, the Gloucester Writers Center has been committed to drawing out a variety of voices. During fiscal year 2017, I continued to teach the community classes, workshops and events designed to give people a chance to share their stories.

On Thursday mornings I visited Pathways to read and write poetry with preschoolers. From the boy who asked to hear Blake's "Tyger" over and over again to the girl inspired by "The Jabberwocky" to try her hand at nonsense words, each week was a new adventure. Some of the children wanted to sit and listen to poems, some recited them as I transcribed. I want children to take what they need from poetry. Sometimes that means hearing their own words read back to them. Sometimes that means hearing a poem about feeling alone. The idea is to teach them that words matter, that their words matter, and that words can help express their ideas and emotions.



Sandra Williams

Jim Dinsmore

The Open Mic has continued to become an important meeting ground for the writing community. The monthly reading welcomes regulars and newcomers alike to share their work. The audience is generous. The writing is intense. The breadth of the work and diversity of experience makes the first Monday of the month one of my favorite times at the GWC. During the past year, numbers of attendees at Open Mic grew to over 30 people.



## Community Education Outreach

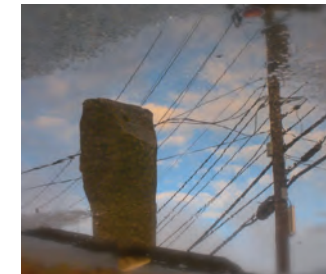
### Open Mic



Beebee Nelson



John Mullen, Dan Duffy and Amanda Cook



Open Mic Reading



## Community Education Outreach

by Amanda Cook  
Community Education Coordinator

A Group of One's Own, our weekly women's writing group, continued to meet on Wednesday mornings. Offering a safe and supportive space for women to share their writing, the group continued to dig into the experiences that have shaped their lives. Working in every style from fiction and memoir to songwriting and poetry, the women have written about difficult subjects like surviving cancer, being caregivers, domestic abuse, making one's way as an artist and family dynamics. They also explore lighter subjects in exercises designed to help with various aspects of their writing. Several of the women have had work published in the last year.



Mining the Hat, the writing group named after Vincent Ferrini's infamous black hat, focused on poetry, lyrics, shorter essays and fiction. Each week we started with an exercise derived from Stephen Jonas's *Exercises for Ear*, writing fragments from the week's experiences. Overheard comments, things seen on the side of the road, the unexpected sound of two words next to each other, the particular color of the sky—these things become small poems. From there we explored formal poems, hip-hop lyrics, prose poems and short stories.

This year, the GWC collaborated with the Sawyer Free Library to offer a Children's Picture Book Writing Workshop. Meeting monthly over six months, the group helped authors work on their entries into the Cape Ann Reads picture book contest.

## Maud / Olson Library

by Judith Nast, Project Manager  
The First Year: Maud/Olson Library Update



For those of you who have not yet visited the Maud/Olson Library (MOL) overlooking the harbor from the second floor at 108 East Main Street, I hope that you come by this summer to look out at the city that Olson loved and peruse the materials that informed his perspective and thoughts. Here's a brief summary of activities at the MOL in the past year:

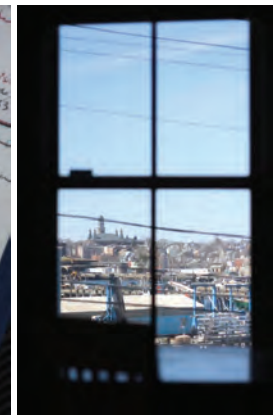
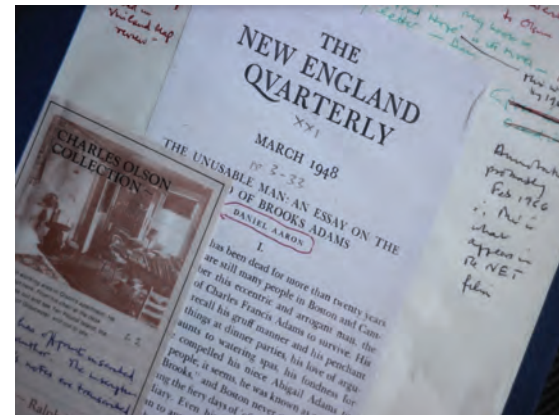
### June 2016 Gala Opening and May 2017 Award:

Beginning with a joyful, rollicking evening in June, the MOL has received 250 visitors from around the corner and around the



James Cook

world and hosted meetings and courses in our light-filled space. In May, the GWC received a 2017 Preservation Award from the Gloucester Historical Commission for stewardship of the Maud/Olson Library.



## Maud / Olson Library

### MOL's Physical Collection:

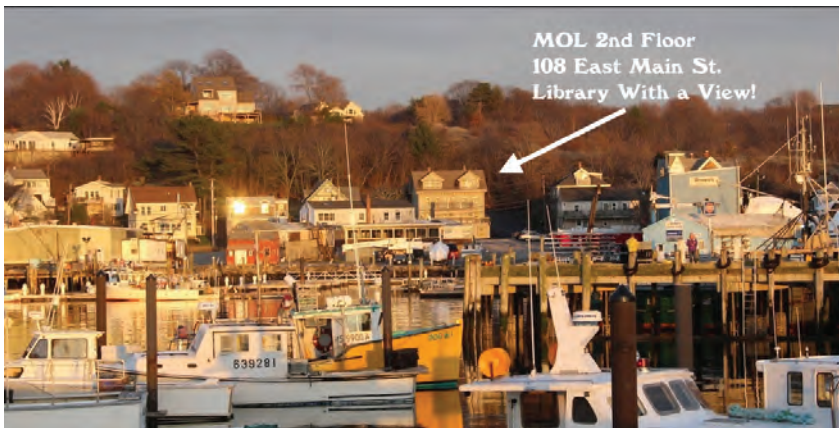
5276 items at MOL have been inventoried, labeled and stabilized. Audiotapes of Olson are digitized with a grant from the Community Preservation Act Committee. This is a wonderfully wide collection that spans centuries, geographies and subjects. MOL's holdings include the facsimile library collected by Olson scholar Ralph Maud of books, periodicals, and ephemera that Olson read, owned or referenced. Accompanying that collection is another 600 items that include Olson's published works, biographies and commentaries, and related material. Last year, the MOL also received an archive of Ralph Maud's correspondence with poets and authors, well known and less so, that offers a unique view into the larger literary community of which Olson was a member. Rachel Onuf, through the Roving Archivist Program of the Massachusetts State Historical Records Advisory Board, has provided technical assistance.

### MOL's Online Presence:

The MOL's catalogue is about to be available online so that anyone, anywhere can look at what's here. We have a new website ([maudolsonlibrary.org](http://maudolsonlibrary.org)) and Facebook page, too.

### What does the next year hold?

With grant applications and developing partnerships, we are looking forward to new ways to connect the MOL to our community via educational and archival collaboration.



## Maud / Olson Library

### Who's been working on this project?

We've been so fortunate to have people who have helped us with the physical collection, the identification of an online database for the catalogue, and inventorying the details of all of MOL's holdings. Appreciative thanks go out to staff, volunteers and interested friends: Wendy Fitting, Ellen Pulitzer, Mary Ellen Lepionka, Jane Keddy, Mary Katherine Kinneburgh, Carol Kelly, David Prior, Jonathan Thayer, Katelynn Vance and the MOL Steering Committee.



Gerrit Lansing, Annie Thomas & Gregor Gibson

*"At 108 East Main St., the collection of books that Charles Olson read is one of the numberless windows, through which to consider his life and work.*

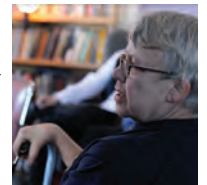
*I think the window I offer here is a good place to start.*

*As awesome as is Olson's erudition, his heart and mind, his imagination and, his passion were animated -made alive- by his surrender to the living presence of this place, Gloucester. He gave himself, his strivings and his flaws, unreservedly to Gloucester - much as one might fall into the arms of an irresistible beloved.*

*There is a fiercely equalitarian spirit in Olson: The ancient ancestral magnetism lures all of us, and refuses none. The streets, the moors, the tumble-down haunts of the forebears, history's architecture, written or whispered, slants of winter light, ledge, heath, wharf, glacial moraine, defiant of stasis, are life to imagination.*

*From this open window Charles Olson invites us to surrender with joy to the numinous breath, the spookiness, that animates even the stubborn granite. And he implores us that, to this beloved, we pledge our faithful care."*

- Rev. Wendy Fitting, Library Support / Blogger



## Writers in Residence Program

Vincent Ferrini wrote over 30 volumes of poetry at 126 East Main Street. The building that was once a barroom became Vincent's home/frameshop. In his autobiography, he says, "I have one ace, I can pause when the Poem is hot within and demands airing." We have been fortunate to preserve this ace of a place. Peter Anastas called the GWC "a working writers center in a working town." That designation is supported by two hundred years of history beginning with Emerson and Hawthorne who came to read in Gloucester. One of our first WIR was investigative writer, poet, and musician Ed Sanders. In a note, he said how the spot "demands writing, rumination and poetry." Some of our ruminating residents: Sandy Tolan, Diane di Prima, Anne Waldman, Andrei Codrescu, Amiri Baraka, Iain Sinclair, Ammiel Alcalay, Vincent Katz, Rudy Rucker and dozens more.



Diane di Prima



Sandy Tolan



Peter Anastas  
and  
Anne Waldman



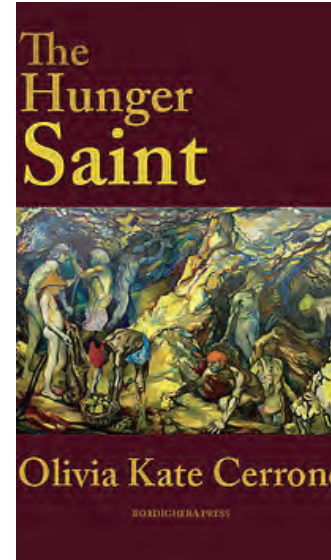
Michael McClure & Ed Sanders



Iain Sinclair Don Wellman Rhonda Faloon

In 2014 Olivia Kate Cerrone heard about our residency. She had a project and needed a place to write. Her story was about the Carusi of Sicily, the children who work in the sulfur mines and are sold into a lifetime of slavery as payment for a family loan. One writer said, "... Cerrone's exacting knowledge of the post-war Sicilian sulfur mines is matched only by the elegance of her prose and the depth of her compassion."

This spring, *The Hunger Saint* has been published by Bordighera Press. This summer she will return to read from her book.



"A residency at the GWC is such a wonderful thing, especially for young, emerging writers like myself who benefit greatly from the support. I am so grateful that I had the time and support of your wonderful organization."

-Written by Olivia Kate Cerrone in March (17)

## Writers in Residence

who visited between April 1, 2016 and March 31, 2017



In April, C.A. Conrad spent a week in residence at the GWC. He explored the Maud/Olson Library and read from his 2009 Gil Ott Book Award winning *The Book of Frank* and other poems.

In May, Joe and Sara Saftie came out from San Diego to stay at the GWC. Joe delivered a talk called “Charles Olson and Finding One’s Place.”



Sam Cornish packed the house reading from old and new work. Check out his podcast: [gloucesterwriters.org/podcast/sam-cornish/](http://gloucesterwriters.org/podcast/sam-cornish/)



In October, our WIR Kate Tarlow Morgan collaborated with the Trident Gallery in Gloucester to present the second act of *An Evening with Monsieur Teste*. This was the continuation of work she has been developing at the GWC.

Art critic and poet Charles Giuliano read from his 3 volumes of Gonzo poetry. The Berkshire writer came with his wife Astrid Hiemer to explore family roots on Cape Ann.



In September, André Spears, our co-founder and director of the Maud /Olson Library, read from recent works which have appeared in *Dispatches from the Poetry Wars* under the titles “Ship of State” (Parts 1 & 2).

Burroughs scholar Jed Birmingham had a productive visit at the Maud/Olson Library, exploring the collection of literary magazines. His renewed enthusiasm inspired him to create an archive. Read what he found out here: <http://realitystudio.org/bibliographic-bunker/no-sleep-till-gloucester/>



Brian Sneed is working on his Ph.d at University of Connecticut. He reached out to the GWC, and we were interested in his research on Olson’s works. Check out his podcast: <http://gloucesterwriters.org/podcast/brian-sneed/>

## Gloucester Veterans Writing Workshop

by Dorothy Shubow Nelson

Teacher and Facilitator of the Veterans Writing Workshop

After four years of spring and fall writing workshops at the Gloucester Veterans Center on Emerson Avenue, we are working together to publish an anthology of writings by many of the people who have participated in this workshop. The Gloucester Office of Veterans Services and The Gloucester Writers Center have continued their collaboration and staunch support. This anthology project is a natural development from the small public readings held in the Veterans Center.

The writers, averaging about twelve people each term, have continued to be a varied group from many backgrounds. War Veterans, peacetime Veterans, families and supporters of Veterans have joined the workshop to get started or move forward on their own writing projects.

Our anthology will contain writings that have emerged from these four years. We are eager to share the work of individual writers from this workshop with the broader community. For the public, it offers an opportunity to learn and contemplate how the experience of war and its consequences has affected all of us. The writers from this workshop have contributed narratives and poems that encompass other aspects of life as well as military experiences.



### Methodology

The workshop method includes “invitations to write” that stem organically from ongoing projects and new pieces and from readings excerpted from works outside of class that contribute to our discussions. Every voice matters in the room. Close listening requires attentiveness. Listeners draw the work out of the writer and benefit from recognizing their common concerns. Listening carefully to people who are reading their work also imbues the listener with a deepened awareness of the myriad possibilities for written language.

The culture of the class encourages receptivity with an emphasis on lessening the differences between us. Do we listen to each other in ways that allow writers to feel confident about expressing and exploring the subjects they are addressing? Does our openness and appreciation assure writers that their work matters? The underlying perspective in the class, that it is Veteran centered, has personal meaning for each of us and deepens as a result of our interactions and self-reflection.

As an experienced teacher of writing and literature I can attest to the benefits of teaching from strengths. This is one method that prevents set backs in our journeys as writers. It is hoped that our anthology will increase awareness of the histories, human conditions and situations of the participants and the subjects they explore in the Veterans Writing Workshop.





## Fish Tales

During FY17 our programming for Fish Tales, run by board member Maureen Aylward and Co-Director Henry Ferrini, really took off. "Analyse This," held in collaboration with the Gloucester Stage Company in July, brought in over 200 people, and events at the Cultural Center of Rocky Neck and other locales were full house.

Content was varied, and Maureen received requests from other groups in the community to bring Fish Tales to varied events. This resulted in stellar stories being shared with the community at the Gloucester Unitarian Universalist Church on Martin Luther King Day. From stories about baseball to stories about Nerds, the simple act of listening to people sharing their experiences orally in 5 minute narratives has been a catalyst for outreach to the larger community for the GWC.



Paul McGeary

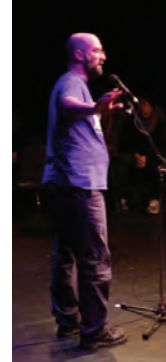


Virginia McKinnon



Heidi Pulkkinen

## Fish Tales "Analyse This" at the Gloucester Stage Company



Dan Graham



Matt Stella



Nathan Cohen



Gordon Baird



Jon Sarkin



Robert Walsh



Jim Dowd



Bo Abrams



Kate Seidman

## Writers Resist Event - January 15, 2017



Duncan Nelson



Deborah Cramer



Elizabeth Winthrop



Charlotte Gordon



Brian King



Jeff Zinn

On January 15th, the Gloucester Writers Center co-sponsored the Writers Resist Event at the Cultural Center of Rocky Neck. CCRN, Eastern Point Lit House, SeaArts and the GWC collaborated to sponsor a Writers Resist afternoon moderated by JoeAnn Hart.

## International Women's Day at GWC - March 5, 2017

GWC's 3rd Annual International Women's Day Reading was held on March 15th at 126 East Main St. Amanda Cook moderated as we read from our favorite women's writers.



Jorgelina Zeoli



Diane Faissler and Stacey Dexter



Wendy Fitting



Abby Cook reading



Flinda Nix reading



Diane Faissler and Susan Pollack

## Launching the Maud / Olson Library in June

We launched the Maud / Olson Library on June 18th, 2016. Over 100 people attended the afternoon Open House at the newly opened site of the Maud / Olson Library at 108 East Main Street. People saw the unique Maud collection of over 4000 books that influenced Charles Olson and enjoyed cocktails on the expansive deck overlooking the harbor. Ralph Maud's widow Alvina Schick and Olson scholars John Faulise and Miriam Nichols attended, along with Olsonistas from Canada and the United States.



Willie Alexander

In the evening, hundreds of friends, young and old, gathered at the Tavern by the Sea in downtown Gloucester to celebrate with the premiere of the Henry Ferrini Film on the Maud / Olson collection "The Door is Open" and entertainment by amazing performers, poets, and musicians in the show "A Night at the Tavern."



Ammiel Alcalay

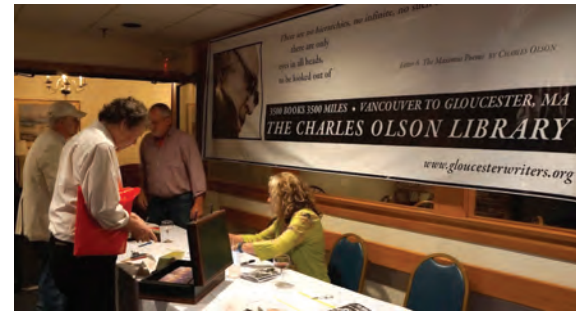


Karen Ristubin

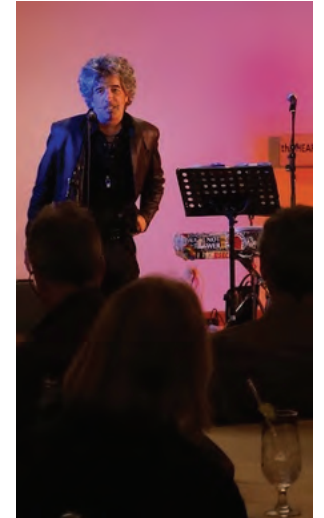


Ed Sanders

## A Night at The Tavern



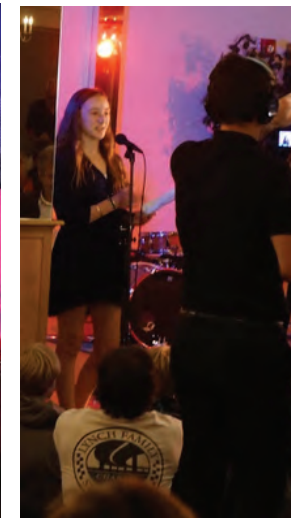
Gordo Baird and Henry Ferrini



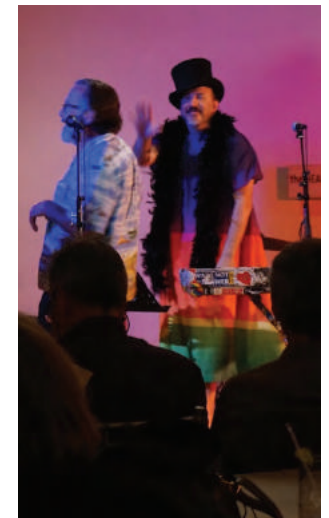
Rick Gadbois/Hooglio Bastisos



Joey Unis



Lila Olson



Greg Gibson and Brian King

## Our Year in Review - Calendar of Events

April 4 -  
Writing Memoir  
/ The Art of Social  
Media for writers  
begins a 6-week  
course for writers,  
by Ellen Szabo



April 6 -  
Jay Featherstone  
and Carol Seitchik  
reading their poetry  
at the GWC

April 7 - Writing Workshop for Veterans – 8-week Spring workshop begins at Office for Veteran’s Services led by Dorothy Shubow Nelson

April 7 - “Writing a 10 Minute Play” -  
M. Lynda Robinson begins her  
4-week workshop



April 10 - Announcing  
the Bianchini  
“Write On” Contest

April 12 - Jonathan Bayliss  
Reading Group meets at GWC

April 13 - Denise Bergman and  
Nicole Schoel read at the  
Cultural Center of Rocky Neck



April 20 - Timotha Doane gives a  
poetry reading at GWC

April 27 -  
C.A. Conrad,  
writer in  
residence  
reads at GWC



## Our Year in Review - Calendar of Events

April 28 - An Evening with the Finish Line Writers’ Group at the Cultural Center of Rocky Neck

May 2 - Open Mic: Monthly Open Mic at GWC led by Amanda Cook



May 4 - Dan Wilcox and Allan Casline,  
poets from New York read at GWC



May 11 - Preston Hood,  
poet and veteran, reads  
his poetry at GWC

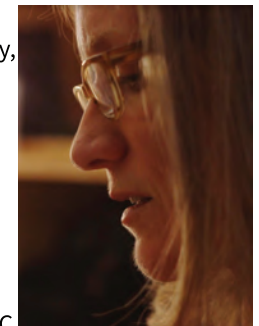


May 13 -  
Fish Tales:  
“Stories by Women”  
at the Cultural  
Center of Rocky Neck

May 18 -  
Ann McArdle and  
Amanda Cook,  
GWC teachers,  
read from works  
in progress at the  
GWC event titled  
“Unfinished  
Business”



May 21 -  
Kate Colby,  
GWC  
founding  
board  
member,  
reads her  
long  
poem  
“I Mean”  
at the GWC



## Our Year in Review - Calendar of Events

May 22 - Anne Rearick introduces her new book of photography entitled *Township*



June 1 - Charles Olson and Finding Your Place – Writer in residence Joe Safdie speaks on Olson and how one inhabits ‘place’



June 8 - Boston Poet Laureate Danielle Legros Georges and Kevin Gallagher, friends and fellow poets, read together at the GWC

June 12 - 10-Minute Plays Staged Reading: the 11th staged reading of plays written in M. Lynda Robinson’s playwriting workshop, held at the Cultural Center of Rocky Neck.



June 18 - GWC launches the new Maud / Olson Library Project with an Open House at 108 East Main Street and “A Night at The Tavern,” celebrating with a night of music, poetry, dance, and film.

June 29 - Sam Cornish, Boston’s first Poet Laureate, visits Gloucester for a residency at the GWC



July 6 - Micah Ballard and Derek Fenner – two authors launch their most recent books at the GWC

## Our Year in Review - Calendar of Events



July 8 - Fish Tales: “Play Ball!” at the Cultural Center of Rocky Neck



July 13 - Mishka Shubaly reads from his recently released *I Swear I’ll Make It Up to You* at the GWC

July 19 - Writer David Matlin comes to the GWC to read from his work



July 27 - Stephen Dunn and Larry Raab read their poetry at the Cultural Center of Rocky Neck



## Our Year in Review - Calendar of Events



August 3 - Marta (Gibbons) Elva reads from her novel *American Tumbleweeds*



August 12 - Summer/Music on Meetinghouse Green – Unitarian Universalist Church supports GWC and other Cape Ann groups



August 17 - Brenda Walcott, teacher and writer, comes to read at the GWC with drummer Daniel Laurent



August 31 - Charles Giuliano, Gonzo Poet, author of *Shards of a Life* and *Total Gonzo Poems*, reads at the GWC

September 7 - Bayliss Birthday Bash: Celebration of Jonathan Bayliss' 90th Birthday with wine, birthday cake, and readings from *Gloucesterbook*

## Our Year in Review - Calendar of Events

September 14 - André Spears, GWC co-founder, reads from works in progress...



September 21 - Poet, thinker, and sound artist Don Byrd talks about Charles Olson

September 29 - M. Lynda Robinson launches a 4-week session of the "10-Minute Play Workshop"



October 8 - Kate Tarlow Morgan, writer and dancer, presents Paul Valéry's "A Letter to A Friend" at Trident Gallery

October 12 - "In Our Words" A Reading of the Wednesday Writing Group, "a group of One's Own" at the GWC

October 13 - Writing Workshop for Veterans launches Fall 8-week sessions

October 19 - Gloria Mindock and Zvi A. Sesling come to read at the GWC



October 26 - Garrett Caples reads from his new book of poems, *Power Ballads*

## Our Year in Review - Calendar of Events



October 29 - Hettie Jones visits Gloucester for the Annual Charles Olson Lecture at the Cape Ann Museum



November 2 - Jed Birmingham presents his findings on William Burroughs

November 7 - Teen Creative Writing Workshop co-sponsored at the Sawyer Free Library begins 4 weeks of sessions

November 9 - Poets Jim Seavey and Sage Walcott read at the GWC



November 30 - Kevin Gallagher returns to Gloucester to share from his new book *Loom*

December 2 - Fish Tales: "Analyze This" co-sponsored at the Gloucester Stage Company

December 7 - Sara Larsen comes to Gloucester to share from *Merry Hell*, her retelling of Helen of Troy's story



December 11 - Fire at Sea with Q&A led by Dan Connell at the Cape Ann Cinema

## Our Year in Review - Calendar of Events



January 15 - Writers Resist: Don't Tread on Us – Local writers come to present poetry on resistance at the Cultural Center of Rocky Neck

January 16 - Fish Tales: "MLK Day Celebration" held at the UU church



February 12 - 10-Minute Plays Staged Reading of plays from M. Lynda Robinson's workshop held at Cultural Center of Rocky Neck

February 22 - New literary magazine *Milkweed*, put together by Endicott College students, presents their first issue at the GWC

March 1 - Dan Duffy reads from his work at the GWC



March 5 - 3rd International Women's Day Reading at GWC



March 8 - Lynn Xu and Joshua Edwards read at the GWC

## Our Year in Review - Calendar of Events



March 11 - Sandra Williams launches the six-week peer-facilitated poetry group “Explore Your Own Amazement – Poetry” with Jan Blais



March 12 - Getting Heard: How to be heard by your government: JoeAnn Hart leads at the Cultural Center of Rocky Neck

March 15 - Simeon Berry reads from some of his poetic works at the GWC

March 22 - Writing Workshop for Veterans begins the Spring 8-week sessions at the Office for Veteran’s Services on Emerson Ave.

March 24 - Fish Tales: “Nerds”

The “Nerds” edition of our popular storytelling series held at the Cultural Center of Rocky Neck



March 29 - Brian Sneed comes to the GWC to share his work on Olson’s use of the apostrophe and enunciative address in *The Maximus Poems*

## Volunteers

Volunteers have been pivotal to the development of the GWC. Everything we do is helped by the creative, hands-on energy of the many people who are part of the Gloucester Writers Center community. This year the Maud / Olson Library offered expanded opportunity for volunteering: performers, musicians, poets, and event volunteers made the opening at MOL and the evening gala “A Night At The Tavern” at the Tavern by the Sea, a wonderful happening. Volunteers continued to help throughout the year with the cataloguing and inventorying the Maud / Olson collection. The Finish Line Writers Group helped with everything from mailings to gardening. Members of



the GWC Board and MOL Steering Committee gave countless hours including donating pro-bono services, running programs such as FishTales, and doing hands-on projects. Always fundamental to our mission, writers from around the world and around the block generously shared

their time by reading their work and dialoguing with the hundreds of people who attended our GWC events.



The Gloucester Writers Center is always on the lookout for volunteers!



## Governance

by Charlee Bianchini



Over the course of the past year, the Nominating and Governance Committee began the work of revising and expanding the Gloucester Writers Center nomination and governing processes.

We began by reviewing multiple sources on board governance in order to create process and protocols that fit well with our mission and goals. The committee sought the sound advice of Barbara Silberman, who gave us wise consult on what will benefit us the most as we grow. We documented the roles and expectations of our board members, officers and executive directors, and determined term limits and qualifications. We explored the role we would like our advisory board and volunteers to take, and brainstormed ways in which we can involve them more in our daily operations.

Our second task was the recruiting of new board members to replace those stepping down. In so doing, we found we did not have an official process in order to determine good candidates and officially vote them in. Again, we consulted various sources to determine the best guidelines, and we created a cohesive structure that will aid in recruiting future candidates. Members of the committee used their personal community connections to brainstorm ideas for good candidates. With this hard work came the reward of welcoming Joshua Fishburn onto the board as our first new member in this process.

## Maud / Olson Library Steering Committee

Peter Anastas	Barbara Gale	Judith Nast
John Faulise	Greg Gibson	André Spears
Henry Ferrini	Gerrit Lansing	Annie Thomas

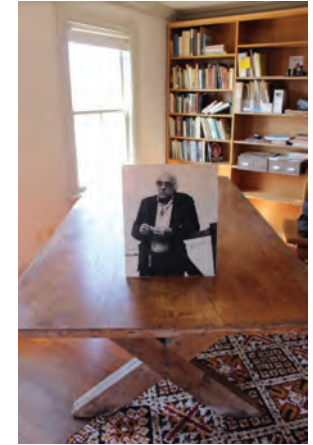
Director: André Spears

Project Manager: Judith Nast

Library Support & Blogger: Wendy Fitting and Ellen Pulitzer



Detail from Erik Lomen's mural of Vincent Ferrini in Beverly



Charles Olson atop his table in the Maud / Olson Library

## GWC Staff – paid and pro-bono 2016-2017

Co-directors: Henry Ferrini and Annie Thomas

Education Coordinator, Web Admin: Amanda Cook

Director of Development: Barbara Silberman

PR & Administrative Support: Ellen Pulitzer

Bookkeeper: Andria Picano

Teachers: Amanda Cook, Ann McArdle, Sandra Williams

Dorothy Shubow Nelson, M. Lynda Robinson, Ellen Szabo

Artist-in-residence: Susan Erony

Event Poster Design: Helen Anne Lind

Fish Tales Producer: Maureen Aylward

Webmaster: Steve Brettler

Design and Mailing Support: Renata Greene

Annual Report Photographs: Henry Ferrini & Renata Greene,  
and Dan Rodrigues for the "Analyze This" Photographs

## Thank you for the generosity of our Foundation and Corporate Donors

### Grants Awarded

in 2016-2017

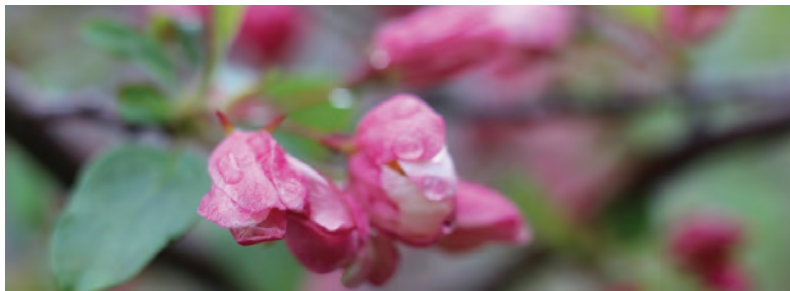
Bruce J Anderson Foundation  
Caldwell Foundation  
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Kanter Kallman Foundation  
Forest Foundation  
Lobster Cove Foundation  
Galen Gibson Memorial Trust  
Community Preservation Act of Gloucester  
Massachusetts State Historical Records Advisory Board

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Cape Ann Savings Bank  
Anthony and Dodge PC  
Lucas Noble Financial  
Small Fish Design  
Geoffrey H. Richon /company

Our mailings, annual giving, grants, and events brought revenue of almost \$150,000 during FY2017, our best fundraising year to date. Over 375 contributions arrived by mail, from \$10.00 to \$20,000. Other revenue came from suggested donations of \$5 to \$10 at many of our community events. We stress that no one is turned away for lack of funds at any GWC program.

During FY2016/17 our expenses grew along with our revenues, including one-time expenses incurred in setting up the Maud / Olson Library. The Board of Directors and Co-Directors are actively involved in expanding the base of funders who support the cost effective work of the Gloucester Writers Center. We are seeking new grant opportunities and revenue streams, including from our expanded class and workshop offerings. Development consultant Barbara Silberman joined our staff as Director of Development to write grants and help with overall development. The challenges of sustaining the GWC into the future are ongoing and being met head on.



Thank you to Brenda Hiltz and Sumiko Giarratini from Anthony Dodge, PC in Hamilton, MA for their hard work as treasurers of the Board of the Gloucester Writers Center. Because the gross revenue of the GWC is under \$200,000 a review is not required by law.

ANTHONY  
&  
DODGE, PC

Certified Public Accountants

227 Willow Street, Suite 1-1, South Hamilton, MA 01982

E-mail: cpas@anthonydodge.com

Phone: 978.468.7338

Fax: 978.468.6682

Website: www.anthonydodge.com

### Accountants' Compilation Report

To the Members  
Gloucester Writers Center, Inc.  
Gloucester, MA 01930

Management is responsible for the accompanying financial statements of Gloucester Writers Center, Inc. (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the statement of assets, liabilities, and equity—tax basis as of March 31, 2017, and the related statement of revenues, expenses and other changes in net assets—tax basis for the year then ended, and for determining that the tax basis of accounting is an acceptable financial reporting framework. We have performed a compilation engagement in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services promulgated by the Accounting and Review Services Committee of the AICPA. We did not audit or review the financial statements nor were we required to perform any procedures to verify the accuracy or completeness of the information provided by management. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion, a conclusion, nor provide any form of assurance on these financial statements.

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the tax basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Management had elected to omit substantially all the disclosures ordinarily included in financial statements prepared in accordance with the cash basis of accounting. If the omitted disclosures were included in the financial statements, they might influence the user's conclusions about the Company's assets, liabilities, equity, revenues and expenses. Accordingly, the financial statements are not designed for those who are not informed about such matters.

We are not independent with respect to Gloucester Writers Center, Inc.

*Anthony & Dodge PC*  
ANTHONY & DODGE, PC  
Certified Public Accountants  
Hamilton, Massachusetts

June 12, 2017



## Financials

The combination of mailings, events, grants, and individual giving along with a large single donation to ensure the development of the Maud / Olson Library combined to produce another great fundraising year for the GWC.

### GLOUCESTER WRITERS CENTER, INC. STATEMENT OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES, AND NET ASSETS - TAX BASIS AS OF MARCH 31, 2017

	<u>ASSETS</u>	<u>2016</u>
Current Assets:		
Cash		\$ 58,161
Prepaid Rent		14,131
Other Current Assets		200
Total Current Assets		<u>72,492</u>
Property and Equipment		
Land & Building		100,000
Building Improvement		13,433
Library		25,179
Accumulated Depreciation		<u>(3,433)</u>
Total Property and Equipment		<u>135,179</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b><u>\$ 207,671</u></b>
 <b><u>LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</u></b> 		
Current Liabilities:		
Due to Fiscal Agent Project		\$ 32,501
Deferred Scholarship Revenue		1,000
Notes Payable - Credit Line		<u>8,012</u>
Total Liabilities		<u>41,513</u>
Net Assets:		
Unrestricted		146,055
Temporarily Restricted		<u>20,103</u>
Total Net Assets		<u>166,158</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</b>		<b><u>\$ 207,671</u></b>

### GLOUCESTER WRITERS CENTER, INC. STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND OTHER CHANGES IN NET ASSETS - TAX BASIS FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2017

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Temporarily Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>
Revenues & Support			
Direct Mail Appeal	20,639	-	20,639
Major Events	13,755	-	13,755
Grants	8,100	16,000	24,100
Individual giving	23,392	53,000	76,392
Literary Series	230	-	230
Writing Education	2,448	-	2,448
Programs - Other	9,194	-	9,194
Fiscal Sponsorship	1,749	-	1,749
Interest Income	46	34	80
Total Revenue and Support	<u>79,553</u>	<u>69,034</u>	<u>148,587</u>
Expense			
DMA Expense	374	511	885
Major Events Expense	996	-	996
Major Event - Food and Beverage	2,273	-	2,273
Major Event - Rent and Facility	1,500	-	1,500
Grants Expense	3,634	-	3,634
Program Expense	7,524	19,757	27,281
Filing Fees	85	-	85
Contract Services	354	-	354
Depreciation Expenses	1,312	-	1,312
Equip Rental and Maintenance	1,148	38	1,186
Janitorial Services	526	-	526
Property Insurance	109	109	218
Rent	-	15,869	15,869
Utilities	1,796	928	2,724
Repair and Maintenance	285	215	500
Books, Subscriptions, Reference	-	44	44
Postage, Mailing Service	747	-	747
Printing and Copying	841	-	841
Supplies	1,552	215	1,767
Telephone Expenses	395	-	395
Meals and Entertainment	1,099	273	1,372
Web Expenses	3,258	350	3,608
Insurance - Liability & WC	470	470	940
Staff Development	63	-	63
Salaries & Wages	67,183	12,700	79,883
Payroll Processing Fees	(252)	791	539
Payroll Taxes	7,496	-	7,496
Conference, Convention, Meeting	90	429	519
Travel	312	1,000	1,312
Bank Service Fees	251	-	251
Interest Expenses	481	-	481
Total Expense	<u>105,902</u>	<u>53,699</u>	<u>159,601</u>
Changes in Net Assets	<u>(26,349)</u>	<u>15,335</u>	<u>(11,014)</u>
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	<u>172,404</u>	<u>4,768</u>	<u>177,172</u>
Net Assets, End of Year	<u>146,055</u>	<u>20,103</u>	<u>166,158</u>

See accountant's compilation report.

## Gloucester Writers Center Board of Directors

André Spears - President  
 Rev. Wendy Fitting - Vice-Pres  
 Brenda Hiltz - Treasurer  
 Mary John Boylan - Clerk  
 Maureen Aylward  
 Charlee Bianchini  
 Amanda Cook  
 Ariane Doud  
 Dan Duffy  
 Henry Ferrini  
 Joshua Scott Fishburn  
 Sumiko Guaratini  
 William Taylor  
 Annie Thomas



Thorpe Feidt  
 The Rumor - The Ambiguities 470

## Advisory Board

Kate Colby  
 Ammiel Alcalay  
 Peter Anastas  
 Anna Solomon  
 Anne Waldman  
 Shahar Bram  
 Andrei Codrescu  
 Ed Sanders  
 Fred Dewey  
 Diane di Prima  
 Mark Kurlansky  
 Gerrit Lansing  
 Ken Riaf, Esq.  
 Michael Rumaker  
 Dorothy Shubow Nelson



Thorpe Feidt  
 The Maligned King - The Ambiguities 470

## In Memoriam



Tomas Brewer, writer, artist, and cartoonist, tragically died on April 27, 2016 in a bicycling accident in California. Tomas was only 26 years old and leaves his mother, Jayne Robbins, his father, Chip Brewer, his twin brother Sean and his sisters Kirsten, Alicia, and Jessie, as well as numerous extended family members and friends for whom he was a warm, bright light. His mother, Jayne Robbins, was a lifelong friend of Vincent Ferrini. Both Jayne and Tomas' uncle, Will Stebbins, have spoken at the Gloucester Writers Center.

Nicole Hahn Rafter (Nicky) 1939-2016 was a Writer-in-Residence at the GWC in 2013. She was internationally known and a much-honored writer and scholar in the fields of social history and criminology. She was the author of more than a dozen books (most recently *The Crime of All Crimes, Toward a Criminology of Genocide*).



Benjamin Hollander was born in Haifa in 1952. He came to America as a child and lived in Queens. He moved to San Francisco 30 years ago. He passed away on November 21, 2016. His many books include *The Book of Who Are Was (Sun and Moon)*, *Levinas and the Police Part 1 Chax*, *Vigilance (Beyond Baroque)*, *Rituals of Truce and the Other Israeli (Parrhesia)*, *In the House Un-American (Clockroot)* and *Letters for Olson (Spuylen Duyvil)*.