



Thomas H. Bayly Building  
155 Rugby Road, PO Box 400119  
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TEL 434.924.3592  
FAX 434.924.6321  
[www.virginia.edu/artmuseum](http://www.virginia.edu/artmuseum)

## Writer's Eye 2017 | key dates

### Tuesday, August 1 | tour scheduling begins

To schedule a *Writer's Eye* tour, complete the online Tour Booking Form at <http://uvafralinartmuseum.virginia.edu/program/writers-eye-2017>  
Self-Guided Tours are also available.

### Tuesday, August 29 | Teachers' pARTy | 5:30-7:30pm

Join us for a light supper as we celebrate the beginning of *Writer's Eye 2017* and the new academic year! Preview the *Writer's Eye* selections, current exhibitions, and our educational programs for 2017-2018. RSVP to 434.243.2050 or [museumoutreach@virginia.edu](mailto:museumoutreach@virginia.edu) by Friday, August 25.

### Tuesday, September 5 | tours begin

Information posted on our website and entry forms available in the Museum.

### Friday, November 10 | tours end

Last day for docent-led tours of *Writer's Eye*. Self-guided tours are still available.

### Wednesday, November 15 | deadline for electronic entries

Entries due by 11:59pm only through our online form at <https://thefralin.formstack.com/forms/we17submissions>.  
No email or fax accepted.

### Friday, November 17 | deadline for paper entries

Entries due at the Museum by 5pm.

### January 2018 | winners notified

Winning students, teachers, and judges notified by letter or email. No phone inquiries please.

### Sunday, March 11, 2018 | awards ceremony | 3:00-5:00pm

Students, parents, teachers, and principals are invited to the Awards Ceremony, followed by a reception. The anthology of first, second, and third-place winning entries will be released.



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## Writer's Eye 2017 | what is Writer's Eye?

We invite you to participate in *Writer's Eye 2017*, the 31<sup>st</sup> annual literary competition organized by The Fralin Museum of Art at the University of Virginia. This annual ekphrastic writing competition—challenging writers of all ages to create original poetry and prose inspired by works of art—was introduced by docent Carole Armstrong in 1986, and has become the Museum's flagship educational program.

### what is ekphrasis?

Both visual art and creative writing are forms of expression that give voice to the human experience, and poets have used visual art as inspiration for centuries. The word ekphrasis is a direct transcription from the Greek *ek*, “out of,” and *phrasis*, meaning “speech” or “expression,” and originally applied to verbal description of the visual aspects of a real or imagined object or work of art. Homer's description of Achilles' shield in Book 18 of the *Iliad* is the earliest recorded example of ekphrastic writing. Over time the concept of ekphrasis evolved from simple description of an artwork to any poetic expression or narrative inspired by a work of art. Published in 1820, John Keats' *Ode on a Grecian Urn* is one of the most famous examples of ekphrastic writing. More recently, poet Jan Greenberg has talked about her belief in “the power of art to inspire language,” and author and educator Georgia Heard called language “the poet's paint.” Thus, ekphrastic writing is an ancient tradition that continues to inspire writers today!

## Writer's Eye 2017 | competition information

Compositions inspired by selected works on view in the Museum can be submitted in the categories of Prose or Poetry, for grades 3–5, 6–8, 9–12, and University/Adult. Entries are judged anonymously by area teachers and writing professionals. The judges for the High School and University/Adult categories are well-known writers from our community. Winners are honored at an annual ceremony in the spring, and first, second, and third-place winning entries are published in the *Writer's Eye* anthology.

Art selections for *Writer's Eye 2017* will include paintings, sculpture, and photography from the Museum's permanent collections, as well as select pieces from the new exhibition, *Dealer's Choice: The Samuel Kootz Gallery 1945-1966*, on view through December 17, 2017. We are also pleased to include an installation by renowned contemporary artist Mark Dion, *Virginia Curiosity Shop*, located beside Culbreth Theatre on the Betsy and John Casteen Arts Grounds Commons.



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## Writer's Eye 2017 | distinguished judges



**Jeffery Renard Allen** will be the Distinguished Judge for Poetry for *Writer's Eye 2017*. Allen holds a PhD in English-Creative Writing from the University of Illinois at Chicago, and taught at Queens College in New York and in the writing program at New York's New School before joining the faculty of UVA's creative writing program. He is the author of two collections of poetry, *Stellar Places* and *Harbors and Spirits*, and two works of fiction, the novel, *Rails Under My Back*, which won *The Chicago Tribune's* Heartland Prize for Fiction, and the story collection  *Holding Pattern*, which won the Ernest J. Gaines Award for Literary Excellence. His other awards include a Whiting Writer's Award, a support grant from Creative Capital, The Chicago Public Library's Twenty-first Century Award, a Recognition for Pioneering Achievements in Fiction from the African American Literature and Culture Association, and the 2003 Charles Angoff award for fiction from *The Literary Review*.



**Domnica Radulescu** will be the Distinguished Judge for Prose for *Writer's Eye 2017*. Radulescu is the Edwin A. Morris Professor of French and Italian literature at Washington and Lee University, and is a consultant with the Romanian Studies Association of America. She is the author of two best-selling novels: *Black Sea Twilight* and *Train to Trieste*. *Train to Trieste* has been published in twelve languages and is the winner of the 2009 Library of Virginia Fiction Award. Her play *The Town with Very Nice People: A Strident Operetta* has been chosen as a runner up for the 2013 Jane Chambers Playwriting award and she is presently working on her fourth novel titled *My Father's Orchards*. Radulescu received her BA in English from Loyola University of Chicago, and her MA in comparative literature and PhD in Romance languages and literatures from the University of Chicago.



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## Writer's Eye 2017 | judges for grades 3-5

### poetry

Monica Cabarcas  
Susan Guerrant  
Susan Washko

### prose

Barbara Fuhrman  
Erin James  
Geraldine Kruger  
Stephen Margulies

## Writer's Eye 2017 | judges for grades 6-8

### poetry

Heather Burns  
Michele Kellermann

### prose

Mark Collins  
Proal Heartwell  
Molly Minturn

## Writer's Eye 2017 | prizes

### university/adult

1<sup>st</sup> place: \$500  
2<sup>nd</sup> place: \$250  
3<sup>rd</sup> place: \$100

### high school

1<sup>st</sup> place: \$200  
2<sup>nd</sup> place: \$100  
3<sup>rd</sup> place: \$50

### middle school

1<sup>st</sup> place: \$100  
2<sup>nd</sup> place: \$50  
3<sup>rd</sup> place: \$25

### elementary school

1<sup>st</sup> place: \$50  
2<sup>nd</sup> place: \$25  
3<sup>rd</sup> place: \$10