

HOLLY PAINTER

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429 Old Mill
University of Vermont

EDUCATION

M.F.A., with Distinction, Creative Writing, University of Canterbury, 2009

B.A., magna cum laude, English and Philosophy, University of Southern California, 2007

APPOINTMENTS

Director, Center for Research on Vermont, University of Vermont (2025-present)

Senior Lecturer in English, University of Vermont (2023-present)

Interim Director, Undergraduate Writing Center, University of Vermont (2025)

Lecturer in English, University of Vermont (2016-2023)

Interim Coordinator, Graduate Writing Center, University of Vermont (2022-2023)

Interim Associate Director, Foundational Writing & Information Literacy, University of Vermont (2018)

Adjunct Faculty in English, Oakland Community College (2009-2010)

Adjunct Faculty in English, Baker College (2009)

COURSES

Arts & Creativity Learning Community First-Year Seminar

At Work in America: Oral & Written Histories

Australian & New Zealand Literature

Climate Change in Science Fiction & Fantasy

Climate Change in Science Fiction & Fantasy – Liberal Arts Scholars Program

Exploring Writing Centers

Harry Potter

Introduction to Creative Writing

Reading Space Science Fiction in Prison – Liberal Arts in Prison Program

Science Fiction & the Climate Crisis

Should We Settle Space? Perspectives from Science & Science Fiction

Teaching Assistantship Course for Arts & Creativity

Written Expression
Written Expression – International
Written Expression – Liberal Arts in Prison Program

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

UVM College of Arts and Sciences Small Grant	2023
UVM Honors College Zeltzerman Lecture Series Grant	2023
UVM Humanities Center Coor Programming Grant	2023
UVM Clean Energy Fund Grant	2020/2023
UVM Humanities Center Multidisciplinary Collegial Network Award	2021-2022
Wisconsin Humanities Council travel and lecture grant	2018
UVM Foundational Writing & Information Literacy Faculty Fellow	2017-2019
UVM Sustainability Faculty Fellow	2017-2018

HONORS

UVM Kroepsch-Maurice Excellence in Teaching Award	2021
UVM Prelock Online Teaching Award nominee	2021
Eyewear Press: Beverly Prize finalist for <i>At last, we listen closely</i>	2019
The Journal: Wheeler Prize semi-finalist for <i>The pressure of all that light</i>	2019
Pushcart Prize nominee	2014, 2019

PUBLICATIONS

Books

At last, we listen closely: cryptic crossword poems. Black Spring Press, 2025.
The pressure of all that light. Rebel Satori Press, 2022.
My Pet Sounds Off: Translating the Beach Boys. Finishing Line Press, 2020.
Excerpts from a Natural History. Titus Books, 2015.

Chapbook

June Poems. Printed by Kohoutek Press and self-published with Noah Burton, Duncan Campbell, Frances Cannon, and Meg Reynolds (2023).

Selected poems

- "Have You Heard?" (hymn). Hope Publishing, 2025.
- "Neonatology" and "The Day the AP Called It." *Roads Taken: Contemporary Vermont Poetry*, edited by Sydney Lea and Chard DiNiord, 3rd edition, Green Writers Press, 2022.
- "Neonatology" and "Kindergarten." *Lunch Ticket* (2021).
- "Because I'm Thirty-Five and Not Fifteen." *Plainsongs* (2021).
- "To San Francisco with Paul." *Home is Where You Queer Your Heart*, edited by Miah Jeffra, Monique Mero-Williams, and Arisa White, Foglifter Press, 2021.
- "They say it's bad." *Barzakh* (2021).
- "The First Hundred Days." *Freezeray* 18 (2020).
- "The Tragedy of Space Opera." *Fourth River* (2020).
- "Cryptic Crossword L" and "Cryptic Crossword LVI." *Nimrod* 63.2 (2020).
- "Cryptic Crossword XXXIII." *Bombay Gin* 45 (2020).
- "Cryptic Crossword XLIV," "Cryptic Crossword XLVI," and "Cryptic Crossword XLVII." *Northern New England Review* 40 (2020).
- "Peaches," "Please don't hurt me," and "When You Transition Without Me." *Spectrum* 63 (2020).
- "Field Trip." *Borderlands: Texas Poetry Review* 52 (2020).
- "Fear of Flying." *Worcester Review* XL (2019).
- "To My Slow Toddler." *Meow Meow Pow Pow* (2019).
- "January, Lake Champlain." *Apieron Review* 18 (2019).
- "Man-hours," "Night Swim," and "The San Francisco Self-Examiner." *Delmarva Review* 11 (2018).
- "Breast-pumping for Genderqueers." *Whiskey Island* 71 (2018).
- "Mount Ebenezer Roadhouse" and "Cryptic Crossword XLI." *New Zealand Poetry Shelf* (2018).
- "Little Obedience," "A Special Person" and "Obsolescence." *Watershed Review* 40 (2018).
- "Cryptic Crossword IX." *Split Rock Review* 11 (2018).
- "Cryptic Crossword I," "Cryptic Crossword III," "Cryptic Crossword XV," "Cryptic Crossword XVI," "Cryptic Crossword XVIII," "Cryptic Crossword XXIV," "Cryptic Crossword XXV," "Cryptic Crossword XXVII," "Cryptic Crossword XXVIII," and "Cryptic Crossword XXX." *Alluvium* (2018).
- "Cryptic Crossword XIII," "Cryptic Crossword XXXVI," "Cryptic Crossword XXXVII," and "Cryptic Crossword XXXVIII." *Rue Scribe* (2018).
- "Cryptic Crossword II," "Cryptic Crossword IX," "Cryptic Crossword X," "Cryptic Crossword XI," and "Cryptic Crossword XII." *m58* (2018).
- "Cryptic Crossword XIV" and "Cryptic Crossword XIX." *Random Sample* (2017).

“The Strait,” “Eight,” “Beside the Church,” “Retrospective,” “Feed Me,” Apologetics of a College Freshman,” “Gather in the outcasts, all who’ve gone astray,” “When you tire of your homeland,” “Comfortable Grunge,” and “Defend the Holy General.” *Alluvium* (2017).

“Fish & Farm,” “Vertigo,” “Not a Gentleman,” and “3am.” *Softblow* (2016).

“The Library.” *This is Not A Safety Barrier*, edited by Marc Nair, Ethos, 2016.

“Manna” and “The Parsons.” *Sport* 43 (2015).

“Jockstrap.” *Arena Magazine* 134 (2015).

“I Get Around,” “Wouldn’t It Be Nice,” “God Only Knows,” and “Friends.” *Barrelhouse* 13 (2014).

“Edwin’s Friday Night” and “The New Neighborhood.” *Riprap Journal* 36 (2014).

“Boys on the Beach” and “The way it felt to be so warm.” *JAAM* 30 (2013).

“In Which We Depart.” *Hue & Cry* 7 (2013).

“Picton’s Morning Crust.” *Landfall* 223 (2012).

“Shipwrecked, I Arrive.” *The New Zealand Listener*, 9 June 2012.

“Excerpts from a Natural History – I and II.” *Imaginary Syllabi*, edited by Jane Sprague, Palm Press, 2012.

“Turn Back Your Clocks,” “The Day Will Be Beautiful,” and “Save Radio New Zealand.” *Spork* (2012).

“We Get On” and “Uretiti.” *Sport* 40 (2012).

“A List of Sorrows Projected onto the Landscape” and “Venice.” *Landfall* 221 (2011).

“Sonoran Song.” *Cream City Review* 33.1 (2009).

“Jo’s Teeth” and “Otago.” *Landfall* 218 (2009).

Selected Fiction

“Denny’s.” *Whiskey Paper* (2014).

“Jean.” *Everywhere Stories: Short Fiction from a Small Planet*, edited by Clifford Garstang, Press 53, 2014.

“Phillip’s Face.” *Sweet As: Contemporary Short Stories by New Zealanders*, edited by Blair Polly and Wendy Moore, 2014.

“Repco.” *Penduline* 7 (2012).

Selected Articles & Essays

“We’ve squeezed the fun out of youth sports. There’s a better way.” *USA Today* (2025). (with Emily Beam.)

“Holly Painter: Excerpts from a Natural History.” *Flash Frontier* (2018).

“Holly Painter on Cryptic Crossword IX.” *Split Rock Review* (2018).

“The Poem: Jack Kerouac’s 11th Chorus of Desolation Blues.” *BODY* (2014).

SELECTED TALKS & WORKSHOPS

- “Should we settle space?” Guest talk in GEOG 1760: Global Environments & Cultures at UVM (Burlington, VT, 2025).
- “A Shifting Landscape: Generative AI Research and Response in an Undergraduate Writing Center.” SUNY Council on Writing 2025 Conference (Queensbury, NY, 2025).
- “A Shifting Landscape: Generative AI Research and Response in an Undergraduate Writing Center.” UVM VPPASS Spring 2025 Summit (Burlington, VT, 2025).
- “Poetry Games Workshop.” National Poetry Month / UVM Public Philosophy Week Workshop at South Burlington Public Library (South Burlington, VT, 2024).
- “Poetry Games Salon.” Workshop at College of Alice and Peter Tan, National University of Singapore (Virtual, 2024).
- “Cautionary Tales and Aspirational Futures: Climate Change and Science Fiction.” UVM Public Philosophy Week talk (South Burlington, VT, 2023).
- “Climate Change in Fiction.” Workshop at Shelburne Farms’ Climate Resiliency Fellowship (Shelburne, VT, 2018, 2019, 2022).
- “LANGUAGE Poets & Poetry Experiments.” Workshop at Burlington High School (Burlington, VT, 2022).
- “The Obsolete Jobs Project.” Public talk at South Orange Public Library (Virtual, 2021).
- “The Obsolete Jobs Project.” Lecture at Colorado College, Economics Department (Virtual, 2020).
- All Things LGBTQ.* Onion River Media public television interview (Montpelier, VT, 2019).
- Vermont Pride Center Creative Writing Workshop Series (Burlington, VT, 2019).
- “The Obsolete Jobs Project.” UVM Public Philosophy Week talk (Burlington, VT, 2019).
- “Non-Binary in the Workforce: A Conversation of Gender and Traditional Professionalism.” Panel at Champlain College (Burlington, VT, 2019).
- “The Obsolete Jobs Project.” Lecture at Carthage College (Kenosha, WI, 2018).
- “Clock Out.” Lecture on Obsolete Jobs Project. Wisconsin Humanities Council (Kenosha, WI, 2018).
- “Poetry Games Salon.” Workshop at College of Alice and Peter Tan, National University of Singapore (Singapore, 2016).
- “Obsolete Jobs.” Lecture at College of Alice and Peter Tan, National University of Singapore Master’s Tea Series (Singapore, 2015).
- “Obsolete Jobs.” Lecture at National University of Singapore, Economics Department (Singapore, 2015).

SELECTED POETRY READINGS & PANELS

Illuminate Vermont Festival (South Burlington, 2025)
Waking Windows Festival poetry reading (Winooski, VT, 2024)
National Poetry Month reading at South Burlington Public Library (South Burlington, VT)
Vermont Public radio interview and reading (Burlington, VT, 2024)
PoemCity exhibitor (Montpelier, VT, 2017, 2018, 2020, 2022, 2023, 2024).
“Celebration of LGBTQ+ Artists: Queer Poetry and Performance.” Poetry reading at UVM School of the Arts (Burlington, VT, 2023).
Green Mountain Book Festival. Poetry panel (Burlington, VT, 2023).
“Justice – And Poetry – for All: A Celebration of Queer Poetry.” Sundog Poetry reading (Burlington, VT, 2023).
June Poems book launch (Burlington, VT, 2023).
The pressure of all that light book launch (Burlington, VT, 2022).
Green Mountain Book Festival. Reading with Vermont School Poets (Burlington, VT, 2022).
Home is Where You Queer Your Heart launch tour (Burlington, VT, 2021).
My Pet Sounds Off: Translating the Beach Boys book launch (Virtual, 2020).
University of California Literary Magazines Reading (Virtual, 2020).
Everywhere Stories: A Reading Around the World (Virtual, 2020).
Northern New England Review 40 launch (Virtual, 2020).
Kellogg-Hubbard Library – Pride Poetry Reading (Virtual, 2020).
My Pet Sounds Off: Translating the Beach Boys book launch (Virtual, 2020).
“Poets with Pride.” Poetry reading at Lit Club at the Light Club (Burlington, VT, 2018, 2019).
Lit Club at the Light Club. Poetry readings (Burlington, VT, 2017, 2019).
Word Portland. Poetry readings (Portland, ME, 2017, 2018).
“Excerpts from a Natural History.” UVM Public Philosophy Week poetry reading (Burlington, VT, 2018).
Vegan Verses. Poetry reading (Burlington, VT, 2018).
“Poetry Games Salon.” Workshop at Carthage College (Kenosha, WI, 2018).
Wild Burlington Community Art Show exhibitor (Burlington, VT, 2018).
“Alternative Facts and Poetic License: Truth in Poetry.” Poetry panel at New Hampshire Poetry Festival (Manchester, NH, 2017).
Poetry reading at BooksActually (Singapore, 2017).
Poetry reading at West Bloomfield High School (West Bloomfield, MI, 2016).
Poetry reading at 826michigan (Ann Arbor, MI, 2016).
Poetry reading at Bookbound (Ann Arbor, MI, 2016).
Yale-NUS Writers’ Centre Reading Series. Poetry reading (Singapore, 2015).

Board of Directors, South Burlington Public Library Foundation	2022-2025
<i>Committees:</i> Marketing and Public Relations, member	2024-2025
Nominations and Volunteer Recruitment, member	2023-2025
Nominations and Volunteer Recruitment, chairperson	2025
Panel Moderator, Non-Fiction Comics Festival	2025
South Burlington Public Library Director Search & Hiring Committee	2025
Greater Burlington YMCA Parents Advisory Group	2021-2022
Facilitator, Young Adult Virtual Book Group	2020-2021
Volunteer, Virtual Creative Writing Field Trips, 826michigan	2020-2021
Youth Fiction Awards Judge, Ann Arbor District Library	2015
Youth Art and Writing Awards Judge, Scholastic Books	2014
Volunteer Copy-editor, 826michigan	2012-2016
Coordinator, Creative Writing Field Trips, 826michigan	2012-2013
Coordinator, Teen Drop-in Writing Program, Ypsilanti Public Library	2012-2013