

## SHAYLA LAWZ

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<https://shaylалawz.com/>

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### EDUCATION

#### **Master of Fine Arts, Literary Arts**

Brown University - Providence, RI  
September 2016 to May 2018

#### **B.A, Department of English**

Rutgers University-New Brunswick - New Brunswick, NJ  
September 2011 to May 2015  
Major: English; Minor: Philosophy; Certificate: Creative Writing  
Cum Laude; English Academic Honors (Thesis)

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

#### **Adjunct Assistant Professor**

Pratt Institute - Brooklyn NY  
August 2019 - current

Teaching and designing introductory and upper-level courses in the Department of Humanities and Media Studies (HMS), a cross-disciplinary program that works at the intersection of the arts, media, and critical theory.

#### **Part Time Lecturer**

Rutgers University-Camden – Camden NJ (online)  
September 2019 – May 2020

Designed and taught a course titled “Digital Bodies” based on my research as a part of the one-year Digital Studies Fellowship.

#### **Literary Arts Instructor**

Brown University - Providence, RI  
September 2017 to May 2018

Designed and taught two semesters of a weekly creative writing workshop and discussion-based course with an interdisciplinary focus titled "Narrative Bodies." In this course, students examined the different narrative mediums that artists use to tell stories in efforts to expand their own craft and creative process.

#### **Pedagogical Training**

Brown University - Providence, RI  
January 2017 to October 2018

Participated in a series of meetings and workshops hosted by Brown University’s Literary Arts Director of Graduate Studies.

### ACADEMIC SERVICE

**Student Success and Assessment Librarian (SSAL) Search Committee**

Pratt Institute - Brooklyn NY  
January 2023 – current

**Humanities Core Curriculum Committee**

Pratt Institute - Brooklyn NY  
January 2023 – current

**HMS Chair Search Committee**

Pratt Institute - Brooklyn NY  
October 2021 – May 2022

**HMS General Education Committee**

Pratt Institute - Brooklyn NY  
September 2020 – September 2021

**HMS Transition to Online Learning Planning Group**

Pratt Institute - Brooklyn NY  
May 2020 – September 2021

**Pedagogy Consultant**

Pratt Institute - Brooklyn NY  
March 2020 – May 2022

Pedagogy consultant for remote teaching and learning. Tasks included assisting other faculty members with online courses, proposing ideas that accommodate all students, and being on hand for technical issues.

**CART**

Pratt Institute - Brooklyn NY  
October 2019 – December 2020

Served two terms on the committee for appointment, reappointment, and tenure. Tasks include writing recommendation letters on behalf of faculty applying for promotion, observing classes, evaluating and supporting/selecting applications for advancement to the Chair and Provost.

**Academic Senate (alternate)**

Pratt Institute - Brooklyn NY  
October 2019 – September 2021

**EDITORIAL AND ARTS ORGANIZATION WORK****Poetry & Politics Micro-Collection Editor**

The Poetry Foundation – Chicago, IL  
August 2022 to present

Editor and curator for the upcoming Poetry & Politics Micro Collection; responsible for selecting poetry and scholarship from the Poetry Foundation archive and selecting work to be acquired for the collection. In collaboration with Kim Moore.

**Cave Canem Chapbook Prize Reader**

Cave Canem – Brooklyn, NY  
November 2022 – December 2022

Reader for the 2023 Toi Derricotte and Cornelius Eady Chapbook Prize.

**Best of the Net Judge (Fiction)**

Sundress Publications – Knoxville, TN

November 2022 – January 2023  
Final judge for the 2023 Fiction Prizes.

### **Jack Jones Literary Arts Reader**

Jack Jones Literary Arts - Los Angeles, CA  
April 2019 to May 2019

Beta reader for the 2019 Jack Jones Literary Arts Retreat fellowships. Tasks included reviewing submission materials and forwarding/selecting finalists.

### **Design Consultant**

Big Big Wednesday - Seattle, WA  
October 2018 to February 2019

Assisted with the design process for the annual issue of Big Big Wednesday literary magazine (Issue #6). Tasks included using Adobe InDesign and Microsoft Word to bring the issue to graphic and aesthetic cohesion.

### **Assistant Fiction Editor**

Anomaly (formerly Drunken Boat) - Providence, RI  
June 2017 to September 2018

Responsibilities included reading submissions, soliciting new work, and supporting the editor-in-chief for each issue's theme.

### **House Manager**

Mason Gross Performing Arts Center - New Brunswick, NJ  
September 2013 to May 2015

Responsibilities included running individual performances, managing house, assigning staff positions, and working with performers, directors, choreographers, and faculty.

## **PUBLICATIONS (selected)**

### **Books**

[speculation, n. \(Autumn House Press / University of Chicago Press\)](#) November 2021

### **Reviews**

[Harriet Books \(Poetry Foundation\)](#) November 2021

### **Interviews**

[“On Carving Out Space to Reflect” \(The Creative Independent\)](#) June 2022

[“Ten Questions for Shayla Lawz” \(Poets & Writers\)](#) October 2021

### **Essays**

The Poetry Foundation (Poetry & Politics Series) July – September 2022

[On The Fire That Creates Light](#)

[Beyond This World](#)

[Extending the Image](#)

[Writing Myself Back Into My Body \(Catapult Magazine\)](#) March 2021

[& when the spaceship comes for \\_\\_\\_\\_\\_, i want to go with them](#)

[on Harmony Holiday, Douglas Kearney & Jonah Mixon-Webster \(The Poetry Project\)](#) September 2021

## Poetry / Audio

Archway Editions (POWERHOUSE Books/Simon & Schuster) (forthcoming)

Obsidian Magazine February 2023

[McSweeney's Quarterly Audio Issue / Audio](#) October 2021

[The Poetry Project](#) September 2020

Big Big Wednesday April 2019

## Fiction

Aster(ix) March 2019

Southwest Contemporary October 2018

[Winter Tangerine](#) January 2018

## PERFORMANCES / READINGS (selected)

Rutgers University; Writers From Rutgers November 2022

[University of Arizona Poetry Center](#) September 2022

Hurston/Wright Writer-in-Residence Reading June 2022

[Bespoke for the Bureau \(LGBTQ Center\)](#) March 2022

Obsidian Magazine: Obsidian Voices (virtual); November 2021

[Diane Exavier: Gather At The Integer](#) Greenlight Bookstore; (virtual); November 2021

SUNY New Paltz: Next Year's Words (virtual); November 2021

[Cave Canem First Books: Shayla Lawz In Conversation w/ Ada Limón](#) (virtual); November 2021

WORD Bookstore Presents Shayla Lawz WORD Jersey City; November 2021

*speculation, n.* Book Launch POWERHOUSE Arena; October 2021

White Whale Books Fall Poetry Release (virtual); October 2021

*The Animal Indoors* Book Launch (virtual) September 2021

Soul Sister Revue: Ada Limón, Douglas Kearney, Shayla Lawz (virtual) August 2021

[The Poetry Project: House Party #17](#) (virtual) March 2021

The Poetry Project's 47<sup>th</sup> Annual New Year's Day Marathon (virtual) January 2021

Celebrating Audre Lorde Cult Party NYC; February 2020

Chat Club PVD AS220 Main Stage - Providence, RI; May 2019

Writer's Forum Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY; April 2019

Interrupt V Granoff Center for the Arts (Brown University), Providence, RI; February 2019

MFA Thesis Performance McCormack Family Theater - Providence, RI; May 2018

Lost & An Archive of Future Artifacts Gelman Gallery (RISD Museum) – Providence, RI; November 2017

## AWARDS / RESIDENCIES

**University of Denver Visiting Writer** May 2023

**Pushcart Prize (nominated by Obsidian Magazine)** November 2022

**University of Arizona Poetry Center Visiting Writer** September 2022

**Inaugural Hurston/Wright Writer-In-Residence** June/July 2022; selected by John Keene, Duriel E. Harris, Crystal Wilkinson

**Autumn House Poetry Prize** September 2020; winner, selected by Ilya Kaminsky

**Noemi Press Book Awards Finalist** September 2020

**BOA Editions A. Poulin, Jr. Poetry Prize Semi-finalist** April 2020

**Cave Canem Book Prize Semi-finalist** October 2019

**Rutgers-Camden Digital Studies Fellow** July 2019; awarded year-long fellowship and PTL position

**Cave Canem Fellow** April 2019

**CAAPP Dream Space Poet-in-Residence** March 2019

Awarded 2-week Dream Space residency at the University of Pittsburgh

**CAAPP Fellowship Finalist, University of Pittsburgh** March 2019

Selected by Dawn Lundy Martin, Yona Harvey, Lauren Russell, and Ricky Laurentiis

**Jack Jones Literary Arts Fellowship** June 2018

Awarded the Roxane Gay Poetry Fellowship; selected by Kima Jones and Dr. LaToya Watkins

**Winter Tangerine Awards Finalist** September 2016; selected by Chris Abani