

The Writer's Insider

ROWAN
COMMUNICATION
& CREATIVE ARTS
DEPARTMENT
OF WRITING ARTS

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An Interview with Devon James & Rachel Barton

By Destiny Hall

The names “Devon James” and “Rachel Barton” passed from mouth to mouth like some sort of legend. I’d hear my teachers reminisce about the students from semester’s past and occasionally see shadows of their legacy etched in clubs around campus. I couldn’t seem to escape their memory. I didn’t know who the dynamic duo were, but I knew if you wanted to succeed within the Writing Arts program you’d have to be somewhat like them.

When I finally met these ladies, I felt myself become intimidated. I was in the presence of self-confident women who knew where they were going in life. Later on, when the awe wore off, I learned other things- Devon had a witty sense of humor and Rachel had a willingness to help a certain underclassman. Multiple times. Suddenly the mysterious Rachel Barton and Devon James became less of a legend and more of a tangible success story. I thought the Rowan community as a whole would be amiss without a reflection of her achievements at Rowan so I decided to interview them about their experiences around campus.

Could you tell me a little bit about your time within the Rowan Writing Arts program?

Devon: “I came into Rowan for my undergraduate degree as a Writing Arts major, and all the classes

I took clicked for me right off the bat. I started taking Creative Writing courses as soon as I could, then as I became immersed in the more upper level coursework I realized I wanted to continue my coursework as an MA student. I had additional credits coming in to the program and then took summer classes through the Degree in 3 program. I realized there was also a 4 + 1 Program, so I decided to combine them into the 3 + 1.”

Rachel: I guess I slid into the major a little later. I did the bulk of my English degree as a freshman and sophomore, then most of my Writing Arts degree as a junior and senior. I liked Writing Arts so much that I kept tacking on extra interests, even though my credits didn’t necessarily advocate for that. Hence, I’m finishing with a minor in Creative Writing and a concentration in Publishing & New Media (which I know they’re calling something else now.) I’ve found the Writing Arts department to be perhaps the best in the entire university. Finding a collection of well-qualified professors so genuinely interested in their students and the success of those students is quite rare and precious.

“Say yes to as much as you can handle.”

What was a memorable (or favorite) Writing Arts class that you took? How did the class impact you?

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Confession Travel Writer

by Sincere Perez

Whoever said that it was the journey and not the destination obviously never spent hours waiting in airports. On my way to intern in Peru, I caught a flight at six in the morning from Philadelphia to Fort Lauderdale. After, I had layaway for four hours waiting for my flight to Lima. And then I caught another flight to Cuzco. The trip took a little bit over ten hours, but I wasn’t done traveling yet. My final destination from the Cuzco airport to a small bed and breakfast in Urubamba took a two-hour car ride. My urge to fall asleep for the rest of the trip taught me that the destination makes the trip worth it. Not the journey.

As a major in Modern Language and Linguistics, World Languages, it was imperative for me to get experience in the teaching field. It was something that I looked forward to throughout my college experience; teaching English is what I wanted to do. However, throughout my time in Peru, I realized that I wanted to be a memoir travel writer. Peru is a mythical country and it was hard not to fall in love with it, to want to write about it.

As a native of Camden, New Jersey, I never thought that I’d be able to travel once, much less twice, in my life. People from Camden usually die an early death or end up in prison. If you were lucky enough to make it to old age, you couldn’t claim that you were a seasoned traveler too. Still, this fact didn’t stop me from dreaming of airports and foreign places.

See TRAVEL, page 3

Self-Publishing: A Change in Perspective

by Sean Farley

As a Writing Arts major, getting one's work published is usually considered the ultimate goal of any writing project. And for most people, getting published usually only comes in one form: the traditional publishing route of submitting work to an external publishing house, having them read that work, then offering you either an acceptance or rejection. For writers, rejection is basically second-nature: we often accept that most of our work will require long hours of editing and numerous revisions before it even approaches the point of being acceptable for publication. And even then, it's not always a guarantee. So when I talked to Jason Luther, a professor of Writing Arts at Rowan, on the topic of self-publishing and how it can circumvent the long, tedious process of traditional publishing methods, I have to admit I was a little skeptical.

Jason is currently set to teach a "Self-Publishing" class here at Rowan in Fall 2019, a course that he has introduced to the department's curriculum as a means of teaching students how their work can be published without going through traditional means, as well as how to promote and advertise their work so that it actually reaches its target audience. With the rise of digital publishing alongside the increased popularity of genres such as fanfiction and personal blogging, it's no surprise that self-publishing has skyrocketed in terms of its popularity among young writers. Whereas previously, self-published works such as Zines had to be printed in a physical medium, which could become increasingly expensive for those wanting to distribute their work to a larger audience, digital publishing has essentially removed all barriers for people when it comes to putting their writing out into the public.

To be honest, this complete and total lack of boundaries was something

that initially put me off self-publishing, primarily because I felt the medium was almost "too free" to actually contain any substance. While the traditional publishing methods can definitely be a total hassle, and an expensive hassle at that, I felt like some level of gatekeeping was still required. At least to ensure some basic requirements such as factual accuracy for nonfiction and grammatical accuracy for basically everything else is maintained. However, Jason revealed that traditional publishers aren't the only "true" method of addressing potential writing issues such as these. With self-published work, the author has a direct line of communication between the writing and its audience. Because of this, the public itself acts like its own content filter, with books sinking or swimming based on their own merits, rather than adhering to the guidelines of a traditional publishing house.

While it's technically true that self-publishing allows for "anyone to publish anything," success is still measured by how much of that content actually resonates within its audience, creating a much more collaborative writing space that removes traditional boundaries such as editors and sales expectations. Instead, self-published works are essentially edited by the writing public, with feedback constantly being exchanged between authors as they work to develop their writing and improve upon their skills. Being someone that had definitely believed in the power of traditional publishing houses and the value they

could bring to one's work through the rigorous editing process, this idea of community-based revision and an overarching collaborative writing process between individual authors was not something that I had previously considered.

Another benefit of writing within the self-publishing community that Jason Luther touched on was the pace at which an author can actually produce their work and immediately get people reading it. Traditional publish-

ing houses often require authors to go through long periods of bureaucracy during which very little writing is actually being done. Instead, many hours are spent filling out papers and signing permissions for

the corporate and legal side of things, rather than improving upon the writing itself. With self-publishing, an author can immediately put their work into the public sector as soon as they feel it is ready, allowing them to receive feedback and improve upon their own work much faster than those that choose to slog through the traditional publishing process.

This is not to say self-publishing is entirely without its own issues. One of the most common potential problems that Jason Luther spoke about was marketing and promoting one's work in the self-publishing community. With so many authors producing so much content so quickly, it becomes fairly easy for one's work to get lost in the massive ocean that is the self-publishing sector. However, because self-publishing is such a collaborative industry, the marketing of one's work is also something that can be extraor-

This idea of community-based revision and an overarching collaborative writing process between individual authors was not something that I had previously considered.

dinarily collaborative. Events such as Zine Festivals are held throughout the US, allowing authors to bring their own work and sell it within these writerly communities. In certain cases, such as Kickstarter or other crowdfunding websites, the writing itself could also become its own marketing campaign, amassing backers and gaining public traction while simultaneously funding the author's own work.

As someone who entered this discussion of self-publishing from a fairly skeptical and dismissive point of view, I must say that Jason Luther has really opened my eyes about the possibilities of self-published work. It's more than just an "easy way out," it's an entire ecosystem of writers all working to create new things and offer feedback to each other in order to elevate their own skills. There's a culture to self-publishing, a history, and a method that keeps the scene growing and thriving with each passing year. It's a gateway to possibilities where the only restriction is the author's ability to create something that sticks with their audience. ♦

Want to learn more about Self-Publishing?

Check out Jason Luther's "Self-Publishing" class, coming to Rowan's Fall 2019 semester!

- Work on independent long-term writing projects.
- Gain experience in sourcing funds for self-published projects, such as Kickstarter.
- Learn the vibrant culture and ecosystem of the self-published world.

TRAVEL from page 1

My trip to Peru spurred from an internship. I had gotten an email while I was house sitting for my brother. The email claimed that a company would match me with an internship that was based in Peru. I had gone to Italy that summer for a study abroad program. I had gotten a taste of travel and I was addicted to it. I followed through and got into contact with a company called Linguistic Horizons. Needless to say, I followed through and next thing I know I was in Peru.

The moment that I walked into the cozy bed and breakfast, I knew that my life was going to change. What I didn't know was that my writing would also be changed forever. Writing takes courage and I knew that in Peru I would need a lot of it. The trip ended up testing my writing style and perseverance as a person and as a writer.

But before I could learn any of that, I stood in shock of my room. It was nothing less than luxurious. I was the only man in my program so I was lucky enough to, get my own room and bathroom. My own room came with a king sized mattress. It was something that I quickly grew used to having. The moment that I dropped my body onto that bed, I fell into a coma-like state.

My internship in Peru was challenging. It was as if the air itself seemed to fight me. The lack of air made sleeping harder than it would have been in the States, but I was too tired to complain. The high altitude was extremely noticeable from the start. When I got off of the plane from Lima to Cuzco I almost passed out.

The two weeks that I was there were occupied by happy memory after happy memory. I don't know anyone who can say that they hiked Machu Picchu, or had to walk past at least three cascades in order to get to the place where my internship was located.

My entire experience affected my writing in ways that I never imagined possible. Traveling is something that I recommend for all writers. It helps expand the possible limitations of creativity by giving inspiration from every corner imaginable. It shows you sights that you never even considered existed. Every time you step on foreign grounds, you are definitely going to wonder how a place like that even exists. I know it took me to my last day to completely soak in the fact that I was in Peru.

In life, everyone has a place that they want to go to. Everyone needs to do the very best they can to step out of their comfort zone and go the places their desires take them. I think this is the case for most writers. We have so many ideas to write about, a vast majority of them hidden behind the next adventure. As writers, it is our job to find inspiration wherever we can. Traveling helped me not only grow as a person but also as a writer. It broke down barriers that I didn't know existed. Now that I know what I want in life, I have the travel bug and so does my writing.

Traveling helped me discover that my dream in life is to be a memoir travel writer and it can help people realize so much more about themselves. Mark Twain once said, "Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover." It is safe to say that Twain was talking about all of us at one point or another in our lives. I'm lucky that he is no longer talking about me. Twenty years from now, I plan on being able to talk about my time spent traveling around the globe. Traveling is something that improved my writing and there is zero doubt that no matter who you are, it can improve yours as well. ♦

CCCA Career Fair: Having Your Future in Mind

by Enrico Versace

On March 12th, 2019, I attended the College of Communication and Creative Arts Career Expo and Student Showcase. I am currently taking the Writing Arts Internship course which has given me the chance to showcase the last issue of the *Writer's Insider* with my fellow interns. This was actually my first time going to an event like this and working a table, so I had no idea what to expect.

Several students came to our table. We talked about the internship and spoke about the qualifications to intern with us. It felt good to talk with different students and to help people. I felt like I was making the department and next internship's team stronger.

When it was time for me to walk around to the other organizations and businesses, I found myself becoming incredibly nervous. Should I ask them questions? Or would they ask me? Would they even reach out to me when this was over?

I pushed my fears aside and started to approach different tables. The first was The Multicultural Arts Exchange based in Philadelphia. It seemed like a good fit for me. The Multicultural Arts Exchange had a lot of opportunities that were multidisciplinary. I walked up to the representative at the table and started to speak to him, and he told me a little bit about his company.

It turns out the Multicultural Arts Exchange is a professional, cross-cultural arts organization that presents, produces, and promotes all kinds of performing and visual arts. The representative also had a list of open positions and what skills they required. After seeing basic skills like an understanding of Microsoft Word, Excel, and a few other programs I have become familiar with as a college student. I told the representative that

I was interested and handed him my resume. We shook hands and I found myself a bit more relaxed.

I knew then that I was putting too much pressure on myself. The Career Expo wasn't about selling myself, or companies trying to sell themselves to me. It's about finding the perfect fit. Can I see myself working there? Can they see me working at their company? It's not like I was at an interview or was being hired on the spot. There would be a second chance for me to make another impression. I decided to keep going around the expo and meet possible employers.

The next organization that I talked to was NJ Advance Media. These were two groups that I was first introduced to in Intro to Publishing, so I already



The bustling CCCA Career Fair (April 12, 2019)

knew what to expect. NJ Advance is an online marketing agency and the top local news provider in New Jersey for sports, entertainment, and more. They were looking for someone with an interest in journalism and who would be able to go out to a location, ask questions, write about it, and sometimes make a video on the topic. On the surface, that didn't seem too difficult; I already had some experience with video editing before. I handed them my resume and left with a handshake.

Townsquare Media Trenton's table

was the next one I visited. Throughout my college career, I dived into courses focusing around new media and film. I was excited to see if my skills could help me look like a candidate for a career. Townsquare owns and operates many different properties, including digital marketing services, leading radio, and live event properties. They had a few job opening and internship pamphlets that they were giving out. Again, I left my resume with them and felt excited to hear back.

One of the last tables I went to was BookBaby. BookBaby helps writers self-publish, print, and distribute their book across several online markets and physical bookstores worldwide. I actually knew about them before the Expo. I looked into them when

I wanted to publish a memoir. I decided not to publish the story but it's nice to know that there are organizations like BookBaby that can reduce the hassle of getting something published and out into local markets.

There were also some tables affiliated with Rowan, like CHSS, Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA), Glassworks magazine, and so much more. I saw a lot of faculty and students I knew from Writing Arts and Communication & Creative Arts programs. Seeing them at all these tables, I felt like I wasn't alone. They were nervously talking to companies like I was. I felt like I actually had a chance to make it in this world. It's a feeling I often forget. I'm glad that I was able to go to the Career Fair because it reminded me that there's real careers out there. It helped me realize that I need to take initiative and look for companies before the graduation. After all, I might as well take advantage of opportunities before graduation. ♦

Devon: “In all honesty, all of the courses I’ve taken in the Writing Arts program were memorable but here (in no order of importance) are some of my favorites: Evaluating Writing (undergraduate), Poetry Workshop (Undergraduate), How Writers Read (undergraduate), Genre Fiction (graduate), Publishing (graduate), and my current graduate level independent study. These classes were all a mixture of extremely fun and extremely interesting. In evaluating writing, I learned about different lenses to apply to my reading of a given text, and I found that immensely helpful and fun to try out. Poetry workshop was one of my favorite courses because I love writing poetry and the way the course is structured helps for getting feedback on your work as well as suggestions for broadening your reading list.

In Genre Fiction I learned so much about the genres Horror, Fantasy, and Mystery, and overall just had a blast. Publishing gave me a lot of useful insight as far as how to find a career in publishing, as well as what to expect if I am ever to be published. And, of course, I love my independent study because it has given me the freedom to explore different books of poetry and the ways they are structured which is not only interesting to me but deeply useful for my Master’s Project and beyond.”

Rachel: “This is such a hard question. It’s like when you ask someone their favorite book and they suddenly can’t remember a single book they’ve ever read. I can definitely tell you I don’t have a least favorite class. I particularly enjoyed all the classes that taught across genre, like Writers Mind, Intro to Writing Arts, and Writing, Research, & Technology. I’ve also enjoyed the more analysis-based courses, like Evaluating Writing, which I think combine my majors in Writing Arts and English.”

What has Rowan University Writing Arts program taught you about careers in Writing?

Devon: “The department has taught me how to be flexible with writing and the ways to translate writing into different formats and genres, which in turn broadens the possibility for writing related careers.”

Rachel: “I believe every Writing Arts class I’ve taken has incorporated information about careers and/or transferrable skills. In fact, I would say the most important lesson was transferrable skills. Everything you learn in Writing Arts is based on clear communication and how communication is evolving. If you understand that, you can apply those skills in any career. Many people think Writing Arts can only apply to writing, editing, and publishing book. They may not know about technical writing or grant-writing or marketing. I remember when I interned at the Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural History, they asked about my major: ‘Writing Arts? What does that mean?’ When I explained the major as well as the possible concentrations within it, multiple people working there exclaimed, ‘That’s exactly what I wanted to do. Instead, I had to become an English major.’”

Do you have any advice for anyone who wishes to be successful within Rowan Writing Arts?

Devon: “I would say, in order to be successful in writing arts just do your best and do what you love! I have a passion for poetry, and I have found a way to incorporate it into a variety of my coursework in some unexpected ways which has been beneficial for my growth as a writer, and I got out of my classes what I wanted to get out of them because I was able to orient my work towards what I love to do. Another piece of advice is to say yes to

as much as you can handle. There were times where I didn’t know how I would manage it all, but I always figured it out and I am so happy I did not turn down the opportunities I found within the Writing Arts Department.”

What are your plans after graduation?

Devon: “I plan to continue teaching (I began teaching College Composition I in the Teaching Experience Program) and to send out my writing for publication. Within the next couple of years I plan to return to school for my MFA in poetry.”

Rachel: “After graduation, I will be spending the summer interning in Dublin with Imperic Media, a digital marketing company looking to incorporate storytelling into their website. In the fall, I will begin my MFA in Creative Writing at NYU.”

It was interesting to interview Devon because of her background. I forget about poets within the Writing Arts Department and it’s nice to see a poet that is so notable throughout campus. It just goes to show that the unofficial motto within the Writing Arts Department is true—you have to follow your passions. But, something I learned from Devon is that you have to be willing to put the work in behind it. ♦

Alumni Success: Entering the Working World

by Angelina Sakkestad

When I entered the Writing Arts Internship this semester I was expecting to work on social media, flyers for new courses and guest speakers, and research outlines. I was familiar with these aspects and comfortable with them. I wasn't expecting to get a taste of life after Rowan University, exploring LinkedIn and reaching out to Writing Arts alumni.

The project came about as we explored the website for missing links, errors, and needed updates. The alumni page hadn't been updated since 2016, which is plenty of time for accomplishments and new occupations from our Writing Arts alumni.

At first, I wanted nothing more than to be assigned anything else. I was apprehensive about emailing and contacting all these strangers. I was presented a list of people I had never met and didn't know much about. I didn't know how to proceed, despite our commonality through Writing Arts, I was stuck viewing the alumni as strangers.

I procrastinated the assignment and always had reasons why there was a delay in its progression. I was busy working on all my other assignments. I ran out of time. I simply forgot. But then I realized that there was a point where procrastinating does nothing more than double the workload.

I pulled up my metaphorical-work boots, sat down at my computer, and started at the first logical step: making a list. I made separate documents for undergraduate and graduate students and equipped both of these lists with a legend:

Bold was for the initial message. Then ***bold italics*** for a response from the alumni. Asterisks (*) accompanied the name of individuals that appeared on both lists and ***bold underline italics***

signaled that the response was compiled and updated to the website.

With my list and legend completed, I realized that I couldn't send out messages with a half-completed LinkedIn page of my own. I updated my resume and uploaded it to the site, added my place of work, my "special skills," and added as many familiar faces as I saw. Feeling accomplished and quite professional, I sent out the first messages.

With each individual, I made sure to check any existing links already on our site. Did they have a personal website? Did that link still exist? Was this the right LinkedIn page? Where else could I find them if not on LinkedIn?

I didn't expect this last question to stump me as much as it did; I didn't even know how to proceed with the project. I didn't have a list of emails on my desk that would solve this problem. It took more procrastination and a brainstorm with the intern team for me to realize that there was still a platform I could use, and I used it every day: Facebook.

Facebook had turned into the "moms only" social media in my young adult mind. It was a place for cheesy business social media and even cheesier mom content. I had completely forgotten that Facebook is designed as a networking platform. Anyone I couldn't find on LinkedIn definitely had a Facebook page that I could message.

Of course, that was still the part I was procrastinating. I had figured out a Plan A and B for where to send messages but now I had to actually send them. Press keys on the keyboard and ask for a professional update from Writing Arts Alumni. It seems like an easy task, but it still was daunting to me.

I pulled those metaphorical-work boots back on and drafted a message that was friendly and inviting, explained who I was, and why a Rowan University student they had never heard of was popping up in their messages.

The message looked like this:
"Hi there!

I'm currently an intern with the Writing Arts department of Rowan University and we're checking up on all Writing Arts Alumni to see what they've been up to! We'd want to update the alumni portion of the rowan-writingarts.org website and would love to showcase what you've been up to.

Thank you!
Angelina Sakkestad
Rowan Writing Arts Intern"

I had to be short, sweet, and to the point. There were limited characters on LinkedIn and I couldn't clog inboxes.

By the next week, I had responses from most of the alumni. And now we have a living database of our Writing Arts Alumni and their professional accomplishments.

Despite all my apprehension, this project reinforced my communication skills, both with the interns and alumni. All the worry and fear I had about contacting strangers has melted away. As an individual, I have a purpose, whether it be contacting fellow Writing Arts students, or any other "stranger" to fulfill a purpose.

I have explored LinkedIn and realized that Facebook isn't mom-content-only. I understand how to conduct myself in a professional way and have peaked into the world beyond Rowan University. I'm excited to see what it holds for me in the future. ♦

Behind the Scenes of Rowan's Hiring Process

by Sincere Perez

As Rowan expands, so too does its class offerings, and with more classes comes more staff to be hired. For some departments, this task is easier than others. But for Writing Arts, professors must do more than just lecture: they have to be personable, talented, and involved enough to become fully engrossed in the creative work of students. For example, this semester I took Writing Creative Nonfiction, taught by Katherine Budris. This is a class that challenges writers to put themselves into their own creative pieces, rather than just explore the sometimes-aimless space of creative writing. After hearing that there were new candidates looking to follow in Budris's footsteps and teach the class, I knew I had to get involved somehow.

Throughout the semester, I met up with four candidates who all seemed beyond-qualified for the job. They were all successful writers with published work who taught at their respective universities. We spoke about the climate at Rowan, what I was looking forward to in a classroom, and about writing in general. After speaking to the candidates, I realized that no matter the decision, a bad choice was basically impossible. With such qualified candidates, I

became interested in how Rowan actually hires its staff. Although it may seem as easy as just finding the right candidate, the hiring process is much more complex than it initially seemed. I sat down with Ron Block as he explained the process to me.

The first part of the hiring process is making sure people know the job exists. The position has to be marketed so professors across the country can learn about it and apply. The department advertises the job to many places, such as the Chronicle of Higher Education, newspapers, and higher education magazines. Then, after the job offer becomes well-known, candidates begin to send in their applications. Possible employees send resumes, cover letters, letters of support, statements of their teaching philosophies, and curriculum vitae to Rowan.

After reading through all these documents, the hiring committee must then sit down and choose people to interview by phone. As the potential candidate pool slowly becomes smaller, the remaining applicants are interviewed through phone calls for about thirty minutes. Typically, they only choose three people to do in-person interviews, but this time four were chosen.

These four candidates held readings where they would share their work, and I was lucky enough to be in attendance for all of them. After the candidates were sent home, a final decision was made. In this instance, Heather Lanier was the lucky one to receive the new position at Rowan. Heather is a successful essayist and poet that specializes in nonfiction, and even has an official TED talk that challenges listeners to reconsider their assumptions on the terms "Good" and "Bad." I know she'll do great here and my only regret is that I won't be around to take her class. ♦



Heather Lanier delivers her official TED Talk (2018)

To view the digital version of The Writer's Insider, as well as archived editions of previous publications, please visit:

<http://www.rowanwritingarts.org/the-writers-insider>

Writing Comedy

by Sean Farley

A unique writing course coming to Rowan's Writing Arts Department in Fall 2019, "Writing Comedy" is a class that aims to delve into the inner machinations of comedic writing and explore the rhetorical relationship between comedians and their audiences. The class is currently the only course that provides a deep examination into the world of comedy and the conventions of its various genres, from slapstick, to romantic comedy, to the classic late-night American talk shows. To get some additional info on the class and its inner-workings, I interviewed Keri Mikulski, a professor of Writing Arts at Rowan currently scheduled to teach the course next Fall.

For her, the most important aspects of comedy are a combination of observation, imagination, and a concise delivery that packs a strong punch for the audience. "The toughest part of writing comedy is *writing* comedy," she said, speaking on how the writing process requires heavy amounts of imagination and insight to really have an impact. To do this, the class will study a variety of comedic genres that will allow students to broaden their horizons and expand their own material using the techniques learned from

these examples. She also wishes to explore some shorter forms of comedy, such as bits and social media posts, with students eventually working on creating their own humorous scenes, satires, parodies, and farcical essays.

In terms of students carrying the lessons from the course into the future of their own writing, Mikulski said "Students will leave

"The toughest part of writing comedy is *writing* comedy"

Writing Comedy with a toolbox of humor techniques proven to create comedic effects and an understanding of how to use these techniques." She emphasizes that learning to write comedy can strengthen a writer in every aspect of their work, not just within the comedic genres. Comedy requires a writer to use insight, create concise sentences, and become more aware of their relationship with the audience. Even if you're not looking to be overly-comedic in your writing, an understanding of how comedy functions on a rhetorical level can still be extremely useful towards elevating a piece into something truly special. Comedy Writing will be available in Rowan's Fall 2019 semester and Professor Mikulski looks forward to hearing all the laughter that will come out of it. ♦

**COMING:
FALL 2019**

- Self-Publishing
- Writing Comedy
- CUGS: Writing for the Environment

The Writer's Insider is published every semester by the Rowan University Department of Writing Arts Interns.

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