THE MFA PROGRAM IN
WRITING
AT CALIFORNIA COLLEGE OF THE ARTS
Situated in an inspiring creative environment, CCA’s MFA Program in Writing embraces the full range of literary paths and possibilities.

Writing students work across fiction, poetry, creative nonfiction, and even visual art. They are not required to declare one specific genre of study, which allows for experimentation and discovery.

Central to our curriculum is mentored study, intensive one-on-one time with a faculty member. Meetings are regular and frequent, focusing on your most recent work.

Writer’s workshops in fiction, poetry, and creative nonfiction establish a community of writers at CCA while encouraging each student to focus on their individual direction and practice.

Writer’s seminars, covering a wide range of topics, are offered every semester. Past seminars have ranged from the contemporary short story to documentary narratives and independent publishing.

Friday Seminar is both a weekly series and a seminar course featuring diverse visiting writers and writing professionals with close readings on those guests. Enrollment is a requirement for students in their first semester; the readings are open to the public as well.

Your studies will culminate with a publishable, full-length manuscript in a genre of your choice.
Writing in the Bay Area
San Francisco and the Bay Area have a long, distinguished literary history. The region is home to numerous independent bookstores, publishers, and reading series. Editors from McSweeney’s, Zoetrope, Narrative, and ZYZZYVA regularly come to talk with our students. Through these connections you can expand your professional skill set by pursuing internship opportunities in teaching, editing, and publishing.

Alumni Success
Our alumni have gone on to publish successful books; win prominent writing awards; launch publishing houses, journals, and reading series; and teach at respected colleges and universities.
Writers Series

Past speakers have included:

- ANNE CARSON, poet, essayist, and translator
- DAVE EGGERS, novelist, McSweeney's founder, and 826 Valencia cofounder
- DANIEL HANDLER (aka Lemony Snicket), novelist
- PAUL HARDING, Pulitzer Prize winner
- KEORAPETSE KGOSITSILE, poet laureate from South Africa
- PAUL MULDOON, Pulitzer Prize winner
- ACHY OBEJAS, Pulitzer Prize winner
- CHERYL STRAYED, New York Times best-selling memoirist and Oprah Book Club 2.0 pick

Selected Faculty

- JUVENAL ACOSTA, novelist
- FAITH ADIELE, memoirist and travel writer
- ANITA AMIRREZVANI, novelist
- TOM BARBASH, prose writer, Wallace Stegner Fellow, and NEA Fellow
- DODIE BELLAMY, cross-genre writer
- DONNA DE LA PERRIÈRE, writer and Fund for Poetry award winner
- GLORIA FRYM, poet and fiction writer, American Book Award winner
- KEVIN KILLIAN, American Book Award winner
- JOSEPH LEASE, Academy of American Poets Prize winner
- AIMEE PHAN, program chair, novelist, and NEA Fellow

Writers in Residence

Recent residents have included:

- DANIEL ALARCÓN, fiction writer
- MARY GAITSKILL, fiction writer
- ADAM HASLET, Pulitzer Prize winner and National Book Award nominee
- ISHMAEL REED, poet, essayist, songwriter, playwright, novelist, editor, and publisher
- LISA ROBERTSON, poet and essayist
- AL YOUNG, California Poet Laureate emeritus

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Eleven Eleven is CCA’s biannual journal of literature and art. Its aim is to provide a forum for risk, experimentation, and exchange between writers and artists.

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The priority application deadline is **January 10**. For application information visit [cca.edu/graduate](http://cca.edu/graduate).