



# **STETSON MFA** JUNE 2024

## RESIDENCY GUIDE

**STETSON**  
UNIVERSITY



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## Staff Contact Info

The best way to reach the group, including staff, is by using the WhatsApp group all students, faculty, and guests have been asked to join ahead of time (see email and Canvas for invite link)

### **MFA:**

- Jen Anders, Program Coordinator: 901-679-6989
- Brendan Bowles, Director: 647-403-3453
- Ryan Rivas, Publishing Coordinator: 786-547-0430
- Shelby Smotherman, Tech Goddess: 386-299-8158

### **Stetson:**

- Public Safety Office available 24/7: 386-822-7300.
- Conference Services Housing Help 24/7 service number will be provided in WhatsApp and email in the days leading up to the event

# Welcome to the June 2024 Residency

Dear Students, Guests, and Faculty of the MFAotA:

Welcome to Stetson!

For the first time in the MFA's seven-year history, we'll be holding our summer residency on Stetson's DeLand campus, named one of the most beautiful campuses of the South.

My hope, as always, is that you'll find this residency period a time of intense intellectual stimulation, creative cross-pollination, and community-building with a wonderful group of peers and mentors. To help with that, we've been working on a schedule and guest lineup that reflects our inter-arts mission and engagement with place and site-specificity. In particular, for this round, we've been leaning into our Floridian roots, with guests and guest artists who have a connection to Florida, either by hailing from, living in, studying, or producing art about our sunshine state.

To help get you familiar with the offerings of Stetson and DeLand more broadly, you'll find recommendations for things to do around town, including where to eat and some sites that may be interesting for the Free Day on Wednesday.

In the mornings you'll have core workshops from returning superstar faculty members Steven Dunn, Terri Witek and Cyriaco Lopes, as well as Vidhu Aggarwal, back to lead our graduating expanded field poets, and, for the first time, I'll be teaching the Prose Foundations course.

In the afternoons, we hope to introduce you to some new ways of thinking about writing and art with exploratory sessions from multi-genre writer Jeff Parker, the prolific and genre-bending Chesya Burke, visual artist Luca Molnar, and cherished faculty member Urayoán Noel. Plus we'll have some optional offerings including the submission party/Burrow Press Pop-up and a Next Steps talk for anyone interested in applying for teaching positions post-MFA.

In my discussion with students and in the survey I sent around when assuming the directorship position, I heard about your ideas, your priorities and your enthusiasm for the prospect of holding a residency at Stetson. As this is our first time on campus, we're excited to see what new rhythms and patterns might emerge, which spaces will prove popular, and how we might change those spaces through engagement, or be changed by them.

I'm excited to be sharing this next step for the program with all of you.

More soon,



Brendan Bowles  
Director, MFAotA

## Land Acknowledgment

Stetson University is located in DeLand, Florida, the ancestral home of the Timucua, Mascogo, Miccosukee, and Seminole people; we recognize their ongoing resistance to settler colonialism, of which Stetson University and by extension the MFA program are complicit.

In the spirit of historical accuracy and reconciliation, here are resources for further learning:

Seminole - <https://native-land.ca/maps/territories/seminole/>

Timucua - <https://native-land.ca/maps/territories/timucua/>

Mascogo - <https://native-land.ca/maps/territories/mascogo/>

Miccosukee - <https://native-land.ca/maps/territories/miccosukee/>

Landback movement: <https://landback.org/u/>

## About Stetson

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Stetson University was founded in 1883 as DeLand Academy, and later changed its name to Stetson in honor of John B. Stetson, a major donor and manufacturer of the Stetson hat (you can take a photo beside his curiously large statue near the fountain). The initial building, DeLand Hall, is still in use and is the oldest building in Florida in continuous use for higher education. In 1905, Stetson University College of Law was the first law school in Florida to admit women, and Stetson might also have been the first university to have co-ed residence halls. Until 1995, Stetson was a Baptist college but broke ties over social issues including drinking on campus and a change to how trustees were selected, which saw a relaxation of the requirement that three-quarters of the trustees be Baptist. Stetson is currently a private, not-for-profit institution unaffiliated with any particular religion.

Today, Stetson is rated a top four regional university and its DeLand campus has been named one of the most beautiful college campuses in the South. There are more than 2,500 undergraduate students enrolled in 55 undergraduate majors and minors, as well as 1,200 graduate students across 18 graduate programs.

The College of Arts & Sciences, home to the MFA, is the largest college on campus and has several nationally recognized programs, including English and Creative Writing, the Creative Arts department, and the School of Music, Florida's first collegiate school of music.

For more info on the campus and the resources available to you, see the "Campus Info" section.



# About DeLand

DeLand is known for its vibrant main street, with its arts and antiques vibe. Stetson campus, just to the north, is only a few blocks away. On weekends, the downtown can fill up with visitors who come to poke around the shops, particularly during the Artisan Alley Farmers Market, every Friday night from 6-9pm and featuring over 40 vendors. Here's some of our favorite places to go downtown:

## Food:

- Oudom Thai and Sushi: Very solid Thai food with a large sushi menu and good lunch specials. Vegan and gluten-free options available. Closed Sunday and Monday; open for lunch Tuesday to Saturday.
- De La Vega: A tapas restaurant for Latin fusion and sangria, including empanadas and hibiscus tacos. Can get busy so leave your name with reception and take a wander. Vegan and gluten-free options available. Closed Monday and Tuesday; open for lunch Thursday to Sunday.
- Urban Brick: Serviceable pizza with a patio. Gluten free and vegan options. Closed Tuesday and Wednesday; open for lunch on the weekends.
- Bake Chop: Good quality spot for salads, sandwiches, and bowls. Can get busy, especially for lunch. Vegan and gluten-free options available. Closed Sunday.
- Chica's Cuban Cafe: Traditional Cuban food with a big side patio, attached to the Artisan hotel. Vegan and gluten-free options available. Closed Monday and Tuesday.
- Santorini Greek Cuisine: Popular spot for Greek. Gluten-free but limited vegan options. Closed Sunday & Monday; open for lunch on the weekends.
- Parva Colombian Bakery & Restaurant: this one is a little further out so you'll need a car but worth it for the great bowls. Vegetarian options. Open 7 days a week.

## Drinks:

- Trilogy Coffee: Your hipster barista pour-over spot. Has seating, a patio, and an industrial vibe.
- Boston Coffeehouse: cozier and cheaper than Trilogy, with a menu that includes pancakes and lots of sweet coffee with whipped cream-type offerings.
- Sidecar Market & Bar: A spot beloved by Stetson faculty, this "market & bar" is a strange beast. Equal parts antique furniture store, beer/wine bar and pop-up bakery, their logo is "shop, eat, drink!" and that sums it up. Vegan bakery options and the best ice chai in town. Vegan fair on Friday nights, including Big Mac Tacos. Serves Saturday and Sunday Brunch. Oysters on Sundays. Closed Mondays.
- Wanderbar: A craft cocktail bar with a seasonal cocktail menu and classic cocktails. Chill atmosphere in the early evenings and a favorite spot for late nights. Live music on the weekends.
- The Elusive Grape: by wine bar standards, this place is as unpretentious and approachable as it gets. Bills itself as "DeLand's living room". Wine flights with cheese pairings are available from Thursday-Saturday. Closed Mondays.
- Café Da Vinci: Younger spot for live music with a massive courtyard. Hosts a weekly pride night with drag shows on Tuesday. Check website for live music listings.

## Local Attractions:

- African American Museum of the Arts: a small museum with a permanent collection and temporary exhibitions on display. Open late morning to afternoon on Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday.
- Athens Theatre: a restored historic theatre and the “crowned jewel of DeLand,” this venue hosts live theatre and concerts throughout the year. Check the website for current events and listings.
- Cliff’s Books: used books and comics in downtown DeLand. A local institution. Closed Sunday-Tuesday.
- Museum of Art: a gallery with temporary exhibitions. During the conference there will be an exhibition by Cuban-American artist Yolanda Sánchez, who does textile and painting works. Open late morning to late afternoon, Tuesday to Saturday, and afternoons on Sunday.
- Skydiving: DeLand is known as the skydiving capital of the world. There’s a famous spot near the airport for anyone interested (and brave enough) – <https://skydivedeland.com/>

## Nearby Attractions:

- Blue Springs State Park: famous for the manatees that come every winter and the natural springs that remain 72 degrees all year long, this is a great spot for kayaking and walking. Swimming is currently closed while the banks are restored. Note that parking fills early and there can be long waits by mid-day, with visitors turned away if the park is full.
- Cassadaga: this nearby town of spiritualists and mediums is the place to go if you’re in need of a crystal or a fortune-teller. The old hotel in town has an Italian restaurant and a board with the contact information for all mediums accepting appointments that day.
- New Smyrna Beach: closest thing to a beach day near Stetson, this beach is nice to walk along but dangerous for swimming. Known as the shark bite capital of the world, it’s a famous spot for surfing.
- More ideas can be found at 101 Activities in DeLand: <https://www.discoverDeLand.org/101-things-to-do-in-DeLand.html>

## Arrival Info

The closest major airport is Orlando International Airport (MCO). Alternatives include Sanford (SFB) and Daytona Beach (DAB ) and although they are closer to Stetson, the expense of the regional airports can be prohibitive. Once you’ve arrived, all airports have Uber, Lyft, and taxi to get you to DeLand.

If driving, and staying at one of the dorms, please park at University Hall.

If attending but staying offsite, students can park in any of the lots for commuters or faculty/staff, but not student spaces, as those are reserved for summer students. See the Parking Map at the end of this guide for spots.



## Orientation Info

Please plan to arrive between 1-4PM on Saturday, June 8 and check-in with Jen at University Hall dorms in order to receive your Hatter1 Card.

Our first events will be the orientation tours.

For all students interested in using the Duncan Galleries, please meet Luca Molnar at Sampson Hall at 4PM on June 8

Following the Duncan orientation, all students are required to attend a campus orientation with Ryan Rivas at 4:30PM on June 8, departing from inside Rinker Welcome Center.

Welcome Reception and Dinner to follow and open to all students, staff, faculty, and guests at Lee's Garage (see schedule for more information)

## Housing Info

All students who elected for Stetson Housing will be staying at University Hall, a former motel across the street from the main campus. All rooms have a private bathroom, WIFI, a desk/chair, adjustable A/C, and access to a paid laundry and a common room with a TV and a kitchen. More info, pictures, and a video can be found here: <https://www.stetson.edu/administration/housing/university-hall.php>

All students staying in housing can check in on June 8 between 1-4PM.

All students must depart by 12PM on June 16.

If staying at University Hall, in addition to your normal packing, you'll want to bring:

- sheets for a Twin XL
- bedding
- towels
- pillows
- shower toiletries

According to conference services, "the only thing provided is toilet paper."

Paid laundry is available on site.

# Campus Info

**Parking:** Students can park in any of the lots for commuters or faculty/staff but not student spaces as those are reserved for summer students. See map at the end of the guide.

**Hatter1 Card:** All Stetson students must have a Hatter1 Card to access buildings and resources, including the gym and library. Jen Anders will distribute Hatter1 Cards at check-in. Do not lose these or you will be responsible for the replacement, including the replacement fee. Please hold onto your Hatter1 Card between semesters or you will once again be responsible for replacing the Hatter1 Card at your own expense and convenience.

**duPont-Ball Library:** As a Stetson student you have full library access, including the catalogues, media library, laptop-borrowing privileges and a 3D-printer. Hatter1 Card required.

## **Summer library hours:**

- Mon - Thurs: 8AM – 8PM
- Fri: 8AM – 5PM
- Sat: 10AM – 5PM
- Sun: 11AM – 8PM

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**Hollis Center:** As a Stetson student you have full access to the Stetson gym, including the weight and cardio rooms, aerobics and spin studios, the field house and outdoor pool. There are also day lockers and a changeroom. You will be required to check in at the front desk and sign a waiver for your first visit.

## **Hollis Center Summer hours:**

- Weekdays: 12PM - 7PM
- Weekends: Closed

## **Hand Art Center Summer hours:**

- Tues - Fri: 11AM - 4PM
- Sat: 12PM - 4PM

## **Pool Summer hours:**

- Weekdays: 12PM - 7PM
- Weekends: Closed

**Dining:** Those who have elected to stay in the dorms will have all meals included and available at Lynn Dining Hall with the exception of the boxed lunch and breakfast on 6/15 and 6/16, to be picked up between 12:30-1:45PM on Saturday, June 15 at Lynn Dining Hall reception. Otherwise, students may purchase meals as they go.

## **Coffee Shop Summer Hours (located in CUB):**

- Mon-Fri, 9AM – 2PM



# Health & Safety

Given that this is Florida in the summer, our largest concern will be the heat and the weather. Please drink plenty of water.

**Public Safety:** Stetson's public safety team is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. You can reach them at 386-822-7300. In the event of an emergency, please call 9-1-1

**Lightning:** Florida has regained the title as the state with the most lightning strikes. While on campus you might hear our slightly unnerving lightning siren. One blare means threat of lightning. Three blasts mean all clear.

**Stetson Health:** the on-campus doctor's office for non-emergency medical needs. This office is run in partnership with AdventHealth and provides primary care to students. Patients are seen by appointment and services are charged through health insurance. You can reach them at 386-822-8150 Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4:30 p.m.

**Advent Health DeLand:** the main hospital in town. Open 24 hours. Available at 386-943-4522

**Covid-19:** Stetson University follows the current Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines for COVID-19. Therefore, this transfers decisions to personal responsibility for our faculty, staff and students to monitor for symptom development and self-isolate when needed, as per the CDC's COVID-19 Isolation Protocol.

- Students will be responsible for notifying their professors, the Program Director, and any close contacts of their isolation status. Employees will be responsible for notifying their supervisors and close contacts.
- If you test positive for COVID-19, stay home for at least 5 days and isolate from others in your home. You are likely most infectious during these first 5 days. Use the CDC's Isolation and Exposure calculator to assess your dates and for additional information on when to end isolation.
  - Please note: students who test positive are responsible for developing and executing their own isolation lodging and contingency plan. We suggest you do this ahead of arrival as the accommodations at Stetson may not be available past the end of the program dates. Any costs associated with isolation is the responsibility of the student, staff member or instructor.
- We continue to support mask wearing for those who prefer it and for those who are advised to wear one based on their immunocompromised status, but universal mask wearing is not required.
- The MFAotA strongly suggests that all MFA participants be fully vaccinated and encourages the latest booster at least two weeks ahead of arrival.

# SCHEDULE

## SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 2024

- 1 – 4PM: Arrival and check-in  
All students must attend to have PCards issued  
University Hall
- 4:00-4:30PM: Mandatory walkthrough for all students interested in using the Duncan Galleries  
with Luca Molnar  
Sampson Hall
- 4:30PM: Required orientation walking tour  
with Ryan Rivas  
For all students  
Meet at Rinker Welcome Center
- 5:45PM: Opening reception & dinner  
For all students, guests, staff and faculty  
Lee's Garage  
Carlton Union Building (CUB), Room 261B

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## SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 2024

- 8:00AM – 9:45AM Breakfast at Lynn Commons
- Morning Individual Student Conferences with Core Faculty  
TBD with Core Faculty
- 12:30PM – 1:45PM Lunch at Lynn Commons
- 2:00PM – 3:30PM *Exploratory Workshops*  
Session 1 Exploratory Workshops will meet in the following:  
Urayoán Noel: Allen Hall 103  
Jeff Parker: Allen Hall 201
- 5:00PM Graduating Student Performances Tech-run through  
For graduating students only



5:30PM – 6:45PM     Dinner at Lynn Commons

7:00PM – 8:30PM     Night One of Graduating Student Performances and Q&As  
Featuring Marissa Rodriguez, Shaun O. Smith & Bre'Anna Bivens  
Rinker Welcome Center - Orientation Room

**Marissa Rodriguez:** Originally from the Bronx, New York, I moved to Debary, Florida, around the age of nine, which marked a significant shift in the media representation I saw. Ever since then, I've been writing stories and creating art about fierce, powerful, and unabashedly feminine brown women. It was during my undergrad that I discovered my passion for writing, and here in the MFA program—due to the encouragement of my classmates and teachers—the new chapter of my creative life has begun. Inspired by the works of Michael Dante DiMartino and Bryan Konietzko, Rebecca Sugar, Hayao Miyazaki, Daniela Strijleva, Glen Keane and so many more, I'm excited to see where my love for animated films, children's media, writing, and art come together to create something the little girl in me always wanted to see.

**Shaun O. Smith** is an American poet based in the Florida panhandle. He is recognized for ephemeral performances that experiment with discomfort and challenge a shift in perspectives. His work blends physical and immaterial elements to layer concepts across a multimedia canon. O. Smith also spends his time as a founder and curator of the poetry society Grass Routes.

**Bre'Anna Bivens**, or Bre', is a proud Houston, Texas native, and multi-disciplinary artist. She is a two-time Pushcart Prize nominee, and her work has been published in Guernica, Apricity Press, and is forthcoming elsewhere. Through her research, Bre' explores Black temporalities and pluralities, and how the grief therein creates new pathways to explore art. By transcending conventional notions of genre, she hopes her work provokes the senses, and repositions her audience to consider the interiority of Black lives in full tonality and hue.

# MONDAY, JUNE 10, 2024

8:00AM – 9:45AM Breakfast at Lynn Commons

10AM – 12:30PM *Core Workshops*  
Vidhu Aggarwal in Sage Hall 144 (Natural History Museum)  
Brendan Bowles in Gillespie Museum  
Steven Dunn in CUB Faculty & Staff Lounge  
Terri Witek & Cyriaco Lopes in Hand Art Center

12:30PM – 1:45PM Lunch at Lynn Commons

2:00PM – 3:30PM *Exploratory Workshops*  
Session 1 Exploratory Workshops will meet in the following:  
Urayoán Noel: Allen Hall 103  
Jeff Parker: Allen Hall 201

5:00PM Graduating Student Performances Tech-run through  
For graduating students only

5:30PM – 6:45PM Dinner at Lynn Commons

7:00PM – 8:30PM Night Two of Graduating Student Performances and Q&As  
Featuring Quin J. Killings, Keith Holmes & Arkee Brown  
Rinker Welcome Center - Orientation Room

**Quin J. Killings** (also known by their stage name, Quin Killin') is a poet, writer, performer, and educator originally hailing from Miami, Florida. At 13 years old, they dove into the world of spoken word and began competing in slam poetry throughout the state of Florida in 2013. Several years and several accolades later, they have earned the honor and title of being a nationally ranked slam poet within the United States (Stonewall International Poetry Slam 2021, Womxn of the World Poetry Slam 2023/2024). Other than being a full-time educator, a part-time blerd (black nerd), and non-binary baddie, they are also the creator and co-founder of the non-profit organization, The Blunt Space Inc., an organization catered to marginalized artists as well as the arts, advocacy, and culture.

**Keith Holmes** is a graduate student at Stetson University, working toward his Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing. He plans to teach at either the high school level or at the college level be it in English, creative writing or journalism. Keith enjoys science fiction, fantasy, and making tabletop RPGs.

**Arkee Brown:** I am cooling in a world that is changing while life continues to flourish flowers around me. I wish to be successful in my soul, when it comes to writing. Bio's aren't really my thing but Poetry is life for me.



## TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 2024

- 8:00AM – 9:45AM Breakfast at Lynn Commons
- 10AM – 12:30PM *Core Workshops*  
Vidhu Aggarwal in Sage Hall 144 (Natural History Museum)  
Brendan Bowles in Gillespie Museum  
Steven Dunn in CUB Faculty & Staff Lounge  
Terri Witek & Cyriaco Lopes in Hand Art Center
- 12:30PM – 1:45PM Lunch at Lynn Commons
- 2:00PM – 3:30PM *Exploratory Workshops*  
Session 1 Exploratory Workshops will meet in the following:  
Urayoán Noel: Allen Hall 103  
Jeff Parker: Allen Hall 201
- 5:30PM – 6:45PM Dinner at Lynn Commons
- 7:00PM – 8:30PM Evening Reading & Performance with Vidhu Aggarwal, Urayoán Noel & Jeff Parker  
Rinker Welcome Center - Orientation Room
- 8:30PM – 9:30PM Submission Party and Burrow Press Pop-up  
University Hall Common Room

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## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2024

- 8:00AM – 9:45AM Breakfast at Lynn Commons
- 10AM – 12:30PM *Core Workshops*  
Vidhu Aggarwal in Sage Hall 144 (Natural History Museum)  
Brendan Bowles in Gillespie Museum  
Steven Dunn in CUB Faculty & Staff Lounge  
Terri Witek & Cyriaco Lopes in Hand Art Center
- 12:30PM – 1:45PM Lunch at Lynn Commons
- 2:00PM – 3:30PM Next Steps Discussion (Life post-MFA) \*attendance optional  
CUB Faculty & Staff Lounge
- 5:30PM – 6:45PM Dinner at Lynn Commons
- Evening Free night

## THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2024

- 8:00AM – 9:45AM    Breakfast at Lynn Commons
- 10AM – 12:30PM    *Core Workshops*  
Vidhu Aggarwal in Sage Hall 144 (Natural History Museum)  
Brendan Bowles in Gillespie Museum  
Steven Dunn in CUB Faculty & Staff Lounge  
Terri Witek & Cyriaco Lopes in Hand Art Center
- 12:30PM – 1:45PM    Lunch at Lynn Commons
- 2:00PM – 3:30PM    *Exploratory Workshops*  
Session 2 Exploratory Workshops will meet in the following:  
Chesya Burke: Allen Hall 103  
Luca Molnar: Duncan Galleries in Sampson Hall
- 5:30PM – 6:45PM    Dinner at Lynn Commons
- 7:00PM – 8:30PM    Evening Reading & Artist Talk with Chesya Burke & Luca Molnar  
Rinker Welcome Center - Orientation Room

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## FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 2024

- 8:00AM – 9:45AM    Breakfast at Lynn Commons
- 10AM – 12:30PM    *Core Workshops*  
Vidhu Aggarwal in Sage Hall 144 (Natural History Museum)  
Brendan Bowles in Gillespie Museum  
Steven Dunn in CUB Faculty & Staff Lounge  
Terri Witek & Cyriaco Lopes in Hand Art Center
- 12:30PM – 1:45PM    Lunch at Lynn Commons
- 2:00PM – 3:30PM    *Exploratory Workshops*  
Session 2 Exploratory Workshops will meet in the following:  
Chesya Burke: Allen Hall 103  
Luca Molnar: Duncan Galleries in Sampson Hall
- 5:30PM – 6:45PM    Dinner at Lynn Commons
- 7:00PM – 8:30PM    Artist Talk with Glexis Novoa  
Rinker Welcome Center - Orientation Room

## SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 2024

- 8:00AM – 9:45AM    Breakfast at Lynn Commons
- 10AM – 11:30AM    *Exploratory Workshops* (no core workshops today)  
Session 2 Exploratory Workshops will meet in the following:  
Chesya Burke: Allen Hall 103  
Luca Molnar: Duncan Galleries in Sampson Hall
- 12:30PM – 1:45PM    Boxed Lunches for all with meal plans  
Note: the box lunches will include breakfast for the following day  
To be collected between 12:30 – 1:45PM at the Lynn Commons Dining Hall reception
- 2:00PM – 3:30PM    Tech Check for Final Student Performances  
Required for all current students  
Rinker Welcome Center - Orientation Room
- 5:00PM – 6:15PM    Current Student Performances  
Rinker Welcome Center - Orientation Room
- 6:30PM – 8:00PM    Closing Reception & Dinner  
For all students, guests, staff and faculty  
Lee's Garage  
Carlton Union Building (CUB), Room 261B

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## SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 2024

- 8:00AM – 9:45AM    Boxed breakfast included in the lunch boxes picked up the day previous
- 10AM – 12:30PM    Check out of dorms and depart



# CORE FACULTY



**Vidhu Aggarwal**'s poetry and multimedia practices engage with world-building in multiple platforms: poetry, video, and graphic media. In her poetry books, *The Trouble with Humpadori* (2016) *Daughter Isotope* (2021), she engages in a "cloud poetics," as a way of thinking about personal, collective, and digital archives. A Djerassi resident and Kundiman fellow, she is the Theodore Bruce and Barbara Lawrence Alford Chair of Literature at Rollins College. You can find them at [daughterisotope.com](http://daughterisotope.com).



**Brendan Bowles** is a writer from Toronto, Ontario. His work has been published and produced for stage and radio and has won some of the largest short story awards in Canada. He was Wallace Stegner Fellow at Stanford University and a Fiction Fellow at the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, Massachusetts. He is currently the Director of Stetson University's MFA of the Americas.



**Steven Dunn**, a.k.a Pot Hole (cuz he's deep in these streets) is the recipient of a 2021 Whiting Award, and the author of three novels: *Potted Meat* (2016), *water & power* (2018), and a *Tannery Bay* (2024), which is co-written with Katie Jean Shinkle. *Potted Meat* was a finalist for the Colorado Book Award, and shortlisted for Granta Magazine's Best of Young American Novelists, and adapted to a short film by Foothills Productions. *The Usual Route* has played at L.A. International Film Festival, Houston International Film Festival, and others. He was born and raised in West Virginia.



Brazilian-American artist **Cyriaco Lopes** has exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art in Rio de Janeiro, the Museum of Art of São Paulo (MASP), El Museo del Barrio in NYC, the Centre Wallonie Bruxelles in Paris, Casa Degli Artisti in Milan, among other international venues. In 2022 he had a solo exhibition at Satchel Projects in Chelsea, NYC. His work has been selected and curated in exhibitions by critics such as Yasufumi Nakamori, Paulo Herkenhoff and Adriano Pedrosa, as well as by artists such as Lygia Pape, Janine Antoni, Luciano Fabro, and Ryan Trecartin. He is the winner of the NYC World Studio Foundation Award, the Contemporary Art Museum Saint Louis Project Award, the São Paulo Phillips Prize of trip to Europe.

His performances with poet Terri Witek have been seen at the Centro Nacional de Cultura in Lisbon, Portugal, the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in Philadelphia, the Salford Museum, in Manchester, England, the Atlantic Center for the Arts, FL, the Centre del Carme Cultura Contemporanea, in Valencia, Spain, and Oi Futuro Center for Art & Technology, in Rio, Brazil. Their collaboration was featured at the 2023 ARCO Madrid, where their gallery, The Liminal, won one of the two special mentions by the jury.

The artist holds two M.F.A.s: one in Imaging and Digital Arts, UMBC, Baltimore, and the other in Visual Languages, UFRJ, Rio de Janeiro. He attended artist's residencies such as Skowhegan, the London Project, MassMoca, and the MacDowell Colony (where Lopes was a 2019 Marian O. Naumburg Photography fellow).



**Terri Witek's** 8 books of poetry include her newest collection, *Something's Missing in This Museum* (2023); a new chapbook, *Down Water Street* is forthcoming in 2024 from aboveground press. Her work has been included in many anthologies, including 2 from 2021: *JUDITH: Women Making Visual Poetry* (Timglas) and *WAAVe* (Women Asemic Artist and Visual Poets) Witek's art/text mixes are often featured in collaboration: she teaches Poetry in the Expanded Field in Stetson University's low-residency MFA of the Americas with Brazilian visual artist Cyriaco Lopes; they also lead The Fernando Pessoa Game at the Disquiet International Literary Program each summer in Lisbon. Their collaborative work has been represented at ARCO in Madrid and in Seoul, Chania (Crete), Miami, New York, Philadelphia, Lisbon, and Valencia, Spain. [terriwitek.com](http://terriwitek.com)

# EXPLORATORY WORKSHOP FACULTY



**Dr. Chesya Burke** has written and published over a hundred stories and articles within the genres of horror, speculative fiction, comics, and Afrofuturism. Her short story collection, *Let's Play White*, is being taught in universities around the world, and Grammy Award winning poet, Nikki Giovanni, compared her writing to that of Octavia Butler and Toni Morrison. Burke's episode for *Under the Skin*, hosted by Carey Mulligan, was produced by Amazon and her story, "An American Fable," appears in the Jordan Peele anthology *Out There Screaming*. She is represented by Alec Shane of Writer's House and Sukee Chew and Katrina Escudero of Sugar23.

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**Luca Molnar** (b. 1991, Budapest, Hungary) is a painter, most days. Her work uses historical figures and personal mythologies as its starting point, building networked connections through both research and intuition. In her paintings, pattern references imagined domestic spaces, allowing the private sphere to emerge as a complex and contradictory site worthy of our attention. Her interest in our relationships with the past, memory, and identity extends into her installation work and writing.

Molnar received her MFA from New York University and her BA in Studio Art from Dartmouth College. Recent exhibitions include *The Beauty of Politics: Oscar Bluemner and Luca Molnar* at the Hand Art Center (DeLand, FL); *Helybe* at alt\_space Gallery (New Smyrna Beach, FL); and *Same Source* at Art Center Sarasota (FL). Molnar is an Assistant Professor of Studio Art at Stetson University in DeLand, Florida.





**Urayoán Noel** is a Puerto Rican poet, scholar, translator, creative-nonfiction writer, and performer, and a 2022-2023 Letras Boricuas poetry fellow. His most recent books are the poetry collection *Transversal* (University of Arizona Press, 2021), which was named a Book of the Year by the New York Public Library and longlisted for the PEN Open Award, and, as translator, *adjacent islands/ islas adyacentes* (Ugly Duckling Presse/DoubleCross Press/La Impresora, 2022), which collects two “camping books” by Puerto Rican poet and book artist Nicole Cecilia Delgado. A finalist for the National Translation Award, Noel has received the LASA Latino Studies Book Prize and an MLA Honorable Mention for his critical study *In Visible Movement: Nuyorican Poetry from the Sixties to Slam* (University of Iowa Press, 2014). His work has appeared in *Poetry* and the *New York Times*, and he has performed at Poesiefestival Berlin, Barcelona Poesia, and the Toronto Biennial of Art.



**Jeff Parker** is the author of several books including *Where Bears Roam the Streets: A Russian Journal*, the novel *Ovenman*, and the short story collection *The Taste of Penny*. His many collaborative books and anthologies include: *Clean Rooms*, *Low Rates*; *Erratic Fire*, *Erratic Passion: The Poetry of Sportstalk*; *A Manner of Being: Writers on their Mentors*; *Rasskazy: New Fiction from a New Russia*; *Amerika: Russian Writers View the United States*; and *The Back of the Line*. His short fiction and nonfiction have appeared in *American Short Fiction*, *McSweeney's*, *Ploughshares*, *Tin House*, and others. He teaches prose in the MFA Program at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, and he is the Co-Founder and Director of the DISQUIET International Literary Program in Lisbon, Portugal. His most recent work is a novella in *Proper Imposters: Four Novellas* (Panhandler Books, Fall '24).

# SPECIAL GUEST

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**Glexis Novoa** was born in Holguín, Cuba, in 1964. By the second half of the 1980s, Novoa had developed an articulated professional career, becoming one of the most radical influences on the vibrant local art scene known as “The 1980s Cuban Art Revival.” Founder of the Provisional group, pioneers of performance, political activism and collectivist strategies. He has been producing site-specific wall drawings and ephemeral projects that exist on the border between ephemeral art and architecture. Recurrently focusing on architecture of power and social politics as the main subject. Novoa has had shown at, Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Havana; Today Art Museum, Beijing; Queens Museum, New York; Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; Ludwig Forum für International Kunst, Aachen; Padiglione d’Arte Contemporanea, Milan; Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art of Trento and Rovereto, Trento; Reina Sofia National Museum, Madrid; Perez Art Museum in Miami; El Museo del Barrio, New York; Museum of the Palacio de Bellas Artes, Mexico City; Center d’art Contemporary Passerelle, Brest, France, among many others.



# STAFF



New Jersey native, **Jen Anders**'s steadfast commitment is to creating connections - either through art, yoga or philanthropy. She is the current MFA of the Americas Program Coordinator at Stetson University. Jen is a mixed-media sculptor and has a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Sculpture from Memphis College of Art. She also has a Master of Science in Nonprofit Administration from Louisiana State University is a registered yoga teacher with over 600 hours of certification from Yoga Alliance.



**Ryan Rivas** is the author of *Nextdoor in Colonialtown* (Autofocus, 2022) and *Lizard People* (ThirtyWest, 2023). He is the Publisher of Burrow Press, and the Coordinator of MFA Publishing at Stetson University's MFA in creative writing program. A Macon Writers Workshop fellow, his work has appeared in *The Believer*, *The Rumpus*, *Literary Hub*, *Best American Nonrequired Reading 2012*, and elsewhere.



**Shelby Smotherman** is a writer, artist, and theatrical technician working in the Tampa Bay Area. Most often, she works with paint and lighting and uses language from her technical background to fill her poetry, as well as taking heavy influence from pop culture.



## MAP DIRECTORY

### ACADEMIC FACILITIES

- 02 1 Allen Hall  
04 2 Brown Hall  
C2 3 Cummings Gym  
01 4 Davis Hall  
03 5 duPont-Ball Library  
• Accessibility Services  
• Hollis Family Student Success Center  
• Writing Center  
02 6 Elizabeth Hall  
• Lee Chapel  
02 7 Flagler Hall  
E4 8 Gillespie Museum  
E3 9 Hand Art Center  
E2 10 Lynn Business Center (LBC)  
• Wands Center / I.T.-Helpdesk  
E2 11 McMahan Hall  
C2 12 Museum of Art - DeLand  
• Second Stage Theatre  
F3 13 Ohio Art Studio  
E2 14 Presser Hall  
E3 15 Rinker Environmental Learning Center (RELC)  
E4 16 Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies  
02 17 Sage Science Center  
E2 18 Sampson Hall  
• Ceramics Studio

### RESIDENCE HALLS

- E4 19 Carson Hall  
C4 20 Catalyst House 220  
E4 21 Catalyst House 245  
02 22 Chaudoin Hall  
02 23 Conrad Hall (Honors and Bonner)  
C2 24 Emily Hall  
D4 25 Gordis Hall  
E5 26 Hatter Hall  
E4 27 Hollis Hall  
A3 28 House A (ΔΣΦ)  
A4 29 House B (πKΑ)  
A4 30 House C (φΣΚ)  
B4 31 House D

- B3 32 House E (ΣΦΕ)  
B3 33 House F (ΑΧΑ)  
03 34 House 1 (πBΦ)  
D4 35 House 2 (πKΦ)  
D4 36 House 3 (KAO)  
D4 37 House 4 (AΞΔ)  
D4 38 House 5 (AXD)  
D4 39 House 6 (ZTA)  
D4 40 House 7 (ΔΔΔ)  
D4 41 House 205 (ATD)  
E5 42 Nemec Hall  
D5 43 Smith Hall  
A1 44 Stetson Cove Apts.  
A4 45 Stetson Oaks Apts.  
A3 46 Stetson Palms Apts.  
02 47 University Hall  
• Residential Living & Learning  
• HatterCard Office  
E5 48 UVA 100 - Maxey Hall  
E6 49 UVA 200 - Hon Hall  
E6 50 UVA 300 - Building 300  
E6 51 UVA 400 - Lynn Hall  
E5 52 UVA 500 - Rinker Hall  
E5 53 UVA - Rinker Clubhouse

### STUDENT SERVICES

- D3 54 Carlton Union Building (CUB)  
• Bookstore  
• Center of Community Engagement  
• Coffee Shop  
• Lynn Dining Commons  
• Hat Rack Cafe  
• Office of Diversity & Inclusion  
• Post Office  
• Stetson Room & Lee's Garage  
• Title IX  
E3 55 Cross-Cultural Center (Tri-C)  
C3 56 Griffith Hall  
• Health Service  
• Religious and Spiritual Life  
• Student Counseling Services

- B3 57 Rinker Center for International Learning (WORLD)  
C3 58 Ginsberg Hillel House

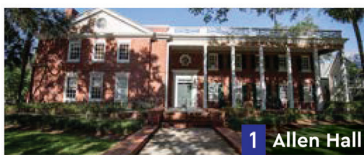
### ATHLETICS/RECREATION

- D5 59 Athletics Training Center  
D5 60 Cooper Beach Volleyball Courts  
C3 61 Hollis Center  
• Rinker Field House  
• Stetson Pool  
B3 62 J. Ollie Edmunds Center  
C5 63 Mandy Stoll Tennis Center  
F5 64 Melching Field at Conrad Park  
E6 65 Patricia Wilson Softball Field  
C1 66 Racquetball Courts  
F2 67 Sandra Stetson Aquatic Center  
F6 68 Spec Martin Memorial Stadium  
C1 69 Tennis Courts  
B2 70 Wilson Athletic Center

### ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

- F4 71 Administrative Services  
• Office of Finance  
• Print Shop  
D2 72 Allen House  
• Human Resources  
D2 73 DeLand Hall  
E3 74 Development  
E3 75 Development Operations  
E3 76 Donor Relations  
E6 77 Facilities Management  
D3 78 Marshall and Vera Lea Rinker Welcome Center  
• Admissions  
• Career & Professional Development  
• Financial Aid  
• One Stop  
• Registrar and Bursar  
• University Marketing  
E3 79 Meadows Alumni House  
E2 80 President's Home  
E4 81 Public Safety





**1 Allen Hall**

Currently home to the Religious Studies department, Allen Hall was built in 1950 by the Florida Baptist Convention at a time when the university had an affiliation with the Baptist denomination, which ended in the early 1990s.



**59-70 Athletics Facilities**

The Stetson Hatters are composed of 18 Division I teams representing Stetson University in intercollegiate athletics. Stetson boasts many top-notch fields and facilities on and off campus for our student athletes to win on and off the field. For schedules or tickets, go to [gohatters.com](http://gohatters.com).



**54 Carlton Union Building (CUB)**

The Carlton Student Union (CUB) serves as the center for student life on campus supporting students throughout their college experience. The CUB offers students multiple study and lounge locations, and provides four different food options to choose from.



**4 Davis Hall**

Davis Hall was constructed in 1967 with the intentions of being a new home for the business school but is now home to several academic programs within the College of Arts and Sciences. It provides student lounge areas, dance studio, game room and a computer lab.



**5 duPont-Ball Library**

The duPont-Ball Library, the oldest federal depository in Florida, was built in 1944 and was extensively renovated in 1999. It now is home for the Innovation Center with 3D printing, the Writing Center, and the Hollis Family Student Success Center on the second floor.



**6 Elizabeth Hall**

Elizabeth Hall was the first major building on campus by university benefactor and namesake John B. Stetson, who named the building after his wife, Elizabeth Stetson. Today, Elizabeth Hall is home to the College of Arts and Sciences and also houses offices and classrooms.



**9 Hand Art Center**

Opened in 2009, the Homer and Dolly Hand Art Center houses the university's extensive art collection by Modernist painter Oscar Bluemner (1867-1938). It includes two galleries, one to exhibit the Vera Bluemner Kouba Collection and other works from the university's permanent art collection, and also includes special student juried art exhibitions.



**19-53 Residence Halls**

There are housing options to fit the needs of any student, whether they are coming in for their first year or finishing up their senior year. We also offer gender-neutral and pet-friendly housing for our residents. More information about the living options can be found at [stetson.edu/housing](http://stetson.edu/housing).



**55 Cross-Cultural Center (Tri-C)**

The Cross-Cultural Center (Tri-C) is a second home and resource center for students from diverse social identities including race and ethnicity, sexuality, religion, socioeconomic status and ability.



**79 Meadows Alumni House**

Honoring alumnus Gary A. Meadows '59, the Meadows Alumni House is a welcome center for Stetson Alumni and houses the staff from the Offices of Alumni Engagement and Annual Giving.



**61 Hollis Center**

The recreational and wellness hub of campus life and club sports, the Hollis Center features an outdoor swimming pool, gymnasium (Rinker Field House), a lounge and weight, fitness, activity and game rooms. The center's name honors the Hollis family. Four generations of the family have been involved in the life of Stetson University.



**10 Lynn Business Center (LBC)**

The Eugene M. and Christine Lynn Business Center (LBC) is Stetson University's and Florida's first LEED-certified building. The School of Business Administration building features state-of-the-art technology and is home to the Roland George Investments Program, the Centurian Sales Program, and the Entrepreneurship and Accounting Programs.



**2 Brown Hall**

Brown Hall, constructed throughout 2023 was funded to create spaces that will allow ideas and learning to evolve into ground-breaking discoveries and innovative pedagogy. It is now home to the Center of Optimal Health Across Lifespan, Environmental Science and Studies, and much more.



**11 & 14 McMahan & Presser Halls**

Home to one of the finest undergraduate music schools in the country, students are educated by artist faculty, using cutting-edge music technology that provides firstclass performing opportunities in symphony orchestra, band, choir, opera, musical theater, jazz, chamber music and solo.



**17 Sage Science Center**

The Sage Science Center is home to Stetson's Biology, Chemistry and Physics departments. The building was recently renovated to include exhibition spaces for undergraduate research, larger laboratory study areas and state-of-the-art technology.



**73 Historic DeLand Hall**

DeLand Hall opened on Oct. 13, 1884, making it the oldest building in Florida that has been in continuous use for higher education. It was first academic building at Stetson's DeLand campus.



**15 Rinker Environmental Learning Center**

The RELC is a space constructed to complement the Earth- and environmental-science mission of the Gillespie Museum. The space is used by local students, environmental groups and Stetson students for presentations, demonstrations, meetings, lectures, workshops and special events.



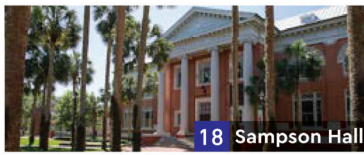
**7 Flagler Hall**

Flagler Hall was financed and built in 1902 by railway magnate Henry M. Flagler. What is now the engineering program and Florida's first law school is now home for departments in the College of Arts and Sciences.



**77 Rinker Welcome Center**

The new, three-story, 24,000 square-foot Marshall and Vera Lea Rinker Welcome Center welcomes our prospective students and their parents to campus, assisting current students and welcoming alumni back to campus.

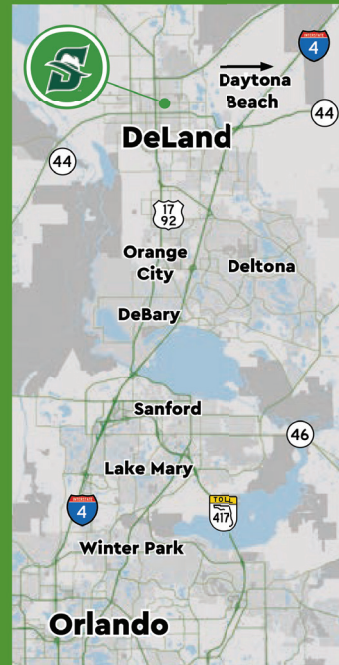
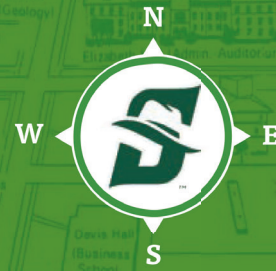


**18 Sampson Hall**

Built in 1908, Sampson Hall is one of the most architecturally significant buildings on campus. Partially funded by grants from Andrew Carnegie and Elizabeth Stetson, the building includes classrooms for Art, Modern Languages, American Studies, and art studios.

# CAMPUS MAP

## DELAND CAMPUS



## A Long History of Significance

New York entrepreneur Henry A. DeLand played a leading role in establishing the city of DeLand and founded the university as DeLand Academy in 1876. Thirteen students started classes in a rented building in 1883. The following year, Mr. DeLand erected a building at the corner of Woodland Boulevard and Minnesota Avenue to house classrooms and administrative offices. That building, now known as DeLand Hall, is the oldest building in Florida to be used continuously for higher education. After experiencing financial difficulties in the late 1880s, Mr. DeLand found it impossible to support the university. He turned to Philadelphia hatmaker John Batterson Stetson, who had recently built a winter home in DeLand. Mr. Stetson provided much-needed funding for the new institution, and in 1887, John B. Stetson was elected to the university's Board of Trustees. In 1889, the institution was renamed in his honor as Stetson University.

## Contact Info

DELAND CAMPUS		
General Inquiries (Hub in the Cub) .....	386-822-7000	
Admissions .....	386-822-7100	
Admissions (Toll-Free) .....	800-688-0101	
Financial Aid .....	386-822-7120	

## COLLEGE OF LAW CAMPUS

General .....	727-562-7800
Admissions .....	727-562-7802
Admissions (Toll-Free) .....	877-529-7838

## TAMPA LAW CENTER

General .....	813-228-6625
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[stetson.edu/maps](http://stetson.edu/maps)

