**Alexis Draut**

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1. **EDUCATION**

**Doctor of Philosophy in English,** *in progress*  *May 2026*

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY, Lexington, KY

**Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing,** Concentration: Nature Writing *Aug. 2021*CHATHAM UNIVERSITY, Pittsburgh, PA

**Bachelor of Arts in Religion,** Minor: Environmental Studies *May 2017*

BERRY COLLEGE, Rome, GA

WinShape College Program Scholar (4-year scholarship for academic excellence and leadership)

**Creation Care Study Program,** Kaikoura, New Zealand *Spring 2016*

Study Abroad Student and Researcher – Researched with New Zealand Department of

Conservation, worked with local and endemic species (Dusky dolphins, Little Blue penguins).

1. **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**University of Kentucky,** Lexington, KY *Aug. 2021 – Present*

Teaching Assistant – Instructor of record for two classes per semester including Writing, Rhetoric and Digital Studies 110 and 111, plans and implements lessons in a classroom (3x a week), meets with students in office hours, teaches on rhetorical analysis of research, monitors student progress.

**Chatham University,** Pittsburgh, PA *Aug. 2020 – May 2021*

Teaching Assistant Fellow – Interned with local nonprofit as a part of a Chatham fellowship,
facilitated writing workshops, assisted with curriculum development and virtual programming.

**Chatham University**, Pittsburgh, PA *Oct. 2019 – Mar. 2020*

Facilitator of Poetry Workshop – Facilitated regular poetry and writing workshops with

undergraduate and graduate students on campus

* “Holding Space on the Page” – monthly workshop, covered topics such as heritage, race, ethnicity, and place within discussions, organized guest speakers to lead discussions.
* Undergraduate Poetry Group – weekly workshop, lead analytical discussion on poetry, created prompts, dedicated time to crafting and editing poems.

**Creation Care Study Program**, Kaikoura, New Zealand *Aug. 2017 – May 2018*

Student Life Coordinator – Taught sustainable and environmental significance and practices,

planned and facilitated community events and cultural experiences for 8-10 students, served as

teaching assistant for college-level courses, assisted in day-to-day administrative operations.

**Berry College Elementary and Middle School**, Rome, GA *Aug. 2016 – May 2017*

Environmental Education Coordinator – Maintained school orchard, developed curriculum for

students regarding organic gardening and healthy eating.

**Berry College Department of Religion and Philosophy**, Rome, GA *Aug. – Dec. 2015*

Office Assistant – Organized office material, conducted research for guest speakers, planned events,

graded papers and tests.

**Academic Support Center**, Rome, GA *Jan. 2014 – Dec. 2015*

Student Test Coordinator – Assisted undergraduate students with tutoring needs and academic

accommodations, monitored test-taking situations.

1. **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Write Pittsburgh**, Pittsburgh, PA *Aug. 2020 – May 2021*

Intern – Served as nonprofit organization’s intern, collaborated with staff and other organizations to plan writing workshops for students aged elementary school through high school, facilitated workshops, wrote and published organization-related press releases, proofread and edited grants, conducted research for curriculum development. Assisted on successful grant proposals totaling $99,500 in 2020:

* *Hawkins Project*, Oct. 2020 – $2,000
* *The Heinz Endowments*, Oct. 2020 – $77,500
* *Program to Aid Citizen Enterprise*, Oct. 2020 – $20,000

**Melissa Draut Grant Writing LLC,** Louisville, KY *Feb. 2020 – May 2021*

Grant Writing Intern – Interned under grant writer, worked with nonprofit organizations in Ohio and Kentucky, proofread and edited grants, collects organization data, submitted grants to foundations. Support on successful grant proposals totaling $53,500 in 2020:

* *PNC*, Sept. 2020 – $7,500
* *AEP Foundation*, July 2020 – $10,000
* *Peoples Bank*, June 2020 – $5,000
* *South Central Power Company*, June 2020 – $4,000
* *Safelite Foundation*, May 2020 – $20,000
* *Allstate*, April 2020 – $5,000
* *U.S. Bank*, April 2020 – $2,000

**A to Z Grant Writing Introduction Course,** online*July 2020*

Student – Completed 24 hours of training in an online introduction to grant writing course.

**Chatham University,** Pittsburgh, PA *July 2019 – June 2020*

Graduate Resident Director - Supervised a group of Resident Assistants, monitored the safety and
maintenance of a residence hall on campus, handled crises regarding undergraduate residents.

**Northside Chronicle**, Pittsburgh, PA *Oct. 2019 – Jan. 2020*

Freelance Journalist - Produced feature articles for monthly publications based on community events, local gatherings, and Pittsburgh-based festivals.

**Northwest Georgia News**  *Aug. 2018 – June 2019*

* *Calhoun Times***,** Calhoun, GA

General Assignment Reporter – Collected and analyzed information from local events or

interviews, reported and wrote stories for a twice-weekly newspaper on deadline, took

photos for publications.

* *Rome News-Tribune*, Rome, GA

News Correspondent – Wrote feature stories on local events, turned in articles and photos

on deadline.

**Rise ‘N Shine Organic Farms**, Calhoun, GA  *June – Aug. 2018*

Field Hand – Maintained and harvested produce for CSA, prepped produce for delivery, worked

with CSA customers, sold products at farmers markets.

1. **VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE**

**GirlGov,** Pittsburgh, PA *Jan. – May 2021*

Volunteer – Planned and facilitated programs, collaborated with other organizations and local artists to plan writing workshops such as the “Sharing Your Story” workshop series in March 2021.

**Chatham University,** Pittsburgh, PA *Jan. 2020 – May 2021*

Advisory Board Member of the Communique – Monitored and advised undergraduate student
newspaper staff on budget decisions, supported events and publications.

**Chatham University**, Pittsburgh, PA *Sept. 2019 - May 2021*

Assistant Advisor - Advised Chatham University undergraduate Creative Writing Club, sponsored activities, helped plan and facilitate events.

**Write Pittsburgh**, Pittsburgh, PA *Jan. – Aug. 2020*

Volunteer Facilitator – Prepared for and facilitated writing workshops with the nonprofit organization, helped transition workshops to an online platform, co-facilitated first-ever summer camps over Zoom.

**Community Forge**, Pittsburgh, PA *Jan. – Aug. 2020*

Volunteer – Worked with community center during after school programming, lead writing workshops for elementary-aged participants.

**WildArk,** Atlanta, GA *Aug. 2018 – Aug. 2020*

Contributing Writer – Produced feature articles and photography about environmental solutions,
produced advocacy stories about environmental sustainability.

1. **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

“*Shale Play’*s Artistic Portrayal of Pennsylvania Fracking Fields as Catalyst for Environmental Dialogue.”

* *University of Virginia’s GradCon – Networks.* April 2022.
* *English Graduate Student Organization Symposium 2022.* March 2022.
* *Dimensions of Political Ecology Conference.* March 2022.

“Turning as an Ecofeminist Methodology for Achieving Environmental Justice in Annie Dillard’s *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek.*” *Association for the Study of Literature and Environment 2021: EmergencE/Y Virtual Conference.* July 2021.

1. **AWARDS AND HONORS**

**Academy of American Poets/Laurie Mansell Reich Award,** Pittsburgh, PA *Apr. 2020, 2021*

Winner – Awarded in Spring 2020 and Spring 2021 as a part of Chatham University MFA Creative Writing Awards and had original poems entitled “Henry County” and “On Learning” published on poets.org.

**Word Circus Poetry Reading Series**, Pittsburgh, PA *Oct. 2019 – May 2021*

Guest Reader – Hosted as poetry reader during Word Circus monthly poetry reading series put on

by Chatham University MFA Program.

**Word-Wide: A Multilingual Reading,** Pittsburgh, PA *Oct. 2020*

Guest Reader – Hosted as poetry reader during a bilingual reading event.

**Teaching Assistant Fellowship,** Pittsburgh, PA *Aug. 2020*

Recipient – Selected for and awarded a fellowship from Chatham University MFA Program through

a partnership with Words Without Walls.

**Alpha Delta Lambda chapter of Sigma Tau Delta**, Pittsburgh, PA *Mar. 2020*

New Member – Inducted in Spring 2020 into the Honors Society.

**Disaster Relief Support**, Rome, GA *Nov. 2016 – Jan. 2017*

Fundraiser – Raised NZ$13,000 (US$8,800) for earthquake disaster following the 7.8 magnitude

quake in the Kaikoura area of New Zealand.

1. **PUBLICATIONS**

*[Copies of print publications or links to online publications listed below can be sent upon request.]*

**Published Poet,** Various Journals *Feb. 2018 – Present*

* *Poets.org,* May 2021*;* “On Learning”
* *Flyover Country,* December 2021; “Exodus into Suburbia”
* *Gargoyle Magazine,* July 2020; “nikau lodge”
* *Poets.org,* May 2020*; “*Henry County
* *PacificREVIEW,* Feb. 2020; “to move on from a man you love, throw out everything that reminds you of him”
* *The Perch Magazine,* Aug. 2019; “in the coffee/tea kitchen”
* *The Social Justice Review,* July 2019; “Poem for Hannah”
* *The Perch Journal,* March 2019; “Florida”
* *Burnt Pine Magazine,* Jan 2019; “These Things”
* *The Scrib Arts Journal,* Dec. 2018; “memories in Wellington”, “Hillsboro House”
* *Internet Void,* July 2018; “Spinning Stars”
* *Havik Anthology*, May 2018; “Earthquake”
* *Jenny Mag,* April 2018; “Norfolk Pine”
* *Buddy. A Lit Zine,* March 2018; “lost”

**Journalist,** Various Locations *Aug. 2018 – Jan. 2020*

* *Northside Chronicle*, Pittsburgh, PA
* *WildArk*, Atlanta, GA
* *Rome News-Tribune*, Rome, GA
* *Calhoun Times,* Calhoun, GA