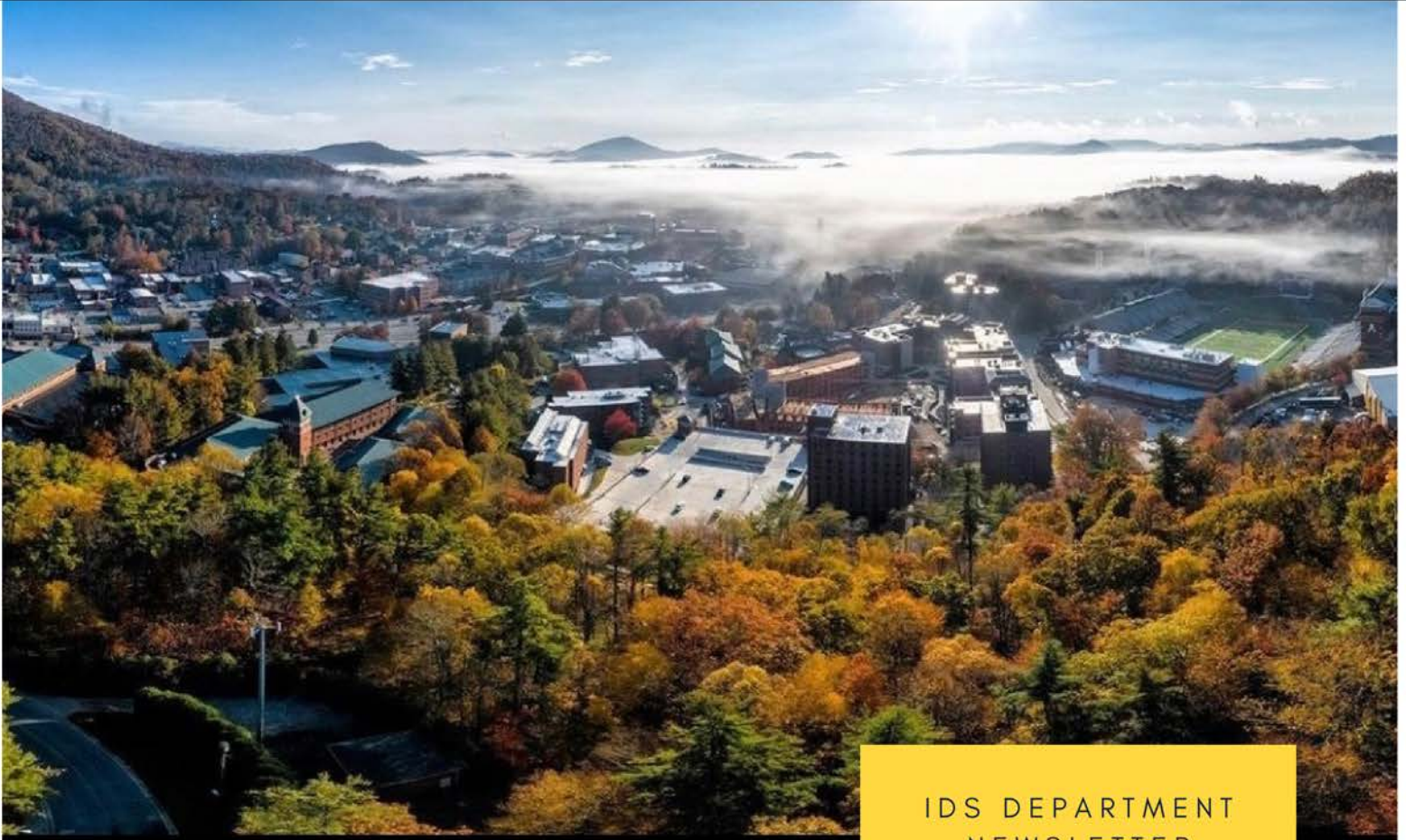


# IDS DEPARTMENT Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2023

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1



## A WORD FROM THE DEPARTMENT CHAIR

DR. MARIA PRAMAGGIORE

Welcome to the Fall, IDS Colleagues!

I'm delighted we're continuing this recent tradition of the IDS newsletter to showcase the amazing teaching, research, mentoring, and community engagement that you make happen in this department! The first-year chair honeymoon may be nearing an end, but I'm looking forward to a busy and productive sophomore year with IDS colleagues and friends.

*Maria*

IDS DEPARTMENT  
NEWSLETTER

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# FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

## TOM HANSELL

<https://ecoartspace.org/Blog/13248789>

- Tom Hansell was interviewed and featured by EcoArtSpace in an article named "Streams of Water, Songs of Honor: Tom Hansell's collaborative film process turns refuse into beauty."
- Tom Hansell's collaborative process within rural communities has been creating an impact on North Carolina and is now expanding to Utah. Through experimental film, live performances, and soundscapes, Tom explores the implications of plastic waste in these regions, shedding light on the intersection of nature and culture.
- This interview highlights Tom's Project ***The Ancient New*** that brings together artists, community members, and organizations in the New River Valley to explore the historic and contemporary influences on the riverway environment and local communities
- It also highlights Tom's films such as "Does Water Die," "The Trash Trout Motion Picture Show," "Benthic Salvage," and "After Coal" and the impact they have had
- Tom recently collaborated with the Moab community on a residency project. In which they explored waste-related issues, including the legacy of uranium mining and waste disposal challenges posed by tourism

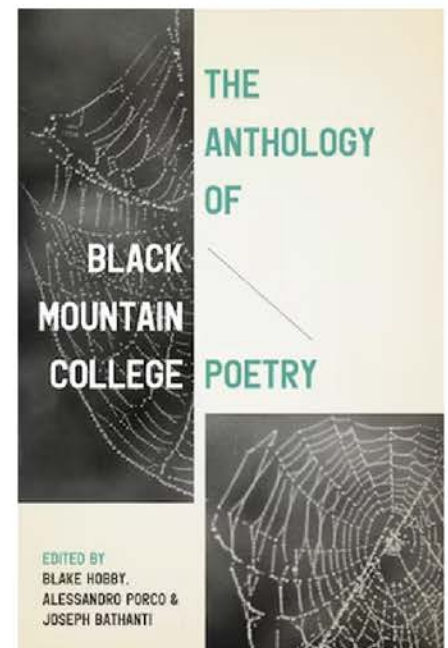


## JOSEPH BATHANTI

- ***Sempre Fidele & Other Poems*** - a bilingual edition of Joseph Bathanti's Italian American Pittsburgh poems, translated into Italian by Marina Morbiducci and Darcy DiMona - will be published by Bordighera Press in the fall of 2024.
- Also forthcoming in the fall of 2024, from the University of North Carolina Press, is ***The Anthology of Black Mountain College Poetry***, co-edited by Joseph Bathanti, along with Blake Hobby and Alex Porco

<https://uncpress.org/book/9781469641133/the-anthology-of-black-mountain-college-poetry/>

- Joseph Bathanti's novella, ***The Stranger*** - the lone finalist in the Fugere Prize competition for novellas, sponsored by Regal House Publishing - will be published by Regal House in 2024.
- ***Light at the Seam***, by Joseph Bathanti, won the 2023 Brockman-Campbell Award, given annually by the North Carolina Poetry Society, for the best book of poetry published by a NC poet in the previous year. It also won the 2022 Roanoke Chowan Award, given annually by the North Carolina Literary and Historical Association.



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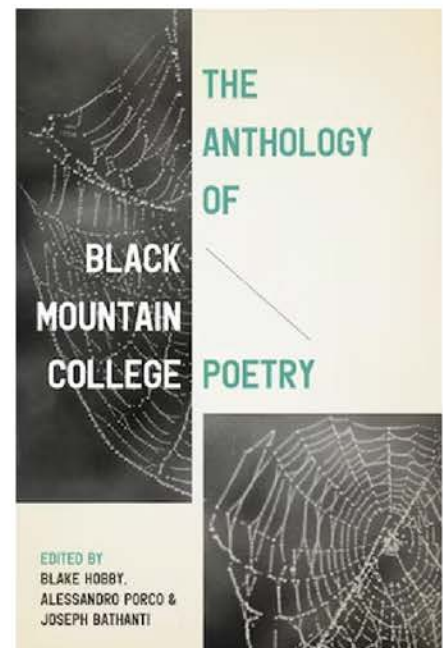


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# STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

"My name is Cooper Murray. I am currently a Junior at App State studying Public and Applied History, and more importantly a PROUD third-year Wataugan! I am currently serving my second year as the Appalachian State University Residence Hall Association's (RHA) National Communications Coordinator (NCC). As the NCC, I co-lead the App State delegation to any conferences put on by our Regional and National affiliations. I am currently preparing to represent the App State on-campus residents at the Regional Leadership Conference at the University of South Carolina! Through my years as the NCC, I have been given the opportunity to advocate for the residents of App State. I get to fight to improve their everyday lives by working with University Housing to provide needed resources. Watauga Residential College has helped me grow by encouraging healthy discussion and community building, both of which have proved invaluable in my work as a Student Leader at App State!"



**Cooper Murray**  
Public and Applied History

## **Taylor Alexis Young** Watauga Residential College

Watauga Residential College senior, and Music Therapy major, Taylor Alexis Young, was granted a full scholarship this past summer to the prestigious Juniper Institute at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst where she studied a week with renowned poet, Mahogany L. Browne.

## **Key Hatch** Watauga Residential College

"My name is Key Hatch and I am a student of the Watauga Residential College, as well as an Environmental Science major! This summer I participated in hydrologic field research on the North Slope of Alaska with the Department of Geological and Environmental Sciences. I lived at the beautiful Toolik Field Station for a month while my team and I studied different patterns of water release from climate change-induced permafrost thaw. This is a paid research opportunity funded by an NSF grant, which I applied to work on in the fall of 2021, my first semester of college. Overall, this experience was deeply educational and impactful for me, and I cannot wait to go back next summer!"



# UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPEN HOUSE

OCTOBER 7

Sanford Hall Ground Floor  
9 A.M.- 1 P.M.

## CAS STAFF AND FACULTY AWARDS CEREMONY

November 1, 2023

Parkway Ballroom (Room 420), Plemmons Student Union

Come support our IDS colleagues who have been nominated:

- Jim Burniston—CAS Outstanding Staff Member Award
- Tom Hansell—CAS Outstanding Engagement Award
- Jess Martell—CAS Strickland Award for Outstanding Junior Faculty Research
- Ann Pegelow Kaplan is nominated for Outstanding Faculty Advisor, which is awarded at a different ceremony!)

**RSVP**, using [this form](#) by October 18.

**PLEASE NOTE:** the IDS department meeting has been rescheduled for Wednesday, November 8 at 12-1.30 in the Great Hall so department faculty can attend the CAS ceremony.

## THOUGHTS FROM YOUR GA

Hi everyone! For those who haven't met me yet, I am Lakota Grindstaff, the new GA for Interdisciplinary studies this year. I am new to App State, as I graduated Elon University in May and am now studying to get my MBA in International Business here. I am looking forward to meeting you all and working with you! Feel free to reach out and send me items for the newsletter!

Email me at :  
[Grindstafflf@appstate.edu](mailto:Grindstafflf@appstate.edu)



## NEXT SUMMER: DR. JESSICA MARTELL WILL CO-LEAD A STUDY ABROAD EXPERIENCE CALLED HUMAN RIGHTS AND PEACEBUILDING IN IRELAND & NORTHERN IRELAND



May 28-June 16, 2024  
Summer Session 1  
6.0 Credit Hours

<https://www.belindawalzer.com/study-abroad-su24.html>

**In this program**, students will study how societies once divided by intense conflict come together once the violence is over. We will visit former conflict zones, peace walls, and other cultural sites in Dublin, Belfast, and Derry/Londonderry. Students will witness how legacies of conflict and reconciliation are etched into everyday spaces, such as the walls and murals of Belfast's sectarian neighborhoods, the elegant curves of Derry's Peace Bridge, and the grand lobby of Dublin's General Post Office, the site of the 1916 Easter Rising. In post-conflict zones where there may be no shared narrative about what happened, it is critical that we listen to multiple viewpoints, dwell in gray areas, and acknowledge differing opinions even in the search for consensus. Students will be encouraged to reflect and think critically about historical controversies, learn about the delicate process of peace-building, and appreciate the importance of trust and tolerance in divided political settings.