



*The 9th Annual*  
**Undergraduate  
Writing Symposium**

Sun., March 26, 3–7 p.m.  
John Seigenthaler Center

writing  
studio



VANDERBILT  
UNIVERSITY

**3:00 p.m.**

**Opening**

Seigenthaler: Lecture Hall 116  
Gary Jaeger, Director of the Writing Studio

**3:20-4:20 p.m. Session One**

**Health, Care, and Society**

Curb Center: Yamada Conference Room 146A  
Panel Chair **Tara McKay**

**The DREAM Act and Its Implications on the Health of Undocumented Youths**  
Giovanna Pires, Class of 2017

**The Obstacle Course of Public Assistance: Exposing the Inefficiencies of Public Assistance for Low-Income Seniors and Adults with Disabilities in Tennessee**  
Lauryn Hardy, Class of 2018

**The Concussion Crisis: How Do We Save America's Young Athletes?**  
Chris St. Clair, Class of 2018

**Justice Too Long Delayed: Law, Policy, and Activism**

Writing Studio: Room 106B  
Panel Chair **Emily Nacol**

**White Democracy and the 2016 Election**  
Jackson Winfrey, Class of 2017

**Rhetorical Analysis of Lyndon B. Johnson's "We Shall Overcome" Speech**  
Patrick Mills, Class of 2020

**Demands for Racial Justice: A Critical Analysis**  
Jaymee Cole, Class of 2017

**Meaning in the Ancient Italian Peninsula**

Seigenthaler: Lecture Hall 116  
Panel Chair **Betsey Robinson**

**A City Decorated with Clues: An Exploration of Roman Graffiti**  
Maggie Cassidy, Class of 2020

**The Erosion of Masculinity in Ancient Rome**  
Isabella Hancock, Class of 2018

**Representations and Ritual: The Lararia of Pompeii's Region IX**  
Cates Saleeby, Class of 2020

**Making Sense of Conflict and Failure**

Seigenthaler: Conference Room 106  
Panel Chair **Thomas Schwartz**

**The Case for Public Interpretive Power**  
Scott Kim, Class of 2019

**Operation Rolling Thunder — A Failure in Flight**  
Amanda Taylor, Class of 2020

**Contextualizing Al-Shabaab: A Normative Framework for Understanding the Development of Somalia's Deadliest Terror Organization**  
Nicole Rakusin, Class of 2017

**Creative Writing Panel: The Family**

Seigenthaler: Classroom 109  
Panel Chair **Gary Jaeger**

**Shabbat Shalom**  
Alex Wolfe, Class of 2018

**Paint Me a Picture of Silver Bay**  
Arianna Yeatts-Lonske, Class of 2017

**What Do You Men Come Here For?**  
Wyatt Prominski, Class of 2017

**4:30-5:30 p.m. Session Two**

**Knowing Whom, What, and How to Care**

Curb Center: Yamada Conference Room 146A  
Panel Chair **John Bradley**

**Fighting Tumors Up-Close & Personal: How Nanotechnology is Bringing Fiction to Life**  
Jason Thome, Class of 2017

**A Critical Analysis of Spirituality at the Bedside**  
Nicole Rakusin, Class of 2017

**Representing Autism: An Analysis of Faulkner's Benjy and Haddon's Christopher**  
Allison Beers, Class of 2017

## Session Two Continued

### Perspectives on Exclusion, Inclusion, and Community

Writing Studio: Room 106B

Panel Chair **Jeff Shenton**

#### Radical Reconstruction of Intersectional Moral Authority: Harriet Jacobs and Southern White Women

**Alyssa Blanchard**, Class of 2017

#### Ta-Nehisi Coates' Subtle Sexism

**Kelsea Flynn**, Class of 2018

#### What is Black Vandy: Minority Communities at Vanderbilt and Beyond

**Cara London**, Class of 2019

**Sasha Whitley**, Class of 2019

**Tia Kellman**, Class of 2019

### Making Meaning through Symbols and Praxis

Seigenthaler: Lecture Hall 116

Panel Chair **Sandy Solomon**

#### Heidegger's Concepts Through Everyday Experiences

**Jiayi Hu**, Class of 2017

#### The Shaded Hulk

**Lydia Yousief**, Class of 2017

#### Music as an Integral and Cross-Cultural Symbol: An Interview with My Dad

**Matthew Shorten**, Class of 2020

### Literary Reflections / Reflection on Literature: Life, Death, Truth

Seigenthaler: Conference Room 106

Panel Chair **Rick Hillis**

#### Contextualizing Death and Religion through Sleep in "Gilead"

**William Hiser**, Class of 2019

#### Do Not Stand at My Grave and Weep

**Steven Yang Yue Heng**, Class of 2020

#### "Family Resemblance" and other poems

**Lisa Muloma**, Class of 2017

### Creative Writing Panel: Ending Life and After

Seigenthaler: Classroom 109

Panel Chair **Beth Estes**

#### Grammostola rosea

**Mary Beth Schatzman**, Class of 2017

#### Howling Wind

**Yuzhou Huang**, Class of 2019

#### A Haunting Specter

**Heather Jackson**, Class of 2017

**5:40 p.m.**

### Closing Remarks

**Dean Vanessa Beasley**, Dean of the Ingram

Seigenthaler: Lecture Hall 116

**6:00-7:00 p.m. Reception for the Panelists and Guests**

Seigenthaler Center Rotunda



## Special Thanks and Acknowledgements

*The following students were selected to participate in the symposium but were unable to attend:*

Jacob Edwards  
Jake Horvitz

*Special thanks to our outside readers:*

Chris Wells  
RJ Boutelle  
Katie Foster  
Faith Barter  
Thomas Dabay  
Andrea Hearn  
Catesby Yant

*Additional special thanks to:*

Sandy Solomon Rick Hilles  
Tara McKay Emily Nacol  
Betsey Robinson Thomas Schwartz  
Darrell Soloman, Creative Services  
Ronnie Pepper, Campus Copy  
Beth Estes, A&S Writing Fellow  
The Writing Studio Staff



**217 Commons Center**

Sunday 1:00-10:00 PM  
Monday 3:00-10:00 PM  
Tuesday 3:00-10:00 PM

**1801 Edgehill Avenue**

Monday 9:00 AM-5:00 PM  
Tuesday 9:00 AM-5:00 PM  
Wednesday 9:00 AM- 10:00  
PM  
Thursday 9:00 AM- 10:00 PM  
Friday 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

[www.vanderbilt.edu/writing](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/writing)

Gary Jaeger, Director  
John Bradley, Assistant Director  
Jeff Shenton, Assistant Director

**Come visit us at 1801 Edgehill Avenue or Commons Center 217!**