

Yvette Benavides, MFA

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Main Building, Room 227D

Professor of English and Creative Writing
Department of English, Drama, and Mass Communication
Our Lady of the Lake University
411 SW 24th St.
San Antonio, TX 78207-4689
(210) 431-6955

Book Public

Texas Public Radio
321 W. Commerce St.
San Antonio, TX 78205
(210) 614-8977

Editor-at-Large
Trinity University Press
One Trinity Place
San Antonio, Texas 78212
(210) 999-8884

Teaching Experience

Professor of English and Creative Writing
Our Lady of the Lake University, San Antonio, TX
(1995-present)

Instructor of English
Laredo Community College, Laredo, TX
(1990-1995)

Education

The University of Texas, El Paso
Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing –An Online/Bilingual Creative Writing Program

The University of Texas, Austin
Master of Arts in English Literature (Concentration in Language and Linguistics)
Graduate Opportunity Fellow

The University of Texas, Austin, Texas
Bachelor of Arts in English

Awards

- Fellowship USC Annenberg Center for Health Journalism Impact Fund: “Healthcare Barriers for Hispanic Children with Type 2 Diabetes “(Radio documentary in English and Spanish for Texas Public Radio and Radio Bilingüe January-July 2022)
- Editor—*La Línea* Spanish-language podcast for Texas Public Radio (Spring Summer 2022)
- Grant--*Living Downstream* podcast: “Degrees of Injustice: The Social Inequities of Urban Heat Islands” (Radio documentary for Northern California Public Media September 2021) Note: Regional Murrow for *Living Downstream* podcast May 2022
- Knight Foundation Fellowship with PRX on podcasting (February 2020)
- PMJA (Public Media Journalists Association --formerly PRNDI) first place award (commentary/opinion category) for “The Human Cost of a Broken Border” (Texas Public Radio June 2020)
- PRNDI (Public Radio News Directors’ Association) first place award (commentary/opinion category) for “In Plain Sight: Sexual Harassment in Places We Thought Were Safe” (Texas Public Radio June 2018)
- First Amendment Award—Society of Professional Journalists Forth Worth Chapter (commentary/opinion category) for “In Plain Sight: Sexual Harassment in Places We Thought Were Safe” (Texas Public Radio May 2018)
- Scripps Howard Institute of Entrepreneurial Journalism Fellowship at the Walter J. Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication (January 2018)
- Artist Foundation of San Antonio—Literary Arts Grant (2016)
- Stell-Ball Award for Teaching Excellence at Our Lady of the Lake University (2017 and 2015)
- Graduate Student of the Year University of Texas at El Paso (2014)
- Lone Star Award—Houston Press Club. Best Talk Show category for “Texas Matters” (co-host) (2008)
- Meritorious Service Award from Sigma Tau Delta, International English Honor Society (May 2006)
- Recipient of the Student Orientation Leader Favorite Faculty Award (2005)
- Recipient of the 2004-2005 Francine Fleming Award for Exemplary Faculty Service

A Selection of Editorial and Media Presentations and Publications

- Host and producer of *Book Public* podcast from Texas Public Radio
- Editor-at-Large Trinity University Press—Editor of *Tinta*, a creative nonfiction series focusing on the writing of Mexican and Mexican American Authors
- Special Features Editor *Aster[ix] Journal*
- Member Editorial Board *Story* magazine

- *San Antonio 365* (co-authored with David Martin Davies) Trinity University Press June 2020
- Covid-19 commentary series on Texas Public Radio (March-June 2020)
- Host, co-writer, co-producer--Texas Public Radio Tricentennial Minutes (one-minute this-day-in-history spots) aired daily in 2018 –Note a total of 260 researched, written, produced presentations (throughout 2018)
- *San Antonio Secret History*—Editor (2018)
- Review of *The Dutch House* by Ann Patchett in the *Austin Chronicle* (October 6, 2019)
- Presenter: Symposium on Ana Castillo’s “Ana Castillo’s *Black Dove*” Trinity University (September 22, 2018)
- Presenter: Symposium on Rudolfo Anaya’s *Bless Me Última* Trinity University (February 17, 2018)
- Presenter: Black History Month—PBS Dream Week presentation of “The Life of Lorraine Hansberry” (January 15, 2018)
- Host of “Radio Ambulante,” a Spanish-language, limited-run series on Texas Public Radio KTPD 89.3 FM in Del Rio, TX (Fall 2017)
- Contributor to weekly radio show “Texas Matters” on Texas Public Radio (1999-Present)
- Book Critic *San Antonio Express News* (1998-present)
- Various articles in *Conexión* (a bilingual newspaper in San Antonio, Texas) and the *Austin Chronicle*
- Contributing columnist for *The Rivard Report*
- Weekly columnist for *Plaza de Armas* (2010)
- Commentator on “Latino USA,” “The Texas Standard,” “Fronteras” and “The Texas Standard” on Texas Public Radio (2015-present)
- “Dar a Luz: The Birth of a Mother” in *Latina* magazine (May 2001)

A Selection of Recent Book Reviews in the *San Antonio Express News*

- *The Stone World* (March 2022)
- *Martita, I Remember You/Martita Te Recuerdo* (September 2022)
- *Mona at Sea* (August 2021)
- *Paris without Her* (April 2021)
- *The Duchess of Angus* (June 2020)
- *Things You Would Know If You Grew Up Around Here* (June 2020)
- *A Plain of Snakes* by Paul Theroux (October 6, 2019)
- *Dominicana* by Angie Cruz (September 13, 2019)
- *Silver, Sword, Stone* by Marie Arana (September 8, 2019)
- *A Dream Called Home* by Reyna Grande (October 7, 2018)
- *Crux* by Jean Guerrero (September 2, 2018)
- *The Traveling Feast* by Ric Bass (July 23, 2018)
- *Recovering: Intoxication and Its Aftermath* by Leslie Jamison (June 24, 2018)
- *The Boy with the Perpetual Nervousness* by Graham Caveney (April 1, 2018)
- *The House of Broken Angels* by Luis Alberto Urrea (March 31, 2018)

- *Bad Jobs: Poor Choices* by JR Helton (March 9, 2018)
- *Stranger: The Challenge of a Latino Immigrant in the Trump Era* (March 1, 2018)
- *Texas Blood* Roger D. Hodge (November 20, 2017)
- *All the Agents and Saints* by Stephanie Elizondo Griest (September 4, 2017)
- *Dear Friend from My Life, I Write to You in Your Life* by Yiyun Li (June 19, 2017)
- *Anything is Possible* by Elizabeth Strout (May 17, 2017)
- *All these Wonders* by Catherine Burns (March 29, 2017)
- *A Rather Haunted Life: A Biography of Shirley Jackson* by Ruth Franklin (November 17, 2016)
- *In the Country We Love* by Diana Guerrero (May 28, 2016)

A Selection of Additional Author Interviews and Commentaries on Texas Public Radio

- Interview with Paul Theroux October 6, 2019
- Interview with Angie Cruz September 13, 2019
- Interview with Bridget Farr September 6, 2019
- Commentary "Spanish for President" on Texas Public Radio July 2019
- Commentary "Hispanic Semantics" on Texas Public Radio February 2019
- "The Story of 2018 in Two Words: 'Toxic' and 'Misinformation'" op-ed Los Angeles *Times* December 2019
- Interview with Julissa Arce Texas Public Radio September 14, 2018
- Interview with Luis Alberto Urrea March 16, 2018
- Interview with Jorge Ramos March 2, 2018
- Commentary: Word-of-the-Year-Texas Public Radio December 8, 2018
- Commentary: "Asylum Seekers Find Help in San Antonio" Texas Public Radio November 2, 2018
- Commentary: "Indigenous Literatures Matter" Texas Public Radio October 12, 2018
- Commentary: On *The Fabulous Ribkins* by Ladee Hubbard Texas Public Radio April 6, 2018
- Commentary "Parkland Shooting: Marching for Our Lives" April 2, 2018
- Interview with Ann Patchett February 17, 2017
- Interview Sandra Cisneros September 6, 2016
- Interview Lila Downs August 16, 2016
- Commentary: "In Plain Sight: Sexual Harassment in Places We Thought Were Safe" November 17, 2017
- Commentary on "The Children of Hurricane Harvey" December 15, 2017
- Commentary—review of *The Talented Ribkins* by Ladee Hubbard April 6, 2018
- Commentary--review of *All the Agents and Saints* by Stephanie Elizondo Griest September 15, 2017
- Commentary on "Despacito" June 23, 2017

Other Recent Publications (Prose and Short fiction)

- "Tender Age" short story in *Asterix Journal* October 2019

- "It's All in the Cards" craft essay in *Creative Nonfiction* magazine October 2019
- "The Story of 2018 in Two Words: 'Toxic' and 'Misinformation'" —Los Angeles *Times* December 8, 2018
- "Just Be Yourself and Teach Us" (Disability Studies) *Assay: Journal of Creative Nonfiction* November 2018
- "From Memoir to #Metoo" *Assay: Journal of Creative Nonfiction* November 2018
- "On Collections in Creative Nonfiction" *Assay: Journal of Creative Nonfiction* November 2018
- "Texas Ebony" short story published in *Fifth Wednesday Journal* Fall 2018
- "Of Kittens and Cages: Back at Immigration Court" *Aster[ix] Journal* July 2018 (nominated for "The Best of the Web" award).
- "Attachments" *short story in Bellevue Literary Review* Fall 2015
- "Rolodex of Saints" short story in *Huizache* magazine Fall 2015
- "Fallout" short story in *SOL Writing Mexico in English* Spring 2014
- "Swim" short story in *Linden Avenue literary journal* Spring 2014

University and Community Service

- Member of Advisory and Programming Committees of the San Antonio Book Festival (2012-present)
- Editorial Board *Story Magazine*
- Special Features Editor *Aster[ix]*
- Judge--Fiction Contest San Antonio Book Festival (2012-2018)
- Faculty Assembly Recording Secretary OLLU (2014-present)
- Faculty Advisor/Editor *The Thing Itself* literary journal (1998-2005; 2016; 2017; 2018)
- Faculty Advisor –Grammar Gurus OLLU (2016-2018)
- Point of Contact for Graduate Council of the MA/MFA program in Literature Creative Writing and Social Justice (2015-2017)
- Lead Researcher and Writer—QUEST—Quality Enhancement Plan 2011-2013
- Strategic Planning Committee on Campus Vibrancy OLLU (2019, 2018, 2017)
- Co-Editor *Passages* (with the Congregation of the Sisters of Divine Providence) 2018
- Editor *Carriers of the Mission* OLLU (2005-2009)
- Editor *Encuentros de Mujeres* OLLU (2004-2005)
- Poetry judge Young Pegasus (2000-2005)

Courses Taught

- Sports Writing
- Science Writing
- Narrative Journalism and Magazine Writing
- Digital Storytelling
- Entrepreneurial Journalism

- The Editor: Editing for Creative Writers
- Grammar
- Readings in Creative Nonfiction
- Literary Editing and Publication
- Fiction Workshop
- Creative Nonfiction—The Personal Essay
- Creative Nonfiction—The Lyric Essay
- Creative Nonfiction—The Flash Essay
- Introduction to Fiction
- Rhetoric and Composition
- Language and Society
- General Linguistic Theory
- Introduction to Mexican American Literature
- Introduction to Fiction
- Introduction to Poetry and Drama
- American Literature I and II
- Composition I
- Composition II

Other

Contributor THREAD Multimedia Storytelling—Yale University May 2019

Participant NonfictionNOW conference Phoenix Arizona Oct 31-Nov. 2, 2018

Participant Creative Nonfiction Conference May 2018 Pittsburgh, PA May 2018

Participant StoryCenter Digital Storytelling Webinar Series, February 20, 2018

Participant at the Yale Writers' Conference New Haven, CT in June 2016

Contributor at Sewanee Writers' Conference in July 2016 Sewanee, TN

Fellow Social Justice Training Institute Long Beach, CA in December 2015

Completed Master's classes in creative writing under Virgil Suarez, Judith Ortiz Cofer and Carmen Tafolla 1996 and 1997.

Links to book reviews, columns, articles and all published work available on request.