

FACULTY, CURRENT & RECENT

- **Sheila Callaghan** (staff writer for *United States of Tara*)
- **Charles Gaines** (*Edith Wharton's Summer, Pumping Iron, Pumping Iron II: The Women, Stay Hungry*)
- **Helena Kriel** (*Skin, Kama Sutra: A Tale of Love*)
- **Brad Riddell** (*American Pie Presents Band Camp, Slap Shot Three: The Junior League*, sequels to franchise films such as *Josie and the Pussycats* and *Road Trip*)
- **Charles Schulman** (*The Apollo Comedy Hour*)
- **Sam Zalutsky** (*You Belong to Me, SuperStore, Stefan's Silver Bell, Boy's Briefs, Smear*)

RECENT GUESTS

- Archie Borders (*Paper Cut*)
- Sabrina Dhawan (*Monsoon Wedding*)
- Rebecca Gilman (*Spinning into Butter*)
- Jonas Goodman (*We Don't Live Here Anymore*)
- Ed Hart (*Diminished Capacity*)
- Elliot Greenbaum (*Assisted Living*)
- Gil Holland (*The War Boys*)
- David Kipen (*The Schreiber Theory*)
- Bobby Moresco (*Crash, Million Dollar Baby*)
- Marsha Norman (*'night, Mother*)
- Kevin Willmott (*C.S.A.: The Confederate States of America*)

Sena Jeter Naslund, Program Director

author of *Ahab's Wife, Four Spirits, Abundance: A Novel of Marie Antoinette* and *Adam & Eve*

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For faculty biographies, residency dates, and enrollment information see spalding.edu/mfa

WHAT OUR GRADUATES SAY

The program was a joy for me. I worked on five projects, two of which I eventually sold or optioned. The environment created at Spalding is incredibly supportive and productive.

—David B. Carren,
Associate Professor,

University of Texas-Pan American,
winner, Act I: ION Television Movie Contest

I was a writer when I started. Now, after the Spalding experience, I'm a much better writer. If you want an intellectual and artistic workout—Spalding is the place. The program is rigorous and exciting. It's a terrific program that has informed my teaching.

—Wayne Crawford,

Faculty, University of North Carolina
School for the Arts

The MFA in Screenwriting program at Spalding University is both rigorous and exciting. I believe that working with qualified mentors, who care about my critical and creative work, has made all the difference in the world.

—Keith Nixon,

Script Analyst, Hart/Lunsford Pictures

Every day of the residency was more fruitful and inspiring than the last! The cross-genre, multidiscipline approach to writing is nothing short of brilliant.

—Kaylene Johnson, Alaska,

author of bestselling *Sarah Palin: How a Hockey Mom Turned the Political Establishment Upside Down* and *A Tender Distance: Raising My Sons in Alaska*

The structure of the program is brilliant. Overall I would rate this MFA an A+. I made the right decision.

—Linda Busby Parker, Alabama,
author of *Seven Laurels*

Scholarships and Assistantships Available

With roots dating back to 1814, Spalding University is fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. In 1971, Spalding University became an independent, urban, coeducational, nonprofit, private institution. The Spalding brief-residency MFA in Writing Program began in 2001.

brief-residency Master of Fine Arts in Writing



screenwriting

"A Top 10 low-residency MFA Program"
—Poets & Writers

 **Spalding University**
Louisville, Kentucky
www.spalding.edu/mfa

MFA PROGRAM: SCREENWRITING

The unique Spalding University Master of Fine Arts degree combines traditional on-campus classes with nontraditional distance learning. The on-campus experience initiating each semester lasts ten days; after returning home (where writers actually do their writing), students use long-distance delivery techniques to work with their mentors in a way that is intense, individually tailored, and one-on-one with their expert teacher. In a brief-residency program, students write more scripts and those scripts receive more individual attention from the instructor than in traditional programs located in Los Angeles or New York. For film professionals who wish to earn a terminal degree, the Spalding MFA offers the perfect course of study.

ACCELERATION FOR PROFESSIONALS

Students who have had a film produced may wish to inquire about completing the program in three semesters instead of four.

DESIGNING A COURSE OF STUDY

During the Spalding residency, screenwriters attend workshop discussions offering both peer and faculty feedback on scripts by workshop members. Students also attend lectures on the craft of screenwriting, view films and filmclips as the basis for discussion, hear readings by professional actors of student scripts, plan their future writing and reading/viewing in consultation with their mentor, and attend plenary lectures about principles that apply to all forms of creative writing. Residencies include a production component that gives students hands-on experience moving short scripts into actual films as they take turns assuming roles directing, acting, filming, and editing.

While residing at home, students send their mentors five installments of their work at regular

intervals. An installment typically consists of a student's original scripts—new and revised versions—and short critical essays focusing on their reading/viewing of professional scripts. Both the student's scripts and films selected for study may vary in length and mode, from very short to feature length, from thrillers to art films, from fantasy to documentaries, from comedies to tragedies. Students are encouraged to experiment in different modes.

Whether the student chooses to begin a semester in Louisville or abroad, all residencies provide an exciting learning environment and a nurturing community. Students form important friendships and professional connections among writers not only pursuing screenwriting but in our other areas of concentration—fiction, poetry, creative nonfiction, writing for children and young adults, and playwriting. All students participate in cross-genre reading and writing opportunities and in experiencing the interrelatedness of all the arts. Residencies provide the added stimulation of interacting with the local culture.

CHOOSING AMONG FALL, SPRING AND SUMMER SEMESTERS

Students should choose a combination of spring/fall study if they

- wish to complete the program in two years
- prefer residencies in Louisville, a culturally rich, easily accessible American city
- choose to spend 25 hours a week on their studies

Students should choose summer study if they

- want to enrich their studies with international travel
- can participate in a residency more easily in summer than in spring or fall

- prefer a longer semester with a less intensive writing schedule at home (15 hours a week)
- would like to spread tuition costs over a longer period of time
- want to complete the program in four years

Students who wish to study in the longer semester without traveling abroad may attend the spring residency.

Students who mix the summer and spring/fall semesters can finish the program in about three years.

Designed for mature people who wish to obtain the MFA (a terminal degree, like the PhD), the Spalding program features intellectual stimulation, emotional support, and the opportunity to do a great deal of writing with individualized instruction from a professional teacher-writer. Our students and faculty come from all parts of the U.S. as well as some foreign countries. Our youngest entering student was twenty-two; our oldest graduate was eighty-two.

Summer residency destinations (past and upcoming) include London/Bath (2008), Barcelona (2009), Buenos Aires (2010), Rome/Tuscany (2011), and Paris (2012).

In addition to features discussed above, all the Spalding MFA semesters include

- the opportunity to apply for screenwriting scholarships/assistantships or federal student loans
- low student-faculty ratio
- a choice of housing accommodations

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Application deadlines are January 15 for the spring semester, February 1 for the summer semester, and July 1 for the fall semester.