

# THE KELLY WRITERS HOUSE



2008 Annual



Dear Friends of the Writers House,

Twelve years have passed since a small and committed group of Penn students, faculty, and staff imagined and built a new kind of campus space. Conceived in the communitarian spirit, the Writers House provides a warm and welcoming home within Penn's pre-professional culture for wild freethinkers, capacious scholars, voracious readers, and creative writers of all styles and stripes. Since its inception, this little project has grown in ways we could never have imagined, and our writing community now stretches across the country and beyond, connecting past, present, and future friends of the Writers House through the love and support of great writing.

But no matter how much we grow, the House will always be a place where people come to feel at home. A place where Max Apple's fiction students can take a break from class to grab coffee in the kitchen and discuss their favorite short stories. A place where middle-school kids come for "Write-on!" and stay to play chess with Penn students. A place where audiences remain long after readings end, munching on homemade treats and discussing poetry on the living room couches.

This has been a truly fantastic year at the Writers House. We commemorated the 50th anniversary of the U.S. publication of Vladimir Nabokov's *Lolita* with an eleven-hour marathon reading, fueled by a truck-stop feast taken straight from the novel's pages: ham and eggs, pie, ice cream sundaes, and endless candy. Pulitzer-prize winning cartoonist Art Spiegelman spoke to us about the difficult task of transcribing his father's Holocaust testimony and his own complicated reactions to 9/11. Long-time fiction instructor Max Apple and Faculty Director Al Filreis published books this year, and we celebrated each in grand style; Max's former students honored their old instructor in an Arts Café full of Hub-crafted paper apples, and Al's book party packed the House with friends and students both past and present.

This has also been a year full of innovative collaborations, with Penn partners and with friends from all over Philadelphia. Together with the Office of the Provost, we inaugurated the Writers without Borders series to bring to the Arts Café international writers whose work demands a global audience. The Common Press, our letterpress collaboration with the Van Pelt Library and the Fine Arts Program, hosted a workshop with Johanna Drucker, and our own 15th Room Press printed a series of fine letterpress editions of work by visiting poets. We produced a new podcast series, PoemTalk, in partnership with PennSound and the Poetry Foundation. And our collaborations with other departments in the University – the Creative Writing Program, the Jewish Studies Program, the Alice Paul Center, Civic House, and the Department of Romance Languages, among many others – have expanded the scope and reach of our mission, while bringing together new communities of writers and readers.

And we have you to thank – the bighearted and far-thinking alumni, Penn students and parents, audience members, Philadelphia poets, neighbors, and all our Writers House friends – for this successful experiment. Year after year, your enthusiasm and generosity have been instrumental in sustaining the Writers House and its mission; the large and loving community you've helped create is central in everything we do. Thank you again for all you do as a friend of the Writers House!

On behalf of the Writers House Planning Committee,



Jessica Lowenthal  
Director



Al Filreis  
Faculty Director  
Kelly Professor of English



# KWH PEOPLE

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## Staff

A varied crew of web experts, poets, burgeoning medievalists, and creative folks of all stripes, our staffers are ready to help with whatever task is at hand: they advertise and document our events, edit digital files, balance the budget, imagine elaborate happenings, and stock the dining room with homemade treats from the kitchen. (**Erin Gautsche**, our Program Coordinator, is famous across campus for preparing fancy receptions on a shoestring budget). This year our undergraduate staff members were Program Assistants **Sydney Baloue** (C'11), **Sean Breslin** (C'09), **Jill Budd** (C'09), **Rivka Fogel** (C'11), **Danny Goldstein** (C'08), **Josh Henkin** (C'10), and **Molly Johnsen** (C'10); Outreach Coordinator **Aichlee Bushnell** (C'09); Book Manager **Zachary Smith Ferris** (C'09); PR Assistant **Thomson Guster** (C'10); Calendar Designer **Jessica Haralson** (C'08); Speakeasy Coordinators **Lee Huttner** (C'10) and **Yumeko Kawano** (C'08); Development Assistant **Stephen Krewson** (C'10); Project Assistant **Kristen Martin** (C'11); Sound Technicians **James La Marre** (C'11) and **Michael Tom Vassallo** (C'08); Webmasters **Kathryn Lipman** (C'10), **Michelle Rajunov** (C'08), and **Christine Salvarani** (C'11); and Calendar Designer and Gallery Curator **Kaegan Sparks** (C'10). Our nonstudent staffers included four part-time assistants (**Sam Allingham**, **Elizabeth McDonnell**, **Peter Schwarz**, and **Maria Tessa Sciarrino**), Assistant Director for Development **John Carroll** (C'05), Program Coordinator **Erin Gautsche** (CGS'06), Director **Jessica Lowenthal** (GR'08), Faculty Director **Al Filreis**, and Assistant to the Faculty Director **Jamie-Lee Josselyn** (C'05).



*The 2007-2008 Kelly Writers House staff poses for its annual picture.*

## The Writers House Planning Committee

[writing.upenn.edu/wh/people/hub](http://writing.upenn.edu/wh/people/hub)

The Writers House Planning Committee – also known as “the Hub” – is the core group of writers and writing activists who serve as idea-machine and collective steward of the House. Hub members get involved in planning at all levels of the Writers House project. Our “PR hublet” (a subset of the Hub) developed an unusual advertising campaign for Paul Notzold’s cell-phone enabled “TXtual Healing” presentation: a mass text message announcement sent to friends, Hub member to Hub member and beyond. A food-savvy and civic-minded hublet organized our annual Thanksgiving potluck, combining a sumptuous meal for 75 with a successful book drive in support of Books Through Bars. Our fiction hublet coordinated a celebration of the short story: “Short Stories and Short Stacks,” which featured readings by Hub members and seemingly endless stacks of pancakes. Individual Hub members took lead roles in many KWH projects. **Thomson Guster** (C’10) organized a panel discussion of comics, inviting an artist and a critic to lead a conversation about graphic novels and other alternative narrative forms. **Yumeko Kawano** (C’08) and **Dan McIntosh** (C’09) coordinated a year’s worth of Speakeasy open mic nights and helped welcome a new crop of Writers House regulars by hosting a special Speakeasy for incoming freshmen. **Lee Huttner** (C’10) led a team of volunteers to design a KWH t-shirt, featuring lines of poetry “borrowed” from our upstairs library, and he worked with Professor **Emily Steiner**, the Undergraduate English Chair, to host a reading of new poetry inspired by Old English. **Eric Karlan** (C’09) invited Holocaust survivor **Leo Bretholz** to speak to us about his riveting memoir of survival, *Leap Into Darkness: Seven Years on the Run in Wartime Europe*. Helping plan and prepare programs, making soup and baking treats, introducing speakers and welcoming visitors to our space, Hub members contributed their energy and ideas throughout the year.



## Alumni

[writing.upenn.edu/wh/highlights/alumni.php](http://writing.upenn.edu/wh/highlights/alumni.php)

Alumni maintained a strong presence in the House this year, at Hub events and readings, board meetings and screenings, mentor lunches and industry talks, and we simply can’t imagine the House without their continued support and involvement. Over Homecoming weekend we welcomed former students of legendary Penn professor **Nora Magid** – **Michael Bamberger** (C’82), **Cynthia Kaplan** (C’85), and **Stephen Fried** (C’79) – for a lively discussion of memoir. On Alumni Day a group of poets including **Christina Davis** (C’93, G’93), **Michael Jennings** (C’71), **Jay Rogoff** (C’75), and **J. Allyn Rosser** (C’88, GR’91) convened to honor their former teacher **Dan Hoffman**, a long-time friend of the Writers House and founder of Penn’s Creative Writing Program. Other notable alumni visits this year included lunch talks with **Nancy Cordes** (C’95), who shared her experiences as a television news correspondent; **Beth Kephart** (C’82), who described the muddy history of the Schuylkill River; and **Caroline Tiger** (C’96), who talked as a freelance journalist about writing quirky books.

Alumni volunteered as mentors and met with students informally to give career advice and industry tips, and to exchange ideas about the writing life: **Randi Hutter Epstein** (C’84) shared her experience in medical journalism; **Julie Buxbaum** (C’99) chatted with students about the thrills and tribulations of leaving her law practice to devote herself to writing fulltime; **Kate Lee** (C’99) discussed how authors and agents work together; and **Lynn Rosen** (C’83) offered advice about everything from getting a book published to how to make contacts in the publishing industry. The relationships formed between alumni mentors and their mentees go beyond simple career advice; they provide a model for a life-long commitment to writing. The experience students receive through their work with alumni mentors helps remind them that their love for the written word connects them to a greater community, one that extends far beyond the walls of this little cottage on Locust Walk. If you’d like to volunteer as an alumni mentor, or to find out more about the program, visit



Top right: Seth Laracy, Zachary Smith Ferris and Matt Rosenbaum (from left to right) model the new Kelly Writers House t-shirt. Above: Writers House staff member Jamie-Lee Josselyn hands her watch to Faculty Director Al Filreis, a Kelly Writers House Fellows tradition.



Above: Grillmaster Sean Breslin cooked a variety of meats and non-meats at the Hub’s annual End-of-Year Party



## AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

The Writers House recognizes the achievements of several students and community members each year by awarding competitive prizes for writing-related projects. We could fill these awards five times over with our talented community!



Matt Abess, left, won the 2007-2008 Kerry Prize. Marvin Sackner, right, was one of the featured guests at the Kerry Prize program.

### The Kerry Prize: Matthew Abess (C'08)

*Suddenly Everyone Began Reading Aloud*

With support from the Center for Programs in Contemporary Writing (CPCW), **Matthew Abess** (C'08) spent the summer of 2006 in Miami at the Sackner Archive of Concrete & Visual Poetry, researching "concrete text-sound" poetry, focusing in particular on the work of innovative writer Bob Cobbing. Matthew's research culminated in two major projects: "Make Perhaps This Out Sense Of Can You," an exhibition of Cobbing's work at the Rosenwald Gallery of Penn's Van Pelt Dietrich Library; and "Suddenly Everyone Began Reading Aloud," a symposium at the Writers House in celebration of Cobbing, supported by the **Kerry Sherin Wright Prize**. "Suddenly Everyone Began Reading Aloud" featured performances by poets **Maggie O'Sullivan** and **cris cheek**, followed by a roundtable discussion with the archivist **Marvin Sackner**, poet-critic and Penn Professor **Charles Bernstein**, and Matthew himself.



Moira Moody, winner of the 2007-2008 Junior Fellows award, put together a scrapbook of writing about Philadelphia photography and artifacts.

### Writers House Junior Fellow: Moira Moody (C'06)

*Scrapbook: a project imagining Philadelphia*

In 2006, **Moira Moody** (C'06) served an apprenticeship through CPCW with writer **Beth Kephart** (C'82), who was working on a historical fiction piece. The apprenticeship deepened Moira's interest in Philadelphia as a literary and historical landscape, and she spent many happy hours delving into Philadelphia's plentiful archives. Moira's Junior Fellow project, "Scrapbook: a project imagining Philadelphia," was an extension of this work. Throughout the year, Moira invited Philadelphians – students, Hub members, local writers, alumni, and other friends and community members – to help build a literary "scrapbook" of the city, a collection of work written in response to historical artifacts. Visit the project website to tour poems, essays, stories, and photographs that document and re-imagine Philadelphia's rich history: [writing.upenn.edu/wh/projects/juniorfellow/scrapbook/](http://writing.upenn.edu/wh/projects/juniorfellow/scrapbook/).



Steve McLaughlin will use the Joan Harrison Award to produce 7-inch poetry records.

### Joan Harrison Award: Steve McLaughlin (C'08)

Thanks to the generosity of Joan Harrison (C'81), the Writers House offers a yearly stipend to support a student writer with financial need. This year's Harrison award winner is **Steve McLaughlin** (C'08), who proposed to use the Harrison award to press 7-inch records with a poem or two on each side; these will be – to quote Steve – "digital audio poems involving looping phrases (e.g. endlessly recursive clauses) and semi-randomly navigated graph structures."

### Eisenberg Fellowship: Alicia Puglionesi (C'09)

*God on the Brain*

Thanks to the generosity of **Lee Eisenberg** (C'68), CPCW sponsors an annual fellowship for writers of literary or "long-form" journalism. The winning piece is an ambitiously reported and publication-ready nonfiction article, judged on the merits of voice as well as substance. This year's winning piece, "God on the Brain," by **Alicia Puglionesi** (C'09), focused on the emerging field of "neurotheology," the study of correlations between neural phenomena and the subjective experiences of spirituality. Alicia presented excerpts from "God on the Brain" at the Writers House in April and participated in a panel discussion with Lee Eisenberg and Penn Professor **John Tresch**. "Is there a way for science to test the existence of God, or 'ultimate truth,' or any metaphysical tenet of human faith?" Puglionesi asked, sparking a riveting exploration of science and faith.



Alicia Puglionesi worked closely with former *Esquire* editor Lee Eisenberg on her nonfiction piece titled "God on the Brain."

## Writing Apprenticeships

[writing.upenn.edu/awards/apprenticeships.php](http://writing.upenn.edu/awards/apprenticeships.php)

Writing apprenticeships are made possible through a generous grant from **Reina Marin Bassini** (CW'72, GED'72) and **Emilio Bassini** (C'71, W'71, WG'73). Each year during the spring semester, CPCW hosts three writing apprenticeships, in which apprentices and their mentors work together on projects that are at the heart of the mentor's work as a practicing writer.

### 2008 Apprenticeships:

Mentor Robert Strauss and apprentice Sherene Joseph (C'09)

Mentor Mark Rosenthal and apprentice Hillary Levine (C'09)

Mentor Paul Hendrickson and apprentice Allison Stadd (C'09)

## Behrman Scholars:

### Aichlee Bushnell (C'09) & Rebecca Fogel (C'11)

The **Behrman Family Scholarship Fund for a Young Writer** provides three years of financial support for two undergraduate students who are involved in Writers House projects and programs. The scholarship fund was established thanks to a kind gift from **Grant Behrman** (WG'77) on behalf of his family. **Aichlee Buchnell** (C'09), our inaugural Behrman Scholar, has continued to work as the KWH Outreach Coordinator, organizing service projects that allow us to work with a variety of Philadelphia organizations. This year, Aichlee founded the Brave Star Collective, a literacy outreach program for Philadelphia-area high school girls. Our second Behrman Scholar, **Rebecca "Rivka" Fogel** (C'11), proved a significant member of the Writers House community during her freshman year. Rivka was recruited to Penn primarily because of the fine poems she had written while in high school, and since matriculating she has already taken a number of writing workshops and seminars, including courses with Professor Max Apple and Creative Writing Program Director Greg Djanikian. As a Writers House staff member, Rivka is helping to organize a new network of campus editors, and she works closely with Writers House Director Jessica Lowenthal in researching international authors to invite for the Writers without Borders series.

### Caterfino Scholar: Kristen Martin (C'11)

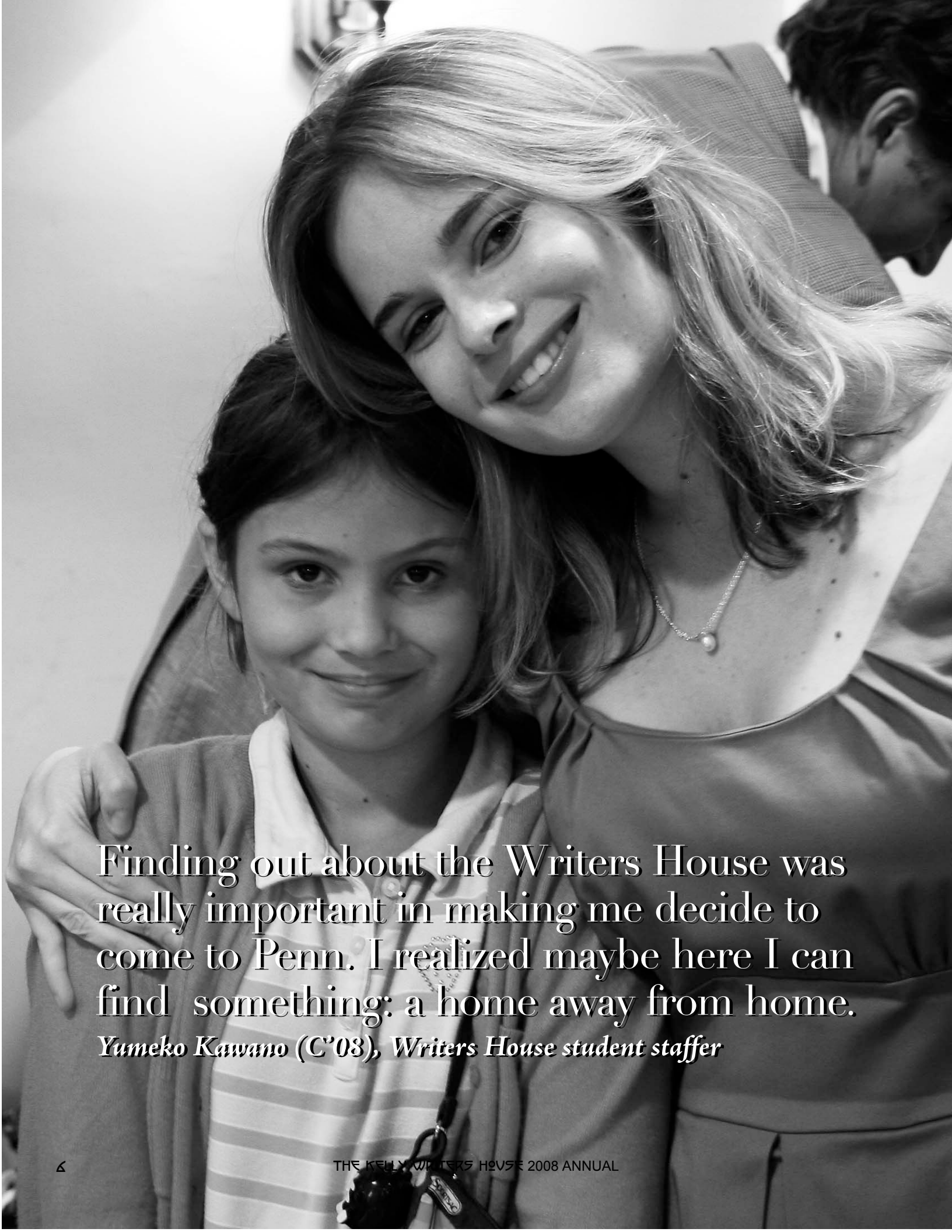
The **Douglas W. Caterfino Endowed Scholarship Fund for a Young Writer** provides financial support to an undergraduate student who is involved in Creative Writing workshops and seminars and is a member of Penn's extended writing community. The fund was created by **Elissa Shaw Caterfino** (C'83) in loving memory of **Douglas W. Caterfino** (W'83). The newest Caterfino scholar is Writers House staffer **Kristen Martin** (C'11), who is a general assignments writer and copy assistant at *The Daily Pennsylvanian*, and has contributed to *Penn Appétit*, Penn's food magazine. Through the Critical Writing Program Kristen is training to become a Peer Tutor in the Penn Writing Center, and she intends to major in Creative Writing. At the Writers House, she works alongside **Jamie-Lee Josselyn** (C'05), maintaining our publicity archive, researching alumni writers, and helping to keep the third floor of the Writers House running smoothly.



Kelly Writers House staff members Aichlee Bushnell (above) and Rivka Fogel (below) are provided with financial support from the Behrman Family Scholarship Fund for Young Writers.



Kelly Writers House staff member Kristen Martin was recently named the Douglas W. Caterfino Scholar.



Finding out about the Writers House was really important in making me decide to come to Penn. I realized maybe here I can find something: a home away from home.  
*Yumeko Kawano (C'08), Writers House student staffer*



## NEW INITIATIVES

The Writers House idea-machine is thriving. Our programs and projects remain on the cutting edge because creative writing activists, Hub members, external partners, and young writers help us dream up new projects every year, which are supported by a variety of funds, including the **Wexler Endowment Fund**, the **Gordon Walls '38 Creative Ventures Fund**, the **Faculty Director's Discretionary Fund** and our **General Endowment Fund**. Such funds enabled us this year to launch, among many new projects, four major new initiatives, including a podcast series, an international writers series, a re-vamped art gallery, and a literacy outreach project.

### PoemTalk podcast

[poemtalkatkw.h.blogspot.com](http://poemtalkatkw.h.blogspot.com)



A joint production of the **Kelly Writers House**, **PennSound** ([writing.upenn.edu/pennsound](http://writing.upenn.edu/pennsound)), and the **Poetry Foundation**, PoemTalk is a 30-minute radio/podcast series hosted by **Al Filreis**, in which four colleagues in the world of poetry collaborate on a close (but not too close) reading of a single poem. PoemTalk launched in December with an energetic discussion of "Between Walls," by William Carlos Williams, with Saigon-born poet **Linh Dinh**, poet and translator **Randall Couch**, and Writers House Director **Jessica Lowenthal** (GR'08). In another episode, **Tracie Morris** (the performer, musical poet, and CPCW Fellow in Poetics), **Kenny Goldsmith** (father of Ubuweb and proponent of "uncreative writing") and **Joshua Schuster** (poet, Penn grad, and founding Hub member) sounded off over sound poetry, examining Jaap Blonk's performance riff on the phrase *What the president will say and do*. Listeners all over the country have tuned in: after just six days linked to the Poetry Foundation site, the PoemTalk session on Rae Armantrout's "The Way" (featuring poemtalkers **Charles Bernstein**, **Ron Silliman**, and **Rachel Blau DuPlessis**) was the 13th most frequently visited link at the busy Poetry Foundation site.

### Writers without Borders: the Provost's International Writers Series

[writing.upenn.edu/wh/involved/series/wwb](http://writing.upenn.edu/wh/involved/series/wwb)

Writers without Borders, supported by the **Office of the Provost** and a generous start-up gift from **Seth Ginns** (C'00), features writers from around the world whose fiction, drama, poetry, memoir, journalism, and performance art demand an international – and, what's more, a globally minded – readership and response. Through this ongoing series, Penn's provost, **Ron Daniels**, has challenged us to invite writers whose voices have not been much heard here, because of regional unrest, cultural turmoil, aesthetic misunderstanding, the difficulty of travel, or problems of translation. Our first featured visitor in the Writers without Borders series was **Cecilia Vicuña**, acclaimed Chilean poet, filmmaker and performance artist who wowed the standing-room-only audience with playful improvisations, stories, and chants.

### KWH Art

[writing.upenn.edu/wh/involved/series/artgallery](http://writing.upenn.edu/wh/involved/series/artgallery)

**Kaegan Sparks** (C'10), one of our most vibrant and dedicated Hub members, took over this year as our art gallery curator, transforming the gallery into KWH Art, a project that explores the relationships between visual and literary arts by pairing monthly visual art shows with interdisciplinary programming, such as panel discussions between poets and painters, film screenings, and technical demonstrations by artists. To kick off the new project in September, Kaegan organized a reading of **David Daniels'** visual poetry, allowing students and others to experience the sonic texture of Daniels' visual work. Later in the year, painter **Loraine Glessner** demonstrated encaustic application techniques with heating tools, paint and wax. Another night featured a freewheeling conversation between painter **Paul Fabozzi** (GFA'93) and poet **Jeremy Sigler** (GFA'91), who talked about how to "translate" daily impressions – minutia and sensory data – into verbal or visual art. Through these and other interactive programs, KWH Art invited Writers House visitors to experiment and engage with the visual arts.

### Brave Star Collective

[writing.upenn.edu/wh/involved/literacy/bsc/](http://writing.upenn.edu/wh/involved/literacy/bsc/)

Founded, developed, and coordinated by **Aichlee Bushnell** (C'09), the Brave Star Collective is a volunteer mentoring program that matches bright, creative teenage girls from West Philadelphia High School with Penn-affiliated writers. Through weekly one-on-one mentoring sessions, monthly genre-based workshops, special readings, and field trips, the program provides a safe and supportive environment where girls can expand their natural writing talents, develop independent creative voices, and build confidence in making healthy choices. Aichlee's vision and work have allowed us to expand our literacy outreach and showcase the civic-minded generosity of Penn writers.



*Cecilia Vicuña, was the debut performer for the new Writers without Borders series. Before reading her work and performing her chants, she had members of the audience - such as Penn professor Charles Bernstein above - smell petals from the Writers House Garden.*



*Kelly Writers House Art Gallery Curator Kaegan Sparks stands next to a painting by Penn alumnus Paul Fabozzi.*

## 2008 PROGRAM & PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS



Suzanne Vega, of “Tom’s Diner” fame, was this year’s featured guest at the Blutt Singer-Songwriter Symposium, made possible by the generosity of Mitch and Margo Blutt. Vega performed several songs, and fielded questions from Rolling Stone Contributing Editor and Penn faculty member Anthony DeCurtis.



As he does every other Wednesday, Dan McIntosh opens Speakeasy - the longest running program at the Kelly Writers House - by reading a favorite piece of writing. Sean Breslin (left) and Sam Allingham (right), members of the Kelly Writers House basement band, sit in the background.

It is impossible to describe everything we do in a year. We host an almost outrageous array of writing-related projects, programs, and activities for the Penn and Philadelphia communities: tutoring and literacy outreach projects, reading and writing groups, classes and workshops, book parties and book drives, poetry readings and open mic nights, catered dinners and impromptu coffee klatches. But we’re delighted to describe some of the highlights from the year, to offer just a small taste of what we do.

### Bok Visiting Writers Series

A generous endowment gift from **Scott** (C’81, W’81, L’84) and **Roxanne Bok** allows us to support and encourage the full breadth of contemporary writing, and this year the diversity of writers and artists we brought with the help of the **Bok Visiting Writers Fund** was truly remarkable. A reading by acclaimed poets **Bernadette Mayer** and **Lee Ann Brown** gathered local poets and poetry lovers in conversation hours after the program’s formal conclusion. Our 100th birthday celebration of Objectivist poet **George Oppen** (one of the 20th century’s most influential poets) featured ten different perspectives on Oppen’s life and work. We celebrated comics and graphic novels with **Hans Rickheit’s** surreal drawings and the thoughtful criticism of comics historian **Douglas Wolk**. **Michael Martone’s** reading from his fictional travel guide to Indiana – including a made-up monument to victims of trailer park tornados – inspired students to examine the line between fiction and nonfiction. And our book release party for **Randall Couch’s** bilingual edition of *Madwomen: The Locas mujeres Poems of Gabriela Mistral* reminded us of the difficult and exciting task facing contemporary translators.

### Blutt Singer-Songwriter Symposium: Suzanne Vega

Made possible through a grant from **Mitch** (C’78 M’82 WG’87) and **Margo Blutt**, the Blutt Singer-Songwriter Symposium features acclaimed songwriters performing and discussing their work in our intimate Arts Café. This year’s guest was the critically celebrated and innovative songwriter **Suzanne Vega**, who fielded questions from rock critic **Anthony DeCurtis** and an enraptured audience. Answering our questions with warmth and self-deprecating humor, Vega also thrilled us with solo renditions of her songs, including an unforgettable take on her hit, “Tom’s Diner.”

### Digital Literature: the Machine Series

After the departure of long-time coordinator **Nick Montfort** (GR’07) for a faculty position at MIT, the Machine series – an ongoing investigation into the literary uses of the computer – fell into the capable hands of longtime Hub member and brilliant digital artist **Steve McLaughlin** (C’08). Steve maintained the focus of the series while widening its scope; we won’t soon forget the sight of **Paul Nozold’s** interactive text messages – sent from audience members’ cell phones – projected in speech bubbles on the side of the University City public library. Other notable programs included a lecture by **Brian Kim Stefans** on video games and digital poetry and a presentation by poet and theorist **Chris Funkhouser**.

### Open Mic Night: Speakeasy (poetry, prose, & anything goes!)

Celebrating its eleventh year, our well established, student-run open mic night was founded by **Adam Kaufmann** (C’00), **Courtney Zoffness** (C’00), and **Emily Cohen** (C’00) in 1997. Every other Wednesday throughout the school year, the lights in the Arts Café dim and the volume goes up as students, community members, and friends read, recite, chant, or sing through the night to an always bustling crowd. 2007-2008 Speakeasy coordinators **Dan McIntosh** (C’09), **Yumeko Kawano** (C’08), and **Lee Huttner** (C’10) welcomed performances by high school students, fellow undergrads, local slam artists, and all-comers, and they organized several special events, conjuring up the ghost of Poe for the annual Halloween-themed “Spookeasy” and getting into the Prohibition spirit in the spring for our speakeasy-themed Speakeasy.

## Celebration of Max Apple

In October, we celebrated the much-heralded release of *The Jew of Home Depot*, the latest short story collection from Creative Writing Professor and Writers House friend **Max Apple**. Audience members were treated to a clever visual pun announcing the event: red construction-paper apples designed by **Kim Eisler** (C'11) served as impromptu fliers, swinging from bushes and trees all across campus. Well known for his fierce critical eye and for his coffee-and-cookie breaks, Max gathers a devoted band of students every semester. In fact, alumni returned to Penn for the celebration of Max's work; among these were **Ariel Djanikian** (C'04), **Phil Sandick** (C'03), **Alicia Oltuski** (C'06, G'06), and **Yona Silverman** (C'06), who offered toasts and speeches in Max's honor.



*Beloved writing teacher Max Apple was celebrated this past year upon the release of *The Jew of Home Depot*, his new collection of short stories.*



*"Write-On!" is a literacy outreach program that pairs Penn student coaches with grade-school kids from West Philadelphia. The program is generously supported by Brian and Jerilyn Perman.*

## Literacy Outreach: "Write-on!"

Supported annually by Penn alumni **Brian** (C'90) and **Jerilyn Perman** (C'91), "Write-on!" is a literacy outreach program that offers fun, safe, extracurricular writing activities to West Philadelphia grade-school kids. "Write-on!" coaches are Penn undergraduates, led by a dedicated team of volunteer coordinators. This year's lead coaches were **Caroline Dorfman** (C'08), **Emily Ozan** (C'08), **Kate Pier** (C'08), **Aaron Stein** (C'08), and **Chrissie Vroome** (C'08). On Fridays and Saturdays throughout the year, the "Write-on!" team welcomed kids from the neighborhood to the KWH for writing games, reading, performance, and fun. At the end of each semester, we celebrated the achievements of "Write-on!" participants by inviting parents, teachers, coaches and kids to the KWH for a no-holds-barred, raucous group reading.

## LIVE at the Writers House

LIVE at the Writers House, our long-standing collaboration with the staff of WXPB FM (88.5), made possible through the generous support of **BigRoc**, continued to showcase Philadelphia-area writers working in almost every genre. Every month between September and April, we aired a one-hour broadcast of poetry, music, and other spoken-word art, produced by our Program Coordinator **Erin Gautsche** (CGS'06) and hosted by XPN's "Morning Show" star **Michaela Majoun**, straight from our Arts Café onto the airwaves at WXPB. This year, LIVE featured a vaudeville presentation by performers from **1812 Productions**, readings by poets from the **Pocket Myths Collective** and the **Mad Poets Society**, and excerpts from the work of **Leeway Foundation** grant winners. LIVE now boasts an archive of more than sixty episodes and shows no signs of slowing; visit [writing.upenn.edu/wh/wxpb](http://writing.upenn.edu/wh/wxpb) to listen in.

## Jewish Interest Programming

The Writers House has a strong record of Jewish interest programming – from Yiddish poetry slams to discussions of contemporary Hebrew novels to celebrations of newly translated classics. In October this year, we were pleased to partner with Penn's **Jewish Studies Program** to present two events: an evening with **Peter Cole**, poet, 2007 MacArthur Foundation Fellowship recipient, and translator of *The Dream of the Poem: Hebrew Poetry from Muslim and Christian Spain, 950-1492*; and a reading by **Rachel Tzvia Back**, poet, translator, and peace activist from Israel. **Art Spiegelman** spent two days with us in February, and discussed (among other works) his acclaimed Holocaust narrative *Maus*. We also hosted a visit with novelist and avid birdwatcher **Jonathan Rosen**, who edits the "Jewish Encounters" series for Nextbook. To finish out a stellar year, the **Sylvia W. Kauders Lunch Series** presented a talk with Holocaust survivor **Leo Bretholz**, introduced by **Eric Karlan** (C'09).



Graduating senior Michelle Rajunov poses with her family at our annual Senior Capstone program, bottom, a celebratory cake for Al Filreis' book party.



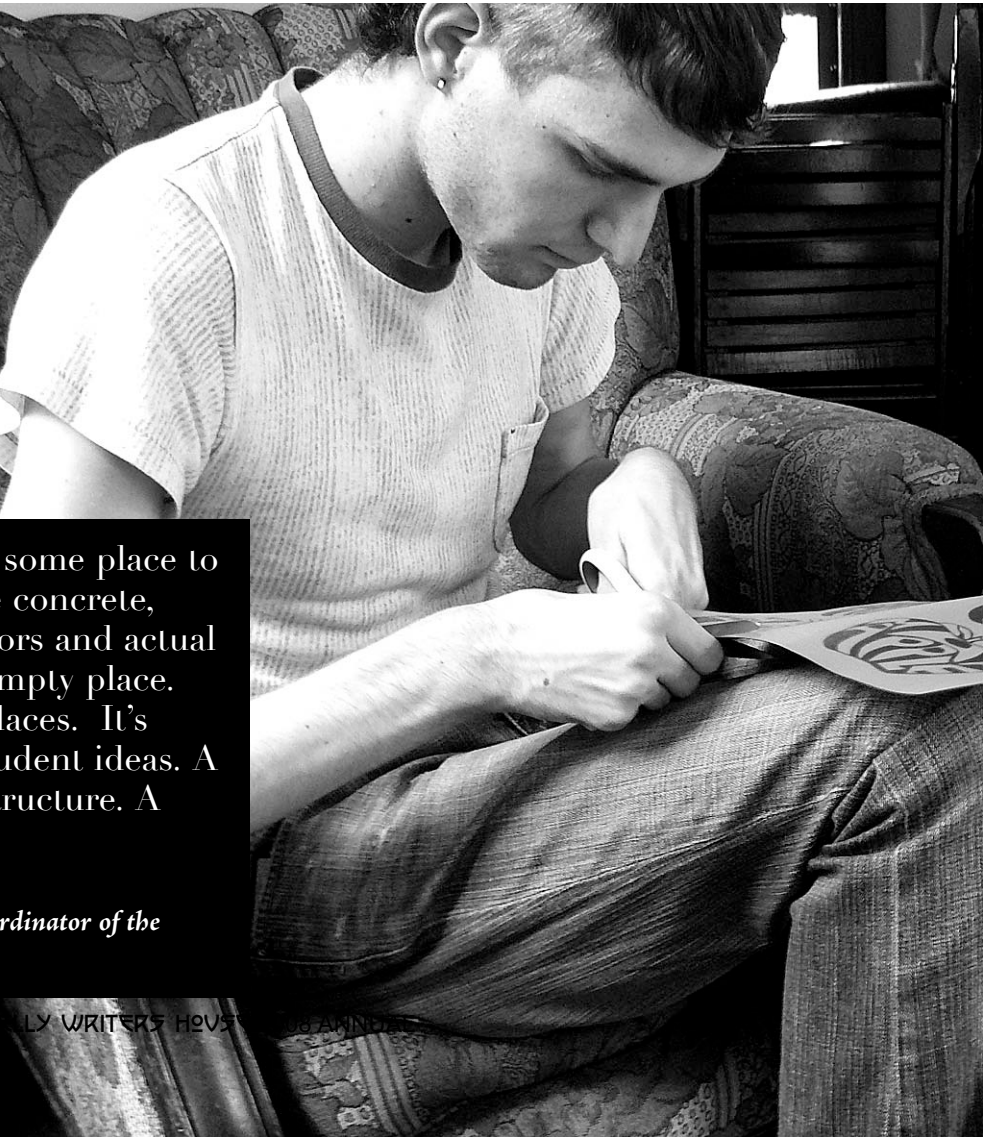
## Lecture Series: Theorizing

Founded and organized by students since 1996, Theorizing is a lecture series coordinated by graduate students in Penn's Program in Comparative Literature and Literary Theory. High-minded, challenging, knotty, and deeply engaged in politics and philosophy, Theorizing welcomes a variety of speakers who address current theoretical and methodological considerations in the humanities. Highlights from the past year included **Martin Puchner**, who brilliantly elucidated the legacy of the tradition of staging Platonic dialogues and its philosophical implications for modern theater, and **Jeffrey Jerome Cohen**, who attracted a large audience for his discussion of the historical landscape of medieval Britain and the weight of interpreting the past.



It's been an in-between place. It's some place to come between classes to avoid the concrete, glass, and steel, with the wood floors and actual old couches. It's, remarkably, an empty place. Which is to say, it's many, many places. It's what you make. It is a place for student ideas. A place with a budget and an infrastructure. A place where things happen.

Steve McLaughlin (C'08), digital artist and coordinator of the MACHINE reading series





## WE REMEMBER BOB LUCID

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"It was Dr. Robert Lucid, emeritus professor of English, who came up with the idea of a Writers House. 'What was great about this concept and about this project was exactly the fact that, in a sense, everybody could "live" here,' he observes on a CD that was put out for the 10th anniversary. 'That's somewhat of an ecclesiastical idea. You have the church, which is the house, and everybody lives there when they're not back in their own place.' According to Lucid, Writers House has become something of a 'cooperative collective,' in the spirit of the academic experiments of the 1960s." – Susan Frith, "The House that Writers Built," *Pennsylvania Gazette* (July, 2006).

Remembered and honored as the founder of the Writers House, for his community building, his teaching, and his love of wine, **Robert "Bob" Lucid** has been missed greatly since his death in 2006. In October, we gathered to celebrate Bob's life and legacy with toasts and testimonies about his unforgettable contributions to our individual and collective histories. Bob's legacy – the Lucid Legend, if you will – certainly remains at the heart of what we do here: as Faculty Director and close friend of Bob Lucid, **Al Filreis**, said, "No one involved with this unusual project will ever forget Bob's generous vision." And to help ensure this continuity, we will host an annual program in Bob's honor – made possible through gifts from **Susan Small Savitsky** (CW'75) and **Ed Kane** (C'71). We will honor Bob by inviting a contemporary novelist to read at the House every year forever – and we'll raise a glass of wine in his memory.



*Jack Lucid, middle, attended the fall program celebrating the life of his father, Prof. Lucid*



# KELLY WRITERS HOUSE FELLOWS PROGRAM

Funded annually by **Paul Kelly** (C'62, WG'64) for ten years, the Kelly Writers House Fellows Program enables us to realize two unusual goals: to make it possible for the youngest writers and writer-critics to have sustained contact with eminent authors in an informal atmosphere conducive to discussion, conversation, even disagreement and challenge; and to resist the distinction between working with great authors and studying literature. This year, the Fellows Program welcomed graphic artist **Art Spiegelman**, prose writer **Lynne Sharon Schwartz**, and poet **Jerome Rothenberg**.

Each Fellow spent two days with us, meeting with students in the Fellows seminar taught by Professor **Al Filreis** and his assistant **Jamie-Lee Josselyn** (C'05). Students in the seminar studied the

work of each Fellow for more than a month to prepare for the informal but intensive sessions with these writers.

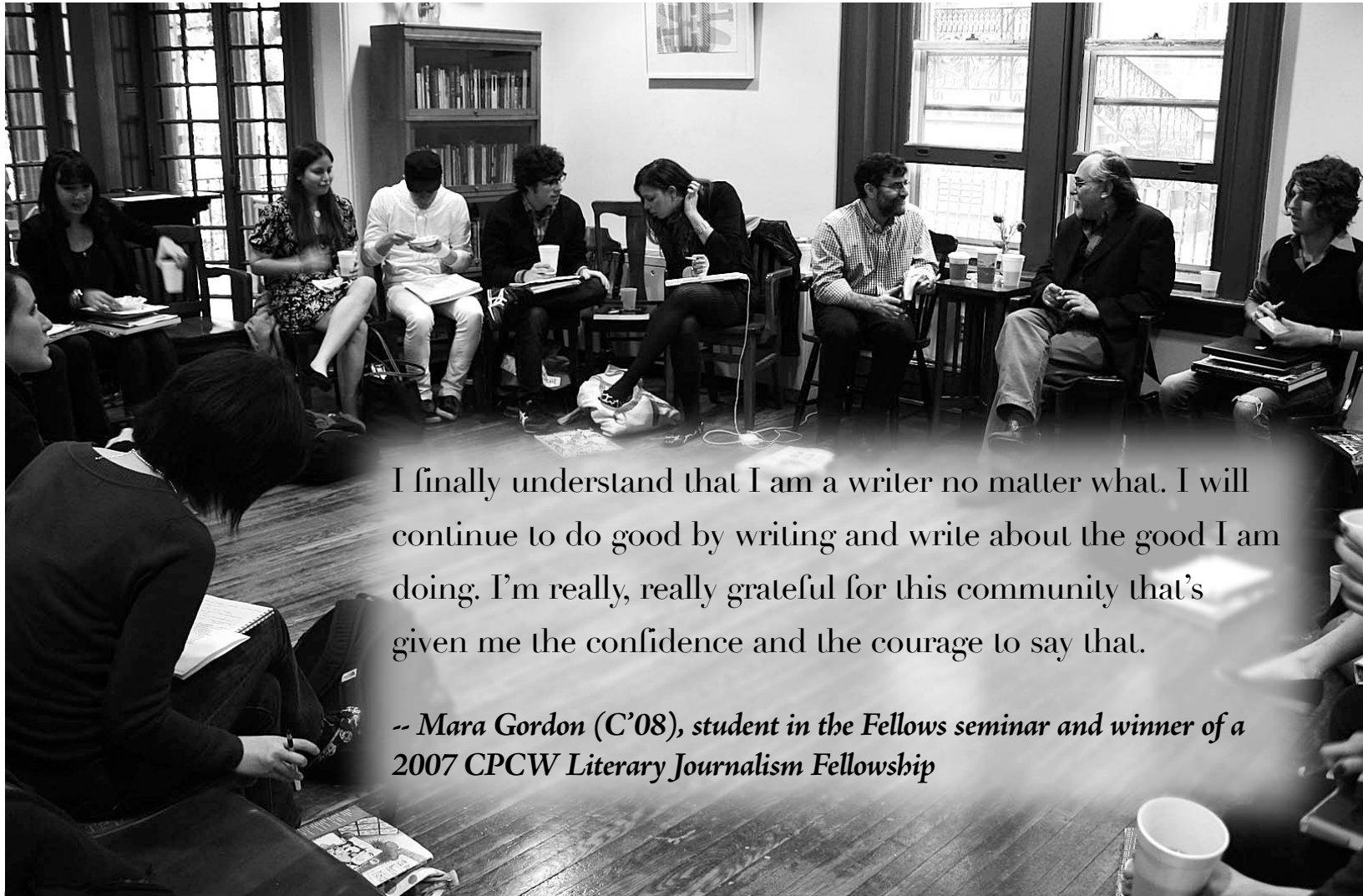
After the sessions with undergraduate Fellows seminarians, we held public readings in the Arts Café, followed by intimate dinners cooked in the Writers House kitchen by chef **Myra Lotto** (C'99, GR'11) with help from Writers House-affiliated students.

Each Fellow also participated in a morning interview and conversation led by Al Filreis that was webcast worldwide. Many Writers House regulars attended these sessions in person, enjoying brunch in the dining room and staying after the program to have a moment face-to-face with the Fellow.



*Art Spiegelman (above left), Jerome Rothenberg (above right) and Lynne Sharon Schwartz (below left, at right) were the 2008 Kelly Writers House Fellows. Lynne is seen below chatting with the late Bob Treuhafft, a beloved friend of Writers House. At right, the Fellows crowd enjoys the Tuesday morning brunch, before the always-riveting conversation moderated by Al Filreis.*





I finally understand that I am a writer no matter what. I will continue to do good by writing and write about the good I am doing. I'm really, really grateful for this community that's given me the confidence and the courage to say that.

-- Mara Gordon (C'08), student in the Fellows seminar and winner of a 2007 CPCW Literary Journalism Fellowship



## PUBLICATIONS & PRINTWORK

We provide meeting space in our Publications Room, web space, advice, financial assistance, and an occasional pizza for a number of Penn publications and editorial teams. Print projects we support include **Xconnect**, our nationally distributed literary magazine; **The 15th Room Press**, our letterpress imprint for broadsides and limited edition books; **Penn Appétit**, a new food writing magazine and blog; **First Call**, a weekly magazine of news and opinions; **The Green Couch**, a forum for long-form literary journalism; **The Little Black Book**, a 'zine produced by and for African-American women; **Penn Review**, Penn's oldest literary magazine; and **The F-Word**, a journal of feminist literature and criticism.

### Food Magazine: *Penn Appétit*

Founded this year by Writers House Hub member **Emma Morgenstern** (C'10), *Penn Appétit* is a magazine that brings the riches of the culinary world to Penn's campus. Passionately researched and produced in delicious color, this new Writers House publication has proven widely popular all across campus. Especially appetizing was a spread of articles covering Philadelphia's own Naked Chocolate Café, including **Jamie Png's** (C'06) mouth-watering interview with Chocolatier Tom Block and **Emma Morgenstern's** (C'10) investigation into the "ancient indulgence" of drinking chocolate. For more on *Penn Appétit* and to view the first two issues online, visit [www.pennappetit.com](http://www.pennappetit.com).

### Literary Journalism: *The Green Couch*

*The Green Couch* was founded by **Eric Karlan** (C'09) in his freshman year, and funded through an endowment made by **Gerald Rosenfeld** and **Judith Zarin**. Named after what might be the most comfortable couch on campus – the green couch in the Writers House living room – the biannual *Green Couch* includes a long-form supplement, "The Couch Potato." For the December 2007 "Couch Potato," **Molly Johnsen** (C'10), a student staffer at the House, wrote a gut-wrenching piece exploring the implications of her parents' divorce.

Molly's work is an excellent example of the high caliber of creative nonfiction being written at Penn.



### Letterpress Project: *The 15th Room Press*

We think of **The 15th Room Press**, our own imprint in the collaborative Common Press, as an extension of our 14-room cottage. Project participants hand-make limited edition letterpress broadsides and books, word by word, letter by inky letter. To deepen our experience with the "thingness" of words (metal type, paper, and ink), we organized several hands-on, press-related projects. Ninja Press book artist **Carolee Campbell** led a small book printing and folding workshop. We welcomed noted book artist and critic **Johanna Drucker** for a lunch talk at the KWH followed by a rowdy collaborative printing project in our press room. And Writers House Program Coordinator **Erin Gautsche**

(CGS'06) worked with students all year to complete an ambitious book called "Monsters Mind." After researching and selecting 16th- and 17th-century monster imagery in the Van Pelt Rare Books Library, participants wrote "monstrous" text to accompany each monster image. Each image for the book was hand-inked and printed on a Charles Brand etching press, the text was hand-cranked through a Vandercook letterpress page by page, and the finished book was hand-bound in room 202 of the Writers House.



# WRITERS HOUSE NEW YORK



We visited New York three times this year to share *salon*-style programming with our many New York-area friends. As is now tradition, **Susan and Louis Meisel** sponsored a benefit at the Louis K. Meisel Gallery in SoHo to raise money in support of the **Kelly Writers House Young and Emerging Writers Fund**. Because of the generosity of Louis and Susan, who have donated the use of their gallery and the costs of a delicious reception, 100% of the receipts from this annual benefit go directly toward the Young Writers Fund. Our sixth annual “Writers House New York” at the Meisel Gallery recreated the spirit and community of a reading in our Arts Café by gathering together alumni, families, students, and friends for readings and talk. This year’s readers included Penn Professor **Max Apple**, who shared work from his new book *The Jew of Home Depot*; **Lee Eisenberg** (C’68), former *Esquire* editor and author of New York Times bestseller *The Number*; **Moira Moody** (C’06), this year’s Junior Fellow; and **Gabe Crane** (C’08), our own modern day Huck Finn, who spent his 2007 summer paddling down the Mississippi. We ended the evening with a discussion of a gnarly Emily Dickinson poem, led by **Al Filreis**.

In March, our Advisory Board sponsored a second New York event for our extended family. This time **Cliff and Bonnie Eisler** hosted us in their home for an evening of hors d’oeuvres, good company, and readings by Regan Professor of English and PennSound Co-Director **Charles Bernstein**, Writers House Program Coordinator and fiction writer **Erin Gautsche** (CGS’06), and *Penn Appetit* founder and editor-in-chief **Emma Morgenstern** (C’10). Readers at another New York spring salon, generously hosted by **Judith Zarin** in her stunning Greenwich Village garden, included Penn faculty member and poet **Herman Beavers**; *Green Couch* founder and editor **Eric Karlan** (C’09), *Quake* founder and editor **Jessica Haralson** (C’08), *Redbook* associate editor **Lindsey Palmer** (C’05) and spoken-word artist **Caroline Rothstein** (C’06). We are proud to have such a talented, generous community in and outside of Philadelphia. Many thanks to our hosts and participants!



Above left, the crowd begins to take their seats at the 2007 “Writers House New York” event. To the right, featured reader Moira Moody in front of a featured work at the Louis K. Meisel Gallery. Susan Meisel, our gracious host at bottom left, addresses the crowd. Lee Eisenberg, former editor of *Esquire*, was one of this past year’s featured readers. Bottom middle, Allan Cramer, Lisa Bloom and Sammy Wong enjoy a reading in the garden of Judith Zarin, who hosted this Spring’s Writers House Salon in New York. At right, alum Caroline Rothstein performs in the garden of Judith Zarin, host of our annual spring salon.



# SUPPORTING THE WRITERS HOUSE

## ENDOWMENT GIFTS

Endowment gifts to the Kelly Writers House help us establish projects, programs, and positions that last. If the first ten years of the Kelly Writers House were about creating Penn's freest-form student-centered space and making its mark on campus, the second decade is about sustaining the innovation and making it viable for the long run. Endowment gifts – such as support of an annual event or series – allow us, one gift at a time, to progress toward our goal of being a permanent feature on the Penn and Philadelphia cultural landscape.

There are numerous opportunities for endowment: support of specific projects such as publications and new student initiatives; naming the rooms that host our programs, workshops and seminars; and naming and supporting the directorship. Many donors have chosen to recognize family members, memorialize favorite Penn professors, or express gratitude to old Penn friends by naming endowment gifts in their honor. These are lasting tributes to loved ones or mentors, and at the same time, they ensure that the Writers House will continue to grow and thrive.

We have been honored to receive generous endowment gifts from many of our far-thinking friends and supporters. We are grateful for their enthusiasm, encouragement and support, and pleased to describe their gifts here:

### Blutt Singer-Songwriter Symposium Endowment Fund

Founded two years ago by **Mitchell Blatt** (C'78, M'82, L'84) to support an annual songwriting symposium, the Blatt Fund makes it possible for us to welcome legendary performers into our intimate space. This year we were wowed by Grammy winner **Suzanne Vega** who performed several songs and talked candidly about her work as a singer-songwriter.

### Roxanne and Scott Bok Endowed Visiting Writers Series Fund

**Roxanne** and **Scott Bok** (C'81, W'81, L'84), members of the Kelly Writers House Advisory Board, created one of our first endowment funds, enabling us to give honoraria to an exciting roster of writers year after year. This year's Bok visitors included novelists, poets, and journalists as well as less conventional writers: a cell phone artist, a comics maker, and several jazz critics.

### The Cheryl J. Family Endowment Fund

**Cheryl Family** (C'91), a member of the Kelly Writers House Advisory Board, established the Family Fund to support an annual program for a young fiction writer. Our debut program featured up-and-coming writer and Penn grad student **Adrian Khactu** and his teacher and mentor, the renowned novelist/critic **Samuel R. Delany**.

### Endowed Fund for a Literary Journal

Through this generous gift, **Harry Groome** (C'63) – also a member of the Kelly Writers House Advisory Board – has supported the publication of a nationally distributed literary journal, currently *Xconnect*, an acclaimed print and digital journal.

### Sylvia W. Kauders Series Endowment Fund

We inaugurated the Sylvia W. Kauders Lunch Series this year, funded through a generous gift from **Sylvia W. Kauders** (CW'42). The series features memoirists, journalists, and other notable writers who chat casually about their work over lunch with students, alumni, Penn staffers, and other friends. To kick off the series we hosted a lively discussion with celebrated political journalist **Dick Polman**, who spoke about media coverage of the historic '08 election. And we capped off the year with a talk by memoirist and Holocaust survivor **Leo Bretholz**, who described his harrowing experience to a transfixed audience.

### Annual Symposium in Memory of Charles Bernheimer

Established in the memory of Comparative Literature teacher and scholar Charles Bernheimer by Writers House Advisory Board member **Kate Levin** (GAS'96), the Bernheimer Symposium is organized each year by the Writers House Program Coordinator, who takes the opportunity to think expansively about programming possibilities. This year, the fund supported a lunchtime discussion with scholar and book-artist **Johanna Drucker**, followed by a hands-on workshop at the Common Press.

### The LIVE at the Writers House Endowment

This fund, established anonymously by BigRoc, supports the ongoing collaboration between the Writers House and WXPn, the monthly radio show LIVE at the Writers House.



*The Writers House is honored to thank our many supporters, who include (from top to bottom): Advisory Board member and host of our March salon Bonnie Eisler, Ed Kane, Advisory Board member Kate Levin, Susan Small Savitsky and Judith Zarin, host of our 2008 Spring Salon in New York.*





### Caroline Rothstein Fund for Oral Poetry

Nancy and Steven Rothstein established this fund to support an annual oral poetry program in honor of their daughter, **Caroline Rothstein** (C'06), an active Writers House student who was a leading voice in spoken-word projects at Penn. This year **Cristin O'Keefe Aptowicz** took us on a guided tour of the New York City Poetry Slam, a presentation that was illustrated by New York Slam poets **Shappy Seasholtz**, **Edward Garcia**, **Nicole Homer**, and **Chad Anderson**.

### Bob Lucid Memorial Fund

**Susan Small Savitsky** (CW'75) and **Ed Kane** (C'71) established this fund to support an annual fiction program in memory of beloved Penn professor **Robert "Bob" Lucid**, who taught at Penn for 32 years, until his retirement in 1996, and whose visionary spirit and pedagogical idealism filled the Writers House from its beginning.

### Alice Cooper Shoulberg Scholarship Fund for the Support of Creative Publishing

**Alice Cooper Shoulberg** was a stellar student who graduated from Penn's College for Women in 1955 and went on to a brilliant career as a Philadelphia public school teacher. Established in her memory, the Shoulberg Fund supports the technological needs of our Publications Room, where students depend on computers and software to edit and publish their magazines.

### Wexler Endowment Fund

**Gary** and **Nina Wexler**, Penn parents and members of the Kelly Writers House Advisory Board, created this general, flexible endowment fund to support all kinds of programs and new student initiatives. The Wexler Fund allows students to think creatively about what can happen in our space.

### Zarin/Rosenfeld Endowment for Literary Journalism Magazine

Penn parents **Judith Zarin** and **Gerald Rosenfeld** created this fund to support a literary journalism magazine at the Kelly Writers House. *The Green Couch*, founded by Eric Karlan (C'09), is printed each semester through the Zarin/Rosenfeld Fund.

### OTHER SPECIAL GIFTS

While the Kelly Writers House is actively seeking permanent funding for its existing programs, we do not shy away from introducing dramatic, engaging, and challenging new programs and projects to our packed calendar. Three new term gifts this year have allowed us to do just that: one has established a series of global programs, another has dramatically revamped a popular alumni reading program, and the third has given our Faculty Director the means to encourage new student initiatives and programming efforts.

### Seth Ginns Term Fund for International Writers

Through this gift, **Seth Ginns** (C'00) supports "Writers without Borders: the provost's international writers series," which brings writers from around the world to our intimate cottage on Locust Walk. 2008-2009 visitors will include South African novelist, poet, and activist **Breyten Breytenbach**, Lebanese novelist **Hanan al-Shaykh**, and Chinese poet **Zhimin Li**.

### David Roberts Online Book Group Term Fund

Conceived by Writers House Faculty Director **Al Filreis** to create a learning community for alumni, our Online Book Groups Program has successfully facilitated 31 cyber-discussions of poetry and fiction since 2000. This year, Penn parent and alumnus **David Roberts** (W'84) created a term fund to enhance these already popular groups. Thanks to David's generosity we were able to offer seven book groups this year: two month-long discussions of complete novels (*Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen and *The Writing on the Wall* by Lynn Sharon Schwartz), as well as week-long discussions of shorter works, such as Richard Ford's "Abyss" and Mina Loy's "Lunar Baedeker."

### Faculty Director Discretionary Fund

**Jon Avnet** (C'71) and **Barbara Avnet** have chosen to support our Faculty Director Discretionary Fund, which enables Writers House Faculty Director Al Filreis to seek out, encourage, and invest in student talents and innovations. The Fund sustains the Writers House as a creative incubator, a hotbed where students can develop ambitious writing and art projects.



At left, Writers House staff members Jill Budd and Sam Allingham chat in front of the work of Paul Fabozzi. At right, the Writers House Hub feasts on hot dogs and hamburgers at the annual end-of-year Hub party.

# FRIENDS OF THE KELLY WRITERS HOUSE

"Friends of the Kelly Writers House" give gifts that support our ongoing projects and programming, semester by semester. Along with generous support from the Office of the Provost, Friends' gifts have helped fund our Writers House Junior Fellows program, bought books and magazines for the library, and paid for the coffee that is always percolating in the kitchen. Thank you, Friends, for helping us protect, sustain, and enhance the remarkable achievement of the Writers House project!

## In Memory of Bob Lucid

In October we celebrated the life and work of Professor **Robert "Bob" Lucid** and announced an endowment fund established in Bob's memory by **Susan Small Savitsky** and **Ed Kane**. Several other former students, friends, and colleagues of Bob Lucid have made gifts to the Writers House in Bob's memory and their gifts will help us honor Bob's legacy each and every year: Irwyn and Lucy Applebaum, Dan Hoffman, Joan Kim, Elaine Maimon, Mary Ann Meyers and Kevin O'Brien

## In Memory of William G. Owen

The Writers House and the University lost another dear friend this past year: **William G. Owen** (C'42, GEd'67), a proud member of the **Class of '42**. The Writers House garden will serve as a constant reminder of William's generous spirit: William's graduation class supported our garden's renovation in 2002 as their 60th reunion gift to Penn, and William was a frequent visitor to the lush new space. William is survived by his children **Lynda Safnauer**, **Ginger Fifer**, and **Sandi Richards** – and our thoughts are with them. Several of William's close friends made donations to the Writers House in William's memory and we gratefully acknowledge their support here:

Sherrie Burlingham and David Buckley  
Stanley and Gayle Harmer  
Margy Ellin Meyerson  
Anne Boydston Park  
Andrew and Linda Pedisich  
C.S. and Gaynor Strickler  
Marjorie Weingarten

## MATCHING GIFTS

Did you know that many organizations will match the philanthropic interests of their employees? The Writers House would like to thank the following companies for supporting this community during the past fiscal year:

Air Products and Chemicals  
Bank of America  
Goldman Sachs  
The Hartford Insurance Group  
IBM  
Microsoft  
Morgan Stanley  
MTV Networks  
Prudential Insurance  
Random House

## FURNISHING THE WRITERS HOUSE

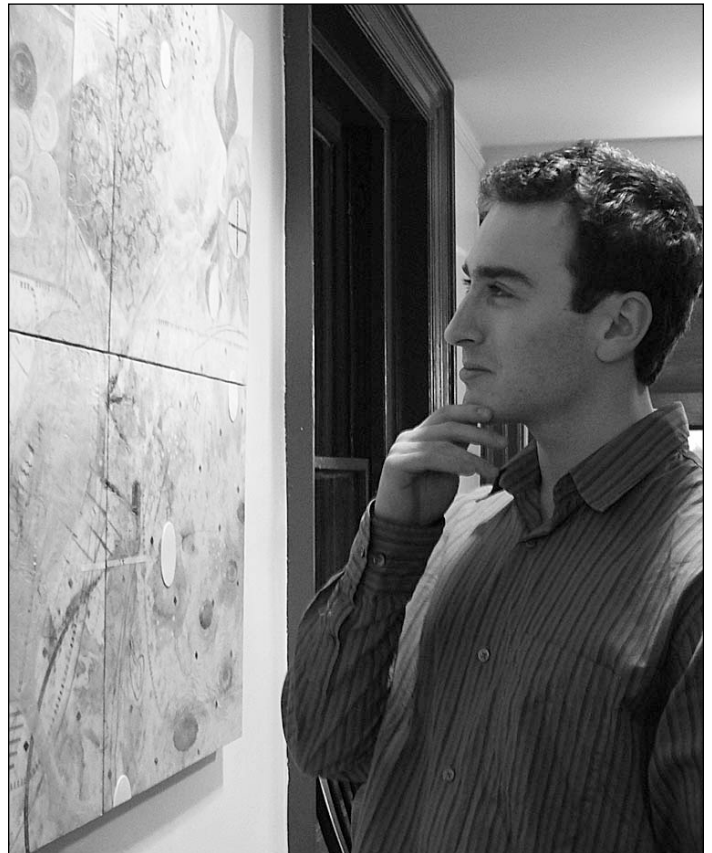
**Susan** and **Louis Meisel** help us out each year by graciously hosting a benefit in the Louis K. Meisel Gallery in SoHo. This year, the Meisels also donated two gorgeous new bookcases for our Arts Café. The shelves are home to our ever-growing collection of signed works by the featured visitors who grace the podium each night here at 3805 Locust.

## EMILY DICKINSON CIRCLE

Leonard and Jayne Abess, Irwyn Applebaum, Martin Berger, Elissa Caterfino, Jean Chatzky, Arthur and Jamie Cooperman, Allan Cramer (in honor of Paul Kelly), Lindsay Gruber Dunham (Gruber Family Foundation), Cliff and Bonnie Eisler, Michael and Danielle Goldstein, Adam Groothuis, Hank and Carol Herman, Ken Karlan, Kate Levin and Robin Shapiro, Jeff Mendell, David Millstein, David and Deborah Roberts, Henry and Talia Siegel, Ilina Singh and Ric Lewis, Jay and Nancy Zises.

## WILLIAM CARLOS WILLIAMS CIRCLE

Neil Braun and Anne Flick, Logan Clarke, Jr., Michael and Pamela Crane, Marvin Israelow and Dorian Goldman, Todd and Vickie Green, Joan Harrison, Hartford Insurance Group, Helen Sewell Johnson, Joanne Goldner Kahan, Amy Alfano Ludvigson, Frederick and Elizabeth Muller, William G. Owen, Marjorie Perloff, Franklyn and Cintra Rodgers, Ralph and Bette Saul, Susan Small Savitsky, Daniel Schorr, Frank and Pam Stapleton, Gerald Stern (in honor of Dr. Eric Stern), David Sussman, Weber Family Foundation, Henry and Judy Zachs, Eric and Jessica Zachs.



*Writers House staff member Danny Goldstein admires a work hanging in the Writers House Art Gallery.*

## 2007-2008 FRIENDS OF THE WRITERS HOUSE

Bill Abbott, Anne Abel, David and Daryle Abeshouse, Rosa Almoguera, Valla Amsterdam, Nathalie Anderson, James Andres, Irwyn Applebaum, Tali Aronsky, Jon and Barbara Avner, Robert and Linda Badal, Dennis and Deborah Barone, Melissa Barry, Sean Basinski, Elissa Bassini, David Baugh, Susan Becker-Weidman, Craig Behrenfeld, Evelyn Bender, John and Judith Benner, Nancy Bentley, Edward Bergman, John C. Berkey, Stephen and Meryl Berliner, Bernardo Beyer, Jennifer Bilenker and Josh Greenberg, Buzz Bissinger, Vivian, David and Robert Blum, Megan Bly, Merle C. Born, Nigel and Sharon Bowers, Charles Bowes and Annette Seidenglanz, Neil Braun and Anne Flick, Barbara Bravo, Sandee Brawarsky, Julie Bright and Daniel Stewart, Michael and Allison Brody, Matthew Brogan, Tracylea Byford and Charles Bronk, Ellen Brooks and Marshall Cohen (in honor of Robert Cohen), Eric Brotman, Robert Brylawski, Laura Tisch Broumand, David and Ann Brownlee, Mary Ann Burdett, Sherrie Burlingham and David Buckley (in memory of William Owen), James and Teresa Burns, Matthew Canner, John and Rita Carroll (in memory of Thomas J. Carroll), Lynn Carroll, Lenny Cassuto, Janine Catalano, Phil and Wendy Catalano, L. John and Judy Clark, Christine Chiosi, Linda E. Chung, Peter and Leah Cianfrani, Mark D. Cohen, Christine Nelson and David Comberg, Bernard and Esther Cooperman, Randall Couch, Michael and Pamela Crane, Michael Crow, Jonathan Cryer, Jonathan and Randi Cuba, Becky Dalzell, Bob and Marcia D'Augustine (in honor of Allie M. D'Augustine), Colleen Davis, Anthony DeCurtis, Thomas Devaney, Paul Deveney, Janet and Orrin and Deborah Devinsky, Greg and Lysa Djanikian, Debra Donnally, Howard and Paula Donsky, Alan Dorfman, Charles Downey, Melissa Duclos, Bob Ducusay, Rachel Blau DuPlessis, George Economou and Rochelle Owens, Rebecca Entel, Jane Epstein, Randi Hutter Epstein, Fernanda C. Erlanger, Daniel Esquibel, Cheryl Family, Cheryl Family and Ken Saji, Rachel Federman, Harvey Feldman, Melissa Fellman, Sara Felsenstein, Dr. Alberto Fernandez, Jean Findlay, Vicki and Bruce Finkelstein, Dan Fishback, David and Barbara Fishback, Ted Floyd and Kei Sochi, Allan Ford (in honor Kate Ford Knight), Allan Ford (in honor of Lisa A. Ford), Ben Fountain, Peggy Fox, Arlene Freedman, Feliks Frenkel, Adam Zimble and Suzanne Friedman, Roy and Vicki Gainsburg, Jessica Gamburg, Jenny and Domingo Garcia, Jessica Garmise, Richard Geist, Gerri George, Danielle Gershowitz (in honor of her parents), Seamus and Mary Ann Gilson, Joann Girsh, Sarah Giulian, Robert Gleason, Norman Glickman, Sharon Glickman, Scott Glosserman, Dara Goldberg, Ted Goldsmith, Arthur Goldwyn, Mackarness Goode, Jefferson Green, Deb Greenberg (in honor of Al Filreis), Johanna Greenberg, Michele Greene, Adele Aron Greenspun, Michelle and Lennert Gruszecki, Jane Gutman, Meredith Hale, Matthew Hall, Alexandra Halpern, Matt Hamity, Stanley and Gayle Harmer, Catherine Hawkes, Janet Heettner and Peter Silverman, Lyn Hejinian, Steven Heller, Paul and Cecilia Hendrickson, Jon and Lauren Grabelle Herrmann, Stephen and Jane Heumann, Leslie Higgins, John and Donna Hoh (in honor of Rachel Hoh), Claudia Horwitz, Leesa Hubbell, Jerry Huncosky and Patti Candelari, Michael Hyde, Lina Insana, Faye Ip, Diane Jacobs, Ed Jacobson, Kevin Johnson, Jane Jolis, Michael and Lisa Josephson, Jeff and Shea Jubelirer, Joanne Kahan, Ilana Klein Kahn, Eliot Kaplan, Sally Kaplan, Mickey Karlan, Frederick Kaskel, Rick and Phyllis Kaskel, Richard and Kathy Katz, David Katzman, Carol Kaufman, Donald Keim, Leora Klein, Samantha Kleier Forbes, Sabrina Kleier-Morgenstern, Jean-Marie Kneely (in honor of Al Filreis on his birthday), Tonja Koeppel, Mitchell Kohn (in memory of Nora Magid), Deborah Kohns, Dave Kornfeld, Deborah Kostianovsky, Scott Wallace Kraft and Nadine Van Der Velde, Stephen Kramer, Marilyn Kraut, Scott Krawczyk, Jeremy Kraybill, Mary Kuntz, Beth Kwon, Sherman and Pauline Labovitz, Scott Lanman, Stephen and Emily Laracy, Joseph Lazzaro, R. May Lee, Veronica Lemcoff, John Robert Lennon, Mel and Arlene Levenson, Kate Levin and Robin Shapiro, Lynn Levin, Linda and Harvey Levine, Bennett Lifter, Seth and Deanne Lipsay, Cara T. Lockwood, Bernard and Robin London, Virginia Lucas, Catherine M. MacDonald, Peter Manda, John and Joan Mandryk, Greg and Lauren Manning, Claire Marcus, Maria Markovich, Kathryn Marshall, E. Ann Matter, Barbara Matteucci, Sandra Clark Mayhew, Ceil Mazzucco-Than, Ph.D., Murray McComas, Andrew R. McGhie, Tammy McLeod, Scott and Hella McVay, Amy Tucker Meltzer, Loren Mendell, Margy Ellin Meyerson, Jesse Micah, Madelyn Mignatti, Adam Miller, Ilana Miller, Mitchell Miller, Phyllis Zimble Miller, Suzanne Miller, Susan Croll and Paul Monasevitch, Nick Montfort, John and Sandra Moore, Chris and Noell Mustazza, Sarah Eisen Nanus,



*Above right, Adrian Khactu enjoys the wonderful food at one of our many receptions. Adrian was a featured reader at this past year's inaugural Cheryl J. Family Fiction Program. At left, Penn professor Kenny Goldsmith poses for a photo with student and sound whiz Steve McLaughlin.*

Elinor S. Nathanson, Cynthia Nelson, Winifred G. Newman, Alexander Newmark, Ronnie Norbel, Matt and Meghan Norton, Bob Numerof and Robert Shepard, Kevin O'Brien, Timothy O'Donoghue, Andrea and Robert Oley, Bob and Andee Oley, Janet Olshansky (in honor of Kate Levin), Leslie Onkenhout, Mark Osele, Allen Palmer and Nancy Feingold-Palmer, Lindsey Palmer, Anne Boydston Park (in memory of William Owen), Alicia Oltuski and Uri Pasternak, Andrew and Linda Pedisich (in memory of William Owen), Neil Placky, Mark Poster, Tovah Poster, Evan Raine, Christine Ramsey, Michael Ratner, Michael Rauch, Daniel Reich (in honor of Leslie Reich), Jamie Reich, Kiera Reilly, John and Lori Reinsberg, Joan Retallack, Layla Revis, Jerome S. Richard, Dan Richter, Brad Rickman, Hadley Davis Rierison, Randy Ringer, Andy Robinson, Joyce and Steven Robinson, Kit Robinson, Rick Rofman, Peter Rogers, John Romano, Jonathan Rooney, Matt Rosenbaum (in memory of Blanche Feldman), Amy S. Rosenberg, Lindsey Rosin, Murray Dubin and Libby Rosof, Steve and Marsha Roth, Jeffrey Rothbard, Dan Rottenberg, Lee and Caryn Karmatz Rudy, Karen Rutzick, Ruth and Marvin Sackner, Phil Sandick, Harry Sandick and Kristen Sauer, Cindy Savett, Dan and Harriet Saxon, Daniel Saxon, Jon Saxon, Michael Schein, James and Pamela Schwartz, Liz Seeley, Eric Sellin, Suzanne Sergile, Sarah Kite Sharpless, Doro Shin, Gina Signorella-Arlen, Ron Silliman, Katherine Silvasi, Janet Heettner and Peter Silverman, Jim Simon, Melissa Simon, Erik Simpson and Carolyn Jacobson, David Skeel, Kay and St. John Smith, Jennifer Snead, Bob Numerof and Robert Shepard, Nick Spitzer, Martha Z. Stachitas, Thomas Staudter, Audrey Beth Stein (in honor of Alan and Marsha Stein), Stephanie Stein, Robert Steinman (in honor of Al Filreis), Eugene Stelzig, Sydney Stern, Byron and Janet Stier, Mary Eileen Streight, C.S. and Gaynor Strickler (in memory of William G. Owen), David Sussman, David W. Sweet, Michael Swiskay, Michael and Merle Tarnow, Rachel, Janet and Seth Taube, Karla Taylor, John Teeter, Elaine Terranova, John and Barbara Thomas, David Tilley (in honor of Barbara Tilley), J.C. Todd, Jonathan and Terri Topaz, Bob and Ellie Treuhaft, Jane Treuhaft, William Tripp, Stephanie Tuck, Ellen Umansky, Georgia Van Cleve (in honor of Emory and Kathy Van Cleve), James and Bobbi Vaughn, Christina Verigan, John Vosmek, Lisa Wachtell, Robert Wachter, Harry Waitzman, Stacey Weber (in memory of Dr. Jacob Harris), Marjorie and Catherine Weingarten (in memory of William Owen), Arlene Weintraub, Caroline Werther, Jim West, Andy White, Kathryn V. Whitfield, Sam Whyte, Eleanor Wilner, Jerry Winakur and Lee Robinson, Andy Wolk, Charles Wright, Judy Zachs, Harvey and Judith Zalesne, Richard Zoffness, Courtney Zoffness.

## CONTACT THE WRITERS HOUSE

the center for programs in contemporary writing

Please don't hesitate to write, call, or visit us. We would love to hear from you!

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Philadelphia, PA 19104-6150  
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fax: (215) 573-9750  
email: [wh@writing.upenn.edu](mailto:wh@writing.upenn.edu)  
website: [writing.upenn.edu/wh](http://writing.upenn.edu/wh)



## BECOME A FRIEND

Free readings and workshops by contemporary writers. Coffee percolating in the kitchen. Conversations in the garden. Books for sale by visiting writers at a discounted price at many readings. Online archives of live performances by eminent American authors. All of these things and more are funded through the annual donations of our many Friends.

The Kelly Writers House seeks the support of our friends and potential friends to help us raise what people in the fundraising business call "term support" — small-and middle-sized gifts that will offset the costs of our programs in the immediate and near future.

Will you help us protect and sustain the Writers House project? Please choose a level of support, send a check, and we will immediately list you as among our "Friends." Your gift will be acknowledged in our electronic *Annual*, which is available at all times on our web site: [writing.upenn.edu/wh/support/friends.html](http://writing.upenn.edu/wh/support/friends.html). We will also thank you in the Spring with a special Writers House gift. If you wish to be anonymous, that's fine; you can also request that we publish your gift in dedication to, or in memory of, others.

To become a friend, please fill out this form and send it with your check to:

The Kelly Writers House  
3805 Locust Walk  
University of Pennsylvania  
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6150  
Attention: Jessica Lowenthal, Director

Please make checks payable to "Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania" and be sure to jot "Kelly Writers House" on the memo line.

- ☐ \$40
- ☐ \$100
- ☐ \$250
- ☐ \$500
- ☐ William Carlos Williams Circle \$1000
- ☐ Emily Dickinson Circle \$2500
- ☐ Please send me more information about additional giving opportunities

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Your or another's name as you would like it to appear on the Kelly Writers House web site:

For more information about the specific programs and projects at the Writers House, please visit our web site at <http://www.writing.upenn.edu/wh>.







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