

Mary Biddinger, MFA, PhD  
Professor and Chair, Department of English  
Director, Northeast Ohio MFA in Creative Writing  
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## **EDUCATION:**

PhD in English, Department of English, Program for Writers, The University of Illinois at Chicago.  
Degree: PhD in English received May 2003.

MFA in Poetry, Department of English, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH.  
Degree: Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing received June 1998.

BA in English, Department of English, The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.  
Degree: Honors BA in English and creative writing received May 1996.

## **SELECTED HONORS AND AWARDS:**

- Cleveland Arts Prize, Midcareer Award in Literature. \$10,000, September 2019.
- Ohio Arts Council Individual Excellence Award in Creative Writing: Poetry. \$5,000, April 2018.
- National Endowment for the Arts Creative Writing Fellowship in Poetry. \$25,000, January 2015.
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Biddinger, Mary. . Black Lawrence Press. Mount Vernon, NY. January 2022, 68 pages.

Biddinger, Mary. . Black Lawrence Press. Mount Vernon, NY. August 2019,  
84 pages.

Biddinger, Mary and Jay Robinson. . Black Lawrence Press. Pittsburgh, PA. August 2016,  
100 pages.

Biddinger, Mary. . Black Lawrence Press, Pittsburgh, PA. August 2015, 96 pages.

Biddinger, Mary. . Black Lawrence Press. Pittsburgh, PA. June 2014, 79 pages.

Biddinger, Mary. . Black Lawrence Press. Pittsburgh, PA. January 2013, 91 pages.

Biddinger, Mary. . Black Lawrence Press. Pittsburgh, PA. May 2011, 42 pages.

Biddinger, Mary, Editor (with John Gallaher). .  
The University of Akron Press. Akron, OH. January 2011, 128 pages.

Biddinger, Mary. . Steel Toe Books, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY. February  
2007, 88 pages.

**Selected Recent Publications (Journals):**

“Everyone Take Cover, the Bombers are on Display.” . University of Central Florida. Orlando, FL.  
48.1. (Fall 2024): 79.

“Everyone Thinks True Love is Overrated Until It Happens to Them” and “Everyone Has a Lingering Teenage  
Heartbreak.” . Washington College. Chestertown, MD. 10 (February 24).

“Everyone Believes a Nightmare Only Lasts as Long as the Night” and “Everyone Has a Story About the Corner  
Bar.”

“Department of Elogy” and “Mission Statement.”  
2021): 91-

. College of Charleston, Charleston, SC. 99 (Spring



- Fall 2011: Judge, James Wright Poetry Award, Bowling Green State University.
- Spring 2010: Poetry Fellowship Panel member, Kentucky Arts Council.
- Spring 2009: Judge, Academy of American Poets Prize, California State University Northridge.
- 2009-2012: Served as Director of the NEOMFA: Northeast Ohio Master of Fine Arts program.
- Spring 2008: Appointed Editor of the Akron Series in Poetry.
- Spring 2008: Chair, Association of Writers and Writing Programs Pedagogy Team.
- 2005-2009: NEOMFA Campus Coordinator and Executive Committee member, University of Akron.

## **COURSES TAUGHT:**

### **University of Akron, Department of English, 2005-present**

Prior teaching record available upon request

#### Creative Writing

English 277: Introduction to Poetry Writing (Fall 2005, Fall 2006, Fall 2007, Fall 2008, Summer 2009, Summer 2010, Fall 2010, Fall 2011, Fall 2012, Fall 2019, Fall 2020, Fall 2021, Fall 2023)

English 278: Introduction to Fiction Writing (Fall 2006)

English 377: Advanced Poetry Writing (Spring 2006, Spring 2007, Spring 2008, Spring 2009, Spring 2010, Spring 2011, Spring 2012, Spring 2013, Spring 2014, Spring 2015, Spring 2016, Spring 2019, Spring 2021, Spring 2022, Spring 2024)

English 457/554: Writers on Writing (Spring 2017, Spring 2018, Spring 2019)

English 689: NEOMFA Graduate Workshop in Fiction Writing: Flash Fiction and Hybrid Flash Prose (Fall 2020)

English 689: NEOMFA Graduate Workshop in Poetry Writing (Fall 2005, Spring 2007, Spring 2008, Spring 2009, Spring 2010, Spring 2011, Spring 2012, Spring 2014, Spring 2017, Fall 2018, Spring 2021, Fall 2022, Fall 2023)

English 689: Craft & Theory of Poetry: Poetry of the Body (Spring 2007, Fall 2017), First Books (Fall 2007, Fall 2015, Fall 2021), Poetry of the Unexpected (Fall 2008), Publishing Poetry (Spring 2013), Poetry Saves Lives (Spring 2020), Prose Poem Studio (Spring 2023)

#### Literature

Women Writers (Summer 2008), Modern American Poetry (Spring 2006, Summer 2007) iM, SI.44 Mer.9 (i1a ( ) JTG 20n) 10.9

**SELECTED RECENT PRESENTATIONS AND EVENTS:**

February 2024: “(More than) Crisis and Loss: Writing Female Mid-life” poetry reading at AWP conference bookfair stage.

March 2023: Poetry reading and class visit for the Theodore Dreiser Reading Series at Indiana State University.

October 2022: Poetry reading at Baldwin Wallace University, Berea, OH.

October 2021: Poetry reading for the Rufus & Louise Reiberg Reading Series at IUPUI, University Library Lilly Auditorium.

October 2019-February 2020: Served as Florida Literary Arts Council touring poet, visiting seven different Florida colleges and universities to read poems and lecture on poetry and creativity.

January 2020: Poetry reading at Literati Bookstore, Ann Arbor, MI, with fellow University of Michigan poets.

March 2015: Poetry reading and discussion, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI.  
April 2014: Craft talk and poetry reading, Saint Lawrence University, Canton, NY.  
January 2014: Poetry reading and lecture, University of Tampa, Tampa, FL.

**TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS:**

- Writing of poetry: craft, theory,