N.C. Sorosis, a women’s philanthropic organization in Wilmington, recently honored Lavonne J. Adams for her work. The organization awarded, in Lavonne’s name, a scholarship to Hillora Lang, a senior in the BFA program who is majoring in creative writing (fiction) with the Certificate in Publishing, and in English (literary studies).

Congratulations, Lavonne and Hillora!

Wendy Brenner’s essay "About A Girl" (from Oxford American's Book of Great Music Writing) was reprinted on Oxford American's website in December to coincide with release of their annual Music Issue. The essay can be read here:
http://www.oxfordamerican.org/articles/2013/dec/02/partial-list-country-musicians-my-sister-rachel-ha/

Congratulations, Wendy!


Congratulations, David!

“When I sat down to consider my marketable skills, I identified just three: I was good at trading raunchy jokes with drunken clergy; I knew how to make an open fan swoop and glide across a room; and I could speak Japanese...” Robert Anthony Siegel writes about the conundrum of employment for writers in the new Winter issue of Ploughshares.

Have you ever found an old book and suddenly remembered the time in your life when you first read it, and how the book’s meaning was shaded by the very different you who sat with it, so many years ago? Robert Anthony Siegel writes about that experience in the Winter issue of Tin House, out now.

He also interviews the wonderful Chinese novelist Yan Lianke for Bookforum—on sex, socialism and poisoned ducks: http://bookforum.com/interview/12668.

Congratulations, Robert!
Several undergraduate students have been hired as interns in the Spring 2014 semester: Blair Callahan and Michael Wadkins in UNCW’s Office of University Relations, Alexandra Flentje and Ryanne Probst at the Brooklyn Arts Center at St. Andrews, and Chris Pendergast at Encore magazine.

Congratulations, all!

Nicole Aronis, a December 2013 BFA graduate in fiction, plus the Certificate in Publishing, has won an internship with the Black Mountain Press in Asheville. Her duties include reading and editing book-length manuscripts, and recommending manuscripts for acquisition.

Congratulations, Nicole!

Creative writing major Chelsea Deaner, who is also a student leader for UNCW’s information technology team, was featured by WECT television in a December 1 about the perils of online shopping: http://www.wect.com/story/24107356/staying-safe-on-cyber-monday.

Congratulations, Chelsea!

Gabriel Reich, who earned the BFA degree in fiction in December 2013, has been accepted to UNCW’s Master of Liberal Studies Program, effective January 2013.

Congratulations, Gabe!
MFA student Michelle Crouch has a wonderful short piece in Orion Magazine's "The Place Where You Live" Feature:
www.orionmagazine.org/index.php/place_where_you_live/view/wilmington_nc_7951/
Congratulations, Michelle!

MFA student Nicola DeRobertis-Theye will have an essay in the Fall issue of Agni.
Congratulations, Nicola!

MFA student Alexa Doran's poem "Sex Studies" appears in the current issue of So To Speak.
Congratulations, Alexa!

MFA student Dina Greenberg’s flash piece "Unburdened" will be published in the Spring 2014 issue of the Barely South Review.
Congratulations, Dina!
MFA student Katharine Johnsen has a poem “Quai de Bourbon” in the latest *Mid-American Review*, alongside MFA alum Rochelle Hurt ('11) for her poem “In the Century of Fumes,” part of her thesis *The Rusted City*, forthcoming in 2014 from White Pine Press.

Congratulations, Kate and Rochelle!

MFA student Leah Poole Osowski has a poem coming out in the 11th issue of *Weave Magazine*, due out in July.

Congratulations, Leah!

MFA student Rachel Richardson has a nonfiction piece, “Table for One,” in the latest issue of *Revolution House*, writing about “cheeseburgers, Raymond Chandler, [her] awful ex-boyfriend and Norway.”

Congratulations, Rachel!

MFA student Erica Sklar’s nonfiction piece, “Legacy,” published in the *Summerset Review*, has been nominated for the 2014 *Best American Essays*.

Also, she has a poem in the upcoming issue of *The MacGuffin*.

Congratulations, Erica!

Congratulations, Bethany!

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MFA alum Hannah Dela Cruz Abrams’ poem “Men in Spring” is forthcoming in *Carolina Quarterly* Issue 63.3.

Congratulations, Hannah!

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MFA alum Patricia Bjorklund (’08) was a finalist in the *Missouri Review’s 2013 Jeffrey E. Smith Editors’ Prize* for her essay, “Chumps and Champs.”

Congratulations, Pat!

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MFA alum (’06) Kate Cumiskey shares with us that her poetry book, *Yonder*, is coming out with Silent e Publishing this month, and a nonfiction, *UCF Through Time*, with Fonthill Media early in 2014! Also this past year poems came out with *Future Cycle & Zaum*; five are forthcoming in *Cedars*.

Congratulations, Kate!
MFA alum ('11) Jeremy Hawkins’ short story "Murder!" is in the most recent issue of *DIAGRAM*. Also, he recently had a flash fiction piece titled "Christmas Day" at *Asbury Pulp*: [http://asburypulp.com/2013/12/christmas-day/](http://asburypulp.com/2013/12/christmas-day/).

Congratulations, Jeremy!

MFA alum ('13) Ben Hoffman won FIRST PRIZE in the Zoetrope Short Fiction Contest for his piece “Reports from a Higher Roof”! [http://www.all-story.com/contests.cgi](http://www.all-story.com/contests.cgi)

Congratulations, Ben!

MFA alum ('05) Robert Dean Lurie’s co-authored book on martial arts, *The Edge: Life Lessons From a Martial Arts Master*, is now available!

Congratulations, Rob!


Congratulations, Josh!
MFA alum Janie Miller ('08) is an Eco Arts Awards finalist in Literature for her piece “Wilderness Lessons.”

Congratulations, Janie!


He also has a piece, “Two Poems,” on KillAuthor.com. Hear John read at http://killauthor.com/issueeighteen/john-mortara/.

Congratulations, John!

MFA alum ('08) Jason Mott has been nominated for a 2014 NAACP Image Award in the category of ‘Outstanding Literary Work -- Debut Author.’

Congratulations, Jason!


Congratulations, Jason!
MFA alum ('13) Eric Tran’s poetry chapbook, *Affairs with Men in Suits*, is forthcoming from Backbone Press!

Also, he has published flash creative nonfiction in the *Star*82 Review (“Dream in My Parents’ Donut Shop”) and has a lyric essay, “Methods of Anonymity,” in the spring issue of *Redivider*.

Congratulations, Eric!

The January issue of Wilmington’s *Salt* magazine features a wealth of Creative Writing folks as columnists: faculty members Clyde Edgerton and Virginia Holman (who shot the cover photo and has two essays) and MFA alums Jason Frye ('05) and Dana Sachs ('00). Also included is a beautiful poem by Michael White titled “Bioluminescence.”

A link to the digital magazine is here: http://issuu.com/saltmagazinenc/docs/january_2014_salt

Phil Furia hosts the daily segment ‘The Great American Songbook’ on WHQR 1:30-2:00pm, and during the *Morning Edition* on Fridays at 6:00am.

Philip Gerard is a regular commentator on WHQR—listen to his broadcast segments every other Thursday at 7:35a, 8:50a, or 5:45p, or online in the WHQR Thursday Commentaries at http://www.whqr.org/people/philip-gerard.
Philip Gerard is featured this month in *Our State* magazine with his next installment of the series “The Civil War: Life in North Carolina.” This rich and complex story will continue monthly through May 2015 and can be read at ourstate.com/civil-war. Listen to an interview about the series here.

“The war magnified the best and the worst of the human spirit and bequeathed us a legacy that, a century and a half later, we still ponder.”