August 25, 2015

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the Literary Reportage program. This letter contains lots of information about, and links to, various aspects of Lit Rep. I know it isn’t possible for every applicant to visit NYU, but I urge anyone who can to do so. While here you can sit in on some classes, and get to know the students and faculty. If you are able to come, please contact Hannah McCarthy (hannahrcmccarthy@gmail.com), a second year grad student, who will help coordinate your visit.

2015 was an extremely busy, productive year. Here is some of what has been going on:

- Our students continue to publish widely and well.

- Two final semester students received book contracts based on their theses.

- Two Lit Rep alum have books that began with their theses being published in 2016.

- Taylor Beck (‘15) and Laura Smith (‘15) received the Banff/Literary Reportage Fellowship and spent July working in a private writing cabin at the gorgeous Banff Centre for the Arts, under the tutelage of three veteran editors. Applications for the 2016 fellowship are due in March.
The Mentorship Program is going strong, pairing every Lit Rep students with a professional journalist [http://tinyurl.com/lrmentor](http://tinyurl.com/lrmentor). In exchange for five hours of research per week, the journalist will spend one hour on your work.

Because some of today’s best literary reportage come from *This American Life*, *Radiolab*, *Studio 360*, *Planet Money* and other audio programs, we’ve continued to expand Lit Rep’s multimedia training.

We offer two, Lit Rep-exclusive, week-long audio crash courses every year. The first during the last week in August. And the second during the last week of winter break. Both produce short stories and learn to use Pro Tools. Here is what they did last year.

**CLASSES**

You are welcome to come and sit in on as many classes as you likw. Email the professor the day before, both as a courtesy, and to make sure the schedule hasn’t changed. All syllabi are available online [http://journalism.nyu.edu/courses/](http://journalism.nyu.edu/courses/).

Here are classes Lit Rep students are most likely to take:
- Writing, Research & Reporting I/Lit Rep, Liza Featherstone, Tuesday, 9:30-12:30
- Introduction to Literary Reportage, Robert Boynton, Thursday, 2-5
- Documentary Storytelling for Radio and Podcast, Audrey Quinn, M, 10-2
- Portfolio II, Suketu Mehta, Wednesday, 9:30-12
- How Books Are Built, Michael Norman, Thursday 3:30-7
- Personal Essay, Perri Klass, Tuesday, 2-5:40
- The Art of Argument and Polemic, Katie Roiphe, Tuesday, 9:45-12:45

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Every semester we invite writers, editors and agents to talk about their work. We’ve scheduled three so far, any of which you are encouraged to attend. In addition, the other concentrations at the Institute offer their own events, all of them open to Lit Rep students. I hope you can join us.

- A Conversation with New York Times Magazine editor Jake Silverstein, [Sept. 17](#)
- A Conversation with Ted Conover about *New Yorker* writer Bill Finnegan’s memoir, *Barbarian Days*, Sept. 24
- More to come...

**STUDENTS**

Students are the best sources of information about the program. Because Lit Rep is new, and the
program is small, we haven’t yet had a lot of them. Here is contact information for some current and past Lit Rep students, as well as some who participated in the Portfolio program that led to the creation of Literary Reportage.

Current Students
Alex Brokaw, alexander.brokaw@gmail.com
Natalie Lampert, natalielampert@nyu.edu
Jas Chana, jsichana@gmail.com
Lindsey Smith, lindsjean@gmail.com
Michelle Kim, chookyung.m.kim@gmail.com
Kate Newman, kvnewman@gmail.com

Past Students
Taylor Beck, taylor.beck216@gmail.com
Kelsey Kudak, kkudak@gmail.com
Elizabeth Flock, elizabethflock@gmail.com
Nicole Pasulka, nicole.pasulka@gmail.com
Will Hunt, willhuntblue@gmail.com
Cody Upton, cody.upton@gmail.com
Matt Wolfe, matthew.m.wolfe@gmail.com
Robert Moor, rmoor1984@gmail.com
Patrick Arden, patrickarden@yahoo.com

I hope this information is helpful. Don’t hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Best,
Prof. Robert Boynton
robert.boynton@nyu.edu

Sincerely,
Robert S. Boynton