to be, not to seem.
The Writer’s Foundry at St. Joseph’s college stands in Clinton Hill on the border of Fort Greene, two of the most vibrant and deep-grounded neighborhoods in all of New York City, and seeks to attract writers who dedicate themselves to excellence in all areas of literary life.

As writers we do not wish to imprint an unyielding or particular aesthetic onto each other, but rather aim to encourage and develop that which is individual. Students are regarded as working artists, intent upon practicing the promise of their craft.

We favor an environment and pedagogical approach whereby competency can refine itself.

While we are a private college, our program strives to be affordable without compromising that which is essential and exceptional.

Our basic assumption is that all acts of writing are creative, a product of imagination and thought. Prior to the proliferation of ‘creative’ writing programs, it was not unusual for many writers to move with fluency and inter-assuredness between stories, novels, personal essays, travel writing, critical editorials, reviews, biography, memoir and of course the pulse, pattern and abstract energy that benefits all writing: poetry.

At the Writer’s Foundry, varied literary genres are joined in the same classroom to provide inspiration and flexible expression unhampered by the administrative convenience of concentration.

“The structures of written language are our central concern. Clearly, the structures of literature operate at full strength only when submerged in the written work. It is there that they are organic to the virtual life of the work. Once a writer knows by experience the live literary structures submerged in what she has written, it is useful for her to separate them out, first to assent to them and second to imagine better ways to use them.”

– Marie Ponsot & Rosemary Deen
CURRICULUM

Writing Workshop
In this class writers bring new and ongoing literary projects, long and short, for presentation to their peers, each to be closely examined in the form of written comments from fellow students and discussion guided by a core faculty member. The texts for this course are based primarily upon the writing that the class itself generates, but can be frequently supplemented by additional readings and lessons via handout.

15 Evening Sessions ......................... (4 credits)

Inventive Writing Practicum
The fundamental core of the St. Joseph’s Writer’s Foundry education, this class studies and practices the forms and modes of rhetoric that many works of literature share with each other. Its readings and discussions are focused to provide companionable reference to other parts of the program.

15 Evening Sessions ......................... (3 credits)

The Master Literature Lectures
Here distinguished authors visit The Writer’s Foundry to deliver a master lecture on a notable work of writing from the classical or contemporary canon. Each visiting lecturer is asked to speak, one-writer-to-another, about literary topics concerning the featured book, and also answer questions that their presentations raise.

6 Evening Sessions ......................... (1 credit)

Symposium Electives
Each semester there are readings, as well as single and double session mini-classes focused on specific genres or recently published works.

Faculty
Students study with a distinguished faculty of writers whose paths to writing are diverse and unique.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students with Disabilities
St. Joseph’s College seeks to ensure that all students are afforded fair and equitable access to all of its programs and activities. Please contact the director of counseling, career and disability services at 718.636.6868 for appropriate accommodations and services.

Application Deadlines
The priority deadline for submitting an application is January 15 (priority applications must be submitted online or postmarked by this date). All applications submitted after January 15 will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

Graduate Admissions
Applicants should possess an undergraduate degree from an accredited college or university. (Successful waiver of this requirement depends on significant publication and/or an accomplished literary work history, and is granted only at the discretion of the Dean and Provost’s admission’s committee)

The application should include:

1. A Copy of Graduate Application Form
   Applicants who submit the Graduate Application online do not need to send a paper copy. Applications and materials can be mailed to admissions or emailed to mfa@sjcny.edu

2. A 30 Page Manuscript
   Two or three short stories, a section of a novel, or both; memoir, travel writing, personal essay, biography, or critical writings. (Manuscripts must be double-spaced).

3. Personal Statement (500 words)
   Reveal something about yourself that we may not otherwise see from other parts of your application; also state why you wish to pursue graduate study. (Think of this as another sample of your writing).

4. Letters of Recommendation
   Three letters written by instructors or colleagues who know your writing and are best able to assess your potential for graduate study.

5. An Official Copy of Transcripts
   Include all universities and colleges where grades were earned for undergraduate and graduate work.

6. Current Résumé/Curriculum Vitae

7. Application Fee
   A non-refundable application fee of $25 in the form of a check or money order made payable to St. Joseph’s College.

For more information about the program, please visit: www.sjcny.edu/mfa
WRITER’S FOUNDRY FACULTY

Chris Adrian is the author of three novels: Gob’s Brief, The Children’s Hospital and The Great Night. In 2008, he published A Better Angel, a collection of short stories. His short fiction has appeared in The Paris Review, Zoetrope, Ploughshares, McSweeney’s, The New Yorker, The Best American Short Stories and Story. He was one of 11 fiction writers to receive a Guggenheim Fellowship in 2009. A graduate of the Iowa Writers’ Workshop, Adrian also received his M.D. from Eastern Virginia Medical School in 2001 and attended Harvard Divinity School. He is currently in the pediatric hematology/oncology fellowship at the University of California, San Francisco.

Ayana Mathis received an M.F.A. from the Iowa Writers’ Workshop and is the recipient of the 2011-2012 Michener Copernicus Fellowship and the Iowa Writers’ Workshop’s Teaching Writing Fellowship. Her novel The Twelve Tribes of Hattie is forthcoming from Knopf in fall 2012. She lives in Brooklyn.

Taylor Plimpton is the author of Notes from the Night: A Life After Dark (Crown) and the co-editor of The Dreaded Feast: Writers on Enduring the Holidays (Abrams). He is currently the literary editor of Manhattan Magazine. His writing has appeared in Sports Illustrated, Men’s Journal, Town & Country, Dan’s Papers, newyorker.com, TheRumpus.net and elsewhere. He graduated with a degree in English from Reed College and has taught at The Writer’s Foundry.

Danyel Smith is the author of the novels More Like Wrestling and Bliss. She is the former editor of Billboard, former chief content officer of VIBE Media Group, and former editor-in-chief of Vibe and vibe.com. Smith is also a former Time Inc. editor-at-large, and has written for NPR, CNN, MySpace, Elle, Time, Essence, the New Yorker, Rolling Stone, Conde Nast Media Group, and the New York Times. A 2013-14 John S. Knight Journalism Fellow at Stanford University, she often comments on music and culture for NPR, CNN, VH1, and ABC, and is currently working on a history of black women in pop music.

Jackson Taylor is the author of the novel The Blue Orchard. His poetry has appeared in Sleeping Fish, Barrow Street, LIT, Witness and the anthology, “What’s Your Exit?: A Literary Detour Through New Jersey.” For more than twenty years he has directed the Prison Writing Program at PEN American Center. In 1996 he co-founded the graduate writing program at The New School, and he has also taught at Mediabistro, The Fortune Society, Friends of Island Academy and The Holy Apostles Soup Kitchen.

Justin Torres grew up in upstate New York and is the author of the novel We the Animals. His work has appeared in The New Yorker, Granta, Tin House, Glimmer Train and other publications. A graduate of the Iowa Writers’ Workshop, he is a recipient of the Rolón United States Artist Fellowship in Literature, and is now a Wallace Stegner Fellow at Stanford University. He has worked as a farmhand, a dog-walker, a creative writing teacher and a bookseller.

Visiting Authors

Spring 2014
• Sheri Holman
• Marie Howe
• Brighde Mullins
• Taylor Plimpton
• Donald Ray Pollock
• Peter Trachtenberg

Fall 2014
• Victor LaValle
• Danyel Smith
• Justin Torres
• Elizabeth Nunez
• Paul Harding
• David Gates
# Application for Graduate Admissions

## Part 1 - Biographical Data

Social Security Number ________ / ________ / ________

Title [ ] Mr. [ ] Ms. [ ] Mrs. [ ] Other

Name ____________________________________________

Last First Middle

Former or Other Name ____________________________________________

Last First Middle

Home Address ____________________________________________ Apt No. ________

Number Street

City ____________________________________________ State __________________ ZIP ____________

Mailing address (if different than above) ____________________________________________

Home Phone ( ) ___________________________ Cell Phone ( ) ___________________________

Business Phone ( ) ___________________________ TTY/TDD (if applicable) ( ) ___________________________

Email Address ____________________________________________

☐ I would like to be considered for any merit scholarships (FAFSA required to be eligible for scholarships or grants)

☐ I do not require merit scholarship to attend and prefer my award be assigned to a student with need

Citizenship [ ] U.S. Citizen [ ] Permanent Resident

Date of Birth ________ / ________ / ________

Month Day Year

Country of Birth ____________________________________________

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**Please complete and return by January 15 to:**

Admissions Office
The Writer’s Foundry
St. Joseph’s College
245 Clinton Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11205

or email to MFA@sjcny.edu

For more information about the program, please visit: www.sjcny.edu/mfa
Part 3 - Educational Data

List in chronological order ALL colleges and universities attended.

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<th>School Name and Address</th>
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Please arrange to have ALL official transcripts sent directly to St. Joseph’s College.

What or who influenced your application to a St. Joseph’s College graduate program?

☐ College Representative/Admissions Counselor
☐ Internet
☐ Friend/Relative
☐ Co-worker
☐ Mailing/Advertisement
☐ Other _____________________________

Part 4 - Visa Requirement Data

Students who are neither U.S. citizens nor permanent residents of the U.S. must complete this section. All other applicants please proceed to next section.

Country of Citizenship ____________________________ Country of Birth ____________________________

Are you currently residing in the United States?

☐ Yes  ☐ No  If yes, which visa do you hold? ____________________________ Expiration Date ________ / ________ / ________

If you currently hold an F-1 visa, name of institution that issued your I-20 ____________________________

Part 5 - Signature

To be completed by all applicants.

I certify that the information I have provided on this application is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that this application must be complete and that all requested documentation must be submitted before an admissions decision can be rendered. I understand that each department may have specific requirements. I further understand that any misrepresentation of requested information may result in admission being rescinded or in dismissal at any time after admission.

Applicant’s Signature ____________________________ Date ________ / ________ / ________

This application is not a contract. The acceptance by the Admissions Committee of St. Joseph’s College does not obligate the College to anything other than to review and decide upon the applicant’s eligibility for admission.

It is the policy of St. Joseph’s College not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national or ethnic origin, age, handicap or marital status in its educational programs, admissions policies, financial aid or other school-administered programs. This policy is implemented in compliance with all applicable federal, state and local statutes or regulations.
Graduate Tuition and Fees for the MFA Program

Tuition (Based on Fall 2013, 9 Credits Per Semester) ...................... $11,250.00
College Fee (Based on 9 Credits Per Semester) .............................. $96.00
Mandated Accident Insurance (Based on 9 Credits Per Semester) ........ $7.25
Technology Fee (Based on 9 Credits Per Semester) ........................... $75.00
Thesis Fee .................................................................................... $100.00
Maintaining Matriculation Fee ...................................................... $300.00

Visiting St. Joseph’s College

1. St. Angela Hall, 263 Waverly Avenue
2. Burns Hall, 245 Clinton Avenue
3. Tuohy Hall, 245 Clinton Avenue
4. Lorenzo Hall, 245 Clinton Avenue
5. St. Joseph’s Hall, 256 Clinton Avenue
6. The Molloy Theatre
7. Dillon Child Study Center, 239 Vanderbilt Avenue
8. Founders Hall, 232 Clinton Avenue
9. McEntegart Hall Library, 222 Clinton Avenue

Directions

St. Joseph’s College is located in the Clinton Hill section of Brooklyn, NY at 245 Clinton Avenue, between DeKalb and Willoughby Avenues. We encourage you to visit our campus and meet with current students and faculty members. Please call the Office of Admissions at 718.636.6868 for more information.

From Queens:
Brooklyn-Queens Expressway to exit 31, Wythe-Kent.

From Brooklyn:
Brooklyn-Queens Expressway to exit 27, Atlantic Avenue.

From the Subway
D, M, N, Q, R to DeKalb Station. Take bus (B38) on Fulton Street to Vanderbilt Avenue.
2, 3, 4, 5 Nevins Street Station. Take bus (B38) on Fulton Street to Vanderbilt Avenue.
A to Hoyt-Schermerhorn. Transfer to the G.
E, F to Queens Plaza. Transfer to the G.
G to Clinton-Washington Station.

From the Bus
DeKalb Avenue bus (B38) to Vanderbilt Avenue.
Crosstown bus (B61) to Vanderbilt Avenue.
Myrtle Avenue bus (B54) to Clinton Avenue.
Flushing Avenue bus (B57 or B62) to Vanderbilt Avenue.
Vanderbilt Avenue bus (B69) to DeKalb Avenue.
Nostrand Avenue bus (B44) to DeKalb Avenue. Transfer to B69.
Flatbush Avenue bus (B41) to Vanderbilt Avenue. Transfer to B69.