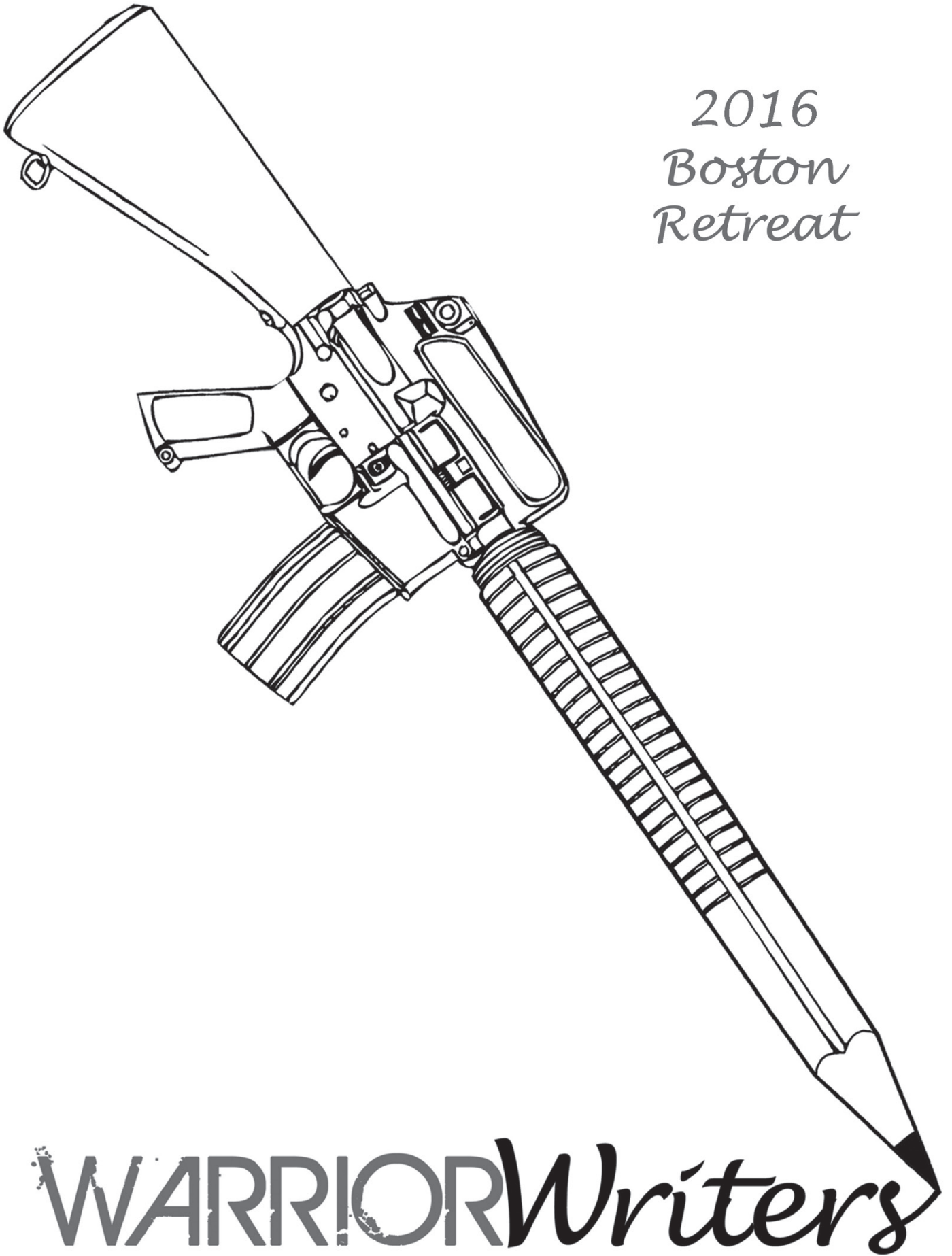


2016
Boston
Retreat



WARRIOR *Writers*

JUNE 20 • MONDAY

8:30am – 9:00am	Breakfast	Old Oak Dojo (14 Chestnut Pl, Jamaica Plain, MA)
9:00am – 10:00am	Joiner Institute Faculty Orientation	UMass Boston, Wheatley 1 (Snowden Auditorium)
9:00am – 10:00am	Travel to UMass Boston	TBA
10:00am – 11:00am	Joiner Institute Registration and Student Orientation	UMass Boston, Wheatley 1 (Snowden Auditorium)
11:00am – 12:00pm	Joiner Institute Initial Master Class Sessions	TBA
	<i>Faculty: Lady Borton, Martha Collins, Danielle Legros Georges, Helen Elaine Lee, Fred Marchant</i>	
11:00am – 12:00pm	Warrior Writers Welcome and Initial Class Session	UMass Boston, Wheatley 1 (Snowden Auditorium)
	<i>Faculty: Lovella Calica, Sean Davis</i>	
12:00pm – 1:30pm	Lunch	TBA
1:30pm – 3:30pm	Panel Discussion: Women Veterans Speak	UMass Boston, Wheatley 1 (Snowden Auditorium)
	<i>Moderators: Erin Leach-Ogden</i>	
	<i>Speakers: Margaret Laneri, Savina Martin, Giselle Sterling, Nicole Waybright</i>	

Women in America have served in the armed forces since the American Revolution, but formal military recognition and the status of "veteran" was denied to them until 1948 (even later in some cases), regardless of their service throughout WWI and WWII in the tens of thousands. Despite the thousands of women who served in Vietnam, deployed to Operation Desert Storm/Desert Shield, and fought in Iraq and Afghanistan where "front lines" never existed, the debate over "women in combat" continued officially until 2015. To this day, many of these women still express feeling unrecognized, as if the terms "veteran" and "combat veteran" do not fully apply to them. And yet, women are now the fastest growing portion of the veteran population. So what do women themselves think, say and write about their military service and their transition back to civilian life, both good and bad? How is it different from what men experience? And why does it matter?

3:30pm – 4:00pm	Break	TBA
4:00pm – 5:30pm	Joiner Institute Faculty Reading	UMass Boston, Wheatley 1 (Snowden Auditorium)
	<i>Faculty: Martha Collins, Sean Davis, Danielle Legros Georges</i>	
5:30pm – 7:00pm	Dinner and Travel to Porter Square Book Store	TBA
7:00pm – 8:30pm	Tribe: On Homecoming and Belonging	Porter Square Books (25 White Street, Cambridge, MA)
	<i>Speakers: Sebastian Junger</i>	
	<i>Field Trip – we'll be going to a public reading by Sebastian Junger after going out for dinner in Porter Square. Junger is the New York Times-bestselling author of The Perfect Storm, A Death in Belmont, Fire, and War.</i>	

We have a strong instinct to belong to small groups defined by clear purpose and understanding—"tribes." This tribal connection has been largely lost in modern society, but regaining it may be the key to our psychological survival. Tribal society has been exerting an almost gravitational pull on Westerners for hundreds of years, and the reason lies deep in our evolutionary past as a communal species. The most recent example of that attraction is combat veterans who come home to find themselves missing the incredibly intimate bonds of platoon life. The loss of closeness that comes at the end of deployment may explain the high rates of PTSD suffered by military veterans today. Combining history, psychology, and anthropology, *Tribe* explores what we can learn from tribal societies about loyalty, belonging, and the eternal human quest for meaning. It explains the irony that—for many veterans as well as civilians—war feels better than peace, adversity can turn out to be a blessing, and disasters are sometimes remembered more fondly than weddings or tropical vacations. *Tribe* explains why we are stronger when we come together, and how that can be achieved even in today's divided world.

JUNE 21 • TUESDAY

8:30am – 9:00am	Breakfast	Old Oak Dojo (14 Chestnut Pl, Jamaica Plain, MA)
9:00am – 10:00am	Travel to UMass Boston	
9:00am – 11:30am	Joiner Institute Master Classes	TBA
	<i>Faculty: Lady Borton, Martha Collins, Danielle Legros Georges, Helen Elaine Lee, Fred Marchant</i>	
10:00am – 11:30am	Warrior Writers Workshop	UMass, Wheatley 1, (Room 52)
	<i>Facilitators: Davelle Barnes, Lovella Calica</i>	
11:30am – 12:00pm	Lunch	
12:00pm – 1:30pm	Memoir Class	UMass Boston, McCormack 1 (Room 409)
	<i>Faculty: Sean Davis</i>	
	<p>Everyone has a unique and riveting story to tell. A person's life could be wildly unconventional or relatively normal, but through the use of perspective and structure, each individual can find a story people will love to read. That's why the contemporary memoir has become such a popular phenomenon. A memoir covers an aspect of a life, whether it's a short piece about a fire, or a book about transitioning back into society. Story structure, language, and perspective will be explored. The instructor will give participants some techniques for turning experiences into stories. Participants will read, write, and share their writing.</p>	
1:30pm – 2:00pm	Break	
2:00pm – 3:00pm	Living in No-Man's Land: Being a Veteran in the UK	UMass Boston, McCormack 1 (Room 409)
	<i>Speakers: Sarah Bulmer, David Jackson</i>	
2:00pm – 3:00pm	Travel to Dojo	
3:00pm – 5:00pm	Open Writing Time and Prep for Longfellow House Reading	Old Oak Dojo (14 Chestnut Pl, Jamaica Plain, MA)
3:00pm – 5:00pm	Seven Days Down South: A War Story – A Film by David Jackson	UMass Boston, McCormack 1 (Room 409)
	<i>Speakers: Paula Caplan, David Jackson</i>	
4:00pm – 5:00pm	Tension Release Exercises	Old Oak Dojo (14 Chestnut Pl, Jamaica Plain, MA)
	<i>Facilitators: Lovella Calica</i>	
	<p>Tension Release Exercises (TRE) assist the body in releasing deep muscular patterns of stress, tension and trauma by safely activating a natural reflex mechanism of shaking or vibrating to calm down the nervous system, encouraging the body to return back to a state of balance. It can release emotions ranging from mild upset to severe anxiety whether it is caused by work stress, excessive worry, conflict in relationships, physical stresses or traumas from accidents.</p>	
5:00pm – 7:00pm	Dinner and Seva	Old Oak Dojo (14 Chestnut Pl, Jamaica Plain, MA)
	<p><i>Seva</i> is a Sanskrit word that translates to <i>selfless service</i> which is performed without any expectation of result or reward. Symbolically, <i>seva</i> represents the sacred thread that connects all life and the gifts that flow between all beings. At the Old Oak Dojo, the weekly <i>seva</i> is an opportunity to extend the flow of generosity among people who visit this place. The Dojo operates in the spirit of gift culture, which means that they don't charge fees for the use of the space. We invite our Warrior Writers retreat participants to drop by before the workshop for dinner and to help out with cleaning the Dojo, sweeping the patio, weeding the garden, and other activities, in preparation for the week ahead.</p>	
6:00pm – 8:00pm	Warrior Writers Workshop	Old Oak Dojo (14 Chestnut Pl, Jamaica Plain, MA)

JUNE 22 • WEDNESDAY

8:30am – 9:00am	Breakfast	Old Oak Dojo (14 Chestnut Pl, Jamaica Plain, MA)
9:00am – 10:00am	Travel to UMass Boston	
9:00am – 11:30am	Joiner Institute Master Classes	TBA
	<i>Faculty: Lady Borton, Martha Collins, Danielle Legros Georges, Helen Elaine Lee, Fred Marchant</i>	
10:00am – 11:30am	Warrior Writers Workshop	UMass, Wheatley 1, (Room 52)
	<i>Facilitators: Shannon Kafka, Nicole Waybright</i>	
11:30am – 12:00pm	Lunch	
12:00pm – 1:30pm	Memoir Class	UMass Boston, McCormack 1 (Room 409)
	<i>Faculty: Sean Davis</i>	
1:30pm – 2:00pm	Break	
2:00pm – 3:15pm	Panel Discussion: Veteran Peer Support Programs	UMass Boston, McCormack 2 (Room 404)
	<i>Moderators: Thomas Kane</i>	
	<i>Speakers: John Burke, Shannon Kafka, Rachel McNeill, Cary Rothenburger</i>	
	<p>In the past three years the William Joiner Institute and local veterans organizations have been engaged in a number of veteran to veteran peer support programs, where veterans meet, network, share issues, challenges, and knowledge with each other as they transition to civilian life and address issues that may have impacted them during and after their military service. This panel session will include presentations and discussions about three of the initiatives that the William Joiner Institute and its veteran staff have been involved in either on campus or in the local Boston community.</p>	
3:30pm – 4:30pm	You Do Not Live in My Skin: Challenges of Representing Experiences of War and its Aftermath	UMass Boston, McCormack 2 (Room 404)
	<i>Speakers: Sarah Bulmer, David Jackson</i>	
	<p>Sarah Bulmer and David Jackson will discuss the methodological challenges of researching veterans' experiences and why they use a dialogic method for their own research. This will be based on their 2016 article, "You do not live in my skin: Embodiment, voice, and the veteran" in <i>Critical Military Studies</i>. They will also discuss their own collaboration and the different perspectives they bring as a veteran and civilian.</p>	
4:30pm – 5:30pm	Travel to Longfellow House	
5:30pm – 6:30pm	Dinner	
6:30pm – 8:00pm	Warrior Writers Reading	Longfellow House - Washington's Headquarters (105 Brattle St, Cambridge, MA)
	<i>Moderators: Lovella Calica, Rachel McNeill</i>	
	<i>Faculty: Kevin Bowen, Fred Marchant, Nicole Waybright, Bruce Weigl</i>	

JUNE 23 • THURSDAY

7:30am – 8:00am	Breakfast	Old Oak Dojo (14 Chestnut Pl, Jamaica Plain, MA)
8:00am – 9:00am	Travel to UMass Boston	
9:00am – 11:30am	Writing at the Juncture of Memory and Imagination: Discovering Truth in Poetry <i>Faculty: Bruce Weigl</i>	UMass Boston, McCormack 1 (Room 409)
11:30am – 12:00pm	Lunch	
12:00pm – 1:30pm	Jeff Male Memorial Reading <i>Speakers: Alan Albert, Eric Wasileski</i>	UMass Boston, McCormack 1 (Room 409)
1:30pm – 2:00pm	Break	
2:00pm – 3:00pm	Travel to Dojo	
2:00pm – 4:00pm	Sounds of Healing: An Overview of Military Music Therapy and Interactive Songwriting Workshop <i>Speakers: Natasha Brewer, Demi Bullock</i>	UMass Boston, McCormack 1 (Room 409)
<p>This group is designed to help process therapeutic material, facilitate personal growth, learn new ways of healthy introspection, develop stable coping mechanisms, and develop creative expression skills. Psycho-education is integrated through teaching various components of recreational music and music therapy. The workshop will focus on the creative process of writing as it applies to songwriting. Participants will be introduced to the practice of music therapy, including various music therapy interventions (relaxation, breathing, rhythm), learn about the concept of songwriting, and observe a brief songwriting demonstration from the facilitators. Participants will be introduced to genres that they can select to accompany their writing and will engage in a self-reflective writing process. The writing will then be turned into song. Time permitting, participants may present and record their songs, which will be given to them via email or on a CD.</p>		
3:00pm – 5:00pm	Open Writing Time and Prep for Old Oak Dojo Reading	Old Oak Dojo (14 Chestnut Pl, Jamaica Plain, MA)
4:00pm – 5:00pm	Tension Release Exercises <i>Facilitators: Lovella Calica</i>	Old Oak Dojo (14 Chestnut Pl, Jamaica Plain, MA)
5:00pm – 6:00pm	Dinner	Old Oak Dojo (14 Chestnut Pl, Jamaica Plain, MA)
6:00pm – 8:00pm	Warrior Writers Workshop <i>Faculty: Bruce Weigl</i>	Old Oak Dojo (14 Chestnut Pl, Jamaica Plain, MA)

JUNE 24 • FRIDAY

8:30am – 9:00am	Breakfast	Old Oak Dojo (14 Chestnut Pl, Jamaica Plain, MA)
9:00am – 10:00am	Travel to UMass Boston	
9:00am – 11:30am	Joiner Institute Master Classes <i>Faculty: Lady Borton, Martha Collins, Danielle Legros Georges, Helen Elaine Lee, Fred Marchant</i>	TBA
10:00am – 11:30am	Warrior Writers Workshop <i>Facilitators: Rachel McNeill, Nicole Waybright</i>	UMass, Wheatley 1, (Room 52)
12:00pm – 1:30pm	Memoir Class <i>Faculty: Sean Davis</i>	UMass Boston, McCormack 1 (Room 409)
1:30pm – 2:00pm	Break	
2:00pm – 3:00pm	Travel to Dojo	
2:00pm – 4:00pm	Dramatic Outlets: Developing Drama by, with, and for Veterans <i>Faculty: Sean Davis</i>	UMass Boston, McCormack 1 (Room 409)
	<p>All great stories have characters at the end of their ropes, right on the edge, at the very end of what they believe possible, and then those characters have to keep going and make desperate choices. This makes a great story. As veterans we don't have to make up characters like these because we've been there. In this presentation we'll look at what the reader knows versus what our characters know. We'll acknowledge that there are no heroes or villains, just people making hard choices, and those hard choices drive our stories. Not only do we have to show the external obstacles in our characters' way, we must also show the internal conflict. I will be reading short sections of a few amazing writers (Cormac McCarthy, Ernest Hemingway, and others) and we discuss how they use craft to develop their drama.</p>	
3:00pm – 4:00pm	Set-up for Reading and Open Mic Night	Old Oak Dojo (14 Chestnut Pl, Jamaica Plain, MA)
4:00pm – 6:00pm	Warrior Writers Workshop <i>Faculty: Andrew Bacevich</i>	Old Oak Dojo (14 Chestnut Pl, Jamaica Plain, MA)
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Community Dinner with Warrior Writers	Old Oak Dojo (14 Chestnut Pl, Jamaica Plain, MA)
7:00pm – 8:30pm	Warrior Writers Reading and Open Mic <i>Moderators: Lovella Calica, Deborah Frieze</i>	Old Oak Dojo (14 Chestnut Pl, Jamaica Plain, MA)

JUNE 25 • SATURDAY

10:00am – 11:00am	Breakfast	Old Oak Dojo (14 Chestnut Pl, Jamaica Plain, MA)
11:00am – 1:00pm	Working with Veterans 101 <i>Facilitators: Lovella Calica</i> This workshop is centered on building healthy relationships between service members, veterans and civilians. Some areas of learning and exploration include veterans' issues and experiences, post traumatic stress, and positive ways to engage veterans. We utilize creative writing and art-making, dialogue, participatory learning, and active listening processes to guide discussions. The training is focused on Warrior Writers facilitators but is open to all veterans and civilians, facilitators, organizations, universities, and companies who work with veterans.	Old Oak Dojo (14 Chestnut Pl, Jamaica Plain, MA)
1:00pm – 2:30pm	Lunch with Warrior Writers	Old Oak Dojo (14 Chestnut Pl, Jamaica Plain, MA)
2:30pm – 4:30pm	Warrior Writers Facilitator Training This workshop is primarily for folks already trained in facilitating Warrior Writers workshops, to improve their skills, engage in peer and self-evaluation, and to make some decisions about future activities. If you are new to the Warrior Writers community and have not been facilitating workshops but are interested in learning, you are welcome to join us! We recommend everyone come with at least one other person from your community whom you plan to organize workshops with, or already work with, to prevent burnout and share the workload. We request all workshops have at least one veteran (or service member) organizer, so please plan accordingly and take advantage of this training opportunity.	Old Oak Dojo (14 Chestnut Pl, Jamaica Plain, MA)
4:30pm – 5:00pm	Break	Old Oak Dojo (14 Chestnut Pl, Jamaica Plain, MA)
5:00pm – 6:30pm	Mental Health Discussion	Old Oak Dojo (14 Chestnut Pl, Jamaica Plain, MA)
6:30pm – 7:30pm	Dinner	Old Oak Dojo (14 Chestnut Pl, Jamaica Plain, MA)

JUNE 26 • SUNDAY

10:00am – 11:00am	Breakfast	Old Oak Dojo (14 Chestnut Pl, Jamaica Plain, MA)
10:30am – 12:30pm	Warrior Writers Facilitator Discussion	Old Oak Dojo (14 Chestnut Pl, Jamaica Plain, MA)
12:30pm – 1:00pm	Closing Circle <i>Facilitators: Lovella Calica</i>	Old Oak Dojo (14 Chestnut Pl, Jamaica Plain, MA)
1:00pm – 2:00pm	Lunch and Departures	Old Oak Dojo (14 Chestnut Pl, Jamaica Plain, MA)

Speaker and Facilitator Biographies



ALAN ALBERT has been writing and publishing poems for more than 30 years. He received his M.A. in English and Creative Writing from the University of California, Davis. He received his doctorate in clinical psychology from Antioch New England Graduate School. Alan's poetry has appeared in numerous publications, including *The American Poetry Review*, *Kansas Quarterly*, *California Quarterly*, *The Cortland Review*, *The Mississippi Review*, *Poetry East*, and *Mercy of Tides: Poems for a Beach House* (Dartmouth, MA: Salt Marsh Press). He has received Artist Residency Grants from The Vermont Studio Center in 2010 and from The Banff Centre in Alberta, Canada in 2013. His book, *Fragments of the Natural* was published by WordTech Press in 2015. He works as a clinical psychologist in private practice in Newton, Massachusetts.



ANDREW J. BACEVICH is Professor Emeritus of International Relations and History at Boston University. A graduate of the U.S. Military Academy, he received his PhD in American Diplomatic History from Princeton University. Before joining the faculty of Boston University, he taught at West Point and Johns Hopkins. In addition to previous books, Bacevich is the author of *America's War for the Greater Middle East: A Military History* (2016) and *Breach of Trust: How Americans Failed Their Soldiers and Their Country* (2013). His essays and reviews have appeared in a variety of scholarly and general interest publications including *The Wilson Quarterly*, *The National Interest*, *Foreign Affairs*, *Foreign Policy*, *The Nation*, and *The New Republic*. His op-eds have appeared in *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Financial Times*, *Boston Globe*, and *Los Angeles Times*, among other newspapers. In 2004, Dr. Bacevich was a Berlin Prize Fellow at the American Academy in Berlin. He has also held fellowships at the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, the John F. Kennedy School of Government, and the Council on Foreign Relations.



LADY BORTON has received three honorary degrees for her 45 years of work with all sides during and after the American War in Vietnam. She is the author of *Sensing the Enemy: An American Among the Boat People of Vietnam* (New York: Dial/Doubleday, 1984); *After Sorrow: An American Among the Vietnamese* (New York: Viking/Penguin 1995); and *Ho Chi Minh: A Journey* (Ha Noi: World Publishers, 2012). Lady has published three book-length translations of Vietnamese non-fiction works, including Ho Chi Minh's autobiography, *Stories Told on the Trail* (Ha Noi: World Publishers, 2012). She was the foreign editor of the bi-lingual anthology, *The Defiant Muse: Vietnamese Feminist Poems from Antiquity to the Present* (2007), for which she wrote the introduction and co-translated many of the poems. Lady has been a regular commentator for NPR's Sunday Morning Edition and a weekly op ed newspaper columnist and has published two children's picture books. Lady works as an editor, researcher, writer, and translator in Ha Noi.



KEVIN BOWEN served in the 1st Air Cavalry Division in Vietnam from 1968-69. A former Danforth Fellow and Fulbright Fellow at New College, Oxford, he graduated from the University of Massachusetts, Boston in 1973 and earned his Ph.D. in English literature from the State University of New York at Buffalo. He worked as an aide and speechwriter for Lt. Gov. Thomas P. O'Neill III prior to becoming director of the Veterans' Upward Bound Program and co-director (and later, director) of the Joiner Center at UMass Boston in 1984. Since 1987, he has returned to Vietnam many times, initiating cultural, educational, and humanitarian exchanges. His first poetry collection, *Playing Basketball with the Viet Cong*, was published by Curbstone Press in 1994. His poems have appeared in *Agni*, *American Poetry Review*, *Boston Review*, *Ploughshares*, *Prairie Schooner*, *TriQuarterly*, *Witness*, and other places. He edited a special feature on contemporary Vietnamese poetry in the winter 1996 issue of *Manoa*. With Bruce Weigl, he is coeditor of *Writing Between the Lines: Writings on War and Its Consequences* published by the University of Massachusetts Press in February 1997. He lives with his wife and two children in Dorchester.



SARAH BULMER is Lecturer in Politics at the University of Exeter (UK) and works in the field of Critical Military Studies, an emergent interdisciplinary field of study analyzing military practices and institutions within their political, social, economic, and cultural contexts. Her primary research interest is military subjectivity and exploring the critical potential of engaging with the experiences of military personnel. She is currently working on three major projects. The first is a monograph based on her doctoral work, *Queer Politics: Sexuality in the Armed Forces*, which analyses the ways in which sexuality is regulated and disciplined within military cultures. The second project investigates the injury and disablement of British military personnel serving in contemporary conflicts with a focus on the social processes through which military bodies are sculpted, damaged and rehabilitated. The third project, with collaborator David Jackson, seeks to explore and develop new methods and epistemologies for researching veterans' embodied experiences.

LOVELLA CALICA is a writer and photographer with backgrounds in human development, english and social justice organizing. Lovella is the director of Warrior Writers, a creative community for veterans she co-founded in 2007 with Drew Cameron. A leader in creating space for veterans to share their experiences, Lovella has worked closely with veterans for over 10 years. She is the editor of four anthologies of veterans' writing and artwork: *Move, Shoot and Communicate* (2007), *Re-Making Sense* (2008), and *After Action Review* (2011), and is co-editor of *Warrior Writers* (2014) with Kevin Basl. Lovella received two Art and Change grants from the Leeway Foundation and the Transformation Award in 2009. She published her first chapbook of poetry *Makibaka: Beautifully Brave* in 2006 and her second book *Huwag Matakot: Do Not Be Afraid* in 2011. Lovella is a co-founder of the Pilipino-American artist collective, Tatlo Mestiz@s. She lives in Philadelphia with her partner Toby, an artist and Iraq War veteran.



PAULA J. CAPLAN is a clinical and research psychologist, author of books and plays, playwright, actor, director, and activist. She was born and raised in Springfield, Missouri. She received her A.B. with honors from Radcliffe College of Harvard University, and received her M.A. and Ph.D. in psychology from Duke University. Currently, she is an Associate at the DuBois Institute, Harvard University. She has been a Fellow at the Women and Public Policy Program of the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard; a Lecturer in Harvard's Program on Women, Gender, and Sexuality and in the Psychology Department. She is former Full Professor of Applied Psychology and Head of the Centre for Women's Studies in Education at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, and former Lecturer in Women's Studies and Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Toronto.



MARTHA COLLINS' most recent book of poetry, *Admit One: An American Scrapbook*, was published in the Pitt Poetry series in April 2016. She has also published seven earlier collections, including *Day Unto Day*, *White Papers*, and the book-length poem **Blue Front**, as well as four volumes of co-translated Vietnamese poetry. Collins has won numerous awards for her work, including an Anisfield-Wolf Award, two Ohioana awards, the Laurence Goldstein poetry prize, and fellowships from the NEA, the Bunting Institute, the Witter Bynner Foundation, and the Ingram Merrill Foundation. Founder of the creative writing program at the University of Massachusetts, Boston, she served as Pauline Delaney Professor of Creative Writing at Oberlin College for 10 years, and she is currently editor-at-large for *FIELD* magazine.



SEAN DAVIS is a veteran of the Iraq war and the author of *The Wax Bullet War*, a Purple Heart Iraq War veteran, and a community leader in Northeast Portland, Oregon. He attended art school before earning his bachelor's degree in English from Portland State University and an MFA in Writing from Pacific University. He published the novel *Motivation and Toleration* under the name Ian Avi and has contributed to numerous publications including the *Portland Mercury*, *Work Magazine*, and The Good Men Project. He also appeared on 60 Minutes and is cofounder of Hubris Press in Portland. Sean teaches writing at Mt. Hood Community College and Clackamas Community College and volunteers as the post commander at American Legion Post 134.



DEBORAH FRIEZE is an author, entrepreneur and social activist. Deborah is the founder of the Old Oak Dojo and a co-founder and managing partner of the Boston Impact Initiative, which partners with businesses and organizations throughout our city to create systemic shifts in opportunities for urban communities. As former co-president of The Berkana Institute, Deborah joined Berkana to support pioneering leaders who were walking out of organizations and systems that were failing to contribute to the common good—and walking on to build resilient communities. These leaders are the subject of her book, *Walk Out Walk On: A Learning Journey into Communities Daring to Live the Future Now*, co-authored with Margaret Wheatley. *Walk Out Walk On* received the 2011 Terry McAdam Book Award and a 2012 Nautilus Silver Book Award for Social Change.



DANIELLE LEGROS GEORGES is a poet, essayist, and translator, and the author of a book of poems, *Maroon* (Curbstone Press, 2001). She is a visiting faculty member of the William Joiner Institute, University of Massachusetts Boston, a professor in the Creative Arts and Learning Division at Lesley University, and leads the Greater Brockton Society for Poetry and the Arts Poetry Workshop. She is current Poet Laureate of the city of Boston. Her poetry has appeared in numerous literary journals and anthologies, and been featured on National Public Radio, The Bill Moyers Journal (PBS), and The Voice of America programs. She has been awarded MacDowell Colony and LEF fellowships, and the PEN New England Discovery Award.



Speaker and Facilitator Biographies



DAVID JACKSON is a former Royal Marine Commando who served for 21 years before a medical discharge. During this time he fought in the Falklands war and during the troubles in Northern Ireland. He is a counsellor of war veterans and co-founder of the charity Veteran to Veteran (Turning it Around). He has produced a film about his own journey back to a place he has fought, called *Seven Days Down South: A War Story*. This formed part of his doctoral thesis which interrogated his own experience of war and the aftermath of war. David is involved with research projects which centre the voices of veterans and their families, and he promotes innovative multi-modal research methodologies such as collective biography, poetry and music-making as ways of engaging with the veteran community.



SHANNON KAFKA is a candidate for the MFA program creative writing, poetry at UMass Boston. With a background in law and a degree in psychology, she is focused on integrative and restorative art programs for trauma survivors, veterans and disadvantaged populations. Born in the Cayman Islands to military parents, as a daughter of veterans and of a step-father who served in Vietnam, she is an active member of Warrior Writers. Her work has been featured in *Stat@rec*, at the Massachusetts Undergraduate Research Conference, Massachusetts Poetry Festival, and in *The Watermark*. She hosts and organizes poetry workshops and events for the UMass Boston Undergraduate Writers' Community, Warrior Writers, surrounding literary communities and the Boston Police Department.



MARGARET LANERI first served on active duty as an Army officer with the Corps of Engineers. Peggy completed 22 years of service, including time in the Reserves, and deployment to Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm. Dr. Laneri has worked in non-profit community mental health settings, college counseling centers and private practice for over 12 years. She graduated in 1996 from Loyola University of Chicago with a Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology and holds a Master's degree in Rehabilitation Counseling from SUNY-Albany. She served for four years as the Upton Veterans Services Officer and ran her own leadership coaching business called LaneriCoaching LLC, which she started in January of 2008. Dr. Laneri joined the Worcester Vet Center Team in 2013.



HELEN ELAINE LEE is a novelist and short story writer. Her first novel, *The Serpent's Gift*, was published by Atheneum in 1994 and her second novel, *Water Marked*, was published by Scribner in 1999. She recently finished the novels *Life Without* and *The Hard Loss*. Stories from *Life Without* have appeared in *Prairie Schooner*, *Callaloo*, *Hanging Loose*, *Best African American Fiction 2009* (Bantam Books), and on *solsticelitmag.org*. She was educated at Harvard College and Harvard Law School. A member of the Board of Directors of PEN New England, Helen serves on its Freedom to Write Committee and teaches in its Prison Creative Writing Program, which she helped to establish and directs. She has written about the experience of teaching creative writing in prison in a *New York Times Book Review* essay, "Visible Men". She is Professor of Fiction Writing in MIT's Comparative Media Studies/Writing department.



FRED MARCHANT has a new collection of poetry, *Said Not Said*, forthcoming from Graywolf Press in 2017. He is also the author of *Tipping Point*, *The Looking House*, *Full Moon Boat*, and *House on Water*, *House in Air* (published by Dedalus Press, Dublin, Ireland). Marchant is also the co-translator (with Nguyen Ba Chung) of *From a Corner of My Yard*, poetry by the Vietnamese poet Tran Dang Khoa, published in Ha Noi, Viet Nam. He is the editor of *Another World Instead: The Early Poems of William Stafford, 1937-1947* (Graywolf Press, 2008), a selection that focuses on the work done while he was a conscientious objector during World War II. Born in Providence, Rhode Island, Marchant is a graduate of Brown University and earned his Ph.D. at the University of Chicago's Committee on Social Thought. He is Professor Emeritus of English and Founding Director of the Creative Writing Program, and of The Poetry Center at Suffolk University in Boston.



SAVINA MARTIN, a post-Vietnam era Army veteran, is a social justice activist, advocate, and writer. As a little girl, the death of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. ignited a lifelong passion for social justice. In 1980, she launched a driven campaign on homelessness and housing in Boston, which led to acquisition of abandoned properties to house homeless single women. Savina became a core leader for the National Union of the Homeless, giving a speech at the 1988 Democratic National Convention on America's most vulnerable population, the homeless. Savina is the proud recipient of the 1988 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. "Drum Major for Justice" Award. In 1989, she founded the Women's Institute for New Growth & Support, Inc., a home for single homeless mothers in Boston. Alongside filmmaker David Riker, she co-produced a documentary in 1990 depicting the struggles of recovering addicts. In 2006, she was nominated as a Poverty Scholar at Union Theological Seminary's Poverty Initiative Project. Savina holds a Bachelor's Degree in Human Services and a Master's in Organizational Leadership, which included a thesis on homeless Veteran women.

RACHEL MCNEILL enlisted in the Army Reserves as a heavy construction equipment operator in 2002 at age 17. She deployed to Ramadi, Iraq with the 983rd Engineer Battalion (Combat Heavy) from December 2004 to December 2005, where she became a driver and turret gunner with B Company's tactical movement team, under the 2nd Marine Expeditionary Force. In 2008, she was selected as the editor in chief for *The Clarion*, the student-run newspaper of Madison College, where she earned an associate's degree in visual communications and media design in 2009. After being medically retired as a sergeant in 2010, she moved from Wisconsin to Massachusetts, earning a bachelor's degree in international relations with a minor in history from Harvard University in 2014. As an undergraduate, Rachel co-founded Warrior Writers Boston and served as a leadership fellow for Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America and as a community service fellow with The Mission Continues. After graduation, she founded The Mission Continues' Boston Service Platoon and co-founded the Greater Boston Veterans Collaborative. She now lives in Cambridge and serves as a veterans case worker for Congressman Joseph P. Kennedy III.



GISELLE STERLING served in the United States Marine Corps as a Field Radio Operator after completing basic training at Parris Island in 2000. She deployed to Kandahar, Afghanistan; the Philippines; Guam; Diego Garcia and Okinawa, Japan. Giselle was honorably discharged in 2004 and was awarded the Good Conduct Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and the National Defense Service Medal. In April 2015, she was appointed as Commissioner of Veterans' Services for the City of Boston by Mayor Walsh. Giselle's career includes positions as a Community Relations Specialist for the City of Boston, a Special Event Coordinator for El Mundo Newspaper, and a Charitable Campaign Coordinator for Action For Boston Community Development, Inc. The first daughter to be born in the United States to Dominican parents, Giselle was instilled with an appreciation for the arts along with a sense of generational responsibility. She is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts, Lowell with a Bachelor's Degree in English and a minor in studio art. She is pursuing a MFA in the Sierra Nevada College Low-Residency Creative Writing Program.



ERIC WASILESKI is a Persian Gulf Veteran of Operation Desert Fox, father, activist, preacher, ethicist and poet. Eric recently published his first book of poetry, *Live Free (or Die)*, with Human Error Publishing. He is the coordinator of the Smedley D. Butler Brigade of Veterans for Peace and clerk of the New England Yearly Meeting of Friends Peace and Social Concerns Committee. A pulpit supplier and graduate of the Andover-Newton Theological School (M.Div), he has worked professionally as a minister in UU and Quaker parishes.



NICOLE WAYBRIGHT is a full-time writer and resides in New England. She received her BS in Mechanical Engineering from Boston University in 1996. After graduation, she fulfilled her Navy ROTC obligation, serving five years in the Surface Warfare (SWO) Navy onboard an Aegis destroyer, the USS Curtis Wilbur, and an amphibious assault ship, the USS Saipan, during the years 1996-2001. During this turbulent era of change in women's roles within the military, Nicole was part of the earliest wave of women to serve at sea on combat vessels. Following this arduous and trying experience, Nicole regrouped philosophically and artistically, and in 2006 she received her MA in Spanish literature from the University of Rhode Island. In February, Nicole's debut narrative non-fiction book was published: *Long Way Out – A young woman's journey of self-discovery and how she survived the Navy's modern cruelty at sea scandal*. Nicole serves on the Executive Committee of the Smedley D. Butler Brigade of Veterans for Peace as well as on the board of the national Veterans for Peace organization.



BRUCE WEIGL has been part of the Joiner Institute's Writers Workshop for over 20 years and taught the first year of the program's inception. Bruce's most recent poetry collection *The Abundance of Nothing* was a finalist for the 2013 Pulitzer Prize in Poetry. Renowned translator and author of 13 poetry collections, he has published two critical books and several volumes of translation from the Vietnamese, including *The Secret of Hoa Sen*, forthcoming from BOA Editions and winner of this year's Lannan Translation Series Award from BOA. Bruce is past President of the Associated Writing Programs and has been Chairperson of the Poetry judging panel for the National Book Award. He has received the Poet's Prize from the Academy of American Poets; the Lannan Literary Award; the Robert Creeley Award; and a Medal for Significant Contributions from the Vietnam Union of Literature & Arts Associations and the Vietnam Writers Association. Bruce served in the Army for three years, including in Vietnam from December 1967 to December 1968. Bruce is a professor of poetry at Lorain County Community College in Elyria, Ohio.

