

BEN READ

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EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts | Reed College | *Phi Beta Kappa* May 2021

- Major: Comparative Literature
- Thesis: *Toward a Poetics of Study* (advised by Jan Mieszkowski)
- Relevant coursework includes Modern European Humanities, The Poem Visualized, Theory and Practice of Hispanic Literature, Race and the Politics of Decolonization, Making an Exhibition, Postcolonial Hauntings, and Approaches to Media Studies

EXPERIENCE

Research Services Specialist | Reed College Library | Portland, OR May 2021–present

- Conceived, designed, and completed projects on library access to reference services and equitable, ethical citation practices
- Trained and supervised six student reference assistants
- Participated as an active member of the research services team
- Provided reference services to library patrons using the LibApps Libanswers software

Editorial Intern | Scablands Books | Spokane, WA May 2021–present

- Copyedited full length manuscripts, including the anthology *Evergreen: Grim Tales and Verses from the Gloomy Northwest* and *Horns* by Tiffany Midge
- Managed and created daily content for the press's social media accounts
- Organized and hosted silent auction and benefit concert fundraisers

English Department Assistant | Reed College | Portland, OR November 2018–May 2021

- Organized and co-hosted Reed Poetry Salon events
- Coordinated and publicized the Visiting Writer Series, featuring writers such as Ada Limón, Gabrielle Calvocoressi, and Hanif Abdurraqib
- Developed publicity materials using Adobe Creative Suite
- Curated weekly newsletter for students including local events, submission opportunities, and writing prompts
- Managed class blog on Wordpress and provided students' feedback as a teaching assistant to creative writing professor Samiya Bashir

Reference Assistant | Reed College Library | Portland, OR August 2019–May 2021

- Acted as a resource for library patrons, including students, staff, and faculty, guiding them in navigating the Reed library and online resources
- Consulted students on their research, advising them on citation styles and accessing research databases

Confidential Advocate | Reed College SHARE Program | Portland, OR October 2019–May 2021

- Certified as a confidential advocate with legal privilege for survivors of sexual assault and interpersonal violence in the state of Oregon
- Provided one-on-one advocacy as a staff advocate for the Sexual Health, Advocacy, and Relationship Education program

- Created campus programming and events to foster consent culture, sexual health, and prevention, including Take Back the Night and the Survivor Art Gallery

Research Fellow | Reed College | Portland, OR May 2020–May 2021

- Received a Ruby-Lankford Grant for Faculty-Student Collaborative Research in the Humanities for a project with Professor Kris Cohen on Fred Moten, the university, and Black study
- Curated, edited, and published an anthology of creative work on study, collectivity, and abolition called *What's Going On?* printed by Penny Press
- Facilitated a reading group on Stefano Harney and Fred Moten's *The Undercommons*

Academic Tutor | Reed College Academic Support | Portland, OR August 2018–May 2021

- Tutored peer students in Humanities and Writing both as an individual tutor available for reservation and in the academic tutoring center
- Trained in effective strategies and tactics for tutoring students of varying backgrounds

House Adviser | Reed College Residence Life | Portland, OR August 2019–March 2020

- Fostered inclusive, intentional community through weekly programming, campus events, and resource referral in a themed living community for Spanish-speaking students
- Collaborated with the Residence Life team to ensure the safety, maintenance, and well-being of the residence hall
- Trained in mental health first aid, motivational interviewing, and conflict resolution as a mentor for 14 residents

Literary Radio Intern | Spokane Public Radio | Spokane, WA May 2019–August 2019

- Produced "The Bookshelf," a serialized audiobook program featuring local authors, and "The Poetry Moment," a weekly series of poems selected and read by local writers, including myself
- Collaborated with volunteers and co-producers to record, edit, and broadcast episodes
- Developed skills in NexGen and Adobe Audition software

Editorial Board | *Reed College Creative Review* | Portland, OR January 2018–May 2021

- Reviewed and edited submissions of poetry, prose, and visual art for annual publication
- Contributed to design and production of print publication
- Participated in discussions and readings on publishing practice and standards

Editor-in-Chief | *Reed College Quest* | Portland, OR December 2017–May 2019

- Copy- and content edited articles and managed the newspaper's website on Squarespace
- Published and distributed weekly 8-page issues
- Oversaw a dynamic editorial team to plan and execute stories
- Managed the newspaper's budget as the liaison to Oregon Lithoprint
- Authored additional articles, including news features on the college's investment policy and local Portland literary events such as the Portland Book Festival
- Assisted with layout editing using Adobe Photoshop and Adobe InDesign

Editor-in-Chief | *Reed College Grail* | Portland, OR August 2018–May 2020

- Edited, designed, and published biweekly magazine of creative work, essays, and artwork using Adobe InDesign
- Authored feature articles, including a profile on the life of alumnus Gary Snyder

Grocery Clerk | Rosauers Supermarkets | Spokane, WA June 2016–August 2018

- Gained customer service experience by resolving customers' concerns
- Earned a promotion due to excellent customer service and work ethic

HONORS & AWARDS

Mary Barnard Prize | Academy of American Poets

May 2020 | \$100

- An award “endowed by Reed College in honor of Mary Barnard for the best poem or group of poems submitted by a Reed undergraduate” selected by guest judge Jerry Harp

Ruby-Lankford Grant for Faculty-Student Collaborative Research | Reed College

May 2020 | \$5,300

- A grant awarded for faculty-student collaboration in history, literature, and the humanities, granted to myself and Professor Kris Cohen for a research project on the whiteness of the university and forms of radical study

Winter International Travel Fellowship | Reed College

January 2020 | \$3,000

- A fellowship awarded for an intellectual or personal project proposal designed by the fellow, which I received for a project on Federico García Lorca and duende

Eddings Opportunity Grant | Reed College

March 2019 | \$2,100

- A grant “dedicated to the support of English majors’ research, scholarship, and writing,” which I received to support my internship in literary radio production at Spokane Public Radio

Eddings Opportunity Grant | Reed College

March 2018 | \$1,820

- A grant “dedicated to the support of English majors’ research, scholarship, and writing,” which I received to attend the Port Townsend Writers Conference under the instruction of Emily Kendal Frey

National Merit Scholar | National Merit Scholar Corporation

June 2017 | \$2,500

- An award “to recognize and honor the academically talented students of the United States.”

Foyle Young Poet of the Year | Poetry Society

September 2015

- An international prize awarded to 15 poets between the ages of 11 and 17 for which my poem “Mario Kart: Brain Circuit” was selected by poets Liz Berry and Michael Symmons Roberts.

PUBLICATIONS

Read, Ben. “Jim Hodges.” *No Face, No Case*, edited by Stephanie Snyder, William Diebold, and Kris Cohen. Portland, OR: Douglas F. Cooley Memorial Art Gallery, 2021. Exhibition catalogue.

What’s Going On? edited by Ben Read and Kris Cohen. Portland, OR: Penny Press, 2021.

Read, Ben. “Insolvency.” *catharsis.net*, edited by Isabel Adesko, Iki Edreva, Emma Ganger-Spivak, and Connor Stockton. Portland, OR: Brown Printing, 2020.

Read, Ben. “Passion Façade.” *Academy of American Poets*, 2020.

Read, Ben. "Coroner's Report." WA 129, edited by Tod Marshall, Sage Hill Press, 2017.

Read, Ben. Three poems. *Tinderbox Poetry*, 2017.

Read, Ben. "Topography of Whole Notes and Holes." *The Adroit Journal*, 2016.

Read, Ben. "Mario Kart: Brain Circuit." *The Guardian*, 2015.

VOLUNTEERING

Prisoner Correspondent | Critical Resistance | Portland, OR May 2020–present

- Wrote five monthly outreach letters to inmates in the state of Oregon as part of the CRPDX Prisoner Correspondence Program to share resources about abolition and political education
- Replied to inmates' letters to refer them to resources about *The Abolitionist* newsletter, COVID-19, and free books programs

Poetry Reader | *The Adroit Journal* | Remote June 2018–January 2019

- Read and voted on a minimum of 30 poetry submissions weekly of up to 8 poems each
- Selected finalists for the Adroit Prizes and the Gregory Djanikian Scholars Program

Canvasser | Envision Workers' Rights | Spokane, WA May 2016–November 2016

- Canvassed for the Worker Bill of Rights, an initiative that guaranteed a living wage, just cause for termination, and equal pay for equal work
- Participated in campaign meetings and strategy sessions, developing organizing abilities
- Interacted with voters on the phone and in person to encourage yes votes, engaging with people from diverse backgrounds

SKILLS

- Spanish proficiency
- Adobe, Google, and Microsoft suites
- Copy- and content editing
- Social media and website management
- Motivational interviewing
- Event planning
- Research