

DAVID GIFFELS

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ACADEMIC DEGREES

M.A., English, creative writing emphasis, University of Akron, Akron, Ohio, 1995.

B.A., English, University of Akron, Akron, Ohio, 1988.

B.A., Mass Media-Communication, print journalism emphasis, University of Akron, Akron, Ohio, 1988.

BOOKS

BARNSTORMING OHIO: To Understand America

Hachette Books, 1290 6th Ave., New York, NY 10104,
August 25, 2020, 259 pages.

FURNISHING ETERNITY: A Father, a Son, a Coffin, and a Measure of Life

Scribner /Simon & Schuster, 1230 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY, 10020,
January 2, 2018, 243 pages.

“Paperback reprint.” (With a new afterword.) Simon & Schuster, 1230 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY, 10020, September 18, 2018, 243 pages.

THE HARD WAY ON PURPOSE: Essays and Dispatches From the Rust Belt

Scribner /Simon & Schuster, 1230 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY, 10020,
March, 2014, 256 pages.

ALL THE WAY HOME: Building a Family in a Falling-down House, William Morrow/HarperCollins, 10 East 53rd St., New York, NY 10022, June 2008, 314 pages.

“Paperback reprint.” Harper, 10 East 53rd St., New York, NY 10022, June 2009, 314 pages.

ARE WE NOT MEN? WE ARE DEVO!, co-written with Jade Dellinger, SAF Publishing, 149

Wakeman Road, London, NW10 5BH, England, August 2003, 222 pages.

“Paperback reprint, revised and updated.” SAF Publishing, 254 pages.

WHEELS OF FORTUNE: The Story of Rubber in Akron, co-written with Steve Love, University of Akron Press,

The University of Akron, Akron, Ohio 44325-1703, November 1998, 359 pages.

“Paperback edition.” University of Akron Press, November 1998, 359 pages.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON, Akron, Ohio

PROFESSOR, Department of English, August 2019 to present

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, Department of English, August 2015 to present

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, Department of English, August 2009 to August 2015

Graduate Faculty Member, Northeast Ohio Master of Fine Arts program (NEOMFA)

Courses taught:

English 689: Graduate Writing Seminar: Creative Nonfiction Workshop

English 689: Craft & Theory of Creative Nonfiction: Writing in the Aftermath

English 689: Craft & Theory of Creative Nonfiction: Literary Journalism

English 689: Craft & Theory of Creative Nonfiction: Who Is "I": The First-Person Narrator

English 689: Craft & Theory of Creative Nonfiction: Immersion

English 689: Craft & Theory of Creative Nonfiction: The Essay Collection

English 689: Graduate Seminar: Literary Nonfiction Writing

English 489/589: Writers on Writing

English 389: Literary Ohio

English 381: Advanced Creative Nonfiction Writing

English 275: Introduction to Creative Nonfiction Writing

English 283: Film Appreciation

English 281: Fiction Appreciation

English 250: Classic and Contemporary Literature

English 111: English Composition

PUBLICATIONS

SELECTED BOOK CHAPTERS AND ARTICLES

"Unreal Estates," Essay introduction to *The New Heartland: Looking for the American Dream*, (photographs) by Andrew Borowiec, George F. Thompson Publishing, 2021.

"A Small Turn of Fate," Essay introduction to *Hail We Akron!: The Third 50 Years of the University of Akron, 1970 to 2020*, The University of Akron Press, 2020.

"Here on the Ground," Essay introduction to *Rust Belt Chic: The Akron Anthology*, Belt Publishing, 2016.

"Shirt-Worthy," Essay in *Moms and Dads: From the 'Lives' Columns of The New York Times Magazine* (anthology), The New York Times Publishing Co., 2014.

"Lake Effect." Essay in *Rust Belt Chic: The Cleveland Anthology*, Belt Publishing, 2012.

"The Secret Need for Octopus." Foreword to *West Point Market Cookbook*, University of Akron Press, 2008.

"The Rubber Industry." Article in *The American Midwest: An Interpretive Encyclopedia*, Indiana University Press, 2006.

"Readin', Writin' and Route 21: The Road from West Virginia to Ohio." Chapter in *The Appalachians: America's First and Last Frontier*, Random House, 2004.

SELECTED ESSAYS AND JOURNALISM

“The Cleveland 50: The Cavs Draft LeBron James.” Cleveland Magazine, March 29, 2022.

“Ohio Auto Workers Watch a Way of Life Circle the Drain.” The Daily Beast, Sept. 13, 2020. Online.

“On the Opioid Crisis and the Grief of Ohio.” Literary Hub, August 26, 2020. Online.

“Dumbphone.” The Iowa Review, Spring 2019. Print.

“My Last Project With My Dad: Building My Own Coffin.” The Atlantic, June 17, 2018. Online.

“Eleven Powerful Books to Read on Father’s Day.” Literary Hub, June 15, 2018. Online.

“Book Notes: David Giffels, *Furnishing Eternity*.” Largehearted Boy, January 31, 2018. Online.

“Reading through Grief: 5 Books on Death and Mortality.” Literary Hub, January 3, 2018. Online.

“The Cleveland Browns Connect Generations of Fans With Shared Misery,” Cleveland Magazine, November 3, 2017. Print.

“Shirt Worthy” (Reprint in “The Best of Our ‘Lives’ Column”). The New York Times Magazine, March 24, 2017. Online.

“Returning to the Joy of Voting.” The Atlantic, November 6, 2016. Online.

“Cleveland, This is for You.” Cleveland Magazine, August 2016. Print.

“Dispatch from a Ghost Town.” The Atlantic, July 22, 2016. Online.

“Counting the Hours, Waiting to Exhale.” Belt Magazine, July 21, 2016. Online.

“Within the Convention City, A Ghost Town.” Belt Magazine, July 20, 2016. Online.

“Stalking the American Dream in Cleveland’s Hingetown.” Belt Magazine, July 19, 2016. Online.

“Journey to the Epicenter of Something: Cleveland Meets RNC.” Belt Magazine, July 18, 2016. Online.

“Cleveland Just Can’t Catch a Break.” The Atlantic, June 16, 2016. Online.

“The White Bedroom.” Lumina XV (2016): 4-13. Print.

“Review of *The Rusted City: Poems*,” by Rochelle Hurt, The Middle West Review, vol. 1, no. 2, April 2015. Print.

“First Place,” Cleveland Magazine, September 2014. Print.

“Notes From a Native: What the Return of LeBron Means to Ohio.” Grantland, July 14, 2014. Online.

“No Place Like Akron,” Parade, June 22, 2014. Print.

“Popular Stories for Boys.” *The Nervous Breakdown*, April 15, 2014. Online.

“The Taj Majal.” *Esquire Weekly* (digital edition of *Esquire* magazine), April 3-10, 2014. Republished on *Esquire.com*, April 19, 2014. Online.

“867-5309: A Love Song.” *BELT Magazine*, April 9, 2014. Online.

“The Chosen Ones: LeBron and Akron.” *Grantland*, March 21, 2014. Online.

“Houserockers: The Curiously Narrow Rock Stardom of Michael Stanley, Willie Nile, Donnie Iris and Other Legends Who May Or May Not Be Famous.” *Cleveland Scene*, March 20, 2014. Print.

“Interview with Black Keys singer Dan Auerbach.” *Rubbertop Review*, 2012. Print.

“Art Modell: The View From Cleveland.” *Grantland*, September 7, 2012. Online.

“Beavis, Butt-Head, and Me: On the day of Beavis and Butt-Head’s return to MTV, a writer for the original series looks back.” *Grantland*, Oct. 27, 2011. Online.

“Building a House of Wax in Cleveland.” *New York Times Magazine*, Oct. 23, 2011. Print.

“World after Sept. 11 all boy knows.” *Akron Beacon Journal*, Sept. 11, 2011. Print.

“LeBron James and the Identity of Place.” *Wall Street Journal*, June 12, 2010. Print.

“PATCHWORK NATION: American Communities in a Time of Change”
Contributing Writer to national online project of the *Christian Science Monitor* and the *NewsHour with Jim Lehrer*, July 2009 to August 2010. Online.

“Home Invasion.” *This Old House Magazine*, April 2009. Print.

“The Strange Familiar.” *Memoirs, Ink*, 2009. Online.

“Am I Still Cool?” *Redbook*, July 2008. Print.

“Book Notes: *All the Way Home*.” *Largehearted Boy*, May 29, 2008. Online.

“Shirt-Worthy.” *New York Times Magazine*, October 28, 2007. Print.

TELEVISION AND FILM SCRIPTS

Untitled Sequence. *Beavis and Butt-Head Do America*, Paramount Pictures, December 20, 1996.

“Gang of Two.” Episode, *Beavis and Butt-Head*, MTV, January 16, 1996.

“Huh-Huh Humbug.” Episode, *Beavis and Butt-Head*, MTV, December 19, 1995.

“Buttniks.” Episode, *Beavis and Butt-Head*, MTV, July 13, 1995.

“Hard Sell.” Episode, *Beavis and Butt-Head*, MTV, November 4, 1994.

SHORT FICTION

“Address Unknown,” Muse, Cleveland, Ohio, May, 2009.

“Brandon and Me,” M-80 #7, Akron, Ohio, Fall/Winter 2004.

“I Hate the Killers,” M-80 #6, Akron, Ohio, Spring 2004.

“This Amazing Lady,” M-80 #5, Akron, Ohio, Fall/Winter 2003.

“My Brand New Oakland Scarf,” M-80 #3, Akron, Ohio, Spring 2003.

“Attention Shoppers,” M-80 #3, Akron, Ohio, Spring 2003.

NEWSPAPER AND RADIO JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE

AKRON BEACON JOURNAL, Akron, Ohio

Columnist and Feature Writer, June 1994 to November 2008

WKSU, 89.7-FM (NPR), Kent, Ohio

Regular contributor of features and commentary, 2000 to 2006.

MEDINA COUNTY GAZETTE, Medina, Ohio

Reporter and Features Editor, May 1990 to June 1994

SELECTED ACADEMIC & LITERARY SEMINARS

“College English Association of Ohio Spring Conference,” Lake Erie College, Painesville, OH. April 9, 2022.
Keynote Address: “One Step Forward: Writing the Rust Belt and Learning Its Lessons.”

“Western Reserve Writers Conference,” Cleveland, OH. March 26, 2022.
Presented: “Writing the Rust Belt: Techniques for Writing About Place and Why It’s So Important.”

“Lit Youngstown Fall Literary Festival,” Youngstown, OH. Keynote Address, Workshop Presenter,
Featured Reading, Panelist. September 25-26, 2020.

“Western Reserve Writers Conference,” Cleveland, OH. Keynote Address and workshop. April 27, 2019.

“Hathaway Brown Young Writers and Artists Festival,” Shaker Heights, Ohio.
Featured presenter leading daylong workshop sessions on creative nonfiction writing.
Annually, 2012 to present.

“Lakeland Literary Festival,” Lakeland Community College, Kirtland, Ohio.
Presented: Creative Nonfiction Workshop. April 29, 2017.

“Wayne College Writers Workshop,” Wayne College/University of Akron, Orrville, Ohio.
Presented: “Writing Like Mister Potato Head,” two workshop sessions.
Panelist: Open Q&A. April 1, 2017.

- “Ashland University MFA Summer Residency,” Ashland Ohio.
Presented: “Impact of Digital Technology on Writing and the Future of Publishing.” July 25, 2015.
- “Association of Writers & Writing Programs Annual Conference & Bookfair,” Minneapolis, MN.
Presented: “Narrative Expectations in the Personal Essay.” April 8-11, 2015.
- “Winter Wheat Writing Festival,” Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio.
Presented: “Writing/Teaching What You Know: Creative Nonfiction in the Composition Classroom.”
November 15, 2014.
- “Winter Wheat Writing Festival,” Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio.
Moderated and Presented: “Truth or Fiction: Which Is Stranger?” November 16, 2013.
- “Association of Writers & Writing Programs Annual Conference & Bookfair,” Boston, MA.
Moderator/presenter: “From Parts to a Whole: Turning a Bunch of Essays into a Unified Book.”
March 7, 2013.
- “Winter Wheat Writing Festival,” Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio.
Presented: “For Those About to Write, We Salute You: Music’s Influence on Creative Writing.”
November 17, 2012.
- “Skyline Writer’s Conference,” Euclid, Ohio.
Presented: “Looking Back: Taking the Reflective Turn in Personal Essay Writing.” August 18, 2012.
- “Association of Writers & Writing Programs Annual Conference & Bookfair,” Chicago, IL.
Presented: “Narrative Transitions: Teaching and Taking the Reflective Turn in Creative Nonfiction.”
March 3, 2012.
- “Winter Wheat Writing Festival,” Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio.
Presented: “The MFA Thesis Relationship.” November 12, 2011.
- Western Reserve Writers Conference and Workshop, Lakeland Community College, Kirtland, Ohio.
Presented: “Keynote Address: The Discomfort of Memoir.” September 24, 2011.
- “Association of Writers & Writing Programs Annual Conference & Bookfair,” Washington, D.C.
Presented: “He Said/She Said: Capturing Dialogue in the Wild.” February 4, 2011.
- “Winter Wheat Writing Festival,” Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio.
Presented: “Maps and Legends: How to Draw Your Story Out of the Rough.” November 11-13, 2010.
- “City and Community Studies Initiative,” Kent State University, Kent, Ohio.
Presented: “My City Is Not Quite Gone: The Responsibility of Writing About Place.” April 30, 2010.
- “Wayne College Writers Workshop,” Wayne College/University of Akron, Orrville, Ohio.
Presented: “A Picture of a Thousand Words: Effective Outlining for Writers,” two workshop sessions.
Presented: Keynote Address. April 17, 2010.
- “Association of Writers & Writing Programs Annual Conference & Bookfair,” Denver, Colo. April 7-10, 2010.
- “Winter Wheat Writing Festival,” Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio.
Presented: “Between Art & Information: Research in Memoir.” November 12-14, 2009.

“American Journalism Historians’ Association Annual Conference,” Cleveland, Ohio.
Presented: “The Role of Rock ‘n’ Roll in Media History.” October 14, 2004.

Attended “Nieman Conference on Narrative Journalism,” Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, December 2003.

SELECTED HONORS AND AWARDS

Professional Development Leave, University of Akron, Spring semester, 2023 (forthcoming).

Ohioana Book Award finalist, *Barnstorming Ohio*, Ohioana Library Association, 2021.

Library Journal “Best Books of 2020,” *Barnstorming Ohio*, 2020.

AudioFile Magazine Earphones Award, *Barnstorming Ohio* (audiobook, read by the author), 2020.

Ohioana Book Award, for *Furnishing Eternity*, Ohioana Library Association, 2019.

Publishers Weekly Apple iBooks US Bestseller List, Biographies and Memoirs: *All the Way Home*, #20, June 23, 2019.

Best American Essays 2019, Notable Essay (“Dumbphone,” *Iowa Review*).

University of Akron Faculty Research Summer Fellowship, 2019.

New York Times Book Review “Editors’ Choice,” *Furnishing Eternity*, January 2018.

Amazon “Best Books of the Month” Editors’ Pick, *Furnishing Eternity*, January 2018.

Powell’s “Picks of the Month,” Staff Pick, *Furnishing Eternity*, January 2018.

Cuyahoga County (Ohio) Public Library Writer-in-Residence, 2018-2019.

New York Times Magazine, “The Best of Our Lives Column,” (for the essay, “Shirt Worthy”), March 24, 2017.

Professional Development Leave, University of Akron, Fall semester, 2016.

Publishers Weekly Apple iBooks US Bestseller, Biographies and Memoirs: *All the Way Home*, #14, June 24, 2016.

Ohio Arts Council Individual Excellence Award, 2016.

University of Akron Faculty Research Summer Fellowship, 2016.

Belt Magazine fellowship to cover the Republican National Convention in Cleveland, 2016.

PEN/Diamonstein-Spielvogel Award for the Art of the Essay, longlist nominee (one of 10), 2015.

New York Times Book Review “Editors’ Choice,” *The Hard Way on Purpose*, May 2014.

Ohio Arts Council Individual Excellence Award, 2014.

Great Lakes Independent Booksellers Association “Great Lakes Great Reads” Award, shortlist, 2014.

University of Akron Faculty Research Summer Fellowship, 2013.

Northern Kentucky One Book One Community selection, *All the Way Home*, 2011.

Choose to Read Ohio, *All the Way Home* (selected for major statewide literacy campaign), 2010-2011.

Cleveland Arts Prize, Mid-Career Artist/Literature, 2010.

University of Akron Faculty Research Summer Fellowship, 2010.

Ohioana Book Award, for *All the Way Home*, Ohioana Library Association, 2009.

Best in Ohio: Essays, (body of work), Press Club of Cleveland Excellence in Journalism, 2009.

First Place, Best News Writer in Ohio, (body of work), Associated Press Society of Ohio, 2009.

Casey Medal for Meritorious Journalism, “American Dream Series,” 2009.

First Place, Memoirs, Ink Personal Essay Contest, “The Strange Familiar,” 2009.

Finalist, Scripps Howard National Journalism Award, Public Service Reporting, “American Dream Series,” 2009.

First Place, General Commentary, American Association of Sunday and Feature Editors, 2006.

Da Capo Best Music Writing 2004, Notable Essay (“My Brand New Oakland Scarf,” M-80 #3)

INVITED READINGS AND LECTURES

More than 150 events since 2008. Selected highlights:

Canal Fulton Public Library, Canal Fulton, Ohio. *Barnstorming Ohio: To Understand America*. April 16, 2022.

Cleveland Humanities Festival, Cleveland, Ohio. Panelist, “Writing the Region,” March 24, 2022.

Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio. “Acclaimed Author Lecture,” Aug. 20, 2021.

Ohioana Book Festival, Columbus, Ohio. Featured Author. April 14, 2021.

Akron Roundtable, “*Barnstorming Ohio: To Understand America*,” Jan. 22, 2021.

The City Club of Cleveland, “Forum: *Barnstorming Ohio: To Understand America*,” Oct. 30, 2020.

Akron-Summit County Public Library. “Main Event: *Barnstorming Ohio*.” Aug. 26, 2020..

Chautauqua Institution, Chautauqua, NY. Writer-in-Residence. Workshops, reading, and lecture, June 2020.

Cuyahoga County Public Library Writer-in-Residence, Cleveland, OH. Monthly lectures and workshops, 2018-2019.

Miami Book Fair International, Miami, FL. Featured Author, November 16-17, 2018.

Stark State College, Canton, Ohio. Common Read (*The Hard Way on Purpose*) Keynote Lecture. Nov. 15, 2018.

Cleveland Indians' "Culture of Cleveland" Lecture Series, Progressive Field, Cleveland, OH, Sept. 10, 2018.

Arkansas Literary Festival, Little Rock, Arkansas. Featured Author, April 27-29, 2018.

Ohioana Book Festival, Columbus, Ohio. Featured Author. April 14, 2018.

Mission Creek Festival, Iowa City, Iowa. Featured Author. April 6, 2018.

Cleveland Humanities Festival, John Carroll University, Cleveland, Ohio. Invited Reading. March 15, 2018.

PechaKucha Akron, encore performance of May 2017 presentation, Tangier Ballroom, Akron, February 9, 2018.

Mercantile Library, Cincinnati, Ohio. Invited Reading. January 10, 2018

Brews + Prose at Market Garden Brewery, Cleveland, Ohio. Invited Reading. January 9, 2018.

Akron-Summit County Public Library. "Main Event: *Furnishing Eternity.*" Reading. January 4, 2018.

Indiana University School of Liberal Arts at Indianapolis (via Skype). Guest lecture on the culture of the Rust Belt for Urban Anthropology class taught by Dr. Susan Hyatt. November 20, 2017.

PechaKucha Akron, Greystone Hall, Akron, Ohio. Invited to participate in this community event, in which presenters tell a story over 20 PowerPoint slides, each appearing for 20 seconds. May 5, 2017.

Main Event: George Saunders, Akron-Summit County Public Library Main Auditorium. Invited to join the author for a reading from his novel, *Lincoln in the Bardo*, which required "actors" to provide some of the voices from the book. April 6, 2017.

Writers Resist: Cleveland, Nighttown, Cleveland, Ohio. January 15, 2017.

Akron-Summit County Public Library Main Auditorium, Akron, Ohio. Invited reading, book launch for *The Akron Anthology*. October 18, 2016.

Lawrence University, Appleton, Wis. Invited reading, lecture and writing workshop. October 13-15, 2016.

John S. Knight Center, Akron, Ohio. Akron Roundtable 40th Anniversary Celebration. Keynote Address, in conversation with Patrick Carney of the Black Keys. October 3, 2016.

Akron Art Museum Auditorium, Akron Ohio. "Art Talk: The Beginning Was the End" (With Devo coauthor Jade Dellinger). June 30, 2016.

Akron Art Museum Trolley Tour, Akron, Ohio. Narrated a bus tour of Devo-related sites in conjunction with "Myopia," the museum's Mark Mothersbaugh exhibit. June 16, 2016.

Friends of Wheeling/Wheeling Heritage Annual Meeting, Wheeling, WV. Keynote Address, May 3, 2016.

Mercantile Library, Cincinnati, Ohio. Invited Reading, April 7, 2016.

International Downtown Association Midwest Urban District Forum, Taft Center, Cincinnati, Ohio. Keynote Address, April 7, 2016.

Convivium33 Gallery, Cleveland, Ohio. "This Artist Life" (Cleveland Arts Prize fundraiser), Master of Ceremonies and Invited Reading, October 22, 2015.

Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH. Invited Lecture on Rust Belt literature, September 29, 2015.

Ashland University, Ashland, Ohio. Invited Reading, July 24, 2015.

Ohio Writers' Conference, Columbus, Ohio. Keynote Address, writing workshop, May 8, 2015

University of Akron Alumni Association, Akron, Ohio. Reading and lecture, March 19, 2015.

Miami Book Fair International, Miami, FL. Featured Author, November 22-23, 2014.

University of Mount Union, Alliance, Ohio. Invited Reading, October 7, 2014.

Brews + Prose, Market Garden Brewery, Cleveland, Ohio. Invited Reading, July 1, 2014.

Ohio County Public Library "Lunch with Books" Reading Series, Wheeling, WV. Invited Reading, July 1, 2014.

Thurber House, Columbus, Ohio. Invited Reading, June 25, 2014.

Hiram Book Festival, Hiram College, Hiram, Ohio. Keynote Address, June 21, 2014.

Chicago Tribune Printer's Row Lit Fest, Chicago, IL. Featured Author and Panelist, (Broadcast live on CSPAN-2's *Book TV*), June 7-8, 2014.

Ohioana Book Festival, Columbus, Ohio. Featured Author. Panels, reading and community outreach, May, 2014.

The Belt Reading Series, The Happy Dog, Cleveland, Ohio. Invited reading. April 16, 2014.

Malone College, Canton, Ohio. Lecture and Invited Reading, April 1, 2014.

Main Event Speaker Series, Akron-Summit County Public Library Main Library Auditorium, Invited Reading, March 20, 2014.

Heartland Forum, Crowne Plaza, Chicago, IL. Presentation and book signing, October 4, 2013.

Brews + Prose, Market Garden Brewery, Cleveland, Ohio. Invited Reading, August 6, 2013.

Shawnee State University, Portsmouth, Ohio. "Jane M.G. Foster Distinguished Lecture Series." Invited lecture, workshop and reading. March 27, 2013.

John Carroll University, Cleveland, Ohio. Invited Reading, March 13, 2013.

Akron-Summit County Public Library, Akron, Ohio. "An Evening of Rust Belt Chic." Invited Reading and Panel Discussion. December 19, 2012.

Kentucky Public Library Assn. Spring Conference, Bowling Green, KY. Keynote Address, April 12, 2012.

Northern Kentucky One Book One Community, Boone, Campbell, Grant and Kenton Counties, KY.
Featured Author: readings, lectures, public appearances, November 3-5, 2011.

Cleveland Arts Prize, Cleveland Museum of Art Cleveland, Ohio. Featured Performer, *All the Way Home*, June 2010.

Ohioana Book Festival, Columbus, Ohio, Featured Author. Panelist: Choose to Read Ohio, May 2010.

Wayne College, Orrville, Ohio, Wayne College Writers Workshop. Keynote Address, April 2010.

Mount Union College, Alliance, Ohio. Eckler Lecture in Literature and Drama, January 2010.

Lindsay-Crane Center for Writing and Literature, Hiram College, Hiram, Ohio, Lecture: *All the Way Home*, September 2009.

Heritage Ohio Annual Conference, House of Blues, Cleveland, Ohio. Keynote Address. May 2009.

Ohioana Book Festival, Columbus, Ohio, Featured Author, *All the Way Home*, May 2009.

Fox Cities Book Festival, Appleton, Wis., Featured Author, *All the Way Home*, April 2009.

Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kansas, Visiting Writer: Lectures and writing consultations.
Symposium: "Mike Judge and the Stupid Art of Popular Culture," March, 2009.

American Library Association Day of Dialogue, Cleveland, Ohio. Featured Author. Oct. 2008.

Akron-Summit County Public Library, *The Kings of Akron Nonfiction*, reading/lecture, Sept. 2008.

Akron Art Museum: "Downtown at Dusk Art Talk: *The Art of Devo*," August 2008.

Printers Row Book Fair, Chicago, Ill., Panelist: *Memoir: Hopes and Dreams*, June 2008.

Akron-Summit County Public Library Speaker Series, *All the Way Home*, June 2008.

University of Akron Friends of the Library Annual Meeting, Keynote Address, June 2008.

American Library Association Day of Dialogue, Columbus, Ohio, Panelist, *All the Way Home*. Oct. 2007.

American Journalism Historians' Association Annual Conference, Cleveland. Panelist: *The Role of Rock 'n' Roll in Media History*, Oct. 2004.

SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON

University of Akron Arts Advancement Council, 2022 to present.

AkronArts Committee, 2021 to present.

Organized and hosted Rethinking Race event, “What’s Race Got to Do with It? Upstart Crows Presents: Uplifting Voices Open Mic,” March 2, 2022.

New Faculty Orientation welcome address, Aug. 19, 2021.

Faculty Senate, BCAS at-large member, Fall 2017 to 2020.

Faculty Senate Library Committee, Fall 2017 to 2020.

Gave an on-campus recruiting talk to more than 50 visiting AP and College Credit Plus students from Cloverleaf High School, March 9, 2018.

Invited to give a talk, “Write and Rewrite,” to the University of Akron Department of Development, Feb. 1, 2017.

Invited to appear in a University of Akron/LeBron James Family Foundation promotional video, featuring LeBron James and celebrating the connection between UA and the Akron community, 2016.

Member, University of Akron Speaker’s Team, 2016-2017.

Member, Vice Provost/Honors College Dean search committee, 2014-2015.

University of Akron Alumni Association reading and book signing, Student Union, March 19, 2015.

Member, Honors Advisory Council, 2014-2015.

Co-curated “Never Not Working: The Art and Influence of John Puglia,” a retrospective exhibition of the work of 1988 UA graduate John Puglia, who died in 2013. Emily Davis Gallery, July 14-September 12, 2014. The effort generated \$12,652.35 for the Myers School of Art John Puglia Scholarship Fund.

Judge, Ben Auburn Cultural Criticism Competition, Honors College, 2014-2017.

Media Advisory Committee (special committee formed by administration to revive the campus newspaper), 2014.

New Faculty & Teaching Assistants Orientation, Welcome Address, University of Akron Student Union Ballroom B, Akron, Ohio, August 19, 2014.

University of Akron Honors Book Club, University of Akron. Featured Author, March 22, 2012.

Researched and wrote an essay, “Akron’s History of Collaboration,” for the university’s annual report to the community, winter 2011-2012.

Served as “Celebrity Guest Tubist” at TubaChristmas, E.J. Thomas Hall, 2009-2012.

Springfest Marketing Committee, 2009-2010.

Women’s Committee of the University of Akron, Martin University Center, Keynote Address, September, 2010.

Keynote Address, Wayne College Writers Workshop, University of Akron/Wayne College, Orrville, Ohio, April 17, 2010.

SERVICE TO THE BUCHEL COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

RTP Committee, Humanities Full Professor, 2020 to present.

Member, Horn Faculty Search Committee, Department of Music, 2013-2014.
Buchtel College Council, Department of English representative, 2011-2012.

Buchtel College Council Ad Hoc Committee on Minors and Certificates, 2012.

Buchtel College Council Curriculum Committee, Department of English representative, 2011-2012.

Keynote Address, Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences Phi Sigma Alpha Honorary Society Induction and Awards Reception. April 2010.

Collaborated with College of Arts and Sciences to conceive and launch a scholarship fund in the name of Rob Levandoski, a deceased University of Akron writing instructor, 2009.

SERVICE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AND NEOMFA

NEOMFA Campus Coordinator, Fall 2014 to present.

NEOMFA Executive Committee member, Fall 2014 to present.

Member, search committee to hire NEOMFA Permanent Coordinator, 2021.

Graduate Programs Coordinator, Spring 2018 to Spring 2019.

Nominated and presented colleague Mary Biddinger with the Cleveland Arts Prize, September 2019.

Served on committee to write RTP guidelines for the department's NTT faculty, 2018.

Hosted and introduced NEOMFA visiting author Adam Gopnik, University of Akron, March, 2018.

Co-chair (with Dr. Mary Biddinger), RTP committee: Three assistant professor renewals, 2017.

Hosted and introduced NEOMFA visiting author Rob Sheffield, University of Akron, 6-8, 2017.

Panel moderator for "Beyond the Body: Explorations in Post-humanism and Trans-humanism," the student-run SAGES annual interdisciplinary conference, University of Akron Student Union, March 16, 2017.

Presented a brown-bag session for UA English Department teaching assistants who are using *The Hard Way on Purpose*, as a text in their freshman composition classes, January 31, 2017.

Panel moderator, "The Personal in Hysteria," for the student-run SAGES annual interdisciplinary conference, University of Akron Student Union, April 28, 2016.

Panelist, "What Are You Going to Do with That?" University of Akron, March 11, 2016.

Member, search committee for English department chair, 2015-16.

Hosted and introduced NEOMFA visiting author Roxane Gay, University of Akron, November 19-20, 2015.

Hosted and introduced NEOMFA visiting author Chuck Klosterman, University of Akron, February 20-21, 2014.

Hosted and introduced NEOMFA visiting author Sarah Vowell, University of Akron, April 25-26, 2012.

Department Committees:

2017-2018:

Department Advisory Committee
Graduate Programs/Assistants Committee

2016-2017:

Department Advisory Committee
Graduate Programs/Assistants Committee

2015-2016:

Graduate Assistants Committee
Composition Program Committee

2014-2015:

Graduate Assistants Committee
Undergraduate Program Committee
Composition Program Committee

2013-2014:

Department of English Undergraduate Programs Committee.
Department of English task force on revamping the major

2012-13:

Department of English Advisory Committee.
Department of English Undergraduate Programs Committee.

2011-12:

Department of English Advisory Committee.
Department of English Library Committee, Chair

2010-11:

Department of English Library Committee, Chair.

2009-10

Department of English Library Committee.

2009 to present

Department Awards Committees (various)

NEOMFA Committees

NEOMFA Executive Committee, 2014-present
NEOMFA Creative Nonfiction Admissions Committee, Chair, 2009-present
NEOMFA Ad Hoc Committee to write a new mission statement, 2011-12

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Fiction Judge, *Calliope*, the literary magazine of the University of Mount Union, 2022.

Nonfiction Judge, Malone University Writers' Contest, Spring 2021.

Narrated video tribute for "An Evening with Rita Dove and Friends," Cleveland Foundation, September 14, 2016.

Judge, Creative Nonfiction entries for *Calliope*, the literary magazine of the University of Mount Union, 2016.

Judge, Thurber Prize for American Humor, 2015

Visiting Editor, Ashland University MFA program in creative writing, July 2015.

Introduced author Tobias Wolff, Lincoln Theater, Massillon, Ohio, May 21, 2015.

Introduced poet Rita Dove, Akron Civic Theater, October 16, 2014.

Judge, Emerson College Creative Nonfiction Student Writing Contest, 2013.

Judge, Ralph and Marion G. Kroehle Foundation Award in Creative Nonfiction, Hiram College, 2010.

SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

Community Co-Chair, Akron-Summit County Public Library Levy Campaign Committee, 2021.

Member, John S. & James L. Knight Foundation Community Advisory Board, 2015-2018.

Akron Roundtable 40th Anniversary Celebration co-keynote, with Patrick Carney of the Black Keys, Oct. 3, 2016.

Honorary Chair, Project Learn of Summit County “Night of Illumination” literacy fundraiser, March 12, 2016.

Host and Emcee, Cleveland Arts Prize “This Artist Life” Benefit, Oct. 22, 2015.

Member, Akron Summit County Public Library Levy: Community Advisory Committee, 2015.

Member, Downtown Akron Branding Committee, 2015.

Moderator, Leadership Akron “Leadership on Main” event, in conversation with John S. & James L. Knight Foundation Akron Program Director Kyle Kutuchief, August 2015.

Led and narrated “Akron 2 Akron” downtown walking tour, July 25, 2015.

Keynote Speaker, Akron TorchBearers “Intern Edge” Graduation, July 22, 2015.

Speaker, John S. & James L. Knight Foundation Event: Living Akron History, Summit County Historical Society, July 3, 2015.

Keynote Address, Akron Rotary Club, Portage Country Club, Akron, Ohio, May 19, 2015.

Panelist, Cleveland Film Festival Film Feast, Nightlight Theater, Akron, Ohio. Panel discussion on the arts in Akron, November 12, 2014.

Akron Metropolitan Area Transportation Study (AMATS) Annual Meeting, Akron, Ohio. Keynote Address, Panel Discussion. October 17, 2014.

Host, Project Learn of Summit County “Night of Illumination” fundraiser, October 16, 2014.

Keynote Speaker and Community Facilitator, Akron Art Museum Community Conversation Series: “Uniquely Akron,” Akron Art Museum, September 9, 2014.

Leadership Akron City Tour Keynote Address: “Transformation of the Community: How Akron Reinvented Itself Again -- The Hard Way on Purpose,” Goodyear Hall, Akron, Ohio, August 20, 2014.

Keynote Speaker, Akron TorchBearers “Intern Edge” Graduation, July 26, 2014.

Funded and hosted a “Celebrate the Plate” fundraising dinner at my home, a charity event for Akron Children’s Hospital, May 31, 2014.

Speaker and Panelist, Leadership Akron event, “Transformation of the Community: How Akron Reinvented Itself Again,” Goodyear World Headquarters, Akron, Ohio, August 14, 2013.

Presented the band the Black Keys with the Cleveland Arts Prize, Cleveland Museum of Art Auditorium, Cleveland, Ohio, June 27, 2013.

“Film Forum” Panelist, Cleveland International Film Festival, Akron Art Museum Auditorium, April 11, 2013.

Keynote Address, Ronald McDonald House Annual Volunteer Appreciation Brunch, Firestone Country Club, Akron, Ohio, May 7, 2011.

Cleveland Arts Prize Special Event, tour of the author’s home, lecture and reception, January 2011.

Judge, Square Stories storytelling contest, Highland Square “Art in the Square” festival, 2010 and 2011.

Judge, Akron Film Festival’s “New History of Akron Contest,” Akron Art Museum, 2010.

Nazareth Housing Association, Annual Meeting, Akron, Ohio. “Keynote Address,” August 2009.

INVITED MEDIA APPEARANCES AND REVIEWS (selected)

PRINT

“Most Interesting People 2018: David Giffels,” Cleveland Magazine, January 2018.

“The Best Reviewed Books of the Week,” Literary Hub, January 26, 2018.

“David Giffels Built Coffins With His Father. Then His Father Died.” Fatherly, January 17, 2018.

“Books: A Father and Son Bond Over a Coffin,” Detroit Free Press, January 6, 2018.

“What’s New: Books from Karen Ellis, David Giffels and Sam Graham-Felsen,” Newsday, January 3, 2018.

“Ten New Books We Recommend This Week,” New York Times Book Review, December 31, 2017.

“Death Becomes Him,” New York Times Book Review, December 24, 2017.

“Review: *Furnishing Eternity*,” Library Journal, November 20, 2017.

“Review: *Furnishing Eternity*,” Publishers Weekly, November 7, 2017.

“Review: *Furnishing Eternity*,” Kirkus Reviews, October 15, 2017.

“Prepub Review: *Furnishing Eternity*,” *Library Journal*, August 7, 2017.

“Can the Rust Belt become the ‘Brain Belt?’,” *Christian Science Monitor*, May 1, 2017.

“What’s the Story in Cleveland? Don’t Ask the National Media Covering the RNC,” *Columbia Journalism Review*, July 21, 2016.

“Akron’s Claim: From tire-makers to playmakers,” *San Jose Mercury News*, June 9, 2015.

“January 2015 Book Club: *The Hard Way on Purpose* by David Giffels,” *The Buffalo News*, January 20, 2015.

“Rust Belt Revival: Lessons for southwest Ontario from America’s industrial heartland,” *The Globe and Mail*, January 18, 2015.

“Editors’ Choice: *The Hard Way on Purpose*,” review, *New York Times Book Review*, May 11, 2014.

“Blight and Flight: *The Hard Way on Purpose*,” review, *New York Times Book Review*, May 4, 2014.

“Review: *The Hard Way on Purpose*,” review, *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, April 5, 2014.

“Why one local book publisher thinks the Midwest could be the country’s next great artistic frontier,” feature, *Columbus Alive*, April 3, 2014.

“Dispatches from the Rust Belt,” review, *The Rumpus*, March 27, 2014.

“‘Flyover Country’ Is an Insult to Midwesterners Like Me. So Is ‘Heartland’ Sentimentality,” feature, *The New Republic*, March 22, 2014.

“Best of the Best,” review, *Detroit Free Press*, March 19, 2014.

“Holiday Gift Guide: Columnist Picks,” *All the Way Home* (selected by Gwendolyn Bounds), *Wall Street Journal*, Nov. 24, 2009.

“Don’t Hate Me Because I’m Solvent,” *New York Times*, April 17, 2008.

“Use a Machete and Shower Less,” *Wall Street Journal*, June 21, 2008.

“It’s Hammer Time,” *Washington Post*, May 23, 2008.

“They Fell in Love with a Falling-down House,” *The Seattle Times*, April 19, 2009.

TELEVISION, RADIO AND ONLINE

“Why Is Trump Going to War Here?: Driven by revenge, the former president has staked his control over the GOP on an unlikely Ohio district,” *Politico*, April 23, 2021.

“We the People,” WKYC-TV, Cleveland, March 12, 2021.

“To Understand Ohio,” WKSU (NPR), Kent, Ohio. Monthly series based on *Barnstorming Ohio*, 2019-2020.

“Recommendations on Grief and Loss,” New York Public Library (blog), March 2, 2018.

“What David Giffels Learned About Mortality From Building His Own Coffin,” *Two Way Street*, Georgia Public Broadcasting (NPR), February 8, 2018.

“Ending with a Flourish,” *To the Best of Our Knowledge*, NPR (national) December 30, 2017.

“Cleveland, the Center of the Sports Universe (At Least for Today),” NPR (national), “Here & Now.” October 25, 2016.

“On Our Minds: LeBron James and the Rust Belt,” *To the Best of Our Knowledge*, National Public Radio (national), interview, August 17, 2014.

Book TV, CSPAN-2, “Chicago Tribune Printer’s Row Lit Fest,” live broadcast of panel interview, June 8, 2014.

“For Writer, ‘The Hard Way’ Meant Choosing to Stay in Akron, Ohio,” Morning Edition, National Public Radio, feature interview, March 25, 2014.

Essential Pittsburgh, WESA, Pittsburgh NPR, “The Hard Way on Purpose: Akron’s Past Glories and Present Reinvention,” March 18, 2014.

Cincinnati Edition, WXVU-FM (NPR), Cincinnati, “All the Way Home,” Sept. 25, 2011.

All Things Considered, National Public Radio (national), “Cleveland Braces for Impact of LeBron Exit,” July 1, 2010.

The Diane Rehm Show, National Public Radio, “*All the Way Home*,” July 21, 2008.

CBS Early Show, CBS, “Author Pens Home Restoration,” May 27, 2008.

True Spin: Devo, VH-1, 2004.

Whaddya Know?, National Public Radio, May 17, 2003.

Modern Marvels: Body Shop, The History Channel, 2000.