

Young Alumni Award

Maggie Smith-Beehler

Class of 1999

It is a pleasure to honor Maggie Smith-Beehler with this 2014 Young Alumni Award for her outstanding accomplishments since her graduation from Ohio Wesleyan fifteen years ago.

Maggie's career success was foreshadowed by the awards she garnered as an undergraduate student and English major: the Benjamin Spencer Award, the Robert Flanagan Prize for Writing, and the Frederick L. Hunt Prize for proficiency and promise in creative writing. A Wesleyan Scholar, she also was elected to Sigma Tau Delta, and she graduated *summa cum laude* with University Honors.

In 2003, she received her MFA in poetry from The Ohio State University, where she was a University Fellow and Thesis Fellow and won two Academy of American Poets Prizes.

Her books include the forthcoming *The Well Speaks of Its Own Poison*, which has been named winner of the Dorset Prize, and *Lamp of the Body*, which won the Benjamin Saltman Poetry Award in 2005. Her chapbooks, *The List of Dangers* and *Nesting Dolls* were winners of the Wick Poetry Series Chapbook Competition and The Pudding House National Poetry Chapbook Competition, respectively.

Maggie's poems have appeared or are forthcoming in *The Paris Review*, *The Gettysburg Review*, *The Iowa Review*, *The Southern Review*, *Virginia Quarterly Review*, *Shenandoah*, and many other journals. Her work also has been included in anthologies such as *From the Other World: Poems in Memory of James Wright*; *The Year's Best Fantasy & Horror 2008*; *Apocalypse Now: Poems and Prose from the End of Days*, and *The Helen Burns Anthology: New Voices from the Academy of American Poets University & College Prizes, Volume 9*.

Maggie has taught creative writing as the Emerging Writer Lecturer at Gettysburg College and has blogged for *The Kenyon Review*. A 2011 recipient of a Creative Writing Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts, she has also received four Individual Excellence Awards from the Ohio Arts Council, two Academy of American Poets Prizes, and a fellowship from the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts. She is the Owner and Writer/Editor of Versed Creative Services, LLC; specializing in content development, editing, proofreading, content review, and correlation. She previously worked as an editor for Zaner-Bloser, McGraw-Hill, Junior Library Guild, and Darby Creek Publishing. Maggie has remained connected to Ohio Wesleyan by providing readings and lectures to students.

We are delighted to honor Maggie with one of Ohio Wesleyan's inaugural Young Alumni Awards and congratulate her on her significant achievements.

May 17, 2014

