

# New Literary Project Announces 2022 Jack Hazard Fellowship Winners in Support of Creative Writers Who Teach High School

*Program Awards \$5,000 Summer*

*Fellowships to Writers Who Teach to*

*Enable and Encourage Them to Use Their Summers to Explore Their "Calling, Art and Craft"*

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, UNITED STATES, March 30, 2022 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [The New Literary](#)

[Project](#) (NLP) has announced nine California high school teachers as the first recipients of its [Jack Hazard Fellowships](#) – an inventive, groundbreaking program that awards \$5,000 Summer 2022 Fellowships to high school teachers who are pursuing creative writing projects. For 2023 and beyond, NLP plans to open the program to applications from writers who teach high school anywhere in the United States.

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*Lauren Groff - author of Fates and Furies, Florida, & Matrix*

“My mother was a high school teacher while I was growing up, as well as being a talented painter, but during the

school year she was so passionate about teaching that she simply didn't have any time to dedicate to her art,” remembers Lauren Groff, author of *Fates and Furies, Florida, & Matrix*; 2022 Joyce Carol Oates Prize Finalist.

“I remember how happy she was when summer came and she finally had the chance to sit down with her oils and easel and canvas and get lost in the art she'd dreamed of making all year long. The Jack Hazard Fellowship is a brilliant way to ensure that our teachers who are also writers have the time and freedom to devote to the art that sustains them.”

“I remember teaching high school,” says Joseph Di Prisco, founding board chair of the New Literary Project and a onetime high school teacher who has published 14 books, including poetry, memoirs, and novels. “Teenagers can wear their feelings on their sleeves. Sometimes they wear them on your sleeve. There are days when each class feels like a telenovela. It's high stakes, slipping seamlessly between high jinx and solemnity. And that makes high school such an alternately fascinating, stressful, jubilant, charged, invigorating home base—acutely so for a writer who teaches. As a famous poet, John Ciardi, once said, going through high school provides

enough material for a lifetime of poems. That's true for teachers as well. New Literary Project is pleased and honored that our Jack Hazard Fellows will use their summers to explore their calling, art and craft, and that they will return in the fall to their schools with new stories that yearn to be told."

The 2022 Jack Hazard Fellows are:

Kevin Allardice - Albany High School, Albany, CA (But They Filmed the Movie Somewhere Else: A Novel); Julie T. Anderson, Honorary Fellow, The College Preparatory School, Oakland, CA; Armando Batista - Pacific Ridge School, Carlsbad, CA (American Diaspora: A Dominicanish Travelog); Adam O. Davis - The Bishop's School, La Jolla, CA (The Everlasting Goddamned Winter); Sheila Madary - St. Mary's High School, Stockton, CA; Molly Montgomery - Emery High School, Emeryville, CA (Children of the Orchard); Mehnaz Sahibzada - New Roads School, Santa Monica, CA (Jaani); Tori Sciacca - Richmond High School, Richmond, CA (Soul Language: Stories of Soul Connections and Love); Andy Spear - Head-Royce School, Oakland, CA (I Think It's a Lizard).



The 2022 Jack Hazard Fellows are: (top row - left to right) Kevin Allardice, Julie T. Anderson, Armando Batista, Adam O. Davis, and Sheila Madary; (bottom row - left to right) Molly Montgomery, Mehnaz Sahibzada, Tori Sciacca, and Andy Spear

Jack Hazard Fellowships reward and incentivize talented writers who teach in secondary schools. These writers-who-teach inspire their students, high schools, and communities, and provide a professional model of writers working to find meaning and to create art in chaotic times. With these fellowships, the New Literary Project celebrates teachers' life-changing contributions and gives them public acknowledgement along with much-needed freedom to devote to their own writing.

Daniel Mason, author of *The Winter Soldier* and *A Registry of My Passage Upon the Earth*; 2020 Joyce Carol Oates Prize Recipient, observes: "When I think of the people who have supported and encouraged me throughout my writing career, it is perhaps not surprising that so many of them are teachers. This is particularly true of creative writing; now when I think back of those who taught me, I realize that many of them could only have learned the delicate art of balancing innovation and creativity with hard work if they were writers themselves. What a wonderful, creative fellowship this is, rewarding those whose dedication often goes unsung, so that they might enrich not only their own work, but the gifts they pass along."

The New Literary Project, a nonprofit created in 2016, is also home of: The Joyce Carol Oates Prize (annual \$50,000 award to a mid-career author); Simpson Writing Workshops (offered free to Bay Area younger writers); Simpson Fellows (creative writing instructors from the UC Berkeley English Department); Simpsonistas: Tales from the New Literary Project (internationally distributed annual anthology of work by NLP-related authors, including younger writers).

For more information about New Literary Project and the Jack Hazard Fellowships, visit the website. Contact: Executive Director Diane Del Signore at 510.919.0970 or [diane@newliteraryproject.org](mailto:diane@newliteraryproject.org)

For media inquiries, contact Scott Busby at The Busby Group – 310.600.7645 or [scottb@thebusbygroup.com](mailto:scottb@thebusbygroup.com)

The Jack Hazard Fellowships are sustained by the generosity of System Property. One hundred years ago, Mr. Hazard founded the company that has today become System Property. He was a larger-than-life, mostly self-educated, and deeply curious man who admired education and educators, someone who loved to hear and tell a good story. As a charismatic, visionary entrepreneur and generous philanthropist, he had a profound, unforgettable impact that resonates to this day. The New Literary Project is honored and humbled to be associated with his legacy. We love a good story, too, and we believe that scores of good stories will come to life because of the annual Jack Hazard Fellowships.

Scott T Busby  
The Busby Group  
+1 310-600-7645  
[scottb@thebusbygroup.com](mailto:scottb@thebusbygroup.com)

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