

## **Marilyn J. Sigman**

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### **Creative Nonfiction Writing**

#### **Education**

**MFA in Creative Writing and Literary Arts, Creative Nonfiction genre.** 2015. University of Alaska Anchorage.

#### **Publications**

2018. *Entangled: People and Ecological Change in Alaska's Kachemak Bay*. University of Alaska Press Alaska Literary Series. Winner of the 2020 Burroughs Medal for outstanding natural history writing.

2016. "When Death Comes to Bishop's Beach in Homer." *We Alaskans, Alaska Dispatch News*. January 24.

2015. *Ecology of Desire: Writing Science into Natural History Writing*. MFA Thesis, University of Alaska Anchorage.

2013. 49 *Writers Blog*.

2009. *Alaska Quarterly Review*. "Class notes: A Brief History of Impermanence." Winter Issue.

2007. *Alaska Quarterly Review*. "Raven Re-Makes the World." Fall Issue.

1986. *Alaska Fish and Game Magazine*. "Alaska habitats: summer pageant on the tundra."

1985. *Alaska Fish and Game Magazine*. "Mendenhall Wetlands Refuge"

#### **Honors and Awards**

2020. John Burroughs Medal awarded to *Entangled* for a distinguished book of nature writing that combines scientific accuracy, firsthand fieldwork, and excellent natural history writing.

2018. "Stray Hopes" essay selected for Salmon Shadows Art and Humanities Project competition. Alaska Humanities Forum/Salmon Fellows Program. Anchorage, Alaska.

2016. MFA thesis nominated by the UAA/Anchorage Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences for the Distinguished Master's Thesis Award for the Humanities, Social Sciences, Education, and Business sponsored by the Western Association of Graduate Schools.

2006. "Minding the Birds" essay. Honorable Mention, General Public Nonfiction. UAA /Anchorage Daily News Creative Writing Contest.

2005. "A Peculiar Beauty: The mind is a brittle instrument. Honorable Mention, General Public Nonfiction. UAA /Anchorage Daily News Creative Writing Contest.

#### **Invited Presentations and Readings**

2021-23. "Writing about Traditional Ecological Knowledge in the Context of Indigenous and Western Science Worldviews." Writing in the Sciences undergraduate course | University of Alaska Anchorage Kachemak Bay College, Homer, AK.

2022. "Writing Natural/Cultural History Inspired by Museum Objects." Kachemak Bay Writers Conference, University of Alaska Anchorage Kachemak Bay College and Pratt Museum, Homer, AK.

2021.

University of Alaska Fairbanks Climate Scholars Program discussion of *Entangled* as their a required reading. Via Zoom, October 19 and 20.

Readings and presentations about *Entangled* as the featured book for the University of Maine MacGillicuddy Humanities Center 2021 Climate Change Symposium Reading Group. Via Zoom, February-March.

Guest Lecture. Science Writing course (Nancy Lord, instructor). John Hopkins University Science Writing Program. Via Zoom.

2020. "An Evening of Entanglement." Presentations and discussions with Nancy Lord in conjunction with "Entangled" museum exhibit. Pratt Museum, Homer, AK. Via Zoom, September 4.

2018-19.

"10,000 Years of People and Birds in the Ecosystem." Reading and presentation, Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival, Homer, AK. May.

Alaska book tour: Quiet Rights Coalition Annual Membership Meeting, Anchorage (keynote speaker); Friends of Kodiak Public Library Constitution Day, Kodiak (keynote speaker); Soldotna Public Library, Soldotna; Resurrect Art, Seward; University of Alaska, Fairbanks; University of Alaska Anchorage Bookstore, Anchorage; Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies, Homer.

2017.

Guest Lecture. Research-Based Writing course (Nancy Lord, instructor). University of Alaska Anchorage Kachemak Bay College, Homer, Alaska.

Presentation and reading. Creative Writing and Literary Arts Residency Program University of Alaska Anchorage, Anchorage, Alaska

2016.

"Writing about Science in the Anthropocene." Member of a panel of presenters. Associated Writing Programs Conference. Los Angeles, CA.

Guest Lecture. Science and Nature Writing course (Nancy Lord, instructor). Kachemak Bay Campus of University of Alaska Anchorage Kachemak Bay College, Homer, AK.

2015. Selected to write non-fiction passages for State of Alaska K-12 English and Language Arts statewide test questions.

2013.

Facilitator of panel presentation, "Writing About Science Creatively," Alaska Marine Science Symposium. Anchorage, AK.

Instructor, *Line by Line* Workshop. Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies Peterson Bay Field Station, Kachemak Bay, AK.

### **Invited Reviews**

2018-present. "Reading Between the Lines" book reviews for Friends of Homer Public Library, KBBI Radio, Homer, AK. (semi-monthly)

2021. Children's book proposal about the life history of a seal. University of Alaska Press, Fairbanks, AK.

2020. Alaska climate change book proposal, University of Washington Press, Seattle, WA.