

MICHAEL BAUMANN

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EDUCATION

- Ph.D.** Rhetoric & Composition
University of Louisville, 2019
- M.A.** Rhetoric & Composition
Ohio University, 2015
- B.A.** English and Communication
Marian University, 2013

EXPERIENCE

performance poetry

As a spoken word artist, I have won poetry slam competitions, and I have either hosted or headlined at over 20 venues in Indianapolis and across the United States. My poetry often explores sexuality, spirituality, & sustainability.

art education

As a Communication Professor and the Asst. Director of Forensics at Marian University, I have deepened my own craft while working closely with students on storytelling arts. In addition, I design and deliver seminars, and I publish and present original scholarship. I worked at Marian from 2017 to 2023. [Full CV.](#)

community engagement

I have collaborated on arts programming with nonprofits in Indianapolis such as Indiana Youth Group where I have been facilitating creative writing programming since 2018; Indiana Writers Center, where from 2010 to 2016 I edited Indiana authors' anthologies, taught poetry to youth during the summer memoir program, and offered adult writing courses; and The Learning Tree, an association of neighbors that focuses on asset-based community engagement.

SELECT WORKS

Is There 'Nothing New Under the Sun?': Indiana University and Herron School of Art + Design invited me to join their cohort of artists for the 2023-2024 Religion, Spirituality, & The Arts (RSA). After seven months of seminars conclude, we are to exhibit installations at The Harrison Building in May 2024.

Poetic Justice: The Learning Tree has selected me to participate in their 15-week, peace-building and community safety program. As a 2023-2024 Writer in Residence, I will help create a safer, more sustainable environment through asset-based community development projects involving poetry.

Ciderside Chats: I collaborated with Marian University College of Arts & Sciences, Ash & Elm Cider Co., and local artists to create and perform at this 2022 Spirit & Place Festival event. Storytellers, poets, podcasters, and members of the community gathered at The Assembly to share food, story, and identity.

Leave Them Something: in collaboration with the Kurt Vonnegut Memorial Library, Jewish Community Center, and Dance Kaleidoscope, Indiana Writers Center invited poets to participate in this community artwork for the 2021 Spirit & Place Festival. Three of my poems were selected for the anthology, and a choreographed interpretive dance accompanied one poem's vocal performance.

Poetry on the Fringe: I co-produced and performed in 22 productions of this variety show at the IndyFringe Theatre, including a show at the 2019 Fringe Festival. Our shows wove original drama, poetry, comedy, and audience participation into an unforgettable evening of storytelling.

Dignity USA: Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School hired me to provide entertainment and discussion at Dignity USA, their retreat focused on reconciling the intersection of LGBTQ and Catholic identities.