FALL:

**September:**

Maury Brown Poet:

**Reginald Dwayne Betts, Sept 23, 5-7 pm, Oakland Room**

Reginald Dwayne Betts is an American poet, memoirist, and teacher. He is author of *A Question of Freedom: A Memoir of Learning, Survival, and Coming of Age in Prison*, and *Shahid Reads His Own Palm*, winner of the 2010 Beatrice Hawley Award. He is currently in his last year at Yale Law School.

**October:**

**Nadia Bozak**, **Fiction craft talk**, October 14, 5-7 pm, Lake Michigan Room (Students and faculty and staff wishing to attend the craft talk must sign up ahead of time; email Prof. Alison Powell, powell@oakland.edu)

### Nadia Bozak is the author of novels *El Niño* and *Orphan Love* as well as short fiction. She has a PhD focusing on the relationship between cinema and the biophysical world. She is Assistant Professor of English at Carleton University in Ottawa.Tom Lynch, Reading, October 27, 5-7 pm, Banquet Room ATom Lynch is an undertaker in Midland, MI. His collection of essays, *The Undertaking: Life Studies from the Dismal Trade*, won the Heartland Prize for non-fiction, the American Book Award, and was a finalist for the National Book Award. The book has been translated into seven languages. A second collection of essays, *Bodies in Motion and at Rest*, won the Great Lakes Book Award. He is also a respected poet and fiction writer.

**Tom Lynch**, **Craft talk**, October 27, 2-4 pm, Lake Michigan Room (Students and faculty and staff wishing to attend the craft talk must sign up ahead of time; email Prof. Jeff Chapman, chapman4@oakland.edu)

**November:**

**Ed Hoeppner-Haworth, Farewell Reading and Fete: November 11, 5 pm, DH 201**

**InsideOut Literary Arts Project** **Reading: November 18, 5:30 pm, Fireside Lounge, OC**

InsideOut Literary Arts (iO) has for 20 years led more than 50,000 Detroit youth on adventures using poetry as their guide to becoming better students and ultimately more engaged citizens. Current students and graduates will be reading from their work, date and time TBA.

**December:**

**Lee Ehlers: Talk on Screenwriting: the current scene, December 1, 5:30-7 pm, SFH 166**

Lee Ehlers has won several awards, including Tracking Board’s Young and Hungry List (Top Screenwriters on the Verge) (2014) and Best Original Screenplay (Motion Picture Institute of Michigan) (2008). He’s had three screenplays commissioned, has worked as a script doctor, and writes sketches for FunnyOrDie.com.

WINTER:

**January:**

**Faculty Talk**: on getting published; **Alison Powell**: poetry; **Peter Markus**: fiction. Thursday, Jan 28th, 5 pm. Room: TBA.

**February:**

**Simeon Berry**, **Reading**, Feb., details TBA

**Simeon Berry** **Poetry craft talk**, (Students and faculty and staff wishing to attend the craft talk must sign up ahead of time; email Prof. Alison Powell, powell@oakland.edu)

Simeon Berry has won the Academy of American Poets Award and the Career Chapter Award from the National Society of Arts and Letters and has authored the prize-winning collections *Ampersand Revisited* and *Monograph.*

**March:**

**Elizabeth Graver** **Reading**, March 17, 2016, Reading 5-7 pm, location TBA

**Elizabeth Graver** **Fiction craft talk**, March 17, 2-4 pm, location TBA (Students and faculty and staff wishing to attend the craft talk must sign up ahead of time; email Prof. Annie Gilson, gilson@oakland.edu)

Elizabeth Graver writes character-driven psychological novels as well as more experimental short fiction, and non-fiction essays on a variety of subjects. Her 2013 novel, "The End of the Point," has met with much praise and was featured by *New York Times* Book Review.

**April:**

**Slam Poetry Showcase,** Wednesday, April 6th and Thursday, April 7th, location TBA

**Alix Olson** and **Greg Jacobs**

Alix Olson is an American poet who works exclusively in spoken word. She uses her work to address issues of capitalism, sexism, homophobia, heterosexism, misogyny, and patriarchy. She identifies as a queer feminist. In 1997, Olson began performing at the Nuyorican Poets Cafe, where she quickly made the 1998 Nuyorican Poetry Slam team. She and her fellow Nuyorican team members Lynne Procope, Steve Colman and Guy LeCharles Gonzalez would go on to win the 1998 National Poetry Slam Championship in Austin, TX. This championship would lead to Soft Skull Press publishing the anthology Burning Down the House which showcased poetry by Olson, Procope, Coleman and Gonzalez as well as poetry by the 1998 Nuyorican Team's coach, Roger Bonair-Agard.

**GREG JACOBS** is co-founder of Siskel / Jacobs Productions, founded in 2005. Jacobs and his partner Jon Siskel produced and directed the documentary feature [Louder Than a Bomb](http://www.louderthanabombfilm.com), which follows four Chicago-area high school poetry teams as they prepare for and compete in the world's largest youth slam. The film has won seventeen festival prizes, including ten audience awards. It was also selected for the 2011 [American Documentary Showcase](http://www.ufva.org/showcase). *Louder Than a Bomb* had its world television premiere on the Oprah Winrey Network in January 2012, as part of the [OWN Documentary Club](http://www.oprah.com/own-doc-club/Louder-Than-A-Bomb-Trailer). Jacobs also served as VP/Chief Creative Officer at Towers Productions, where he oversaw the content of more than two hundred documentaries on five different networks, including award-winning shows and series for A&E, History, Discovery, The Weather Channel, and CNN. A graduate of Yale University, Greg is the author of *Getting Around Brown: Desegregation, Development, and the Columbus Public Schools*.