

Isabella Mason

Pen-name: Bell McEntire

Lexington, KY

• isamason10@gmail.com

EDUCATION

M.F.A. in Creative Writing, *summa cum laude* - May 2026

University of Kentucky

B.A. in English, *summa cum laude* - May 2024

North Carolina State University, 2023-2024

Wake Forest University, 2020-2022

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Composition Instructor at University of Kentucky** **Fall 2025 - Spring 2026**
 - Sole instructor for two sections per semester of UK WRD 110 and WRD 111 (Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Studies), a series of introductory composition and communication courses required for undergraduate students
 - Taught rhetoric using the framework of digital spaces to engage students with rhetorically-dense media
 - Regularly used instructional multimedia technology and integrated digital media into the classroom, encouraging students to experiment with new mediums
 - Skillfully navigated the Canvas interface and developed lesson plans and assignments
 - Met biweekly with a mentor group to discuss pedagogical techniques and identify areas of improvement as new instructors
- **Creative Writing TA at University of Kentucky** **Fall 2024 - Spring 2025**
 - Facilitated two recitation sections of UK ENG 107, an introductory creative writing course that meets core requirements for undergraduates
 - Taught under supervision of Frank X. Walker and Dr. DaMaris Hill
 - Drew upon deep knowledge of subject matter to create interactive lesson plans that effectively conveys material, involving students in their own learning
 - Met weekly with primary instructor to discuss pedagogy and course administration

- Graded all course assignments in accordance to rubrics or through utilization of professional judgement
- Maintained communication with 100+ students, including administration of the course Canvas page and frequent email correspondence

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **Advanced Placement (AP) Reader for AP Seminar** **2025 - Present**
 - Selected to travel to Salt Lake City for the Summer 2025 on-site AP Reading, re-selected for Summer 2026
 - Evaluated and scored 1,000+ short-essay responses in 2025 for AP Seminar, an interdisciplinary course that cultivates students' skills of critical thinking, communication, and comprehension
 - Completed 100.71 Professional Development hours (or 10 Continuing Education Units)
- **Workshop Leader for the 2025 Sundress Retreat for Survival and Healing** **2025**
 - Selected to lead a workshop, "Accessing and Exploring the Inner Child," at the 2025 Sundress Retreat for Survival and Healing, a two-day event facilitated by Sundress Academy For The Arts (SAFTA) in Knoxville, TN.
 - Directed a workshop focused on becoming familiar with one's inner child through writing, as a method for healing trauma resulting from interpersonal violence
 - Engaged participants from diverse backgrounds through discussion, hands-on sensory activities, and multiple writing exercises
- **Editor-in-Chief at New Limestone Review (NLR)** **2025**
 - Organized the Spring 2025 "Rotten" issue of the New Limestone Review, UK's literary magazine, in collaboration with other editors
 - Carried out website development and backend work for the digital issue
 - Communicated with writers interested in submitting to NLR, as well as communicated with writers before and after their publication in the magazine
- **Nonfiction & Poetry Editor at New Limestone Review** **2024 - 2025**
 - Collaborated with fellow editors to produce three issues of the New Limestone Review (Fall 2024, Spring 2025, Fall 2025)
 - Edited, evaluated, and selected nonfiction and poetry works, communicating with contributors and working to create a cohesive issue centered around a specific theme

- **Daytime Music Director & DJ at WKNC 88.1 FM Raleigh** **2023 - 2024**
 - Managed the largest genre block database of NC State University's student-run radio station, WKNC 88.1 FM/HD-1 Raleigh, in order to keep music fresh and appropriate for tens of thousands of listeners across 30+ miles
 - Communicated with music industry professionals regularly via email/phone
 - Utilized studio equipment to produce a seamless set free of dead air or FCC violations, trained new DJs on proper radio procedure, encouraging the individuality that comes with DJing at a student-run college radio station

PUBLICATIONS

- "Lucky" (2021) - *Carolina Muse*, Vol. II No. II
- "First Times" (2022) - *Stuck In Notes*, Vol. IV
- "Untitled" (2022) - *MAJORzine*, Issue 12
- "Lines Written in Early Autumn"(2024) - *The Rappahannock Review*, Issue 12
- "Jackpot" (2026) - *White Wall Review*, April 2026 Issue
- "回家/Return Home" & "Burning Monk" (2026) - *Provokable: Writing Inspired by the University Kentucky Art Museum*

AWARDS & RESIDENCIES

- 2026 residency recipient from the Kentucky Foundation for Women, Nerinx, KY
- 2026 and 2025 residency recipient at Rockvale Writers' Colony, College Grove, TN
- 2025 Wagner-Adler Summer Thesis Development Award in Creative Nonfiction
- NC State Dean's List: Spring 2023, Fall 2023, Spring 2024
- Wake Forest Dean's List: Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Spring 2022
- Wake Forest Scholarship Recipient, 2020-2022
- George F. Hankins Scholarship Recipient, 2020-2022

SKILLS

- Creative memoir, personal essay, literary nonfiction, and realistic fiction
- Canvas course administration
- Microsoft Office Suite
- AP style proficiency
- FCC standards proficiency
- Technological comprehension and capability
- Conversational in Mandarin Chinese (simplified characters only)

REFERENCES

Erik Reece, Professor of English and Creative Writing
University of Kentucky
(859) 753-1463, erik.reece@uky.edu

Frank X Walker, Professor of English, Former Kentucky Poet Laureate
University of Kentucky
(859) 257-1035, fxw2@uky.edu

Dr. DaMaris Hill, PhD, Chair of English and Language Arts
Morgan State University
(443) 885-3165, damaris.hill@morgan.edu

Laura Mullen, Poet and Former Professor of English
Wake Forest University, Former Kenan Chair of the Humanities
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Dr. Eric Wilson, PhD, Professor of English
Wake Forest University
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