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[grossmont.edu/frs](https://grossmont.edu/frs).

Presented by Grossmont College English Department's

# FALL READINGS SERIES

## POET **SAM SAX** SEPTEMBER 18

11AM - 12:15PM, GRIFFIN GATE

This year's Banned Books/Banned Lives Reading showcases queer writer, educator, and poet, sam sax, author of *Yr Dead*, longlisted for The National Book Award; and *Pig*, named by *New York Magazine* as one of the best books of 2023.

## **ACORN REVIEW** LAUNCH READING OCTOBER 1

6 - 7:15PM, VIA ZOOM

In this virtual event held by Zoom, featured *Acorn Review* poets and writers take the mic to offer a performative reading of their original work to help launch the newest issue of Grossmont College's student-operated literary arts journal.

## NOVELIST **NATASHIA DEÓN** OCTOBER 15

12:30 - 1:45PM, GRIFFIN GATE

Criminal attorney Natasha Deón is the author of two critically acclaimed works and is a twice NAACP Image Award Nominee for Outstanding Literature. Her novel, *Grace*, was named a Best Book of the Year by *The New York Times* and awarded Best Debut Novel by the American Library Association's Black Caucus.

## MUSICIAN AND HORROR WRITER **CHAD STROUP** NOVEMBER 18

11AM-12:15PM, GRIFFIN GATE

Writer, drag artist, and vocalist for the bands Icefield and Resting on Pretty, Chad Stroup is the author of several horror novels and fiction collections, including *Teeth Where They Shouldn't Be* and *Sexy Leper*. Chad Stroup is this year's guest writer in our **Lester Bangs Memorial Reading**, held annually to commemorate the infamous music critic and Grossmont College alumnus.

## **NEW VOICES** STUDENT READING DECEMBER 8

6-7:15 PM, GRIFFIN GATE

This popular biannual student reading returns, showcasing fall semester students performing original works of poetry, fiction, non-fiction, drama, and hybrid forms.



# 2025

## POET AND WRITER **SAM SAX**

THURS., SEPTEMBER 18, 11AM-12:15PM



photo by Hollis Rafkin

sam sax, a queer Jewish writer and educator, is the author of *Yr Dead*, longlisted for The National Book Award, and *Pig: Poems*, named by *New York Magazine* and *Electric Lit* as one of the best books of 2023. They're also the author of *Madness*, winner of The National Poetry Series, and *Bury It*,

winner of the James Laughlin Award from the Academy of American Poets. Sax is twice Bay Area Grand Slam Champion with poems published in *The New York Times*, *The Atlantic*, *Poetry Magazine*, *Granta*, and elsewhere. Having received fellowships from The National Endowment for the Arts, The Poetry Foundation, Yaddo, Lambda Lit, MacDowell, they are currently serving as an ITALIC Lecturer at Stanford University. To learn more, visit [samsax.com](http://samsax.com).



## **ACORN REVIEW** LAUNCH READING

WED., OCTOBER 1, 6-7:15PM, VIA ZOOM. (LINK TO BE POSTED SOON @ [grossmont.edu/frs](http://grossmont.edu/frs).)



Join us for this virtual event celebrating the launch of the latest issue of **ACORN REVIEW**, Grossmont College's own student-operated literary arts journal. Selected poets and writers featured in the issue will read and talk about their work. Find *Acorn* submissions info

@ [grossmont.edu/acorn](http://grossmont.edu/acorn).



Unless otherwise noted, all events to be held on campus in Griffin Gate (located in Bldg. 60, at the **outside** southwest corner of the Student Center). For more information, visit the official FRS website: [grossmont.edu/frs](http://grossmont.edu/frs).

**GROSSMONT COLLEGE** • 8800 Grossmont College Drive, San Diego, CA 92020 • 619-644-7000 • [www.grossmont.edu](http://www.grossmont.edu) • Governing Board Members: Elena Adams, Debbie Justeson, Brad Monroe, Julie Schorr Student Members: Lu Tri Vi Huynh, Marcelia Y. Villaseñor. • Chancellor: Lynn Ceresino Neault, Ed.D. • Grossmont College President: Dr. Pamela T. Luster, Ed.D. Dean of English and Social and Behavioral Sciences, Agustin Albarran.



## NOVELIST **NATASHIA DEÓN**

WED., OCTOBER 15, 12:30-1:45PM



photo by Casey Curry

A practicing criminal attorney, novelist Natasha Deón is a two-time nominee for a NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Literature, and the author of two critically acclaimed novels, including *The Perishing*, and *Grace*, named a Best Book of the Year by *The New York Times* and awarded Best Debut Novel by the American Library

Association's Black Caucus. A Hurston/Wright Foundation Legacy Award Nominee for Outstanding Fiction and a PEN America Fellow, Deón has also been awarded fellowships and residencies at Yale, Prague's Creative Writing Program, and the Virginia Center for Creative Arts. Deón is a professor of creative writing at UCLA and Antioch University. Her personal essays have been featured in *The New York Times*, *Harper's*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *Harper's Bazaar*, *American Short Fiction*, *Buzzfeed*, and other places. For more info, visit [natashiadeon.com](http://natashiadeon.com).



## **CHAD STROUP** MUSICIAN AND HORROR WRITER

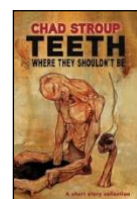
TUES., NOVEMBER 18, 11AM-12:15PM



photo © Chad Stroup

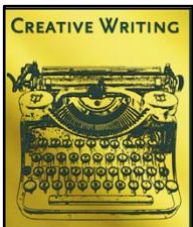
Chad Stroup is the creator of the novels *Secrets of the Weird* and *Sexy Leper*, as well as the recent short story collection *Teeth Where They Shouldn't Be*. When not writing, Stroup is also the vocalist for the band Icepield, and for Resting on Pretty, for which he performs as drag alter ego, Jenn X. Stroup received his

MFA in Fiction from San Diego State University. He is a member of the Horror Writers Association and the San Diego Horror Professionals. For more info, visit [subvertbia.blogspot.com](http://subvertbia.blogspot.com). Stroup is the featured presenter in this year's **LESTER BANGS MEMORIAL READING** commemorating the infamous Grossmont College alumnus and rock critic for *Rolling Stone* and *Creem* who popularized terms such as "punk rock" and "heavy metal."



## **NEW VOICES** STUDENT READING

MON. DECEMBER 8, 6-7:15 PM



The finale of the 2025 FRS is a popular showcase of writing talent curated from this semester's workshops. Students are selected by creative writing instructors to perform original works of poetry, fiction, non-fiction, drama, and hybrid forms.