

Annie Marhefka

Writer, Publishing Professional, HR Consultant

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EXPERIENCE

Writer

2017 - PRESENT

Writer of creative nonfiction, memoir, poetry. Work has been published in Pithead Chapel, Literary Mama, The Citron Review, Lunch Ticket, The Journal of Compressed Creative Arts, Variant Lit, and more. Awarded a writing residency with Yellow Arrow Publishing in 2020 (prior to joining the staff), and a writing residency at Gullkistan Center in Iceland for spring 2024. 2022 Best of the Net nominee and Pushcart Prize nominee. 2023 Best of the Net nominee.

Works in progress include:

- Daughterhood, a hybrid memoir exploring the complexities and identities within mother/daughter relationships, including themes of intergenerational conflict, infertility, miscarriage/infant loss, mental health, and grief.
- Strangers We Know By Heart, a flash creative nonfiction collection of love letters to strangers, exploring the ways in which empathy can extend to women we have never met, and reflecting on how much and how little we can have in common with those we encounter in our daily lives. This manuscript was a finalist in the 2023 Black River Chapbook Competition (Black Lawrence Press), the Chestnut Review Press 2023 open reading period, and the Digging Press Chapbook Award.

Yellow Arrow Publishing — Executive Director

2021 - PRESENT

Oversee operations for small press publishing company driven to support women-identifying writers through access to publication and the literary arts. Responsibilities include overseeing production of semi-annual issues of Yellow Arrow Journal and publication of chapbooks, as well as blogs and newsletters. Coordinate programs, including craft workshops for women-identifying writers, annual writing residency program for Baltimore-based writers, and community events and readings.

AWARDS & HONORS

Writer-in-Residence, Yellow Arrow Publishing, spring 2020.

Writer-in-Residence, Gullkistan Center (Iceland), spring 2024.

Exhibition: The Changing Chesapeake, writing on display at The Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum throughout 2023.

Pushcart Prize nomination, 2022 for “The Woodpecker,” published by Literary Mama.

Best of the Net nomination, 2022 for “Flying Into Chicago at Sunset,” published by The Ilanot Review.

Best of the Net nomination, 2023 for “Old Faithful,” published by Beaver Magazine.

Maryland State Arts Council Artist Grant for Professional Development, 2023.

Finalist, Pigeon Pages flash contest 2023.

National Flash Fiction Day 2023, featured piece “Kaleidoscope.”

The Vivi Group — Owner & Principal Consultant

2020 - PRESENT

After providing consulting services on a pro-bono basis for several years to non-profit organizations, I established my own HR consulting business providing HR services to early-stage, emerging and high-growth organizations in the areas of change management, organizational design, talent development, communications strategy, employee engagement, and risk management & policy development. More info at <https://thevivigroup.com/>.

Pearson Online Learning — Chief Operating Officer

2015 - 2017

Served as key member of the Executive Team, collaborating with peers on developing and executing on strategic objectives, consistently performing above expectations as a business unit. Provided oversight for Business Services division to 37 schools in over 30 states, including: HR, Compliance & Business Services, Financial Services, Facilities & Real Estate Management, Supply Chain, Purchasing, State Testing Services, and Technology Services.

Pearson Online Learning — Head of HR

2005 - 2015

Responsible for leading both corporate HR services and contracted HR services to partner schools across the U.S. including Talent Acquisition, Onboarding, School Staffing Management, Substitute Teacher Staffing Management, Employee Relations, Training & Development, Compensation, Communications, Employee Engagement, HR Compliance, Benefits, HRIS Management, and Payroll. Developed teams to scale in line with the organization's 20% growth/year, evolving the HR team from 3 to 50+ supporting an organizational staff that grew from 100+ to over 4,000. Organization was consistently recognized as one of Baltimore Magazine's "Best Places to Work" during this time.

Berry Global — HR Generalist

2003 - 2005

Responsible for recruitment and training & development of plastics manufacturing staff, shift scheduling, and providing support for payroll, benefits, and employee relations.

EDUCATION

Strayer University — MBA

2004 - 2006

Concentration in HR Management, 4.0 GPA

VOLUNTEER WORK

Ambassador, The Bmore Creatives, 2023 - Present

The Barbara J. Dreyer Cares Foundation, Board Member 2014 - Present

St. Francis Neighborhood Center, Board Member, 2018-2022

FEATURES

The Slowdown Show, November 2023, piece selected for feature on podcast by Major Jackson.

Panelist, 2023 Washington Writers Conference

Blog Feature, Mollye Miller: [A Writer Who Loves the Process](#)

Podcast, She is Kindred: [Mothering While Motherless](#)

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Literary Mama: [The Woodpecker](#)

The Ilanot Review: [Flying into Chicago at Sunset](#)

Reckon Review: [Mother/Mutt](#)

Fatal Flaw Lit: [Anatomy of the Postpartum Mother](#)

Variant Literature: [Interstellar Fingerprints](#)

Pithead Chapel: [The Cost of Miscarriage](#)

Washington College — *BA, Creative Writing*

1999 - 2003

Editor-in-Chief, The Pegasus

Anti-Heroin Chic: [My Brother
Should Have Been a Pine Tree](#)