

**Robin Reagler, PhD**  
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## **Expertise**

English | Creative Writing | Composition | Humanities | Literature | Rhetoric | Mentorship  
Poetry | Leadership | LGBTQ+ Literature | Teaching | Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

## **Profile**

A creative educator, mentor, and published writer, with 10 years teaching and 20 years of experience leading an award-winning, nationally prominent education nonprofit, Writers in the Schools (WITS)

## **Education**

PhD in English | University of Houston 1990-1994  
MFA in Creative Writing | Iowa Writers' Workshop 1984-1986  
BA in English | Tulane University 1980-84

## **Teaching Experience**

Writing Teacher | Public Poetry | Grackle & Grackle | Orange Show | 2020 – present  
Executive Director | Writers in the Schools (WITS) 1997 – 2020  
Program Director | WITS 1995-1997  
Instructor | Inprint 1996 - 2021  
Instructor | University of Houston 1990 – 1998  
Creative Writing Faculty | Writers in the Schools 1990 – 1996  
English Teacher | Montclair Kimberley Academy 1987-1989  
Instructor | University of Iowa 1984-1986

## **Publications**

**Night Is This Anyway** | Lily Poetry Books (forthcoming March 2022)  
**Into The The** | Winner of the Best Book Award from Backlash Press (2021)  
**Teeth & Teeth** | Winner of the Charlotte Mew Prize selected by Natalie Diaz (Headmistress Press, 2018)  
**Dear Red Airplane** | Winner of the Rebound Prize (Seven Kitchens Press, 2011, 2018)

Over 100 poems published in journals such as Ploughshares, American Letters & Commentary, Copper Nickel, Denver Quarterly, Iowa Review, North American Review, Poet Lore and Zocalo Public Square. Essays have been published in Teachers & Writers Magazine, the Houston Chronicle, and books published by Beacon Press, Persea, McSweeney's, and others.

### **Awards**

- Finalist, Houston Poet Laureate 2021
- Commendation for Best Practices in Literacy (\$5k prize) by the Library of Congress
- Winner, Best Book Award (2020)
- Finalist, Educator of the Year Award, Children at Risk (2019)
- Senior Fellow, American Leadership Forum (2017)
- Winner, Rebound Series, Seven Kitchens Press (2018)
- Winner, Charlotte Mew Prize in Poetry (2018)
- Winner, Literary Fellowship, Houston Arts Alliance (2016)
- Winner, Best Parenting Blog in Houston for *The Other Mother: Letters from the Outposts of Lesbian Parenting* selected by Nickelodeon (2009)

### **Community Service**

- Board Chair, LitNet (the advocacy organization representing the national literary sector)
- Board Secretary, The HUB Justice School, an equity-based charter school (to open 2022)
- Former Board Chair, Board of Trustees, Association of Writers and Writing Programs (AWP) 2012-2019 (membership over 40K)
- AWP 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala Chair (2018)
- Founding Member of City of Houston Poet Laureate, City of Houston Youth Poet Laureate, Meta-Four Houston, Public Poetry
- Grant Panel Chair, Houston Arts Alliance, and Texas Commission on the Arts
- Advisory Board Member, Public Poetry, Underground Writing
- Literary Fellow, Arts Council of Houston/Harris County
- Judge for Martin Luther King Oratory Competition, HISD Electronic Book Fair, PBS Writing Contest, Houston Chronicle Writing Awards, Public Poetry Ekphrastic Writing Contest, and many more