

## CONTRIBUTORS

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MARK D. BENNION {bennionm@byui.edu} has worked as a faculty member in the English Department of Brigham Young University–Idaho since 2000. His poems have appeared in a variety of literary magazines, including *Aethlon*, *BYU Studies Quarterly*, *The Comstock Review*, *The Cresset*, and *Iodine Poetry Journal*. Last year his second collection of poems—*Forsythia*—was published by Aldrich Press. He and his wife, Kristine, are the parents of five children.

AMBER BLUE {Blue.AmberB@gmail.com} is a junior at Brigham Young University–Idaho from North Carolina. She is pursuing a degree in English with an emphasis in creative writing. She is a vivacious young woman, who loves quilting and reading Jane Austen.

JOANNA BROOKS {askmormongirl@gmail.com} is an award-winning scholar of religion and American culture, Associate Dean of Graduate and Research Affairs at San Diego State University, and editor or author of six books including *The Book of Mormon Girl: A Memoir of an American Faith* (2012). She is presently at work with co-editors Rachel Hunt Steenblik and Hannah Wheelwright on *Mormon Feminist Thought: Essential Writings from Forty Years of the Movement*, to be published next year by Oxford University Press.

ANN EDWARDS CANNON {acannon@sltrib.com} works as a columnist for the *Salt Lake Tribune* and a bookseller for King’s English Bookshop in Salt Lake City. She has published fiction and nonfiction in a variety of periodicals, as well as books for young readers ([www.aecannon.com](http://www.aecannon.com)). She and her husband, Ken Cannon, live in Salt Lake. They are the parents of five adult sons.

MAREN CHRISTIANSEN is a sixteen-year-old high school student who lives in Georgia with her family.

R. A. CHRISTMAS {rachristmas@gmail.com} has been a contributor of poetry, fiction, and criticism to *Dialogue* since the first issue. He has degrees from Stanford, UC Berkeley, and USC (PhD 1968, Medieval English Literature). He is the author of seven books of

verse, a novel, and a collection of song-writing—all of which can be found at [www.lulu.com/spotlight/rachristmas](http://www.lulu.com/spotlight/rachristmas).

LISA TORCASSO DOWNING {[downinglt@aol.com](mailto:downinglt@aol.com)} is the fiction editor at *Sunstone Magazine* and teaches composition at Collin College in north Texas. An award-winning essayist and writer of short fiction, Downing's work has appeared in *Dialogue*, *Sunstone*, and *Irreantum*. Her children's novels, *Island of the Stone Boy* and *Get that Gold!*, are available through Leicester Bay Books/Zion Book-Works. She comments on Mormon culture at *Life Outside the Book of Mormon Belt* ([outsidethebookofmormonbelt.com](http://outsidethebookofmormonbelt.com)).

SIMON PETER EGGERTSEN {[speggertsen@yahoo.com](mailto:speggertsen@yahoo.com)} has come to poetry late, having put several decades between writing a poem to recoup a failing grade in college and having his first poem published here in *Dialogue*. He is presently making an effort to write a haiku, using his percussionist's skill to pound out the 5-7-5 syllable structure. Not much success. Eggertsen was trained as a lawyer (Virginia and Cambridge) but wandered and has spent his life working and teaching in the field of international public health, sometimes at Harvard, others at Boston University. Always fascinated by language and sound, what began as interest in puns, doggerel, and limericks eventually reached poetry. His verse won the *Irreantum Poetry Prize* (2012) and has recently been named a finalist for the *Far Horizons Poetry Prize* (Malahat [Canada], 2014) and shortlisted for the *Fish Poetry Prize* (Ireland, 2013). A set of his poems appears in the anthology *Fire in the Pasture: Twenty-first Century Mormon Poets* and individual poems have appeared in *Nimrod*, *Atlanta Review*, *Spoon River Poetry Review*, *Ekphrasis*, *Vallum* (Canada), and *New Millennium Writings*. His first chapbook, *Memories as Contraband*, has recently appeared from Finishing Line Press. He has his brother David to thank for the poem that is found here; it was prompted by an essay he wrote some years ago, even contains some of that imagery.

JENNIFER FINLAYSON-FIFE {[jennifer@finlayson-fife.com](mailto:jennifer@finlayson-fife.com)} is an LDS licensed psychotherapist specializing in relationship and sexuality

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JESSICA FINNIGAN {jessicafinnigan@gmail.com} received a BS from BYU in Marriage, Family, and Human Development in 2003. She recently finished an Advanced Diploma in the Study of Religion from the University of Cambridge, and is currently a graduate student at King's College London. Her research includes the study of religion in the contemporary society, specifically the impact of technology and the intersection of gender within the LDS Church.

MEGAN ELAINE FOX {mfox0809@gmail.com}, Russell Arben Fox's oldest daughter, was valedictorian of her high school class and began her freshman year at the University of Kansas in the fall of 2014, majoring in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies.

RUSSELL ARBEN FOX {foxr@friends.edu} is the book review editor for *Dialogue: A Journal of Mormon Thought* and a professor of political science at Friends University in Wichita, Kansas.

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CHRISTIAN HEFTEL {christian@twentydollararticles.com} studied English at Brigham Young University. His writing has appeared in UVU's *Essais* and *Warp & Weave*, and is forthcoming in *Intergalactic Medicine Show*. He is a kung fu and yoga enthusiast and a lover of classic literature and life.

ASHLEY MAE HOILAND {ashmae.hoiland@gmail.com} received a BFA in studio art and an MFA in creative writing, both from Brigham Young University. She currently lives in Palo Alto where

she is an artist-in-residence in local elementary schools and her husband is a PhD candidate at Stanford University. She has two small and good children, Remy and Thea. She writes, illustrates, and sells her own children's books and art. Her essays and artwork can be found at [ashmae.com](http://ashmae.com).

AMY JORGENSEN is a photographer, video, and performance artist exploring ideas of the body as author and figure using alternate narrative forms. She was born in Milan, Italy and spent her formative years living in Europe. After studying photography at Columbia College in Chicago, she received a BFA from the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston and Tufts University in 1997, and an MFA from the University of California San Diego in 2002. Selected exhibitions include Utah Museum of Contemporary Art, Oceanside Museum of Art, Museum of Art at BYU, CUAC, Jancar Gallery in Los Angeles, Rio Gallery, Access II, Visual Arts Gallery in La Jolla, and Video Space. She is a recipient of multiple fellowships and grants including a GSA grant and an Individual Artist Grant from the Utah Arts Council. In 2013 her work *Red Delicious* became the first digital video work acquired by the Utah Division of Arts and Museums as part of its permanent collection. She is currently an Assistant Professor of Visual Art at Snow College and is the Co-Director and co-founder of Granary Art Center, a non-profit contemporary exhibition and arts outreach space. Her work is included in public and private collections. Jorgensen lives and works remotely in the high plains desert of Utah.

COURTNEY J. KENDRICK {[cjanekendrick@gmail.com](mailto:cjanekendrick@gmail.com)} is a writer, blogger, columnist, speaker and community activist. For nine years she has cultivated her award-winning blog [CJaneKendrick.com](http://CJaneKendrick.com) where she writes about life, religion, birthing, wifehood, motherhood, womanhood, body acceptance, her love of community and all the spaces in between. She has four children, a calling in the Relief Society, and a BA in Behavioral Science from Utah Valley University.

LEVI PETERSON {althlevip@msn.com} is a retired professor of English at Weber State University, presently living in Issaquah, Washington, with his wife, Althea. A former editor of *Dialogue*, he is the author of two collections of short stories, *The Canyons of Grace* and *Night Soil*; two novels, *The Backslider* and *Aspen Marooney*; a biography, *Juanita Brooks: The Life Story of a Courageous Historian of the Mountain Meadows Massacre*; and an autobiography, *A Rascal by Nature, a Christian by Yearning*.

HANNAH PRITCHETT {hannah.pritchett@gmail.com} holds a BA from BYU and an MA from UC Berkeley, both in linguistics, and works in online safety at Facebook. She lives in Oakland, California with her husband Michael Nielsen.

COURTNEY RABADA {courtney.rabada@cgu.edu} is earning her master's degree in Religious Studies at Claremont Graduate University, with particular interest in Mormonism, Women's Studies, and World Religions. Her research on Sister Missionaries is ongoing and she would love to hear from young women about their mission experiences. She is a native of the San Francisco Bay Area and earned her BA in English Literature from Indiana University, Bloomington.

NANCY ROSS {nancyross@gmail.com} is an Assistant Professor of Art History at Dixie State University. She received her PhD from the University of Cambridge in 2007.

JULIE M. SMITH {juliemariesmith@yahoo.com} graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with a BA in English and from the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, California, with an MA in Biblical Studies. She is on the executive board of the Mormon Theology Seminar, blogs for Times & Seasons, and is the author of *Search, Ponder, and Pray: A Guide to the Gospels*.

DOUGLAS L. TALLEY {dtalley@riskinternational.com} received a BFA in creative writing from Bowling Green State University

and a JD from the University of Akron. Early in his career he practiced law with a firm in Akron, Ohio, and presently works as an executive in a small consulting company. His poems and essays have appeared in various literary journals, including *The American Scholar*, *Christianity and Literature*, and *Irreantum*. In 2009, his work was nominated for a Pushcart Prize. His poetry collection, *Adam's Dream*, was released in 2011 (Woodsboro, Md.: Parables Publishing). He and his wife, April, live in Copley, Ohio, where they both continue to write and raise their family.

ROSALYNDE FRANSEN WELCH {rosalynde.welch@gmail.com} is an independent scholar and writer on all things of Mormon faith and culture. She holds a PhD in early modern English literature, and her approach to cultural criticism incorporates literature, philosophy, and critical theory. Her writing has appeared in *Dialogue*, *BYU Studies*, *Element*, and many online venues. She lives in St. Louis, Missouri, with her husband John and their four children.