



**JaxbyJax
Literary
Arts
Festival**

**Saturday
November 11, 2017
1:30-2:30 p.m.**

STUDENT SHOWCASE

Il Desco, 2665 Park Street, Jacksonville, FL

fscj.edu/jaxbyjax

BIOGRAPHIES

10 Local Student Writers

Ruben Adkins, *Douglas Anderson School of the Arts*

Jaclyn Berry, *Douglas Anderson School of the Arts*

Gabriel Bugarin, *University of North Florida*

Elise Duncan, *Florida State College at Jacksonville*

Natalie Filaroski, *Douglas Anderson School of the Arts*

Gabrielle LoSchiavo, *University of North Florida*

Forest Peyton, *University of North Florida*

Michael Pons, *University of North Florida*

Keiona Wallace, *Douglas Anderson School of the Arts*

Lindsay Yarn, *Douglas Anderson School of the Arts*

FSCJ Florida State College
at Jacksonville

Ruben Adkins

Ruben Adkins is a senior creative writer at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts who is by all accounts still trying to figure himself out. His life is in a constant state of existential collapse, but he knows how to keep quiet about it. He is a cat person. He thinks your work is incredible simply by virtue of being unique to you. He knows how to dress himself well enough for your parents to like him, but if he's honest, he'll always prefer sweatpants to slacks. Nihil ex nihilo, he always says. His work has been featured in *Elan*, 100 Word Story and elsewhere.

**Jaclyn Berry**

Jaclyn Berry is a senior at the Douglas Anderson School of the Arts in the Creative Writing Department. She is a co-leader of the Spoken Word Club there, and has been published twice in the school's international literary magazine, *Elan*. She has been awarded a gold key for her poetry in the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards and plans to continue to pursue writing.

**Gabriel Bugarin**

Gabriel Bugarin is a soon-to-be graduate of the University of North Florida. Buddhist practitioner particularly interested in Mahayana and Vajrayana schools of Buddhism. Deeply infatuated with video games. Father of brilliant, beautiful little girl who has the potential to be a musician, engineer or dictator (really depends on which strengths she hones in on).



Gabriel is leaving to teach English in Chongqing, China for a year next August. Currently obsessed with the author Haruki Murakami. Fun fact: He and his peers convinced an actual band of Australian musicians that they were members of a folk-metal band called "The Freudian Nip-Slips." They were fully costumed in black clothing and face makeup (he has pictures). This incident occurred in London, where Gabriel learned that mushy peas are awful and drinking at 9 a.m. is okay; STEP IT UP, AMERICA. In search of a field of fireflies. Uncanny ability to get lost

anywhere. Still unsure what he learned about American History in grades K-12.

Elise Duncan

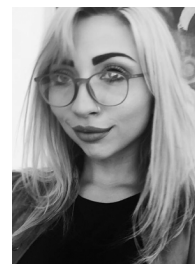
Elise Duncan is a first-year student at FSCJ and is still undecided about her major. She has a huge family that she loves spending time with and asking for money. Elise will share the first piece of her writing she has ever really loved and enjoyed producing. She hopes it will spark a creative force that compels her to start writing more.

**Natalie Filaroski**

Natalie Filaroski is a senior at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts. She has been published in *Buck Off Magazine*. This is her first time performing in the JaxbyJax Literary Arts Festival, but she's looking forward to performing more in the future.

**Gabrielle LoSchiavo**

Gabrielle LoSchiavo is a senior at the University of North Florida studying English, which is her passion. She is also earning a minor in communications, which she chose to avoid being an utter disappointment to her parents. When she's not in class or selling her soul to the service industry, Gabrielle flirts with filmmaking, poetry and music. Her goals in life are to start an all-girl punk band and remember to water her plants.

**Forest Peyton**

Forest Peyton is about to graduate from the University of North Florida, and is frantically applying to all M.F.A. programs that will read an application with under a 3.0 GPA. Forest has been performing stand-up comedy and disappointing his parents for the exact same amount of time. He's a house M.C. at the Comedy Zone and Gregory's Comedy Club. He's also the host of The After Dark Comedy Show, Jacksonville's weekly late-night comedy variety show.



Michael Pons

Michael Pons is a fourth-year Honors student at the University of North Florida. He's currently pursuing a major in English Literature and a minor in Philosophy, and hopes to graduate in the spring 2018. Beyond that, he hopes to continue his study of literature by going on to graduate school for a master's degree, and ultimately a Ph.D., specializing in American Literature. He considers his specialties to be fiction and non-fiction writing, though he occasionally dabbles in poetry that he self-admittedly considers mediocre. Originally an Astrophysics major, he still has a passion for the sciences and loves to write believable science fiction. His favorite writers/biggest influences are H.P. Lovecraft, Arthur C. Clarke and Isaac Asimov.

**Keiona Wallace**

Keiona Wallace is a senior at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts. She studies creative writing with a focus on fiction and poetry and is the print editor for the school newspaper, The Artisan. Her work has appeared in The Writing Disorder, Elan and received an honorable mention in Scholastic Art and Writing Awards.

Lindsay Yarn

Lindsay Yarn is a 12th grade Creative Writing Major at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts. She was born and raised in Jacksonville, Florida, and started writing as soon as she started reading. Most of her life, she only read fiction, but as she grew older and more angsty, leaned more towards poetry. She was attracted to its ability to create emotion and life in such a compact form. In the beginning, the only poetry she knew was about darkness and dread, thanks to her first exposure to poetry, Edgar Allen Poe's "The Raven" and "Annabel Lee." Continuing her writing path, she discovered that poetry could be just as much joy as pain. It ranges from boneless and flexible to nothing but spine. She felt she could hold poetry in her hands, to her chest and she still feels that way.