

# BIOGRAPHIES



## JaxbyJax Literary Arts Festival

**Saturday  
November 11, 2017**

Park and King Streets in Riverside  
Jacksonville, FL

[fscj.edu/jaxbyjax](http://fscj.edu/jaxbyjax)

## 28 Local Writers

Thony Aiuppy  
Yvette Angelique  
Tricia Booker  
Susan Brandenburg  
Jennifer Chase  
Donna Cobis  
Barbara Colaciello  
Fred Dale  
Howard Denson  
Bill Ectric  
Katherine Espano  
Sohrab Fracis  
Chris Gabbard  
Liz Gibson

Tim Gilmore  
Claire Goforth  
Teri Youmans Grimm  
Abel Harding  
Lynn Skapyak Harlin  
Jeanine Hoff  
Laura Hoffman  
Ash Kemker  
Darlyn Kuhn  
Matt Lany  
Terri Mashour  
Andres Rojas  
Sean Smith  
Jeff Whipple

**FSCJ** Florida State College  
at Jacksonville

## Thony Aiuppy

Thony Aiuppy is a visual artist, art educator and writer. He holds an M.F.A. in Painting from the Savannah College of Art and Design. His narrative paintings and portraits have been shown in solo and group exhibitions in the Southern and Mid-Atlantic U.S., including "LIFT: Contemporary Expressions of the African-American Experience" at the Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens, "The Light by Which We See" at Andalusia Farm: Home of Flannery O'Connor and "Into That Darkness Peering" at the Edgar Allan Poe Museum. His art has also been featured in the literary journals Fiction Fix and Lunch Ticket.



## Yvette Angelique

Yvette Angelique, a poet and essayist, is a recovering C-suite executive in financial services and management consulting. Today she defines her work as "all things narrative." She facilitates writing workshops locally and globally, and furthers social justice through cultural activism. Yvette uses creative writing, narrative inquiry and storytelling to transform individuals and communities.



So how does a poet and writer live inside a bank executive and CEO? Mergers, re-engineering and diversity initiatives filled Yvette's business plate. At the same time, she devoted long hours developing her writing voice, publishing and as a teaching artist. Yvette completed two graduate programs: Creative Writing and Transformative Language Arts for Personal and Social Change.

Yvette's essays, poems and articles have appeared in the Bucks County Literary Journal, Anchor Magazine, The OD Practitioner, Tamara Journal for Critical Organization Inquiry, Practising Social Change and The Diversity Factor; she has contributed to other publications and anthologies. Yvette received a 2016 Art Ventures grant from the Community Foundation for Northeast Florida, helping to complete her upcoming book of essays, "Complicated Truths: Emerging as Leader of a Whole Life."

## Tricia Booker

Tricia Booker is an award-winning journalist, writer and author who has written for Folio Weekly, Southern Living, Notre Dame Magazine and other publications around the country. She currently teaches journalism at the University of North Florida and writes a popular blog about topics ranging from politics and literature to adoption and manners. Her first book is a memoir about how Tricia and her husband adopted and are



raising three children, including one who suffers from an attachment disorder. "A Place of Peace and Crickets: How adoption, heartache and love built a family" is a story about love, kids, dogs and chaos.

Tricia lives in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, with her firefighter husband, three children, two permanent dogs and a varying number of foster dogs. She dreams of living in a yurt.

## Susan Brandenburg

Susan D. Brandenburg is an award-winning biographer and freelance journalist with more than 30 years of experience writing newspaper columns, feature articles, press releases, personal and professional profiles, brochures and biographies. She is president of Susan the Scribe, Inc. Publishing, a member of the Florida Writer's Association and teaches a class, "Writing Your Life Story," in the University of North Florida's OLLI Program.



A former columnist for the St. Augustine Record and Florida Times-Union newspapers, Susan's feature articles have appeared in Women's World Weekly, Chicken Soup for the Golfer's Soul, Folio Weekly, ARBUS, Jacksonville Luxury Living Magazine, Jacksonville Magazine, Women's Digest, H Magazine, Waters Edge, Ponte Vedra Recorder, Resident Community News, San Marco and Beaches Magazines.

Susan's biography of Jacksonville businessman, Doc Garland Granger, entitled "Sharecropper's Son," won the Florida Writer's Association 2010 Royal Palm Literary Award for Biographies. She is currently at work on her 28th manuscript, having completed biographies/memoirs of Carlton Spence, Scott McLucas, Marilyn Peyton, Drs. Gaston and Maria Victoria Acosta-Rua, Jimmy Stockton, Richard Conway, Malcolm Stephens, Bessie Forbes Franklin Macdonald Turk, Major Joe Bracewell, The Saxon Family of Ocala, Rodeheaver Boys Ranch History, Casey Carter Bonar, Ingrid Reeves, Josephine Wall, Major "Tiger" Tom Brown, Marvin Edwards, Robert Swindell and others.

## Jennifer Chase

Jennifer Chase's plays have been performed in France, Spain and Senegal. Her plays include the dramas "Handmaid" and "Artichoke Soup," a series of monologues called "Eva Chase Wood" and musicals "Majigeeen" and "La Caroline." Her most recent play is the one-woman show "Renunciant," based on her experience teaching refugees.



She has a B.A. in International Studies and French from the University of North Florida and an M.F.A. in Creative Writing from the University of New Orleans.

Chase teaches Humanities, English and Creative Writing at Florida State College at Jacksonville and produces page to

stage works in progress through her production company aJENNda. She was honored in 2015 as the first Artist in Residence at the Museum of Science and History (MOSH).

### Donna Cobis

Poet Donna Cobis has returned to writing after a long hiatus. She credits her fellow writers and JaxbyJax Literary Arts Festival for bringing her back to the craft. She sees her poems as responses to environmental and political conflicts of one sort or another and to show mythological landscapes of North Florida.



Her poems have appeared in Rolling Stone, Sanskrit, Kalliope and other local magazines. As a journalist, she has written for Folio Weekly, Jacksonville Magazine and Jacksonville Woman, among others.

A native of Charlotte, North Carolina, Donna is a longtime resident of Jacksonville. She has an M.A. from University of North Florida and a B.A. from University of South Florida. She lives in Arlington with her husband, Stephen, and son, Ian.

### Barbara Colaciello

Multi-faceted artist Barbara Colaciello began her career working with Andy Warhol for six years at the Factory in New York City as the Advertising Director of Warhol's magazine, Interview. Over the years, she has worked as an actress, director, playwright, educator and narrative coach. Barbara has collaborated extensively with poet, playwright and National NPR Radio Host, Al Letson, as his acting coach, director and producer of many of his plays.



Her original solo show, "Life on the Diagonal," had its New York City debut at Theater Lab in April of 2008. In 2010, Players by the Sea, in partnership with the Cummer Museum, commissioned Barbara to research, write and perform a solo show about founder Ninah May Holden Cummer for the Cummer Museum's 50th Anniversary. Colaciello's company, Improv to the Rescue, specializes in experiential and creative learning to enhance communication skills and develop storytellers through workshops, classes and coaching. Her studio, BABS'LAB, located in CoRK North Arts District, is a place for experimentation, training and performance, a place where the community witnesses work that uplifts, breaks barriers and crosses lines. A 2013 TEDxJacksonville Speaker, Barbara was voted Best Actor by Folio Weekly's 2016 Best of Jax readership.

### Fred Dale

Fred Dale is a happy husband to his abundantly happy wife (just ask her), Valerie. The two of them squire their dog, Earl (not too openly happy), through the intricacies of neighborhood life. Their determination is unbending – their efforts, tireless. He (Fred, not Earl), is a native of New Orleans, but he has hunkered down in Avondale (with the family) for the past 13 years. This made hunkering down during Irma (as the mayor kept insisting) that much easier. He has published his poetry in local, national and international journals. He's an associate professor in the Department of English at University of North Florida where he teaches Creative Writing. Fred is also in the midst of his third term at the University of Tampa – working towards his M.F.A. in Creative Writing. On Saturday nights (Sci-Fi Saturdays), the happy family drinks a pot of Earl Grey tea whilst watching reruns of Star Trek and Space Ghost. (Earl is grey in color and named, of course, for Picard's favorite drink: Earl Grey tea, hot).



### Howard Denson

Howard Denson is a Newspaper-Navy brat who has mainly moved from one part of the South to another. A native of Jasper, Alabama, he has been living in Jacksonville, Florida, since the administration of Saint Richard the Reluctant Confessor.

He writes essays, novels (contemporary, historical, mystery, science-fiction), poetry, fables for adults and nonfiction.



At what is now Florida State College at Jacksonville, he taught composition, literature and creative writing, plus humanities courses in the ancient world and Middle Ages, the Renaissance to the modern world, art appreciation, American art and culture.

He was closely involved in a town-and-gown writers' conference, the Florida First Coast Writers' Festival and attended similar conferences at Samford University, Birmingham-Southern College, the University of Florida and especially at St. Petersburg's excellent Florida Suncoast Writers' Conference.

He has been an editor and/or contributor to The State Street Review, The Penchant, The International Journal of Elvisology and the Elvisian Era, The Write Stuff, The FCCFF Update and Cassandra's Kitchen. He helped run and judge contests in novels, short fiction, poetry and plays.

He and his smarter bride of 41 years, Michelle Boyette, currently have several four-legged children: the meowers, Eddie, Miss Peepers, Billy, Mercutio, Wally, Frieda and Amber; and the barkers, Mr. Darcy and Miss Daphne.

He has a website at [howardddenson.webs.com](http://howardddenson.webs.com).

## Bill Ectric

Bill Ectric wants to believe he can erase the line between mysticism and science, blending the genres of mystery, psychological drama, humor, metafiction and sometimes science fiction. His first novel, "Tamper," is about a youngster named Whit who is obsessed with paranormal mysteries, old B movies and strange voices, which may or may not be real. The novel gets its name from a phrase used by the 1940s pulp sci-fi writer Richard Sharpe Shaver, who believed that unseen fiends were tampering with his mind. Whit can relate! On the internet, Bill's writing can be found at Literary Kicks, Sein und Werden, Spolia, Perversion Magazine, Candlelight Stories, Empty Mirror Books, Red Fez, Boston Poetry and more. Bill appears as a commentator in Steve Aylett's independent film, "Lint the Movie," starring comic book writer Alan Moore. Bill is involved in programs at Saint John's Cathedral to assist the homeless, including, but not limited to, recent hurricane victims.



## Katherine Espano

Katherine Espano is the author of "The Sky's Dustbin," a poetry collection, and "The Infinity Bloom," a novel. Her work has appeared in The Massachusetts Review, Lake Effect, Green Mountains Review, Spoon River Poetry Review and Jabberwock Review, among others. "The Sky's Dustbin" won the Bitter Oleander Press Library of Poetry Book Award, and one of her poems was nominated for a Pushcart Prize. Selections from "The Sky's Dustbin" are also available as audio through Eat Poems. She lives in St. Johns, Florida, with her husband, two children and a well-fed beagle.



## Sohrab Fracis

Sohrab Homi Fracis is the first Asian American to win the Iowa Short Fiction Award, juried by the legendary Iowa Writers' Workshop and described by the New York Times Book Review as "among the most prestigious literary prizes America offers," for his first book, "Ticket to Minto: Stories of India and America." It was also a finalist for the Flannery O'Connor Award and the Sandstone Prize. His timely 2016 novel from which he will read, "Go Home," brought him the SALA (South Asian Literary Association) Distinguished Achievement Award for Creative Writing. It was a finalist for the International Book Awards, the Nicholas Schaffner Award for Music in Literature, the Many Voices Project Prize, the Yellow Shoe Fiction series, the Horatio Nelson Fiction Prize and the



Leapfrog Prize. Closer to home, "Go Home" was featured in a cover story by Folio Weekly, which called it "a quest tale of the highest order." It was also reviewed in The Brooklyn Rail, Southern Fried Karma, Red Dirt Report, and as far afield as Singapore Poetry. You can read these reviews and more on his website [fracis.com](http://fracis.com) and follow Sohrab on Facebook ([facebook.com/sohrab.homi.fracis](https://facebook.com/sohrab.homi.fracis)) and Twitter (@SohrabFracis).

## Chris Gabbard

Chris Gabbard grew up in the San Francisco Bay Area and earned his B.A. and M.A. from San Francisco State University and his Ph.D. from Stanford University. From 1983 to 1989, he was the chief editor of The Short Story Review. He has published a number of scholarly articles and serves on the editorial board of the Journal of Literary and Cultural Disability Studies. Currently, he is co-editing volume four of a Bloomsbury series, A Cultural History of Disability.



In 2001, Gabbard came to UNF, where he teaches eighteenth-century British literature, narrative medicine and disability studies. Two years before arriving, as he was finishing his dissertation, his son August was born in a San Francisco hospital. His son was born nearly dead. After several minutes without breathing, the boy was revived. He would go on to spend the remainder of his life severely brain damaged. He passed away at Wolfson Children's Hospital in Jacksonville in 2013. At JaxbyJax Literary Arts Festival, Gabbard will read the prologue for his memoir titled, "A Life Beyond Reason: A Father's Story of A Medical Error and the Strange Adventures That Followed."

## Liz Gibson

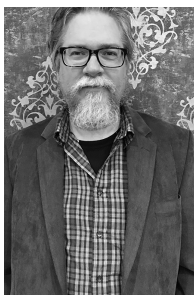
Liz Gibson is a self-proclaimed "Deformance" artist who expresses her personal experience of living with a birth defect through her art. She works in painting, sculpture, video, installation, performance and storytelling. Her art has been presented and exhibited in galleries, colleges and museums including performances at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Jacksonville, the Jepson Center at the Telfair Museum in Savannah and the Ringling Museum of Art. Gibson was selected to receive one of eight Individual Artist Fellowships from the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs for 2014. She was a recipient of a Spark Grant funded by Florida Blue Insurance to bring art experiences about her themes to young adults in Jacksonville in 2014-2015. She also received a grant from the Community Foundation for Northeast Florida for 2013 and again in 2017. She received her M.F.A. in Performance Art from Florida State University in 2011. Gibson is based in Jacksonville, Florida, and teaches at the University of North Florida.





**Tim Gilmore**

Tim Gilmore is the founder of JaxbyJax Literary Arts Festival, the creator of JaxPsychoGeo.com and the author of 15 books, the latest of which is "The Book of Isaiah: A Vision of the Founder of a City." His other books include "Devil in the Baptist Church: Bob Gray's Unholy Trinity," "The Mad Atlas of Virginia King," "In Search of Eartha White" and "Stalking Ottis Toole: A Southern Gothic." He teaches writing at Florida State College at Jacksonville.

**Claire Goforth**

Though West Virginia native Claire Goforth's writing journey has been interrupted by lengthy forays into law and food service, her ultimate destination has remained the same since she was an eight-year-old penning a construction paper "book" bound by yarn, an item which remains a treasured possession to present day. As she is the editor of Folio Weekly, more will be familiar with her sharply worded editorials and introspective think pieces than her works of fiction, but Goforth's body of work includes short stories, poetry, essays, two as-yet-unpublished novels and lots and lots of articles. She is currently at work on a third novel inspired in part by the city of Jacksonville, which has been her home for a dozen years, eight of those shared with her wonderful husband, David.

**Teri Youmans Grimm**

Teri Youmans Grimm is a fourth generation Floridian. She received her B.F.A. in poetry at the University of Nebraska at Omaha and her M.F.A. at Vermont College. Her collection of persona poems, "Becoming Lyla Dore," was published by Red Hen Press in the Spring of 2016 and was a finalist for the Eric Hoffer Book Award. Her first collection, "Dirt Eaters," was chosen for the University of Central Florida's contemporary poetry series. Her writing has appeared in Prairie Schooner, The Rumpus, First Coast Magazine, Green Mountains Review, Indiana Review, South Dakota Review, Connecticut Review, Sugar House Review, EAT and Homegrown in Florida: An Anthology of Florida Childhoods, among other magazines, journals and anthologies. She is the recipient of a Nebraska Arts Fellowship and has been awarded residencies at Virginia Center for the Creative Arts and the Hambidge Center. She teaches in the University of Nebraska at Omaha's low-res M.F.A. program.

**Abel Harding**

Abel Harding is a seventh generation Floridian with a deep love for the Sunshine State. Raised in rural North Central Florida, he has called Jacksonville home since the 1990s and lives in historic Springfield. He is the market president for IBERIABANK.



In addition to his two-decade banking career, Harding has a lifelong affinity for writing. He began with letters to the editors in high school and later founded JaxPoliticsOnline. After breaking numerous local stories, Harding joined the Florida Times-Union full time as a columnist. While with the Times-Union, Harding began the widely-acclaimed "Florida Morning" blog that was the first-of-its-kind daily digest of Florida politics. He received numerous journalism awards, including Sunshine State Awards for "Broken Trust" and "Secret Agent." During this time, Harding was a frequent guest commentator for First Coast News and WJCT.

After serving as the director of communications for the City of Jacksonville, Harding re-joined the banking industry in the fall of 2011. He has served in volunteer and leadership roles for numerous local organizations, including United Way of Northeast Florida, the Cathedral Arts Project and the Jacksonville Planning Commission. He currently serves on the board of directors of JAX Chamber, One Spark and Operation New Hope.

**Lynn Skapyak Harlin**

Poet, writer and editor, Lynn Skapyak Harlin led the Shantyboat Writers Workshop on her boat until Hurricane Irma destroyed it. She continues holding workshops at her home. She has coached and edited many local writers' and poets' manuscripts over the past 20 years. For four years, with Carolee Bertisch and Sharon Scholl, she led a poetry workshop at the Florida Heritage Book Festival. She has supported local poetry venues since the 1960s. Her first published poem "War Waste" appeared in Time magazine, in 1970. Her poems appeared in Women's Voices, State Street Review, Arbus, Section Eight Magazine, Florida Speaks, The Gate, Aquarian, AC PAPA (Ancient City Poets, Authors, Photographers and Authors), deadpaper.org and ashandbones.com. Her books, "Real Women Drive Trucks" and "Press One for More Options" were published in 1997.



## Jeanine Hoff

Jeanine Hoff is the founder and visionary leader of Where is the Sunshine?, a Northeast Florida-based 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and social media resource dedicated to peer support for mental health through advocacy, education and community collaboration. Jeanine was a 2016 TEDxJacksonville speaker and a presenter at the 2017 Mental Health America National Conference. She is a certified instructor for the National Council for Behavioral Health's Mental Health First Aid program, a certified presenter for the National Alliance on Mental Illness and is a member of the Peer Support Coalition of Florida and the International Association of Peer Specialists. Jeanine is a featured contributor for The Mighty and Jacksonville Moms Blog, and has also been featured in the Florida-Times Union. Her written work can be seen in The I'mPossible Project 2 and Stigma Fighters Anthology: Volume 3.



Jeanine is a classically trained singer, actor, composer and pianist, and holds a master's degree from Arizona State in American Media and Culture, focusing on film and social media, and a Bachelor's of Music degree in Music Theatre Performance. Now she dedicates herself to bringing our community together to support those who struggle with mental health disorders.

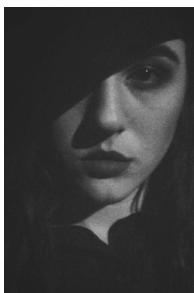
## Laura Hoffman

Laura Hoffman is a United States Marine Corps veteran currently pursuing her undergraduate degree in English at The University of North Florida. Hoffman's poetry is forthcoming or appears in: Bop Dead City, Clear Poetry, The Bangalore Review, Pouch, Twisted Sister Lit Mag, Poetry Circle, Gyroscope Review, Lady Blue Literary Magazine, Penultimate Peanut, The Write Launch and "WOWsdom: The Girl's Guide to The Positive and The Possible" by Donna Orender (to be released Fall 2017). When Hoffman is not writing, she enjoys attending comedy improvised classes and spending time with her amazing son, Nathan. Hoffman is also hopelessly in love with the late Elvis Presley.



## Ash Kemker

Ash Kemker is a senior at the University of North Florida, where she studies English with a Creative Writing minor. When not blundering through her bachelor's, Ash retreats to metal concerts, to hidden springs, to the quietest floor of the library, to places that don't require pants. She enjoys drinking gin straight from the bottle and making men cry.



## Darlyn Kuhn

Born and raised in Jacksonville, Darlyn Finch Kuhn attended Sherwood Forest Elementary, Highlands Junior High, Ed White High School and Florida Junior College (now FSCJ.) After moving to Central Florida, she graduated from Rollins College and obtained her M.F.A. from Spalding University. She recently moved home to Jacksonville and is thrilled to be included in JaxbyJax Literary Arts Festival.



In addition to her two poetry collections ("Red Wax Rose" and "Three Houses"), Darlyn Finch Kuhn's work has appeared in literary journals, newspapers, magazines and online. Her poems have been featured on Poetic Logic on NPR and have been read by Garrison Keillor on the Writers Almanac. She was interviewed on World Radio Paris. Kuhn is the eponymous "Scribbler," of the Scribbles literary e-newsletter. She produces book trailer videos with her husband at Brad Kuhn & Associates in Orlando, Florida. Her debut novel, "Sewing Holes," is available now from Twisted Road Publications, [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com), [Barnesandnoble.com](http://Barnesandnoble.com) and wherever books are sold. It won first place in the published novella category of the 2015 Royal Palm Literary Awards of the Florida Writers Association.

## Matt Lany

At this point, Matt just hopes to break even. No fire escape plan. Still doesn't care what a hashtag is. When he stares at leather, nothing happens. His band, Imagine Urine, got sued for infringement. He prefers women's deodorant to men's. In his spare time, he plays colostomy and sings the same dirge, entitled "Once Pink: The Sad Flower Has Lost Its Petals." Matt will read from "A. Violet: Abominatio," a book of poetry detailing the final words of A. Violet. By accident, Matt came across Violet, a homeless drifter living in Jennings, Louisiana – in a crude lean-to – on land belonging to Matt's father-in-law. On the day prior to Hurricane Rita's landfall, an elderly Violet spoke eloquently of his life and its looming end. Some of his claims have loosely panned out, but most remain unverifiable. Did he commit a multiple murder outside Omaha? Had his mother been an actual pirate? What of Violet's time in a Dallas subdivision, and did he really help build the Bates' home, as seen in Hitchcock's Psycho? After Rita passed, Violet was gone, the swamp on which he lived having been swamped by flood and vicious wind.



## Terri Mashour

Terri Mashour is a second-generation Florida native from Jacksonville. She has contributed articles to Footprint magazine of the Florida Trail Association, the Ponte Vedra Recorder and Forest Policy and Economics journal.

With her sister, she cofounded [fun4firstcoastkids.com](http://fun4firstcoastkids.com), and she reviews the top places to hike, camp and get out into nature in and around Jacksonville for the website's blog and has over 4,000 listings for kids/ baby resources and events in Jax.

She has received two master's degrees from the University of Florida, one in forest resources and conservation and a second in ecological restoration. Before taking a brief career break to care for her young children, she worked almost a decade in Florida's forests, swamps, sandhills and prairies as a land management planner and land management specialist with the St. Johns River Water Management District. She proudly earned her Florida Certified Burner certification while seven months pregnant and has participated in almost 100 burns or wildfires.



## Andres Rojas

Andres Rojas was born in Cuba and came to the U.S. at age 13. He holds an M.F.A. from the University of Florida, is the poetry editor for Compose, an online literary journal, and is the author of the audio chapbook *The Season of the Dead* (EAT Poems, 2016). He was selected for the 2017 edition of Best New Poets, and his poems have most recently appeared or are forthcoming in, among others, AGNI, Barrow Street, Colorado Review, Massachusetts Review, Mid-American Review, New England Review, New American Writing, Notre Dame Review and Poetry Northwest.



## Sean Smith

Sean grew up in Miami, attended the University of Florida, moved to Nashville and then settled here in Riverside. He writes military thrillers and literary fiction. His first novel, *"Objects of Wrath,"* went to number one on Amazon in the Science Fiction genre. He is published with Permuted Press and Post Hill Press, distributed through Simon & Schuster and his books are available in stores, on [Barnesandnoble.com](http://Barnesandnoble.com) and audio versions can be found on [Audible.com](http://Audible.com).



Sean was a primary author and editor for "The Seed," a post-apocalyptic video game which released in March 2017. The "Wrath" trilogy is currently in development for television, signed to C.T. Productions in Hollywood.

## Jeff Whipple

Jeff Whipple creates art about the weirdness and beauty of our brief appearance in the infinity of time. His 84 solo exhibitions include shows at the Tampa Museum of Art, the Gulf Coast Museum of Art, the Museum of Art, DeLand, and the Boca Raton Museum of Art. His art has been in dozens of group exhibitions across the USA and has received 48 top awards in competitions.

Jeff's play "Spokesperson" was produced in Chicago in 2008 and his comedy, "Couch Potatoes of the 22nd Century," was produced in 2009 in Orlando. He's had 17 other play productions since the mid-1980s.

He's won several playwriting awards including five Florida statewide playwriting competitions. Jeff has won six state arts council individual artist fellowships: two from Illinois and four from Florida. One of the Florida fellowships was for playwriting and the others were for visual art. He received a 2017 Art Ventures grant from the Community Foundation for Northeast Florida. His paintings for a New Orleans library were selected as one of the 50 best public art projects in 2012 by the Public Art Network. He's had dozens of public art commissions with work in murals, sculpture and video installation. Jeff has taught at several colleges including Arizona State University, Florida State University and Northern Illinois University. He currently teaches at the University of North Florida.

