



News

University News & Information

Admissions & Aid	Majors & Colleges	Research	Alumni Community	Campus Life	Athletics	About	>
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Contact: Katie VanMeter
805-756-1216; kvanmete@calpoly.edu

Cal Poly English Professor Named CSU Bakersfield Writer in Residence

SAN LUIS OBISPO — Cal Poly English Professor and author John Hampsey has been named the 2015 CSU Bakersfield (CSUB) Stiern Library PG&E Writer in Residence.

As part of the writer-in-residence program, Hampsey will deliver a reading for the CSUB university community May 7 and will lead a daylong workshop on the art of memoir writing June 25.

His selection as CSUB's writer in residence comes after the early success of Hampsey's recently published memoir, "Kaufman's Hill." He follows in the footsteps of many notable authors, including last year's writer in residence, Marisa Silver, author of "Mary Coin," which looked at the world-renowned "Migrant Mother" photograph by Dorothea Lange.

Hampsey delivered a book-launch reading of "Kaufman's Hill" at Cal Poly on Jan. 31.

The book offers a compelling tale of boyhood in the early to mid-1960s in Pittsburgh, Penn. Set in a middle-class Catholic neighborhood, the memoir takes place just before the heavy influences of the counterculture take hold. The book explores personal and social struggles amid larger issues of racial animosity and urban violence.

Links

- John Hampsey Website: <http://www.johnchampsey.com>
- Cal Poly English Department: <http://english.calpoly.edu>

About the Cal Poly English Department

The Cal Poly English Department promotes the study of literature, language and rhetoric in an effort to better understand the human condition. Undergraduate and graduate students learn to read carefully and deeply, to think critically and creatively, and to write clearly and persuasively. The department produces several publications each year that showcase student writing, including Byzantium: A Literary Annual and "Fresh Voices: Composition at Cal Poly."

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