

SUB
NIVEAN

AWP Event Outline

Total Strangers: Undergrads, Authors, Editors on Amplifying International Voices

- When?** Friday, March 25, 2022, 12:10 PM–1:25 PM ET
- Where?** 120C, Pennsylvania Convention Center, 100 Level
- What?** How does a group of undergrads who've never met collaborate strategically with far-flung authors and editors to create a publication drawing submissions from writers working in 47 countries (plus 48 U.S. states) in its first six months of existence? How does publication maintain brand consistency, grow visibility, and solidify strong relationships with authors including U.S. Poet Laureate Emeritus Juan Felipe Herrera, Daniel “Lemony Snicket” Handler and April Sinclair with a new staff every semester? This publishing, editing and tech panel—comprised of intergenerational "lit' nerds" building global dialogue and community via a digital venue recently recognized as an extraordinary debut magazine by the CLMP—seeks to answer questions of reach, resources and representation.
- Why?** With so many students eager to build thriving literary communities, and so many voices around the world clamoring to be heard, it is inevitable that undergraduate-staffed publications will be increasingly globalized. Moreover, *Subnivean* (www.subnivean.org) is structured to function 100% remotely: for the majority of its existence, the publication was staffed by an online, asynchronous class of total strangers who would not have recognized one another in person. This allowed

Subnivean to thrive and grow through a global pandemic that decimated many literary entities.

Subnivean, an international publication nominated by the Community of Literary Magazines and Presses (CLMP) as one of just four national finalists for a 2021 Firecracker Award in the category of “Magazines: Best Debut,” is a replicable model: digital, international and intergenerational, its strength is drawn from the collaborators' diverse skill sets, experiences, aims and affiliations.

Who?

Moderator Soma Mei Sheng Frazier’s work has earned nods and awards from entities ranging from HBO to *Zoetrope: All-Story*. You can find it in *ZYZZYVA*, *Hyphen Magazine* and elsewhere. Soma’s debut novel is forthcoming in 2023 from Henry Holt & Co. Her work as an editor includes founding *Subnivean* and *ENIZAGAM* for her students at SUNY Oswego and Oakland School for the Arts (respectively) to staff.

Arisa White is a Cave Canem graduate fellow, author of *Who’s Your Daddy* and editor of *Home Is Where You Queer Your Heart*. She collaborates with other artists to expand readership for poetry and to center the narratives of queer BIPOC. White is an assistant professor of creative writing at Colby College, and recently co-authored *Biddy Mason Speaks Up*, now included in the New York City Department of Education's Universal Mosaic Curriculum.

Shannon Sutorius recently graduated from SUNY Oswego Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor’s in English. She was the Editor-in-Chief of *Her Campus Oswego* and has been published over 50 times in *Her Campus*, *Medium*, and *Great Lake Review*. She served as a Fiction Editor of *Subnivean*, and co-hosted the spring 2021 Subnivean Awards event featuring April Sinclair, Arisa White and Daniel Handler in conversation.

Edward Sourby is a Creative Writing major at SUNY Oswego. He focuses on poetry and nonfiction, with a bit of fiction on the side. His work incorporates important parts of his identity, such as being Jewish, bisexual, transgender, and neurodivergent.

Edward served as Poetry Editor for *Subnivean* in Fall 2020, when the COVID-19 pandemic ended many beloved literary publications.

Pamela Toussaint is a recent SUNY Oswego graduate who served as Fiction Editor for *Subnivean* and majored in both Creative Writing and Cinema and Screen Studies. She is a published author, her work primarily consisting of fiction, fantasy and poetry. As a black bisexual woman, she enjoys writing humor and happy endings for black LGBTQ+ youths.

How?

12:10 PM – Introduction to panelists and *Subnivean*

12:20 PM – Panelists discuss how and why someone with their background, expertise, network and resources can be called on virtually to contribute to the creation, growth, mission and brand of an undergraduate publication with international reach and representation

1:05 PM – audience Q&A