

# Lee Reilly

1050 W. Columbia-2g, Chicago IL 60626

reillytide@yahoo.com

312-802-2989

www.leereilly.com

I'm a storyteller by nature, a care worker by calling, a strategist and writer for organizations and publications as diverse as Yale Law School and *Self* magazine. I've published two nonfiction books. One of my current projects: a memoir of working as a low-wage caregiver in an aging America.

## THE LIST

Free Lance Writer, 2011- present, Chicago

Write content and develop communication strategies for institutions and organizations such as The Art Institute, William G. McGowan Foundation, CARA

VP of Interactive, Lipman Hearne, 2006-2011, Chicago

Led the digital practice for the nation's largest marketing firm serving nonprofits; clients included Harvard University, University of Louisiana, Lions Clubs International

Partner, mStoner LLC, 2002-2006, Chicago

Founded and led the information architecture and content practices for national web firm

Free Lance Writer & Communication Strategist, 1983-2003, Chicago

Served nonprofits and publications such as McArthur Foundation, *Vegetarian Times*

## CARING, TEACHING

- Care worker, serving the elderly in homes, rehab, and hospice, 2012-present
- Teacher, building community and sparking conversation through an innovative Skype format, "Cyber Senior Center," Council for the Jewish Elderly, 2013-present (*pro bono*)
- Graduate Assistant, supporting traditional-aged and older students, Vermont College of Fine Arts, 2012

## WRITING: FICTION, NONFICTION, AND MEMOIR\*

- Recent fiction: "After the Lottery," *Cloudbank*, 2014; "A Fair Exchange," *River Styx*, 2013; "The Failing Heart" and "Forgiveness" in *Boston Literary Magazine*, 2013; "Readiness," *Fast Forward* (anthology), 2012; "Crosswords," *Quiddity*, 2010, nominated for a Pushcart.
- Recent nonfiction: "Finding Nancy H.," a caregiving memoir, *Thread*, 2015; "Love, Dying, and a Lesson for Woody," *Wake Up to Dying Project*, 2014
- Award-winning nonfiction: "The Relative Nature of Things," memoir, winner of the 2013 *Hunger Mountain* nonfiction prize. "Better Homes & Losses," essay, *Florida Review*, 2006 Editor's Prize
- "Mud Season," first chapter of a novel, *Quarterly West*, 2005. Winner, Writers at Work
- *Teaching Maggie: Letters on Life, Writing, and the Virtues of Solid Food* (Ruminator, 2000), creative nonfiction/memoir. "Best Book of the Year," second place, parenting category, *ForeWord Magazine*
- *Women Living Single*, (Faber and Faber, 1996), nonfiction book examining the lives of women who have not married

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## **OTHER HONORS**

- Barbara Deming Award, Money for Women, for caregiving memoir, 2014
- Illinois Arts grant for *Other People's Parents*, 2013
- Vermont College of Fine Arts, 1<sup>st</sup> Year Scholarship, 2009
- Community Arts Grant, Chicago, 2008
- Residencies, Ragdale Foundation, 1999, 2000, 2006, 2007, 2008
- Illinois Artist Fellowship, 2008
- Additional residencies: Hypatia-in-the-Woods, 2016; Hambidge, 2012, 2013; Writers in the Heartland, 2012; Escape to Create, 2006; Dairy Hollow, 2004; Blue Mountain Center, 2001. Judge, Writers in the Heartland, 2013.

## **ADDITIONAL TEACHING**

Adjunct Faculty, Columbia College and Roosevelt University, 1990 – 1996

Tutor, ESL for college students, 2014

## **EDUCATION**

Truman College, CNA

Vermont College of Fine Arts, MFA, Fiction; University of Virginia, MA, English; Stanford University, BA, English

\*These are selected credits. A full list is available on request