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Shyla Ann Shehan

M.F.A. Poetry, University of Nebraska-Omaha, 2020
B.S. Computer Science, Bellevue University, 2002
A.A.S. Computer Programming, Iowa Western, 1993

HONORS & AWARDS

Best of the Net Nomination, 2026

Pushcart Nomination, 2022

First Place in the Nebraska Poetry Society Poetry Open, judged by Nebraska State Poet, Matt
Mason, 2021

Wingless Dreamer ~ Fruits of our Quarantine Contest Top 10 Finalist, 2020

Helen W. Kenefick Poetry Prize from the *Academy of American Poets*, 2020

PUBLICATIONS

Full-Length Poetry Collection:

Mining the Gap. WSC Press, 2025

Chapbook:

Unsuspecting Cinderella. Finishing Line Press, 2022

Poems and Essays:

I-70 Review, "I've always hated the wallpaper in this space," September 2026

Citron Review, "Self-Portrait as AI," Spring 2026

The Gilded Weathervane, "The Color and Shape of Escape," Spring 2026

San Antonio Review, "Lament of Longing Behind a Locked Door," April 2026

Puerto del Sol: "Coalescence in the Grocery Store," Winter 2026

Open: Journal of Arts & Letters, "Twilight Meditation," January 2026

New York Quarterly, "The Polar Ice Caps are Melting" January 2026

Burningword, "Because the moon is moving away," October 2025
Sunmerset Review, "When I say this poem comes to me," September 2025
Blood Tree Literature, "The Almighty Ocean," Summer 2025
South 85 Review, "Muddy Lines," April 2025
Scrawl Place, "Party of One at the Wine Bar," March 2025
Whitefish Review, "Favorite Song," Fall 2024
QWERTY, "Fern Leaf Bleeding Heart," Summer 2024
The Sunlight Press, "Iron Pyrite is the Most Foolish Mineral," August 2024
Anti-Heroine Chic, "What now? Yeah, I could eat," August 2024
Random Sample Review, "Found In The Old Farmer's Almanac, 2019," August 2024
Midwest Quarterly, "Flying Over the Flooded Missouri River," Summer 2024
Thirteenth Floor, "Unwritten," Spring 2024
The Pinch, "Bun in the Oven," Spring 2024
Nelle, "All the Life that Wants to Live," Spring 2024
Moon City Review, "She Paid No Mind," March 2024
Thin Air Magazine: "Love as a web / begins," February 2024
Inverted Syntax, "Death Will Come and Take Your Fingers," December 2023
Door is a Jar Magazine, "Something Knocking" & "At the End of my Shower," December 2023
Write or Die Magazine, "Will You Buy This Person's Book, Please?" Autumn 2023
Naugatuck River Review, "Giving Thanks," Summer 2023
Midwest Quarterly, "In the Kitchen of Grief," Summer 2023
Stone Poetry Quarterly, "Untamed River," August 2023
Eclectica, "My mood is as punctual and unstable as the tide," August 2023
Blood Tree Literature, "Hiring Death's Transcriptionist" & "The End of August and Everything After," June 2023
Red Hen Writing in the Schools ~ Anthology: The Miracle of Flip Flops, "Jumper" & "Idle Music," Summer 2023
Drunk Monkeys, "Massage Poem," February 2023
Isotrope, "Primal Epeolatry" & "This One Calls For Takeout" October 2022
Pine Cone Review, "Using the Words I and Can't," June 2022
Concurrence: A Fine Print Literary Portfolio, "I'm Listening," Spring 2022
Nebraska Poetry Society: Poetry Open First Place, "Double American Sonnet for Terrance Hayes," Spring 2022
Nebraska Poetry Society: Poetry Open Honorable Mention, "What I Would Give," Spring 2022
The Ocotillo Review, "Reading the Streets," February 2022
High Shelf Press, "Something Must Have Told Me To Ask," January 2022
Tangled Locks, "Geometry and Other Tragedies," December 2021
GRIFFEL, "My Divorce is a Dead Bug Trapped in the Light Fixture in My Shower," Autumn 2021
The Decadent Review, "Stars Under Glass," October 2021

The Closed Eye Open, "Still Life at Hefflinger Park," October 2021
In Parentheses, "Sunday Morning Traditions," Next Stop: Nashville," Street Name Daydream," & "Home Run Rod," September 2021
The Journal of Compressed Creative Arts by Matter Press, "Fifteen Billboards," August 2021
Plainsongs by Corpus Callosum Press, "Bananas," Summer 2021
Heartwood Literary Magazine, "Life and Death at the Castle," Spring 2021
Raw Art Review, "Now the Days," Autumn 2020
The Write Launch, "Castle Recursion" & "Castle Omnipresence," February 2021
Gyroscope Review, "Trying to Read in the Castle Library," Winter 2021
Wild Roof Journal, "Open Window," January 2021
Local Honey | Midwest, "To Whom or What or Where," January 2021
Sad Girl's Club Lit, "Pockets Full of Rocks," December 2020
Tempered Runes Press: Bluing the Blade, "Poet," Winter 2020
Wingless Dreamer, Contest Top 10 Finalist, "Covid Sunset," November 2020
New Verse News, "Oh Beautiful," October 2020
Verses from the Plains: A Poetry Collection, "Speed of the Valley," October 2020
The Showbear Family Circus, "Concourse B" & "Cure for the Common Equation," September 2020
Prometheus Dreaming, "Mining the Gap," September 2020
Academy of American Poets, University and College Poetry Prize, "This," Summer 2020
Boston Accent Lit, "Nothing Could Kill You," Summer 2020

EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

[The Good Life Review](#) ~ An independent, nonprofit literary journal.

- EIC & Publisher, 2020 - Present
- Art Curation, Web Design, and Social Media Editor, 2021 - Present

[Magpie Zine](#) ~ An independent journal of writing and art.

- Poetry Editor, 2024 - Present

EVENTS & READINGS

I-70 Review Launch Party and Reading, Kansas City, Missouri, September 25, 2026
 Book Launch Celebration with Colleen Morton Busch, Omaha, Nebraska, August 5th, 2026
 Nebraska Poetry Society Reading, Joslyn Castle, Omaha, Nebraska, June 18, 2026
 National Poetry Month Reading at the Benson Theatre, Omaha, Nebraska, April 14th, 2026
 Working Drafts Writer Series Reading at Divots Brewery, Norfolk, Nebraska, March 22, 2026
 Writers in Conversation at Larksong Writers' Place, Lincoln, Nebraska, March 19, 2026
 AWP Offsite Reading with Scrawl Place, Baltimore, Maryland, March 6, 2026

Mining the Gap Book Launch Celebration, The Fig, Omaha, Nebraska, February 21, 2026
Visiting Alum Reading, UNO MFA, Nebraska City, Nebraska, January 1, 2026
Plains Writer Series, Wayne, Nebraska, November 20th, 2025
Toddfather and Friends Poetry Reading, May 2, 2025
Imaginary Gardens Reading, November 19, 2024
Farm Girl Press Issue #1 Release Party / Speaker, October 4, 2024
Academy of American Poets, 2024 Helen W. Kenefick Poetry Prize Judge, Spring 2024
AWP Conference and Bookfair, February 2024
 WSC Press Happy Hour Reading, February 8, 2024
 Naugatuck River Review Reading, February 9, 2024
 Red Hen Press / Good Life Review Omnibus Reading, February 9, 2024
 The Pinch / American Literary Review Reading, Saturday, February 10, 2024
Nebraska Poetry Society Autumn Conference, Publishing Panel / Speaker, October 2023
Nebraska Poetry Society Autumn Conference, Poetry Reading, October 2023
AWP Conference and Bookfair, March 2023
Bad Girls of Poetry Virtual Book Launch for Jane Muschenetz, Reading, March 2023
Third Thursdays – Voices at Larksong, Reading, January 2023
Nebraska Poetry Festival at Wayne State College, Reading, November 2022
UNO Faculty and Staff Exhibition at Gallery 1516, Reading, September 2022
Local Author Day at The Bookworm, Reading, August 2022
Kate Gale Book Tour Event at Pageturners Lounge, Reading, March 2022
UNO MFA Low Res Guest Lecturer, January 2022

MEMBERSHIPS

Academy of American Poets: 2020 – Present
Associated Writers and Writing Programs (AWP): 2022 – Present
Nebraska Poetry Society: 2020 - Present

SOCIAL & PROMOTION

Website: shylashehan.com	Reader at: www.magpiezine.com
EIC at: thegoodlifereview.com	Substack: shylashehan.substack.com
Facebook: Shyla Shehan	LinkedIn: linkedin.com/in/shyla-shehan
Instagram: @shyla.shyspark	Bluesky: bsky.app/profile/shylashehan.bsky.social
X: @shyspark	Chillsubs: Shyla Shehan

SELECTED WORKS

[“Ice Cream Drips Down My Fingers at Sunset,”](#) *New York Quarterly*

[“Self-Portrait as ARM Assembly,”](#) *Citron Review*

[“Because the moon is moving away,”](#) *Burningword*

[“Muddy Lines,”](#) *South 85 Review* (Best of the Net Nominee)

[“Iron Pyrite is the Most Foolish Mineral,”](#) *The Sunlight Press*

[“What now? Yeah, I could eat,”](#) *Anti-Heroine Chic*

[“Massage Poem,”](#) *Drunk Monkeys*

[“My mood is as punctual and unstable as the tide,”](#) *Eclectica*

[“Will You Buy This Person’s Book, Please?,”](#) *Write or Die*

[“Double American Sonnet for Terrance Hayes,”](#) Nebraska Poetry Society Poetry Open Winner
(Pushcart Prize Nominee)

[“This”](#) *Poets.org* (Academy of American Poets Helen W. Kenefick Poetry Prize)