

# MADISON BETTS



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## EDUCATION

### MFA in Creative Writing

Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA  
Anticipated Graduation: June 2026

### BA in English | Concentration in Writing

Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA  
Graduated June 2023  
GPA (4.0 scale): Major 4.0, Overall 3.88

## SKILLS

- **Editing/Copyediting:** Manuscripts, Monographs, Social Media, Blogs, Guidebook Development, Communications
- **Computer Skills:** Microsoft Office (Word, PPT, Excel, Teams), Video Conferencing (Zoom), Augmented Reality/zSpace, Qualtrics, WordPress, Wix, SoftChalk
- **Research:** Literature Reviews, Survey Design, Data Verification
- **Social Media:** Instagram, Snapchat, Facebook, X (formally Twitter), GoFundMe
- **Web Design:** [Kathleen Volk Miller](#), [Kristen R. Lee](#), [NeuroLearn Institute](#), [E-LaBS](#), INTERACT123, Freddie Reisman Center
- **Foreign Language:** Intermediate Spanish Reading, Writing, and Speaking

## CERTIFICATES

- Certificate in Writing and Publishing, Drexel University, 2023
- Spanish Proficiency Certificate, Drexel University, 2018

## HONORS AND AWARDS

- English Program Award, Drexel University, 2023
- A.J. Drexel Scholarship, Drexel University
- Pennoni Honors College Student, Drexel University, 2018-2023
- Sigma Tau Delta, International English Honor Society, 2023
- Dean's List in the College of Arts and Sciences, Drexel University, 2018-2023
- DASP Peer Mentor of the Month, April 2021
- English Department Award, Brookfield High School, 2018

## EXPERIENCE

### Freelance Developmental Editor

June '24 - Present

- Provide comprehensive developmental edits, including plot analysis, pacing, world-building, theme consistency, and audience alignment to enhance overall manuscript quality
- Collaborate closely with authors to develop compelling narratives, refine story arcs, and enhance character depth across genres
- Deliver editorial letters and in-manuscript comments that support authors' creative visions while addressing structural weaknesses and reader engagement
- Manage invoicing, contracts, and scheduling independently as a self-employed editor

### Associate Prose Editor

Tension Literary  
October '25 - Present

- Read and evaluate prose submissions (fiction and nonfiction) for Issue IV: Chaos and Issue V
- Identify prose that resonates with the magazine's mission and complements the issues' direction, editorial vision, and literary values
- Work closely with the Editor-in-Chief to select pieces for publication
- Participate in promotional activities related to the issue

### Freelance Web Designer

January '25 - December '25

- Used platforms like Wix to design and launch personal and small business websites
- Collaborated directly with clients to provide design mockups and incorporate feedback throughout the project lifecycle
- Translated client requirements into visually appealing and functional website designs
- (continued description on following page)

## EXPERIENCE (CONT.)

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### Freelance Web Designer (cont.)

- Developed project proposals, quotes, and timelines, managing all stages of the project from concept to launch
- Maintained, updated, and optimized websites for performance, accessibility, and mobile compatibility
- Implemented SEO best practices and Google Analytics to improve website visibility and user engagement
- Managed invoicing, contracts, and scheduling independently as a self-employed designer

### Nonfiction Developmental Editor

Drexel University, English & Philosophy,  
Philadelphia, PA June '24 - November '24

- Evaluated manuscript to provide comprehensive feedback on organization, clarity, and overall effectiveness
- Edited content and structure of manuscript with focus on aligning text with expectations of the author, audience, and publisher
- Collaborated with the author to develop ideas, themes, and ways to improve pacing and readability while maintaining the integrity and voice of the work
- Verified sources and information to align with guidelines
- Created and formatted the APA reference list for manuscript

### Senior Publishing Manager

Substantive Solutions, Inc., Washington D.C.  
April '22 - April '24

- Edited Research Roundup monthly publication
- Designed and copyedited Monograph Series
- Developed presentations for Advisory Board
- Edited company submission for [AWS Activate](#) for startup companies [selected in 2023]
- Copyedited EDUCAUSE Start-up Alley submission [selected in 2022]

### Senior Web Designer for FRC

Drexel University, School of Education,  
Philadelphia, PA August '21 - August '23

- Led web design for the [Freddie Reisman Center for Translational Research in Creativity and Motivation](#)
- Created visually appealing, accessible, and user-friendly web pages with a focus on creativity
- Completed SEO for website optimization
- Developed intuitive and engaging visual designs for mobile

## PUBLICATIONS

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- Fruitslice Literary Magazine, Issue 9: "[Intimately Afraid](#)" pp. 98, 99, Betts, M. [2025]
- Write Now Philly Article: "[Mazey Eddings Writes Love Stories for Every Brain](#)" Betts, M. [2022]
- Write Now Philly Article: "[Philly-Based Book Clubs to Join in 2022](#)" Betts, M. [2022]
- Write Now Philly Book Review: "[Road-Tripping from Home](#)" Betts, M. [2021]
- Write Now Philly Article: "[Philly Bookshelf: Don't Shelve, Donate](#)" Betts, M. [2021]
- Write Now Philly Article: "[The Spiral Bookcase: Remember We Exist](#)" Betts, M. [2021]
- Drexel University, College of Arts and Sciences Article: "[Supporting Sustainability and Resilience in Las Marias, Puerto Rico](#)" Betts, M., Boyle, S., Wiley, A., & Wirth, S. [2020]
- Betts, K., & Betts, M. (2022). Dr. David Cropley. In F. Reisman (Ed.), [Celebrating giants and trailblazers: A-Z of who's who in creativity research and related fields](#). Knowledge, Innovation & Enterprise (KIE) Book Series.

## EDITORIAL

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- Guest Prose Editor, Tension Literary, 2025
  - [Issue IV: Chaos](#)
- Developmental Editor, Nonfiction Manuscript, 2024
  - "[Teaching Writing Through Journaling: Journaling as a Tool for Learning and Well-Being](#)" by Kathleen Volk Miller
- Copy Editor, Nonfiction Manuscript, 2022
  - "[A Legacy to Share](#)" by Drexel University Black Alumni Council
- Editorial Reviewer, Monograph, March 2020
  - Invited to serve as an editorial reviewer for the [Research to Practice: Urban Special Education Leaders for Tomorrow \(USELT\) monograph](#), part of a \$1.125 million U.S. Department of Education grant
- Copy Editor, Nonfiction Manuscript, 2020
  - "[zSpace Guidebook](#)" for E-LaBS

## EXPERIENCE (CONT.)

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### Drexel Publishing Intern

Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA

Jan. '21 - Mar. '21 | Sept. '21 - Dec. '21 | Jan. '22 - Mar. '22

- Pitched article ideas for Write Now Philly online magazine
- Conducted interviews of local bookstore owners, non-profit CEOs, and published authors
- Contacted authors with new book releases and wrote book reviews
- Wrote and published articles on Write Now Philly
- Worked as a copy editor on "A Legacy to Share" book for the Drexel University Black Alumni Council
- Worked with editors in the application of style guides for books
- Collaborated on copy editing an anthology of short stories for Drexel's Master's program
- Reviewed and selected nominees for writing contests in poetry, creative non-fiction short stories, and essays

### Research & Publishing Associate

Substantive Solutions, Inc., Washington D.C.

April '21 - September '21

- Conducted research to support publications of articles, blogs, and reports
- Collaborated with SSI team on projects
- Edited bi-monthly blogs to upload to the company website
- Led and updated web design and social media for INTERACT123
- Edited reports and created scripts for client support

### Operations & Communications Associate

Substantive Solutions, Inc., Washington D.C.

April '20 - September '20

- Conducted research and wrote/edited reports
- Led web design and social media for INTERACT123
- Developed protocols for reports, web development, and data entry for client management
- Created presentations and worked with cloud-based applications
- Developed and maintained an electronic filing system
- Took minutes for meetings, organized/scheduled appointments, and prepared communications

### Outreach Coordinator & Social Media Manager for "Disaster & Resilience in Puerto Rico"

Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA

September '19 - March '20

- Selected as 1 of 12 students for an Intensive Community Based Learning Program in Puerto Rico focusing on experiential learning and sustainable development
- Engaged in service work for Plenitud, a sustainable permaculture farm, located in Las Marias, PR
- Created and managed [@drexel.pr.cbl](#)
- Managed Drexel's Global Studies Department Instagram ([@gsmldrexel](#)) to spotlight this inaugural community based learning program
- Helped write & publish a summary article on the community based learning experience

### DREXEL AFFILIATIONS

- Delegate, MFA Alumni Association, 2024-Present
- Calendar Manager, MFA Committee, 2026-Present
- Mentor, Drexel Autism Support Program (DASP), 2019-2023
- Secretary, Drexel Student Council for Exceptional Children, 2019-2020
- Intern, Education, Learning and Brain Sciences (E-LaBS), 2019-2020