Boise State University is home to a nationally ranked MFA program in creative writing, led by a talented and award-winning faculty. With degree tracks in fiction and poetry, the program emphasizes the art and craft of literary writing and has a strong publishing focus.

- Ranked in the top 50 MFA programs in the nation by Poets & Writers, the nation’s largest nonprofit organization for creative writers
- Listed as one of the “Top 25 Underrated Creative Writing MFA Programs” by The Huffington Post
- Prolific faculty have produced novels, short story collections, poetry and essays that have won many awards and received international recognition, including fiction published in more than 20 languages and featured on many “Top Book of the Year” lists
- Students and graduates have won a National Endowment for the Arts fellowship, a National Magazine Award and a Whiting Award; published books with top presses; and had poems and stories featured in top literary journals
- The MFA Reading Series brings renowned writers from across the U.S. and overseas to the Boise State campus for readings that are open to the public
Creative activity is to the liberal arts what research is to the sciences and engineering. At Boise State, Creative Writing has attained a level of excellence that places it among the university’s strengths.

THE IDAHO REVIEW was founded in 1998 with the intent of creating a national, high-quality literary annual. Since then, The Idaho Review has consistently won praise and awards. Stories published in the magazine have been reprinted in The Best American Short Stories, Prize Stories: The O. Henry Awards, The Pushcart Prize: Best of the Small Presses, New Stories from the South, and Best of the West, and many more have been shortlisted for these prizes. MFA students have opportunities to participate in the magazine’s production through a graduate assistantship and coursework.

AHSAHTA PRESS champions and promotes surprising, relevant and accessible experimental poetry that more commercially minded small presses avoid. In making it widely available, the press aims to increase its readership. Founded in 1974, the press has published more than 100 volumes of poetry, and its books have received the James Laughlin award, the Lambda award, starred reviews in Publishers Weekly and been named Notable Books by the Academy of American Poets. The Sawtooth Prize and the Ahsahta Chapbook Prize are awarded annually through national competitions. MFA students have opportunities for hands-on experience in the daily business of a small press.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PROGRAM:

> SEMINARS, CONFERENCES, programs and classes provide opportunities for close interactions with visiting writers and faculty
> THE CRAFT OF LITERARY PUBLISHING emphasized with coursework in the production of both The Idaho Review and Ahsahta Press
> FREE POETRY publishes essays and poetry by today’s leading poets, with chapbooks that are available free of charge and without copyright