



Department of

English

Dr. Traci Brimhall

Ph.D. '14

University Distinguished Professor of Creative Writing, Kansas State University

*Department, School or Institute Award
and Early Career Excellence Award*

Highly acclaimed and prolific author Dr. Traci Brimhall is a university distinguished professor of creative writing at Kansas State University, who earned her doctorate in English with an emphasis in creative writing from Western Michigan University in 2014. During her time at Western, she held a King-Chávez-Parks Future Faculty Fellowship, alongside other significant honors, including a National Endowment for the Arts literature fellowship, a National Poetry Series book finalist award, and artist residencies in Mississippi, Portugal and the Arctic Circle.

Brimhall serves as a poet in residence for the Guggenheim Museum and as poet laureate for the state of Kansas. In her role as poet laureate, a prestigious title awarded to promote literary arts across the state, she conducts public readings, workshops, lectures and presentations. Her initiatives have focused on linking Kansas' agricultural roots and its love of food to language and literature. The governor of Kansas, Laura Kelly, has described Brimhall as the perfect advocate for poetry and the arts in the Sunflower State.

An author of five poetry collections, she has received over 20 prominent awards, including a Pushcart Prize, a Poetry Society of America award, the First Book Award in the Crab Orchard Series, the Barnard Women Poets Prize, numerous research and teaching awards from KSU, and more. Publisher's Weekly has also called her most recent collection "Love Prodigal" "expansive and moving," and her writing has appeared in prominent national venues including Best American Poetry, The New Yorker, The New Republic, The Nation, The New York Times Magazine, Orion, and Ploughshares. Her first nonfiction book, "The Grief Artist," will be released next year.