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***NORTH CAROLINA LITERARY REVIEW* BEGINS SECOND QUARTER CENTURY
CELEBRATING NORTH CAROLINA LITERATURE AND THE OTHER ARTS**

Greenville, NC, 30 January 2017

This year's issues of the award-winning *North Carolina Literary Review* celebrate the talented writers, artists, and writer/artists who call North Carolina home. The special feature section of the online issue, just released, opens with an introduction by the editor, Margaret Bauer, who writes, "The state's variety of talent makes my job as *NCLR* editor both easier – I don't see us ever running out of material – and more difficult – because finding the evocative images to go with every piece we publish is so challenging." But Art Editor Diane Rodman is up to the task, according to Bauer. Rodman picked fine art by North Carolina artists to complement 18 poems, short fiction by Michael Parker, and creative nonfiction by Suzy T. Kane that received Honorable Mention in the 2016 Alex Albright Prize.

NCLR Online is an open access companion to the annual print issue. The winners of the writing competitions in poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction will appear in the print issue, and finalists are divided between the two issues. This year's issues also feature relationships between North Carolina literature and music. Bauer announces material forthcoming in the print issue due out in the summer: an interview with writer/musician (and now artist) Clyde Edgerton and an article on the adaptation of Charles Frazier's *Cold Mountain* into an opera. Music and literature are also explored in the two interviews published in the new online issue: Rebecca Godwin's interview with Robert Morgan, a writer whose work has been featured often in *NCLR*'s pages, and Leslie Maxwell's interview introducing newer North Carolina writer Nic Brown.

Stories and books reviewed in the 2017 online issue showcase the talent of North Carolina's new and established writers. In this issue, 35 books of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry have been reviewed by experienced and new reviewers. Bauer expresses her appreciation of the writers and literary scholars who serve the literary community by writing book reviews. She notes, too, that

writing a book review for *NCLR* is often a stepping stone to a larger project, such as an essay or interview. One example is Jim Coby, who has reviewed for *NCLR* before and who reviews Matthew Griffin's debut novel *Hide* for this issue of *NCLR Online*, has interviewed Griffin for the forthcoming print issue.

NCLR has won numerous awards since it was first published in 1992, most recently, the 2014 Phoenix Award for Significant Editorial Achievement from the Council of Editors of Learned Journals, which recognized *NCLR* for expanding to publication of online issues. These open-access issues bring timely and broad attention to the book reviews and literary news stories, which writers can link to on their social media pages. It maintains the print issues' unique design, created by Art Director Dana Ezzell, a Professor of Graphic Design at Meredith College in Raleigh.

To read *NCLR Online* and subscribe to the print issue, go to www.nclr.ecu.edu.

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