

# Laura Ojeda Melchor

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## Education

**Vermont College of Fine Arts**

**July 2014-January 2017**

Master of Fine Arts in Writing

- Specialization in creative writing for children and young adults.
- Completed creative thesis, a full-length novel manuscript entitled *LUCY RUNNING*, in March of 2016 under the direction of Michael L. Printz award-winning author An Na.
- Completed critical thesis entitled "Keep the Caring Alive: Tension in Young Adult Novels" in November of 2015.

**La Sierra University**

**September 2010-March 2014**

Bachelor of Arts in English: Literature

- Minor in Spanish.
- Member of Sigma Tau Delta: International English Honor Society.
- Graduate of University Honors Program.
- Summa Cum Laude with a GPA of 3.98.

## Experience

**Office Manager at the First Seventh-day Adventist Church of Tulsa**

**January 2017-April 2017**

- Record church and Sabbath school attendance for the Oklahoma Conference.
- Answer phone calls, emails, faxes, and messages.
- Perform duties for pastor, community services director, treasurer, and Discover Bible School leader.
- Create childrens' church bulletin and help prepare church bulletin.

**Part-time Teacher at Tulsa Adventist Academy**

**August 2015-May 2016**

- Teach secondary-level world geography, Spanish I and II, and physical education courses.
- Teach elementary physical education courses.
- Assist vice principal in marketing for Tulsa Adventist Academy.

**Laura E. Melchor (Home-based Editorial Services Business), Owner**

**November 2014-August 2015**

- Copyedit and final proofreading of *Holbrook Indian School: A Photographic Essay* by Terry L. Benedict, printed 2014.
- Heavy proofreading of "The Company-Size Effect in Employer Branding Outcomes," a research paper by an ESL MBA student at Laval University.

**Secretary for the La Sierra University Office of Service-Learning** **September 2013-March 2014**

- Contact community partners for La Sierra University's award-winning Service-Learning program.
- File and prepare time sheets and registration packets for all students registered in Service-Learning classes.

**Writing Tutor at La Sierra University Writing Center** **January 2013-June 2013**

- Hold weekly appointments with students in pre-foundational English courses and tutor them to help them improve their writing.
- Meet with students of any level who need guidance or advice with research papers, analytical papers, creative papers, or writing in general.

**Editor of La Sierra University Honors Program Newsletter** **September 2012-June 2013**

- Gather and edit material for quarterly newsletter.

**Publications and Awards**

- Farrar, Straus and Giroux Editor's Pick: Best First Ten Pages Award at Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators SoCal Retreat 2014, for manuscript entitled AND THE BLACKBIRDS MOCK.
- *Insight Magazine*: "Woe Is Me," May 3, 2014, under Laura Strawn Ojeda.
- *Guide Magazine*: "The Daring Gymnast," April 27, 2013, under Laura Strawn Ojeda.

**Memberships****Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI)** **October 2013-Present****American Copy Editors Society (ACES)** **November 2014-November 2015****Skills**

I am currently working on three separate manuscripts of creative work, and each is in different stages of completion: line edits/almost finished and ready for editors; ready for revision; and drafting. In the process of writing these novels and in my undergraduate work, I have gained critical academic and creative writing skills and the self-editing and proofreading talent required for such work. I have experience critiquing, in the substantive and developmental editing vein, fellow Master of Fine Arts students' critical essays and creative works. In my undergraduate courses at La Sierra University, I honed my literary criticism skills and developed a strong sense of the qualities and history of literature..

**Volunteer Work and Leadership****Gymnastics Instructor** **September 2015-May 2016**

- Teach fifty Tulsa Adventist Academy students, ranging from preschool-age to high school-age, gymnastics each Wednesday for three hours.

**Sigma Tau Delta Alpha Iota Upsilon Chapter: Vice President** **June 2013-March 2014**

- Contribute to the La Sierra University English Department's alumni newsletter on behalf of the Alpha Iota Upsilon chapter.

- Responsible for preparing and promoting on-campus and local chapter events.

**Holbrook Sisters Project Co-Founder and Leader**

**October 2012-April 2014**

- Started Holbrook Sisters, a big sisters-little sisters program that works with Native students at the Holbrook Indian School in Holbrook, Arizona. Strives to create sisterhood and support for Little Sisters and encourage continuation of education after high school.