November 2026

W.S. Gong

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EDUCATION

MFA, Creative Writing, San Francisco State University, 2024. Thesis: "The Tiger and the Persimmon."

Coursework toward the MA in English (Literatures), San Francisco State University, 2022–2024; degree not completed.

BA, Philosophy; minor, Asian American Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara, 1995.

Professional Sequence in Editing, UC Berkeley Extension, 2023.

Certificate in Backend Web Development, General Assembly, 2012.

PUBLICATIONS

Fiction

"Their Clear Unobstructed View." *The Rumpus*, September 9, 2026. https://therumpus.net/2026/09/09/their-clear-unobstructed-view/.

"How to Say 'Scared' in Korean." *Fourteen Hills* 30 (Spring 2024).

"Daisy 880." In *Know the Names of Things*. San Francisco: Kearny Street Workshop, 2010.

HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS & RESIDENCIES

Bread Loaf Writers' Conference. Fiction workshop with Paul Yoon. Contributor. Ripton, Vermont, August 13–23, 2025.

Virginia Center for the Creative Arts. Resident Fellow. Amherst, Virginia, May 27–June 9, 2025.

Rooted & Written, The Writers Grotto's Conference for Writers of Color. Memoir workshop with Grace Loh Prasad. Fellow. San Francisco, California, October 27–November 2, 2024.

Sewanee Writers' Conference. Fiction workshop with Katie Kitamura. Contributor. Sewanee, Tennessee, July 16–28, 2024.

WORKSHOPS

Napa Valley Writers' Conference. Fiction workshop with Jamel Brinkley. Participant. Napa, California, July 26–31, 2026.

WORKSHOPS (CONTINUED)

Kenyon Review Online Writers Workshop. Fiction workshop with Rebecca Makkai. Participant. Online, June 21–27, 2026.

Kenyon Review Writers Workshop. Fiction workshop with Marie-Helene Bertino. Participant. Gambier, Ohio, July 6–12, 2025.

Tin House Winter Online Workshop. Fiction workshop with Sidik Fofana. Participant. Online, February 10–19, 2024.

VONA Summer Workshop. Political Content in Fiction, Poetry and Memoir with Staceyann Chin. Participant. Online, July 18–24, 2021.

VONA Voices Writing Workshop. Memoir workshop with Faith Adiele. Participant. Berkeley, California, June 23–29, 2013.

Kearny Street Workshop Intergenerational Writers Lab. Participant. San Francisco, California, April–May 2010.

READINGS

"Words of Color" Fellows Reading. Rooted & Written, The Writers Grotto. San Francisco, California, November 2, 2024.

Fourteen Hills Issue 29 Release Reading. Medicine for Nightmares, San Francisco, California, May 16, 2023.

Take Place Reading Series, San Francisco State University. Featured reader, with May-Li Khoe. San Francisco, California, spring 2023.

APAture 2013 Literary Night. Kearny Street Workshop. Reader. 50 Mason Social House, San Francisco, California, October 18, 2013.

"Valentine's Day Hangover" Reading. Kearny Street Workshop. Featured reader. Arc Studios & Gallery, San Francisco, California, February 15, 2012.

Kearny Street Workshop Reading, Lit Crawl San Francisco (Litquake). Featured reader. Forest Books, San Francisco, California, October 15, 2011.

Intergenerational Writers Lab Anthology Reading, with Lorna Dee Cervantes, Ben Fong-Torres, Leticia Hernandez, and Genny Lim. Kearny Street Workshop. San Francisco, California, July 7, 2010.

CONFERENCES & PRESENTATIONS

"What Stuns, Unsettles, Compels: Experiments from *The Lab*." Panelist, with Matthew Clark Davison and Alice LaPlante. AWP Conference & Bookfair, Baltimore, Maryland, March 7, 2026.

TEACHING

Faculty Lecturer and Faculty Advisor, *Transfer Magazine*. San Francisco State University, Spring 2023 and Fall 2023.

Faculty Lecturer, Introduction to Creative Writing. San Francisco State University, Fall 2022.

Graduate Teaching Assistant, CW 601: Work in Progress. San Francisco State University, Spring 2022, Fall 2022, and Spring 2024.

GED Preparation Tutor and ESL Instructor, Adult Education. Los Angeles Unified School District, 1995–1997.

Substitute Teacher, Grades 7–12. Los Angeles Unified School District, 1995–1996.

TEACHING AREAS

Introduction to Creative Writing; creative-writing workshop (undergraduate capstone); literary magazine editing and production.

EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

Fiction Editor, The Rumpus, 2024–2026. Ran the editorial pipeline from intake to production under Editor-in-Chief Roxane Gay: hundreds of submissions per cycle.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Technical Lead & Bookseller, Fabulosa Books, 2024–Present.

Open-Source AI Developer Tooling, Independent, 2022–Present.

Full-Stack Developer (Contract), Confidential (under NDA), 2021–Present.

Principal QA Engineer, Confidential (under NDA), 2020.

Technical Lead Manager / Staff Engineer, Slack Technologies, 2017–2020.

Slack Frontiers. Developer-area demos of Block Kit and Slack's token models; answered questions in breakout sessions. San Francisco, California, April 24–25, 2019.

Slack Frontiers. Developer-area demos of Slack's token models; answered questions in breakout sessions. San Francisco, California, September 5–6, 2018.

Security Product QA (Contract), Confidential (under NDA), 2017.

Senior SDET, Appthority (acquired by Symantec), 2015–2017.

Senior Quality Assurance Engineer, GoPro, 2012–2015.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

Earlier positions, 1997–2012: Quality Engineering Manager, Kyte (acquired by KIT digital) (2010–2012); Senior QA Engineer, Coincident TV (2008–2010); Flex Builder Software QE III, Adobe Systems (2006–2008); Senior QA Engineer, Keepmedia (2003–2006); Senior Sales Engineer, FutureTrade Technologies (2001–2003); SQA Engineering Lead, Pixel Translations (1997–2001).

LANGUAGES

Korean (heritage speaker; basic).

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Python, TypeScript, R; Anthropic SDK and Model Context Protocol (MCP).

MEMBERSHIPS

Association of Writers & Writing Programs (AWP).