SUZANNE E. EDISON
1511 37th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98122
206-954-2999
seedison@seanet.com

EDUCATION

MFA in Creative Writing
Lesley University, Cambridge, MA — 2016

M.A. Antioch University, Seattle, WA — 1982
Interdisciplinary Degree: Psychology & Movement Education

FACILITATION/TEACHING/OTHER WORK

Mental Health Coordinator; Cure JM Foundation — Sept. 2021 – 2025

Reflective-Expressive Writing Workshops for Caregivers; — 2019 - 2024
UCSF Wellness Center for Youth with Chronic Conditions

Chapman University MFA program and Medical Humanities students — November 2023
Lecture, poetry reading and writing workshop for:
Engaging the World: Leading the Conversation on Health Equity

Narrative Medicine/Reflective Workshops for Medical — June 2021 / May 2022
Providers; Richard Hugo House, Seattle, WA

Integrative Medicine: Evidence-Based Approach for Medicine — May 2020
CME course at Virginia Mason Hospital, Seattle, WA

The Words To Say It: Writing & Reading Poems — April 2020
About Illness, Trauma & Healing;
The Writers Workshoppe, Port Townsend, WA

The Words To Say It: Reading & Writing Poems About Illness, — 2017 - 2021
Trauma & Healing; Richard Hugo House, Seattle WA

Writing as a "Righting" Journey writing
workshops for parents of children with chronic illness
Seattle Children's Hospital, Seattle, WA — 2011-2017
UCSF Children's Hospital, San Francisco, CA — 2019-2025

Reflective Writing/Narrative Medicine Workshop — May 2015
U of WA Wellness Program for Doctors
Seattle, WA

Poetry and Prose Rounds, co-teaching with Josephine Ensign, — Fall 2014
RNP, PhD; U of WA Health Sciences, Seattle, WA

"Teens Writing from the Heart of Illness & Healing" — Fall 2014

8 week workshops for teens living with chronic health / mental health issues; in collaboration with Odessa Brown Children's Clinic, Seattle, WA — Spring 2014, Fall 2013

Led a monthly parent support group for families with a child with Juvenile Myositis; Seattle Children's Hospital — March 2009-2011

SPEAKING / PRESENTATIONS / TEACHING

Poets for Science Conference; Writing the Medical Experience, workshop leader; Kent State, Ohio — November 2026

American College of Rheumatology; Panelist on Narrative Medicine- The Parent and Caregiver Experience; Orlando, FL — November 2026

Global Conference on Myositis; Panelist for the Caregiver Experience; Mental Health Workshop co-leader; Lisbon, Portugal — March 2026

Global Genes Week in Rare—Kansas City, MO; Panelist for Medical Gaslighting and PTSD*; Health Equity Conference*–Writing and Visual Art Workshop — Sept. 2024

The Scleroderma Foundation; Kids Get Scleroderma Too; Annual Conference, Seattle, WA.—Workshop on Coping for Caregivers and a writing workshop for teens — June 2024

American College of Rheumatology Medical Conference — November 2023
Panelist on Mental Health & Parental Experience in Rheumatological Disease

American College of Rheumatology: A Mental Health Workshop for Pediatric Rheumatology Fellows--Abstract — November 2023

The Examined Life Conference; Carver College of Medicine Iowa City, IA; Presented a workshop on *Writing as a Righting Journey: How to set up workshops for parents whose child has a chronic illness* — October 2018

Humanities in Medicine conference; The Mayo Clinic, Phoenix, AZ — November 2016
Presented a paper on *Writing as a Righting Journey* workshop

5th International Health Humanities Conference, Seville, Spain — September 2016
Presented *Writing as a Righting Journey* workshop &
Evaluating Creative Modalities with Marginalized Populations

KUOW/Weekday radio- interview with Steve Scher, Seattle, WA — January 28, 2013

The Effects of Chronic Illness on Families

- NIH, Pediatric Oncology Unit; Bethesda, MD. — October 2012
- Residence Inn, NIH, Bethesda, MD. — October 2012
- Behavioral Medicine; Family Doctor Residency Program, University of Washington, Swedish Hospital-Cherry Hill — March 2009

Coping with the Effects of Chronic Illness: Needs and Resources
A workshop for parents

- Cure JM Foundation National Conference 2009-2022
- The Pacific NW Arthritis Foundation-Summer Camp July 2010 & 2017

READINGS

Featured reader:

Bainbridge Island Public Library; Bainbridge Island, WA November 2026
Olympia Poetry Network; Olympia, WA January 2025
C&P Coffee; Seattle, WA (3 times) *2024-2027*

Town Hall Seattle; reading from The Body Lives Its Undoing September 2019
The Pacific Science Center; Seattle, WA March 2019
Merrill Gardens, Burien, WA November 2018
conversations with scientists, artists & collaborators on the book

Richard Hugo House; Telling Tough Stories: reading and discussion from The Body Lives Its Undoing; in collaboration with Kathryn Trueblood; Seattle, WA September 2019

PAPERS

A Letter in Support of Advocating for the Whole Patient: Supporting New Guidance on Mental Health in Pediatric Rheumatology-PubMed; Arthritis Care and Research; May 24, 2025 May 2025

American College of Rheumatology Guidance Statements for Addressing Mental Health Concerns in Youth with Rheumatologic Diseases; PubMed: Arthritis Care and Research May 2025

AWARDS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS (see Publications addendum)

Residencies:

Hedgebrook Women's Writing residency—juried applications Fall 2019

Writing Workshops (juried submissions)

Palm Beach Poetry Festival— Major Jackson January 2020
Napa Valley Writers Workshop—Ilya Kaminsky Summer 2023
Linda Gregerson Summer 2013
Jane Hirshfield Summer 2011

Centrum Writers Workshop—Erin Belieu Summer 2017
Dana Levin Summer 2011
Community of Writers—Poetry Workshop Summer 2004
Summer 2022

Grant Awards:

Artist Trust GAP grant	October 2017
City Artists, Seattle Office of Arts and Culture	October 2017
City Artists, Seattle Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs	February 2012
City Artists, Seattle Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs	June 2008
Youth Arts, Seattle Arts and Culture	May 2014
Youth Arts, Seattle Arts and Culture	February 2013

4Culture, King County Arts, Washington	June 2022
	May 2017
	June 2012
	June 2008

EARLY PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Therapeutic Practice

Private Practice as a psychotherapist , Seattle, WA	1982-1992
School Counselor, The Northwest School, Seattle, WA	1984-1985

Other Teaching

Adjunct Faculty- Lesley College, Boston, MA (Appleton, WI)	1991
Masters in Education program, Creative Movement in Learning	

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Cure JM Board of Directors (2017), Research Committee,	2009-present
International Family Support Director	
Member of Seattle Children's Hospital Parent Advisory Committee	2010-2014

POEMS/BOOKS/ESSAYS *(a complete listing from 2000-2026 upon request)*

Dear Arthritis: A Conversation in Writing and Art (writings by JA families and a doctor)–2023

Since the House Is Burning—full length poetry book; MoonPath Press; 2022

The Body Lives Its Undoing—poetry and visual art chapbook based on interviews with autoimmune researchers, medical providers, patients and caregivers in collaboration with The Benaroya Research Institute; 2018

Other Publications:

Book Reviews:

Shake & Tremor by Deborah Bacharach; Adroit Journal; June 2021
Feeding Hour by Jess Gigot; Mom Egg Review; December 2020

The Moth-Eaten World, chapbook, Finishing Line Press, June 2014

What Cannot Be Swallowed, chapbook published with help from a grant from City of Seattle Arts and Cultural Affairs, 2012

Tattooed With Flowers, chapbook published to fulfill grants from 4Culture and Seattle Office of Arts and Culture, 2009