

FY 2018
Criticism
Panel Biographies

Frederick Aldama is Arts and Humanities Distinguished Professor of English and University Distinguished Scholar at The Ohio State University. In the departments of English as well as Spanish & Portuguese he teaches courses on Latino & Latin American cultural phenomena, including literature, film, television, music, sports, video games, and comic books. He is also an affiliate faculty of the Center for Cognitive and Behavioral Brain Imaging. He is the author, co-author, and editor of 29 books. He is founder and director of the White House Hispanic Bright Spot awarded LASER/Latino and Latin American Space for Enrichment Research. In 2016, Aldama received the Ohio Education Summit Award for Founding & Directing LASER. He is founder and co-director of Humanities & Cognitive Sciences High School Summer Institute at The Ohio State University. He has been honored with the 2016 American Association of Hispanics in Higher Education's Outstanding Latino/a Faculty in Higher Education Award. In April 2017, Aldama was awarded an Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching and inducted into the Academy of Teaching. Aldama is creator and curator of Planetary Republic of Comics—a platform for accessible scholarly knowledge about comic books and graphic nonfiction from around the world.

Erin Keane was born in New Jersey and raised in Kentucky. She is the author of three collections of poetry: *Demolition of the Promised Land* (Typecast Publishing, 2014), *Death-Defying Acts* (WordFarm, 2010), and *The Gravity Soundtrack*, (WordFarm, 2007). Her articles, poems, plays, essays, and reviews have appeared in journals, magazines, newspapers, and anthologies, including *Salon*, *All Things Considered*, *Here & Now*, *The Guardian*, *Barrelhouse*, *The Collagist*, *Redivider*, *PANK*, *The Lumberyard*, *Poems & Plays*, and *The Louisville Review*. Keane earned her MFA in creative writing at Spalding University, and she is a proud graduate of the Kentucky Governor's School for the Arts. She's a recipient of the Al Smith Individual Artist Fellowship from the Kentucky Arts Council and fellowships from the National Critics Institute at the Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center and the Kimmel Harding Nelson Center for the Arts. A former newspaper and public radio arts journalist, she is currently a staff writer for *Salon*, focusing on entertainment and culture.