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Contributor Biographies

Alexander Aldrich is from Santa Clarita, CA. After serving his mission in Mexico City, he studied at BYU, where he received his B.A. in Spanish and M.A. in Hispanic Linguistics. He is currently pursuing a PhD in Hispanic Linguistics at the University of Arizona. His areas of research interest include experimental phonetics and phonology and second language speech acquisition. In his free time Alex enjoys playing board games with his wife, reading books with his children, and running in the beautiful Sonoran desert.

Derek Allen graduated with a Bachelor of the Arts from Brigham Young University in the Class of 2014, and he received the award for Outstanding Portuguese Major. Allen served a Portuguese-speaking mission in Mozambique and Angola from 2007–2009. At BYU, Allen maintained a 4.0 within all his Portuguese coursework. In 2011, he spent a semester abroad at a business school in Lisbon, Portugal. He received minors in English and Management, while also working as a research assistant within BYU's Plant & Wildlife Sciences department. He participated in the English Student Advisory Council, Writing Fellows, and was a national qualifier on BYU's NCWA wrestling team. Allen currently works as the media specialist for the Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center. He plans to begin his graduate studies in the Fall of 2016.

Rebecca Brazzale is a career and academic advisor for the BYU College of Humanities and specializes in career development for students in linguistics, art history, interdisciplinary humanities, Spanish and Portuguese. She completed an MA in Spanish Pedagogy from BYU in 2014.

Kempton Cox received his bachelor's degree in Spanish with a minor in linguistics from BYU in 2013. He received his master's degree in Hispanic literatures also from BYU in 2015. He is currently pursuing a joint JD/MPA degree through BYU's J. Reuben Clark Law School and Marriott School of Management. Kempton likes prose when it's short, poetry when it's metered, and opera when it's tragic. Above all, however, he likes to spend time with his wife and kids.

Sonia Homolka is from Natal, in the northeast of Brazil. During her bachelor's degree at the Universidade Federal de Pernambuco (Brazil) she became interested in *literatura de cordel* (String Literature), mainly because it shows the simple way of daily life of the Brazilian northeastern "Sertão". She earned her Masters degree in Portuguese Literature from Brigham Young University, and once again, String Literature was her main area of research. Sonia Homolka teaches Intensive Portuguese Skills Development and 3rd-Year Portuguese Reading, Grammar, and Culture at Brigham Young University. Some of her interests include twentieth-century Brazilian literature and fantastic literature.

Jordan Jones, who is originally from Texas, spent five of his adolescent and young adult years living in Brazil, where his interest in Portuguese and in Brazilian literature began. He graduated from Brigham Young University in 2014 with a BA in English and Portuguese. A year later, he finished an MA in Luso-Brazilian Literatures (also at BYU) and is currently pursuing a Master of Education degree at Johns Hopkins University. He has participated as an editor for various student journals and recently co-published an article on the fantastic short stories of Machado de Assis. He is a full-time high school English teacher in Baltimore, Maryland, where he resides with his wife and baby daughter.

Dallin V Larsen is a first-year PhD student in Hispanic Linguistics in the Department of Romance Languages at the University of Georgia. He completed his BA in Spanish and his MA in Hispanic Linguistics in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at Brigham Young University. His research interests are generative syntax, philology, historical morphosyntax, and pragmatics. He is currently researching multiple Wh-movement in Spanish, personal deixis use in Spanish and American presidential debates, and the historical development of the present perfect verb tense in Spanish, Portuguese, and Italian.

Paula Thomas, an opera fanatic, attended Brigham Young University, where she graduated with double Bachelor degrees in Latin American Studies and Spanish. She loved BYU so much that she decided to stay and pursue a Master of Arts in Hispanic Literature, graduating under the mentorship of Dr. Douglas J. Weatherford. She's currently pursuing a PhD in Latin American Literature at UCLA, while also mastering yoga.

Rex Wilkins está en su último semestre de licenciatura con el enfoque de Español. Ha ingresado en el programa de maestría para la literatura española aquí en BYU. En Abril participará en una conferencia hispánica en Southern Utah University donde presentará una investigación literaria del feminismo en España durante los fines del siglo XIX. Ha escrito poemas y cuentos cortos en inglés y español por más que una década. Ahora mismo está empezando una novela en cuanto de la Ciudad Juárez y El Paso durante la guerra mexicana contra las drogas.