

Featured MCRPA Spotlight Member – February 2017



Alejandro Leopardi

1. What is your role at Montgomery College?

I'm an Associate Professor of English in the English & Reading Department on the Germantown Campus. I teach the whole gamut of composition courses, from developmental through college-level composition. I also teach Introduction to Mythology and Introduction to Literature. I currently co-chair the Student Excellence Awards in English & Reading on the Germantown campus which awards students who strive to do well and "go the extra mile." This is our way of rewarding hardworking students, and not necessarily those students who earn As and Bs, to show them that their efforts are not overlooked.

2. How long have you been in the field?

I worked as a substitute teacher for K-8 in San Diego, CA for 4 years, as a substitute teacher for K-12 in Montgomery County for 3 years, as a teaching assistant at UMUC for 2 years, and have been teaching at various community colleges for the last 4 1/2 years. Moreover, I've been a freelance writer and editor for almost a decade now.

3. How long have you been at Montgomery College?

I've been at Montgomery College for what will be 5 years at the end of the spring semester.

4. What are some of your hobbies?

My primary hobby, and the one that takes up most of my time (when I'm not hanging out with my 2-year old), is writing. Primarily, I write screenplays, but will occasionally write a short story (I've completed 2 manuscripts/novels, but haven't done much with them). I've also dabbled in filmmaking and have produced 6 short films to date. I also generally like to be outdoors - skateboarding, running, soccer, and just about anything that means I can be outside.

5. What would be your ideal dream vacation?

A trip around the world. I'd like to visit as many countries as possible in a year. My wife and I are avid travelers, so packing our bags and taking off for any destination is something we really enjoy.

6. What is the first thing you would buy if you won the lottery?

A home in San Diego, CA, preferably La Jolla.

7. What's your favorite childhood memory?

I remember being in New York City with my family, surrounded by a lot of Argentinians, when Argentina won the World Cup. We went out into the streets and partied like a nation had just been liberated. I think that spurred my interest in the sport.

8. What was the last movie you watched? How many stars would you give it if you were a Movie Critic?

Demolition. Great film.

9. What was the last sport or music concert event you attended?

A friend of mine dragged me out to see Phantogram on a weekday. That's the last time I'm doing that, though the concert was fantastic.

10. If you could get a second chance for a “dream job”, would you still be doing what you’re doing right now or is there another job you would love to have?

I need to prompt this by saying, teaching, especially at a community college, is the by far the best job I've ever held. Literally. But if I could have a dream job, it would be as a full-time filmmaker. I love every part of the filmmaking process, from brainstorming, to writing, to filming, and post. More than that, I like quality films that value story over spectacle.