

Allison Henson

Class of 2016

**Creative Writing Major and
Professional Writing Minor**



By: Tyler Keeton

“If there’s a book that you want to read,
but it hasn’t been written yet, then you
must write it.”
— Toni Morrison

Allison Henson is currently a senior at WKU set to graduate at the end of this semester May 2016. She is a Creative Writing Major, with a minor in Professional Writing. Henson has completed one internship through the English Department. Over the course of her WKU academic career, Henson’s journey at WKU has been expansive. She says, “Western Kentucky University is a brilliant place. Brilliant minds, brilliant professors, and brilliant students.”

During Henson’s junior year, she interned for the English Major's Weblog, now known as [First Floor Cherry](#). She served as [one](#) of two bloggers who created weekly posts about new and exciting things going on within the [English Department](#). She says, “I was put in charge of many tasks—designing a new look, brainstorming ideas, and interviewing special guests—as well as creating a foundation for future interns to work upon.” The experience cultivated an impressive repertoire for her own drive and level of knowledge regarding writing as a profession. “Working with proper HTML and writing formats really challenged me as a writer who deals mostly with fiction,” she explains.

While interning for the EMW, Henson believes she learned a lot about how to advertise and market a blog. She says, “One of our biggest challenges was getting students involved with the blog and actively reading it.” Along with the extended social media team, Henson began brainstorming ideas—like flyers and Facebook shares—that would get EMW's name out there. As the semester went on, she was able to see a difference in number of views. “With our new layout and advertising strategies, we were able to leave behind a platform future interns were able to further enhance. That's a really cool feeling.”

After graduation, Henson plans to attend graduate school. She is currently looking at the possibility of heading to the University of Kentucky in Lexington, KY. She hopes to become part of the university's [Arts Administration](#) program. She explains, “I hope to be able to work with local art programs in helping them stay funded, by writing grants and working with other arts-related advocates. My goal is to help keep these kinds of programs available to the public.” Henson argues her time at Western Kentucky has prepared her for whatever may come her way in her future endeavors. “I have met so many amazing people. I just hope to *become* one of those amazing people.”