

Writing a Bio for a Journal

-Read through the following bio's and note the themes of each one. Can you tell what they might be writing a bio for?

-You will be writing a bio for yourself to be included in the SOTM Journal. Brainstorm what you might want to include in your bio that relates to this class, the topic you're writing about, or your experience at Compass. Be creative but accurate ☺

Amir Flesher

Not long after a transcendent experience with a dysfunctional compost pile at a Brown University housing cooperative, Amir left college in Pittsburgh to be an organic vegetable farm apprentice. He had a hunch that spending his days toiling in the soil and learning to grow food might be a salve for his ailing spirit. In April of that year he arrived at New Morning Farm in Hustontown, Pennsylvania where his spirits soared and he fell in love with growing, cooking, and eating fresh real food. He spent two more seasons as a full time farm apprentice in Maryland and California where he honed his vegetable growing chops and formed a borderline obsessive love affair with compost. He has grown a garden every year since in community garden plots and for the last two seasons at his home in Brattleboro, Vt. He is thrilled to share his love of growing food, and his exploration of the ethics of food production with his amazing students at Compass. He confesses that on occasion he ravenously devours a small bag of Cool Ranch Doritos washed down by a bottle of pure high fructose corn syrup.

Dave Morrill

Dave serves as Assistant Recycling Coordinator at Keene State College. He is also founder of Compost Doctor, a Keene-based compost consulting business, and has served on Keene's Cities for Climate Protection Committee. He received an MBA in Sustainable Business from Antioch University New England in May 2009. During his two years at Antioch, he became excited and learned a great deal about composting. What excited him was the concept of removing a resource from the waste stream (that would normally either be incinerated or left to sit in a landfill and become contaminated) and producing a valuable final product that replenishes our rapidly depleting topsoil. This past summer, Dave completed the Maine Composting School, a week-long intensive workshop that certifies students in commercial compost management, with the intention of going into the business of compost.

Jessica Skinner

Jess is a student at Antioch University New England and a candidate for a Masters of Environmental Studies with a Science Teacher Certification. She is currently serving as ANE's Solid Waste Coordinator and has been a co-chair for the Student Alliance, an ES Department student organization, since the spring of 2009. Over the past year, she has volunteered with the Monadnock Farm and Community Connection as well as Fertile Fields Farm in Westmoreland, NH, and is interested in promoting local food and farm education. She has been a key player in establishing the first raised bed gardens at ANE and will be combining this effort with that of Antioch's compost program this year.

