Charlotte Muzzi ’06 holds an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Oregon and a BA in English from Carleton College. She has taught writing to undergraduates and preparatory school upperclassmen and solo-guided 40-day backpacking trips for young women in Alaska. Charlotte’s work has been published in The Hopkins Review, The Cincinnati Review, EATER, C-Ville Weekly, The Southeast Review, and Carolina Quarterly. She currently serves as an Account Executive at Giant Voices, where she facilitates marketing and creative strategy for nonprofit and industry clients, and on faculty at the National Outdoor Leadership School, where she teaches communication, decision-making, and the fundamentals of responsible mountain travel.

**How did your experience at Marshall help you after graduation?**

I worked hard at Marshall; I won’t say college was easier, but I will say that I experienced it as less work. I had learned how to manage my time, got ten hours of sleep every night, and never worked past 10 PM. Those were Marshall-related skills.

**Who at Marshall inspired you?**

I was inspired by Ms. Fryberger’s high standards and belief that her students were smart enough to figure things out, and by Dr. Haire’s leadership example—I’ll never forget him sweeping the commons and making sure that students didn’t sneak off campus at lunch. I was also inspired by Dr. Nygaard’s unflappable classroom management and ability to sift wheat from chaff in discussion sections, which I later tried to channel as a prep school teacher. Her posters also contributed to my appreciation of the US labor movement at an early age.

**Who currently inspires you?**

My work with the National Outdoor Leadership School inspires me to be both a better educator and a better person. I’ve worked with instructors from all over the world, some of whom have spent decades teaching in the backcountry, and they are so good at building inclusive communities and pushing students to grow. The curriculum is like, “choose an appropriate route over this mountain, support a struggling coursemate, bake a better pie”—it’s inspiring to work with people who are so talented and down-to-earth.