

Airea D. Matthews

Professor and Co-Chair of Creative Writing



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Bryn Mawr College

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Summary

Airea D. Matthews's first collection of poems, *Simulacra*, received the 2016 Yale Series of Younger Poets Award. Her latest collection, *Bread and Circus*, won the LA Times Book Prize in Poetry, the PEN Oakland Josephine Miles Award, and was a finalist for the 2024 Hurston Wright Legacy Award in Poetry. Her work has appeared in *Harper's Bazaar*, *The New York Times*, *The Best American Poets*, *American Poets*, *The Rumpus*, *Four Way Review*, *Lithub*, *Michigan Quarterly Review*, and elsewhere.

For her writing and service, Matthews earned a 2024 Guggenheim Fellowship, a 2022 Academy of American Poets Laureate Fellowship, a 2020 Pew Fellowship, and the 2017 Margaret Walker For My People award. In 2016, she received both the Rona Jaffe Foundation Writers' Award and the Louis Untermeyer Scholarship from the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference. She was awarded the 2020 Christian Lindback Distinguished Teaching Award and the 2024 Rosabeth Moss Kanter Change Master Fund at Bryn Mawr College.

She received her B.A. in Economics from the University of Pennsylvania, her M.P.A. from the University of Michigan Ford School of Public Policy, and her M.F.A.

Education

Master of Fine Arts in Poetry

2011 - 2013

University of Michigan Helen Zell Writers' Program

Zell Merit Fellow

Master in Public Administration

2002 - 2003

University of Michigan Ford School of Public Policy

Rackham Merit Fellow

Bachelor of Arts in Economics

1991 - 1994

University of Pennsylvania

Work Experience

Bryn Mawr College

05/2025 - Present

Professor of Poetry and Co-Chair of Creative Writing

- Direct undergraduate courses in poetry and creative writing, fostering the development of students' literary skills and critical thinking.
- Serve as Chair of Creative Writing, providing leadership and oversight for the department's academic programming and initiatives.
- Participate as a member of the Committee on Academic Priorities, contributing to institutional planning and curricular development to support strategic goals.
- Design and implement coursework tailored to enhance student engagement with diverse writing traditions and creative methodologies, including the new Journalism pilot.

Warren Wilson MFA Program for Creative Writers

07/2019 - Present

Graduate Faculty

- Instruct graduate-level, craft-focused creative writing courses to three low-residency MFA students during select summer terms, enhancing their writing skills and creative expression.
- Facilitate remote discussions on craft and critical analysis, fostering a collaborative and intellectually stimulating learning environment.
- Deliver engaging lectures and craft workshops at bi-annual residencies, contributing to the academic and creative growth of students.
- Develop tailored course materials and assignments, ensuring relevance to students' individual writing goals and academic needs.

Bryn Mawr College

05/2022 - 05/2025

Associate Professor of Creative Writing | Co-Chair of Creative Writing Department

- Taught intermediate and advanced-level undergraduate creative writing courses in poetry and a secondary genre, fostering a dynamic and engaging learning environment that enhanced students' writing skills and creative expression.
- Co-chaired the Creative Writing Department, overseeing budget management and ensuring the program's continued success and growth through strategic planning and resource allocation.

from the University of Michigan Helen Zell Writers' Program. Ms. Matthews is working on her third collection and is starting a global refuge for persecuted writers in Sicily, Italy. She is currently represented by Blue Flower Arts for speaking engagements and MMQLit for literary projects.

Honors, Awards, and Grants

2024

- Guggenheim Fellow
- LA Times Book Prize in Poetry
- Rosabeth Moss Kanter Change Master, Bryn Mawr College
- Hurston Wright Legacy Award in Poetry Finalist
- PEN Oakland Josephine Miles Award
- Civitella Ranieri Fellowship, Finalist

2023

- Academy of American Poets Poet Laureate Fellowship
- Bryn Mawr Faculty Award Grant (Wales)

2022

- Poet Laureate of Philadelphia 2022-2023
- Bryn Mawr Faculty Award Grant (Berlin)

2020

- Christian R. Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching, May 2020
- Pew Fellow, January 2021-January 2022

2018

- *Poets and Writers*, Innovative Poets to Watch, January 2018
- Bryn Mawr Faculty Award Grant (Scotland)

2017

- Margaret Walker *For My People* Award

2016

- Yale Series of Younger Poets Winner
- Rona Jaffe Foundation Writers Award
- Louis Untermeyer Scholar in Poetry, Bread Loaf Writers Conference

2015

- Kresge Literary Arts Fellow
- Pushcart Prize Nominee

2014

- Cave Canem Fellow
- *Best New Poets* Nominee
- Pushcart Prize Nominee

2013

- Pushcart Prize Nominee

- Curated poetry selections for the Bryn Mawr College Reading Series, showcasing diverse voices and enriching the literary culture on campus.
- Authored and directed the pedagogy and curriculum for poetry, developing innovative teaching methods that significantly improved student engagement and learning outcomes.
- Collaborated with colleagues and served on various College committees, contributing to the overall academic and administrative goals of the College through effective teamwork and communication.

Rutgers University Camden MFA Program

08/2021 - 12/2022

Visiting Professor

- Taught graduate-level workshops specializing in craft-focused poetry, emphasizing the development of writing skills and analysis.
- Facilitated in-depth discussions on writing craft and critical analysis, enhancing students' understanding and appreciation of literature.
- Encouraged a collaborative learning environment, fostering open dialogue and peer feedback.
- Developed course materials and curricula tailored to the needs and interests of graduate students.
- Mentored students in their creative writing projects, providing personalized feedback and support.

Rutgers University Institute for the Study of Global Racial Justice

08/2021 - 12/2022

Summer Retreat and Postdoctoral Program

Visiting Scholar

- Developed an innovative antiracist, genre-free workshop model, successfully implemented by the annual Poets and Scholars Retreat, the MFA program at Camden, and among the Institute's postdoctoral fellows, enhancing inclusivity and diversity in academic settings.
- Co-facilitated the Postdoctoral modules, fostering a collaborative learning environment and promoting interdisciplinary dialogue among scholars.
- Co-created the Summer Writing Retreat, funded by the Mellon Foundation, providing a platform for scholars to engage in critical discussions and advance their research.

Bryn Mawr College

07/2017 - 05/2022

Assistant Professor of Creative Writing | Director of Poetry

- Taught beginning/intermediate or advanced-level undergraduate creative writing courses each year in poetry and a secondary genre
- Taught critical thinking and college-level seminar courses for first-year students
- Co-administered the Creative Writing Program, including the annual Reading Series
- Directed the pedagogy and curriculum for poetry

University of Michigan, The Helen Zell Writers' Program

05/2015 - 10/2016

Assistant Director

- Managed the program budget and gifts of \$750K per year
- Established internal processes to evaluate against benchmarks
- Managed marketing initiatives and the Zell Visiting Writers' Series
- Cultivated community relationship for program support and development and for establishing a professional network for graduate students

University of Michigan, Department of English Language and Literature

09/2014 - 05/2015

Lecturer

- Taught a 3:3 load of Rhetoric and Argumentation
- Designed the course "Writing, Politics and Culture" as the foundation of Rhetoric and Argumentation

- Callaloo Fellow

2012 and earlier

- Cave Canem Fellow | 2012
- Michael R. Gutterman Poetry Prize | Hopwood Award | 2012
- Rackham Merit Fellow | Helen Zell Writers' Program | University of Michigan | 2011
- Women of the World Poetry Slam, Runner Up | 2010
- National Organization of Women, Special Recognition Award | 2010
- Women of the World Poetry Slam, 3rd Ranked | 2008
- Detroit Grand Poetry Slam Champion | 2008
- Rustbelt Regional Poetry Slam Champion, Individual Competition | 2008
- Rackham Merit Fellow | Ford School of Public Policy | University of Michigan | 2002



Pew Fellowship



Brave Testimony Reading at Universi...

Juror/Judge/Nominator

11/2024 - Present

Judge, Michigan State University's Anne Balocating Poetry Prize

04/2024 - Present

University of Michigan, Helen Zell Writers' Program

05/2013 - 05/2014

Zell Fellow

- Organized and led community writing workshops during cross-country poetry tour

Editorial Experience

ontheseawall.com

11/2018 - 11/2021

Contributing Editor

- Regularly contribute reviews and new work

The Offing, a channel of the Los Angeles Review of Books

10/2014 - 04/2016

Co-Executive Editor

- Co-led and managed March' 15 launch
- Managed two departments and content delivery
- Delivered timely and audience-targeted content
- Responsible for fundraising \$10K goal

Published Work

FULL-LENGTH COLLECTIONS

May 2024

Bread and Circus (re-released as a paperback)

May 2023

Bread and Circus (hardcover)

BREAD AND CIRCUS REVIEWS

[Publisher's Weekly](#) (starred review)

[The Poetry Foundation](#)

[The Washington Post](#)

[The Irish Times](#)

[The Poetry Book Society](#) (UK)

[The Adroit Journal](#)

Poetry Ireland Review

Poetry London

March 2017

Simulacra, 2016 Winner of the Yale Series of Younger Poets Award, Yale University Press

SIMULACRA REVIEWS

[The New Yorker](#)

[The Washington Post](#)

[The Rumpus](#)

[Publisher's Weekly](#) (starred review)

American Microreviews

[Tupelo Quarterly](#)

POETRY

2025:

Judge, The Los Angeles Times Book Prize in Poetry

Post-award, named a judge for the prestigious Los Angeles Times Book Prize in Poetry, recognizing outstanding literary achievement.

01/2022-Present

Philadelphia Youth Poet Laureate Committee

Identified the best youth candidates for Poet Laureateship

07/2023 - Present

Philadelphia Poet Laureate Committee

Identified the best candidate and successor to the Poet Laureateship

02/2022 - 04/2022

Hopwood Awards Judge
University of Michigan

05/2020 - 2022

Literary Awards Committee
PEN America

Played a key role in the selection process of literary judges for PEN America award seasons.

2022

Nominator

Whiting Foundation

Nominator for the prestigious Whiting Award

07/2021 - 10/2021

Judge

Words without Borders and Academy of American Poets Translation Prize
Judge for a global translation prize

01/2021 - 04/2021

Philadelphia Stories

Sandy Crimms Poetry Prize

Judged a national writing prize

2018 - 2019

Reader for Carl Phillips

Yale Younger Series

Reader for one of the most prominent literary prizes in U.S.

04/2019

Judge for Broken River Prize

Platypus Press

Judge for an international chapbook contest

11/2018

Judge for PEN/Osterweil Award

PEN America

- Poem-A-Day, Academy of American Poets (chosen by Omotara James)

2024:

- "Playing in The Field: A Poetry Workshop" | *Poetry Wales* Winter 2024 vol. 60
- Full Length Collection Blurbs for *Good Dress* by Brittany Rogers, *Bone Fish Girl* by Megan Alyse, *A Magnificent Loneliness* by Allison Benis White and *Toy Soldiers* by Michael Chang.

2023:

- "[The Rules of Attention](#)" | *Ford School of Public Policy Magazine*
- "[The Water Mothers](#)" | Visual Collaboration with Laylah Amatuallah Barrayn | *ADI Magazine*
- "[Anna Mae's Woodlawn Baptist Choir Director](#)" | *Poetry Foundation*
- "[The Ancestors School a Basic Bitch](#)" | *Poetry Daily*
- "The Broke Diet," "Ain't No Snitch" | *Poetry Ireland*
- "Good Night, Gibbous Moon: A Wake-Up Story," | *Yale Review*

2022:

- "[Subtext for Troubled Times](#)," "[elemental](#)" | *Mosaic Literary Magazine*
- "[Eviction](#)," "[nostalgia](#)," "[Purblind](#)," "[The Troubles](#)," "[Severance](#)," "[elegy for the moaner, 2016](#)" | *Georgia Review* Winter issue
- "[On Making An Essential Nigga](#)" | *Obsidian*
- "Legacy" and "Ars Poetica, 1979" | *Last Call, An Anthology on Addiction and Loss* | Sarabande Books
- "[Meeting Anne Sexton](#)" | *Zoeglossia* Poem of the Week January 2022

2021:

- "At The Worktable: A Praxis for Approaching an Antiracist Standard of Care in Criticism" | Institute for the Study of Global Racial Justice at Rutgers University
- "[Ars Poetica, 1979](#)" "[Ars Poetica, 2019](#)" "[Mayfly](#)" | *Virginia Quarterly Review*
- "[9 am Working Class Bedtime Story](#)" | *Gulf Coast*
- "If Ain't Is: An Essay on Gertrude Stein and My Grandmother" | *The Poet Speaks Anthology*

2020:

- "[American Ouroboros](#)" | *Night Heron Barks* | Summer 2020
- "[Inherited Divide](#)" | *Zocalo Public Square* | August 2020

2019:

- "[American Conjunctions](#)" | *On the Seawall* | Winter 2019
- "[Logical Disjunction](#)" | *Tin House* | Spring 2019
- "Letters to My Children on Time-Dependent Effects and Attention" | *Los Angeles Review of Books* | Spring 2019
- "[Etymology](#)" | www.poets.org | Poem of the Day May 2019
- "[Black Ecstatic Ode](#)" | *Michigan Quarterly Review* and *Lithub* | Summer 2019

2018

- "When Can We Expect Payment" | *Cortland Review* | Spring 2018
- "[House Nigga's Clean Finish](#)" | *Callaloo* | Summer 2018

2017

- "Con (the remix)" | *The Rumpus* | January 2017
- "Sekhmet's Conceit" "Pious" | *The Harvard Advocate* | Spring 2017
- "Closed Captioning for the Black Animus" | *Cordite Review* | Winter 2017
- "[Temptation of the Composer](#)" | www.poets.org Academy of American Poets

2016

- "[Descent of the Composer](#)" | www.poets.org (Poem of the Day)
- "Confessions from Here" (reprinted from Academy of American Poets), "On Meeting Want Next Time," "Letters to My Would-Be Lover on Dolls and Repeating" | *Callaloo*
- "[Confessions from Here](#)" | www.poets.org (Poem of the Day)

Judge for national poetry contest

10/2018

Interdisciplinary Juror for
International Art Residency

Red Bull House of Arts

Responsible for identifying artists for the
Red Bull Residency in Detroit

01/2018

Judge for Robert H. Winner Award

Poetry Society of America

Judge for national poetry contest

2015

- “Gryllacridadae” | *The Volta*
- “If My Late Grandmother Were Gertrude Stein” | *Best American Poetry*
- “[Sexton Texts from a Bird Conservatory](#),” “Confessions from Here” | *American Poet*
- “[Sexton Texts on Independence Day](#),” “Sexton Texts During Polar Vortex” | *Four Way Review*

2014

- “-Icity” | *Vinyl*
- “[Prelude](#),” “[Hero\(i\)n](#)” | *Muzzle*
- “Positive Curvature,” “Black Hole Observed Over Time” | *The Indiana Review*
- “[Narcissus Tweets](#)” | *The Baffler*
- “March 1969” | *Women’s Studies Quarterly*
- “[Swindle](#)” (online poem of the week) | *Missouri Review*
- “If My Late Grandmother Were Gertrude Stein” | *KINFOLKS*
- “Letters to My Would-Be. . .” | *Callaloo*

INTERVIEWS

2017-Present

- [Poetry Off the Shelf](#) | July 2023
- [Living Writers WCBN](#) | June 2023
- [Free Library of Philadelphia Writer's Series](#) | June 2023
- [Two Poet Laureates PBS Newshour](#) | November 2022
- [Interview with WHYY](#) | August 2022
- [Black Hauntology Interview with Jonah Mixon Webster](#) | August 2021
- [Interviewing Arisa White on *Whose Your Daddy*](#) | June 2021
- [VS. Poetry Foundation](#) | September 2020
- Poetry Extension | August 2019
- [Divedapper](#) | April 2018
- [Commonplace](#) | December 2017
- [LoveBlackGirls.com](#) | December 2017

FLASH NON-FICTION/ESSAYS

2023

- “[Barbie Taught Me The Power of Play](#)” | *Harper's Bazaar* | July 2023
- “[The Magical Space Where Fun Is Every Child's Birthright](#)” | *The New York Times* | July 2023
- “Echoes of Plato's Dialogue in Sexton Texts Poems” | *Personal Best Critical Anthology*

2019

- “On Sister Solidarity” | *Era of Ignition: Coming of Age During a Time of Revolution and Rage* | Crown Publishing | March 2019

2014

- “[The Cost of The Floss](#)” | *Michigan Quarterly Review*
- “[The Cross or The Pill](#)” | *Michigan Quarterly Review*
- “[Meeting Wittgenstein at The Playscape](#)” | *Michigan Quarterly Review*
- “[Animalia Repeating](#)” | *Michigan Quarterly Review*
- “[The Case of the Diasporic Haints](#)” | *Michigan Quarterly Review*

2013

- “The Dentist’s Wife.” “The Dog Whisperer’s Wife,” “The Mine Owner’s Wife” | *SLAB*

POETRY REVIEWS

2014

- *Dear Lil Wayne* by Lauren Ireland | *Scout Poetry*
- *Patter* by Douglas Kearney | *Scout Poetry*

Production Credits/Appearances

FEATURED ARTIST

2023

Bread and Circus Audiobook

2019

Era of Ignition Audiobook, "On Sister Solidarity"

2015

"Dead of Winter Non Sequitur," Directed by Cass Corridor Films

2014

Roadtrip Nation, PBS

2008-2010

Poetry Slam Inc., Women of the World

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER/ARTIST

2023

"Ars Poetica, 1979," Directed by Rashid Zakat

2009

Venus Disrobed (Performance Poetry Collection), Directed by Steve Coy

Lectures/Panels/Workshops

2021-2024

Northwestern University | Evanston, IL

"Examining the Temperaments of Poetry"

Case Western Reserve University | Cleveland, OH

"Temporal Discontinuity and Pattern Mapping"

Kenyon College Summer Writers Institute | Gambier, OH

Weeklong Generative Poetry Workshop: "At The Worktable: A Praxis for Approaching a Standard of Care in Criticism"

Black Girls in Arts Spaces | (online)

"Sense Age of Sight: Visual/Textual Collaborations in the High-Tech Age"

Fine Arts Work Center | (online)

Weeklong Visual Poetry Practicum

Furious Flower Poetry Conference | James Madison University

"The Legacy of the Phyllis Wheatley Poetry Festival 1973-2023"

Newcastle Poetry Festival (panel) | United Kingdom (online)

"Writing in Our Times"

La Maison Baldwin Conference (panel) | South of France

"A Stranger in the Village: The Poetics of Elsewhere" with Carmen Gimenez Smith, Khadijah Queen and Soham Patel

University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine | Philadelphia PA

"Addiction, Trauma, and Obsession in Writing"

William College, Sterling A. Brown Poetry Conference | (online)

"Inheritance and Brown's Enduring Poetic Legacy"

Texas Book Festival | Austin, TX

"Traversing the Racial Periphery"

Favorite Poets Favorite Poet Teaching Series | (online)

"The Legacy of Margaret Walker"

Poetry Foundation Secondary Teacher Training | Miami, FL

"Managing Conflict using a Worktable Model"

Rutgers University Inaugural Poets and Scholars Retreat | New Brunswick, NJ

"At The Worktable: A Praxis for Approaching a Standard of Care in Criticism"

Rosemont College | Rosemont, PA

"Sense Age of Sight: Visual/Textual Collaborations in the High-Tech Age"

Arizona State University | Tempe, AZ

"Transtextuality as a Future"

2019

Warren Wilson College | Asheville, NC

"Sense Age of Sight: Visual/Textual Collaborations in the High-Tech Age"

Library of Congress | Washington, DC

"Afrofuturist Thought"

2018

Oakland University | Rochester, MI

"The Apollonian Poem"

Paul Robeson Museum | Philadelphia, PA

"The Apollonian Poem and the Black Imagination"

New York University | NY, NY

"Orr and The Four Temperaments of Poetry"

Poets House NYC | NY, NY

"Orr and The Four Temperaments of Poetry" for *Winter Tangerine*

2017

Jackson State University | Jackson, MS

"Yale and The Legacy of Margaret Walker"

2016

University of Michigan Writing Race Series | (online)

"I'll Take That: Cultural Appropriation in Creative Work"

2014

Poetry and Pie Series | Rochester, NY

"The Non-Sequitur and Poetry"

Pink Door Womens' Writing Retreat | Rochester, NY

"Get Free: Negative Capability in Poetry"

2013

University of San Francisco | San Francisco, CA

"The Hardest Part: Narrative in Poetry"

2010 and earlier

Women of the World Poetry Slam | Detroit, MI and Columbus, OH

"Getting Ugly on Stage"

Oakland County Community College | Auburn Hills, MI

"Bare Bones: The Use of Voice and Psychological Gesture in Performance Poetry"

Detroit Womens' Economic Council | Detroit, MI

"Freeing the Mind: Incarcerated Women and the Arts"

Oakland County Community College | Royal Oak, MI

"Getting Naked on Stage: Performing and Escaping Inhibitions"

Prison Creative Arts Linkage Conference | Ann Arbor, MI

"Performing Art"

National StopMax Conference | Philadelphia, PA

"Art as a Means of Struggle and Survival"

Invited Readings/Conversations

2026:

- Rose Pan African Education Residency, Senegal
- Bucknell University Summer Writing Seminar

2025:

- Princeton University, Distinguished Speaker for Faculty Diversity Salon, Princeton, NJ
- University of Virginia, Rea Distinguished Speaker Series
- Michigan State University Distinguished Speaker Series
- Warren Wilson MFA Program Summer Institute
- Kenyon Writers Workshop Summer Institute
- Rose Pan African Education Residency, Senegal

2024:

- Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY
- Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH
- Northwestern University, Chicago, IL
- Los Angeles Times Festival of Books, Los Angeles, CA
- University of North Carolina, Durham, NC Armfield Lecture
- Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts John Rhoden Guest Curator and Reader, Philadelphia, PA
- Midtown Scholars Bookstore in Conversation with Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah, Harrisburg, PA
- Free Library of Philadelphia in Conversation with Phillip B. Williams, Philadelphia, PA
- Free Library of Philadelphia in Conversation with Nam Le, Philadelphia, PA

- Free Library of Philadelphia in Conversation with Hanif Abdurraqib, Philadelphia, PA
- University of Pennsylvania Alumni Association, Philadelphia, PA
- Rosemont College, Bryn Mawr, PA
- Moonstone Readings Series with Jessica Cuello, Philadelphia, PA
- Furious Flower Black Poetry Conference, James Madison University VA
- Griot and Grey Owl Southern Poetry Conference, Durham, NC
- Wilder Words, Fine Arts Work Center

2023:

- Free Library of Philadelphia in Conversation with Reginald Dwayne Betts, Philadelphia, PA
- Free Library of Philadelphia in Conversation with Tariq "Black Thought" Trotter, Philadelphia, PA
- Free Library of Philadelphia in Conversation with Safiya Sinclair, Philadelphia, PA
- Milton Academy, Milton, MA
- The Phillis Wheatley Poetry Festival, Jackson, MS
- Brooklyn Book Festival, Brooklyn, NY
- Texas Book Festival, Austin, TX
- Poetry Foundation, Chicago, IL
- University of Michigan Gerald Ford School of Policy, Ann Arbor, MI
- Parkway Council, Philadelphia, PA
- Ascend Conference at Aspen Institute, Washington, DC
- Free Library of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA
- Harvard Bookstore, Cambridge, MA
- Greenlight Bookstore, Brooklyn, NY
- London Review of Books, London, UK
- Midtown Scholar Bookstore, Harrisburg, PA
- The Room Project, Detroit, MI
- Literati Bookstore, Ann Arbor, MI
- Haymarket House, Chicago, IL
- Harrisburg Community College, Harrisburg, PA
- Philadelphia Free Library, Philadelphia, PA
- Soul Sister Review, Online

2022:

- Free Library of Philadelphia in Conversation with Ocean Vuong
- University of Maryland, College Park, MD
- Dartmouth College, Robert Hayden Conference
- Passaic County Community College, Paterson, NJ
- University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
- University of the Arts, Philadelphia, PA
- The Athaneum, Philadelphia, PA
- Anaphora Literary Arts, Online
- Lincoln Center, New York, NY
- Spit Poetry Series, Philadelphia, PA
- The Clearing, Online
- Interfaith Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA
- Dauphin County Library, Dauphin County, PA

2021

- University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
- Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ
- Holy Family College, Philadelphia, PA
- George Washington University, Washington, DC
- Cave Canem Annual Retreat, Online

2020

- University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
- The University of Washington in St. Louis, St. Louis, MO
- The University of Maryland, College Park, MD
- University of Illinois, Chicago, IL
- Gather in Poetry, Academy of American Poets (online)

2019

- Callaloo Conference with Natasha Tretheway, Ishion Hutchinson, Gregory Pardlo and Herman Beavers, University of Penn, Philadelphia, PA
- Kelly Writers' House with Keetje Kupers and Laura Mullen, University of Penn, Philadelphia, PA
- Yale University with Carl Phillips, Louise Gluck, Carolyn Forché, Peter Streckfus and Yanyi, New Haven, CT
- The Rona Jaffe Foundation with Eileen Pollack, New York, NY
- The Ruth Stone Foundation, Putney, VT
- Warren Wilson College, Asheville, NC
- Folger Shakespeare Library with Tananarive Due and N.K. Jemisin, Washington, DC

2018

- Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL
- Goucher College, MD
- New York University, NY
- University of Pittsburgh Center for African American Poetics with Rickey Laurentiis and Safiya Sinclair, Pittsburgh, PA
- Oakland University, Oakland, MI
- Whitman College, Walla Walla, WA

2017

- Adelphi University MFA, NY
- Barnard College, NY
- Callaloo 41st Anniversary Reading, Georgetown University
- Jackson State University, Jackson, MI
- Nebraska Writers' Collective, Lincoln, NE
- Miami Book Festival, Miami, FL
- Midwest Writers Walk, Chelsea, MI
- The Poetry Project, NYC, NY
- Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

2016

- Callaloo 40th Anniversary Reading with Gregory Pardlo and Yusef Kourmankyan, NYC, NY (Oct.)
- Rona Jaffe Writers' Foundation Reading, NYC, NY (Sept.)
- Louis Untermeyer Poetry Scholar Reading, Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, Ripton, VT
- Literary Detroit, Signal Return, Detroit, MI
- Reading with Rickey Laurentiis and Ladan Osman, Literati Bookstore, Ann Arbor, MI
- Reading with Tarfia Faizullah and Tamar Boyadjian, Literati Bookstore, Ann Arbor, MI
- Off-Site Reading with The Offing, AWP Los Angeles

2014

- Write-A-House, MOCAD, Detroit, MI
- Cannes Lions Festival, Filmed Poem Screening, Cannes, France
- "Social Justice and Art: Unconventional Alumni in Profile" Panel, Univ. of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
- "Poet, Citizen, Artist, Process," Michigan Literary Network Radio, Detroit, MI
- "All My Pretty Ones" Reading Tour, Denver, Salt Lake City, Omaha, Columbus
- Literary Detroit: Signal Return, Detroit, MI

2013

- Robert Hayden Centennial, Ann Arbor, MI
- “Season of the Witch” Reading Tour with Rachel McKibbens, San Francisco, Berkeley, Portland, Seattle
- Zell Fellow 3rd-Year Reading, Literati Bookstore, Ann Arbor, MI
- Oakland Community College Literary Festival, Auburn Hills, MI
- Zell Fellow 2nd-Year Reading, Helmut Stern Auditorium, Ann Arbor, MI

2012

- Skazat, Sweetwaters, Ann Arbor, MI
- Writing Wrongs, Columbus, OH
- Seattle Poetry Series, Town Hall, Seattle, WA
- Zell Fellow 1st-year Reading, Ann Arbor, MI

2010 and earlier

- Contemporary Art Institute of Detroit, ART/Work Exhibit
- National Organization of Women, Women's Equality Day
- Detroit Women's Economic Council, Detroit, MI
- Women of the World Poetry Slam, Columbus, OH
- Oakland County Community College, Department of English Literature Festival, Auburn Hills, MI
- Go! Comedy Ferndale Improv Show, Royal Oak, MI
- Seattle Poetry Series, Seattle WA
- United Nations Association Greater Detroit, Detroit MI
- Writing Wrongs Poetry Series, Columbus, OH
- Central United Methodist Poetry Show, Detroit, MI
- National Congress of Negro Women Anniversary, Detroit MI
- Cantab Poetry Series, Boston, MA
- Scarab Club, Springfed Literary Series, Detroit, MI
- Red Comma Cafe presents The ShapeShifters, Birmingham, MI
- University of Michigan Artist Exhibit, Ann Arbor, MI
- Women of the World Poetry Slam, Detroit, MI
- Oakland County Community College, Dept. of English LitOut Loud Series
- Vancouver Poetry Series, Vancouver, BC
- Drake Underground, Toronto, ON
- Nuyorican Poetry Cafe, New York, NY
- The Last Poets, Ann Arbor, MI
- Boll Family YMCA Poetry Show, Detroit, MI
- Michigan State University, Lansing, MI
- National StopMax Conference, Philadelphia, PA
- Women of the World Poetry Slam, Detroit, MI
- Ann Arbor Public Schools, Ann Arbor MI
- The Filmore (Former State Theatre) Detroit, MI
- National Public Radio, Detroit, MI
- Max M. Fisher Music Theatre, Detroit, MI
- Music Hall, Detroit, MI
- Zoae Arts Series, Bowery Poetry Club, NY, NY

READING TOURS

2014

- “All My Pretty Ones” with Rachel McKibbens| Las Vegas | Denver | Omaha | Columbus

2013

- “Season of the Witch” with Rachel McKibbens| San Fran | Oakland | Berkeley | Portland | Seattle

Service

Bryn Mawr College Committee on Academic Priorities

11/2024 - 2028

- Serve on Bryn Mawr College's Committee on Academic Priorities, a committee of the first kind
- Contribute to the recommendation of academic priorities, including staffing allocations and resource management

Philadelphia Speaker's Bureau

01/2023 - Present

Philadelphia Poet Laureate Project

- Spearheaded the Philadelphia Poet Laureate Project's Speaker's Bureau, promoting the motto "Get a Gig, Give a Gig" to encourage equitable literary contributions among writers.
- Developed a vision for a system to streamline the sharing of work-related opportunities, fostering collaboration and support within the writing community.
- Advocated for an equity-based model that values literary contributions equally, regardless of a writer's publication history, to inspire similar initiatives.
- Promoted a spirit of brotherly love and mutual support among writers, aligning with the cultural ethos of Philadelphia.
- Ensured clear and consistent communication of the project's goals and processes, avoiding jargon to make the initiative accessible to all writers.
- Consistently achieved project milestones, contributing to the growth and recognition of the Philadelphia Poet Laureate Project within the community.

Bryn Mawr College Dialogue Project

06/2022 - Present

Inaugural Planning Committee, Strategist, and Presenter

- Consulted on the development and implementation of the Bryn Mawr College Dialogue Project, fostering a community environment that enhanced active listening, critical thinking, and open exchange among students, faculty, and staff.
- Collaborated with key strategists to design a comprehensive program structure, ensuring alignment with the college's educational goals and community-building objectives.
- Led presentations and workshops that facilitated dialogue and engagement.

Interlocutor for the Free Library of Philadelphia

05/2022 - Present

Philadelphia Poet Laureate Service

- Served as an interlocutor for the Free Library of Philadelphia, facilitating engaging discussions with renowned contemporary writers.
- Conducted thorough research on authors' works to prepare insightful and thought-provoking questions for interviews.
- Developed strong relationships with authors and the Free Library of Philadelphia, contributing to the library's reputation as a premier literary venue.
- Promoted literary events through various channels, increasing public awareness and participation.
- Demonstrated excellent communication and interpersonal skills, fostering a welcoming and intellectually stimulating environment.
- Maintained a high standard of professionalism and represented Bryn Mawr College

Bryn Mawr College and the Posse Foundation

07/2021 - 05/2025

Posse Foundation Mentor

- Officially mentored 10 Bryn Mawr freshmen from diverse disciplines and backgrounds for two years, fostering their academic and personal growth.
- Developed personalized mentorship plans tailored to each student's unique needs, resulting in improved academic performance and increased confidence.
- Facilitated regular group sessions and one-on-one meetings, creating a supportive environment that encouraged open communication and collaboration.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided guidance on academic and career planning, helping students set and achieve their goals effectively. • Committed to ongoing unofficial mentorship through their senior year, demonstrating dedication to their long-term success. | |
| Tenure Reviewer, Goucher College | 02/2024 - 05/2024 |
| Bryn Mawr College Africana Studies Search Committee | 12/2022 - 05/2023 |
| Active member during Africana Studies search for open rank position | |
| Virtue and Labor | 03/2021 - Present |
| Virtue and Labor Refuge in Sicily | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spearhead the development of an artistic refuge in Troina, Sicily, dedicated to supporting globally persecuted writers. • Collaborate with local and international organizations to establish a safe and nurturing environment for creative expression. • Secured funding and resources necessary for the successful operation and sustainability of the refuge. | |
| Independent Project | 09/2019 - 05/2023 |
| Non-MFA Clearinghouse: A De-Colonization Project | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Created the Non-MFA Clearinghouse: A De-Colonization Project, providing essential craft resources to individuals in the writing community unable to access MFA programs due to hardship or life stage. • Developed an online platform that facilitated the dissemination of writing resources, reaching a diverse audience and fostering inclusivity within the writing community. | |
| Bryn Mawr College | 2017 - Present |
| Mentor | |
| Unofficially mentor various students across the College in professional and personal development, particularly students of color. | |
| Bryn Mawr College Partnership for Equity and Antiracism | 01/2021 - 12/2022 |
| Co-Convener | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Served as Co-Convener for the Bryn Mawr College Partnership for Equity and Antiracism, appointed by the president to lead initiatives. • Collaborated with college leadership to develop and implement strategies promoting equity and antiracism across the campus community. • Facilitated discussions and workshops aimed at raising awareness and fostering an inclusive environment. | |
| Community Leaders | 01/2019 - 05/2019 |
| Modern Lit Community Workshops | |
| Offered free poetry workshops held at the Art Sanctuary and the Paul Robeson House in Philadelphia | |
| Bryn Mawr College | 2019 - 2020 |
| Flexner Lecture Series | |
| Provided resources to the committee regarding the Flexner resident for 20-21 season | |
| Bryn Mawr College | 2019 - 2020 |
| Diversity and Inclusion Steering Committee | |

Planned faculty-student diversity programming with Provost's office

Bryn Mawr College

2019 - 2020

Breaking Barriers Mentor

Provided mentorship for first-generation college student

Write A House

2015 - 2017

Executive Board Member

Served in executive advisory role for the first non-profit in Detroit that seeks to offer free houses to writers through a national competitive process.

InsideOUT Arts Organizations

2014 - 2016

Executive Board Member

Defined and evaluated long-term strategies for Detroit's largest literary arts nonprofit.