

## CURRICULUM VITAE

### ACADEMIC POSITIONS:

Professor of English, Prince George's Community College, Largo, MD, 2021-present  
Graduate Expository Writing Coordinator, School of Education, Howard University,  
Washington, D.C., 2020-2021  
Professional-Track Faculty, University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 2019-2021  
Associate Professor of English (tenured), Dutchess Community College, Poughkeepsie, NY,  
2016-2019  
Assistant Professor of English, Dutchess Community College, Poughkeepsie, NY, 2012- 2016  
Visiting Instructor of English, Dutchess Community College, Poughkeepsie, NY, 2011-2012  
Adjunct Professor, Dutchess Community College, Poughkeepsie, NY, 2010-2011  
Instructor, Binghamton University, State University of New York, Binghamton, NY, 2009  
Assistant Professor of English (tenured), Olive-Harvey Community College, Chicago, IL, 2002-  
2006  
Instructor of English, Olive-Harvey Community College, Chicago, IL, 1999-2002

### EDUCATION:

Ph.D., English, Binghamton University, State University of New York, Binghamton, NY

Dissertation Title: *Six Months Come and Gone* (a novel)  
Dissertation Advisor: John Vernon, Ph.D. (Emeritus Faculty, Binghamton University)

Critical Fields:      Movement and Migration in Twentieth Century African American  
                            Fiction  
                            Examiner: Jennifer Stoever, Ph.D. (Binghamton University)

Imagination as Safe Space in African Diasporic Women's Fiction  
Examiner: Donette Francis, Ph.D. (University of Miami)

M.F.A., Creative Writing/Fiction, Chicago State University, Chicago, IL  
Thesis Advisor: Sandra Jackson-Opoku

M.A., English, Loyola University Chicago, Chicago, IL  
Course Completed: Teaching College Composition

B.A., English, Howard University, Washington, D.C.  
Minor: Secondary Education; Honors: Magna Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa

### TEACHING INTERESTS:

Creative Writing: Fiction  
Young Adult Literature  
Twentieth Century African American Literature  
Freshman Composition/Academic Writing

**COURSES TAUGHT:****Howard University**Spring 2021

Graduate Writing Course (1 Credit/Independent Study)

**University of Maryland at College Park**Spring 2021

English 101, Academic Writing  
English 352, Intermediate Fiction Writing

Fall 2020

English 101, Academic Writing

Spring 2020  
English 317, African American Literature  
English 352, Intermediate Fiction WorkshopFall 2019

English 101, Academic Writing  
English 352, Intermediate Fiction Workshop

**Dutchess Community College**

English 101 and English 102, First and Second Semester Freshman Composition  
English 209, Creative Writing: Fiction  
English 224, African American Literature  
English 263, Contemporary American Literature  
English 227, Films and Literature

**Binghamton University, State University of New York**

English 283, African American Literature in the Age of Obama  
CW 250, Fundamentals of Creative Writing

**Olive-Harvey Community College**

English 099 and 125, Developmental Reading  
English 101 and English 102, First and Second Semester Freshman Composition  
English 200, Introduction to Women's Literature  
English 202, African American Literature

**OTHER ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT:**

Co-instructor, "Writing Race in the U.S.: An Exploration of African American Literature"  
Exploring Transfer Program, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY, Summer 2016 and  
Summer 2015

Writing Tutor, Kennedy-King Community College, Chicago, IL, Summer 1999  
Graduate Tutor, Writing Center, Loyola University Chicago, Chicago, IL, Spring 1999

### **CONFERENCE PAPER PRESENTATIONS:**

"Work, Work, Work, Work, Work": Craft and Teaching as People of Color. AWP Conference, March 2019

"Imagination and Memory: A Reading of Danticat's "Children of the Sea" and *Brother I'm Dying*" NEMLA Conference, Toronto, CA, May 2015

"Imagination as Safe Space: A Reading of Morrison's *The Bluest Eye* and Marshall's *Brownstones Brown Girl*, CEA Conference, Indianapolis, IN, April 2015

"The Dew Breaker in the City: Refashioning Haitian Identities in Edwidge Danticat's *The Dew Breaker*" 24<sup>th</sup> Annual MELUS Conference, University of Scranton, Scranton, PA, Apr. 2010

"Book Publishing, Filmmaking, and the Bottom Line: The Death of African American Literary Fiction," 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Black Studies Conference, Olive-Harvey Community College, Apr. 2006

### **PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE:**

Convener, Renee Watson Author Visit and Discussion, Dutchess Community College, 2019

Chairperson, Liberal Arts and Humanities Program Committee, English and Humanities Department, Dutchess Community College, 2018-2019

Chairperson, Creative Writing Program Committee, English and Humanities Department, Dutchess Community College, 2018-2019

Academic Search Committee Member, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, Dutchess Community College, 2018

President's Advisory Council Member, Diversity Council, Dutchess Community College, 2017-Present

Academic Search Committee Member, English and Humanities Faculty, Dutchess Community College, 2017

Convener, Tayari Jones Author Visit and Discussion, Dutchess Community College, 2016

Scholarship Committee Member, Dutchess Community College, 2011-2019

Fiction Judge, The Writing Center Writing Contest, Dutchess Community College, 2011-2019

Reader, *Tidal Basin Review Literary Journal*, 2010

Reader, *Harpur Palate Literary Journal*, 2006

English/Speech Department Writing Contest, Coordinator, Olive-Harvey Community College, 2006

Fiction Editor, *WarpLand: A Journal of Black Literature and Ideas* 10.2 (2004)

### **HONORS AND AWARDS:**

Winner, *Tupelo Quarterly* Prose Open Prize, 2021

The Community of Writers Fiction Workshop, MAAT Scholarship, 2021  
Finalist, Crystal Wilkinson Creative Writing Prize, 2021  
Tin House Young Adult Fiction Workshop Scholarship, 2021  
Best Novel Pitch of Session, Kweli Color of Children's Conference, 2019  
The Highlights Foundation Scholarship, Whole Novel Workshop for Middle Grade and Young Adult Fiction, 2018  
SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching, 2017  
Dutchess County Chamber of Commerce Forty Under 40 Shaker Award, 2016  
Best Paper of Session, "Imagination as Safe Space: A Reading of Morrison's *The Bluest Eye* and Marshall's *Brownstones Brown Girl*," delivered at CEA Conference, Indianapolis, IN, April 2015

## **PUBLICATIONS:**

### Criticism:

"Akosua Busia," *Encyclopedia of African American Literature*. Eds. Hans Lostrom and David Macey, Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 2005. 220-21.  
"Tina McElroy Ansa," *Encyclopedia of African American Literature*. Eds. Hans Lostrom and David Macey, Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 2005. 38-39.  
"Sonia Sanchez," *Encyclopedia of African American Literature*. Eds. Hans Lostrom and David Macey, Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 2005. 1429-31.  
"Alice Walker," *Encyclopedia of African American Literature*. Eds. Hans Lostrom and David Macey, Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 2005. 1672-75.  
"The Blurred Boundaries of Gender: Alice Walker's Womanist Vision" *WarpLand: A Journal of Black Literature and Ideas* 9.2 (2003): 123-32.

### Fiction:

"America the Beautiful," *Tupelo Quarterly*, forthcoming Summer 2021.  
"Sweet Home Chicago," *Obsidian: Literature & Arts in the African Diaspora*, forthcoming Summer 2021  
"The Burning," *The Missouri Review* (Spring 2021): 100-115.  
"The Lovers," *Reverie: Midwest African American Literature* v. 3 (Spring/ Summer 2009): 55-61.

### Poetry:

"The Marriage" *WarpLand: A Journal of Black Literature and Ideas* 12.1 (2005): 154.

## **CURRENT FICTION PROJECTS:**

*The Second Coming of Jerusalem Wright*, young adult novel on submission  
*As It Should Be*, young adult novel-in-progress

## **CREATIVE PANEL PRESENTATIONS/PUBLIC READINGS:**

Tin House Young Adult Workshop (Virtual), Fiction Reader, excerpt from *The Second Coming of Jerusalem Wright*, February 2021

Highlights Foundation Whole Novel YA Workshop, Fiction Reader, excerpt from *The Second Coming of Jerusalem Wright*, Milanville, PA, August 2018  
English and Humanities Department Reading, Fiction Reader, "Akwaaba," Dutchess Community College, Poughkeepsie, NY, May 2014,  
English and Humanities Department Reading, Fiction Reader, "The Open Book" Dutchess Community College, Poughkeepsie, NY, May 2012  
Hurston/Wright Writers Week, Fiction Reader, excerpt from *Six Months Come and Gone*, Howard University, Washington, D.C., August 2010  
Graduate Fiction Panel, Fiction Reader, "The Cobbler," Writing by Degrees National Graduate Creative Writing Conference, The Bundy Mansion, Binghamton, NY, Sept. 2008  
Graduate Reading Series, Fiction Reader, "The Lovers," Binghamton University, Nov. 2006  
"Strategies for Teaching Creative Writing" Panel Moderator, 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Gwendolyn Brooks Writers Conference, Chicago State University, Oct. 2004

#### **FICTION WRITING WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION:**

The Community of Writers Virtual Workshop for Young Adult Fiction, July 2021  
Tin House Young Adult Fiction Virtual Workshop, February 2021, Workshop Mentor: Yamile Saied Mendez  
The Highlights Foundation Whole Novel Workshop for Middle Grade and Young Adult Fiction, Milanville, PA, August 2018, Workshop Mentor: A.M. Jenkins  
Hurston/ Wright Foundation: A World of Black Writers, Writers Week, Howard University, Washington, D.C., August 2010, Workshop Mentor: Tayari Jones

#### **PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP:**

National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE)  
The Association of Writers and Writing Programs (AWP)  
Society of Children's Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI)  
Modern Language Association (MLA)  
Phi Beta Kappa National Honor Society

#### **PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES:**

Joseph Allen, Professor of English, Department of English and Humanities, Dutchess Community College  
Tina Iraca, Associate Professor of English, Department of English and Humanities, Dutchess Community College  
Wazir Jefferson, Chief Diversity Officer, Ulster County