

THE 16TH
NATIONAL BLACK WRITERS CONFERENCE



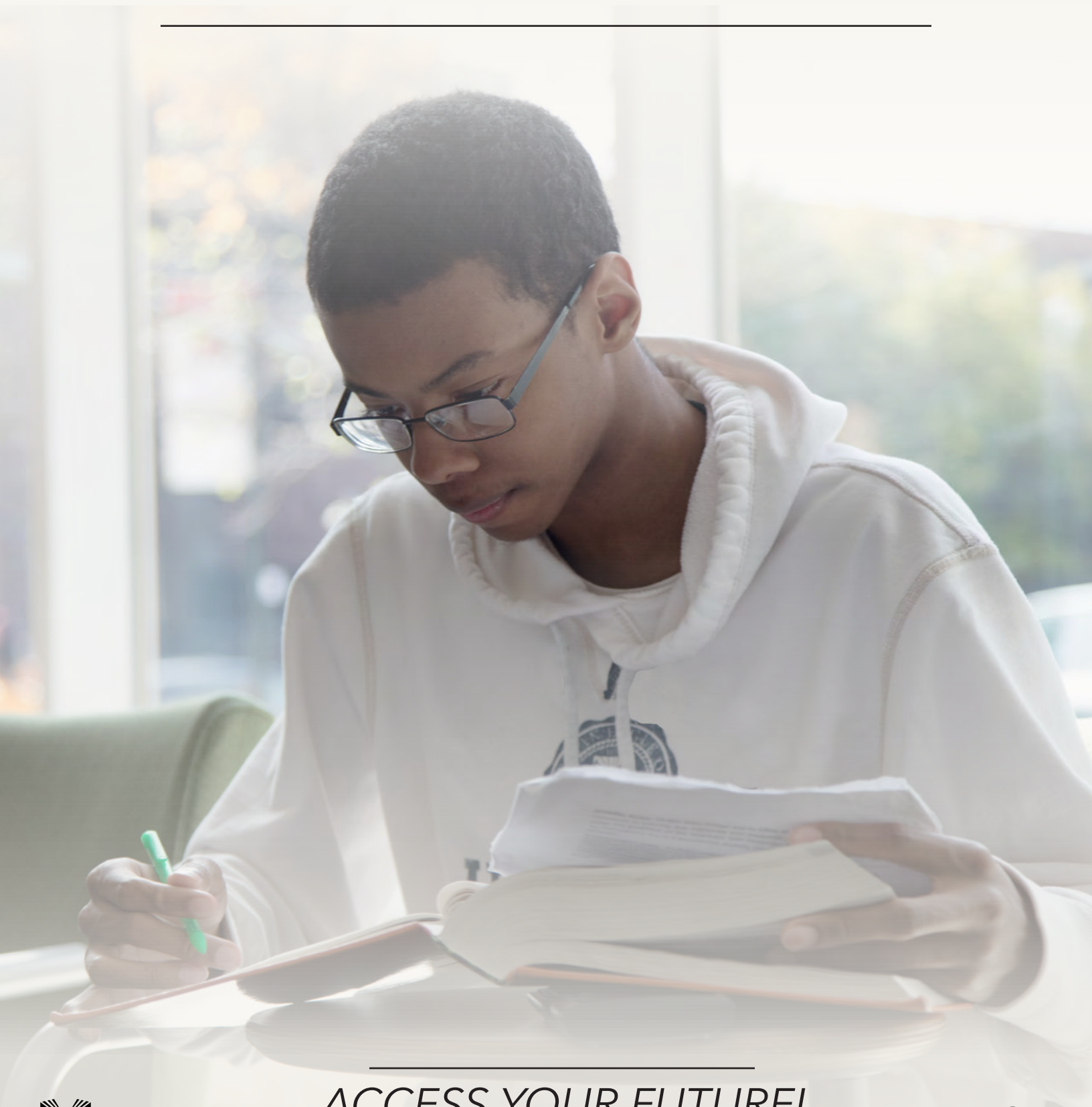
the beautiful struggle

Black Writers Lighting the Way

March 30 thru
April 2, 2022



**Dr. Patricia Ramsey and the Medgar Evers College Family
Congratulate the Center for Black Literature
on the occasion of the
16th National Black Writers Conference**



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MORE ABOUT OUR DEGREE PROGRAMS.**





Dear Conference Participants:

It is with great pride that we welcome you to the 16th National Black Writer Conference: *The Beautiful Struggle, Black Writers Lighting the Way*, hosted by the Center for Black Literature of Medgar Evers College. We celebrate this extraordinary gathering of professional and student writers, scholars, and poets who continue to *light the way*.

Medgar Evers College, a College birthed out of community advocacy with social justice in its DNA, is dedicated to creating opportunities for all who connect with us in the aspiration of a brighter future. The National Black Writers Conference provides such an opportunity.

A hearty congratulations to the honorees, Eddie Glaude Jr., Tracy K. Smith, Jacqueline Woodson, and Herb Boyd for their outstanding contributions and for *lighting the way!* Kudos to the Center for Black Literature for recognizing their talents and contributions.

In closing, I'd like to thank Dr. Brenda Greene for the amazing work that she and her team have done in planning the 16th National Black Writers Conference and for preserving the history of the conference, at Medgar Evers College.

Best,

Patricia Ramsey, Ph.D.
President

**The Community Council
For Medgar Evers College, Inc.**

Salutes

*The Center for Black Literature
at Medgar Evers College, CUNY*

upon the occasion of their

*16th National Black Writers Conference
The Beautiful Struggle: Black Writers
Lighting the Way*

And, we congratulate this year's honorees

*Herb Boyd, Eddie S. Glaude Jr.,
Tracy K. Smith, and Jacqueline Woodson*

Over 50 years of Service to the College and the Community





Dear Conference Attendees:

Welcome to the 16th National Black Writers Conference: **“The Beautiful Struggle: Black Writers Lighting the Way.”** As we grapple with the challenges we face due to a public health pandemic, racial injustice, housing discrimination, a flawed criminal justice system, and a depressed economy, we can look to our writers for sustenance. Black writers in this country have a long history of overcoming obstacles and engaging in the struggle for the freedom to live as citizens whose civil and human rights are respected and honored. Through their novels, poetry, fiction, memoirs, scholarship, and essays, they have documented their experiences of what it means to live as a Black person in a society that is socially constructed by race.

The 16th NBWC will enable you, our writers, scholars, literary professionals, students, and the public, to gather **virtually** over four days and to participate in intellectually and stimulating roundtable discussions on literature and film, listen to poetry readings, engage in conversations with scholars, and attend “talkshops” on the craft of writing and publishing. These discussions will examine (1) the social and political responsibility of the Black writer, (2) how race and racism shape the texts of Black writers, (3) the role of the Black writer in nurturing and healing the community, (4) how gender, sexuality, and feminism have changed the master narrative, (5) how historical texts inform contemporary Black literature, and (6) Afrofuturism and the Black writer. More than 60 writers, scholars, and literary professionals will participate in the program over the four days.

You will also have an opportunity to hear reflections from our Keynote Speaker, **Dr. Haki Madhubuti**, on Wednesday, March 30 at 6:30 pm; from our Conference Honorees: **Herb Boyd, Tracy K. Smith, and Jacqueline Woodson** at the Keynote Summit on Friday, April 1 at 7:00 pm; and from all of our honorees **Herb Boyd, Dr. Eddie S. Glaude Jr., Tracy K. Smith, Jacqueline Woodson, and Nana Camille Yarbrough** at the Awards and Tribute Program on Saturday, April 2 at 7:00 pm.

Founded at Medgar Evers College in 1986, the National Black Writers Conference is the vision of the late John Oliver Killens and is a major program of the Center for Black Literature. This public gathering has consistently attracted an array of renowned writers and scholars, including Amiri Baraka, Gwendolyn Brooks, Edwidge Danticat, Michael Eric Dyson, Charles Johnson, Paule Marshall, Haki Madhubuti, Walter Mosley, David Levering Lewis, Toni Morrison, Ishmael Reed, Sonia Sanchez, Quincy Troupe, Alice Walker, Derek Walcott, John Edgar Wideman, John A. Williams, and Colson Whitehead among many others. Each Conference is built on the previous one, attracting a national and international audience. C-SPAN Book TV, national and local television programs, and radio shows have covered the Conference.

I encourage you to purchase books by our Conference writers, scholars, and poets online at the African American Literature Book Club, our 16th NBWC vendor: <http://www.aalbc.com/cbl/>. All book sales support our writers, the Center for Black Literature, and the Black-owned book seller, AALBC.com.

Thank you for supporting our writers and for participating in this historic event.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brenda M. Greene".

Brenda M. Greene, PhD.
National Black Writers Conference Director
Founder and Executive Director
Center for Black Literature, MEC



THIRD WORLD PRESS FOUNDATION

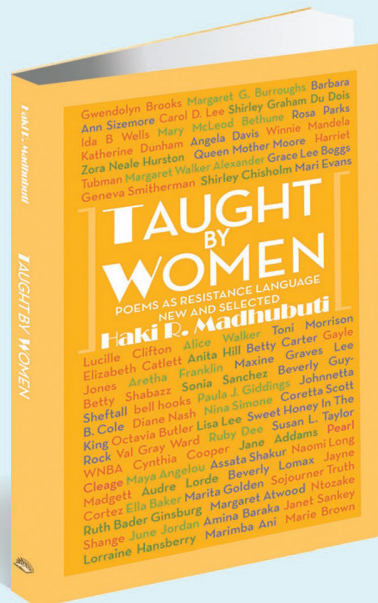
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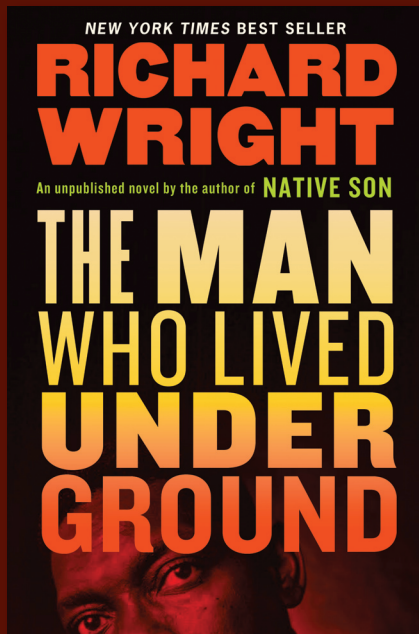
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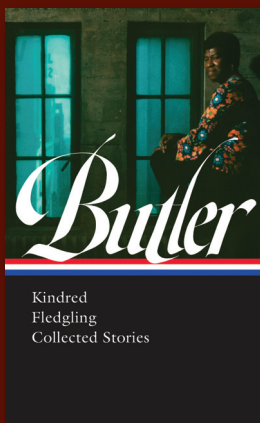
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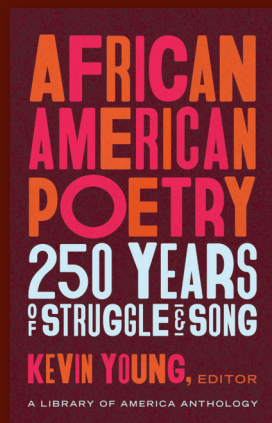
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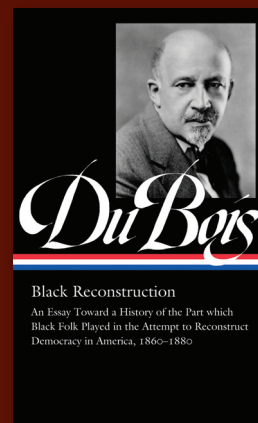
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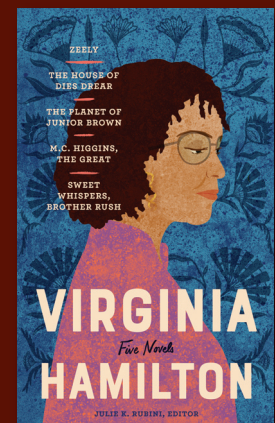
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Wednesday, March 30 - Saturday, April 2, 2022 (All Virtual)

The 16th National Black Writers Conference (NBWC2022) will be a virtual public gathering of writers, readers, scholars, literary professionals, students, and people across the United States and from a larger international community of artists and literature lovers. As a four-day online event, NBWC2022 will feature interactive roundtable discussions, readings, and much more, all created to broaden the public's appreciation of Black literature and Black life.

This year's theme is "The Beautiful Struggle: Black Writers Lighting the Way." Using this theme, Conference participants will examine the ways that texts by Black writers document struggle and persistence and light the ways for overcoming obstacles and surviving in a racially constructed

society. Also, attendees will have an opportunity to participate in "talkshops" where they can gain information on the craft of writing and on the publishing strategies.

At each Conference, the Center selects writers and artists who are exemplars of the Center's mission and values. This year's honorees are **HERB BOYD, DR. EDDIE S. GLAUDE JR., TRACY K. SMITH,** and **JACQUELINE WOODSON. NANA CAMILLE YARBROUGH** will receive the Lifetime Achievement Award for the Literary and Performing Arts.

Participant bios, program information, registration details, and much more are housed online at www.CenterForBlackLiterature.org.

Free NBWC2022 Pre-Conference Events

**Thursday,
March 17**

6:30 pm - 8 pm ET

John Oliver Killens Reading Series: African Diasporic Conversations and Readings

KIA CORTHRON, *Moon and the Mars* (Seven Stories Press, 2021); LOUIS EDWARDS, *Ramadan Ramsey* (Amistad, 2021); COURTIA NEWLAND, *A River Called Time* (Akashic Books, 2021), and NANA NKWETI, *Walking on Cowrie Shells* (Graywolf Press, 2021) are the featured guest writers. Collectively, our esteemed guests will share how their characters and narratives explore and embody the themes of family and relationships of the African diaspora, as well as the themes of resilience and triumph.

**Friday,
March 25**

6:00 pm - 8 pm ET

NBWC2022 Poetry Slam Sponsor: Green Earth Poets Café Hosts: Nicole Najmah Abraham (Aka Najmah53) And Tarishi "Midnight" Shuler

Established in 2013, the Green Earth Poets Café exists to promote the performing arts as well to instill self-confidence and leadership skills among young people in New York City who live in economically challenged areas. Skilled poets from the Green Earth Poets Café, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, have been hosting this slam for several years and they always bring youthful, artful energy to each conference.

Novice and accomplished poets alike are encouraged to sign up and join this healthy competition among wordsmiths. Poets must be 16 years or older to compete. Cash prizes are awarded each year: First prize: \$125; second prize: \$75; and third prize: \$50. Green Earth Poets Café was founded by CURTIS HARRIS, a proud graduate of Medgar Evers College.

**Monday,
March 28**

6:30 pm - 8 pm ET

Medgar Evers College's Women's HerStory Month Book Discussion: "Ain't I A Woman" by bell hooks

The community is invited to read bell hooks' culture-defining book *Ain't I A Woman* and then participate in an enriching discussion. The interactive discussion will be co-led by DR. BRENDA M. GREENE, Founder and Executive Director, Center for Black Literature at Medgar Evers College, CUNY; NATANYA DUNCAN, Director of Africana Studies at Queens College, CUNY; and DONNA HILL, Assistant Professor of Professional Writing at Medgar Evers College, CUNY.

NBWC2022 Conference Events

Day One:
Wednesday,
March 30
6:30 pm – 8 pm ET

Free Community Day

Evening Host: NOVELLA FORD, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture
Opening Program: “The Beautiful Struggle: A Conversation”
Opening Libation: Chief Baba Neil Clarke | Opening Selection: Nikky Finney
Opening Keynote: Dr. Haki R. Madhubuti In Conversation With Dr. Keith Gilyard
Moderator: Dr. Joanne Gabbin

During the Opening Keynote for the 16th National Black Writers Conference, **Dr. Haki R. Madhubuti** and **Dr. Keith Gilyard** will engage in conversation on the Conference theme. **Dr. Joanne Gabbin** will moderate the conversation. The distinguished guests will share personal accounts of their achievements and reflect on the struggles Black writers have faced over the years. Additionally, they will share their perspectives on what lies ahead for Black literature, offer their perspectives on institution building, and reflect on the world of publishing.

Dr. Madhubuti is an author, educator, poet, and publisher of Third World Press. Dr. Gilyard is an author and is the Edwin Erle Sparks Professor of English and African American Studies at Penn State. Dr. Gabbin is a poet, scholar, and executive director of the Furious Flower Poetry Center. **Nikky Finney**, National Book Award-winning poet and professor, will open the program.

Day Two:
Thursday,
March 31
11 am – 3 pm ET

Host: WALLACE L. FORD, Medgar Evers College, CUNY
Scholarly Presentations on the Conference Theme, *The Beautiful Struggle: Black Writers Lighting the Way*

Transformative Power Reflected in the Works of Jacqueline Woodson
11 AM – 11:45 PM ET
Donna Hill, Moderator

- Aileen A. Johnson, “Jacqueline Woodson: From Dreaming to Meaning, Literature of Resistance, Resilience, and Rejoicing”
- Luvon Roberson, “We Code and We Transmute: A Literary Assay of Jacqueline Woodson’s *This Is the Rope: A Story from the Great Migration*”

Voices Speaking Truth in Black Literature
12 PM – 1:15 PM ET
Karen Odate, Moderator

- Kim Williams-Pulfer and Khadijah Ali-Coleman, “What Is Our Inheritance? Tracing the Evolution of Black Writers through the Work of The Hurston/Wright Foundation”
- Shawn Anthony Christian, “Eddie Glaude Jr., James Baldwin, and a Message for Black America”
- Angelle M. Jones, “The Beautiful Struggle of the Resilient Black Writer”

Cross-Cultural Exploration of Black Literature
1:30 PM – 3 PM ET
Wallace L. Ford, Moderator

- Mary Romney-Schaab, “A West Indian in the Nazi Era: Discovering Resilience through Oral History”
- Lisa Wilson, “The Faithful Imaginary in Black Literature Aesthetics”
- Hermina Marcellin, “The Audacity of a Hybrid Resistance in The Poetry of Derek Walcott, 1948-2013”

NBWC2022 Conference Events

**Day Two:
Thursday,
March 31
3:30 pm – 5 pm ET**

**Readings from Our Elders: “Reflections of the Year 2020”
Host: DIANE RICHARDS, The Harlem Writers Guild**

Participants of the Dr. Edith Rock Writing Workshop for Elders will share their writing related to the COVID-19 pandemic; the deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and others; and the January 6th insurrection at the U.S. Capitol.
Curator: EISA ULEN RICHARDSON, Workshop Leader, Center for Black Literature

6:30 pm – 7:30 pm ET

**NBWC Poetry Cafe: “A Tribute to Poet Kamilah Aisha Moon”
Co-Presenter: BROOKLYN PUBLIC LIBRARY
Welcome and Introductions: DARREL ALEJANDRO HOLNES
and JOANNA SIT**

The 10th NBWC Poetry Café will pay tribute to the beloved poet and educator **KAMILAH AISHA MOON**, who passed in September 2021. Medgar Evers College students **Malik Windsor** and **Malik Brizan-Reed** will open the program. Featured poets for this special event include **Ama Codjoe, Aracelis Girmay, Rachel Eliza Griffiths, Tyehimba Jess, Nina Angela Mercer,** and **John Murillo.**

6 pm – 8 pm ET

**A Film Series and Discussion:
Love Supreme: A Celebration of Cinema, Literature, and Relationships
Host: PATRICK OLIVER, Say It Loud! Readers & Writers
Co-Presenters: African Voices/Reel Sisters of the Diaspora Film Festival and
Lecture Series (CAROLYN BUTTS, founder) and ImageNation Film Festival
Inc. (MOIKGANSTI KGAMA, founder)**

In 2022, **ImageNation Film Festival Inc.** (ImageNation) and **Reel Sisters of the Diaspora Film Festival & Lecture Series** (Reel Sisters) celebrate 25 years of existence! ImageNation and Reel Sisters proudly join forces to present, exclusively for NBWC2022, a special film series and discussion that features short films from Butts’s and Kgama’s respective archives as well as from the landscape of contemporary films. Rev. Malika Lee Whitney, host and producer of WBAI Radio’s *Untitled*, will moderate the discussion.
Moderator: REV. MALIKA LEE WHITNEY

NBWC2022 Conference Events

**Day Three:
Friday,
April 1**

Host: LINDAMICHELLE BARON, York College, CUNY

**1 pm – 2:30 pm ET

Roundtable**

“Between the World & Me: The Social Responsibility of the Black Writer”

At the first National Black Writers Conference in 1986, Conference Director John Oliver Killens posed the question: “What then is the responsibility of the Black writer to the community?” Now, 36 years later, faced with challenges of a global health pandemic and widespread racial injustice, we ask ourselves again: “What are our responsibilities as harbingers of the truth?” Speakers will address the essential role Black writers play in creating literature that exemplifies issues that are crucial to our cultural survival.
Speakers: EDWIDGE DANTICAT, MARC LAMONT HILL, MORGAN JERKINS, and PENIEL E. JOSEPH
Moderator: MARK ANTHONY NEAL

NBWC2022 Conference Events

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| <p>3 pm – 4:30 pm ET</p> <p>Roundtable</p> | <p>“The Souls of Black Folk: Telling Our Stories”</p> <p>This roundtable’s title is taken from W. E. B. Du Bois’s landmark book <i>The Souls of Black Folks</i>. Speakers will discuss how their works speak to the experiences of Black people throughout the African diaspora. Using fiction, poetry, drama, and essay, writers will illustrate the complexity of the Black experience in literature.</p> <p>Speakers: JELANI COBB, MARLON JAMES, MAAZA MENGISTE, KHALIL GIBRAN MUHAMMAD, and DOLEN PERKINS-VALDEZ</p> <p>Moderator: ERICA BUDDINGTON</p> |
| <p>5 pm – 6:30 pm ET</p> <p>Roundtable</p> | <p>“Afrofuturism: Octavia Tried to Tell Us”</p> <p>Renowned speculative fiction author Octavia E. Butler leaves a legacy that represents cautionary and haunting tales that reflect the impact of race, spirituality, class, gender, climate change, and social unrest on society. These tales are represented in fantasy, horror, and science fiction. Speakers will discuss Butler’s legacy and how their own texts reflect these themes.</p> <p>Speakers: STEVEN BARNES, NATASHIA DEÓN, TANANARIVE DUE, and SHEREE RENÉE THOMAS</p> <p>Moderator: JEWELLE GOMEZ</p> |
| <p>7 pm – 8:30 pm ET</p> <p>Roundtable</p> | <p>Summit Keynote featuring NBWC2022 Honorees HERB BOYD, TRACY K. SMITH, and JACQUELINE WOODSON with Guest Speaker MARITA GOLDEN</p> <p>During the Summit Keynote, speakers will address the Conference theme and discuss how the works of artists, poets, storytellers, and writers document struggle and determination and light the way for overcoming obstacles and thriving in a racially constructed society.</p> <p>Moderator: FARAH JASMINE GRIFFIN</p> |

Interesting Facts to Know

- **This year’s Conference is part of the Center’s 20th anniversary.**
- **NBWC is All Virtual in 2022.**
- **City University of New York and Medgar Evers College students attend for FREE!**

NBWC2022 Conference Events

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| <p>Day Four: Saturday, April 2</p> | <p>Afternoon Host: MO BEASLEY, Beasley Media</p> <p>About the National Black Writers Conference Talkshops: Every year, the National Black Writers Conference Talkshops provide working tools and strategies for attendees who wish to advance in specific literary arenas. Facilitators bring their expertise and professional experience to the talkshop and create space for question-and-answer sessions. Like a workshop, the talkshops are designed to enhance the attendees’ writing projects and professional endeavors, but (unlike a workshop) attendees are not required to bring or share writing samples. This year’s talkshops focus on publishing, memoir, fiction, young adult literature, and poetry. All talkshops run concurrently.</p> |
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NBWC2022 Conference Events

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| <p>Day Four: Saturday, April 2 11 am - 12:30 pm ET</p> <p>Talkshops</p> | <p>PUBLISHING TALKSHOP Monique Patterson, VP, Editorial Director, Acquisitions. St. Martin's Press/McMillan Stacey Barney, Associate Publisher Penguin, Random House</p> <p>MEMOIR TALKSHOP Bernice L. McFadden, Author of <i>First Born Girls</i> Elle Johnson, Author of <i>The Officer's Daughter</i>; screenwriter of <i>Self Made: Inspired by the Life of Madame C.J. Walker</i></p> <p>FICTION TALKSHOP Brian W. Smith, Author and adjunct professor of creative writing Victor McGlothlin, Screenwriter and author of <i>My Father's Son</i></p> <p>YOUNG ADULT LITERATURE TALKSHOP Tony Medina, Poet and young adult author of <i>Follow-up Letters to Santa from Kids Who Never Got a Response</i></p> <p>POETRY TALKSHOP Keisha-Gaye Anderson, poet and author of <i>Gathering the Waters, Everything Is Necessary</i>, and <i>A Spell for Living</i></p> |
| <p>1 pm - 2:30 pm ET</p> <p>Roundtable</p> | <p>“Nobody Knows My Name: Race Relations in Black Literature” Roundtable: “Nobody Knows My Name: Race Relations in Black Literature” This roundtable is inspired by James Baldwin’s collection of essays, which addresses a range of topics including race relations, the relationship between the artist and society, and relationships between and among different gender identities. The speakers will explore these themes in the texts of writers who are highlighting social and cultural issues that affect the Black community and impact our overall society. Speakers: LADEE HUBBARD, IBRAM X. KENDI, KEVIN POWELL, and MAURICE CARLOS RUFFIN Moderator: KAREN HUNTER</p> |
| <p>3 pm - 4:30 pm ET</p> <p>Roundtable</p> | <p>“Making a Way Out of No Way: Healing the Community” Black writers, in their understanding of the continuous struggle for justice and the need to address aspirations and challenges that affect the Black community, have been a voice of strength and provided a balm for our souls. The speakers will discuss the transformative power of literature as an agent for both personal and social change. Speakers: MONICA COLEMAN, OBERY M. HENDRICKS JR., KIESE LAYMON, and MARTHA SOUTHGATE Moderator: THABITI LEWIS</p> |
| <p>5 pm - 6:30 pm ET</p> <p>Roundtable</p> | <p>“From the Margin to the Center: Gender, Sexuality, and Feminism in Black Literature” Many of the most compelling books of recent years have centered on themes that included Black womanhood, self-identity, and sexuality—topics that are ever-changing in their exploration within literary text. The speakers will shed light on the representation of gender, feminism, and sexuality as they are represented in the narratives of Black writers. Speakers: EMILY BERNARD, BRITTNEY COOPER, and NICOLE DENNIS-BENN Moderator: JERVETTE WARD</p> |

NBWC2022 Conference Events

Evening Host: LURIE DANIEL FAVORS, Center for Law and Social Justice and the Lurie Daniel Favors Show on SiriusXM's Urban View

Founded in 1986 at Medgar Evers College in Brooklyn, the National Black Writers Conference (NBWC) has a rich history of uplifting Black writers from all parts of the world. In recent years, the Center for Black Literature (founded in 2002 and the current presenters of NBWC) began selecting honorees whose life work would be celebrated at the four-day gathering. The Center selects writers and artists who are exemplars of the Black aesthetic and who reflect the vision and values of John Oliver Killens, the Conference's founder.

Honorees have included literary giants such as Amiri Baraka, Steve Barnes, Kamau Brathwaite, Margaret Burroughs, Carl Clay, Maryse Condé, Edwidge Danticat, Kwame Dawes, Tananarive Due, Michael Eric Dyson, Charles Johnson, Woodie King Jr., David Levering Lewis, Dominique Morisseau, Walter Mosley, Stanley Nelson, Eugene B. Redmond, Voza Rivers, Susan L. Taylor, Quincy Troupe, Derek Walcott, Richard Wesley, Colson Whitehead, and others. Honorary Chairs have included Rita Dove, Myrlie Evers-Williams, Toni Morrison, and others.

This year, **NANA CAMILLE YARBROUGH** will receive the Lifetime Achievement Award for the Literary and Performing Arts. And this year's Conference honorees are:

HERB BOYD (NBWC2022 Honoree, John Oliver Killens Award)

DR. EDDIE S. GLAUDE JR. (NBWC2022 Honoree, W. E. B. Du Bois Award)

TRACY K. SMITH (NBWC2022 Honoree, Gwendolyn Brooks Award)

JACQUELINE WOODSON (NBWC2022 Honoree, Toni Morrison Award)

NBWC2022 Post-Conference Event

**Thursday,
April 28
3 pm - 5 pm ET**

**Youth Program: "To Be Young, Gifted, and Black"
Co-Sponsor: PENS OF POWER**

THIRD WORLD PRESS FOUNDATION

Congratulates

HERB BOYD

as a recipient of the

John Oliver Killens

Lifetime Achievement

Award

16th National Black
Writers Conference

CENTER FOR BLACK LITERATURE



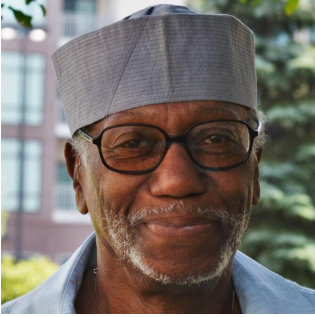
HARLEM
RENAISSANCE
REDUX

Herb Boyd, Author of *Harlem Renaissance Redux* gives this historical era a fresh reprise. He connects the period with other cultural and political developments and shows how the Harlem Renaissance is ineluctably bound with the Garvey movement supported with various writers' contributions.



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HERB BOYD

is an award-winning author and journalist who has published more than 20 books and countless articles for national magazines and newspapers. His most recent book is *Harlem Renaissance Redux*. His book *Black Detroit: A People's History*

of *Self-Determination* received several awards, including a finalist for an NAACP Image Award. Among his other books include *The Diary of Malcolm X: El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz, 1964*, by Third World Press, co-edited with Malcolm's daughter Ilyasah Shabazz, and *By Any Means Necessary: Malcolm X: Real, Not Reinvented*, co-

edited with Dr. Haki R. Madhubuti, Dr. Ron Daniels, and Dr. Maulana Karenga. His 1995 book *Brotherman: The Odyssey of Black Men in America—An Anthology*, co-edited with Robert Allen of the *Black Scholar* journal, won the American Book Award for Nonfiction.

In 2006, Boyd worked with world music composer Yusef Lateef on his autobiography *The Gentle Giant*, which was published by Morton Books of New Jersey. In 2008, he published *Baldwin's Harlem: A Biography of James Baldwin*. He is currently working with filmmaker Keith Beauchamp on several projects. Boyd has been inducted into the Literary Hall of Fame for Writers of African Descent, the Madison Square Garden Hall of Fame as a journalist, and the National Association of Black Journalists Hall of Fame. Boyd teaches African American history and culture at the City College of New York in Harlem where he lives.



DR. EDDIE S. GLAUDE JR.

is the James S. McDonnell Distinguished University Professor and chair of the Department of African American Studies at Princeton University. He is the former president

of the American Academy of Religion, the largest professional organization of scholars of religion in the world. His books on religion and philosophy include *An Uncommon Faith: A Pragmatic Approach to the Study of African American Religion*, *African American Religion: A Very Short Introduction*, and *Exodus! Religion, Race and Nation in Early 19th Century Black America*, which was awarded the Modern Language Association's William Sanders Scarborough Book Prize. He is the author of two edited volumes, and many influential articles about religion for academic journals; and has also written for the likes of *The New York Times* and *Time* magazine.

Glaude is also the author of several important books including *Democracy in Black: How Race Still Enslaves the American Soul*, which has been described as "one of the most imaginative, daring books of the twenty-first century." His most recent book, *Begin Again: James Baldwin's America and Its Urgent Lessons for Our Own*, was released on June 30, 2020. Imani Perry describes the book as "precisely the witness we need for our treacherous times. Glaude is also a columnist for *Time* magazine and a regular contributor on MSNBC. In 2011, he delivered Harvard's W. E. B. Du Bois Lectures. In 2015, he was awarded an honorary doctorate from Colgate University, delivering commencement remarks titled "Turning Our Backs" that was recognized by *The New York Times* as one of the best commencement speeches of the year. He hails from Moss Point, Mississippi, a small town on the Gulf Coast, and is a graduate of Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia.

Penguin Random House congratulates

JACQUELINE WOODSON



recipient of the
TONI MORRISON AWARD
in recognition of her indelible
mark on the American
literary canon

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photo by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation





TRACY K. SMITH

is professor of English and of African and African American Studies Susan S. and Kenneth L. Wallach Professor at the Harvard Radcliffe Institute. Smith is a Pulitzer Prize-

winning poet, memoirist, editor, translator, and librettist. She served as the 22nd Poet Laureate of the United States from 2017 to 2019, during which time she spearheaded “American Conversations: Celebrating Poetry in Rural Communities” with the Library of Congress, launched the American Public Media podcast *The Slowdown*, and edited the anthology *American Journal: Fifty Poems for Our Time*.

Smith is the author of the poetry collections *Wade in the Water*, which was awarded the 2018 Anisfield-Wolf Book Award; *Life on Mars*, which won the 2012 Pulitzer Prize; *Duende*, winner of the 2006 James Laughlin Award of the Academy of American Poets; and *The Body’s Question*, which received the 2003 Cave Canem Prize. Her memoir *Ordinary Light* was a finalist for the 2015 National Book Award in Nonfiction. She is the co-translator (with Changtai Bi) of *My Name Will Grow Wide like a Tree: Selected Poems of Yi Lei*, which was a finalist for the 2021 Griffin International Poetry Prize. *Such Color: New and Selected Poems* was published in October 2021.

Among her other honors are the Academy Fellowship of the Academy of American Poets, the Harvard Arts Medal, the Columbia Medal for Excellence, a Smithsonian Ingenuity Award, and an Essence Literary Award. She is a Chancellor of the Academy of American Poets and a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

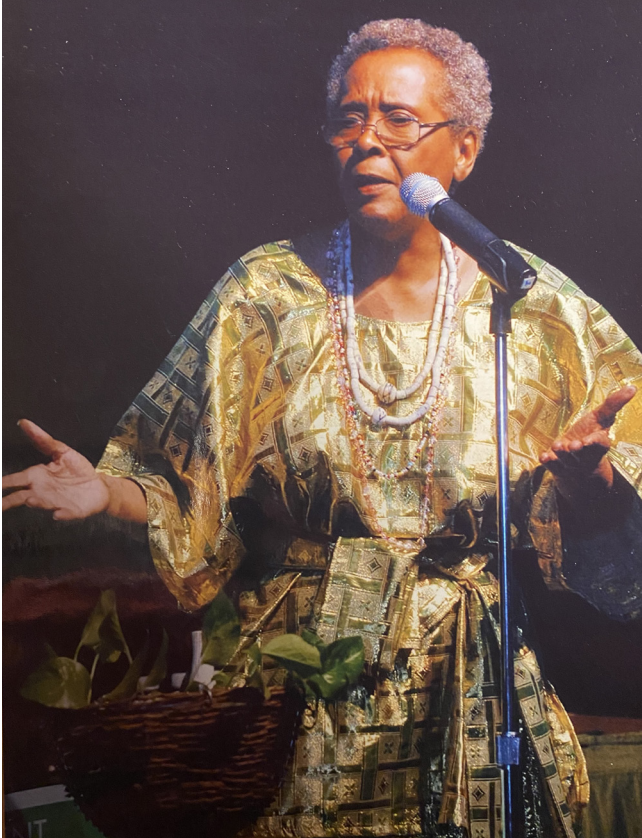


JACQUELINE WOODSON

is the recipient of a 2020 MacArthur Fellowship, the 2020 Hans Christian Andersen Award, the 2018 Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award, and the 2018 Children’s Literature

Legacy Award. She was the 2018–2019 National Ambassador for Young People’s Literature, and in 2015, she was named the Young People’s Poet Laureate by the Poetry Foundation. She received the 2014 National Book Award for her *New York Times* best-selling memoir, *Brown Girl Dreaming*, which also received the Coretta Scott King Award, a Newbery Honor, the NAACP Image Award, and a Sibert Honor. She also wrote the adult books *Red at*

the Bone, a *New York Times* bestseller, and *Another Brooklyn*, a 2016 National Book Award finalist. She is the author of dozens of award-winning books for young adults, middle graders, and children; among her many accolades, she is a four-time Newbery Honor winner, a four-time National Book Award finalist, and a three-time Coretta Scott King Award winner. Her books include Coretta Scott King Award and NAACP Image Award winner *Before the Ever After*, *New York Times* bestsellers *The Year We Learned to Fly*, *The Day You Begin*, and *Harbor Me*; *The Other Side*; *Each Kindness*; Caldecott Honor book *Coming on Home Soon*; Newbery Honor winners *Feathers*, *Show Way*, and *After Tupac and D Foster*; and *Miracle’s Boys*, which received the LA Times Book Prize and the Coretta Scott King Award. Jacqueline is also a recipient of the Margaret A. Edwards Award for Lifetime Achievement for her contributions to young adult literature and a two-time winner of the Jane Addams Children’s Book Award.



NANA CAMILLE YARBROUGH

has been a cultural force in African American life for seven decades. Revered as a former dancer with the Katherine Dunham Dance Company; a Broadway theater, film, and television actress; and an award-winning author, Ms. Yarbrough is still passionately devoted to celebrating African culture.

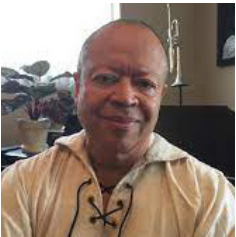
In theater, Nana Camille co-starred in Lorraine Hansberry's *To Be Young, Gifted, and Black*, among other productions. In film, she was in *Shaft* and as a writer, her groundbreaking articles have appeared in *The New York Times* and other publications. As a songwriter, she has had her songs covered by Nina Simone and has been called the “foremother of hip hop” (SPIN). The reference points to the 1999 re-release of her album, *Iron Pot Cooker* (1975). Fatboy Slim covered a song and his version (“Praise You”) became an international mega-hit. Whatever the expression, the driving force behind this legend’s work is her pursuit of justice for Black people. This has led her to the front lines with Rev. Al Sharpton and other freedom-fighters as well as to the classroom as a teacher at City College.

Born in 1934, Ms. Yarbrough is our beloved African American griot whose clarion call is clear: “Family Forever!”



Keisha-Gaye Anderson is a Jamaican-born poet and visual artist based in Brooklyn, N.Y. She is the author of *Everything Is Necessary*, *Gathering the Waters*, and *A Spell for Living*. Keisha is a past participant of VONA and Callaloo writing workshops and was shortlisted for the Small Axe

Literary Award. In 2018, she was selected as a Brooklyn Public Library Artist-in-Residence. She was presented with the Poetic Icon Award from her alma mater Syracuse University in 2021. Her visual art has been featured in numerous exhibitions in the tri-state area and in such literary journals as *The Adirondack Review*, *Joint Literary Magazine*, *MER VOX*, *Culture Push*, and *No, Dear Magazine*. Keisha holds an MFA from The City College, CUNY. Learn more at www.keishagaye.ink.



Steven Barnes is a *New York Times* best-selling author of more than 30 novels of science fiction, horror, and suspense. The NAACP Image, Endeavour, and Cable-Ace Award-winning author also writes for television including *The Twilight Zone*, *Stargate SG-1*, *Andromeda*, and

an Emmy Award-winning episode of *The Outer Limits*. He created the “Lifewriting” system of high-energy creative living, and has lectured at UCLA, Seattle University, and the Smithsonian Institution. Barnes lives in Southern California with his wife, British Fantasy Award-winning author Tananarive Due.



Stacey Barney is an associate publisher of Nancy Paulsen Books, an imprint of Penguin Random House. Stacey has worked in children’s publishing for 20 years and has published numerous best-selling and award-winning authors. She also edited the 2022 Coretta Scott King Illustrator

Honor-winning *Nina: A Story of Nina Simone*, written by Traci N. Todd and illustrated by Christian Robinson, in addition to the 2021 Caldecott Honor-winning *The Cat Man of Aleppo*, written by Irene Latham and Karim Shamsi-Basha and illustrated by Yuko Shimizu. In 2020, ALAN awarded Stacey the Bill Konigsberg Award for Acts and Activism for Equity and Inclusion through Young Adult Literature. In 2021, Stacey was honored at the Black Women in Media Awards for her work, contributions, and demonstration of excellence in literature and publishing.



Lindamichelle Baron is an associate professor in the Teacher Education Department at York College, City University of New York (CUNY), in New York City. Dr. Baron has been publisher and president of Harlin Jacque Publications, a publishing and educational

consulting firm for more than 30 years. As an author and poet, Lindamichellebaron’s (Dr. Baron’s pen name) poetry collections include *The Sun Is On* (listed as a recommended book for New York State middle schools), *Rhythm & Dues: Poetry and Ideas*; and *For the Love of Life: Life Lyrics from an Oral Tradition*. Baron was awarded Educator of the Year by the Middle School Principals Association and Women of the Americas Service Award for contributions to the field of literature. Find out more about Dr. Baron on her website www.mylindamichellebaron.com.



Mo Beasley, a Universal Man in the world of theater and performance, is an award-winning poet, published writer, arts educator, and activist. In 2006, the *New York Daily News* heralded him as one of “50 Unsung New York Heroes,” citing his selfless work uplifting the arts for youth

and adults alike. Beasley, who earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre from Howard University, is currently a technical director for the Adrienne Arsht Center for Performing Arts in Florida. The Boston-born, Miami Beach-based artist is widely respected for his passion for the arts and his advocacy for the healing power of art. His gifts are embedded in all his expressions, on the stage, on the page.



Emily Bernard is the author of *Black Is the Body: Stories from My Grandmother’s Time, My Mother’s Time, and Mine*, winner of the 2020 LA Times Christopher Isherwood Prize. Her previous books include *Remember Me to Harlem: The Letters of Langston Hughes and Carl Van Vechten* and,

with Deborah Willis, *Michelle Obama: The First Lady in Photographs*, which received a 2010 NAACP Image Award. Her work has appeared in *Harper’s*, *The New Republic*, *The New Yorker*, and *O, The Oprah Magazine*. She has received fellowships from the Ford Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the MacDowell Colony, the Vermont Arts Council, and the W. E. B. Du Bois Institute at Harvard University. A 2020 Andrew Carnegie Fellow, Emily Bernard lives with her family in Vermont.

New and Notable

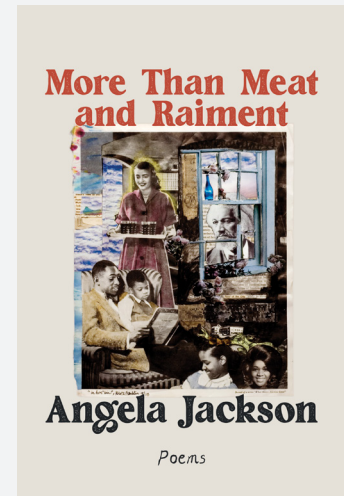
More Than Meat and Raiment

Poems

Angela Jackson

“Jackson’s oeuvre is needed more than ever. Her poems stream over a reader like cool, salty ocean waves, but like the ocean, they are full of depth and wonder.”

—Luis J. Rodríguez, author of *Borrowed Bones: New Poems from the Poet Laureate of Los Angeles*



Thunderclouds in the Forecast

A Novel

Clarence Major

“*Thunderclouds in the Forecast* is a poignant exploration of the human need to find a place to call home. Set in the 1970s, it is also somewhat reminiscent of the films of that era by John Cassavetes: observational, naturalistic, pared-down.” —Theo Zenou, *Times Literary Supplement*



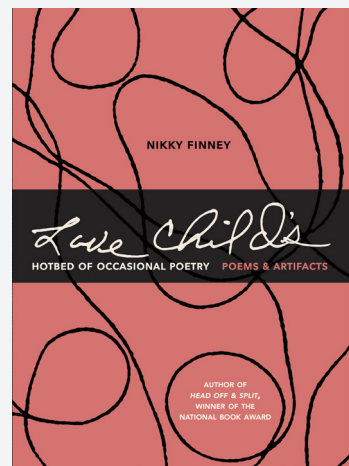
Love Child’s Hotbed of Occasional Poetry

Poems & Artifacts

Nikky Finney

“Finney’s skillful, sweeping epic ambitiously connects personal and public history.”

—*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)



Enjoy a 30% discount on any book when you order from our website! Enter promo code **NBWC30** at checkout to redeem this offer. This promotion ends at 12:00 AM Central on May 1, 2022.



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Erica Buddington is an edupreneur, historian, creative strategist, and first-generation Caribbean-American whose work intersects Black history and pop culture. Buddington is now the founder/CEO of Langston League, a multi-consultant curriculum firm that specializes in teaching

educators to design and implement culturally responsive instructional materials. Langston League's clients include Jordan Peele's MonkeyPaw Productions, McGraw Hill, NBCUniversal, Harlem Children's Zone, Morgan State University, Medgar Evers College, and more. Most recently, they designed a companion guide for *Candyman 2021*'s social impact initiative and are launching a Black history series with Microsoft Flipgrid. Currently, Buddington hosts a Black history show on YouTube entitled *Decolonized* and co-writes the late-night segment "How Did We Get Here?" for *The Amber Ruffin Show*.



Carolyn Butts is the publisher/founder of *African Voices*, founded in 1992, a leading arts magazine devoted to publishing fine art, poetry, and literature by artists of color. Carolyn is also the founder of the Reel Sisters of the Diaspora Film Festival & Lecture Series, the first Academy

Qualifying Film Festival for Shorts devoted to women filmmakers. Carolyn has received many distinguished honors including the Women in Media Award 2019; Women's eNews 2019 "21 Leaders for the 21st Century" Award; Total Faith Network Award 2018; National Writers Union's Louis Reyes Rivera Excellence Award for Educators 2015; and a 2017 Proclamation from the NYC Council at City Hall. *African Voices* magazine is a recipient of the 2019 Best Literary Magazine Award for the African American Literary Awards Show.



Chief Baba Neil Clarke is a master African-centered percussionist, independent scholar, and former fellow at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture in New York. An award-winning musician, Chief Baba Neil has collaborated and performed with countless revered

artists all over the world, including Dianne Reeves, Phyllis Hyman, Third World, David Sanborn, Miriam Makeba, Letta Mbulu, NEA Jazz Master Randy Weston, and Mr. Harry Belafonte. Chief Baba Neil's grounding in Yoruba and Orisa traditions (and other African spiritual systems) began when he was 13. He has since been initiated as an Ol'Osun in the Lucumi tradition for more than 30 years. In Nigeria, Clarke was installed as a chief by all the highest-ranking priests there. The honor was bestowed based on his lifelong commitment to traditional African culture and values. He is now Chief Baba Neil Adewede Ayanlere Tokode Clarke, Alufopejo Awo of Osogbo.



Jelani Cobb is the director of the Lipman Center for Journalism in Civil and Human Rights at Columbia University and a professor at Columbia Journalism School. He has been a staff writer at *The New Yorker* since 2015 and in 2018 was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in Commentary.

He is the author and editor of six books including the recently published *The Matter of Black Lives: Writing from The New Yorker*. His 2020 film *Whose Vote Counts?* received the Peabody Award for News Documentary. He is also the author of *The Essential Kerner Commission Report*, which came out in fall 2021; his earlier book *The Substance of Hope: Barack Obama and the Paradox of Progress* was reissued in 2020.



Monica A. Coleman is professor of Africana Studies at the University of Delaware. She spent more than 10 years in graduate theological education at Claremont School of Theology and Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. Dr. Coleman is the author or editor of six books

and several articles that focus on the role of faith in addressing critical social and philosophical issues. Her memoir *Bipolar Faith* shares her lifelong dance with trauma and depression, and how she discovers a liberating vision of God. Her book *Making a Way Out of No Way* is required reading at leading theological schools around the country. She co-hosted the web series *Octavia Tried to Tell Us: Parable for Today's Pandemic*. Coleman speaks widely on mental wellness, religious diversity, and religious responses to intimate partner violence.



Brittney Cooper is author of the *New York Times* bestseller *Eloquent Rage: A Black Feminist Discovers Her Superpower*. She is also author of the award-winning *Beyond Respectability: The Intellectual Thought of Race Women*, co-author of *Feminist AF: A Guide to*

Crushing Girlhood, and co-editor of *The Crunk Feminist Collection*. Brittney is associate professor of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and Africana Studies at Rutgers University.



Kia Corthron is a novelist and playwright. Her second novel, *Moon and the Mars*, released in August 2021, was championed by Robin D.G. Kelley, Sarah Schulman, and others, receiving rave reviews in the *Wall Street Journal*, *Irish Times*, and elsewhere. Her debut, *The Castle*

16TH NBWC PARTICIPANTS

Cross the Magnet Carter, endorsed by Angela Davis and Pulitzer Prize winner Viet Thanh Nguyen, won the 2016 First Novel Prize from The Center for Fiction and was a *New York Times Book Review* Editors' Choice. Her plays have been produced nationally and internationally; and for her body of work for the stage, she has garnered the Windham Campbell Prize for Drama, the United States Artists Jane Addams Fellowship, and the Horton Foote Award, among others. She lives in Harlem, New York City.



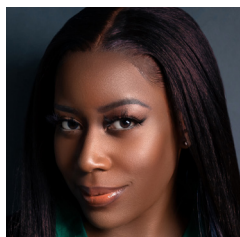
Edwidge Danticat is the author of several books including *Breath, Eyes, Memory*; *The Farming of Bones*; *The Dew Breaker*; and *Claire of the Sea Light*, as well as *The Art of Death*, a National Books Critics Circle finalist. She is also the editor of *The Butterfly's Way*:

Voices from the Haitian Diaspora in the United States. She has written books for young adults and children, as well as a travel narrative, *After the Dance: A Walk Through Carnival in Jacmel, Haiti*, and a collection of essays, *Create Dangerously: The Immigrant Artist at Work*. She is a 2009 MacArthur Fellow, and a 2020 winner of the Vilcek Prize. Her most recent book, *Everything Inside: Stories*, is a 2020 winner of the Bocas Fiction Prize, The Story Prize, and the National Books Critics Circle Fiction Prize.



Nicole Dennis-Benn is the author of *Here Comes the Sun*, a *New York Times* Notable Book of the Year and a 2017 Lambda Literary Award winner. Her best-selling sophomore novel, *Patsy*, is a 2020 Lambda Literary Award winner, a *New York Times* Editors' Choice, a *Financial Times* Critics

Choice, a Stonewall Book Awards Honor Book, and a "Today Show Read with Jenna Book Club" selection. *Patsy* has been named one of the Best Books of the Year by *Kirkus Reviews*, *Time*, NPR, *People* magazine, *Washington Post*, *Apple Books*, *O, The Oprah Magazine*, *The Guardian*, *Good Housekeeping*, and *BuzzFeed*, *Elle*, among others. "Patsy fills a literary void with compassion, complexity and tenderness," raves *Time* magazine; and NPR names Dennis-Benn "an indispensable novelist."



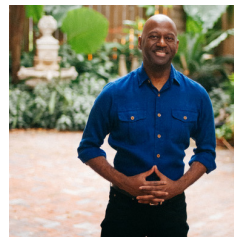
Natashia Deón is an NAACP Image Award nominee, practicing criminal attorney, and college professor. A Pamela Krasney Moral Courage Fellow, Deón is the author of the critically acclaimed debut novel *Grace*, which was named a Best Book by *The New York Times*. Deón has been awarded

fellowships by PEN America, Prague Summer Program for Writers, Dickinson House in Belgium, the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, and the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts.



Tananarive Due is an award-winning author who teaches Black Horror and Afrofuturism at UCLA. She is an executive producer on Shudder's groundbreaking documentary *Horror Noire: A History of Black Horror*. She and her husband/collaborator, Steven Barnes, wrote "A Small Town"

for Season 2 of Jordan Peele's *The Twilight Zone* and two segments of Shudder's anthology film *Horror Noire*. A leading voice in Black speculative fiction for more than 20 years, Due has won an American Book Award, an NAACP Image Award, and a British Fantasy Award. Her books include *Ghost Summer: Stories*, *My Soul to Keep*, and *The Good House*. She and her late mother, civil rights activist Patricia Stephens Due, co-authored *Freedom in the Family: A Mother-Daughter Memoir of the Fight for Civil Rights*. She and her husband live with their son, Jason.



Louis Edwards is the author of four novels including his latest, *Ramadan Ramsey*, which was selected as one of the Best Books of 2021 by NPR and *Publishers Weekly*. He has won both the Guggenheim Fellowship and the Whiting Writers Award. Born and raised in Lake Charles,

Louisiana, Edwards attended Hunter College and LSU (BA in journalism). He has had a decades-long career as a producer of many special events, most notably the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival. He is the chief creative officer and chief marketing officer of Festival Productions Inc.-New Orleans. His earlier titles include *Ten Seconds, N: A Romantic Mystery*, and *Oscar Wilde Discovers America*.



Lurie Daniel Favors, Esq., is the executive director at the Center for Law and Social Justice. She is an activist and attorney with a long-standing commitment to racial and social justice. Daniel Favors hosts the *Lurie Daniel Favors Show* on Sirius XM Urban View and co-hosts the Sunday

Civics Show. Daniel Favors authored *Afro State of Mind: Memories of a Nappy Headed Black Girl* and is a contributing author to *The Birth of a Nation: Nat Turner and the Making of a Movement*.



Nikky Finney was born by the sea in South Carolina and raised during the Civil Rights, Black Power, and Black Arts Movements. She is the author of *On Wings Made of Gauze*; *Rice*; *The World Is Round*; and *Head Off & Split*, which won the National Book Award for

Poetry in 2011. Her new collection of poems, *Love Child's Hotbed of Occasional Poetry*, was released in 2020 from TriQuarterly Books/Northwestern University Press.



Novella Ford is the associate director of Public Programs and Exhibitions at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, a research division of The New York Public Library. In her role, she has launched the annual Schomburg Center Literary Festival and has organized

hundreds of public programs at the intersection of scholarship and popular culture. She connects diverse audiences to the archives and engages history through exhibitions, dialogue, performance, literature, and visual arts. Most recently, she was the guest editor of Pen + Brush Gallery's literary magazine, *In Print* No. 5. Novella currently serves on the board of Cave Canem Foundation, a home for the many voices of Black poetry. She is a graduate of Howard University and NYU Wagner Graduate School of Public Service.



Dr. Joanne V. Gabbin is the executive director of the Furious Flower Poetry Center and professor of English at James Madison University. She is author of *Sterling A. Brown: Building the Black Aesthetic Tradition* and a children's book, *I Bet She Called Me Sugar Plum*. She is also the

editor of *The Furious Flowering of African American Poetry*; *Furious Flower: African American Poetry from the Black Arts Movement to the Present*; *Shaping Memories: Reflections of African American Women Writers*; and *Furious Flower: Seeding the Future of African American Poetry*, with co-editor Lauren K. Alleyne. A dedicated teacher and scholar, Gabbin has received numerous awards including the College Language Association Creative Scholarship Award; the SCHEV Outstanding Faculty Award; the Provost Award for Excellence; the JMU Distinguished Faculty Award; and induction in the International Literary Hall of Fame.



Dr. Keith Gilyard began publishing his work in the early 1970s when he was participating in writing workshops at the Langston Hughes Library & Cultural Center in Queens, N.Y. His poetry volumes include the recently published *Impressions: New and Selected Poems*. Among his

previous 24 titles are the education memoir *Voices of the Self*, the essay collection *True to the Language Game*, the biographies on John Oliver Killens and Louise Thompson Patterson, and the novella *The Next Great Old-School Conspiracy*. He received American Book Awards for *Voices of the Self* and *John Oliver Killens: A Life of Black Literary Activism*. He served on the faculties of Medgar Evers College, CUNY, where helped to launch the National Black Writers Conference, and Syracuse University. Gilyard is currently the Edwin Erle Sparks Professor of English and African American Studies at Penn State.



Co-founder and president emerita of the Zora Neale Hurston/Richard Wright Foundation, **Marita Golden** is a veteran teacher of writing and has served as a member of the faculties of the MFA Graduate Creative Writing Programs at George Mason University and Virginia Commonwealth University

and in the MA Creative Writing Program at Johns Hopkins University, and as writer-in-residence at the University of the District of Columbia. Her novel *The Wide Circumference of Love* was nominated for an NAACP Image Award. Her other books include the novels *After* and *The Edge of Heaven*; and the memoirs *Migrations of the Heart*, *Saving Our Sons* and *Don't Play in the Sun: One Woman's Journey Through the Color Complex*. She is the recipient of the Writers for Writers Award presented by Barnes & Noble and Poets & Writers, and the Fiction Award for *After*, awarded by the Black Caucus of the American Library Association.



Jewelle Gomez (Cabo Verdean/Wampanoag/Loway) is a novelist, essayist, poet, and playwright. Her eight books include three volumes of poetry as well as the first Black lesbian vampire novel, *The Gilda Stories*. The novel has been in print for more than 30 years and was recently optioned

by Cheryl Dunye (*Watermelon Woman*, *Lovecraft Country*) for a TV mini-series. Her work has appeared in numerous anthologies including *Stories for Chip: A Tribute to Samuel R. Delany*; *Luminescent Threads: Connections to Octavia E. Butler*; and *Dark Matter: A Century of Speculative Fiction from the African Diaspora*. Her new play, *Unpacking in Ptown*, will premiere in fall of 2022. Her new collection of poetry, *Still Water*, will be published in June of 2022. She is a 2021 winner of the Legacy Award from The Horror Writers Association. Follow Gomez on Instagram/Twitter: @VampyreVamp



Established in 2013, **Green Earth Poets Café** (a 501(c)(3) nonprofit company) exists to promote the performing arts as well as to instill self-confidence and leadership skills among young people in New York City who live in economically challenged areas.

Skilled poets from Green Earth Poets Café have been hosting the National Black Writers Conference Poetry Slam for several years and always bring a welcome youthful, artful energy to each Conference. Green Earth Poets Café is founded by Curtis Harris, a proud alumnus of Medgar Evers College.



Farah Jasmine Griffin is the William B. Ransford Professor of English and Comparative Literature and African-American Studies at Columbia University and was the inaugural chair of its African American and African Diaspora Studies Department (2019-2021). Griffin's recently

published book is *Read Until You Understand: The Profound Wisdom of Black Life and Literature*. Her major fields of interest are American and African American literature, music, and history. She has published widely on issues of race and gender, feminism, and cultural politics. Her activism has centered on issues of education, poverty, and gender equity especially as they impact women and children. She currently sits on the board of The Brotherhood/Sister Sol, an organization that provides comprehensive, holistic, and long-term support services to youth in Central Harlem.



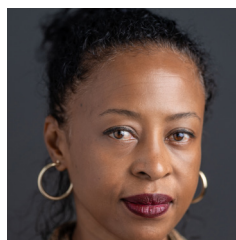
Obery M. Hendricks Jr. is the most widely read and perhaps the most influential African American biblical scholar in America today. Holder of a PhD from Princeton University, a former president of Payne Theological Seminary, emeritus professor at New York Theological Seminary and

former Distinguished Senior Fellow at The Democracy Collaborative, a Washington, D.C., think tank, Dr. Hendricks is currently a Visiting Scholar at Columbia University and a senior lecturer at Yale Divinity School. He is the author of the best-selling *The Politics of Jesus: Rediscovering the True Revolutionary Nature of Jesus' Teachings and How They Have Been Corrupted*. His most recent book, *Christians Against Christianity: How Right-Wing Evangelicals Are Destroying Our Nation and Our Faith*, is a scathing indictment and call to arms against the racist weaponizing of the Gospel against decency, civility, and justice in American society.



Marc Lamont Hill is one of the leading intellectual voices in the country. He is currently the host of *BET News* and the *Coffee & Books* podcast. Dr. Hill has received awards from the National Association of Black Journalists, GLAAD, and the International Academy of Digital Arts and

Sciences. Hill is the Steve Charles Professor of Media, Cities, and Solutions at Temple University. He is the founder and director of The People's Education Center in Philadelphia, as well as the owner of Uncle Bobbie's Coffee & Books. Hill is the author or co-author of six books including the award-winning *Beats, Rhymes, and Classroom Life: Hip-Hop Pedagogy and the Politics of Identity*; *The Classroom and the Cell: Conversations on Black life in America*; and (co-author) *Except For Palestine: The Limits of Progressive Politics*. Hill holds a PhD from the University of Pennsylvania.



Ladee Hubbard is the author of the short story collection *The Last Suspicious Holdout* as well as the novels *The Rib King* and *The Talented Ribkins*, which received the 2018 Hurston/Wright Legacy Award for Debut Fiction and the 2017 Ernest J. Gaines Award for Literary

Excellence. Her short fiction and nonfiction have appeared in numerous publications including *Oxford American*, *Virginia Quarterly Review*, *Callaloo*, *Guernica*, and *The Times Literary Supplement*. She is a recipient of fellowships from The American Academy in Berlin, the Radcliffe Institute, MacDowell, and Hedgebrook, among other organizations. She lives in New Orleans.



Karen Hunter is a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, professor, publisher, and "change agent," according to *Essence* magazine, which named her one of the "Woke100" of 2018. She was also selected to the 2020 *Ebony* magazine's Power 100 List. As CEO of Karen Hunter Publishing, an imprint of Simon

& Schuster, she published more than 35 books, including No. 1 *New York Times* bestseller *True You* by pop icon Janet Jackson. Karen has been named one of the 100 Most Important Radio Talk Show Hosts in America by industry bible *Talkers Magazine* every year since 2015. A New Jersey native, a Drew University graduate, Karen has been a full-time professor and distinguished lecturer in the Film & Media Department at Hunter College in New York City since 2004. In 2020, Karen launched Knarrative, which is home to the largest Africana Studies classroom in the world.



Marlon James was born in Jamaica in 1970. He is the author of a *Brief History of Seven Killings*, *The Book of Night Women*, and *Jim Crow's Devil*. His most recent novel, *Moon Witch*, *Spider King*, the second novel in James's *Dark Star* trilogy of African fantasy, was published in February

2022. He is the recipient of the 2015 Man Booker Prize, The American Book Award, the Anisfield-Wolf Book Prize for Fiction, the Dayton Literary Peace Prize, and was a finalist for the 2019 National Book Award.



Morgan Jenkins is the *New York Times* best-selling author of *This Will Be My Undoing*, *Wandering in Strange Lands*, and *Caul Baby*. A former senior editor at ESPN's *The Undeclared* and *ZORA Magazine*, Jenkins has taught at Columbia University, Pacific University, Bennington College, and she served as the Guest Picador Professor at Leipzig

University in Germany.



Elle Johnson is a TV writer and author. Her debut memoir, *The Officer's Daughter*, is the story of a family, a tragedy, and the power—and ultimately the freedom—of forgiveness. The memoir received starred reviews from both *Publishers Weekly* and *Kirkus Reviews*. Her TV credits

include law enforcement shows *Law & Order*, *CSI: Miami*, and the Amazon original series *Bosch*, based on the Michael Connelly detective novels. She has also written for several character-driven series, such as Lifetime's critically acclaimed civil rights drama *Any Day Now*, CBS's *Ghost Whisperer*, and Freeform's groundbreaking series *The Fosters*. In 2020, Elle won an NAACP Image Award as co-showrunner and executive producer on Netflix's *Self Made: Inspired by the Life of Madam C. J. Walker*, starring Octavia Spencer, who was nominated for an Emmy for her performance in the lead role.



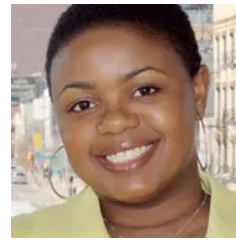
Peniel E. Joseph is the Barbara Jordan Chair in Ethics and Political Values; founding director of the Center for the Study of Race and Democracy; associate dean of Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion at the LBJ School of Public Affairs; and professor of history at the University

of Texas at Austin. He is the author and editor of numerous books including *The Sword and the Shield: The Revolutionary Lives of Malcolm X and Martin Luther King Jr.*, which was named a Best Book of the Year by *Time* magazine; *Financial Times*; *Guardian*; *Times Literary Supplement*; *New York Times* Editors' Pick; and finalist for the PEN/Jacqueline Bograd Weld Award for Biography. His newest book, *The Third Reconstruction: Reimagining Racial Justice in the 21st Century*, will be published by Basic Books on September 2022.



Ibram X. Kendi is the Andrew W. Mellon Professor in the Humanities at Boston University and the founding director of the BU Center for Antiracist Research. He is a contributing writer at *The Atlantic* and a CBS News correspondent. He is the author of many books including *Stamped*

from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America, which won the National Book Award for Nonfiction; and five No.1 *New York Times* bestsellers: *How to Be an Antiracist*; *Stamped (For Kids): Racism, Antiracism, and You*, co-authored with Jason Reynolds; *Antiracist Baby*, illustrated by Ashley Lukashevsky; and *Four Hundred Souls: A Community History of African America, 1619–2019*, co-edited with Keisha N. Blain. He also authored *Goodnight Racism*, illustrated by Cbabi Bayoc. In 2020, *Time* magazine named Kendi one of the 100 Most Influential People in the World.



Moikgantsi Kgama is an audience development specialist, and her credits include *I Will Follow*; Academy Award-nominated *Trouble the Water*, *Killer Sheep*, and *Lumumba* to name a few. She founded the ImageNation Cinema Foundation, a Harlem-based nonprofit media

arts organization, in 1997. Through partnerships with organizations including the Apollo Theater, Lincoln Center, The Schomburg Center, Ava DuVernay's ARRAY, and the Walker Legacy Center, ImageNation has presented a variety of public exhibitions and programs fostering media equity, media literacy, and highlights the humanity of Pan-African people worldwide. Moikgantsi's accolades include being named one of 25 Women Who Are Shaping the World by *Essence*, receiving the Trailblazer Award from Reel Sisters Film Festival, and a proclamation from the City of New York; as well as the WES Award for Luminary of the Year from African-American Women in Cinema. To learn more, visit www.imagenation.us.



Kiese Laymon is a Black southern writer from Jackson, Mississippi. Laymon is the author of the genre-bending novel *Long Division* and the essay collection *How to Slowly Kill Yourself and Others in America*. Laymon's best-selling memoir *Heavy: An American Memoir* won the 2019

Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Nonfiction, the 2018 Christopher Isherwood Prize for Autobiographical Prose, the Austen Riggs Erikson Prize for Excellence in Mental Health Media, and was named one of the 50 Best Memoirs of the Past 50 Years by *The New York Times*. The audiobook, read by the author, was named the Audible 2018 Audiobook of the Year. Laymon is the recipient of 2020–2021 Radcliffe Fellowship at Harvard. He is the founder of The Catherine Coleman Literary Arts and Justice Initiative, a program aimed at getting Mississippi kids and their parents more comfortable reading, writing, revising, and sharing.



Thabiti Lewis is professor of English at Washington State University in Vancouver and associate vice chancellor for academic affairs. His areas of focus are mid-20th century African American literature and multicultural literature. The Black Arts Movement is of particular

interest to him as he is the co-director and co-producer of the 2019 documentary film *Bam! Chicago's Black Arts Movement* and is completing an edited reader about Chicago and Black arts. He is the author of *Black People Are My Business: Toni Cade Bambara's Practices of Liberation* and editor of *Conversations with Toni Cade*

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Bambara. His interests extend to sports and popular culture and those interests are reflected in the book *Ballers of the New School: Race and Sports in America*.



Dr. Haki R. Madhubuti is an award-winning poet, one of the architects of the Black Arts Movement, an essayist, educator, and founder and publisher (emeritus) of Third World Press and Third World Press Foundation. He is the author/

editor of more than 36 books of poetry and nonfiction including *Don't Cry, Scream, Run Toward Fear: New Poems and a Poet's Handbook*; *YellowBlack: The First Twenty-One Years of a Poet's Life*; *Liberation Narratives: New and Collected Poems 1967-2009*; *Honoring Genius, Gwendolyn Brooks: The Narrative of Craft, Art, Kindness and Justice*; and the best-selling *Black Men: Obsolete, Single, Dangerous? A long-time community activist and institution builder, Madhubuti is a co-founder of the Institute of Positive Education and its three schools in Chicago. He retired in 2011 after a 42-year distinguished teaching career that included Cornell University, Howard University, Chicago State University, and DePaul University, where he served as the last Ida B. Wells-Barnett University Professor. Madhubuti's recent books include Taking Bullets: Terrorism and Black Life in Twenty-First Century America and Taught by Women: Poems as Resistance Language, New and Selected.*



Bernice L. McFadden is the author of *The Book of Harlan*, winner of the 2017 American Book Award and the 2017 NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Literary Work. This in addition to eight other critically acclaimed novels including *Sugar*, *Loving Donovan*, *Gathering of*

Waters (a *New York Times* Editors' Choice and one of the 100 Notable Books of 2012), *Glorious*, which was featured in *O, The Oprah Magazine* and was a finalist for the NAACP Image Award. She is a four-time Hurston/Wright Legacy Award finalist, as well as the recipient of three awards from the BCALA. *Praise Song for the Butterflies* is her latest novel.



Victor McGlothlin, born and raised in Dallas, Texas, left a vice president position with a local bank to pursue his dream of becoming a national best-selling author. In the past 20 years, McGlothlin has penned a monument of best-selling fiction and self-help book projects. A former contributor to

D Magazine, McGlothlin has used his creative gift to offer a welcomed multicultural perspective to readership across the racial spectrum. While experiencing successes as a

novelist, Victor has also completed three film projects. He is currently the director of Integrated Marketing and Communications at UNT Dallas College of Law.



Tony Medina is the author/editor of 23 award-winning books for adults and young people, the most recent of which are *Che Che Colé*; *Death, with Occasional Smiling*; *Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Black Boy*; *I Am Alfonso Jones*; and *Resisting Arrest: Poems to Stretch the Sky*.

Medina's poetry, fiction, and essays appear in more than 100 anthologies and literary journals, including *Revising the Elegy in the Black Lives Matter Era*, *Show Us Your Papers*, *Carving Our Rights*, *African American Poetry: 250 Years of Struggle & Song*, *The Future of Black*, *Where We Stand* and *Obsidian's "Heirloom: Preserving HBCU Futures"* (issue 47.2). Medina's *I and I*, *Bob Marley* audiobook, narrated by actor Jaime Lincoln Smith and produced by Live Oak Media, is a recent finalist for a 2022 Audie Award. The first professor of creative writing at Howard University, Medina holds a master's and PhD from Binghamton University, SUNY.



Maaza Mengiste is the author of *The Shadow King*, shortlisted for the 2020 Booker Prize, and a recipient of the American Academy of Arts & Letters Award in Literature, as well as a *LA Times* Books Prize finalist. It was named a Best Book of 2019 by *New York Times*,

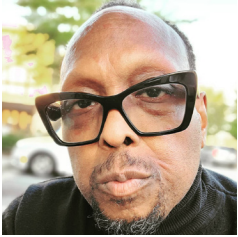
NPR, *Time*, *Elle*, and other publications. *Beneath the Lion's Gaze*, her debut, was selected by the *Guardian* as one of the 10 Best Contemporary African Books.



Khalil Gibran Muhammad is the Ford Foundation Professor of History, Race and Public Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School, and director of the Institutional Antiracism and Accountability Project. He is the former director of the Schomburg Center for Research

in Black Culture and the award-winning author of *The Condemnation of Blackness: Race, Crime, and the Making of Modern Urban America*. He is currently co-chairing a National Academies of Sciences report on "Reducing Racial Inequalities in the Criminal Justice System." Khalil co-hosts the Pushkin podcast *Some of My Best Friends Are* and is a frequent reviewer and commentator in media outlets, such as the *Washington Post*, *The Nation*, NPR, *PBS Newshour*, MSNBC, and the *New York Times*, which includes his sugar essay for *The 1619 Project*. He has appeared in documentaries including *Amend: The Fight for America* and the Oscar-nominated *13th*. Khalil has received numerous honors

for his commitment to public engagement, such as *Ebony* Power 100 and the Distinguished Service Medal from Columbia University's Teachers College.



Mark Anthony Neal is the James B. Duke Distinguished Professor of African & African-American Studies and professor of English at Duke University. Neal is the author of six books including *What the Music Said: Black Popular Music and Public Culture*, *Soul Babies: Black*

Popular Culture, *the Post-Soul Aesthetic* and *Looking for Leroy: Illegible Black Masculinities*, and *Black Ephemera: The Crisis and Challenge of the Musical Archive*. He is co-editor, with Murray Forman, of *That's The Joint! The Hip-Hop Studies Reader* (now in its 2nd edition). Neal directs the Center for Arts, Digital Culture and Entrepreneurship (CADCE), which produces original digital content, including the weekly video podcast *Left of Black* (now in its 12th season), produced in collaboration with the John Hope Franklin Humanities Institute at Duke.



Courtia Newland has published nine works of fiction. His latest novel, *A River Called Time*, and collection of speculative fiction stories, *Cosmogramma*, were published in 2021. Newland's short stories have appeared in many anthologies, broadcast on BBC Radio 4, and included in *Best*

of British Short Stories 2017. He has been awarded the Tayner Barbers Award for Science Fiction Writing and the Roland Rees Bursary for Playwriting. As a screenwriter, he has co-written two episodes for the Steve McQueen BBC series *Small Axe*, of which "Lovers Rock" was jury selected for Cannes, and opened New York Film Fest 2020. *Small Axe* won the LA Critics Circle Award 2020 for Best Picture. *Impact*, an original feature, is currently in development with Film Four and *The Future Isn't What It Used to Be*, a science fiction short, is part of their science fiction strand, *4sight*.



Nana Nkweti is a Cameroonian American writer and AKO Caine Prize finalist whose work has garnered fellowships from MacDowell, Kimbilio, Ucross, the Wurlitzer Foundation, and several others. Her first book, *Walking on Cowrie Shells*, is a *New York Times* Editor's Choice, Indie Next

pick, recipient of starred reviews from *Kirkus*, *Publishers Weekly*, and *BookPage*; and has been featured in *The New Yorker*, *Harper's Bazaar*, *Oprah Daily*, *The Root*, NPR, *Buzzfeed*, and *Thrillist*, among others. Nkweti is a professor of English at the University of Alabama.



Patrick M. Oliver is a literary and education consultant, author, youth advocate, and founder of Say It Loud! Readers & Writers. Oliver's professional experience includes serving as director of sales and marketing at Third World Press and program director Open Book Program,

both in Chicago, and senior subcontract administrator and system analyst in the defense industry in Los Angeles. He is the creator and publisher of the *Ananse Journal* and *On My Own: Vision Board Guidebook for Young People, 5th Anniversary Edition*.



Monique Patterson is vice president and editorial director Acquisitions Outreach at the St. Martin's Publishing Group. Finding books and authors that reach across the breadth of our experiences as humans is important to her. Publishing commercial fiction, nonfiction,

and a select amount of young adult allows Monique to explore all of those experiences. Among titles Patterson has published include *New York Times* bestseller *Glory: Magical Visions of Black Beauty* by Kahran and Regis Bethencourt; the young adult edition of *Can't Stop, Won't Stop: A Hip-Hop History* by Jeff Chang and Dave "Davey D" Cook; *Promise That You Will Sing About Me: The Power and Poetry of Kendrick Lamar* by Miles Marshall Lewis; and *The Abolitionist's Handbook: 12 Steps to Changing Yourself and the World* by Patrisse Cullors.



Dolen Perkins-Valdez is the *New York Times* best-selling author of *Wench*, *Balm*, and the forthcoming novel *Take My Hand*. *Wench* was a finalist for two NAACP Image Awards and the Hurston/Wright Legacy Award for Fiction. In 2017, HarperCollins released it as one of

eight "Olive Titles," limited edition modern classics that included books by Edward P. Jones, Louise Erdrich, and Zora Neale Hurston. Dolen received a D.C. Commission on the Arts Grant for her novel *Balm*, which was published by HarperCollins in 2015. In 2013, Dolen wrote the introduction to a special edition of Solomon Northup's *Twelve Years a Slave*, published by Simon & Schuster, which became a *New York Times* bestseller. Dolen is the current chair of the board of the PEN/Faulkner Foundation and is associate professor in the Literature Department at American University in Washington, D.C.

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Kevin Powell is a poet, journalist, civil and human rights activist, public speaker, filmmaker, and author of 14 books. Powell's new collection of poetry will be forthcoming this fall, and thereafter will be his biography of Tupac Shakur. His critically acclaimed autobiography, *The Education of Kevin Powell*, is

being adapted for the screen. Kevin's first documentary film as director, writer, and producer titled *When We Free the World* is premiering this summer and is a deep-dive look at manhood through the lives and lens of diverse Black males in America. Kevin's writings have appeared in a range of publications, including *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *The Nation*, *Essence*, *Ebony*, *Rolling Stone*, *Esquire*, *HuffPost*, *Utne Reader*, *Guardian*, *The Baffler*, *The Progressive*, *Complex*, and *British GQ*. A native of Jersey City, N.J., Kevin has lived in Brooklyn for much of his adult life.



Diane Richards is a novelist, playwright, and producer; and she serves as the executive director of The Harlem Writers Guild. Her play *Sowa's Red Gravy* was produced and directed by Woodie King Jr. of the New Federal Theatre. The *New York Times* called it "an irresistible,

lustly celebration of passions." Her fiction and poetry have appeared in *Beloved Harlem: A Literary Tribute to Black America's Most Famous Neighborhood*, *Essence* magazine, and the Harlem Writers Guild Press. She co-produced Amiri Baraka's final play, *Most Dangerous Man in America*, based on the life of W. E. B. Du Bois.



Maurice Carlos Ruffin is the author of *The Ones Who Don't Say They Love You: Stories*, a *New York Times* Editors' Choice. His first book, *We Cast a Shadow*, was a finalist for the PEN/Faulkner Award, the Dayton Literary Peace Prize, and the PEN America Open Book Prize.

Ruffin is the winner of several literary prizes including the Iowa Review Award in fiction. A New Orleans native, Ruffin is a professor of creative writing at Louisiana State University, and the 2020-2021 John and Renee Grisham Writer-in-Residence at the University of Mississippi.



Clarisse Rosaz Shariyf has served as PEN America's senior director of literary programs since September 2015. She oversees curation, production, audience building, and strategy for a range of programs and initiatives honoring literary excellence, lifting writers whose

voices need to be heard, and curating public programs featuring American and international authors and artists. Formerly, as the manager of public programs at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, The New York Public Library, she produced a year-round schedule of panel discussions, performances, film screening, and symposia spanning the history and culture of the global Black experience. She held prior appointments at Justice and Sustainability Associates, Washington, and Bates College, Maine. She holds an MA from the University of Chicago and an MA in English Civilization from the University of the French West Indies.



Brian W. Smith is the award-winning, best-selling author of 37 novels and screenplays, including *The Mardi Gras Murders: A Sleepy Carter Mystery*, *The Delusion of Inclusion*, and *If These Trees Could Talk*. His novels have appeared on numerous best-sellers list: *Dallas Morning News*,

Amazon, Target Retail Stores, and others. He has also ghost written 20 novel, memoirs, and nonfiction books for other authors. He has also been signed to Simon & Schuster since 2011. Brian is the founder and president of The Script Repository, a company that specializes in adapting novels to screenplays. When Brian is not writing novels and screenplays for himself and others, he has served as an adjunct professor of creative writing and screenwriting at Collin College in Plano, Texas, since 2012. Brian is a native of New Orleans, Louisiana, and currently resides in McKinney, Texas.



Martha Southgate is the author of four novels: *The Taste of Salt*, *Third Girl from the Left*, *The Fall of Rome*, and *Another Way to Dance*. Her nonfiction writing has appeared in many publications including *New York Times Magazine* as well as the Op-Ed page, *O*, *The Oprah Magazine*, *Washington Post*, and *Entertainment Weekly*.

Among her more recent work is "Rise Up," an essay in *The American Scholar* about the transformative effect of *Hamilton: An American Musical*, and reviews of both Ann Beattie and Ann Patchett's latest novels for *The New York Times Book Review*. She earned an MFA in playwriting from Brooklyn College in 2020.



Sheree Renée Thomas is an award-winning fiction writer, poet, and editor. Her fiction collection *Nine Bar Blues: Stories from an Ancient Future* was a finalist for the 2021 Ignyte Award, Locus Award, and World Fantasy Award. She is also the author of the multigenre/hybrid

collections *Sleeping Under the Tree of Life* and *Shotgun Lullabies*. She is a co-editor of *Trouble the Waters: Tales of the Deep Blue and of Africa Risen: A New Era of Speculative*, forthcoming fall 2022. She is the editor of *The Magazine of Fantasy & Science Fiction*, founded in 1949, and is the associate editor of *Obsidian*, founded in 1975. In 2000 and 2004, she edited the two-time World Fantasy Award-winning anthologies *Dark Matter: A Century of Speculative Fiction from the African Diaspora* and *Dark Matter: Reading the Bones*. For more information, visit www.shereereneethomas.com.



Jervette Ward is an associate professor of English at Mississippi State University and is the editor of *Real Sister: Stereotypes, Respectability, and Black Women in Reality TV* from Rutgers University Press. Dr. Ward writes, teaches, and speaks on the power of language and popular culture

as avenues for social change. She is the current vice president and incoming president of the College Language Association (CLA), the oldest and largest organization for Black scholars of languages and literature. She earned her PhD in English–Literary and Cultural Studies from The University of Memphis. Her forthcoming book *Black Women vs. Errbody: An Intellectual Tradition of Great Debates* argues that Black women have boldly and courageously sought to affirm their own humanity while simultaneously arguing for the humanity of others in a variety of arenas including literature, politics, music, and popular culture.

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Khadijah Z. Ali-Coleman is a cultural curator, community organizer, nationally recognized speaker, and writer. A playwright, she has had more than a dozen of her plays presented in venues throughout the country, including the John F. Kennedy Center for the

Performing Arts, Theater Alliance, and Baltimore Theater Project. She was a Theater Alliance Quadrant Playwright from 2019 to 2021, a 2019 Fulbright-Hays scholar, a 2015 Maryland State Arts Council Independent Artist awardee, and a 2012 Prince George's County Social Innovation Fund Forty Under 40 Awardee. She is author of the children's book *Mariah's Maracas* and co-editor of the book *Homeschooling Black Children in the U.S.: Theory, Practice and Popular Culture*. She is the founder of Liberated Muse Arts Group and the executive director of the Hurston/Wright Foundation, based in Washington, D.C.



Shawn Anthony Christian is associate professor and chair of the English department at Florida International University. He is also affiliate faculty in its African and African Diaspora Studies Program. Dr. Christian is author of *The Harlem Renaissance and the Idea*

of a New Negro Reader and lectures and publishes generally on 20th-century, African American literary and print culture. His other works appear in *American Periodicals*, *CLAJ*, *Ethnic Studies Review*, *MAWA Review*, *Legacy: A Journal of American Women Writers*, and the volumes *Reading African American Experiences in the Obama Era*, *The Harlem Renaissance Revisited*, and *Editing the Harlem Renaissance*.



Wallace Ford is a member of the faculty of Department of Public Administration in the School of Business at Medgar Evers College CUNY. He served as chair of the department for four years and was appointed as an associate professor with tenure in 2021. Professor

Ford has also taught Masters of Public Administration and Masters of Business Administration candidates at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs, Metropolitan College of New York's School of Public Affairs, Pace University, John Jay College, and La Universidad Externado (Colombia). Ford is host of the highly trafficked *Point of View* contemporary commentary blog, www.thewallaceford.com, and *The Inclusion Show with Wallace Ford*, a national television talk show. He is also a frequent guest host and commentator on political events and business issues on MSNBC, WPIX-TV-New York, WBLS, and WHCR radio. He is a contributor to *Black Noire Renaissance* literary magazine and has published two novels, *The Pride* and *What You Sow*. His newest book, *Through the Eyes of Janus - A Draft of History*, a collection of his columns, is forthcoming in 2022.



Donna Hill's latest book is titled *Confessions in B-Flat*. Hill is also the author of *Divas, Inc.* and *In My Bedroom*, and has more than 80 published titles to her credit since her first novel was released in 1990. She is one of the pioneers of the African American romance genre.

Three of her novels have been adapted for television. Her awards include The Career Achievement Award, The Trailblazer Award, The Zora Neale Hurston Literary Award, and The Gold Pen Award. She is an assistant professor of Professional Writing at Medgar Evers College, and lives in Brooklyn, N.Y. Hill has been featured in *Essence*, the *Daily News*, *USA Today*, *Today's Black Woman*, and *Black Enterprise*, among many others. She can be found at www.donnaohill.com.



Aileen A. Johnson is a lawyer and writer living in Washington, D.C. In addition to her scholarship, Aileen is pursuing creative projects that include picture books and a historical fiction middle grade novel. She is the author of the recently published young adult short story "Multiply by

One." Aileen earned a BA in history from the University of Maryland, JD from the George Washington University Law School, and MFA in Writing for Children and Young Adults from the Vermont College of Fine Arts (VCFA). She is an active alumnx of VCFA as a graduate assistant.



Angelle M. Jones uses the power of words to transform lives. Whether writing, speaking, or training, she uses her voice to bring about transformative change in the lives of individuals, institutions, churches, and global communities. Dr. Jones holds a Bachelor of Arts in African

American studies from the University of Cincinnati, a master's degree in theological studies with a minor in ethics from Columbia Theological Seminary in Atlanta, Ga., and an earned Doctorate in Ministry where she studied the philosophy of Dr. MLK's Beloved Community. As an ordained minister, transformation life coach, cultural competency consultant, and adjunct professor, Jones is passionate about intersecting harmony and reconciliation around issues of racial justice, faith, and gender while preparing the next generation of anti-racists ministers.



Hermina Marcellin is a St. Lucian poet, writer, and actress who performs professionally throughout the United States. Her poem “It Is Written: For Derek Walcott” personalizes the life of Derek Walcott, a St. Lucian-born recipient of the 1992 Nobel Prize in

Literature, in an attempt to continue the conversation on cultural awareness and identity. Her poems “It Is Written for Derek Walcott” and “Phoenix Rising” were published on *Wadabagei; A Journal of the Caribbean and Its Global Diasporas*, an online publication for scholars, students, community leaders, and sustainable developers. Hermina is currently employed at Medgar Evers College as an English professor and the radio host of *Caribbean Focus*, which airs on Sundays on MEC radio, WYNYE 91.5 FM and on WMEC.com.



Karen Odate is an educator committed to supporting college students in their self-empowerment, awareness, and actualization. As a strong proponent of mentorship, she continues to be an avid supporter of her mentees in their academic, professional, and personal

development goals. Concurrently, her passion continues to be promoting women’s leadership and professional development. Her dissertation topic was “A Cross-Ethnicity Study of Senior Executive Women in Higher Education: Commonalities and Differences in Lived Experiences.” She recently authored the article “Undergraduate Experience of a Black Haitian-American Female at a Predominantly White Institution” and is co-author of “Addressing the Detrimental Impacts of COVID-19 on Women in the Workforce: Where Do We Go From Here?”



Luvon Roberson devoted nearly 30 years as PR/communications executive and now defines her life as writer of poetry, memoir, ethnographic fiction, narrative performance—fueled by word as social justice. Luvon spent solitary hours reading and writing stories

and poems, while growing up in New York City after her family migrated from Mississippi in the 1950s. Her current work-in-progress is *Mississippi Sanctifyin*, a memoir-collection of multigenre writings about her family’s sharecropping experience and their legacy to her. With degrees from Bryn Mawr College, University of London, and Columbia University, Luvon counts teaching at NYIT, City College, College of New Rochelle among her academic endeavors. She is founder of Riverside Writing Group and an avid Center for Black Literature Book Club member. She tweets @LuvonRwriter.



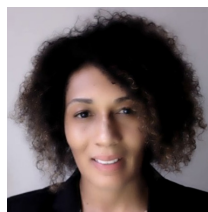
Mary Romney-Schaab is an African American of Caribbean descent with a passion for African diaspora history and family history. She believes in the power and value of oral history for families of African descent throughout the diaspora. As such, she recorded an extensive

oral history with her father in which he described his experiences as one of the few Black survivors of the Nazi concentration camp system. A retired educator, she taught English as a second language in Madrid, New York, Barcelona, and Connecticut for more than 40 years. She has an EdM in Instructional Media, and an MA in TESOL, both from Columbia University; she received an MA and a BA in Spanish, both from Middlebury College.



Kim Williams-Pulfer is an American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) Leading Edge Fellow serving as the Research and Evaluation Manager at the Hurston/Wright Foundation. She holds a BA in psychology from Taylor University, an MA in

English from Butler University, a graduate certificate in nonprofit management from the Paul H. O’Neil School of Public and Environmental Affairs, and a PhD in Philanthropic Studies with a minor in Caribbean Studies from the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy. Her forthcoming book manuscript *Get Involved: Stories of Bahamian Civil Society* is based on her dissertation, where she was awarded the Indiana University President’s Diversity Dissertation Fellowship. Her research and community engagement interests include philanthropy and social change in the African diaspora, civil society in the Caribbean and the global South, and African diasporic community development through the arts and cultural heritage.



Lisa Wilson received a BS in accounting from Virginia Commonwealth University and became a licensed CPA in 2011. She then matriculated from Virginia Union University with a Master of Divinity degree with honors and then receiving a Doctor of Ministry

degree with research in social theory and hermeneutics—a homiletical focus and analysis of social context, individual transformation, and efforts toward community mobilization and sustainability. She currently works at Virginia Union University in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences-Religious Studies as an adjunct professor of philosophy and a research and teaching assistant within the Samuel De Witt Proctor School of Theology at Virginia Union University. She has work published in Urban Ministries Inc.’s Pastoral Study Guides and local community publications and has other works in progress.



WORKSHOP LEADER

Elisa Nefertari Ulen is the author of *Crystelle Mourning*. Eisa is the recipient of a Frederick Douglass Creative Arts Center Fellowship for Young African American Fiction Writers, a Provincetown Fine Arts Work Center Fellowship, and a National Association of Black Journalists Award. Her essays on African American culture have been widely anthologized, most recently “Black Parenting Matters” in *Who Do You Serve? Who Do You Protect?*, which won the Social Justice/Advocacy Award for 2017 from the School Library Journal’s In the Margins Book Committee. Eisa has contributed to *The Hollywood Reporter*, *Essence*, *Parents*, *The Washington Post*, *Ms. Health*, *Ebony*, *Readers Digest*, *The Huffington Post*, *Pen.org*, *Los Angeles Review of Books*, and *The Root.com* among others. Eisa graduated from Sarah Lawrence College and earned a master’s degree from Columbia University. She has taught literature at Hunter College and The Pratt Institute, and she teaches fiction writing at Baruch College. A founding member of ringShout: A Place for Black Literature, she lives with her husband and son in Brooklyn.

THE ELDERS

Ebun Adelona is a wise woman with a broad range of knowledge and experience, which spans social science, alternative/complimentary health practices, and research and development of health systems. She has had a long and productive career assisting communities to organize and change health systems so that they are compatible with and service their health needs. With profound respect for the innate healing knowledge of everyone she teaches workshops and guides people to access their inner authority and manifest change in their lives. Dr. Adelona has a bachelor’s degree in nursing education from New York University. A master’s degree as a clinical specialist in psychiatric nursing from Rutgers University and a PhD in anthropology from Columbia University with a specialization in medical and political anthropology.

Diane J. Grazette Collins was born in Brooklyn, N.Y. She earned a BA in English at the University of Hartford in 1995. She earned an MA in English from the University of Connecticut in 1997. She has been a member of the Fulton Art Fair for the past 12 years. She lives with her husband and son in Bedford-Stuyvesant.

Shirley V. H. Cooper was born in Kingston, Jamaica, to Violet Huggupp and Oscar Bruce White. Those last two names were melded together by Shirley’s mother, when, in 1949, she migrated to America by way of Panama. Shirley attended Brooklyn College for two years before she pursued her dream to travel the world. That dream came through when she became one of the very first African American women to work for American Airlines as a stewardess. Now retired, Shirley traveled the world when employed by American and Pan Am Airlines.

Joan Corbett was born and bred in Brooklyn, N.Y, and attended Brooklyn College, where she earned both a BA in education (in 1962) and an MS in counseling. Corbett served the children of Brooklyn’s District 16 for 37 years as a kindergarten teacher and guidance counselor. Now a widow and a proud mother of two children, Tracey and Christopher, and two grandchildren, Austin and Janaya, Joan spends her free time writing and attending movies and plays. She also loves to travel and socialize with her friends.

William Craig was born and bred in Brooklyn, New York, and he attended schools in Brooklyn and New York City. After graduating from Columbia University College of Pharmacy, he commenced his professional career as a pharmacist. As a pharmacist, William’s observation sent him back to school, where he studied naturopathic and allopathic nutrition and completed a postgraduate degree in clinical nutrition. William has been blessed with two children, one who is a social scientist and a published author, residing in Virginia with her family, and the other who is an esquire residing in Brooklyn and working in Manhattan. William’s writing, music, and art have served as a release valve for him, which, given the spiritual and social upheaval we are experiencing today, have served him well, as he looks forward to new and greater beginnings.

Lupe Family is a writer. She has lived in both Clinton Hill and Fort Greene in Brooklyn. She studied and learned from the “University of the Streets” in her many decades of life. Writing about healing through alternative ways like reflexology and yoga is a highlight for her, and she has completed the novel *To Face It: Love & Work*, which is available online through Amazon’s Kindle Direct Press.

Ernie Jackson was born in Menifee, Arkansas, and earned a BS from Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia. Jackson moved to New York and attended Teachers College Columbia University, where she earned an MA. A retired teacher who worked for the New York City Board of Education, Jackson loves to write, garden, and entertain.

Lurline Martineau was born in Grenada, West Indies. After graduating from the Anglican High School, she pursued her talent in dressmaking. Siloam of Presbyterian Church is her church home, where she is an ordained elder and deacon. She joined Daytop Family Association in 1989 and is a trained facilitator. She received Daytop's highest award in 2006. Currently, she is involved in conducting "Grief and Bereavement" groups, writing her memoirs, volunteering in a nursing home, and participating in Caring for the Caregiver.

Rebecca C. Plunkett's (nom de plume) nursing career spans more than 40 years in the United Kingdom and New York City. Her earlier education began in Jamaica, West Indies, where she sat for the London GCE. She obtained her SRN and RMN from the General Nursing Council of England and Wales and her CNM from the Certified Nurse Midwives Board of London. In addition, she obtained a Tropical Nursing Degree from University Hospital of Tropical Diseases and Hygiene in London. Rebecca obtained her BSN from the City University of New York. She is also a Certified Childbirth Educator. Now retired, she writes short stories, children's stories, poetry, and essays. She enjoys attending intellectual lectures and educational classes at venues throughout the NYC area. Her pastimes include reading, traveling, and gardening.

Glenda Martin Pollard was born and reared in the Edenwald Projects circa mid-1950s. After graduating from Cardinal Spellman H.S., she proceeded to enroll in many universities and colleges throughout New York State and Massachusetts, ostensibly in pursuit of a well-rounded education. Eventually earning a BS from CCNY and a BSN from Columbia University, Glenda worked as a Registered Nurse for more than 30 years. Now retired, she is happy to pursue her childhood passion of writing. Glenda is also very much steeped in holistic health modalities and is a Tibetan Usui Reiki master, therapeutic touch practitioner, and polarity therapist. She has two wonderful sons, Jason and Jordan, and three lovely granddaughters to date: Imani, Xaria, and Naima.

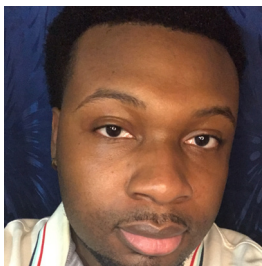
Teresa M. Snyder was born in Sandersville, Georgia, but attended elementary school in Brooklyn and graduated from Prospect Heights High School. She earned her BA from John Jay College, an MS from Fordham University, an MA from Cornell University, and an MPA from New York University. A retired analyst for New York State, Snyder has two adult children: a daughter who lives in Brooklyn and a son who lives in Maryland. Her daughter has given her two grandsons, and her son has given her two granddaughters, all of whom are college educated and one of whom has performed as a pianist in the Obama White House. Teresa loves writing, and she is a mentor to girls in the Women in Government program at Clara Barton High School, where she facilitates a book club.

Claudette Joy Spence holds a Master of Science in communications through the City University of New York. Her community development work spans 30 years in the USA and the Caribbean. Claudette is an educator, justice advocate, author, lay leader, and a budding visual artist. Claudette Joy self identifies as African American—an African soul birthed in Jamaica—who enjoys laughter and especially the sound of children at play. Her manuscript, a memoir on race and immigration, awaits joining her other four titles of which *Nurturing The Garden of Joy: Provocative Essays on Relationships* is most popular. Claudette Joy uses this as textbook for her SustainableJoy™ workshops, which model successful communication tools to sustain fruitful and stress-free relationships in our families, workplaces, and religious and social institutions.

Sylvia Jones Suescun was born in Freedman's Hospital in Washington, D.C., in 1932. A member of the 1950 Dunbar High School graduating class, Suescun attended Morgan State College, where she earned a BS in 1954, and then moved to New York to work for the Department of Welfare Children's Center. She decided to pursue graduate studies at Fordham University and worked as a therapeutic recreation director for Health and Hospital Corporation NYC for many years before she retired. Suescun's father, Herbert Jones, was a music director for 50 years; and music was always in her home. An active officer at Siloam Presbyterian Church, she has sung in choirs all her life and enjoys travel and art in addition to music.

Cynthia Goodison Tompkins was born in 1933 in Brooklyn, N.Y., to two proud Jamaican parents. She attended PS 54, Girls High School, and Cheyney State Teachers College in Cheyney, Pennsylvania, where she earned a BS in education. Cynthia moved back to New York to earn her master's degree in Early Childhood Education from the College of Staten Island. Retired from the New York City Board of Education after 30 years of service, Cynthia has volunteered as a volleyball coach, Brownie Girl Scout Leader, and cheerleading coach. She has a son, daughter, two grandsons, and one great-grandson.

THE 16TH NBWC POETRY CAFE PARTICIPANTS



Malik Brizan-Reed (He/Him/His) is a 2022 alumni of the predominantly Black institution Medgar Evers College (MEC). He majored in English with a concentration in creative writing. Recently, he has won the MEC schoolwide writing contest for his fiction short story

“On My Own,” which is based on living in Brooklyn. He has plans to attend Craig Newmark School of Journalism in the fall of 2022 to learn more about arts and culture reporting. He has a passion for writing about Black people’s experiences in America and the Caribbean. A quote that he lives by is “Be the author of your own life.”



Ama Codjoe is the author of *Bluest Nude* and *Blood of the Air*, winner of the Drinking Gourd Chapbook Poetry Prize. Among other honors, she has received a 2017 Rona Jaffe Writer’s Award, a Creative Writing Fellowship from the National Endowment for the

Arts, and a NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellowship. She lives in New York City and works in social justice and the arts.



Aracelis Girmay is the author of the poetry collections *Teeth and Kingdom Animalia*, and the collage-based picture book *changing, changing*. *Teeth* was published by Curbstone Press under the generous and brilliant stewardship of Sandy Taylor. For *Teeth*, Girmay received the

GLCA New Writers Award, and the book was a finalist for the Connecticut Book Award. *Kingdom Animalia* was the winner of the Isabella Gardner Award and a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award. Most recently, Girmay’s poetry and essays have been published in *Granta*, *Black Renaissance Noire*, and *PEN America*, among other places. She has received grants and fellowships from the Jerome, Cave Canem, and Watson foundations, as well as Civitella Ranieri and the NEA.



Rachel Eliza Griffiths is a multimedia artist, poet, and novelist. Her literary and visual work has been published in publications such as *The New Yorker*, *The Paris Review*, *The New York Times*, *Virginia Quarterly Review*, *American Poetry Review*, *The New York*

Review of Books, among many others. Griffiths is widely known for her literary portraits, fine art photography, and lyric videos. Recently, she partnered with Poetry Society of America and Blue Bottle Coffee for their Recollections

blend campaign in fall 2021. In 2020, she was selected as the 2020 Stella Adler Poet-in-Residence. Griffiths is also the image designer for the libretto *Castor & Patience*, written by Tracy K. Smith and composer Gregory Spears, which will premiere in July 2022 at the Cincinnati Opera House. Griffith’s recent collection of poetry and photography, *Seeing the Body*, was selected as the winner of the 2021 Hurston/Wright Foundation Legacy Award in Poetry, the winner of the 2021 Paterson Poetry Prize, and nominated for a 2020 NAACP Image Award. Her forthcoming debut novel, *Promise*, will be published by Random House.



Darrel Alejandro Holnes is an Afro-Panamanian American writer and playwright. His play *Starry Night* was a finalist for the Eugene O’Neill Theater Center’s National Playwrights Conference and the Princess Grace Award in Playwriting. His most recent play, *Black*

Feminist Video Game, was produced by The Civilians for 59E59 and other theaters and venues. He is the founder of the Greater Good Commission and Festival, a festival of Latinx short plays.

Holnes is the author of *Migrant* and *Stepmotherland*. He is the recipient of the Andres Montoya Poetry Prize from Letras Latinas, the Drinking Gourd Poetry Prize, and a National Endowment for the Arts Literature Fellowship in Creative Writing. His poems have previously appeared in the *American Poetry Review*, *Callaloo*, and elsewhere. Holnes is a Cave Canem and CantoMundo Fellow whose scholarships include the Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference and a residency at MacDowell. His poem “Praise Song for My Mutilated World” won the C. P. Cavafy Poetry Prize. He is an assistant professor of English at Medgar Evers College, (CUNY), and a faculty member of the Gallatin School of Individualized Study at New York University.



Tyehimba Jess is the author of two books of poetry, *Leadbelly* and *Olio*. *Olio* won the 2017 Pulitzer Prize, the Anisfield-Wolf Book Award, The Midland Society Author’s Award in Poetry, and received an Outstanding Contribution to Publishing Citation from the

Black Caucus of the American Library Association. It was also nominated for the National Book Critics Circle Award, the PEN Jean Stein Book Award, and the Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award. *Leadbelly* was a winner of the 2004 National Poetry Series. Jess, a Cave Canem and NYU alumni, received a Guggenheim fellowship in 2018. Jess is a professor of English at College of Staten Island. His fiction and poetry have appeared in journals and anthologies including *Angles of Ascent: A Norton Anthology of Contemporary African American Poetry*; *Beyond The Frontier: African American Poetry*

for the Twenty-First Century; *Role Call: A Generational Anthology of Social and Political Black Literature and Art*; *Power Lines: Ten Years of Poetry from Chicago's Guild Complex*; and *Slam: The Art of Performance Poetry*.



Nina Angela Mercer is a cultural worker. Her plays include *Gutta Beautiful*; *Itagua Meji: A Road & A Prayer*; *Elijaheen Becomes Wind*; *Charisma at the Crossroads*; and *A Compulsion for Breathing*. Nina's writing has been published in *The Killens Review of Arts & Letters*; *Black Renaissance*

Noire; *Continuum: The Journal of African Diaspora Drama, Theatre, and Performance*; *A Gathering of the Tribes Magazine Online*; *Break Beat Poets Vol 2: Black Girl Magic*; *Are You Entertained? Black Popular Culture in the 21st Century*; *Performance Research*; and *Represent! New Plays for Multicultural Young People* (Bloomsbury Press). Nina is currently a Schomburg Scholar-in-Residence. She is also the executive director of Ocean Ana Rising, Inc./OAR. For more information, visit her at www.ninaangelamerцер.com.



John Murillo is the author of the poetry collections *Up Jump the Boogie*, finalist for both the Kate Tufts Discovery Award and the Pen Open Book Award, and *Kontemporary Amerikan Poetry*, winner of the Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award and the Poetry Society of Virginia's North American

Book Award, and finalist for the PEN/Voelcker Award for Poetry and the NAACP Image Award. His other honors include the Four Quartets Prize from the T. S. Eliot Foundation and the Poetry Society of America, two Larry Neal Writers Awards, a pair of Pushcart Prizes, the J. Howard and Barbara M. J. Wood Prize from the Poetry Foundation, an NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellowship, Cave Canem Foundation, and the Wisconsin Institute for Creative Writing. Recent poems have appeared in such publications as *American Poetry Review*, *Poetry*, and *Best American Poetry 2017, 2019, and 2020*. He is an assistant professor of English and director of the creative writing program at Wesleyan University and teaches in the low-residency MFA program at Sierra Nevada University.



Joanna Sit is the author of three books of poetry—the most recent is *Track Works*. She is working on a book about 1960s New York Chinese immigrants and Cantonese Opera. She teaches at City University of New York, Medgar Evers College in Brooklyn. Her work has been published in *Five*

Willows, *Ezra*, and other journals. Her upcoming poem "Roshomon Redux" appeared in the Winter 2020 issue of *The Gyroscope Review*.



Malik Windsor is a Brooklyn native hailing from East Flatbush. He is a creative writing major at Medgar Evers College. Malik also works as an educator with the New York City Department of Education. Some of Malik's passions include working with youth, writing stories, and traveling.

He aspires to complete a collection of short stories in the near future.

THE 16TH NBWC FILM SERIES PARTICIPANTS



Nasir Kenneth Ferebee

is an NAACP Image Award, GLAAD, and three-time Telly Award-winning producer, filmmaker, and writer. He earned a degree from Temple University in Philadelphia, Pa., where he graduated *cum laude*. After graduation, Nasir

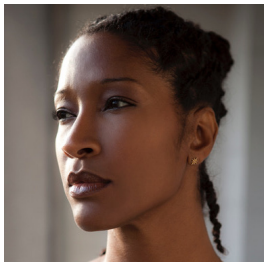
launched his career in New York City and worked at various media companies including VH1, The Oprah Winfrey Network (OWN), Bravo, MTV, Lifetime, and BET.

Nasir has amassed dozens of film-producing credits, including *90 Days*, which won awards at the African Movie Academy Awards, Pan African Film Festival, and Diversity in Cannes Festival. He also produced the acclaimed film *All Boys Aren't Blue*, which won the Audience Award at NewFest Film Festival along with the GLAAD Media Award for Special Recognition Project. Nasir recently won his first NAACP Image Award for Best Short Film for the Oscar-qualifying film *Black Boy Joy*.



Artel Great is an American artist, Independent Spirit Award-nominated filmmaker, Black cinema scholar, and a leading authority on race and popular culture, bridging the gap at the intersections of cinema and social justice.

His rigorous work as a public scholar and critically informed film director transcends boundaries and defies conventional categorization, approaching Black cinema and visual culture as a form of creative activism that addresses the myriad links between art and politics. He is also known for his supporting roles in the films *Save the Last Dance*, *Oprah Winfrey's Their Eyes Were Watching God*, and his award-winning performance in the cult classic *Dahmer*. Dr. Great is the first Black valedictorian at UCLA Film School, where he graduated *summa cum laude*, and later earned his PhD at New York University, Tisch School of the Arts.



Liza Jessie Peterson

is an activist; an actress, playwright, poet, author, and youth advocate who has been steadfast in her commitment to incarcerated populations both professionally and artistically for more than two decades. Her critically acclaimed one woman

show, *The Peculiar Patriot*, was nominated for a Drama Desk Award and was featured at the 2020 Democratic National Convention. Her play was featured at the Pulitzer Center's fall 2020 program; and a documentary is currently in production about her performance at the Angola penitentiary, where she performed and the play was live-streamed throughout the entire prison. *The Peculiar Patriot* premiered at the National Black

Theatre in Harlem, followed by Arts Emerson (Boston) and Woolly Mammoth (D.C.); and was nominated for a Drama Desk Award in 2019. *The Peculiar Patriot* also received a grant from Agnes Gund's Art for Justice Fund. Liza is author of *All Day: A Year of Love and Survival*, *Teaching Incarcerated Kids at Rikers Island*. She was featured in Ava DuVernay's Emmy Award-winning documentary *13th* and was a consultant on Bill Moyers's PBS documentary *Rikers*.



Eboni Price

is a rising director hailing from Birmingham, Ala., by way of Philadelphia, Pa. She found her passion in directing after receiving a scholarship to On The Set Film Camp in Birmingham, Ala., at the age of 17. She is a 2014 graduate of Howard

University, where she graduated *summa cum laude* and received her degree in Radio, TV, Film. During her time at Howard, Eboni began a production company: *DollaNADream Productions*, which taught students of all disciplines how to create their own content. In four years, the group grew from two to 30 students, creating various shorts and web shows on campus.



Yazmin Monet Watkins

is a poet, comedian, writer, actress, educator, and organizer. Touring her intimate yet political poetry from Obama's White House to Johannesburg, and empowering students from Harvard to youth prisons, Watkins's body of work weaves

art and activism, exploring the intersection of race, gender, sexuality, self-love, and all things Black Girl Magic. Watkins is represented by United Talent Agency and has developed work with Netflix and Comedy Central. She creates with her all-Black female comedy group *Obama's Other Daughters*. You can see their work on Comedy Central and their *Shondaland* podcast *You Down?* Watkins serves as the co-chair of the Arts & Culture Committee for Black Lives Matter Los Angeles.



Rev. Malika Lee Whitney,

producer/host of *Untitled* (WBAI Radio), is artistic director of *Pickney Productions*, an arts, culture, and education consortium based in Harlem. Her work as a performing artist and producer is well known for presenting culturally relevant

content for audiences of all ages. Global travels to Africa, Europe, the Caribbean, Central and South America have enriched her connection to the communities she serves as an educator and social activist.

BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY

MALCOLM X: REAL, NOT REINVENTED
Critical Conversations on Manning Marable's Biography of Malcolm X



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A large, semi-transparent portrait of Frederick Douglass, showing his face and upper torso, set against a dark blue background.

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A red, textured background with a woven pattern. It features two vintage photographs: one of a young girl in a white dress standing in a doorway, and another of a woman sitting with several children and dolls. A large, detailed rag doll with a brown face and a patterned dress is positioned on the right side.

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