

Shodekeh Talifero

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Visual Resume / CV: [The Baker Artist Award & Alumni Portfolio](#)

Education

Penn State University, Media Studies major, 1997 - 2002

New York Film Academy, Directing & Production focus, 2001

Coppin State University, Urban Arts Production major, 2002 - 2004

Professional Experience

Towson University Department of Dance, Musician-in-Residence, 2006 - 2018

The American Dance Festival @ Duke University, Music Faculty, 2007 - 2010

The NYU Tisch School of Dance, Musician-in-Residence, 2017

The Peabody Conservatory BFA Dance Program, Composer Accompanist-in-Residence, 2018 - 2021

The Towson University College of Fine Arts & Communication, Innovator-in-Residence, 2019 - 2022

Innovation Pilot Launch Commissions & Inaugural Artist Residencies

"Innovator-in-Residence" at the Towson University College of Fine Arts & Communication, 2019 - 2022

"Artist-in-Residence" for "Voyages: Chapter I" at the National Aquarium, with support from the Marjorie Lynn Bank Endowment, 2021 - 2022

"Breath Artist-in-Residence" @ the office of Creativity & Innovation and the Crown Center for Teaching of Colorado College, with support from the National Endowment for the Humanities Professorship, 2024 - 2025

"Anti-Racist Artist-in-Residence" @ the Butler Center of Colorado College, September 22nd - December 17th 2025

Awards, Grants & Fellowships

The Penn State Minority Film Workshop Scholarship, 1996

The NAACP Act So Awards National Bronze Medal, 1997

The Creative Alliance Artist Studio Residency, 2007

The U.S Embassy of Lithuania American Month of Culture Grant, 2009

The Baker Artist Portfolio Mary Sawyers Award, 2011

Neuroscience of Art Fellowship at Salzburg Global, 2015

The Maryland State Arts Council Folklife Apprenticeship Award, 2017

The Alice T. Ditson Fund Recording Program Award @ Columbia University for “Vodalities” composed by Shodekeh, 2021

The George Washington Presidential Library Fellowship @ Mount Vernon, 2023

The National Endowment for the Humanities Professorship @ Colorado College, 2024

Exhibitions & Installations

- “The Baker Artist Portfolio & Award” exhibition at the Baltimore Museum of Art, 2010 & 2011
- Music Curator of “For Whom It Stands: The Flag & the American People” at The Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History & Culture, Smithsonian Affiliate, 2014 - 2015
- “The Resident’s Open House” exhibition at the Creative Alliance, 2016
- Arts + Science Adjudicator for “The Research Remix” exhibition at the Johns Hopkins Digital Media Center & the Johns Hopkins Sheridan Libraries, 2016
- “Virion Breaths” sound art installation of the “Reveal” exhibition at the Katzen Arts Center of the American University Museum, 2021
- “Vymatics” hydrocymatic sound art installation for “Voyages: Chapter 1” at the National Aquarium & the Towson University Science Complex Planetarium, 2022 & 2023
- “The Black History Lab” curated and installed by Shodekeh at the Butler Center of Colorado College. May 5th, 2026
- “A Legal Avant Garde Lab” exhibition curated and installed by Shodekeh at the Visual Resources Center of the Colorado College Art Department for the CC Faculty Conference, 2025
- “Breath Kins” composed by Shodekeh for Jessica Seagall’s “Oddkin” at the Kunsthalle

Seinajoki of the Kavelana Navetta Art and Culture Center in Seinajoki, Finland. January 24th - May 23rd, 2026

- “The Sacred Crates of Hip Hop” curated and installed by Shodekeh at the Seay Library of Music and Art of Colorado College. February 2nd - May 18th, 2026.

Recordings

“Dolmen Music, Part I (Shodekeh’s Embody & Continuums Remix)” for “Remixes & Interpretations of Music by Meredith Monk.” Released by the House Foundation for the Arts, 2012

“Achai” by the Alash Ensemble & special guest Shodekeh. Released by Smithsonian Folkways Recordings, 2017

“One Beat 2018 Mixtape Golden Record B-Sides Heliopause, Vol 6: “Reading Books” featuring Shodekeh. Program partner NASA JPL. Released by Found Sound Nation of Bang on a Can, 2018

“Embodiments” by Bady Dorzhu Ondar of Alash & Shodekeh. Released by Ear Up Records, 2022

“King Coal” full length motion picture, featuring the film’s “Breath Art Sound Library” designed and created by Shodekeh. Released by American Documentary / POV / PBS, 2024

“Vodalities” composed by Shodekeh, featured on So Percussion’s “25x25” compilation album released by Cantaloupe Music. Composition film directed by 4/10 Media and released by Vic Firth, 2025

“When There Are No Words” short documentary, featuring the film’s “Breath Art Sound Library” designed and created by Shodekeh. Released by Switchboard Magazine, 2025

Publications

“For Whom It Stands: The Flag & the American People” published by the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History & Culture and Smithsonian Affiliates, 2016

“Breathing Is Universal” for “Silver Linings” published by the Towson University College of Fine Arts & Communication Blog, 2020

“Auto Dissertation I, Vol. 1: Breaths Along the Potomac: An Epistolary Art Gallery” published by Northwestern Law Journal des Refuses at the Northwestern Pritzker School of Law, 2025

Collections

The Maryland Traditions Folklife Program Collection at the University of Maryland Baltimore County. Award and Collections recipient, 2017

The Neuroscience of Art: Session 547 (Shodekeh: Panelist and Fellow) catalogued in the Salzburg Global Seminar collection at Harvard University Archives, 2019

“Deadlock” composed by Ruby Fulton for the soloist Shodekeh at the UCLA Contemporary Music Score Collection, 2020

“Ideations of Potential: Shodekeh’s Innovation Lab of Embodied Scholarship & Hip Hop Imagination” established at the Towson University Special Collections & University Archives, 2021

“Vodalities” composed by Shodekeh and catalogued in the Music division’s concert series archive and general collections of the Library of Congress, 2024

Professional Organizations

Fellow of the Salzburg Global Seminar

Official Advocate of Dark Sky International

Member of the American Numismatic Association