



Professional Summary

Published author with fifteen years professional writing experience. Particularly well-versed in the educational writing sphere, having served as a contract writer for multiple content development companies and completed countless materials' projects in each of the core subject areas. Possesses extensive knowledge of the fiction, poetry, and memoir genres; creative work can be found in long-established and avant-garde journals alike. Co-founded, directs, and manages all aspects of an intensive critical reading and writing program for Black girls in Baltimore City.

Education

Johns Hopkins University <i>Masters of Arts, Writing</i>	June 2002 – December 2003	Baltimore, Maryland jhu.edu
Morgan State University <i>Bachelor of Arts, English</i>	September 1995 – December 1999	Baltimore, Maryland morgan.edu

Certification

Maryland State Department of Education <i>Generic Special Education 6-Adult</i>	July 2014 - June 2019	Baltimore, Maryland marylandpublicschools.org
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Publications

- “[Memphis and Haddassah and Barbara and Keisha and Imani and Pip or How Tony Learned to Stay Young.](#)” *Baltimore City Paper*. The 2017 Fiction and Poetry Issue. Summer 2017.
- “Men Be Either Or, But Never Enough.” *Ploughshares Solos Omnibus*. Volume 4. Fall 2016.
- “[On the Blood.](#)” *Hamilton Stone Review*. Fall 2016.
- “[Butta Black Girls.](#)” *The Black Light Chronicles*. Kwiz. 2016.
- [College Prep Reading & Writing Student and Teacher Handbooks.](#) *Talent Development Secondary*. Fall 2016.
- “[Like Bees Wanting Out of the Terrible Hive.](#)” *City Paper*. August 2016.
- “[Men Be Either Or, But Never Enough.](#)” *Ploughshares Solos Omnibus*. Volume 4. March 2016.
- “[Hussy.](#)” *The Wilderness House Literary Review*. Volume 9. Issue 3. October 2014.
- “[How to Forgive Abortion When You Are the Aborter.](#)” *The Feminist Wire*. September 2013.
- “[Leaving Women.](#)” *Ploughshares*. Spring 2009: 44.
- “[How Not to Ruin Your Daughters.](#)” *Fiction Circus*. www.fictioncircus.com. Spring 2009.
- “[Small Crimes.](#)” *Urbanite Magazine*. August 2008: 52.
- “This Too Shall Pass.” *Mary Elise Magazine*. www.marvelise.com. Online archives. August 2007 (defunct).
- “Put Those Things Away.” *Breastfeeding Anthology*. Meadowbrook Press, 2007.
- “Carla’s Favorite Flower Dress.” *Sensations Magazine*. Spring/Summer 2007.
- “Such Evenings.” *Urbanite Magazine*. March 2005.
- “Supine.” *Penn Union*. Fall 2003.
- *Anthem: For Colored Women Only*. New York: Black Alchemist Press, 2001.



Awards and Honors

2019 Pushcart Prize notable/special mention
2017 [Baltimore City Paper Best Storyteller](#)
2016 Rubys [fiction grant recipient](#)
2016 Maryland State Arts Council [fiction grant recipient](#)
2015 Maryland State Arts Council [playwriting grant recipient](#)
2010 [Cohen Award recipient](#)
2006 Maryland State Arts Council top fiction grant recipient
2003 Maryland State Arts Council poetry grant recipient
2002 Money for Women fiction grant recipient
1999 Highest Average Liberal Arts College
1998 Morgan State University Sable Quill Contest 1st place recipient

Reading and Facilitation Exemplars

Open Hours January 2019 Baltimore, Maryland

Guest Facilitator, Community-Generated Forum

- Will facilitate a mock ARS workshop featuring core components of the summer program including Deconstruction of Thought, Teacher's Story and Strategies of Self-Love.
- Will illustrate the power of the dialogue circle process.
- Will demonstrate how trauma can be addressed through art, literature and yoga.

NASAA PDI October 2018 Baltimore, Maryland

Guest Facilitator, Community-Generated Forum

- Facilitated a mock ARS workshop featuring core components of the summer program including Deconstruction of Thought, Teacher's Story and Strategies of Self-Love.
- Guided dialogue around Jamaican Kincaid's "Girl" with the theme, "All mothers give their daughters a story to live."
- Illustrated the power of the dialogue circle process.
- Demonstrated how trauma can be addressed through art, literature and yoga.

Writers and Words January 2017 Baltimore, Maryland

Guest Speaker, Reading Series

- Read from short story "On the Blood," published by Hamilton Stone Review.
- Participated in the series' author interviews.
- Published excerpt of "On the Blood" in the series' zine.

Tender FM December 2016 Baltimore, Maryland

Guest Speaker, Reading Series

- Read poem "How to Forgive Abortion When You Are the Aborter," published by The Feminist Wire.
- Read from novella "Call on Mercy and a Yellow Cab."
- Read lyrics to "The Gorgeous Word No," featured on forthcoming spoken word album.



- Discussed betrayal, navigating the consequences of abortion, and the mechanisms for leaving an abusive relationship.

Hey You, Come Back!

October 2016

Baltimore, Maryland

Guest Speaker, Reading Series

- Read from short stories “On the Blood” and “When Pigs Murdered Soup But the World Still Spun.”
- Discussed the trauma associated with institutional betrayal and police brutality in the African American community.
- Evaluated the connections between fiction and real life.

Baltimore Book Festival

September 2016

Baltimore, Maryland

Guest Speaker, Ivy Bookshop Tent

- Participated in “Loving the Hard Way” reading with fellow writers Carolyn Parkhurst, Elizabeth Hazen, Cathy Alter, Dave Singleton and Jessica Anya Blau.
- Read from short story “On the Blood,” published by Hamilton Stone Review.
- Answered questions posed to panel of writers following the reading.

Conversations and Connections

April 2014

Washington, DC

Guest Speaker, Annual Conference

- Co-facilitated fiction workshop titled “Faking It: Writing About a Culture That’s Not Your Own.”
- Presented and discussed examples of poorly written and well-written works of fiction written by writers working outside of a given culture.
- Answered questions posed by novice writers about how to accomplish a culturally accurate piece of work.

Flanked

August 2006

Washington, DC

Lecturer, Women’s Writers Conference

- Analyzed the techniques of superb writers, especially those known for their creation of metaphors.
- Reviewed dozens of successful metaphors accompanied by identifications of metaphor type and examinations of technique and style.
- Outlined key strategies for creating beautiful metaphors.

Community College of Baltimore County

April 2005/April 2004

Towson, Maryland

Guest Lecturer, Annual Creative Writing Forum

- Facilitated fiction workshops for 20-25 students.
- Examined the revision process as it relates to sentence construction and the use of metaphor.
- Demonstrated the appropriate use of tone, imagery, and diction as methods of revision.

Community College of Baltimore County

April 2005

Baltimore, Maryland

Facilitator, Annual Creative Writing Forum

- Facilitated fiction workshops for 20-25 students.
- Examined the revision process as it relates to sentence construction and the use of metaphor.
- Demonstrated the appropriate use of tone, imagery, and diction as methods of revision.



Baltimore Prerelease Unit for Women

March 2004 – July 2004

Baltimore, Maryland

Guest Lecturer, Volunteer Writing Program

- Facilitated fiction class for 10-12 prisoners.
- Identified, discussed, and analyzed the importance of dialogue, dialect, and imagery in literature.
- Assisted students in the exploration of the above elements in their own writing while stressing the importance of fundamental writing skills.