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## **EDUCATION**

6/2021 MFA, Creative Writing, Prose, University of Washington

2017 MA. Ed., Urban Environmental Education, Antioch University Seattle

2009 B.A., Rhetoric, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

## **AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION:**

Race; Gender; Eco-criticism; Political ecology; Environmental justice; Blues literature; The political novel

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

2019-2020 Teacher of Record , University of Washington, Seattle, 2019-20  
ENGL 131 - "Writing on Environment" - Autumn 2019  
ENGL 131 - "Writing on Environment" - Winter 2020  
ENGL 131 - "Writing on Environment" - Spring 2020

2017 Teaching Assistant, IslandWood  
Water Testing and Salmon elementary school lesson, IslandWood Urban Schools  
Program, Winter 2017

2011-2013 English Instructor, Richland Community College  
ENG 095 - Developmental Paragraph Writing, Spring 2011, Fall 2011, Spring 2012, Fall  
2012, Spring 2013  
ENG 097 – Developmental Essay Writing, Spring 2011, Fall 2011, Spring 2012, Fall 2012,  
Spring 2013

## **AWARDS AND HONORS**

2020-2021 GOMAP Merit Fellowship, University of Washington, Autumn 2020, Winter 2021  
2020 Richard J. Dunn First-Year Teaching Award, English Writing Program, University  
of Washington  
2017 National Audubon Walker Communications Editorial Fellowship  
2016 Outstanding Civil Service Staff Award, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
2002 Illinois Community College Journalism Association Award

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### *Essays and Articles*

- 2020 “‘Grandma's Kitchen’ and ‘A Black Hair Journey.’” *Penumbra Online*, 12 Nov. 2020, [www.penumbraonline.org/grandmas-kitchen-and-a-black-hair-journey.html](http://www.penumbraonline.org/grandmas-kitchen-and-a-black-hair-journey.html).
- 2020 “What Does Being up from the Table Look Like?” *Black Embodiments Studio Journal*, Vol. 3, September 2020
- 2020 “A Difficult Trek with My Daughter ” *Hobart Pulp*, 31 February 2020, [www.hobartpulp.com/web\\_features/a-difficult-trek-with-my-daughter](http://www.hobartpulp.com/web_features/a-difficult-trek-with-my-daughter).
- 2019 “Black Children and the School-to-Prison Pipeline.” *Medium, ZORA*, 31 July 2019, [zora.medium.com/black-children-and-the-school-to-prison-pipeline-6271ad0636be](https://zora.medium.com/black-children-and-the-school-to-prison-pipeline-6271ad0636be).
- 2019 “Voices Heard: Life as a City Girl Gone Green.” *The Mountaineers*, 5 Mar. 2019, [www.mountaineers.org/blog/voices-heard-life-as-a-city-girl-gone-green](http://www.mountaineers.org/blog/voices-heard-life-as-a-city-girl-gone-green).
- 2018 “The Diverse Voices of Future Urban Environmental Educators.” *The Nature of Cities*, 7 June 2018, [www.thenatureofcities.com/2018/06/07/diverse-voices-future-urban-environmental-educators/](http://www.thenatureofcities.com/2018/06/07/diverse-voices-future-urban-environmental-educators/).
- 2018 “Contradictions in Being a Black Environmentalist” *Three Circles Center*, 24 May 2020, [www.threecircles.org/the-contradictions-in-being-a-black-environmentalist-iamtoooanenvironmentalist/](http://www.threecircles.org/the-contradictions-in-being-a-black-environmentalist-iamtoooanenvironmentalist/).
- 2017 “How Seward Park Audubon Center Turned a City Slicker Into a Bird Lover.” *South Seattle Emerald*, 28 Aug. 2017, [southseattleemerald.com/2017/08/25/how-seward-park-audubon-center-turned-a-city-slicker-into-a-bird-lover/](http://southseattleemerald.com/2017/08/25/how-seward-park-audubon-center-turned-a-city-slicker-into-a-bird-lover/).
- 2017 “Sowing Seeds with My Daughter in a Troubling Climate.” *Medium, Embrace Race, Augmenting Humanity*, 20 Apr. 2017, [medium.com/embrace-race/sowing-seeds-with-my-daughter-in-a-troubling-climate-cc370e924823](https://medium.com/embrace-race/sowing-seeds-with-my-daughter-in-a-troubling-climate-cc370e924823).

### *Work in Progress*

*Hindsight Mistaken*, speculative fiction novel

*Rebel by Nature*, creative nonfiction essay collection

## **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

### *Conferences*

- 2021 “The Chorus: Artistic Responses as Academic Discourse” workshop, DEI Collaboration Grant Awardee, University of Washington
- 2020 “Cabbage Worms Blues” essay reading, Black Girl Magic Virtual Salon, University of Washington, September 2020
- 2020 “Let's Talk About People of Color's Trauma in the Environmental Sector” and “The Tragedy of the Environmental Movement” blogs listed as resource for “Inclusion in Conservation: Perspectives and Experiences, A Candid Discussion” Panel, North American Congress for Conservation Biology Conference Program.
- 2020 “Puget Sound Green Infrastructure Series: Learning at Every Age”, presenter, Puget Sound Green Infrastructure Summit Webinar, May 2020
- 2018 “Deconstructed Nature” workshop, organizer, May 2018
- 2018 “First Alumni Retreat”, Doris Duke Conservation Fellows, co-organizer, Environmental Leadership Program, 2018

- 2017 “Multicultural Environmental Education Conference organizer, Antioch University Seattle, May 2017
- 2016 “Raptor Wildlife Encounters” event organizer, College of Veterinary Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- 2012 “Creating New Signs and Signals for At Risk Youth”, Diversity Conference, Richland Community College Conference Presenter, June 2012
- 2012 “Sustainability Efforts in Decatur, IL”, First Earth Day Sustainability Fair, co-organizer and presenter Richland Community College, April 2012
- 2010 “Human Nature: An Interdisciplinary Conference on Eco Theory and Justice”, Illinois State University, organizer and presenter, 2010

*Radio*

- 2019 “More Than One Kind of Nature.” More Than One Kind of Nature , KBCS, 14 Nov. 2019, [www.kbcs.fm/2019/11/14/more-than-one-kind-of-nature/](http://www.kbcs.fm/2019/11/14/more-than-one-kind-of-nature/)
- 2019 “Spark Bird: The First Robin of Spring.” Spark Bird, BirdNote, 4 Aug. 2019, [www.birdnote.org/listen/shows/spark-bird-first-robin-spring](http://www.birdnote.org/listen/shows/spark-bird-first-robin-spring).
- 2018 “‘I Was the Only Black Girl There’: Two Big-City Women Find Solace in Glimpses of Nature.” Sound Effect, KNKX, 14 Apr. 2018, [www.knkx.org/post/i-was-only-black-girl-there-two-big-city-women-find-solace-glimpses-nature](http://www.knkx.org/post/i-was-only-black-girl-there-two-big-city-women-find-solace-glimpses-nature)
- 2015 “Gun Violence in Chicago, BBC World News Service , Guest Appearance, 10 Aug. 2015
- 2015 “Gun Violence in Chicago” Chicago Speaks V103 /iHeart Radio, Guest Appearance with Reverend Jesse Jackson and Father Pfleger, 10 September, 2015

*Service to Educational Institutions*

- 2019-present University of Washington, Black Embodiments Studio Arts Writer
- 2016-present Seattle Central College, Bruce McKenna Writing Center Writing Tutor
- 2016-2018 Doris Duke Conservation Scholar Alumni Network, Digital Communications Manager
- 2018-2019 Seattle Audubon Nature Center, Communications Manager
- 2016-2018 Thurgood Marshall Elementary, Building Leadership Team Member
- 2014-2016 University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Focus Committee Member
- 2014-2016 University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, The Career Center Office Support Specialist