

## EDUCATION

University of Louisiana at Lafayette, **Doctor of Philosophy in English/Creative Writing** – May 11, 2018  
Dissertation: *Motherland and Other Stories* (Fiction) and a critical essay “Dreams, Displacement, and Disillusionment – The Afro-Caribbean Immigrant Experience in England and America.” - Dissertation Chair - Dr. John McNally

Andrews University, **Masters of Arts**, English (Writing Emphasis) 2010-2011  
Thesis: *Separation, Alienation, and Solitude in Virginia Woolf's The Waves* – Thesis Adviser, Dr. Beverley Matiko

Northern Caribbean University, **Bachelor of Arts**, English, 1998-2003 (& Jan-June 2006)

Northern Caribbean University, **Bachelor of Arts**, Mass Communication, 1998-2003

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Assistant Professor of Creative Writing** – Spelman College – beginning August 2019  
Introduction to Creative Writing  
Creative Nonfiction Workshop

**Visiting Assistant Professor of Fiction** – Southern Utah University - Fall 2018 – Spring 2019  
Advanced Fiction  
Intermediate Fiction  
Contemporary Literature  
Introduction to Academic Writing  
Intensive Writing: Writing About Home

**Graduate Teaching Assistant (Instructor)** – University of Louisiana at Lafayette Fall 2014 - Spring 2018  
*Introduction to Creative Writing,*  
*Introduction to Academic Writing,*  
*Research, and Writing Culture*  
*British Literature 1*  
*American Literature 1 & 2*  
*Thematic Approaches to Literature – The American Immigrant Experience*  
*Literature and Other Media – Forbidden Love Stories and the Paintings that Inspired them*

**Adjunct Instructor** – University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Fall 2013

*Introduction to Academic Writing*

**Lecturer of English** – Northern Caribbean University

Fall 2006 – Summer 2012

*News Writing,  
Feature Writing,  
Introduction to Journalism  
Voice and Diction,  
Oral Communication,  
Introduction to Composition  
Freshman Composition 1 & 2  
English Syntax  
Advanced Writing,  
Literary Criticism,  
Major Author: Shakespeare (Online)*

**ESL Instructor – Camtutor – usda.kr**

Fall 2011-Spring 2012

*Taught elementary-level Korean students (Online)*

**ESL Instructor** – Northern Caribbean University

Fall 2006- Summer 2012

*Taught Intermediate-to-Advanced Level English*

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Book of Fiction**

*Motherland and Other Stories*, Peepal Tree Press, forthcoming 2020

**Short Stories**

"The Blackout" *Transition Magazine* - Issue #129 – (Summer 2019) - forthcoming

"Prodigal" - *Kweli Journal* (Summer 2019) - forthcoming

"Help Wanted" - *Pleiades* - (Summer 2019) - forthcoming

"Novel Excerpt - *My Name is Sweet Thing*" - *Solstice Literary Magazine* - (Spring 2019)

"Cecile" *Interviewing the Caribbean* (Winter 2018)

"Finding Joy" *Midnight & Indigo* (Winter 2018)

"Birdie." *Moko*, Issue 13 (2018)

"The Encounter." *aaduna*, vol 7. no. 2 (Summer 2017).

"Melba." *Susumba* Issue 8, July 2016.

"Market Bus Ride." *Southwestern Review*, Spring 2013.

"Finding Marjorie – Part 1." *The Sunday Gleaner*, August 2, 2009.

"Finding Marjorie – Part 2." *The Sunday Gleaner*, August 9, 2009.

**Creative Non-fiction**

"The Year in Red Mountain Country" *Teacher Voice* Anthology, Malarkey Books (2019) – forthcoming

"The Choice" *The Rumpus – Enough Series* (Summer 2019) - forthcoming

"On Nudity." *Southwestern Review*, Spring 2018

"July 12, 2007." *Past-Ten*, July 12, 2017.

"Land of Peaches." *Rigorous*, vol 1. no. 2. (April 2017).

"Into the Cold." *Life-info*, vol. 10 no. 1 (2011).

## **Poetry**

"Muse" – *Smitten* – anthology - Blue Indi(e) Publishing, forthcoming 2019

"And When Did It Begin" – *Smitten* – anthology – Blue Indi(e) Publishing, forthcoming 2019.

"Taboo" *Duende* (Summer 2019)

"Homesick" *Moko*, Issue 13 (2018)

"Restoration" *Moko*, Issue 13 (2018)

"In Remembrance" *Moko*, Issue 13 (2018)

"In My Country." *Spectrum*, vol. 39 no. 1 (Summer 2011).

## **FELLOWSHIPS & CREATIVE WRITING AWARDS**

Zora Neale Hurston/Richard Wright Foundation – Summer Writer's Week – Howard University - August 3-9, 2019

Author Fellowship - Martha's Vineyard Institute of Creative Writing – June 9-15, 2019

Kimbilio Fiction Workshop/Fellowship – Southern Methodist University – Summer 2016, 2017 & 2018.

Callaloo Creative Writing Workshop/Fellowship – Oxford University, July 12-18, 2015

Second Place Poetry Winner – Northern Caribbean University – Spring 2006

Second Place Winner - National Essay Contest – JAMPACT – Summer 2001

## **TEACHING, RESEARCH & ACADEMIC AWARDS**

Bernice and Robert Webb Award for Excellence in Graduate Level Teaching - Department of English, University of Louisiana at Lafayette – April 2018

Edwidge Danticat Society – Graduate Student Research Award - April 2018

Most Outstanding Female Graduate Student – Black Staff and Faculty Association, University of Louisiana at Lafayette – March 2018

Academic Excellence Award from the Black Faculty and Staff Association - 2016, 2017, 2018

Dean's List (graduate) – 2013-2018

Dean's List (undergraduate) – 2001-2003

## **JOURNALISM/EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE**

Assistant Editor – *Southwestern Review* – University of Louisiana at Lafayette 2017-2018

Freelance Writer – *Jamaica Business Journal* – wrote features and profiles 2007-2009

Freelance Writer – *The Gleaner Company* – wrote news and features 2005-2009

Staff Reporter – *The Gleaner Company* – wrote news, features, court stories 2003-2005

### ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

Modern Language Association member 2019 – present

Edwidge Danticat Society member 2018 – present

Association of Writers and Writing Programs member (AWP) 2017 – present

Phi Kappa Phi member (AU Chapter) 2011 – present

Sigma Tau Delta member (AU Chapter) 2011 – 2012

### READINGS, PRESENTATIONS, INTERVIEWS & CONFERENCES

Black History Month Presentation, Migrations in African-American and Afro-Caribbean Literature, Southern Utah University - February 19, 2019

Panelist, Presenting an excerpt of *My Name Is Sweet Thing* – novel-in-progress - Creative Sessions – Fiction, PCAS Conference, New Orleans, LA, October 4, 2018

Panelist, The Edwidge Danticat Society at American Literature Association Conference, San Francisco, CA. Presenting paper: “The Price of Being ‘Good’ – The Black Female Body and the Stigma of Sexual Freedom in *Breath, Eyes, Memory* - May 24-27, 2018

Panelist, University of Louisiana at Lafayette: Presenting paper: “Transnational Caribbean Identities in Nunez and Danticat, Deep South in the Global South – March 22-24 2018

Presenter, University of Louisiana at Lafayette reading in conjunction with Gigantic Sequins and Yellow Flag Press, AWP Conference –March 8-10, 2018

Invited Reader, Thursday Night Reading Series (TNRS) – University of Louisiana at Lafayette, September 7, 2017, November 2016, November 2015 and November 2014

Panelist - Deep South in the Global South Conference – University of Louisiana at Lafayette – April 6-8, 2017. Presented the critical essay, “*Afro-Creole Spiritism in Caribbean and Southern American Literature*”

Reader, Kimbilio Fellows Reading, Southern Methodist University, Taos campus – July 26, 2017

Reader, Kimbilio Fellow Reading, Southern Methodist University, Taos campus – July 22, 2016

Selected Reader, Closing Program, Callaloo Create Writing Workshop, June 18, 2015.

Creative Writing Graduate Student Reader, along with then-Writer-in-Residence Michael Jeffrey Lee – University of Louisiana at Lafayette, English Department Reading Series, April 3, 2015

Presenter, Public Reading organized by the Poetry Association of Jamaica, Half Way Tree, Jamaica – May 2012

Invited Guest, *Smile Jamaica Morning Time* show – Television Jamaica – Interview on upcoming art exhibition and poetry reading, May 14, 2012

### **VISUAL ART EXHIBITIONS – exhibitions of my original watercolor and acrylic paintings**

#### **SOLO Shows**

(2016) Feb 13 - March 11  
Lafayette Art Walk, Carpe Diem Gelato - Espresso Bar  
Jefferson Street, Lafayette LA

(2013) Aug 6 - Sept 24  
The Gwinnett County Public Library, Norcross, GA

(2012) May 10 - 24  
"Celebrate Jamaica"  
Redbones Blues Cafe - 1 Argyle Road, Kingston, Jamaica

(2012) Feb 8 to March 6  
"Land of Wood and Water"  
The Gwinnett County Public Library, Grayson, GA

(2011) June 2 to July 31  
"Around Jamaica in 18 Frames" - Part 2  
The James White Library, Berrien Springs, MI

(2011) April 12 to 22  
"Around Jamaica in 18 Frames" - Part 1  
Harrigan Hall Gallery, Berrien Springs, MI

(2010) Oct 19 to Nov 2  
"Slice of Jamaica"  
Harrigan Hall Gallery, Berrien Springs, MI

#### **Group Shows**

2014 - Lafayette Art Walk, Artmosphere DBistro  
2008 - Pegasus Gallery  
2007 - Mandeville Art Fair  
2006 - Pegasus Gallery (Lodge Auction)  
2006 - Hilton Kingston's Kaleidoscope  
2006 - Mandeville Art Fair  
2006 - St. Catherine Art Expo  
2006 - Jamaica Gran

2005 - Bloomfield Great House

**SERVICE**

Creative Writing Committee, Planning the Art of Literature Reading Series – Southern Utah University

Graduate Research Assistant to Dr. Meredith Jones Gray, Andrews University – assisted her with grading undergraduate writing and her research projects.

Assisted in preparing literary and promotional materials for guest presenters at Andrews University

**REFERENCES**

Available upon request