

Mariahadessa Ekere Tallie
mariahadessa@gmail.com

www.ekeretallie.com

Education

Master of Fine Arts, English and Creative Writing, Mills College, January 2002
Bachelor of Arts, Mass Communication, Clark Atlanta University, June 1996

Teaching

Adjunct Lecturer English Department
York College, City University of New York, Queens, NY _____ Fall 2010-Fall 2013

Eng 125: Introduction to College Writing

Instruct students to become critical readers by examining both the content of the text and the tools employed by authors to write effectively. Through classroom discussions students explore the decisions authors make when they write. Students develop comfort expressing their ideas about literature in essays with a strong thesis.

Eng 200: Understanding Literature

Encourage students to see the beauty of literature, to place literature in a historical context and to make connections between what they read in class and experience in their personal life. My course involves fiction, essays, poetry, drama, free writes, formal essays and presentations.

Adjunct Lecturer- Language Arts, Reading
Queens Educational Opportunity Center (SUNY), Queens, NY _____ Spring 2011, Fall 2012

Basic Education Pre GED Course

Assisted students in becoming more confident readers able to identify main ideas in texts, draw logical conclusions based on readings, and use context clues to deepen their understandings of literary works. Explored a variety of genres of literature including fiction, poetry, non-fiction, and drama.

Adjunct Lecturer - Social Studies and Science
Queens Educational Opportunity Center (SUNY), Queens, NY _____ Spring 2011

Basic Education Pre GED Course

Assisted students in becoming competent at interpreting information presented on charts, graphs, maps and in evaluating reading selections related to basic scientific concepts and historical events.

English Tutor

Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY

Fall 2010

Provided individual English instruction to students in the Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP). I assisted students with grammar, composition and sourcing for their papers and essays. Students develop critical reading skills through the discussion and analysis of assigned literary works.

English Instructor

Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY

Summer 2010

Worked with students in the Higher Education Opportunity Program on understanding the writing process, literary analysis and developing public speaking skills. We discussed the work of Nietzsche, Baldwin, Cisneros, Plato, Shange, Alexie, Sexton, Kunitz among others.

English Instructor

Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY

Summer 2009

Worked with students in the Higher Education Opportunity Program on understanding the writing process, literary analysis and developing public speaking skills. I anthologized student writing in a chapbook, "Untamed Tongues."

Adjunct Lecturer

Medgar Evers College, Brooklyn, NY

Fall 2006

Taught introductory expository writing and writing the research paper.

Lecturer

Rundu College of Education, Namibia

Sept 2004-May 2005

Taught grammar, analytical reading, editing and creative writing to two hundred education students weekly as a volunteer with the International Foundation for Education and Self-Help (IFESH).

Adjunct Lecturer

Medgar Evers College, Brooklyn, NY

Spring 2004

Taught introductory expository writing.

Literacy Teacher

Bedford-Stuyvesant Street Academy HS, Brooklyn, NY

Oct 2003-March 2004

Worked with after-school students to increase their literacy levels and their comfort expressing themselves through readings of various genres of literature and low-stakes writing exercises.

Teaching Assistant

Mills College, Oakland, CA

Fall Semester 2001

Assisted Dr. Ruth Saxton in "Mothers and Daughters in Literature" course. Graded assignments and papers, helped facilitate classroom discussion and group work, lectured on *Dreaming In Cuban*.

Literary Workshops

Mount Chocorua Writing Week July 17, 2013

Blues Poems Workshop. Discussed why this often misunderstood art is the perfect poetic form to explore identity, express complex feelings and share survival stories. Listened to different styles of blues, read blues poetry and created our own versions of the blues.

University of Scranton April 29, 2013

Discussed the importance of seeing old things with new eyes as writers.

University of Southern Mississippi April 17, 2013

Conducted writing exercises that allowed us to write about familiar objects in unfamiliar and surprising ways.

Jackson State University April 15, 2013

Guest lectured in a three hour creative writing class.

Northeastern State University April 8, 2013

Explored writing through our senses and allowing external objects to assist us in hearing internal dialogues.

Wright State University March 28, 2013

Guest lectured in a creative writing class. Used everyday objects to explore writing through the senses.

Shaw University March 21, 2013

Discussed ways to approach writing that honor our unique voices and visions. Explored prompts that students can use every day to generate new writing.

Whitehall High School March 18, 2013

Explored the importance of using the senses to create strong settings, three dimensional characters and write about common things in unexpected ways. Students created and shared three pieces of writing.

William Woods University February 25, 2013

Discussed the impact that deep listening and seeing has on writing. Conducted exercises to generate writing based on overlooked objects from our daily lives.

Texas A&M International University February 20, 2013

Guest lectured in creative writing class, conducted generative writing exercises and discussed how developing our senses creates vivid, memorable work.

Texas Tech University February 18, 2013

Conducted workshop focused on sight, sound and developing habits that can generate more visceral writing.

Women Writers In Bloom Poetry Salon

November 17, 2012

Taught two hour workshop on the importance of waking up the senses and weaving the body's knowledge through all forms of writing. Students produced six pieces of writing and shared them during the session.

World Fellowship Center - Conway, New Hampshire

July 10, 2012

Conducted a two-hour workshop at a social justice and environmental camp on weaving our own stories with our political concerns to create poetry.

African Voices - New York, NY

Sept 18-Nov 14, 2003

Conducted an eight-week writing workshop on the craft of poetry, revision, performance, and the business of writing. Series ended with a standing room only poetry reading.

Oak Park Forest High School - Chicago, Illinois

Sept 22-24, 2003

Taught five creative writing classes a day and lectured on the Black Arts Movement.

Kingsland Secondary- London, United Kingdom

Feb-June 2003

Worked with two classes at Kingsland Secondary in Hackney. Introduced students to poetic devices, such as imagery, metaphor, simile, alliteration etc. Conducted in-class poetry reading auditions to choose seven students for a team of poets to compete in the Inner-London Teen Poetry Slam. Worked intensely on writing and performance during seven after-school sessions. Resulting work is documented in a book and on a CD.

Palabras - Amsterdam, the Netherlands

May 2003

Conducted five two-hour workshops on unblocking and creating safe space for writing. Sessions included discussions on revision, performance and generating new work. (Classes were co-taught with poet Tamara "Wonder" Allan)

African Voices - New York, NY

August 14, 2002

Led three-hour intensive workshop for generating new writings and critiquing works that participants bring to circle.

Mills College- Oakland, CA

March-April 2000 /2002

Conducted weekly workshops with Oakland high school students. Workshops culminated in poetry reading to raise funds for the Upward Bound Program, which prepares low-income students to be the first in their families to attend college.

Ramapo College - Ramapo, New Jersey

April 2001

Invited as a speaker in conjunction with "Take Back our Lives" to raise awareness about sexual assault and violence against women. I designed Healing Through Poetry workshop exercises to help participants write through sorrow and anger, towards empowerment.

Project Renewal - New York, NY

May-June 1998

Created a curriculum and ran weekly writing workshop at Project Renewal, a New York based drug rehabilitation center, included journal writing, fiction and poetry exercises.

Honors and Awards

The Missouri Review Audio Poetry Contest Runner-Up 2014

Queens Art Express 2013

Queens Council on the Arts panelist, 2012

Queens Council on the Arts panelist, 2011

Queens Council on the Arts grant, 2011

Presentations

“Success Is, Success Ain’t: Redefining What It Means To Make It.” Texas Wesleyan University. March 2014.

“Writing the Fire Out: Healing through Writing.” World Fellowship Center. Albany, NH. July 2013.

“Opening Our Eyes.” Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of the Eastern Slopes. Tamworth, NH. July 2013.

“The Power of Words: Finding Empowerment Through Writing.” Whitehall High School. Whitehall, NY. March 2013.

“Celebrating The Work of Ntozake Shange.” Hostos Community College. Bronx, New York. March 2013.

“Writing The Fire Out.” Voices In The Monte Writers Series. Texas A&M International University. Laredo, Texas. February 2013.

“For My People: Tribute To Elizabeth Catlett.” Presenter, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, New York. January 2013.

“Word Life: What Poetry Has Taught Me About Living.” Invited Speaker, Unitarian Universalist Federation of the Eastern Slopes. July 2012.

Black Literature and Activism, panelist with Sonia Sanchez, Jamal Joseph, Alison McDermott. National Black Writers Conference. Medgar Evers College, March 2012.

You Are What You Eat: Healthy Food Advocacy in the African-American Community, panelist. Delta Sigma Theta Social Action Forum Series, Queens Central Library, New York, May 2011.

Amplifying the Voices of Mothers: Mothers in the Arts, Literature, Media and Popular Culture, New York City, May 2010.

“The Madness Collage: African-American Mothers Versus History/Nia Shakes off Superwoman,” presented at Association for Research on Mothering’s Mothers Gone Mad conference, May 2009

"Turning Ideas Into Youth Driven Action," panelist at World Urban Forum, Vancouver, June 2006

Namibian Women's Writing Workshop, assisted with facilitation of three day writing workshop, Windhoek, Nov 2004

“Healing Through Poetry,” invited speaker at University of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, April 2004

Co-host of Spoken Word, Hip-Hop & Poetry Session, National Black Writers Conference, March 2004

“Shedding Silence,” invited speaker at Ramapo college’s Take Back our Lives Sexual Assault and Violence Against Women Awareness program, April 2001

“How To Apply to Academic Conferences,” panelist at Mills College Professional Survival Seminar, Feb 2001

“Art For Our Sake,” presented at Mills College Academic Forum, Nov 2000

“Art For Our Sake,” presented at Howard University Graduate English Student Association conference, Oct 2000

“It’s Bigger than Hip-Hop,” presented at the Fifth Annual National Black Writers Conference, March 2000

Book

Karma’s Footsteps. Flipped Eye Publishing, United Kingdom 2011.

Anthology Publication

New Rain: 35th Anniversary Anthology. Ed Gary Johnston. Blind Beggar Press, 2013

Black Mermaids: In Vision and Verse, Ed. Torreah Washington, Exhibition Catalogue, 2012

Go, Tell Michelle: African American Women Write to the New First Lady, Eds Brooks-Bertram, Nevergold, State University of New York Press, 2009

Beats, Rhymes, and Life: What We Love and Hate About Hip-Hop, Eds. Jasper, Womack, Harlem Moon/Broadway Books, 2007

Revenge & Forgiveness: An Anthology of Poems Ed. Patrice Vecchione, Henry Holt, 2004

The Body Eclectic Ed. Patrice Vecchione, Henry Holt, 2002

Beyond The Frontier Ed. E. Ethelbert Miller, Black Classic Press, 2002

The Book of Hope Ed. Birgitta Jonsdottir, Beyond Borders, 2002

Role Call Eds. Ali, Bashir, Medina, Third World Press, 2002

Bum Rush The Page: A Def Poetry Jam, Eds. Medina, Rivera, Random House, 2001

Listen Up! Ed. Zoe Anglesey, One World/Ballantine, 1999

Catch The Fire!!! Ed. Derrick Gilbert, Penguin/ Putnam, 1997

Literary Journal and Magazine Publication

“Paper Bag Poems,” “Blue Libation,” “Mama Haiku 1,” “Memory,” “The Clean Earth Conference Blues,” “What I Remember.” *Black Renaissance Noire*. Volume 14. Issue 2. Fall 2014.

“Global Warming Blues.” *WSQ: Women’s Studies Quarterly*. Volume 42. Numbers 1&2. Spring/Summer 2014.

“Give and Take.” Center for Book Arts Broadside Series. June 2014.

“I Want to Take Him,” “Letter to Continuum.” *The Pierian*. Spring 2014.

“Sovereign,” “Ancient,” *Mosaic Magazine*. Summer 2014.

“Sunday.” *Minerva Rising*. Issue 5. Spring 2014.

“The World Is Much Less Safe.” VIDA 2014

“Why You’ve Loved Me Ever Since You Started Thinking In English.” *North American Review*. Winter 2014. Volume 299. Number 1.

“Letter To A Young Poet Dedicated To Crafting Our Liberation.” *Her Kind*. March 2013

“New York Talk.” *Specter Magazine*. Summer 2012

“The Bembe,” “Poetic Form,” “Monday.” *Oya N’Soro*. June 2012

“Madness.” *African Voices Magazine*. Spring/Summer 2012.

“Conversations With Strangers.” MamaBlogger 365. March 2011

“Strut.” Women Writers in Bloom Poetry Salon. June 2011

“Learning To Swim.” Badilisha Poetry Exchange. July 2010

“Rebirth.” The Mom Egg Blog. June 2010

“Learning To Swim.” The Mom Egg. 2009

“Visibility.” *Mothering Magazine Online*. February 2009

“Pieces Of A Dream.” *Sable*. Autumn/Fall 2007

“Her Voice.” *Crab Orchard Review*. Winter 2005

“Suddenly I Need One Thing Constant.” *African Bulletin*. Winter 2003

“A Woman’s Poetic.” *Carapace Issue 31* Spring 2002

“The Apprentice,” “Cheyenne Speaking.” *Paris/Atlantic* Vol. XXII No. 1 Spring 2000

“War Dance.” *Drumvoices Revue* Vol. 19 Summer/Fall 2000

“Go Figure.” *Quarterly Black review* Vol. 6 No. 3 Summer 1999

“You.” *Visions* No.61

“Lineage,” “New Recipe,” “Reflections of the Daughter.” *Drumvoices Revue* special double issue Vol. 8 No.’s 1&2 1999

“Musings of a Moon Maiden,” “Scenario,” “Only.” *Paris/Atlantic* Vol. XX No. 2 Winter 1998

“Serenade.” *New Millenium Writings* Vol. 3 issue 1 Spring/Summer 1999

“Kitchen Cauldron.” *African Voices* Vol. 6 issue 4 Fall 1999

“Forced Entry.” *Rappages* Vol. 7 No. 9 Jan 1998

“Raindrop Women,” “Lineage.” *BOMB* No. 59 Spring 1997

“Karma’s Footsteps.” *Long Shot* Vol. 19 1997

“Moments.” *African Voices* Vol. 3 issue 2 Winter 1996/1996

Exhibitions

Queens Museum of Art - Queens, NY September 22-December 1, 2002
Poetry by Mariahadessa Ekere Tallie, photos by Gerard Gaskin.

Black Magic Woman Festival - Amsterdam, Holland November 8-November 28, 2002
Poetry by Mariahadessa Ekere Tallie, photos by Gerard Gaskin.

Brooklyn Moon Café, Brooklyn, NY March 1999
Poetry by Mariahadessa Ekere Tallie, photos by Gerard Gaskin.

Featured Poetry Readings

September 2014	Furious Flower Poetry Conference James Madison University
April 2014	Spelman College
April 2014	Howard University
April 2014	College of Staten Island
April 2014	Rhodes College
March 2014	Concordia College
March 2014	North Dakota State University
March 2014	Clayton State University
February 2014	Kansas City Art Institute
February 2014	The Writer’s Place

April 2013	University of Scranton
April 2013	Cornelia Street Cafe
April 2013	Las Casa Azul Bookstore
April 2013	University of Southern Mississippi
April 2013	Jackson State University
April 2013	Northeastern State University
March 2013	Wright State University
March 2013	Shaw University
March 2013	Whitehall High School
February 2013	William Woods University, Fulton, MO
February 2013	Texas A&M International University, Laredo, TX
February 2013	Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX
November 2012	Hattie Carthan Community Garden, Brooklyn, NY
October 2012	Rush Arts Gallery, New York City, NY
September 2012	Sister's Uptown Books, Harlem, NY
July 2012	World Fellowship Center, Albany, NH
May 2012	Afrikan Poetry Theater, Queens, NY
May 2012	Union College, Schenectady, NY
May 2012	Queens College, Queens, NY
May 2012	Adelphi University, Garden City, NY
April 2012	York College, Queens, NY
March 2012	Long Island University, Brooklyn, NY
March 2012	Mars Hill College, NC
March 2012	Brevard College, NC
March 2012	Hostos Community College, Bronx, NY
March 2012	Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY
February 2012	Lehman College, Bronx, NY
January 2012	Hue Man Bookstore, Harlem, NY
November 2011	Sister's Uptown Books, Harlem, NY
December 2011	The Dwyer Cultural Center, Harlem, NY
September 2011	The Baobab Cultural Center Rochester, NY
August 2011	African Voices Magazine Sag Harbor, Long Island, NY
April 2011	York College Queens, Queens, NY
May 2010	Po' Jazz at Cornelia Street Cafe, NY, NY
April 2010	The Mom Egg Reading at Cornelia Street Cafe, NY
October 10, 2009	Hattie Carthan Community Garden, Brooklyn, NY
May 10, 2009	HomeBase IV, NY, NY
April 23, 2009	Inwood House, NY, NY
June 20, 2006	World Urban Forum, Vancouver, Canada
October 27, 2003	Langston Hughes Library, Queens, NY
October 22, 2003	NYC Lit Fest kick-off, Housing Works, NY, NY
June 14, 2003	Bloomsbury Theatre, London, England
June 1, 2003	Stadsschouwburg, Amsterdam, Holland
May 17, 2003	Farrago, Poetry Café, London, England

May 5, 2003	Poets for Peace, Oosterpark, Amsterdam Holland
March 31, 2003	Institute for Social Studies, Den Haag, Holland
November 12, 2002	Black Magic Woman Festival, Amsterdam, Holland
August 25, 2002	Lowlands Festival, Holland
August 24, 2002	Uitmarkt, Amsterdam, Holland
May 6, 2002	Jazz-isms Amsterdam, Holland
March 31, 2002	Crime Jazz, Rotterdam, Holland
March 29, 2002	Black Inc. festival, Zaal de Unie, Rotterdam, Holland
March 24, 2002	Black Inc. festival, De Balie, Amsterdam, Holland
February 21, 2002	Crime Jazz Paard op Hol Den Haag, Holland
March 22, 2002	Palabras, Paradiso, Amsterdam, Holland
March 8, 2002,	Institute of Social Studies (ISS) Den Haag, Holland
February 24, 2002	Crime Jazz, Nighttown Rotterdam, Holland
February 23, 2002	Crime Jazz, De Vloer Utrecht, Holland
February 22, 2002	LVC, Leiden, Holland
December 2001	National Network for Immigrant and Refugee, Oakland, CA
April 2001	Ramapo College, Ramapo, NJ
March 2001	Cafe Valencia, San Francisco, CA
February 2001	San Francisco State University, CA (opened for Last Poets)
February 2001	La Pena Berkeley, CA (opened for Last poets)
January 12, 2001	De Nachten Festival, Amsterdam, Holland
January 13, 2001	De Nachten Festival Antwerpen, Belgium
December 2000	World Ground, Oakland, CA
November 2000	Mills College, Oakland, CA
October 2000	Justice League, San Francisco, CA
August 2000	Wordstock Prospect Park, Brooklyn, NY
July 2000	Brooklyn Bridge Anchorage, Brooklyn, NY
March 2000	Brooklyn Public Library Brooklyn, NY

References:

Dr. Mychel Namphy
Assistant Professor
York College, City University of New York

Willie Perdomo
Writer and Educator