

avery r. young

Interdisciplinary Artist | Arts Educator

Experienced in researching, creating, presenting and teaching works in literature, performance and visual art that explore African-American history, culture and folklore. These works Black dialect in a contemporary code developed for the past several years.

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

BLACK LINGUISTICS/DIALECTS | **BLACK ARTS MOVEMENT** | **BLACK SOCIALISM 1955 - 1975**

EDUCATION TRAINING FELLOWSHIPS

Ragdale Fellow

Ragdale Foundation, Lake Forest, IL
2019

Performance / Poetry Fellow

University of Washington-Tacoma, Tacoma, WA
2017

- Film
- Performance

Arts Incubator Artist-In-Residence

University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
2013

- Sound design
- Concrete poetry

Cave Canem Alum

Home of Black Poets

University of Pittsburg, Pittsburg, PA
2013

- New Works Anthology

Bachelor of Arts – English

Loyola University, Chicago, IL
1996

- African-American Student Union
- Pan-African Student Association of Loyola

Diploma – General Education

Mather High School – Chicago, IL
1992

- Vice-President of Concert Chorus
- Art Club
- African-American Club
- Mather's FreePress (Newspaper)
- Creative Writing Club

WORK EXPERIENCE

Note: Since 1998, I have been a Teaching Artist working with several Art and Non-For-Profit organizations such as; *Young Chicago Authors, Columbia College – Chicago, Changing Worlds, C.A.P.E., Poetry Center, Global Writes, and FCAN*. In the capacity of a Teaching Artist, I have facilitated creative writing and theatre workshops in schools, the juvenile detention center and other programs providing mentorship to youth and young adults from ages 12 to 24. The transition to art administration with the Floating Museum and Rebirth Poetry Ensemble are noted below.

Activation Director

Floating Museum

2016 – Present

Chicago, IL

Programs:

art-i-fact performances on barge (2017)

Palais de Tokyo programming (2018)

SoulE! performances on CTA el-train

Teaching Artist

Urban Gateways

2009 - Present

Chicago, IL

Outstanding Teaching Artist Awardee 2017

Poetry Editor-

Bridge Magazine

2019 - Present

Issue – 20/1

CPL – Visual Art Presentation 2020

Creative Director –Writing Mentor

Rebirth – Reborn Teen Poetry Ensemble

2012 - Present

Chicago, IL

Louder Than a Bomb 1st Place - 2014 & 2015

Kennedy Center Performance @ Brave New Voices 2015

PUBLICATIONS

Note: Since 1999, I have been published in numerous anthologies, zines & online journals. Some of those journals and periodicals have been *Make Magazine, Today's Black Woman, AIMPrint, To Be Left with the Body, Coon Bidness* and many others. My first volume of poetry, ***neckbone: visual verses***, which is a collection of traditional and concrete poetry was released on Juneteenth of 2019. Most of the work writing a has been included in anthology &/or journals highlighting and celebrating the work of contemporary Black poets and writers. With each submission it is my goal to not only submit that speak to the subject matter, but to also represent the regional and cultural histories of Black people &/or folklore.

neckbone: visual verses

Northwestern University Press

Visual & Traditional poetry

Author

2019

In The Company of Black – Cecil McDonald Jr.

Candor Arts

Poetry & photography

Featured Poet

2017

Furious Flower

Anthology

Northwestern University Press

Editor Parneshia Jones

Contributing Poet

2020

Obsidian

45.2

Illinois State Department of English

Guest Editor Douglas Kearny

Contributing Poet

2020

Teaching Black***Best Practices in Teaching Black Students***

Anthology

University of Pittsburgh Press

Contributing Essayist

2020

Chicago Review-***The Blacks Arts Movement in Chicago***

Taft House

Contributing Poet

2019

The BreakBeat Poets:***New American Poetry in the Age of Hip-Hop***

Haymarket Books

Contributing Poet

2015

Revising The Psalm:***Works Inspired by the Writings of Gwendolyn Brooks***

University of Arkansas Press

Contributing Poet

2017

The Spaces Between Us***Poetry, Prose & Arts on HIV/AIDS***

Third World Press

Contributing Poet

2010

Golden Shovel Poems:***New Poems Honoring Gwendolyn Brooks***

Anthology

University of Arkansas Press

Contributing Poet

2017

Berkeley Poetry Review***Issue 49***

University of California, Berkeley

Contributing Poet

2019

The Whiskey of Our Discontent:***Gwendolyn Brooks as Conscious and Change Agent***

Haymarket Books

Contributing Essayist

2017

Langston Hughes ReviewTheme: *Love & Zora Neal Hurston*

University of Kansas Press

Contributing Poet

2020

Callaloo Journal Issue 29***American Tragedy (Hurricane Katrina)***

Texas A&M University Press

Contributing Poet

2006

RECORDINGS

tubman.*For Practically Everyone Records*

Composer / Performer / Producer

R&B / Soul

2019

Mandorla Awakening-

Nicole Mitchell Black Earth Ensemble

For Practically Everyone Records

Featured Vocalist

Avant Garde Jazz

2015

Year of The Rebel

Anthony Nicholson

Circular Motion Records

Vocalist / Writer

House Music

2010

booker t. soltreyn: a race rekkid*A. A-Rah International Records*

Composer / Performer / Producer

R&B / Soul

2015

Art of Truism

Shannon Harris presents: Urbanology

CD Baby

Vocalist / Writer

House

2010

Devastator

Catfish Haven

Secretly Canadian

Vocalist

Rock

2008

Note: Since 1997, I have been a featured poet/vocalist in local, national and international venues. In maintaining a long-lasting relationship with The MCA - Chicago from my 1st performance there in 1997 along with The Last Poets, I have presented new works at their 50th anniversary & was featured artist on their 1st Friday Prince Tribute. In the capacity of poet &/or vocalist, I have opened with the likes of Roy Ayers and Mos Def at venues such as the City Winery - Chicago to B.B. Kings – Memphis. My works and performances through poetry a&/or music have been featured at WordStock - Brooklyn, The Hip Hop Theatre Festival, Lollapalooza and SXSW in Austin, TX. My visual artworks have been in galleries and museums in Chicago, Kansas City, MS and New York. As a poet and composer, my works have also been featured in film and podcasts

Furious Flower 25th Anniversary

Smithsonian Museum of African American
Washington, DC
Author / Reader
2019

A Song for You: Donny Hathaway Tribute

Millennium Park
Chicago, IL
Featured Vocalist
2019

With Nothing but Her Feet & the Stars

Art Institute
Chicago, IL
Writer/ Performer
2019

Hatorgrade Retrograde

Southern Exposure Arts
San Francisco, CA
Composer
2019

School Colors (podcast) Ep, 1-8

Schoolcolorspodcast.com
New York, NY
Featured Composer
2019

Jazz em Agosto 2019

Grand Auditorium
Lisbon Portugal
Featured Vocalist with Nicole Mitchell
2019

emmett (til de remix) [film]

Studio Revolt
Tacoma, WA
Featured Poet? Performer
2018

SXSW

House of Blues
Austin, TX
Featured Vocalist with Catfish Haven
2012, 2015

Iconic

Stony Island Arts Bank
Chicago, IL
Photography with Cecil McDonald Jr.
2018

Black Summer

West Side Justice League
Chicago, IL
Assemblage / Portrait
2019

100 Canvases

Silver Room
Chicago, IL
Contributing Visual Artist: Assemblage
2014 - 2019

How to Make a Hood

Arts Incubator
Chicago, IL
Contributing Artist: Assemblage
2014

groun(d) - solo

Arts Incubator
Chicago, IL
Visual Art | Sound | Film
2013

Bayno Words: Visuals + Text

Changing Gallery @ American Jazz Museum
Kansas City, MO
Assemblage | Performance
2013

LECTURES | WORKSHOPS | PRESENTATIONS

- **Lecture - First Amendment & Soul: *Civil Right Propaganda & Political Awareness through the Black Arts Movement*** | 45-minute multi-media | James Brown records *Say It Loud, I'm Black and I'm Proud* in the midst of a work created through writers and visual artists. Amiri Baraka, Hakii Mahadbuti. Nikki Giovanni & Carolyn Rogers also discussed.
- **Lecture – Sunday Mornin Jook Joint: *The Merging of Sinner & Saint in Soul Music*** | 45-minute history lecture reviewing the process of referencing both secular and spiritual influences in my work and the works of Prince, DeAngelo. The Staples Singers also discussed in lecture.
- **Lecture – Joe, Mild Sauce & Gangways: *Black Chicago, Urban Dialect*** | 45-minute multi-media includes readings from poems from *neckbone: visual verses* discussing dialect very specific to Chicago south and West Side and how writers/artists should vie audience in creative process.

- **Workshop – Ninason: *Nina Simone's Four Women*** | Writing | visual workshop participants sketch and create a fifth woman/verse from the legacy of “Peaches.” History and information about the songs, creation, recording and impact also discussed workshop.
- **Workshop - From Page to Stage – *Visual techniques that can be applied to for written work and Performance Poetry*** | Performance workshop where participants workshop a written work into a performance piece to include visual aide &/or audio accompaniment.
- **Workshop - & see, what had happened was: *poetic mapping*** | Visual Text workshop where participants recall memory through map making or by a diagram. Then participants will include and position text to read as a poem. Works from *neckbone: visual verses* are given as examples.

- **Presentation – *skin of my blk*** | 60-minute performance & lecture on work about the murders of Emmett Till Jr. & Trayvon Martin, with other environmental racism and aftermath of Hurricane Katrina & The Flint, MI water crisis. The lecture & performance discusses the historical context in which each of these modern hymns were created and reference.
- **Presentation – *With Nothing but Her Feet & Stars: Harriet Tubman as an Afro-futurist*** | 20 min. performance including sound and movement that presents a series poem in the voice of Harriet Tubman found &/or collaged with text from Phillip K. Dick's *Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep & the Holy Bible* [KJV].
- **Presentation – *& nobody notice(d) de blood on de blk: Billie Holiday series*** | 30 min performance with movement, sounds and visuals from the Billie Holiday section of the *neckbone: visual verses*.
- **Presentation – *race | music*** | 75-minute musical presentation and lecture discussing the impact on blk experience in its music across the genres of blues, soul, gospel and hip-hop. The performance | lecture featuring songs from *booker t. soltreyne: a race rekkid*.
- **Presentation – *tubman(.)*** | 45-minute presentation multi-media presentation featuring the music from the record tubman. [FPE Record] & concrete *neckbone: visual verses*. Lecture also discusses the ties between the song one the album and how the song extends the narrative of a poem in *neckbone: visual verses* [Northwestern University Press].

CURRICULUM CREDIT(S)

- True Star Magazine In-School Curriculum
- After School All Stars: Common Threads
- Global Writes - Chicago Honoring Student Voices
 - GirlSpeak – Swaggazine Curriculum

CERTIFICATES & AWARDS

3Arts Awardee

Teaching Artist
2012

Gwendolyn Brooks Community Award

Teaching Artist
2019

Chicago Book Review

Poetry – Nomination
neckbone: visual verses
2019

SKILL SET(S)

LITERATURE:

Poetry / Lyrical Composition /
Prose / essay / Playwright /
Curriculum Writing

MUSIC:

Composer / Producer / Arranger
Vocalist / Vocal Arranger

SOUND DESIGN:

Interview / Ambient Noise /
Moog manipulation / Collaged Audio

VISUAL ART:

Assemblage / Collage
Concrete Text / Letter Press
Screen Printing

OFFICE:

Word
Excel

REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUESTS