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FAYLITA HICKS

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Speakers Bureau

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Pande Lecture Management

EDUCATION

Sierra Nevada University, Incline Village, Nevada

MFA, Creative Writing, Poetry, January 2018.

Thesis: "My Mother, The Forest."

Committee: Patricia Smith, Lee Herrick, Suzanne Roberts

Texas State University in San Marcos, San Marcos, Texas

BA, English, Anthropology, August 2010.

RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

INFINITE. CREATIVE. LIT. LTD. CO. | MARCH 2017-CURRENT | CREATIVE DIRECTOR

Develop monthly programming for 15-30 visual artists, musicians, poets and comedians; identify and mentor selected artists for the Artist-In-Residence program; curate monthly events open to the general community; develop proposals and budgets for grant applications; develop social media campaigns; brand development for participating artists. Events include pop-up art exhibits, curated poetry readings, comedy showcase, weekly open mic night, and workshops. Over 350 artists and arts organizations from 20+ states provided mentoring, workshop, and professional development services since 2017.

BLACK FEMME COLLECTIVE | DECEMBER 2021-AUGUST 2022 | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Managed the general operations of a start-up for-profit queer Black femme digital magazine with an annual readership of 100+ subscribers and an operating budget under \$50,000 as the second Editor-in-Chief.

BORDERLANDS: TEXAS POETRY REVIEW | JANUARY 2020-JULY 2020 | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Managed the general operations of a 501(c) 3 nonprofit with a budget under \$50,000 as the first queer Black director; develop the process to hire a new managing editor, five assistant editors, and ten first-readers from underrepresented backgrounds, transitioning from a four member staff to a 20 member staff; research literary grant prospects at the city, state, and federal level; successfully write grant proposals to the Whiting Foundation, PEN America, Amazon Literary Partnership, City of Austin, City of San Marcos, and the Emergency Literary Fund which resulted in a total of \$15,000 worth of strategic funding, a 50% increase in the budget from the last 5 years, and resulting in us being a finalist for the Whiting Award's annual Magazine contest; institute an individual donor fundraising plan; development of the organization's hiring process and hiring manual; development of the organization's mission statement; development of organization's website and content; management of the organization's external relations and communications with donors, subscribers, and promotions; oversee editorial direction by providing professional development opportunities and training to the managing editor, assistant editors, readers, and other staff members; and evaluate the effectiveness of poems in consideration for inclusion in a bi-annual publication.

BORDERLANDS: TEXAS POETRY REVIEW | APRIL 2019-MARCH 2020 | MANAGING EDITOR

Manage a staff of three, providing professional development opportunities and training to the assistant editors, evaluate the effectiveness of poems in consideration for inclusion in a bi-annual publication, promote the benefits of the journal to potential subscribers, readers, and funders.

MANO AMIGA | APRIL 2019-MAY 2020 | PROGRAM COORDINATOR & LEAD ORGANIZER

Develop monthly community programming with the intentions of base building and encouraging people who have been directly impacted by detention and incarceration to share their stories in an effort to mobilize with the organizations grass efforts for policy change. To work in coalition with VERA Institute, Detention Watch Network, Texas Center for Justice and Equity (formerly Texas Criminal Justice Coalition) and others to convince Hays County to implement policies such as Cite and Release and L.E.A.D. To petition for a Public Defender's Office in Hays County.

ADDITIONAL EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

Lambda Literary Annual Awards, Judge, 2022-2023.

Right of Return USA, Award Selection Committee, 2022-2024.

Recording Academy/Grammy Awards, Voting Member, 2021-2023.

Miller Poetry Prize, Reader, Fall 2020-Winter 2024.

Friction Annual Awards, Judge, Winter 2022.

Witness Magazine Annual Poetry Prize, Judge, 2021.

Outfest Chapbook Prize, Judge, 2020.

Sierra Nevada Review, Editorial Intern, Fall 2016—Spring 2017.

Southwestern American Literature, Poetry Reader, Fall 2010.

TEACHING & ADVISING

Guest Teacher | August 2023-December 2023

Roots. Wounds. Words, Fall Workshop Series for Directly Impacted Writers

Adjunct Faculty | Summer/Fall 2022

Low-Residency MFA Program, University of Nevada, Reno

- Instruct graduate students on the politics and methods of contemporary poetics.
- Lead a generative workshop using inclusive and transformative teaching methods.
- Provide feedback on work submitted and guide MFA candidates through their thesis defense preparation.

Poetry Faculty | Summer 2022

Tin House Summer Workshop Series, Tin House

- Lead a generative workshop using inclusive and transformative teaching methods to 10 Tin House fellows and scholars.
- Provide instruction on professional development and preparedness, including curated grant and career resources.
- Provide feedback on work submitted.

Adjunct Faculty | Spring 2022

Low-Residency MFA Program, Sierra Nevada University

- Provide instruction on professional development and preparedness to 10 creative writing graduate students.
- Provide curated grant and career resources to entire MFA program.
- Provide feedback on work submitted and guide MFA candidates through their thesis defense preparation.

Professional Mentor | September 2021-December 2021

GrammyU, Recording Academy-Texas Chapter

- Plan and execute artist development program for a member of Grammy U, The Recording Academy's University outreach program for emerging music industry professionals.
- Coordinate networking events and opportunities for the emerging professional.

Guest Teacher | August 2021-December 2021

Black Mountain Institute, University of Nevada Las Vegas

- Designed a 4-week creative writing course and craft talk series entitled Transformative Lit Practices for 20 undergraduate and graduate students.
- Used instructional technology to enhance pedagogical technique.

Guest Teacher | January 2020 – February 2021

Visiting Writer's Program, Writer's League of Texas

- Designed 3 comprehensive craft talks and workshops for poetry, publishing, and funding for an estimated 90+ members of WLT.
- Courses included: *Applying to Fellowships and Residencies with Confidence* (presentation with 15 registered participants), *Getting Started or Restarted: Into the Wild: Embracing the Interdisciplinary Art Practice* (presentation and generative workshop with 45 registered participants), and *A Writer's Guide to Moving Forward* (presentation and generative workshop with 65 registered participants).
- Integrated multimedia and humanities approaches to teaching including digital presentations, videos, music, and contemporary digital art.

Mentor | May 2020-August 2020, May 2021-August 2021

Mentorship Program, Adroit Magazine

- Work alongside other professional writers to provide one-on-one mentoring to two high school writers, providing feedback on new and existing work, providing resources for skill and professional development, and reassuring their creative path.

Guest Teacher | August 2020

Visiting Writer's Program, Tin House

- Designed a poetry craft talk that combined anthropological science methods with the creative writing practice entitled *Excavating the Poem* (presentation and generative workshop with 50+ participants).
- Integrated multimedia and humanities approaches to teaching including digital presentation and contemporary digital art.

Professional Mentor | August 2019

Publishing Workshop, Los Angeles Review of Books

- Facilitate communications with two publishing cohort mentees in the development of their visions and actions towards the creation of new programs that focus on diversifying the publishing industry through professional development opportunities for writers of color.

Lead Organizer | January 2018-April 2020

Speak Up Series, Mano Amiga

- Designed monthly educational courses on local policy initiatives including the Cite and Release Ordinance, filing for federal funding for the establishment of a Public Defender's Office at the county level, and legal protection against Texas' SB4 Immigration law.
- Designed instructional restorative courses for people directly impacted by the criminal legal system including people with incarcerated or detained family members, people who have been previously incarcerated or detained, and people advocating for people who had been previously incarcerated or detained.
- Designed educational materials for presentation and instruction at national convenings regarding grassroots organizing techniques, submitting FOIA requests, fundraising at the local level, lobbying, planning a public protest, engaging the community via cultural events, developing equity in the office setting, maintaining nonprofit status, writing and placing cause-focused op-eds, and preparing for interactions with the public media.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Independent Researcher | March 2022-December 2022

Writer-in-Residence, Texas After Violence Project

- Conducted secondary source research for Texas After Violence utilizing their oral history archives featuring the testimonies of people on Death Row, their families, and others harmed by the criminal legal system.
- Write a series of personal essays defining how the archives can be utilized to support progressive and abolitionist legislation.
- Design original digital art based on the research.

Independent Researcher | March 2021-January 2022

Poet-in-Residence, Civil Rights Corps

- Conducted primary source research for the 2021 Abolition Amendment introduced by Congresswoman Nikema Williams and Senator Jeff Merkley, and the 2021 People's Response Act introduced by Congresswomen Cori Bush and Ayanna Pressley.
- Developed creative analysis of the legislation using secondary sources, interviews, and other multimedia resources.
- Produced two poems based on the legislation's language and accompanying educational materials, presented at two national teach-ins hosted in part by Civil Rights Corps, and included in the spoken word album *A New Name for My Love*, which is under consideration for the 64th Annual GRAMMY Awards.

Independent Researcher | January 2020-December 2021

Texas Leadership Council, Texas Center for Justice and Equity

- Conducted primary source research at the Texas Legislative Library, examining the development and history of regional constitutions related to misdemeanors and felonies.
- Examined the development of legislation including the Sandra Bland Act, the SB4 Immigration Law, the George Floyd Act, misdemeanor traffic infractions, and the Abolition Amendment.
- Examined the primary source for the Declaration of Independence, secondary sources related to the development of the Declaration, and exploring public records related to the guiding principles outlined in the Declaration.

SELECT CAREER ACHIEVEMENTS

Inaugural Member of the Songwriters & Composers Committee
for the Texas Chapter of the Recording Academy/GRAMMYS, 2022-2023.
Cover Feature & Publication, **American Poetry Review**, August 2022.
Grantee, **Art for Justice Fund**, May 2022.
Statewide Poet Laureate Finalist, **State of Texas**, 2020, 2021.
Voting member of the **Recording Academy/GRAMMYS**. 2020-current.

SELECT HONORS AND AWARDS

Envisioning Justice Grantee, **Illinois Humanities**, 2023.
Special Mention for digitally altered portraits from "Flowers in a Field of Terror" series,
Re: Touch Smartphone Photography Contest, **Kultur & Media Management
and Kultur Projekte Berlin**, March 2023.
Sappho Award Winner, **Palette Poetry**, 2020.
Best of Net Award Winner, **Sundress Publications**, 2020.
Shortlist Finalist for **Lambda Literary Award in Bisexual Poetry, 2020**.
Shortlist Finalist for **Julie Suk Award, 2020**.
Shortlist Finalist for **Balcones Poetry Prize, 2020**.
Pushcart Nominee, **Multiple Publications**, 2019, 2020, 2021.
Spotlight Award Shortlisted Finalist, **Palette Poetry**, 2019.
Longlisted Finalist, **Yes Yes Books Open Reading Series**, 2018.
Shortlisted Finalist, **Cosmonaut's Avenue Annual Poetry Contest**, 2018.
Shortlisted Finalist, **Write Bloody Open Book Contest**, 2016.

Shortlisted Finalist, **Button Poetry Annual Chapbook Contest**, 2012.

FELLOWSHIPS & RESIDENCIES

Writer-in-Residence, **Texas After Violence Project**, 2022.
Soros Justice Fellowship Finalist, **Open Society Foundation**, 2021.
Poet-in-Residence, **Civil Rights Corps**, 2021.
Shearing Fellow, **Black Mountain Institute**, Fall 2021.
Artivism Fellow, **Broadway Advocacy Coalition**, 2020-2021.
Fellow, **The Dots Between**, 2020-2021.
Resident, **Tin House Residency for Poets Working on a Second Collection**, August 2020.
Fellow, **Right of Return-USA for previously incarcerated artists**, 2020.
Nonfiction Fellow, **Lambda Literary Annual Writing Retreat**, August 2019.
Gender/Sexuality Cultural Critic Fellow, **Jack Jones Literary Arts "Culture, Too" Conference**, July 2019.
Fellow Finalist, **PEN America Writing for Justice Fellowship**, November 2018.

SELECT PERFORMANCES

2023	Your Healing Is Killing Me ANN4ML	Principal Performer Spoken Word Artist	Cara Mia Theatre Ford Foundation	Directed by Kendra Ware Self-Directed
2022	ANN4ML Wave Maker Set	Spoken Word Artist Spoken Word Artist	Recording Academy-Texas Chapter Black Mountain Institute	Self-Directed Self-Directed

SELECT KEYNOTES

“A MAP OF MY WANT: Poems, Carcerality, and the Power of Voice.”
Bowling Green University, Winter Wheat Festival, November 2023.

“A MAP OF MY WANT: How Desire Plays A Role in Legislation.”
UF Center for Public Interest Communications. February 2023.

GROUP VISUAL ART EXHIBITIONS

Featured artist for “8 x5,” billboard exhibit with **Art At A Time Like This**,
Houston, TX. November 2023.
Featured artist for “*No Justice Without Love*,” **Ford Foundation Gallery**,
New York, NY. April-June 2023.
Featured artist for “8 x5,” billboard exhibit with **Art At A Time Like This**,
Miami, FL. June 2022.
Featured artist for Erica Vital-Lazare’s “*Seeing/Seen*,” **University of Nevada Las Vegas Museum**,
Las Vegas, NV. 2021.
Featured artist for “*High Signs and Beacons*,” **George Washington Carver Museum**,
Austin, TX. 2020.
Featured artist for “*Ars Poetica & Wine: Abstract Photography*,” **Patio Dolcetto**,
San Marcos, TX. 2017.
Featured artist for juried show “*Reformations: An Exhibit on Justice*,” **Texas State University**,
San Marcos, TX. 2017.
Featured artist for juried show “*Black Girl Magic: Art Show & Market*,” **Insomnia Art Gallery**,
Houston, TX. 2017.

CURATED VISUAL ART EXHIBITIONS

Curator of “*Our Stories, Our Future*” Exhibit ft. visual artist Dayann Pazmino, San Marcos, TX. 2019.

Curator of “*It Starts With Youth*” Exhibit ft. photographer Evan Ferguson, **Splash Coworking**, San Marcos, TX. 2018.

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

HoodWitch, **Acre Books**, Poetry, October 2019.

Shortlist Finalist for **2020 Lambda Literary Award in Bisexual Poetry**

Shortlist Finalist for **2019 Julie Suk Award**

Shortlist Finalist for **2019 Balcones Poetry Prize**

A Map of My Want, **Haymarket Books**, Poetry, July 2024.

A Body of Wild Light, **Haymarket Books**, Memoir, 2025.

ANTHOLOGY

Poemhood: Our Black Revival, **Harper Collins**, January 2024.

Mid/South Sonnets Anthology, **Belle Pointe Press**, August 2023.

The Long Devotion: Poets Writing Motherhood, **UGA Press**, April 2022.

When There Are Nine, **Moon Tide Press**, Spring 2022.

What Tells You Ripeness: Black Writing on Nature, **Pangyrus**, Spring 2021.

We Got This: Black Writers on Imagination, **The DC Center**, Spring 2021.

ALBUMS

Caught in the Rhythm (Benjamin Boone), Spoken Word, **Origin Records**, Featured Artist, August 2023.

A New Name for My Love, Spoken Word, **Infinite Creative Lit, LTD**, ASCAP Publishing Member, September 2021.

Onyx, Spoken Word, **Arrondi Creative Productions**, June 2019.

Collision City, Hip Hop, **Grid Squid Entertainment**, ASCAP Publishing Member, January 2015.

Rough Patch: 1985-2012, Spoken Word, **Grid Squid Entertainment**, ASCAP Publishing Member, July 2012.

Rip Da Mic, Spoken Word, **Grid Squid Entertainment**, ASCAP Publishing Member, June 2011.

The Experience V. 2, Spoken Word, **A Poet's Tribe Collective**, January 2009.

SELECT POETRY PUBLICATIONS

2023

“[String Theory](#),” *Phantom Kangaroo*, 2023

“[Chiron's Breach](#),” *Hayden's Ferry Review*, 2023

“Letters to a Black Boy Buried in Texas,” *Southern Cultures*, 2023.

“[After the George Floyd Protests, My Strange Dream](#),” *Split This Rock*, February 2023.

“[Self-Care](#),” *Academy of American Poets Poem-A-Day Series*, February 2023.

2022

Four Poems, *American Poetry Review*, Cover Feature, July 2022.

Two Poems, *Torch Literary Arts*, May 2022.

“A Tale As Old As Time,” *Scalawag*, April 2022.

“Kid's Kingdom,” *underbelly*, January 2022.

2021

Two Poems, *The Blue Mountain Review*, Cover Feature, September 2021.

“A Map of my Want,” *Northwest Review*, July 2021.

Nominated for Pushcart, 2022.

“ASMR Sleepcast: The Night After Being Released from the Rural County Jail,” *Yale Review*, June 2021.

2020

“I Tried Dating Again,” *Palette Poetry*, October 2020.

Selected by Victoria Chang as the winner of *Palette Poetry*’s 2020 Sappho Award.

“Dawg, What the Fuck Ima Do With a \$20,” *VIDA Review*, September 2020.

Two Poems, *American Poetry Review*, July 2020.

Three Poems, *F(r)iction*, July 2020.

“Photo of a Girl, 1992: Gremlins,” *POETRY Magazine*, June 2020.

“ARCO,” *Frontier Poetry*, May 2020.

Two Poems, *Redivider*, May 2020.

Two Poems, *Pidgeonholes*, May 2020.

Two Poems, *Foglifter*, March 2020.

“The Daughters of Samuel Little,” *Poetry Daily*, January 2020.

“Steel Horses,” *Adroit*, January 2020.

2019

“Mama Dirt Mouth,” *Linden Avenue*, December 2019.

“Photo of A Girl, 2004: Gawd,” *Cincinnati Review*, 2019.

miCRo Series, Winner of Best of Net, 2019.

“The Birth Mother’s Red Bath for Courage,” *Foundry*, 2019.

“whoever,” *Glass Poetry Press*, 2019.

Two Poems, *Homology Lit*, 2019.

Three Poems, *The Rumpus*, 2019.

Featured Poet

Two Poems, *Tahoma Literary*, 2019.

Nominated for Pushcart, 2019.

Two Poems, *Pidgeonholes*, 2019.

Nominated for Best of Net, 2019.

SELECT PROSE PUBLICATIONS

2023

“Slash/Burn,” *Massachusetts Review*, 2023

2022

“Age With Grace: Knowing When to Let Go of Outdated Legislation,” *Texas After Violence*,
ed. Murphy Anne Carter, December 2022.

“Through the Night: Innocence as a Trope, Legal Definition, and Dream,” *Texas After Violence*,
ed. Murphy Anne Carter, September 2022.

“The Lineage and Language of A Liberation,” *Texas After Violence*,
ed. Murphy Anne Carter, June 2022.

2021

“Don’t Waste Your Time,” *Black Femme Collective*, ed. Nicole Shawan Junior, August 2021.

“A Century of Disg(race),” *Living Cities’ Reckoning With Race Project*, ed. Gumbo Media, June 2021.

“Faylita Hicks on Ai,” *NAPOMO*, ed. Caitis Meissner, April 2021.

“The Family Tree,” *Ecotone*, Spring 2021.

2020

“On Books and Their Harbors: HoodWitch,” *Kenyon Review*,
ed. Ruben Quesada (Kenyon College), blog, September 2020.

“Afro Blue,” *Poetry Magazine*, ed. Holly Amos (Poetry Foundation), blog, June 2020.

“The Danger of Desire,” *Longreads*, ed. Sari Botton, April 2020.

“How to Become a Ghost,” *Barrelhouse*, ed. Tyrese Coleman, blog, February 2020.

2019

“Why A Small Offense Shouldn’t Have Life-Altering Consequences,” *Texas Observer*, ed. Sunny Sone, 2019.

“Lost in Limbo in the Hays County Jail,” *Texas Observer*, ed. Sunny Sone, 2019.

“Road Trips in the Red: Freeing My Queer Black Self from the Responsibility of Being Acceptable,”
Color Blog, ed. Niq D. Johnson, PhD, 2019

“The High Cost of Hays County’s Decision to Continue Prosecuting Low-Level Marijuana
Cases,” *Texas Observer*, ed. Sunny Sone, 2019.

“Why I Gave My Baby Up for Adoption—And Why It’s the Best Decision I’ve Ever
Made,” *Huffington Post*, 2019.

2018

“How I Went from Graduate School Student to Amazon Warehouse Janitor,”
SLATE, 2018.

CHOREOPOEMS/PLAYS/SCREENPLAYS

Bar for Bar: After Party. A choreopoem featuring original spoken word, music, and oral history.
Filmed via Zoom and premiered with the Tony Award-winning **Broadway Advocacy Coalition**
during their first annual digital Fellowship Hall film festival. May 2021.

RECENT COMMISSIONS

Harris County’s Death Penalty. Original poem commissioned by **Civil Rights Corps**
for the toolkit introduction related to Harris County’s lawsuit. October 2022.

A New Name for My Love. Original poem commissioned by
Civil Rights Corps for the introduction of the End the Exception Bill
introduced by Senator Jeff Merkley and Representative Nikema Williams. June 2021.

Take Me to Paradise. Original poem commissioned by
Civil Rights Corps. September 2021.

Greetings and Praise to the Hands of the City. Original poem commissioned by
the **Austin Community Foundation**. May 2022.

Vientres de los Cuatro Ríos. Original poem commissioned by
the nonprofit **Con Mi Madre**. August 2022.

DOCUMENTARIES

Racially Charged: America’s Misdemeanor Problem. Interviewee featured as previously incarcerated
expert and activist. **Brave New Films**, February 2021.

45 Days in a Texas Jail. Interviewee featured as a previously incarcerated expert and activist.
ITVS/PBS, January 2021.

SELECT INTERVIEWS

Paper City Magazine, “6 Houston Art World Shows Worth Seeing Before They’re Gone—Harris County Jail Deaths, Art Cars
and More Put in Spotlight,” *November 2023*.

Artnet, “Arts Nonprofit Accuses Clear Channel of Censoring Billboards With Art Critical of Texas Prisons,” *November 2023*.

Hyperallergic, “Artists Decry Company’s Decision to Pull Mass Incarceration Billboards,” *November 2023*.

AfroPunk, “Art for Justice: A Legacy of Arts Grants to Combat Criminal justice,” *June 2023*.

Miami Times, “Public Billboards Makes Statement About Prison System,” *July 2022*.

Torch Literary Arts, “Interview with Faylita Hicks,” *May 2022*.

The Poetry Question, “S2EP8: Mx. Faylita Hicks,” *February 2022*.

Civil Rights Corps, “Teach-in for The People’s Response Act: Presentation of commissioned poem,” *July 2021*.

Civil Rights Corps, “The Juneteenth Intro of The Abolition Amendment: Presentation of commissioned poem,” *June 2021*.

The Young Turks, “The Conversation: Interview with Robert Greenwald and Faylita Hicks,” *April 2021*.

Wicked: The Musical, Interview with Broadway Advocacy’s Artists, *February 2021*.

Brave New Films, *Racially Charged: America’s Misdemeanor Problem*, Documentary, *February 2021*.

The Escapery, “Interview with ‘The Escapery,’” Podcast, October 2020.
Vice, “100 Years After Women’s Suffrage, US Voters Still Face Countless Barriers”
 by Vanessa Taylor, August 2020.
25 for 25, “Interview with Faylita Hicks,” by Penina Beede, Podcast, September 2020.
Kenyon Review, “Divinity and Truth” conducted by Ruben Quesada, May 2020.
Southern Review of Books, “7 Southern Poets on Place” by Adam Morgan, February 2020.
The Rumpus, “A Time and a Place: Talking with Faylita Hicks”
 by Saaret E. Yoseph, December 2019.
American Microreviews & Interviews, “Faylita Hicks in Conversation with Tom Simpson”
 by Tom Simpson, December 2019.
Electric Lit, “HOODWITCH Celebrates the Power of Black Femme Witchcraft”
 by Tyrese L. Coleman, December 2019.
Lone Star, “Lone Star Listens: Faylita Hicks” by Michelle Newby Lancaster, December 2019.
Porter House Review, “The Poetics of Witchcraft: An Interview with Faylita Hicks”
 by Clayton Bradshaw, December 2019.
Austin PBS/Decibel Dialogue, “Talking With The Creators of ‘45 Days In A Texas Jail”
 Hosted by Judy Maggio, December 2019.
Texas Monthly, “Texas Authors Book Recommendations” December 2019.
Independent Lens Documentary/ITVS, “45 Days in a County Jail” Documentary
 produced by Julianna Brannum, December 2019.
Two and Fro/Tiny Texas Podcast, “Live Show: Tiny Texas Podcast Festival” September 2019.
Poets and Writers, “My MFA Experience” by Kevin Larimer, September 2019.
Poetry Foundation, “Faylita Hicks reads *Featuring Tonight at the Street Hustler’s Circus: The Girls*”
 Podcast, November 2018.

SELECT RECENT and FORTHCOMING PANELS

- “Art and Mass Incarceration,” **Decarceral Visions Conference**, October 2023.
- “Inside & Out: The Arts, Humanities, and Re-entry,” **Illinois Humanities**. July 2023.
- Workshop Leader at Roots.Wounds.Words. **Storytellers of Color Writer’s Retreat**. 2023.
- Featured Performer. **Art for Justice Grantee Conference**. December 2022.
- Panelist at *Art and Crimes by Crimes* film premiere at the **Gene Siskel Film Center in Chicago** with Art for Justice Grantee and Co-founder of **Right of Return USA** Jesse Krimes and Director Alysa Nahmias. November 2022.
- Panelist with David Woo, Vanessa Angélica Villareal, and Celeste Chan, **Association of Writers and Writing Programs**, “Is My Writing Queer Enough”. March 2022.
- Panelist with Nancy Reddy, Emily Pérez, Erika Meitner, and Joan Naviyuk Kane. **Association of Writers and Writing Programs**. “The Long Devotion: Poets Writing Motherhood”. March 2022.
- Panelist with Keeonna Harris, Randall Horton. **Chicago State University’s Gwendolyn Brooks Center for Black Literature & Creative Writing**, “Dark Gardening: The pre-determined future of Black youth through the school-prison nexus” November 2021.
- Panelist with Mary South. **Las Vegas Book Festival**, “Literary Oasis: Following Voices of Identity & Wonder,” September 2021.
- Panelist with Congressional Black Caucus Chair Rep. Karen Bass (D-CA), Director Emeritus of the Schomburg Center Khalil Gibran Muhammad, Color of Change CEO Rashad Robinson, MoveOn CEO Rahna Epting, Filmmaker Robert Greenwald. **Brave New Films’ Racially Charged: America’s Misdemeanor Problem Screening**, May 2021.
- Association of Writers and Poets. “Centering the “I” in Addiction: BIPOC Writers on Crafting Addiction Narratives,” March 2021.
- Writers’ League of Texas Presents: The Business of Writing Toolbox. February 2021.
- Denton Film Festival with “Break Beat Poets” panel moderated by Maya Marshall. January 2021.
- OutWrite Festival with the DC Center for the LGBTQ Community. August 2020.
- Night Out for Safety & Liberation with Texas Advocates for Justice. October 2020.
- A BLERD of This and That Discussion. August 2020.

- Texas Book Festival, Moderator for “Gender & Sexuality” Panel, Austin, TX. 2019.

SELECT READINGS

Hungry Brain Sunday Reading Series. December 2022.
Chicago Poetry Center. September 2022.
Tin House Summer Residency, Teacher. July 2022.
Chicago Story Studio. June 2022.
Wave In Fest with Black Mountain Institute. May 2022.
Bar for Bar: Afterparty Screening and Discussion. November 2021.
Black Mountain Institute's Meet the Fellows. Fall 2021.
Broadway Advocacy Coalition's Fellowship Hall. May 2021.
Civil Rights Corps "Abolish Slavery in Texas." March 2021.
Asian American Writers' Workshop Mouth to Mouth. February 2021.
White Whale Bookstore. Love Poems. February 2021.
University of North Alabama, keynote speaker and reading. February 2021.
University of Alabama, featured panelist, reading, and mentorship. January 2021.
COUNTERPult: A Roots.Wounds. Words. End of Year Storyteller Showcase. December 2020.
5th Annual Authors Celebration, Featured Reading with One Page Salon. November 2020.
Night Out for Safety & Liberation Mainstage with the Ella Baker Center. October 2020.
Tin House's 2020 Residency Reading. September 2020.
Wild & Precious Life Series Virtual Reading. July 2020.
Juneteenth Celebration with Austin's Carver Museum. June 2020.
Patricia Smith's Birthday Party. June 2020.
ATX Interfaces Virtual Reading and Generative Workshop. May 2020.
LOGOS Poetry Collective Virtual Reading. May 2020.
San Antonio Book Festival, Multiple Venues, San Antonio, TX. March 2020.
AWP Conference, Multiple Venues, San Antonio, TX. 2020.
The Writers by the River Reading Series ft. Lee Herrick, San Marcos, TX. 2020.
InCite and Release Poetry Slam, The Coffee Bar, San Marcos, TX. 2020.
HoodWitch Book Reading & Signing, Bookwoman, Austin, TX 2019.
Lambda Literary's Fellows Reading Series, Otis College, Los Angeles, CA. 2019.
They Lit: Author's Reading, Monkey Wrench Books, Austin, TX. 2019.
May 'Anything' Goes, London Music Club, London, CAN. 2019.
The Burlington Slam Project, NUVO Network, Burlington, ON. 2019.
Season Opener, The eBar, Guelph, ON. 2019.
Tell It All Showcase, Penny Lane St. Bar, Austin, TX. 2019.
The Public Defender's Alliance Community Arts, Splash Coworking, San Marcos, TX. 2019.
Tobin Center for the Performing Arts, San Antonio, TX. 2018.