

P o e t

A u t h o r

A r t i s t



Keisha-Gaye Anderson

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Keisha-Gaye Anderson is a Jamaican-born poet, creative writer, visual artist, and media professional living in Brooklyn, NY. She is the author of the poetry collection *Gathering the Waters* (Jamii Publishing 2014), which was accepted into the Poets House Library and the National Library of Jamaica. Her new poetry book, *A Spell for Living*, is the recipient of Editors' Choice recognition for the 2017 Numinous Orisons, Luminous Origin Literary Award. The collection is forthcoming from Agape Editions in 2019 as a multimedia e-book, that includes music and Keisha's original art work. Keisha's second new poetry collection, *Everything Is Necessary*, will be published by Aquarius Press/Willow Books as a print publication in 2018.

Keisha's writing has been published in a number of literary journals, magazines, and anthologies, including *Kweli Journal*, *Small Axe Salon*, *Interviewing the Caribbean*, *Renaissance Noire*, *The Killens Review of Arts and Letters*, *Mosaic Literary Magazine*, *African Voices Magazine*, *Streetnotes: Cross Cultural Poetics*, *Caribbean in Transit Arts Journal*, *The Mom Egg Review*, *Split This Rock: Poems of Resistance, Power & Resilience* (blog), and many others. She is a past participant of the VONA Voices and Callaloo Creative Writing workshops, and was named a fellow by the North Country Institute for Writers of Color. Keisha has also been shortlisted for the Small Axe Literary Competition. She is a founding poet with Poets for Ayiti. Proceeds from their 2010 chapbook *For the Crowns of Your Heads* helped to rebuild Bibliotheque du Soleil, a library razed during the earthquake in Haiti. She is a graduate of the Syracuse University Newhouse School and holds an M.F.A. in creative writing from The City College, CUNY.



What people are saying about *Gathering the Waters*

Keisha-Gaye Anderson is comfortable in the language and truth of her poems. Hers is a necessary voice for our times. These poems sing, dance, rumble and cry out like sweet thunder from the coral colored shore of her poetic terrain. I am in awe of these spirit vocals, these healing water sounds.

—Cheryl Boyce-Taylor, poet and author of *Arrival* and *Convincing The Body*

Gathering the Waters is a potent book of poetry that can intoxicate your senses. Keisha wields her pen like a Samurai swordsman. Her poetry deals with the personal us, the intimate us, and the history of us. Keisha's poetry takes you on a wonderfully exciting journey through the culture and beauty of being Black, with the promise of tomorrow.

—Abiodun Oyewole, *The Last Poets*



facebook.com/keishagayeanderson



soundcloud.com/keisha-gaye-anderson



[@keishagayeanderson](https://instagram.com/keishagayeanderson)



[@KeishaGaye1](https://twitter.com/KeishaGaye1)



linkedin.com/in/keisha-gaye-anderson



FEATURED POET

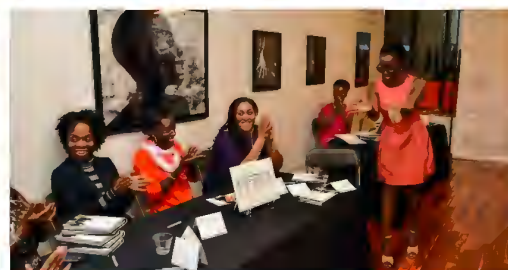
For more than 20 years, Keisha has shared her dynamic and lyrical poetry with a wide range of audiences in the New York region and beyond. She has graced the stage as a featured poet at such venues as the Nuyorican Poets Café, Bowery Poetry Club, New York Historical Society, and Word for Word reading series in Manhattan's Bryant Park. For two consecutive years, Keisha was the Voice Curator for the BEAT Festival, an annual week long theatrical program staged at historic cultural institutions like the Brooklyn Museum, Weeksville Heritage Center, and the Brooklyn Conservatory of Music. She has also shared her writing as a featured author at the NY Poetry Festival on Governor's Island, the first annual Queens Book Festival, and the Americas Poetry Festival of New York.





AUTHOR/WRITER

Keisha is a versatile and seasoned writer, with published work in several different genres. She is the author of four poetry collections: *Circle Unbroken* (2003), *Gathering the Waters* (Jamii Publishing 2014), *Everything is Necessary* (Aquarius Press/Willow Books 2018), and *A Spell for Living* (Agape Editions 2019), which received the Editors' Choice recognition for Agape's 2017 Numinous Orisons, Luminous Origin Literary Award. A multimedia e-book, *A Spell for Living* will include music and Keisha's original art work. She has published essays, fiction, and journalistic writing for a number of national literary and consumer magazines, and literary and scholarly anthologies, including *Black Enterprise*, *Psychology Today*, *Teen People* and *Captured by the City* (Cambridge Scholars 2013). She has also written for episodic cable television programming on the Hallmark Channel and A&E Network.





VISUAL ARTIST

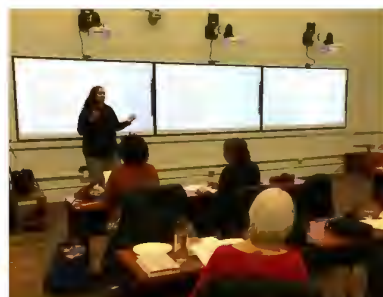
What started as a hobby has blossomed into a serious passion. Keisha's art has been featured at pop-up art exhibitions in Brooklyn and Manhattan, and will also be included in her new poetry collection *A Spell for Living* (Agape Editions 2019). She is heavily influenced by Afro-Caribbean abstract works and all forms of surrealism. Prints and other merchandise can be found at www.keishagaye.ink.





EDUCATOR

For more than a decade, Keisha has been a workshop leader and writing instructor working with high school seniors, traditional-age college students, and adult learners. She has taught classes on African American literature, Afrofuturism, and poetry. She is an in-demand instructor within the City University of New York system, and is a frequent independent workshop leader with organizations like the Women Writers in Bloom Poetry Salon. In 2017, Keisha was chosen as Bloomfield College's Scholar-in-Residence for the annual Writing from the Margins program series in Spring 2018.



Interactive Poetry Workshop Instructors
The City College



WOMEN WRITERS OF THE DIASPORA
READING AND DISCUSSION WITH
KEISHA GAY ANDERSON
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2012 6:30 P.M.
THE NEW SCHOOL FOR PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT





AUDIO/VIDEO



CUNY-TV: STUDY WITH THE BEST



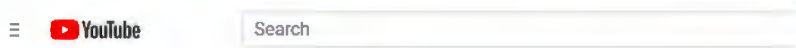
SU'S GOT TALENT



**BROOKLYN EMERGING ARTIST IN THEATER
2015 OPENING NIGHT, BROOKLYN MUSEUM**



AUDIO/VIDEO



Artist Rises - Part 3

225 views

AFRICAN VOICES, ARTIVST RISES



BEAT FESTIVAL ON BK LIVE 9.14.15



BRIC MEDIA / B-SIDE INTERVIEW



AFTVNYC EPISODE 77: INTERACTIVE POETRY WORKSHOP



ARCHIVES > ARTS ARCHIVE

AUDIO BY KEISHA-GAYE ANDERSON IN ARTS ARCHIVE

Keisha-Gaye Anderson on Studio A

00:00 / 53:12 60.81 MB - MP3 Joint Stereo 44kHz 160Kbps (CBR)

The following is a recording of a live reading and interview with Keisha-Gaye Anderson. Keisha will be one of the featured poets for the Nuyorican Poets Cafe's Bob Marley Tribute on February 6th, the featured poet for the Poets Settlement Reading/Poetry Series on February 9th, and hosting a poetry workshop on April 3 as a part of the 13th Annual Black Writers Conference.

Keisha, a graduate of Syracuse University, began her career working for CBS News as an associate producer or field producer for long-form documentaries like "A&E Biography." In 2003, Keisha-Gaye self-published her poetry chapbook Circle Unbroken. She has performed as a spoken word artist at a number of venues, including Bowery Poetry Club, Nuyorican Poets Cafe, The Knitting Factory, and a number of college-based reading series. She is one of the founding poets of Poets for Ayiti, a collective of poets from diverse backgrounds committed to the power of poetry to transform and educate. She is also the author of a collection of poetry, "Gathering the Waters," which was selected from over 100 manuscripts by Jamil Publishing in 2014.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY INTERVIEW: CONNECTING WITH STORIES



PHOTOGRAPHY





PHOTOGRAPHY





PHOTOGRAPHY



PRESS



BOOKREVIEWS | P.2



Making the maximum impact while we are here:

April is recognized internationally as Poetry Month, inaugurated by the Academy of American Poets in 1996. It is the largest literary celebration in the world with schools, publishers, libraries, bookstores, and poets celebrating poetry's vital place in our culture. In recognition of the month, every Sunday in April, Bookends will celebrate the work of established Jamaican poets and their work in a series of interviews by author/poet/visual artist Jacqueline Bishop.

This week, the featured poet is Keisha-Gaye Anderson.

Keisha-Gaye, I am so delighted with the arrival of *Gathering the Waters*. I have known you for some time now, and know that this book has been long in the making, so congratulations! There is something very ancient and wise about these poems. No maybe we should start there, in the fact that reverence "For the Ancestors" is not only the dedication to your book but pervades throughout the entire work. Can you speak both specifically for yourself, and more generally, as to why you believe it is important to remember the ancestors?



Keisha-Gaye Anderson

Indeed, this work represents many years of close listening. I have learned that writing is much more about my receptivity to certain truths versus the mere assertion of my own limited opinions. What is 40 years of life? A speck of dust in time. So, it was only right to start at the source and honour what I know to be the reservoir of the inspiration that has been distilled through me into these poems. As a Jamaican woman of African descent, acknowledging my ancestors is particularly important to me because of the violent disruption to our family structures that came with slavery. The unmarked bodies carrying the Atlantic flow, the mothers whose babies were torn from their breasts and sold away, the husbands hanging from cotton trees,

the musical and ancient languages silenced by colonial laws, the sleeping African gods buried alive under Christianity — these all require witnessing. They demand to be acknowledged. And because I stepped through the doorway of these ancestors' experiences into the life I am living, my voice is for them.

On a very mundane level, I also believe that the more a human being learns to regard himself as part of a continuum of human experience that stretches back steadily while, at the same time, pushing the world forward, the more that person will be invested in being as the highest expression of himself. We all have a role to play.

Meanings spill down and soak out. And for those who have walked the same difficult path and are playing a certain record over and over in their heads, this work may assist them in changing that tune from a familiar hymn into a ballad.

The role of women, both as nurturers and the source of conflict, is a running theme throughout these poems, and links it to a lot of works by other Caribbean women authors. How do you explain this duality and outright contradiction in your work?

Isn't it wonderful that life is so messy? That love and hate are identical things, if you really look at them closely? Caribbean women are master tightrope walkers in an experience that has been defined by persistence. In many ways, we have done the impossible — reclaimed the gatekeepers of hell—remembered culture and the fierce nurturers of new generations, while surviving through hundreds of years of physical and psychological torment, inaccurately named "slave societies". We are not sitting through that untreated and unacknowledged trauma, which causes, for instance, the total rejection of the black body by its inhabitant.

But I also feel that Caribbean women are freer than many other women to dismantle themselves into anything they can imagine because they are not constrained by any particular traditional

templates of womanhood. We are so many things! And through that tension and duality emerges a beautifully complex and unpredictable individual, which is sometimes loving and sometimes terrifying, like any other force of nature.

Given that women are the central characters in this book, what do you think men and boys can learn from reading this work?

This question also makes me think of duality. I believe even and boys can learn that we are not that different from each other, in terms of our need for love, our search for identity, our experience of pain or alienation, and our desire to expand and improve ourselves as human beings. I want those readers who are not female to see their own reflections in the faces of the women and girls in their lives, and love the totality of "all" on two sides of the same coin. It takes two legs to walk; we are not going anywhere if we aren't going together, and we need to begin the journey with empathy and tenderness.

Nostalgia for the past and for a childhood in Jamaica is a very strong theme in this work. How do you explain this sadness and nostalgia and do I see in the works hints of a hope of some kind of eventual return to Jamaica and a kind of disillusionment with migration?

Well, I think it's important to first understand that Caribbean immigrants in the United States, when we were growing up at least, lived largely in communities with other Caribbean immigrants. New York tends to have very distinct ethnic enclaves. So, while the Caribbean culture was ever-present among the people we interacted with daily, I fully understood those people through the framework of the circumstances that brought them to America — from the finical worker planning to pay his "debt home" to those putting down roots while supporting family back home, to others seeking to fully assimilate and blend into the new home, which tended to collapse all prior identities built on class, culture, or colour into one tiny box: black.

Home became like a skyscraper casting a long shadow — one could feel the effects of the structure blocking out the sun, though the structure itself was difficult to see in detail. And I, like many immigrant children I grew up with, lived in a shadowy limbo of sorts, not fully American, not fully Jamaican/Caribbean, unsure of how to identify in the Western culture that demands labels above everything else.

Much of the remembering in my writing is an attempt to get a clear picture of my essential self and distinguish my hybrid identity as a "Jamaican" from my parents' memories and experiences. Actually, it has been a wonderful vantage point from which to critically view both of the cultures

Art Write: Keisha-Gaye Anderson

February 17, 2016 | Sherree Francis

Today we bring you Keisha-Gaye Anderson, a poet and writer with roots in Queens and abroad, who infuses her writing with the essences of those roots. Scroll down and read all about it!



Women's Rights are Human Rights — Keisha-Gaye Anderson

This essay was posted on [Comments](#), [Culture](#), [History](#), [Uncategorized](#) on March 6, 2017



March 8 is celebrated globally as International Women's Day (IWD). Originally organized by the Socialist Party of America (the celebrations first took place in February 1909 and were called International Working Women's Day). Big Green Kebab is commemorating the occasion by posting women's reflections on the struggle for equality.

Every year the celebrations embrace a special theme reflecting the urgency of the moment. This year, proceeding from the World Economic Forum's prediction that the gender gap in wealth is close to being closed (2016), the theme addresses this unacceptable state of gender inequality as a human rights urgency. Big Green Kebab joins IWD in the campaign to #StandForChange following up on last year's #StandForChange. It is a quest for women and girls to achieve their ambitions, challenge conduct and unconstructive gender bias, push for gender balanced leadership, value

April 12, 2015 THE SUNDAY OBSERVER www.jamaicabookends.com

BOOKENDS CREDITS

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PRESS

Brooklyn Poets

since 1855.

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POET OF THE WEEK KEISHA-GAYE ANDERSON

October 12–18, 2015

Keisha-Gaye Anderson is a Jamaican-born poet and creative writer living in Brooklyn, NY. She is the author of the poetry collection *Gathering the Waters* (Jamii Publishing, December 2014). Her writing has appeared in national literary journals including *African Voices Magazine*, *Renaissance Notre*, *The Killens Review of Arts and Letters*, *Small Axe Salon* and others, as well as anthologies such as *Poems on the Road to Peace: A Collective Tribute to Dr. King* and *Bet on Black: African American Women Celebrate Fatherhood in the Age of Barack Obama*. Keisha is a founding poet with Poets for Ayiti, whose proceeds from the 2010 chapbook *For the Crowns of Your Heads* helped to rebuild the Bibliothèque du Soleil, a library destroyed by the earthquake in Haiti. She recently curated two poetry/theatrical

Infocinated Corner: A Writing Life Interview with Keisha-Gaye Anderson

Fox Frazier-Foley | August 30, 2015

Keisha-Gaye Anderson is author of the poetry collection *Gathering the Waters* (Jamii Publishing, 2014), which has been described as "a lyrical outpouring of kinship, heritage, and a woman's transformation within the world that envelope her... a rich compendium of heartfelt poetic verse." As both a writer & reader of mystical poetry, I found her work lovely and compelling, and invited her to the Infocinated Corner for a conversation about her aesthetic, influences, process, and work overall.

Fox Frazier-Foley: I first learned about your work from your book, *Gathering the Waters*, which I was

AfricanVoices

HOME ABOUT US SUPPORT EVENTS MAGAZINE
BLOG MAILING LIST

WRITING FROM SPIRIT: AN INTERVIEW WITH KEISHA-GAYE ANDERSON

August 10, 2015

Interview by Kayla Brown, Hampton University student

Brooklyn Daily Eagle

September 25, 2015 | Clear sky 3

Brooklyn BEAT Festival returns this fall

Every year, local artists bring adventure to the festival with their unique performances. This year's festival will see three days, up to 100 artists, and a new stage.

The BEAT Festival, now in its fourth year, represents Brooklyn artists, writers and performers. Throughout the festival, events are created and held in the city's public spaces — all of the festival's activities are free to the public.

"We step back and take stock of what's happening in the arts scene across the borough from an artistic, social and economic perspective," said the festival's artistic director and executive producer, "There are always the way we see things evolving, and we'll be looking for new ways to expand the festival through the art's work, and push these boundaries further in real time."

This year's festival will include Openings, Studio at the Brooklyn Museum, as well as performances at Woodville Heritage Center in Crown Heights and



BIOS

Short (132 words, 860 characters):

Keisha-Gaye Anderson is a Jamaican-born poet, author, visual artist, and media professional living in Brooklyn, NY. *Gathering the Waters* (Jamii Publishing 2014) is her first poetry collection. Her new poetry book, *A Spell for Living*, is the recipient of Editors' Choice recognition for the 2017 Numinous Orisons, Luminous Origin Literary Award. The collection is forthcoming from a Agape in 2019 as a multimedia e-book, including music and Keisha's original art work. Keisha's second new poetry collection, *Everything Is Necessary*, will be published by Willow/Aquarius Press in 2018. She is a past participant of the VONA Voices and Callaloo writing workshops, and was short-listed for the Small Axe Literary Competition. She is a graduate of the Syracuse University Newhouse School and holds an M.F.A. in creative writing from The City College, CUNY.

Long (830 words, 5,537 characters):

Keisha-Gaye Anderson is a Jamaican-born poet, creative writer, visual artist, and media professional, whose multi-platform storytelling has examined subjects like art, culture, history, and social justice over the past 20 years.

Her debut poetry collection *Gathering the Waters* (Jamii Publishing 2014) uses lyrical free verse to evoke conversations about the Caribbean, migration, ancestral memory, and the role of women in society. The collection was accepted into the Poets House Library in 2016. Her new poetry book, *A Spell for Living*, is the recipient of Editors' Choice recognition for the 2017 Numinous Orisons, Luminous Origin Literary Award. The collection is forthcoming from a Agape in 2019 as a multimedia e-book, including music and Keisha's original art work. Keisha's second new poetry collection, *Everything Is Necessary*, will be published by Willow/Aquarius Press in 2018.

Keisha has shared her work as a featured poet at such venues as the New York Historical Society, Museum of the Moving Image, Nuyorican Poets Cafe, Bowery Poetry Club, "Word for Word" reading series in Manhattan's Bryant Park, New Amsterdam Musical Association's Blues and Poetry series, New York City Poetry Festival on Governor's Island, Weeksville Heritage Center, and many others.

Keisha's poetry, fiction, and essays have been published widely in literary magazines and anthologies that include *Kweli Journal*, *Renaissance Noire*, *The Killens Review of Arts and Letters*, *Small Axe Salon*, *Interviewing the Caribbean*, *Caribbean in Transit Arts Journal*, *Streetnotes: Cross Cultural Poetics*, *African Voices Magazine*, *Mosaic Literary Magazine*, *The Mom Egg Review*, *Split This Rock: Poems of Resistance, Power & Resilience* (blog), *Captured by the City: Perspectives on Urban Culture* (Cambridge Scholars Publishing), *Poems on the Road to Peace: A Collective Tribute to Dr. King* (Yale University Press), *Multilingual Anthology: The Americas Poetry Festival 2014* (Artpoética Press), *Sometimes Rhythm*, *Sometimes Blues: Young African Americans on Love, Relationships, Sex, and the Search for Mr. Right* (Seal Press), and *Bet on Black: African American Women Celebrate Fatherhood in the Age of Barak Obama* (Kifani Press).



BIOS

Long, cont.:

She is also a founding poet and editor with Poets for Ayiti. Proceeds from their 2010 chapbook, *For the Crowns of Your Heads*, helped to rebuild Bibliotheque du Soleil, a library razed during the earthquake in Haiti. She is an active member and a frequent host of the Women Writers in Bloom Poetry Salon, founded by award-winning poet JP Howard. Keisha is a past participant of the VONA Voices Speculative Fiction with Tananarive Due. She was also selected to participate in the Callaloo Creative Writing workshop for fiction, held at Brown University, where she was chosen to be one of the program's featured readers. In 2010, she was named a fellow by the North Country Institute for Writers of Color, and was also short listed for the Small Axe literary competition.

Keisha's decade-long journalistic career includes news and documentary production for networks like CBS, PBS, MTV, and Japanese television (NHK, Nippon, and others). She has penned feature articles and cover stories for magazines like *Psychology Today*, *Black Enterprise*, *Upscale*, *Honey*, *Southern Africa Political and Economic Monthly*, and *Teen People*. As a field producer for CBS News Productions, the network's documentary unit, Keisha has lead video shoots across the nation and interviewed notable figures in politics, art, and entertainment that include Congressman John Lewis, former Lt. Gov. Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, author John Seigenthaler, actor Burt Reynolds, and many others. As a screenwriter, Keisha has written for A&E Biography, *New Morning* (Hallmark Channel), and an independently produced sitcom submitted to festivals. She is longstanding member of the Harlem Arts Alliance Screenwriting Workshop, lead by award-winning screenwriters Jamal Joseph (*New York Undercover*, FOX) and Zach Sklar (*Oliver Stone's JFK*).

For the past 12 years, Keisha has overseen editorial operations at two large public universities, where she has served as the editor-in-chief of an alumni magazine (circulation 140,000); led teams of writers and editors in the creation of print and multimedia content for thousands of students and alumni; implemented public relations campaigns and managed crisis communications; streamlined internal communications; crafted speeches for college presidents and executives; produced donor-focused video content to aid fundraising; and helped establish or expand social media platforms to raise overall institutional visibility.

As an educator, Keisha has led creative writing workshops at a number of academic institutions and writing salons. She has taught expository writing through the Adult and Continuing Education Program at Medgar Evers College, CUNY, where she has also taught poetics to high school students through the College NOW program. In collaboration with the Women Writers in Bloom Poetry Salon, Keisha was a poetry instructor within the Continuing and Professional Studies program at The City College, CUNY for two consecutive semesters. She has also taught African American literature to undergraduates at Lehman College, CUNY, and Afrofuturism to undergraduates at Brooklyn College, CUNY. Keisha was named an Institute Scholar for the 2018 Writing from the Margins Institute at Bloomfield College.

Keisha holds a B.A. from Syracuse University's Newhouse School and College of Arts and Science and an M.F.A. in Creative Writing from The City College, CUNY. She lives in Brooklyn, NY with her husband and two children.



RESUME

POET | AUTHOR | ESSAYIST | EDUCATOR | MULTIMEDIA COMMUNICATIONS EXPERT

Established multi-genre writer, with work appearing in national publications and anthologies. Author of four poetry collections. Adjunct lecturer within the City University of New York and independent poetry workshop/salon leader. Multimedia producer and editor, with close to twenty years of experience in crafting effective cross platform content within the public and private sectors. Seasoned higher education communications and marketing manager, skilled at formulating successful media plans and web content, as well as crafting speeches for executives and utilizing social media to promote key messages. M.F.A. in Creative Writing, The City College, CUNY, Spring 2014.

Author:

A Spell or Living (Agape Editions 2019), winner of the Editor's Choice recognition for the 2017 Numinous Orisons, Luminous Origin Literary Award; *Everything is Necessary* (Willow Books/Aquarius Press 2018); *Gathering The Waters* (Jamii Publishing 2014), which was accepted into the Poets House Library in Manhattan in 2015; *Circle Unbroken* (2003)

Contributor:

Kweli Journal (forthcoming); *The Auburn Avenue* (2017); *Joint Literary Magazine* (2017); *Split This Rock/Blog This Rock* (2017); *Mom Egg Review* (2013, 2015, 2016, 2017); *Interviewing the Caribbean* (Winter 2015); *Multilingual Anthology: The Americas Poetry Festival* (Artpoetica Press, Inc., 2014, 2017); *Mosaic Literary Magazine* (Summer 2014); *African Voices Magazine* (Spring 2015); *Renaissance Noire*, a publication of New York University (Fall 2012); *Killens Review of Arts and Letters* (Fall / Winter 2010; Fall / Winter 2013); *Small Axe Salon* (Fall 2010, Spring 2011), short listed for the 2010 Small Axe Literary Competition; *Captured by the City* (Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2013); *Sometimes Rhythm, Sometimes Blues: Young African Americans on Love, Relationships, Sex and the Search for Mr. Right* (Seal Press, 2004); *Bet on Black: African-American Women Celebrate Fatherhood in the Age of Barack Obama* (Kifani Publishing, 2013); *Poetry and Performance*, anthology of the NY Poetry Festival (2011, 2012, 2016); *AfroBeat Journal* (Spring 2011); *URBAN FEEL XCP: Streetnotes*, a publication of Washington College (2010, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016); *Promethean*, literary magazine of The City College, CUNY (2009, 2012); *Poems on the Road to Peace: A Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.* (Yale University Press, 2002, 2004); *Caribbean in Transit Arts Journal* (2011); *Women Writers in Bloom Poetry Salon blog* (2012); *Poets for Ayiti* (2010) founding poet and contributor to chapbook *For the Crowns of Your Heads*. Director of *Poets for Ayiti* publicity campaign and member of editorial board. All proceeds from chapbook and anthology sales disbursed (via fiscal sponsor Cave Canem) to Haiti's *Bibliothèque du Soliel*, a library razed by the 2010 earthquake.



RESUME

Curator:

Voice Curator, BEAT Festival poetry/theatrical programs, Weeksville Heritage Center and Five Myles Art Gallery, Brooklyn (2015, 2016)

Featured poet:

Queens Literary Festival (2017); New Amsterdam Music Association (NAMA) Blues & Poetry series (2016/2017); "Word for Word," Bryant Park (2016), broadcast on CUNY TV's "Study With the Best;" Queens Book Festival (2016); Jamaica Center for the Arts and Learning/JCAL (2016); NY Historical Society, "Poetic Justice" (2015); New York City Poetry Festival (2015); Syracuse Community Folk Art Gallery (2013); Women Writers of the Diaspora Reading Series, The New School University (Fall 2012) and Calabar Imports, Harlem (Fall 2015); Turnstyle Reading Series, CUNY Graduate Center (Spring 2012); (and host) Women Writers in Bloom Poetry Salon (2012 to present); Calypso Muse Reading Series (2012 to present); Glitter Pomegranate / Calypso Muse Reading Series (2012 to present); Featured poet, Caribbean Cultural Theatre reading series, Poets and Passion (2011 to present); Bowery Poetry Club (2014); NuYorican Poets Café, Tribute to Bob Marley (2015, 2016); "B-Side," BRIC Media Arts (2014); NY Public Library, Countee Cullen Branch (2014); BEAT Festival Opening Night at the Brooklyn Museum (2015, 2016)

Fellowships / Residencies:

Accepted to Noepe Center for Literary Arts residency at Martha's Vineyard, MA (summer 2017); VONA Voices, Speculative Fiction Workshop (University of Miami, 2015); (and Selected Reader) Callaloo Creative Writing Workshop (Brown University, 2013); North Country Institute for Writers of Color / Medgar Evers College, Center for Black Literature (Plattsburgh, NY, 2010)

Presenter:

AWP conference, "Writing a New Identity: Caribbean Women Writers from Beach and Carnival Culture to Political and Survival Text" (Tampa, FL, March 2018); Mid-Atlantic Popular Culture Conference (Alexandria, VA, Fall 2010; Philadelphia, PA, Fall 2011)



RESUME

HIGHER EDUCATION

Brooklyn College, The City University of New York, Brooklyn, NY

Director of News & Information, Office of Communications & Marketing (Sept. 2012 – present)

Create and manage aggressive public relations campaigns to raise visibility of the college's scholarly, institutional, and student accomplishments; serve as editor-in-chief of alumni magazine (circulation 135,000) and other flagship publications; manage editors, writers, photographers, videographers, and support staff; oversee and develop multi-platform editorial content for college website, marketing materials, and social media channels; advise on editorial best practices for the college community; oversee internal communications and event promotion; craft speeches for the president, including biannual state of the college address; manage crisis communications; and serve as an alternate spokesperson for the college.

English Instructor, Africana Studies, Special Topics seminar on Afrofuturism (Spring 2018)

The City College, The City University of New York, New York, NY

Workshop Leader, Interactive Poetry Workshop (a collaboration between CCNY Continuing & Professional Studies and Women Writers in Bloom Poetry Salon) (Fall 2016 / Spring 2017)

Medgar Evers College, The City University of New York, Brooklyn, NY

English Instructor, Adult and Continuing Education, Writing Fundamentals I & II (Fall 2016 / Spring 2017)

Poetry Talkshop/Workshop Leader, National Black Writers Conference (April 2016)

Memory as Myth, Movement, and Momentum

Adjunct Lecturer, Department of English (Spring 2015 semester)

HUM 102: The Spoken Word in African American Written Texts (College Now / 3 hours, 3 credits). A seminar and workshop with a foundation of the history and origins of the spoken word in African-American literature.

Lehman College, The City University of New York, Bronx, NY

Associate Director, Office of Media Relations and Publications (July 2004 – Sept. 2012)

Publicize college's accomplishments and initiatives, and act as liaison between the media and members of the College community. Regularly pitch stories to local and national press; write and distribute press releases; record (video and audio), write, and edit video packages and podcasts for the Lehman website, iTunesU, and College's YouTube channel using non-linear editing software; produce annual Fundraising Gala Video; write and edit feature articles for Lehman website, and manage site content; create media plans for major events; write ad copy for television and print; direct social media outreach; contribute feature articles to bi-annual alumni magazine; write and edit development materials, such as President's Letter to the College community and budget requests;



RESUME

write speeches and talking points for the president; edit and lay out academic bulletins; supervise writers and editorial interns; sit on search committees; and manage the department in the director's absence.

Adjunct Lecturer, Department of African and African American Studies (Spring 2011 semester)

AAS 267: African American Literature (3 hours, 3 credits). Literary expression and historical experience of African American writers.

JOURNALISM / TV PRODUCTION

Network News Service, New York, NY

Producer/Editor (August 2003 - June 2004)

News sharing consortium of ABC, CBS, and FOX. Captured breaking news feeds from participating affiliates nation-wide and edited packages and b-roll footage to be used by any of the three partner networks for daily news broadcasts.

CBS News Productions, New York, NY

Field Producer / Associate Producer (October 1999 - August 2003)

Documentary unit of CBS News that produced long-form documentary broadcasts for domestic cable stations. Conducted on-camera interviews; supervised b-roll shooting; scouted locations; identified key characters through research and pre-interviews; assisted in script writing; worked with editors to cut segments; obtained archival footage and photos within CBS and outside companies; edited and fact-checked scripts and pitched story ideas.

Zula/Pearl Films—"Flag Wars," New York, NY

Post-production Associate Producer (November 2002 - April 2003)

This launch film of PBS/POV's summer 2003 documentary series tells the story of a black working class neighborhood in transition as white professionals gradually move in. Managed post-production rights and clearances for music and footage; assisted in formulation of national outreach campaign strategy and compiled supporting research; coordinated producer's travel; formatted and proofed credited and other deliverables; compiled music and footage cue sheets.

PBS / Public Affairs Television—"NOW With Bill Moyers," New York, NY

Associate Producer (May 2002 - November 2002)

Weekly prime time and nationally broadcast newsmagazine, hosted and edited by Bill Moyers. Conducted research, reporting, and pre-interviews; coordinated domestic and international travel and field shoots; pitched story ideas; fact-checked scripts; acquired archival footage and still photos; managed rights and clearances; and wrote accompanying articles for website (www.pbs.org/now)



RESUME

Office Kei, Inc. (Japanese TV), New York, NY

Associate Producer (November 1997 - July 1999)

New York-based Japanese TV production company. Produced documentaries and newsmagazines for air in Japan, focusing on science, jazz, and American pop culture. Wrote summaries of research and pre-interviews (later translated into Japanese and integrated into scripts); conducted on-camera interviews and supervised b-roll shooting; scouted locations; hired production assistants, camera crews, and actors; selected still photos and archival footage. Clients included NHK, Nippon-TV, TV-Asahi, Osaka Cable, and Mainichi Broadcasting System.

Teachers' Retirement System of the City of New York, New York, NY

Technical Writer / Copy Editor (October 1996 - November 1997)

Wrote, edited, and laid out investment and money management newsletters, brochures, and form letters for distribution to members of this pension fund.

Freelance Television Writing

Freelance Writer, New Morning (Hallmark Channel newsmagazine program, 2002); Contributing writer, The Married Bachelor web series (comedy), Season 1 (Fall 2011)

Freelance Magazine Articles

Black Enterprise Magazine, Teen People Magazine, Honey Magazine, Upscale Magazine, Psychology Today Magazine, Everybody's Magazine, Music.com, NOW With Bill Moyers (program website), Inside Fordham, Southern Africa Political and Economic Monthly

Freelance Fact Checker

TV Guide, American Legacy Magazine (Forbes, Inc.)



RESUME

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Writers Guild of America East Foundation / Harlem Dramatic Writing Workshop with noted screenwriters Jamal Joseph, Zach Sklar, and Eddie Pomerantz; The Author's Guild; Girls Write Now (mentor)

EDUCATION

The City College, CUNY, M.F.A. 2014, Creative Writing (Fiction)

Syracuse University, B.A. 1996, Magazine Journalism & African American Studies (Newhouse School and College of Arts & Sciences)

University of Zimbabwe, Harare, Fall 1995 Study Abroad



WORK WITH KEISHA

As a former journalist in the number one media market for over a decade, as a leader in higher education communications and marketing at the largest public university in the nation, and as a recognized poet and author with work appearing in prestigious publications, Keisha is an expert at the art of storytelling across many different mediums. She can help you hone your communications to better resonate with your target audience, inspire your students of all ages with her collaborative approach to teaching, or enhance the audience experience at your major events with her unforgettable performance poetry. Keisha is flexible and versatile, having worked with a broad range of populations as a manager, artist, educator, or inspirational speaker. Contact her to learn more about her expertise as a:

- Featured Poet / Author
- Writing Coach
- Workshop Leader
- Keynote Speaker
- Editorial Consultant
- Speech Writer
- Communications Strategist

"I first had the pleasure of meeting and working with Keisha-Gaye Anderson almost a decade ago when we were both journalist and producers at NOW With Bill Moyers, an Emmy Award winning, prime time PBS public affairs series. During that time, Keisha helped us understand American and international politics, myriad public policies, and the state of our environment through insightful storytelling and superb journalism as an associate producer and producer. She researched, produced and directed dozens of hours of wide-ranging public affairs television programs with renowned journalist and host, Bill Moyers."

Candace White

Media Production Manager
Columbia Univ., School of Professional Studies

"When Keisha was on my production team at CBS News Productions, finding the words to make the viewer take notice was essential, and she was there to make it work for our A&E Biography programs. Not only did she find many of the pictures that made the shows look as good as they did; she also knew what we should say with them. And she was a splendid teammate to all."

Rob Forman

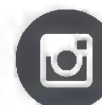
Managing Editor
Yale, School of Medicine

"Keisha's personal writings, which include--fiction, nonfiction, and poetry--also reflect a keen and salient mind. It is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to be able to observe and learn from her."

Robert Jones

Writer, Editor, Social Media Manager

Let's Connect:



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