Front Matter

North Meridian Review Staff

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.butler.edu/thenorthmeridianreview

Part of the Arts and Humanities Commons

Recommended Citation
DOI: https://doi.org/10.7825/2769-5115.1022
Retrieved from: https://digitalcommons.butler.edu/thenorthmeridianreview/vol1/iss2/1

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by Digital Commons @ Butler University. It has been accepted for inclusion in The North Meridian Review by an authorized editor of Digital Commons @ Butler University. For more information, please contact digitalscholarship@butler.edu.
The North Meridian Review

Volume 1

Winter 2020

Special Issue

A Journal of Culture and Scholarship
EDITORIAL STAFF

Managing Editor: Wesley R. Bishop, Marian University Indianapolis

Assistant Managing Editor: Mauve Perle Tahat, Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Assistant Editor: Robin Marie Averbeck, California State University, Chico
Assistant Editor: Janine Giordano Drake, Indiana University Bloomington
Assistant Editor: Paula Ashe, Purdue University
Assistant Editor: Lama Sharif, Purdue University

Book Review Editor: Alzbeta Hajkova, Purdue University
Poetry Editor: Ricardo Quintana Vallejo, National Autonomous University of Mexico
Digital Editor: Pádraig Lawlor, Saint Leo University

EDITORIAL BOARD

Andrea Adomako, Northwestern University
Saladin Ambar, Rutgers University
Malkah Bird, Jewish Voices for Peace
Michelle Campbell, Duke University-Graduate Communications and Intercultural Programs
Valentina Concu, Purdue University
LaShawnda Crowe Storm, IUPUI-The Polis Center
John Enyeart, Bucknell University
Adrianna Ernstberger, Marian University Indianapolis
Nancy Gabin, Purdue University
Iridessence, Chicago activist and artist
Preethi Krishnan, Western Carolina University
Michelle Moyd, Indiana University Bloomington
Bessie Rigakos, Marian University Indianapolis
Richard Schneirov, Indiana State University
Carina Shero, Chicago activist and artist
Harry Targ, Professor Emeritus-Purdue University
Ashley J. Velázquez, University of Washington, Bothell
Naomi R. Williams, Rutgers University
Victoria Saker Woeste, Independent Scholar
CONTRIBUTING AUTHORS:

Mark Latta is an Assistant Professor of English at Marian University where he also serves as the Director for the Marian University Writing Center and Faculty Lead for Community Engaged Learning. He also directs the Flanner Community Writing Center. His research and teaching practices explore the entanglements between literacy, urban theory, and humanizing and decolonizing inquiry. Latta is a PhD candidate in Urban Education Studies at Indiana University.

Abbey Chambers recently completed her PhD in American Studies at Indiana University-Purdue University-Indianapolis (IUPUI). She has a master’s degree in Art History from Indiana University, Bloomington. Her doctoral research uses visual culture theory and ethnographic methods to show how understanding residents’ perceptions of neighborhood redevelopment can inform economic development processes that are equitable and inclusive.

Dr. Kiesha Warren-Gordon is an Associate Professor of Criminal Justice/Criminology at Ball State University where she also serves as the Director of the African American Studies Program. Dr. Warren-Gordon’s work centers on critical approaches of community engagement while working with marginalized communities. Her research explores the intersection of race, class, and gender as it relates to violence, and intercultural conflict. Dr. Warren-Gordon is also active in the criminal justice professional community. She currently serves as the Past President of the Midwest Criminal Justice Association. She is also Senior Faculty Fellow for Indiana Campus Compact.

Emily Ruth Rutter is an Associate Professor of English at Ball State University. She is the author of Invisible Ball of Dreams: Literary Representations of Baseball behind the Color Line (University Press of Mississippi, 2018), The Blues Muse: Race, Gender, and Musical Celebrity in American Poetry (University of Alabama Press, 2018), and the forthcoming Black Celebrity: Contemporary Representations of Postbellum Athletes and Artists (University of Delaware Press, 2022). Along with Tiffany Austin, Sequoia Maner, and darlene anita scott, she co-edited Revisiting the Elegy in the Black Lives Matter Era (Routledge, 2020). Her numerous essays have been published in African American Review, Aethlon, and MELUS, among other journals.

Darolyn “Lyn” Jones is an activist/teacher/researcher/writer. Passionate about border crossing classrooms into the community, Lyn teaches in the Department of English at Ball State University and serves as director of the Memoir Project for the Indiana Writers Center. Lyn authored Painless Reading Comprehension, co-authored Memory Workshop, and is an editor for Indie presses: INwords Publications, Rethinking Children’s & YA Lit, & 409 Press. Lyn researches and publishes academically in community writing, community engagement, and disability studies.

Dr. Adam Henze is a researcher, educator, and spoken word artist, and has shared his work in over thirty states, as well as Puerto Rico, Canada, England, and Ireland. He is the co-founder of Slam Camp, a summer writing academy for teenage poets, and is the director of Power of a Sentence, a writing workshop series at a women’s prison in Indianapolis. Adam earned a PhD in Literacy, Culture, and Language Education at Indiana University, where he also works as a Research Associate at the Indiana Institute on Disability and Community. Adam has facilitated educational programming at over a dozen prisons and juvenile detention centers in Indiana, Florida, Kentucky, Illinois, and Arkansas. Articles about his work as an artist and educator have appeared in Japan Times, USA Today, the Indianapolis Star, and on NPR, PBS, the Big Ten Network, and Chalkbeat. Adam is a Program Director at Southern
Fried Poetry, Inc., which hosts one of the largest and longest-running poetry slam festivals in the world.

**JesAlana Stewart** holds a doctorate in literacy, culture, and language education. She has dedicated her career to fostering enthusiasm in the classroom, promoting multilingual collaboration, and facilitating communication internationally. Due to her background in linguistics, she is fluent in Spanish, proficient in French, and has studied Mandarin, Italian, and Portuguese, developing in her a deep sense of responsibility to empower people through global educational opportunities that focus on equity and inclusion. Through this responsibility her research interests are interdisciplinary in nature, combining theory and inquiry in the fields of foreign languages, linguistics, literacy, rhetoric, global studies, and education.

**Maria Hamilton Abegunde** is an ancestral priest, healer, and poet. Her creative work and scholarship focus on healing intergenerational traumas related to slavery and sexual violence through ritual, contemplative practices, and community-based art. Her work has been published in the *Massachusetts Review*, *Tapelo Quarterly*, COGzine, the *Kenyon Review*, *Best African American Fiction*, *nocturnes*, *rhino*, and several anthologies, including *I Feel a Little Jumpy around You*, *Catch the Fire*, and *Beyond the Frontier: African American Poetry for the 21st Century*. Commissioned work appears in *Be/Coming and Keeper of My Mothers Dreams*. Excerpts from *Learning to Eat the Dead: Juba, USA* was a COG finalist. Dr. Abegunde is a Cave Canem fellow. Her writing fellowships include those from Sacatar, Ragdale, and Norcroft. She was an NEH Summer Institute fellow in the Black Aesthetics and African Centered Cultural Expressions project. She has received grants from Indiana Humanities/National Endowment for the Arts, the Illinois Arts Council, and the Barbara Deming Foundation. She is the director of The Graduate Mentoring Center and a faculty member in African American and African Diaspora Studies at Indiana University Bloomington. She likes to read and watch science fiction, laugh, do nothing, and dance in the street when the music is groovy.

**Celeste Williams** is a former newspaper journalist, having worked at daily newspapers in Indiana, Alabama, Tennessee, and Wisconsin. She won several national awards and a Pulitzer Prize nomination for her reporting on extreme poverty in Mississippi. She is also a poet and playwright. Her play, *More Light: Douglass Returns*, in conjunction with Asante Children’s Theatre, ran two summers at Conner Prairie Interactive History Park. She is president of the board of directors of the Indiana Writers Center.

**Tatjana Rebelle** (they/she) is a mother, activist, organizer, writer, performer and promoter. They have lived in Indianapolis most of their life, which is where they learned to use their writing to deal with growing up in the Midwest as a bisexual, biracial child of an immigrant. They are the founder of VOCAB, an all-inclusive monthly spoken word and live music event that is in its thirteenth year. They have been fighting for social justice for communities of color and QTBIPOC rights for several years on their own. As well as American Friends Service Committee, combating Islamophobia, white supremacy and fighting for Palestinian liberation. AFSC gave them the chance to follow in the footsteps of their idol, Bayard Rustin in taking a nonviolent stance against global and local oppression. Tatjana’s goal is to bring activism to the people via their current work in Environmental Justice with Earth Charter Indiana.
Cristina Santamaría Graff is an Assistant Professor of Special Education, Urban Teacher Education at IUPUI. She has expertise in bilingual/multicultural special education and applies her skills in working with Latinx immigrant families of children with dis/abilities in family-centered projects. Her scholarship focuses on ways community engaged partnerships with families and other stakeholders can transform inequitable practices impacting youth with dis/abilities at the intersections of race, class, and other identity markers of difference. Though Cristina’s scholarship is mainly represented through academic writing, she is excited to share this poem to communicate through imagery, symbolism, and metaphor the emotional impact of being ‘othered’ as shared by several families she has had the honor of listening to and learning from. This poem is a composite of their stories.


Front Cover Art: “City ala Tilator,” by Dan Zen. Creative Commons License.
# Table of Contents

I. EDITORIAL NOTE
   Mark Latta, “The Right to Re/Make, Destroying to Replace, and the Terrain of Future Imaginations” ..... 8

II. SCHOLARSHIP
   Abbey Chambers, “Reimagining Urban Spaces and the Processes that Shape and Create Them” .......... 17
   Kiesha Warren Gordon & Emily Rutter, “Stories that Matter: Making and Preserving Black Spaces and Places” ........................................................................................................................................... 56
   Darolyn “Lyn” Jones, “‘Don’t Speechify: Do Something’: University Students Experience Counter Narratives” ........................................................................................................................................... 76
   Adam Henze, “The Emcee Spiel: A Poetic Reflection on Decentering the Self in the Classroom” .......... 100
   Maria Hamilton Abegunde, “Memory: Juba Four Years After Leaving” ............................................ 150

III. PROSE
     Celeste Williams, “Mississippi Goddam” ............................................................................................ 168

IV. POETRY
     Tatjana Rebelle, “Outside Myself, Within Myself” ........................................................................ 173
     Cristina Santamaria Graff, “If I Knew What Was Mine” .................................................................. 175
     Michael Jackman, “Letter 2” ............................................................................................................ 178
     Michael Jackman, “Letter 3” ............................................................................................................ 179
     Michael Jackman, “Letter 4” ............................................................................................................ 180