

## **Kwoya Fagin Maples**

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### **Education**

2008 M.F.A Creative Writing, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL

2005 B.S. Human Environmental Sciences, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL

### **Publications**

#### *Books*

*MEND* (University Press of Kentucky, 2018)

#### *Chapbooks*

*Something of Yours* (Finishing Line Press, 2010)

#### Anthologies:

"Blueberry Poem," *She Resisted: An Anthology* Green Cup Books, 2017

"In the Under," *Cave Canem Anthology XIII* Willow Press, 2015

Electronic Corpse: Poems from a Digital Salon, Edited by Ayodele Heath, 2014

### **Poems in Literary Journals**

"The Proposal" and "On Finally Being Massaged By a Black Woman and Wherein we are Finally Ourselves," *The Langston Hughes Review*. Vol. 26 No. 1 Spring 2020

"Attention Deficit Pastoral" *Tin House Review Online*, Fall 2019

"After a Sunny Day on Sullivan's Island," *The Langston Hughes Review*, Vol. 25 No. 2 Fall 2019

"Another Severe Weather Warning," "Sister Shannon and Brother David," and "Oyster Meditation" *Summerset Review*, Spring 2019

"Southern Pastoral," "I've Got Life," and "The Doctor Asks if I'd Like to Go Home the Way I Came" *Southern Women's Review* Vol.X, Issue X Spring 2020

"The Door," "So Familiar He is With Parting Her Brown Legs," and "I Could Never Disremember the Fireflies," *Puerto Del Sol Literary Journal*, Summer 2018

"Her Knife," *Bayou Magazine*, Summer 2018

"What Yields," *Obsidian Literature & Arts in the African Diaspora*, Spring 2018

"What Yields," *Blackbird Poetry Review*, Fall 2017

"Blueberry Poem," *Berkeley Poetry Review*, Spring 2017

"For Dorothy Lorena Davis," *Birmingham Arts Journal*, Spring 2017

“Wet-Nurse Milk Song,” and “Teeth,” *Obsidian: Literature & Arts in the African Diaspora*, Fall 2018  
“This Poem Will Resist with Joy” *Open Letters Monthly* Spring 2017  
“The Poem from the End of the Earth,” and “Mary-Ella is a De-feathered Chicken,” *Track\Four Journal*, Fall 2016  
“To Bear Witness,” and “Heaven Bound,” *Pluck Literary Journal*, Fall 2014  
“For the Canary in Your Heart,” *Birmingham Arts Journal*, Spring 2014  
“Belonging,” Cave Canem Chapbook *Gather Around*, Spring 2014  
“The Alabama Jazz Quartet Celebrates Black History Month,” *Cave Canem South Digital Chapbook*, July, 2014  
“Night in Limestone County” *African American Review*, Fall 2011  
“Deadbeat Blues” *Right Hand Pointing* Spring 2010  
“Dream #778,002” *Right Hand Pointing*, Spring 2010  
“Ten and in Sin, Already” *Sow’s Ear Poetry Review*, Fall 2010  
“I Took the Wind Back” *South Carolina Poetry Initiative*, Fall 2009  
“The Ritual” *Sow’s Ear Poetry Review*, Winter 2006  
“Because I Respect Dirt” *Marr’s Field Journal*, Spring 2005

### **Presentations & Readings**

Panelist, Association of Writers and Writing Programs Conference, “Remixing the Narrative Poem” (San Antonio, TX, March, 2020)  
Panelist, Association of Writers and Writing Programs Conference, “Fake News & Hard Truths, Teaching Creative Research Methods” (San Antonio, TX, March 2020)  
Workshop Instructor, Alabama Poetry Society, “Historical Persona Poetry” October 2019  
Guest Poet and Lecturer, South Carolina Poetry Society, “Historical Research and Writing” September 2019  
Fiction Workshop Instructor, University of Alabama at Birmingham (Spark Literary Festival) “Imitation is Unavoidable” August 2019  
Guest Poet, New York University, The New School, Cave Canem New Works Reading Series, April 2019  
Panelist and Guest Poet, Alabama Book Festival, “Poetry of the Body” March 2019  
Reader, Spoon River Review and Obsidian Reading, Association of Writers and Writing Programs, March 2019  
Reader, Cave Canem Fellows Reading, Association of Writers and Writing Programs, March 2019  
Visiting Writer, University of Alabama Department of Creative Writing “Docu-Poetics: Writing Historical Persona Poetry” February 2019  
Panelist, South Atlantic Modern Languages Association, “Fighters from the Margins: Socio-Political Activists and Their Allies,” November 2018

Guest Poet & Instructor, University of Kentucky, “Researching and Writing *MEND*” October, 2018

Panelist, “Diving into the Wreck: A Conversation with Scientists and Poets,” Featured Reader and Poet in Residence, Dauphin Island Sea Lab, October 2018

Reader, Association of Writers and Writing Programs, 4X4 & Obsidian Literary Journal Reading, March 2018

Alabama Writer’s Festival, Bicentennial Poet & Reader, April 2018

Reader and Panelist, New Orleans Poetry Festival, “Femme Friendship and Mentorship” April 2018

Reader, Magic City Poetry Festival, April 2018

Visiting Writer, University of North Alabama, February 2018

Visiting Writer, McCleod Poetry Project, James Island, S.C. October, 2017

Reader, New Orleans Poetry Festival, Sacred Grove Reading, April 2017

Panel Moderator, New Orleans Poetry Festival, Mystical Female: Black Women Poets Read, April 2017

Guest Poet and Lecturer, Centre College: “Visual Poetry,” March 2017

Visiting Poet and Workshop Instructor, Visual Poetry Master Class, Indian Springs School, September 2016

Faculty Reader, Alabama School of Fine Arts, May 2016

Reader, Sacred Grove Reading Series, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, March 2016

Guest Reader, Kuumba Project, Birmingham, Alabama, February 2016

Nitty Gritty Reading Series, Birmingham Museum of Art, October 2015

Slash Pine Writer’s Festival, University of Alabama, April 2015

Reader, Dr. Calvin Moore Book Launch, Homewood Public Library, July, 2014

Cave Canem Fellows Reading, University of Pittsburg-Greensburg, June 2012

Guest Poet, The Rockefeller Brothers Fund Board Meeting, New York City, NY November 2011

Poet in Residence, The Rockefeller Brothers Pocantico Estate, Pocantico Hills, NY July 2011

Reader, Miles College, Birmingham, AL February 2011

Cave Canem Fellows Reading, University of Pittsburg-Greensburg, June 2010

Slash Pine Poetry Festival, University of Alabama, April 2009

Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, The Women Gather, March 2009

Cave Canem Fellows Reading, University of Pittsburg-Greensburg, June 2008

MFA Reading Series, University of Alabama, October 2007

University of Alabama, Creative Campus Poetry Reading, March 2007

Creative Campus Poetry and Arts Performance, March 2006

University of Alabama MFA Student Reading, August 2005

## **Awards & Activities**

Judge for the Hurston/Wright Legacy Award for Poetry, 2020  
Reader for the 2020 Cave Canem Poetry Prize  
Judge for the 2020 Fitzgerald Literary Contest  
Judge for the Alabama State Council on the Arts Literary Fellowship, 2020  
Award Recipient, Finalist for the 2019 Hurston-Wright Legacy Award for Poetry  
Recipient, Alabama State Council on the Arts Literary Fellowship, 2019  
Finalist, AWP Prize for Poetry, 2017 (*MEND*, UPK 2018)  
Finalist, Gwendolyn Brooks Centennial Poetry Prize, for the poem "What Yields"  
Finalist, Robert Dana Anhinga Poetry Prize, Anhinga Press (*MEND*, UPK 2018)  
Director, Three-Dimensional Poetry Exhibition, 2015-2019, Space One Eleven  
Instructor, ASFA Creative Writing Satellite Camp, Florence, Alabama July 2016  
Creative Writing Summer Instructor, Alabama School of Fine Arts, June 2014  
Graduate Fellow, Cave Canem, June 2012  
Panel Participant, Rockefeller Brothers Fund (Programs Advocate) November 2011  
Guest Creative Writing Instructor, "Make It Happen" Alys Stephens Center Oct. 2011  
Member, Alabama Writers' Forum  
Writer in Residence, Rockefeller Brothers Fund, Pocantico Estate, July 2011  
Award Recipient, Finishing Line Press, Awarded December 2009  
Cave Canem Poetry Fellowship Recipient, June 2008  
Recipient, Thomas Wolfe Award (Best Creative Writer) University of Alabama, 2004  
Recipient, Michael Goodson Award (Best Poet) University of Alabama, 2004

## **Teaching Experience & Courses Taught**

### **Postdoctoral Researcher**

MFA Program in Creative Writing  
University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL Fall 2020-Present  
Poetry Workshop, EN 603

### **Creative Writing Instructor**

Alabama School of Fine Arts, Birmingham, AL Fall 2013-Fall 2020  
Poetry Workshop  
Poetics, Process & Forms  
Revision as Earnest Pursuit (Poetry)  
Prose-Poetry Fusion  
Poetry in Public  
Non-Fiction Workshop  
Special Topics: Dark Places (Fiction)

Special Topics: How to Be a Feminist (Non-Fiction)  
Fiction Workshop  
CW Practicum I: The Business of Being a Writer  
CW Practicum II: Departmental Service  
Thesis Writing Practicum  
Introduction to Creative Writing

**English Instructor**

Miles College, Birmingham, AL, Fall 2010-Spring 2012  
English 201: Intro to English Literature  
English 399: Poetry  
English Composition: 101  
English Composition: 102  
English 299-06, Practice in Writing

**Writing Center Director & English Instructor**

Strayer University-Birmingham, January 2009- May 2013  
English 090: Developmental Writing  
English Composition:101  
English Composition:102  
English 240: Research and Writing

**Adjunct Instructor & Writing Center Tutor**, Fall 2009-Spring 2010

Shelton State Community College, Tuscaloosa, AL  
English 101: Freshman Composition  
English 102: English Literature  
English 093: Developmental Writing

**Adjunct Instructor**, Fall 2008

Samford University, Birmingham, AL  
CA 101-Communication Arts,

**Adjunct Instructor**, Fall 2008

University of Montevallo, Birmingham, AL  
English 101: Freshman Composition  
English 102: Freshman Composition

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**, Fall 2007-Spring 2008

University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL

English 101: Freshman Composition  
English 102: Freshman Composition  
English 200: Creative Writing

**Additional Relevant Experience:**

Writing Center Tutor, University of Alabama 2005-2007  
Poetry Instructor, Spring 2006 Creative Writing Club for High School Students  
Teacher, Tuscaloosa County Adult Literacy Program 2005-2006  
Tutor, University of Alabama TESOL program 2003-2004

**Editorial and Administrative Experience**

2005-2008 Punch Writer's Project, Vice-President, University of Alabama  
2006-2007 Black Warrior Review, Assistant Poetry Editor, University of Alabama  
2005-2006 Editorial Assistant, Action Books Press

**Conferences Attended**

Association of Writers and Writing Programs, Portland, OR, March 2019  
Alabama Writers Conclave Annual Conference, Destin, FL, June 2018  
Alabama Writers Festival, Monroeville, AL April 2018  
New Orleans Poetry Festival, New Orleans, LA, April 2018  
Association of Writers and Writing Programs, Tampa, FL March 2018  
New Orleans Poetry Festival, New Orleans, LA, April 2017  
The John Ashberry Homeschool for Poetry, Miami, FL, January 2016  
Cave Canem Poetry Retreat, Greensburg PA, June 2012  
The Association of Writers and Writing Programs, Chicago, IL, February 2012  
Auburn Writers' Conference, Auburn University, October 2011  
Bache Women's Conference, University of Alabama at Birmingham, April 2011  
NACADA Academic Advising Conference, Birmingham, AL, March 2011  
Cave Canem Poetry Retreat, Greensburg PA, June 2010  
Cave Canem Poetry Retreat, Greensburg PA, June 2008  
The Association of Writers and Writing Programs, Atlanta GA, February 2007  
Explosions of Funk Symposium, University of Alabama, April 2007

## *References*

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Director of the Stokes Center for Creative Writing  
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