

Joy M. Priest

EDUCATION

Ph.D. *Literature & Creative Writing*, University of Houston, 2024
 Dissertation: *The Black Outside: A Poetics of Black Ecological Desire*
 Exams Specializations: Black Modernity: Diasporic Literatures & Translation and Critical
 Ecopoetics
 Dissertation Committee: francine j. harris, Roberto Tejada, Jason Berger, Haylee Harrell,
 Lauren Russell

M.F.A *Creative Writing*, University of South Carolina, 2019
 Poetry, Thesis: *Horsepower*
 Thesis Committee: Nikky Finney, Samuel Amadon, Michael Dowdy, Carla Pfeffer
Graduate Certificate, University of South Carolina, 2019
 Women & Gender Studies

B.S. *Information & Communication Sciences*, University of Kentucky, 2012
 Print Journalism

Relevant Coursework: Colonial Modernity, Black and Native Poetics, Feminist Theory

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2023-present *Assistant Professor of African American / African Diasporic Poetry*, Dept. of English,
 University of Pittsburgh
Curator of Community Programs and Practice (CCPP), Center for African American Poetry
 & Poetics (CAAPP)

2021-2023 *Teaching Fellow/Instructor of Record*, Dept. of English, University of Houston

2020-2022 *Lecturer*, Dept. of Women, Gender, & Sexuality Studies, University of Houston

2020 *Lecturer*, Dept. of Liberal Studies, Spalding University

2016-2019 *Teaching Fellow/Instructor of Record*, Dept. of English, University of South
 Carolina

2018-2019 *Graduate Instructional Assistant*, Dept. of Women & Gender Studies, University
 of South Carolina

2018 *Lecturer*, Dept. of African American Studies, University of South Carolina

SELECTED HONORS

2023	Momentum Funds Microgrant, University of Pittsburgh
2023	Aikens Taylor Lecturer, The University of the South
2022	Winner, Inprint Paul Verlaine Prize in Poetry
2021	National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship in Literature
2020	Stanley Kunitz Memorial Prize, <i>American Poetry Review</i>
2019-2020	Poetry Fellow, Fine Arts Work Center at Provincetown
2019	Winner, Donald Hall Prize for Poetry, AWP
2019-2021	Stegner Fellowship in Poetry (Declined)
2018	Gregory Pardlo Fellow, The Frost Place

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Once a City Said: A Louisville Poets Anthology. Editor. Sarabande Books, 2023.

- Conceived in the aftermath of city-wide protests in 2020, *Once a City Said* showcases the polyvocal communities of Louisville, Kentucky, a city celebrated for its bourbon, basketball, and horseracing, but long fraught with racial injustice, police corruption, and social unrest. Priest takes the city’s narrative out of the mouths of politicians, news anchors, and police chiefs, and puts it into the mouths of poets. What emerges is an intimate report of a city misshapen by segregation, tourism, and ruptures in the public trust. Featuring thirty-seven acclaimed and emerging poets—including Mitchell L. H. Douglas, Erin Keane, Ryan Ridge, and Hannah L. Drake—*Once a City Said* archives the traditions and icons, the landmarks and spirits, the portraits and memories of Derby City.

Horsepower. Pitt Poetry Series, University of Pittsburgh Press, 2020. Print

- Winner of the 2019 Donald Hall Prize in Poetry from the Association of Writers & Writing Programs (AWP). Chosen by Natasha Trethewey, Pulitzer Prize-winner and 19th U.S. Poet Laureate.
- Nominated for John Leonard Prize for first book in any genre from the National Book Critics Circle Award.
- “One of the best debuts of the year.” —*The Millions*.
- Priest’s debut collection, *Horsepower*, is a cinematic escape narrative that radically envisions a daughter’s waywardness as aspirational. Across the book’s three sequences, we encounter the speaker as a Black child being raised in the shadow of Churchill Downs, Kentucky’s world-famous horseracing track, and the landscape of a harshly segregated Louisville. Out of a space that is at once southern and urban, violent and beautiful, racially-charged and working-class, she attempts to transcend her social and economic circumstances. Unlike the traditional Bildungsroman, the speaker lacks the freedom to come of age naively in the urban South and must instead possess the wisdom of “the horses & their restless minds.”
- “Through tragedy and triumph, Joy Priest’s poems thunder in the ears like a supercharged heartbeat. Her landscapes drawn technicolor, intense with paradox and heat, devotion is indistinguishable from rage. *Horsepower* seethes with so much intelligence and feeling that comparisons to Hurston are inevitable. Jean Toomer also comes quickly to mind, but Priest’s voice is one of a kind. Let these poems comfort you, if you dare, soft as the pillow that hides the gun.” —Gregory Pardlo

Anthologies

- 2024 *This is the Honey: An Anthology of Contemporary Black Poets*, “When I See the Stars in the Night Sky,” edited by Kwame Alexander. Little Brown & Co.
- 2023 *Another Last Call: Poems on Addiction & Deliverance*, “Blue Heart Baby” and “The Collar,” edited by Kaveh Akbar and Paige Lewis. Sarabande Books.
- 2023 *What Things Cost: An Anthology for the People*, “All My Mothers,” edited by Rebecca Gayle Howell and Ashley M. Jones. University Press of Kentucky.
- 2023 *That’s a Pretty Thing to Call It: Prose and Poetry by Artists Teaching in Carceral Institutions*, “Nightstick,” and “A Personal History of Breathing,” edited by Leigh Sugar. New Village Press
- 2021 *Home is Where You Queer Your Heart*, “American Honey,” “Blue Heart Baby,” “Rodeo,” and “Dear Aunt Louise, Muh,” Edited by Miah Jeffra, Arisa White, and Monique Mero-Williams, Foglifter Press
- 2020 *Patrice Lumumba: An Anthology of Writers on Black Liberation*, “All My Mothers,” Nomadic Press
- 2020 *A Measure of Belonging: Writers of Color on the New American South*, “I Feel Most Southern in the Hip-Hop of My Adolescence: On Black Southern Intra-regionality, Mobility, and Internalized Misogyny,” edited by Cinelle Barnes, Hub City Press
- 2020 *Best New Poets 2019*, “American Honey,” Edited by Cate Marvin and Jeb Livingood, The University of Virginia Press
- 2019 *Bounty Everlasting: Poetry from 25 Years of Southern Cultures*, “American Honey,” Edited by Gabrielle Calvocoressi and Marina Greenfield, University of North Carolina Press
- 2017 *Black Bone: 25 Years of the Affrilachian Poets*, “Nightstick,” “In the City,” Edited by Bianca Lynne Spriggs and Jeremy Paden, The University Press of KY
- 2017 *Best New Poets 2016*, “Ode to Hushpuppy,” Edited by Mary Szybist and Jeb Livingood, The University of Virginia Press
- 2015 *The Breakbeat Poets: New American Poetry in the Age of Hip Hop*, “No Country for Black Boys,” Edited by Quraysh Ali Lansana, Kevin Coval, and Nate Marshall, Haymarket Books
- 2015 *Best New Poets 2014*, “Nightstick,” Edited by Dorianne Laux and Jazzy Danziger, The University of Virginia Press

Scholarly Articles

- 2019 *CrossCurrents*, “Toward a Black Femme Fugitive Poetics”

Poetry

- 2023 *Boston Review*, “The Black Outside (“Relying a little less on the odd language. . .),” “Outside Memphis,” and “Sans Souci”
- 2023 *Los Angeles Review of Books*, “Keats Rides Shotgun”
- 2023 *Kenyon Review*, “The Black Outside (The jazz, it puts you on a swing. . .)” and “Redemption”
- 2022 *Poet Lore*, Vol. 117, No. ½, “It’s Beyond Me”
- 2022 *Indiana Review*, “The Black Outside (We brought the blues. . .)”
- 2022 *Hayden’s Ferry Review*, “Bass,” “Soulful Songs Found in Strange Places,” and “My Sister”
- 2022 *Shenandoah*, “My First Kiss Was in a Choir Room”

- 2021 *The Bitter Southerner*, “We Had Dreams Named After Us”
 2021 *Poetry Daily*, “Ghost Ride”
 2021 *Poem-a-Day*, “Looking for the Beautiful Things”
 2021 *The Atlantic*, “Ghosts in Schools”
 2020 *American Poetry Review*, “A Personal History of Breathing”
 2020 *Poetry Northwest*, “Dear Aunt Louise, Muh”
 2020 *Poem-a-Day*, “Denial is a cliff we are driven over”
 2020 BOAAT PRESS, “Somebody’s Bitter Elder”
 2020 *The Atlantic*, “All My Mothers”
 2020 *Wildness*, “Little Lamp,” “Where There is History, We Haunt”
 2020 *Virginia Quarterly Review*, “Junker,” “Pegasus,” “Ars Poetica”
 2020 *The Southeast Review*, “My Father Teaches Me How to Disappear”
 2019 *Scalawag*, “The night never ended when one of us died”
 2019 *Mississippi Review*, “Horsepower”
 2019 *Gulf Coast Journal*, “Girl 6”
 2018 *Four Way Review*, “The Payphone”
 2018 *The Rumpus*, “My Father Teaches Me About the Bees,” “Winning Colors, 1988,”
 “Quilt ‘n’ Frames”
 2018 *Connotation Press*, “Rodeo”
 2018 *The Puritan*, “Upon Reading James Lipton’s *An Exaltation of Larks*”
 2018 *Southern Cultures*, “American Honey”
 2018 *Verse Daily*, “Nightstick”
 2017 *Blackbird*, “Spell to Reverse Loss of Memory,” “My Father Teaches Me How to
 Handle a Pistol”
 2017 *The Shallow Ends*, “Drift”
 2017 *Reservoir Journal*, “Elegy for Kentucky,” “My Father Teaches Me How to
 Disappear”
 2017 *Winter Tangerine*, “Ode to Hushpuppy”
 2017 *Third Coast Magazine*, “Runaway”
 2016 *Callaloo Journal*, “doula”
 2016 *Cosmonauts Avenue*, “Sorry,” “Timelapse in Flagrante Delicto”
 2016 *Vinyl Poetry*, “Ghost Ride”
 2016 *Blunderbus Magazine*, “Blue Heart Baby”
 2016 *Scalawag*, “God of the Motorcade”
 2015 *Muzzle Magazine*, “Menace,” “Peripatetic,” “door,” “Bouquet Triptych”
 2014 *Drunken Boat*, “Derby”
 2014 *Solstice Literary Magazine*, “In Perigee,” “The Young Just Live”
 2014 *Toe Good Poetry Journal*, “In the City”
 2013 *Pluck! Journal of Affrilachian Arts & Culture*, “Birth”
 2013 *Still: the Journal*, “Sorting Wheat”

Essays

- 2020 *The Bitter Southerner*, “I Feel Most Southern in the Hip-Hop of My Adolescence:
 On Black Southern Mobility, Intra-Regionality, and Internalized Misogyny”
 2020 *Poets & Writers*, “The Cinema Factory,” “The Black Bildungsroman,” “Craft is
 Not Objective,” and “The Authority of Black Childhood”
 2020 *The Undeclared*, “Megan thee Stallion’s IG Live video is a reminder of ‘We Wear
 the Mask’ poem by Paul Laurence Dunbar”

- 2020 *The Undefeated*, “Simone Biles shows how violence against women continues to be tucked under the floor mat”
- 2019 *The Undefeated*, “‘Don’t try this at home,’ Simone Biles has everyone scrambling for a revision”
- 2019 *espnW*, “In Her Shoes: Unlacing my Nike Air Swoopes”
- 2017 *espnW*, “Finding the Experience of a Woman Flaneur”
- 2016 *Anthropoid Journal*, “Kinfolk”
- 2016 *espnW*, “The Athleticism of Beyoncé”
- 2014 *The Blueshift Journal*, “In the In-Between”
- 2013 *Pluck! Journal of Affrilachian Arts & Culture*, “American Spirit”

Reviews

- 2024 *Sewanee Review*, “From the Other Side of a Migratory Silence: On the Work of Patricia Smith” (Aikens Taylor Lecture)
- 2023 *American Poetry Review*, “On Ama Codjoe, *Bluest Nude*”
- 2022 *EcoTheo Review*, “Brooks’ Attentive Black Ecology in *Maud Martha*”
- 2020 *Pleiades: Literature in Context*, “A Review of Vanessa Angélica Villarreal’s *Beast Meridian*”

Exhibits

- 2022 “Horsepower”: Artwork Inspired by the Poems of Joy Priest, LexArts, Lexington, KY.
- 2021 “Artist in Dialogue: Joy Priest and Andrew Wilson.” Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.
- 2021 “The Black Outside.” Obama Portraits. Los Angeles County Museum of Arts (LACMA).
- 2021 “Ghost in Schools.” *Afro-Atlantic Histories*. Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.
- 2019 “We Had Dreams Named After Us.” *Disrupting Domestic*. ACRE Projects, Chicago, IL.

Films

- 2017 “Poeta: Ep. 002.” *8-Ball TV*

Podcasts

- 2023 *The Talking Poem Podcast*, “Joy Priest on Carl Phillips’ ‘Somewhere Holy’”
- 2023 *VS, the podcast*, Poetry Foundation
- 2022 *Inkwell*, “Joy Priest”
- 2021 *The Drunken Odyssey with John King*, “A Panel of Debut Poets, with Tommye Blount, Ricardo Alberto Maldonado, and Joy Priest”
- 2021 *Brown Girl Book Lover*, “Poetry Break with Joy Priest”

Conference Presentations & Talks

- 2024 Keynote, Women & Allies of Distinction Dinner, SRU, Slippery Rock, PA
- 2024 Conversation w/ Sharon Holland, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
- 2024 Association of Writers & Writing Programs Conference, Kansas City, MO
- 2024 Keynote, Kentucky Women’s Book Fest, UL, Louisville, KY
- 2023 University of Louisville Conference on Literature & Culture, Louisville, KY
- 2022 National Women’s Studies Association Conference, Minneapolis, MN
- 2022 Youngstown Literary Festival, Youngstown, OH
- 2022 Association of Writers & Writing Programs Conference, Philadelphia, PA
- 2021 Working Class Studies Association Conference, Youngstown, OH
- 2021 Association of Writers & Writing Programs Conference, Kansas City, KS

- 2021 Kentucky State Poetry Society Annual Conference, Frankfort, KY
- 2019 Furious Flower: 25th Anniversary Celebration, The Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History & Culture, Washington, D.C.
- 2019 Fugitive Futures: Graduate Students of Color Un-Settling the University, 18th Annual Sequels Symposium, University of Texas-Austin, Austin, TX
- 2017 Association of Writers & Writing Programs Conference, Tampa, FL
- 2015 Association of Writers & Writing Programs Conference, Los Angeles, CA

Academic Consultations

- 2022 *Dictionary of Literary Biography 392: Twenty-First Century African American Poets*, "Vievee Francis," edited by Kwame Dawes, Gale Cengage
- 2022 *Dictionary of Literary Biography 392: Twenty-First Century African American Poets*, "Reginald Dwayne Betts," edited by Kwame Dawes, Gale Cengage
- 2019 *Contemporary Literature Criticism*, "Justin Phillip Reed," Gale Cengage
- 2019 *Poetry Criticism*, "Wanda Coleman," Gale Cengage
- 2017 *The Carolina Reader*, "Nikky Finney," Macmillan

Editorial Service

- 2022 *Gulf Coast*, Asst. Nonfiction Editor
- 2021 *West Branch*, Guest Editor
- 2021 *Verse Press*, Guest Editor
- 2017-2018 *Yemassee Journal*, Editor-in-Chief
- 2016-2017 *Yemassee Journal*, Associate Editor
- 2016 *Anthropoid Journal*, Guest Editor
- 2015-2016 *Narrative Magazine*, Associate Poetry Editor
- 2011-2012 *Pluck! Journal of Appalachian Arts & Culture*, Copy Editor

Judging Service

- 2024 *National Endowment for the Arts*, fellowships
- 2024 *Working Class Studies Association*, Tillie Olsen Award
- 2023 *Poetry Foundation*, Ruth Lilly and Dorothy Sargent Rosenberg Poetry Fellowships
- 2023 *Poetry Society of America*, Student Poetry Award
- 2022 *Pleiades*, Prufer Poetry Prize
- 2022 Kentucky State Poetry Society, Grand Prix Poetry Contest
- 2022 *Birmingham Poetry Review*, Collins Prize
- 2021 *Sycamore Review*, Wabash Prize for Poetry
- 2021 *Switchback Books*, Gatewood Prize
- 2020-2022 Scholastic Awards, Writing Juror
- 2020 *Grist Journal*, ProForma Writing Contest
- 2015 Kentucky Governor's Office, MLK Poetry Contest

Community Projects

- 2023-present Curator of Community Programs and Practice (CCPP), Center for African American Poetry & Poetics (CAAPP)
- 2023 Member, Youngstown Lit Festival Advisory Board
- 2022 Mentor, Teen Fellowship Program, Muse Writers Center
- 2021 Grantee/Co-host, "Poet &." *Poets & Writers* Virtual Project Grant
- 2019 Program Co-coordinator, Women's Well-Being Initiative, U of South Carolina

2017 Organizer, J. Marion Sims Monument Removal Poetry Marathon Protest
 2011-2013 Facilitator, The SwallowTale Project, Lexington, KY

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Academic

Asst. Professor, University of Pittsburgh, MFA program, 2023-present
 Lecturer, University of Houston, WGSS, 2020-present
 WGSS 2350—Intro to Women’s Studies (5 courses)
 Teaching Fellow, University of Houston, English, 2020-present
 ENGL 1302—First Year Writing II
 ENGL 2306—Introduction to Poetry
 ENGL 3331—Beginning Creative Writing: Poetry (2 courses)
 Teaching Assistant, University of Houston, English, Spring 2022
 ENGL 2318—Creation and Performance of Literature
 Lecturer, Spalding University, Liberal Studies, Summer 2020
 ENGL 110—College Writing Workshop II
 ENGL 205—Introduction to Poetry
 Teaching Fellow, University of South Carolina, English, 2016-2019
 ENGL 101—Critical Reading and Composition (4 courses)
 ENGL 102—Rhetoric and Composition (4 courses)
 Honors ENGL 102—The Rhetoric of Comedy
 Honors ENGL 102—American Identity
 Student won *University Library Research Award*
 Lecturer, University of South Carolina, African American Studies, Spring 2018
 AFAM 202—Introduction to AFAM Arts & Culture

Public Literary Organizations

2022 “The Autobiography of Metaphor.” Muse Writers Center
 2022 “Poetry of Place, Poetry of Witness.” The Porch
 2022 “Foundations of Poetry.” Inprint Writers Workshop
 2022 “The Poet’s Starter Kit.” Catapult
 2022 “Poetry Knockout with Kevin Prufer and Joy Priest.” Grackle & Grackle Writing Enterprises
 2021 “The Failure of Inspiration (A Poetics of Attention).” Catapult
 2021 “The Architecture of a Poem.” The Porch
 2021 “House of Craft.” InPrint Writers Workshops
 2021 “Advanced Poetry Workshop – Undergrad.” Ellipsis Writing Workshops
 2021 “One Poem Only!” Catapult
 2021 “The Image-Repertoire: Solving the Enigma of Desire.” The Muse Writers Center
 2021 “The Black Poet & The Deer: On the Transpositional Phenomena of the Line.” Vermont Studio Center
 2021 “Writing Place: The Autobiographical Landscape.” Poetry Society of South Carolina
 2020 “The Poet’s Report.” Kentucky State Poetry Society Annual Conference
 2020 “Against Silence: Writing our Current National Moment.” Sarabande Writing Labs
 2019 “Reinventing the Myth, the Narrative, the Pop Culture Icon.” Provincetown Art

- Association & Museum (PAAM) START program
- 2018 “The Apocryphilia Poem: Re-inventing the Myth, The Narrative, The Pop Culture Icon.”
Wider Than a Sky Poetry Festival, Harvard Westlake School, Los Angeles, CA
- 2018 “The Failure of Inspiration: Getting Past the First Line of the Poem.” Hub City Press
Workshops
- 2014 “Cultural Organizing for Social Change.” Kentucky Foundation for Women
- 2014 D.C. Youth Poetry Slam Workshop
- 2013 “Slam 101.” Queerslang Festival, WRFL FM, Lexington, KY
- 2013 “Pop Culture Poetry.” Carnegie Center for Literacy & Learning, Lexington, KY

READINGS

- Brooklyn Poets Reading Series, New York, NY
- In Conversation w/ Sharon Holland, MSU, East Lansing, MI
- Lunch with Books, Ohio Co. Public Library, Wheeling, WV
- Recovery in Practice, Columbia University, New York, NY
- Warmer Welcomes, CAAPP, Pittsburgh, PA
- Writers From the Edge, CSU Monterey Bay, Seaside, CA
- Northwest African American Museum, Seattle, WA
- Pleiades Visiting Writers Series, University of Central Missouri, Warrensburg, MO
- Lit Youngstown Fall Festival, Youngstown, OH
- Frederick Douglass Day, Frederick Douglass Honor Society, Talbott Co., DE
- Climate Justice Museum Block Party, Houston, TX
- Poison Pen Reading Series, Houston, TX
- Word is Bond #7 w/ Ross Gay, Ruth Awad & Khadijah Queen, Asian American Writers
Workshop, Virtual
- Keynote, Boldface Writers Conference, Glass Mountain Journal, Houston, TX
- Inprint Prize Winners Reading, The Menil, Houston, TX
- National Poetry Month Reading w/ Aurielle Marie, Bookshop West Portal, San Francisco, Virtual.
- Obama Portraits Opening, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston
- Kentucky Women’s Book Festival, Virtual
- Kentucky Tornado Benefit Reading, Virtual
- Visiting Writers Series, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY
- Poetry in Color, Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), Virtual
- Living Writers Series, SUNY Canton, Virtual
- Gulf Coast Journal Gala, Houston, TX
- Kentucky State Poetry Society Conference, Virtual
- Visiting Writers Series, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL
- Radical Poetry Reading w/ Joy Priest, The Brooklyn Rail, Virtual
- Specters of Noon, The Menil, Houston, TX
- Radical Poetry Reading w/ Arisa White, The Brooklyn Rail, Virtual
- The New Social Environment w/ Carrie Mae Weems, The Brooklyn Rail, Virtual
- Rural Assembly Everywhere Festival, Virtual
- Little Grassy Lit Festival, Souther Illinois U – Carbondale, Virtual
- Dallas Literary Festival, Virtual
- In Print, Ball State Festival of First Books, Virtual
- Working Writers Series, College of the Holy Cross, Virtual
- AWP Award Series, Kansas City, Virtual

Vermont Studio Center, Virtual
 Poets in Print, Kalamazoo Book Arts Center, Virtual
 Poetry Society of South Carolina, Virtual
 LHUCA Reading Series, Texas Tech University, Virtual
 BLACK CENTER, Cal State-Fullerton, Virtual
 Tree Reading Series, Toronto, Virtual
 Root Work Journal Reading, Virtual
 Debut Revue, Virtual
 Correspondence, a literary & music salon, Louisville, Virtual
 Purdue University CWP Reading Series, Virtual
 University of Kentucky CWP Reading Series, Virtual
 AWP Book Club, YouTube LIVE
 Mary Ellen and Jim Wayne Miller Keynote, Western Kentucky U, Virtual
 The Muse, Virtual
 Six Bridges Literary Festival, Virtual
 Writers & Books Reading Series, Virtual
 Twin Cities Book Festival, Virtual
 Charleston's Free Verse Poetry Festival, Virtual
 White Whale Bookstore, Virtual
 Louisville's TAUNT Release Reading, Virtual
 Riffraff Bookstore & Bar, Virtual
 Weber State University Visiting Writer Series, Virtual
Horsepower: Book Release, Brazos Bookstore, Virtual
 LOGOS Gatherings, Austin, TX, Virtual
 RiffRaff Books Reading, Virtual
 Wild & Precious Life Reading Series, Virtual
 Brooklyn Rail Radical Poetry Reading, Virtual
 Georgetown University Creative Writing Academy, Virtual
 In conversation w/ francine j. harris, Brazos Bookstore, Virtual
 Kentucky Governor's School for the Arts, Virtual
 Bourbon & Poetry Festival, Affrilachian Poets, Virtual
 Payomet Early Stages Reading Series, Truro, MA, Virtual
 Carolina Poets Reading Series, Virtual
 No Desk Poetry Concert, Bowery Poetry Room, Virtual
 Further Notice Reading Series, Virtual
 The Quarantine Reading Series, Virtual
 Fine Arts Work Center, Provincetown, MA
 The Wild Fig Bookstore, Lexington, KY
The Milk Hours release party, Louisville, KY
 Write Around Series, Columbia, S.C.
 The Unspoken Word, Columbia, S.C.
 Southbound Photography Exhibit, Charleston, S.C.
 Small House Reading Series, Greenville, S.C.
 Bull City Press Reading, Durham, N.C.
 Hub City Press Reading, Spartanburg, S.C.
 Run Tell Dat, Richmond, VA
 Urban Word NYC, Manhattan, NYC
 LIT Brooklyn Reading Series, NYC

InKY Reading Series, Louisville, KY
SpeakSocial: Official Louisville Writers Block Festival, Louisville, KY
Louisville Remembers Maya, Louisville, KY
Busboys & Poets, Washington, D.C.
Beltway Slam, Washington, D.C.
Busboys & Poets, Shirlington, VA
UK SAB Presents the Affrilachian Poets, Lexington, KY
HOLLER Poet Series #68, Lexington, KY
Wild Women of Poetry Slam, Lexington, KY
Roots & Heritage Festival, Lexington, KY
New Affrilachian Poet Inductees, 88.1 FM WRFL
Kentucky Center for Women and Families, Louisville, KY
Evening with the Affrilachian Poets, GSA Lexington, KY
Frank X Walker Poet Laureate Induction Reception, Lexington, KY
CLA National Conference, Lexington, KY
LexArts Youth Poetry Slam, Lexington, KY
Gypsy Poetry Slam, Lexington, KY
Wild Women of Poetry, Lexington, KY

*References available upon request

Mary Karr, Terrance Hayes, Roberto Tejada, Audrey Colombe