**Joy M. Priest**

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**Education**

*Doctor of Philosophy in Literature & Creative Writing*, projected class of 2025

University of Houston, Houston, TX

*Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing*, Poetry, 2019

*Graduate Certificate*, Women & Gender Studies, 2019

University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

*Bachelor of Science in Print Journalism*, 2012

University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY

Relevant Coursework: Postcolonial Studies, Black, Latinx & Native Poetics, Feminist Theory, and Minority & Queer Affect

**Positions Held**

University of Houston, Houston, TX

*Adjunct Professor*

Women, Gender & Sexuality Studies Dept., 2020-2021

Spalding University, Louisville, KY

*Adjunct Professor*

Department of Liberal Studies, 2020

The University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

*Teaching Fellow/Instructor of Record*, 2016-present

Department of English

*Adjunct Prof.*, 2018-present

Department of African-American Studies

*Graduate Instructional Assistant*

Department of Women & Gender Studies

**University Teaching Experience**

Adjunct Professor, University of Houston, Houston, TX

—WGSS 2350—Intro to Women’s Studies

Adjunct Professor, Spalding University, Louisville, KY

— ENGL 110—College Writing Workshop II

— ENGL 205—Introduction to Poetry

Teaching Fellow, Instructor of Record, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 2016- present

Adjunct Professor, Dept. of African American Studies

Student won *University Library Research Award*

— 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

— AFAM 202—Introduction to AFAM Arts & Culture

**Community Projects & Teaching Experience**

Program Co-coordinator, Women’s Well-Being Initiative, Univ. of South Carolina, 2019

—Developed curriculum for the Lexington County Juvenile Arbitration Program as the graduate assistant for Women & Gender Studies

—Facilitated poetry and art workshops for girls aged 13-18 who have been convicted of non-violent crimes

Organizer, J. Marion Sims Monument Removal Poetry Marathon Protest, Columbia, SC, Sept. 6, 2017

Facilitator, The SwallowTale Project, Lexington, KY, 2011-2013

—Led, and assisted in leading, writing workshops for women incarcerated at the Fayette County Detention center

**Craft Seminars**

“The Image-Repertoire: Solving the Enigma of Desire.” The Muse Writers Center, April 2021

“The Black Poet & The Deer: On the Transpositional Phenomena of the Line.” Vermont Studio

Center, February 2021

“Writing Place: The Autobiographical Landscape.” Poetry Society of South Carolina, February 2021

“The Poet’s Report.” Kentucky State Poetry Society Annual Conference, October 2020

“Against Silence: Writing our Current National Moment.” Sarabande Writing Labs, July 2020.

“Reinventing the Myth, the Narrative, the Pop Culture Icon.” Provincetown Art Association &

Museum (PAAM) START program, Provincetown, MA: Nov. 2019 – Dec. 2019.

“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: April 21, 2018.

“The Failure of Inspiration: Getting Past the First Line of the Poem.” Hub City Press Workshops,

Spartanburg, SC: April, 14, 2018

“Cultural Organizing for Social Change.” Kentucky Foundation for Women, Frankfort, KY: May

2014.

D.C. Youth Poetry Slam Workshop, Washington, DC: March 2014.

“Slam 101.” Queerslang Festival, WRFL FM, Lexington, KY: Sept. 2013.

“Pop Culture Poetry.” Carnegie Center for Literacy & Learning, Lexington, KY: Jan. – May, 2013

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Books**

*Horsepower*. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, Sept 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

*[Title TBD]*. Louisville: Sarabande Books, forthcoming, April 2023. Print.

**Anthologies**

“American Honey,” “Blue Heart Baby,” “Rodeo,” and “Dear Aunt Louise, Muh,” *Home is Where You Queer Your Heart*, Eds. Miah Jeffra, Arisa White, and Monique Mero-Williams. San Franciso, CA: Foglifter Press, 2021.

“All My Mothers,” *Patrice Lumumba: An Anthology of Writers on Black Liberation*. San Francisco, CA: Nomadic Press, 2020

“denial is a cliff we are driven over,” *Clods of Southern Earth*. Ed. Rebecca Gayle Howell. Lexington, KY: University Press of Kentucky, 2021.

“I Feel Most Southern in the Hip-Hop of My Adolescence: On Black Southern Intra-regionality, Mobility, and Internalized Misogyny,” *A Measure of Belonging: Writers of Color on the New American South*. Ed. Cinelle Barnes. Spartanburg, SC: Hub City Press, 2020.

“American Honey,” *Best New Poets 2019*. Eds. Cate Marvin and Jeb Livingood. Charlottesville, VA: The University of Virginia Press, 2020.

“American Honey,” *Bounty Everlasting: Poetry from 25 Years of Southern Cultures*. Eds. Gabrielle Calvocoressi and Marina Greenfield. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 2019.

“Nightstick,” “In the City.” *Black Bone: 25 Years of the Affrilachian Poets*. Eds. Bianca Lynne Spriggs and Jeremy Paden. Lexington, KY: The University Press of KY, 2017.

“Ode to Hushpuppy.” *Best New Poets 2016*. Eds. Mary Szybist and Jeb Livingood. Charlottesville, VA: The University of Virginia Press, 2017.

“No Country for Black Boys.” *The Breakbeat Poets: New American Poetry in the Age of Hip Hop*. Eds. Quraysh Ali Lansana, Kevin Coval, Nate Marshall. Chicago: Haymarket Books, 2015.

“Nightstick.” *Best New Poets 2014*. Ed. Dorianne Laux and Jazzy Danziger. Charlottesville, VA: The University of Virginia Press, 2015.

**Periodicals**

*Scholarly*

“Toward a Black Femme Fugitive Poetics,” *CrossCurrents*, 24 July 2019, pp. 472-487.

*Literary*

“Ghosts in Schools.” *The Atlantic* (February 2021). Web

“A Personal History of Breathing.” *American Poetry Review* (forthcoming). Print.

“Dear Aunt Louise, Muh.” *Poetry Northwest* (forthcoming). Print.

“Denial is a cliff we are driven over.” *Academy of American Poets Poem-a-Day* (forthcoming). Web.

“Somebody’s Bitter Elder.” *BOAAT PRESS* (Summer 2020). Web.

“All My Mothers.” *The Atlantic* (July 2020). Web.

“Little Lamp.” *Wildness*, Issue No. 22 (May 2020). Web.

“Where There is History, We Haunt.” *Wildness*, Issue. No. 22 (May 2020). Web.

“Junker.” *Virginia Quarterly Review* 96.1 (Spring 2020). Print.

“Pegasus.” *Virginia Quarterly Review* 96.1 (Spring 2020). Print.

“Ars Poetica.” *Virginia Quarterly Review* 96.1 (Spring 2020). Print.

“My Father Teaches Me How to Disappear,” winner of the 2019 Gearhart Poetry Prize. *The Southeast Review* 38.1 (Spring 2020). Print.

“The night never ended when one of us died.” *Scalawag* (Dec. 2019). Web.

“Horsepower.” *Mississippi Review* 47.1&2 (Summer 2019). Print.

“Girl 6.” *Gulf Coast Journal* 31.2 (Summer 2019). Print.

“The Payphone.” *Four Way Review* (Oct. 2018). Web.

“My Father Teaches Me About the Bees.” *The Rumpus* (Oct. 2018). Web

“Winning Colors, 1988.” *The Rumpus* (Oct. 2018). Web.

“Quilt ‘n’ Frames.” *The Rumpus* (Oct. 2018). Web.

“Rodeo.” *Connotation Press* 10thAnniversity Edition (Sept. 2018). Web.

“Upon Reading James Lipton’s *An Exaltation of Larks*.” *The Puritan* (Canada) (Summer 2018). Web.

“American Honey.” *Southern Cultures* 24.2 (Summer 2018): 146-147. Print.

“Nightstick.” *Verse Daily* (April 2018). Web. Reprint.

“Spell to Reverse Loss of Memory.” *Blackbird* (Winter 2017). Web.

“My Father Teaches Me How to Handle a Pistol.” *Blackbird* (Winter 2017). Web.

“Drift.” *The Shallow Ends* (Fall 2017). Web.

“Elegy for Kentucky.” *Reservoir Journal* (Oct. 2017). Web.

“My Father Teaches Me How to Disappear.” *Reservoir Journal* (Oct. 2017). Web.

“Ode to Hushpuppy.” *Winter Tangerine*. (Winter 2017). Web. Reprint.

“Runaway.” *Third Coast Magazine*. 42 (Summer 2017). Print.

“doula.” *Callaloo Journal* 35.3 (Summer 2016): 526. Print.

“Sorry.” *Cosmonauts Avenue* (Spring 2016). Web.

“Timelapse in Flagrante Delicto.” *Cosmonauts Avenue* (Spring 2016). Web.

“Ghost Ride.” *Vinyl Poetry* (Feb. 2016). Web.

“Blue Heart Baby.” *Blunderbuss Magazine* (Nov. 2016). Web.

“God of the Motorcade.” *Scalawag* 3 (Winter 2016). Print.

“Menace.” *Muzzle Magazine* (Winter 2015). Web.

“Peripatetic.” *Muzzle Magazine* (Winter 2015). Web.

“door.” *Muzzle Magazine* (Winter 2015). Web.

“Bouquet Triptych.” *Muzzle Magazine* (Winter 2015). Web.

“Derby.” *Drunken Boat* (Fall 2014). Web.

“In Perigee.” *Solstice Literary Magazine* (Fall 2014). Web.

“The Young Just Live.” *Solstice Literary Magazine* (Fall 2014). Web.

“In the City.” *Toe Good Poetry Journal* (Summer 2014). Web.

“Birth.” *Pluck! Journal of Affrilachian Arts & Culture* 4 (Fall 2013). Print.

“Sorting Wheat.” *Still: the Journal* 13 (Fall 2013). Web.

**Essays**

“I Feel Most Southern in the Hip-Hop of My Adolescence: On Black Southern Mobility, Intra-Regionality, and Internalized Misogyny.” *The Bitter Southerner* (Sept. 2020). Web.

“The Cinema Factory.” *Poets & Writers* (Aug. 2020). Web.

“Megan thee Stallion’s IG Live video is a reminder of ‘We Wear the Mask’ poem by Paul Laurence Dunbar.” *The Undefeated* (July 2020). Web.

“The Black Bildungsroman.” *Poets & Writers* (July 2020). Web.

“Craft is Not Objective.” *Poets & Writers* (July 2020). Web.

“The Authority of Black Childhood.” *Poets & Writers*, (July 2020). Web.

“Simone Biles shows how violence against women continues to be tucked under the floor mat.” *The Undefeated* (March 2020). Web.

“‘Don’t try this at home,’ Simone Biles has everyone scrambling for a revision.” *The Undefeated* (Oct. 2019). Web.

“In Her Shoes: Unlacing my Nike Air Swoopes.” *espnW* (March 2019). Web.

“Finding the Experience of a Woman Flaneur.” *espnW* (Jan. 2017). Web.

“Kinfolk.” *Anthropoid Journal* (Dec. 2016). Web

“The Athleticism of Beyoncé.” *espnW* (May 2016). Web.

“In the In-Between.” *The Blueshift Journal* (Nov. 2014). Web.

“American Spirit.” *Pluck! Journal of Affrilachian Arts & Culture* 3(Spring 2013). Print.

**Reviews**

“A Review of Vanessa Angélica Villarreal’s *Beast Meridian*.” *Pleiades: Literature in Context* (Summer 2020). Print.

**PROJECTS**

**Exhibits**

2019 “We Had Dreams Named After Us.” *Disrupting Domestic*.ACRE Projects, Chicago, IL.

**Films**

“Poeta: Ep. 002.” *8-Ball TV*. Vimeo. 2017.

**Podcasts**

“A Panel of Debut Poets, with Tommye Blount, Ricardo Alberto Maldonado, and Joy Priest.” *The Drunken Odyssey with John King*. January 2021.

“Poetry Break with Joy Priest.” *Brown Girl Book Lover*. April 2021.

**Radio**

“Keep Louisville Literary Writer’s Block Edition.” WRFM Louisville, Louisville, KY: 2015.

“The Affrilachian Poets.” WRFL 88.1, Lexington, KY: 2013.

“Trivial Thursday.” WRFL 88.1, Lexington, KY: 2012

**Refereed Conference Presentations**

Association of Writers & Writing Programs Conference, Kansas City, KS 2021

Kentucky State Poetry Society Annual Conference, Frankfort, KY 2021

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 2019.

Association of Writers & Writing Programs Conference, Tampa, FL 2017.

Association of Writers & Writing Programs Conference, Los Angeles, CA 2015.

**Academic Consultations**

Justin Phillip Reed. *Contemporary Literature Criticism* (Forthcoming). Michigan: Gale Cengage. Print.

Wanda Coleman. *Poetry Criticism* (Forthcoming). Michigan: Gale Cengage. Print.

Nikky Finney. *The Carolina Reader* (2017). Michigan: Macmillan. Print.

**Editorial Work**

Guest Editor, *West Brance*, forthcoming 2021

Guest Editor, “god’s brown face,” *Verse Press*, 2021

Senior Editor, *Yemassee Journal*, 2017-2018

Associate Editor, *Yemassee Journal,* 2016-2017

Guest Editor, *Anthropoid Journal,* “FOLK” Issue, 2016

Associate Poetry Editor, *Narrative Magazine*, 2015-2016

Copy Editor, *Pluck! Journal of Affrilachian Arts & Culture*

**Judging Work**

ProForma Writing Contest, Grist Journal, June 2020

Scholastic Awards, Writing Juror, Feb. 2020

MLK Poetry Contest, Kentucky Governor’s Office, Frankfort, KY: Jan. 2015

**AWARDS & READINGS**

**Awards and Fellowships**

2021 NEA Fellowship

2020-2025 Inprint MD Anderson Foundation Fellowship

2020-2021 African American Studies Fellowship, University of Houston

2020 Stanley Kunitz Prize, *American Poetry Review*

2019-2020 Poetry Fellow, Fine Arts Work Center at Provincetown

Nikki Giovanni Scholar, 2019 Appalachian Writers’ Workshop

Winner, 2019 Gearhart Poetry Prize from *The Southeast Review*

2019 Donald Hall Prize for Poetry, AWP

2019-2021 Stegner Fellowship in Poetry (Declined)

Finalist, 2019 Mississippi Review Poetry Contest

Finalist, 2019 Nickens Poetry Fellowship, South Carolina Academy of Authors

Gregory Pardlo Fellow, The Frost Place, 2018

Poetry Winner, Univ. of South Carolina Graduate English Association Writing Awards, 2018

College Writers Award in Poetry, Hurston/Wright Foundation, 2016

Archie D. & Bertha H. Walker Scholarship, Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, 2016

Emerging Artist Award, The Kentucky Arts Council, 2015

Summer Artist Residency, The Kentucky Foundation for Women, 2014

Grant, Bread Loaf Writers Conference, 2014

**Poetry Readings**

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