



FATIMA-AYAN MALIKA HIRSI

[Email](#) | [Website](#) | [Instagram](#)

COLLECTIONS

Forthcoming 2023, Deep Vellum Publishing | [Sounds of the Earth's Hands](#)

CHAPBOOKS

August 2019, Deep Vellum Publishing | [EVERYTHING GOOD IS DYING](#)

July 2018, Thoughtcrime Press | [Moon Woman](#)

ARTS WRITING

[Flower Children: Eight North Texans Who Make Art Out of Plants](#) in *The Dallas Observer*

[The Symphony Comes to South Dallas](#) in *The Texas Observer*

COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS

November 2019 – November 2020 | Texas Rising

October 2019 – July 2020 | [Southern Sector Rising Campaign for Environmental Justice](#)

April 2016 - Present | [Deep Vellum Books](#) / [Publishing](#)

CERTIFICATIONS

November 2020 | Permaculture Design & Ecovillage Design Certificates

SELECTED PANELS & PRESENTATIONS

May 2017 | “Women of Color in Literature” at The Wild Detectives, Dallas TX

April 2017 | Decolonize Dallas: Opening Talk and Reception at the Nasher Sculpture Center, Dallas, TX

July 2016 | “Poetry in Unconventional Spaces” at the Gemini Ink Writer’s Conference, San Antonio, TX

EMPLOYMENT & COMMUNITY WORK

April 2021 – July 2021

Admissions Coordinator at Lost Valley Education & Events Center

- ❖ Coordinated and implemented outreach, communication, application, and selection processes for participants
- ❖ Designed and implemented Vertical Response email marketing campaign
- ❖ Designed digital program brochures
- ❖ Oversaw website development and marketing via WordPress, including course postings, payments, and public queries regarding education
- ❖ Tracked program queries and attendance in the appropriate forms
- ❖ Secured organizational monies and created fundraising drive to offer scholarships for BIPOC students
- ❖ Maintained spreadsheets and Google Drive folders tracking student communications, applications, and payment, as well as course information and marketing materials

February 2020 – September 2020

DFW Field Manager at Texas Rising

- ❖ Registered US citizens to vote
- ❖ Interviewed job candidates for Deputy Field Organizer positions
- ❖ Led a team of twelve Deputy Field Organizers, training new hires in voter registration and campaign best practices, communication workshops, and issue history
- ❖ Remained informed about current politics concerning climate justice, gender and racial equity, immigrant rights, reproductive rights, and voting rights
- ❖ Led virtual events such as panel discussions
- ❖ Attended online events and formed collaborative relationships
- ❖ Successfully navigated the shift to digital organizing and furthered proficiency during pandemic using tools such as Slack, Zoom, Google Meet, Doodle, and the Google Suite

August 2014 – March 2020

Self-employed as an independent artist

- ❖ Engaged in social arts practice of using a typewriter to craft custom poetry on the spot for passersby in public
- ❖ Performed poetry, spoken word, and theatre
- ❖ Taught poetry workshops (independent from job at The Writer's Garret)
- ❖ Invoiced clients
- ❖ Curated arts events
- ❖ Took poetry to unconventional spaces, including the street(s), city council meetings, and the produce section of a grocery store
- ❖ Built and sustained community and organizational relationships and partnerships. Offered poetry in collaboration with the City of Dallas, Mothers Against Police Brutality, Southern Sector Rising Campaign for the Environment, UT Southwestern, Southern Methodist University, Richland College, the Aberg Center, Lan Rose Public Relations, the

Dallas Symphony Orchestra, Open Mouth Literary Center, Swan Strings, Spiderweb Salon artist collective, The Wild Detectives bookstore, Pink Door Writing Retreat, various art markets, and more. Highlights include:

December 2020

Awarded gallery space by J. Erik Jonsson Central Library to curate Hearing Earth, a multidisciplinary art show honoring the natural world scheduled to run in spring 2020; managed submissions on themes of rewilding, climate collapse, healing the Earth, Earth spiritualities, reimagined ecologies, environmental racism, and love in the time of collapse. All selected artists were people of the global majority. Show canceled due to the pandemic

January 2019

Awarded a Cultural Vitality Grant by the City of Dallas to present Their Lives Mattered: A Dialogue Honoring Stolen Lives. Curated a collaborative art project in remembrance of those lost to police violence in Dallas. It involved making a film composed of interviews across the city in which Dallas residents voiced ideas about accountability, healing, and how to best remember those killed by law enforcement in Dallas. The event featured a film screening, poetry and music performances inspired by the film, and a community Q&A discussion moderated by Mothers Against Police Brutality.

October 2018 – March 2020

Member of Dallas Symphony Orchestra's Southern Dallas Residency steering committee, helping to connect the DSO with the community to provide quality arts programming to underserved populations

January 2018 – April 2018

Served on the Arts Month Steering Committee for the City of Dallas Office of Arts and Culture. Connected city officials with the Dallas arts community and helped curate poetry programming for the month of April. Co-curated Pop-up Poetry, placing poets in over sixty locations all over the city in one day, with readings and performances in locations as varied as parks, shopping centers, phone stores, restaurants, donut shops, bazaars, festivals, laundromats, bookstores, train stops, and libraries.

January 2016 – June 2018

Founded, hosted, and curated Dark Moon Poetry & Arts, a monthly arts series featuring work by female identifying and non-binary BIPOC artists across disciplines

June 2016 – June 2017

Educational Outreach Coordinator at [The Writer's Garret](#)

- ❖ Built the Rail Writers program | Designed poetry workshops for students to explore on a journey across Dallas via train. Created lesson plans, mapped routes, secured city permissions, workshop/ performance venues, student populations, and instructors
- ❖ Built the Alley's House program | Designed poetry workshops and invited guest artist mothers to facilitate arts programming for teen moms.

- ❖ Coordinated programming with schools and community centers
- ❖ Assisted with grant writing
- ❖ Maintained a schedule in compliance with grant responsibilities
- ❖ Selected and constructed lesson plans appropriate to the needs of partners and student populations
- ❖ Recruited, interviewed, and hired instructors
- ❖ Led instructor trainings
- ❖ Coordinated literary readings and events
- ❖ Created and distributed marketing flyers
- ❖ Oversaw social media marketing
- ❖ Oversaw website development and marketing via WordPress, including course postings, payments, and public queries

October 2013 – May 2019

Teaching artist / instructor at The Writer's Garret

- ❖ Created lesson plans
- ❖ Instructed poetry and arts workshops in K-12 classrooms, youth shelters, community centers, and hospitals