
FATIMA-AYAN MALIKA HIRSI

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COLLECTIONS

Forthcoming | 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](#)

POETRY

["The Ten Commandments"](#) in *The Texas Observer Culture Review*

["impolite mythology"](#) in *Spiderweb Salon*

["Discussion on Drought," "\(A Few\) Reasons Why I Might Be Stressful To Work With," & "The Blues"](#) in *The Boiler*

["Spirit Sings Moon"](#) in *Writing in a Woman's Voice*

["Real & Imagined Emails"](#) in *Entropy*

"Disrepair" in *The Best of the Metroplex* (print)

"Phoenix Indian School" (A collaborative piece w/ Wade Martin) in *Bearing the Mask: Southwestern Persona Poems*

["Laughter is Social Glue"](#) in *Anthropology Now!*

["Adulthood"](#) in *Life in 10 Minutes*

"A Taste for Pain" in *Poem Your Heart Out* (print)

"Tomorrow I Will Bury Her" in the *AIPF di-ver-city* anthology (print)

"Sick Day" in *Dress Codes* (print)

“To Wednesday with Love” in *Vagabonds*

PRESS

April 2020 | *Creatives vs. Coronavirus*

April 2020 | *The Dallas Morning News*

January 2020 | *The Literary Review*

June 2018 | SMU’s *The Daily Campus*

December 2017 | *Newpages*

October 2017 | *The Dallas Morning News*

August 2017 | *SMU News*

July 2017 | *D Magazine*

June 2017 | *WFAA*

January 2017 | *Dallas Innovates*

August 2016 | *KERA*

June 2016 | *Patron Magazine*

April 2016 | *The Dallas Morning News* (print—front page)

September 2015 | *Thrwd*

August 2015 | *Writer’s Digest*

September 2015 | *The Dallas Observer*

October 2015 | *Dallas Advocate Lakewood*

ARTS WRITING

“Flower Children: Escape the Winter with These North Texas Artists’ Spring-Like Art” in *The Dallas Observer*

“The Symphony Comes to South Dallas” in *The Texas Observer*

SELECTED WORKSHOPS

April – May 2019 | “Exploring Inner Worlds through Poetry” with the Belong disABILITY Ministry of HPUMC

July 2018 | “Finding Magick Beyond the Seen” at El Tallercito’s Writing Conference

January – March 2014 | “Work of Art Zines” at Promise House Youth Shelter

October 2013 – Present | Teaching artist in DISD schools

January 2015 | “Finding Identity through Writing” at the In the Words of Womyn retreat in Waco, TX

April 2014 | “Being Other” at the Austin International Poetry Festival

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 in San Antonio, TX

May 2016 | “Living Gandhi: Exploring Modern Sarvodaya” at the International Conference on Gandhian Philosophy & Activities, New Delhi, India

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 marginalized communities 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 mothers.
- ❖ 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
- ❖ Recruited new partnering organizations and student populations
- ❖ 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

MEDIA

July 2020 | [Home Performance of Let America Be America Again, By Langston Hughes](#)

April 2016 | *The Literary Podcast*

March 2016 | KNON 89.3 *Sonic Assembly Power Hour*

THEATRE

May 2018

#PLEASED

Ghost | Santa Fe, NM | A collaborative, interdisciplinary intimate reflection of the current state of the world

October 2014

PALABRA: THE WRITTEN WORD, SPOKEN

Houston Community College | Houston, TX | Latin American poetry adapted for the stage and acted out by poets

January 2014

\BY ANY STRETCH / at FRONTERAFEST 2014

Hyde Park Theatre | Austin, TX | Moments stretched out and written as dance for the stage

July 2013

\BY ANY STRETCH /

Modern Art Museum | Fort Worth, TX | Moments stretched out and written as dance for the stage

RESIDENCIES

August 2018 | [Pink Door Writing Retreat](#) | Rochester, NY

COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS

April 2020 - Present, Nov 2017 - Nov 2018 | [Alternate Roots](#)

April 2020 - Present | [Democratic Socialist of America](#)

November 2019 – November 2020 | [Texas Rising](#)

October 2019 – July 2020 | [Southern Sector Rising](#)

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

CERTIFICATIONS

November 2020 | [Permaculture Design & Ecovillage Design Certificates](#)