

CHRISTOPHER “DASAN AHANU” MASSENBURG
CURRICULUM VITAE

PO Box 3164
Durham, NC 27715
919-539-6227
cdmassenburg67@yahoo.com

EDUCATION

2018 Executive Program in Arts Strategies, National Arts Strategies & University of Pennsylvania, Washington, DC/Philadelphia, PA

2010 MLS in Art & Culture with concentration in Creative Writing, University of Denver

2004 BS in Organizational Management, Saint Augustine’s College

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS/EMPLOYMENT

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Music Department, Department of African, African American & Diaspora Studies
2016-Present Visiting Lecturer/Adjunct

Rockingham Community College

Pay it Forward Mentoring Program
2016-2017 Professional Mentor & Consultant

Saint Augustine’s University

English Department
Spring 2017 Adjunct Professor
2011 – 2015 Assistant Professor
2006 – 2011 Artist in Residence

Johnston Community College

English Department
Fall 2016

Harvard University

Hip Hop Archive and Research Institute
2015-2016 Nasir Jones Fellow

Center for Community Change

2014-2015 Distinguished Writing Fellow

ECPI

Arts & Sciences
2014

Duke University

Duke Young Writer's Program
2011-Present Guest Facilitator
2005-2010 Instructor

Center for Documentary Studies

2002-2006 Instructor

PUBLICATIONS**Books**

2016 *Everything Worth Fighting For: An Exploration of Being Black in America*, Flowered Concrete, NY, NY (ISBN 978-0692713426)

2012 *Freedom Papers*, HPJ Writeeasy Publishing, Durham, NC (ISBN 978-0615598277)

2010 *The Innovator*, HPJ Writeeasy Publishing, Durham, NC (ISBN 978-0578051086)

Refereed Journal Articles

2016 Shelton, C, C. Massenburg and E. Howson. "Building a Popular Writing Course." *Dialogue: The Interdisciplinary Journal of Popular Culture and Pedagogy*, 3.1
<http://www.journaldialogue.org>

Book Chapters

2018 "Bad Boy Records," "Cypher," "Organized Konfusion," "YO! MTV Raps"
St. James Encyclopedia of Hip Hop Culture edited by Thomas Riggs. Gale, a Cengage Company (ISBN 9781410380821)

2011 "Holla If You Hear Me: Giving Voice to Black Male Youth Through Hip Hop" *The Secrets for Motivating, Educating, and Lifting the Spirit of African American Males* edited by Ernest H. Johnson, Ph.D. iUniverse, Incorporated (ISBN 978-1462046447)

Other Publications

2018 "Why 9th Wonder Stayed" *Oxford American's Southern Music Issue: North Carolina*, Oxford American (Winter 2018)

2017 "Wilted Flowers" *Hand in Hand: Poets Respond to Race* ed. Al Black & Len Lawson, Muddy Ford Press LLC (ISBN 9781942081098)

2015 "Much Ado about Pricing" - *Clarion Content* (30 December)

2015 "Thinking of My Mother and our Broken Economy" - *TalkPoverty.org* (27 May)

2015 “Letter to the Editor: HBCU Faculty Shape New Narrative on Student Support” - *HBCU Digest* (21 May)

2015 “The Challenge of being an Artist: Gemynii Evolving” - *Clarion Content* (4 April)

2015 “The Challenge of being an Artist: Quentin Talley” - *Clarion Content* (1 April)

2015 “Caution: Artist Working” - *Clarion Content* (30 March)

2015 “Three Years after Trayvon Martin: Power Built from Tragedy” - *From Our Blog*. Center for Community Change (26 February)

2015 “Rhapsody’s Going Home” - *Oak City Hustle Vol 5*. Oak City Hustle (Jan)

2014 “The Politics of the Holidays” - *From Our Blog*. Center for Community Change (25 February)

2009 “Bang Bang” & “Silent Cries” *Campaign 4 Change Testimonials: The Book of Truth*, Pendium Publishing House (ISBN 978-0981688398)

2007 “Privilege” Chip Smith’s *The Cost of Privilege*, Camino Press (ISBN 978-0979182808)

HONORS AND AWARDS

2019 Honoree, African American musicians and artists, Black History Month recognition by NC Governor Roy Cooper

2004, 2015 Indy Arts Award Winner, Independent Weekly Magazine

GRANTS

2010 Faculty/Student Mentoring Grant, Saint Augustine’s University

2008 Center for Teaching and Learning Travel Grant, Saint Augustine’s University

INVITED TALKS

2017 “Art, History & Faith” Black History & Spirituality Series, Meredith College, Raleigh, NC (February)

2016 “Setting and Achieving Goals” Trio Student Services, Piedmont Community College, Roxboro, NC (June)

2016 “Shots Fired: Examining A Lyrical Canon” Special Lectures, UMASS Boston, Boston, MA (May)

2015 “Shots Fired: Examining A Lyrical Canon” Special Lectures, Saint Augustine’s University, Raleigh, NC (November)

2015 “Shots Fired: Examining A Lyrical Canon” Hip Hop History Month Programs, Northeastern University, Boston, MA (November)

2015 “Shots Fired: Examining A Lyrical Canon” Fall Colloquium, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA (November)

2014 “Hip Hop History” Hip Hop is Reality, Winston Salem State University, Winston Salem, NC (April)

2014 “Cultural Infusion and Collaboration: The Road to Relativism” Southeastern Writing Center Association Conference, East Carolina University Campus, Greenville, NC (February)

2013 “Poetic Roots of Hip Hop” UNC Seminar class, Poetry and Hip Hop, UNC Chapel Hill (September)

2013 “The Art of Spoken Word Storytelling” TEDxDuke, Duke University (April)

2013 “The Emcee and the Poet in Hip Hop” Hip Hop is Reality, Winston Salem State University (April)

2012 “The Green Lantern Effect: Courageous Creative Expression” TEDxDuke, Duke University (March)

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY/PARTICIPATION

Papers Presented

2014 “The Popular Classroom: Integrating Popular Culture” Popular Culture Association/American Association National Conference (April)

Panels

2019 “Spoken Word” NC Writer’s Conference (Lexington, NC)

2017 “Storytelling and Sense of Place in NC” North Carolina: The New American Heartland, National Humanities Center (Durham, NC)

2016 “A Ta-Nehisi Coates interview with Dr. Brenda Greene” - National Black Writers Conference, Medgar Evers College (Brooklyn, NY)

2016 “Service to the Community and Activism” Triangle Diversity Alliance Conference, Saint Mary’s School (Raleigh, NC)

2010 “Unveiling Invisibility: On Issues in African America” The Freshman Honors Seminar Symposium, NC Central University (Durham, NC)

2006 “The Time is Now Education Summit” Durham Public Education Network (Durham, NC)

2008 “Art and Community” Visualizing Human Rights Anti-Conference, The Center for Global Initiatives, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill (Chapel Hill)

CAMPUS OR DEPARTMENTAL TALKS

2019 “Rising Above” UNC Chapel Hill Campus Unity Dinner, Department of Diversity and Inclusion, UNC Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC (January)

2018 “Round Table Discussion: International Context of Blackness” Kappa Omicron Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. and Theta Omicron member of Kappa Alpha Psi, Inc. (November)

2018 “Inclusion and Bridge Building” UNC Chapel Hill Campus Unity Dinner, Department of Diversity and Inclusion, UNC Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC (January)

2017 “Black Representations in the Media” Good Morning AmeriAKA, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., UNC Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC (April)

2013 “Look at Me Now: Uncovering the Subtle Narratives about Identity in Popular Culture” Relevance, Rigor, and Rhetoric: The Keys to Cultural Relativism and Writing Cultivation, Freshman Writing Initiative/Department of Film & Interactive Media, Saint Augustine’s University (October)

2013 “Yes, Yes, Y’all: Understanding the reach of Rap Music and Hip Hop Culture today” Relevance, Rigor, and Rhetoric: The Keys to Cultural Relativism and Writing Cultivation, Freshman Writing Initiative/Department of Film & Interactive Media, Saint Augustine’s University (October)

2013 “The Popular Classroom: Integrating Popular Culture” Relevance, Rigor, and Rhetoric: The Keys to Cultural Relativism and Writing Cultivation, Freshman Writing Initiative/Department of Film & Interactive Media, Saint Augustine’s University (October)

2013 “The Popular Classroom: Integrating Popular Culture” Right Place, ‘Write’ Time: Fostering Student Success in Writing and Critical Thinking, Freshman Writing Initiative/Freshman Success Initiatives, Saint Augustine’s University (April)

2013 “Southern Manifesto” W.E.B. DuBois Colloquium, School of Social & Behavioral Sciences, Saint Augustine’s University (February)

2013 “Look What We Have Here: Uncovering the Subtle Narratives About Black Identity” Representations of Black Masculinity and Femininity in the Telling of Our Stories, Freshman

Writing Initiative/Department of Film & Interactive Media, Saint Augustine's University
(February)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Rap Lab

Hip Hop History

Black Influence on Popular Culture

Johnston Community College

Writing and Inquiry

Saint Augustine's University

I Wills According to SAINT James (Freshman honors course)

African American Creative Arts (Liberal Studies general education elective)

English Composition

English Composition w/Lab

English Composition II

Reading Across the Disciplines

Intro to Creative Writing

Creative Writing Workshop: Short Fiction

Creative Writing Workshop: Poetry

Critical Writing Seminar: Concepts in Popular Culture

Freshman Studies

ECPI

Introduction to Writing

College Composition

Advanced Composition

Culture and Diversity

Duke University Continuing Studies - Duke Young Writers Camp

Experimental Poetry

Research Writing

Experimental Fiction

Creative Nonfiction

Radio Drama

Slam Poetry

Duke University Center for Documentary Studies

A World of Words: Writing from a Documentary Perspective

Creative Writing

Audio Recording & Editing

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

Saint Augustine's University

Courses created:

Creative Writing/Intro to Creative Writing - Introduces students to 6 genres (poetry, short fiction, radio drama, playwriting, screenwriting, creative nonfiction) or creative writing.

African American Creative Arts - Examines African American artistry from the Harlem Renaissance to Hip Hop and the social conditions that inspired the artists and their work.

Creative Writing Workshop: Short Fiction - A semester long workshop on short fiction in which students learn theoretical and practical approaches to writing their own original works.

Creative Writing Workshop: Poetry - A semester long workshop on writing different types of poetry. Students examine traditional forms, freeverse poetry, and spoken word.

Critical Writing Seminar: Concepts in Popular Culture - An applied writing course in which students respond to a variety of cultural artifacts.

I Wills According to SAINT James - A freshman honors course in which students learn storytelling and illustration. Each student uses what he or she learns to create a children's book.

Duke University Continuing Studies - Duke Young Writers Camp

Courses created:

Radio Drama - Examines radio programs during the Golden Age of Radio. Students learn how to create their own original radio dramas.

Slam Poetry - Examines the rules, guidelines, and traditions of a poetry slam. Students will craft original poetry, form teams, and participate in a mock slam.

Duke University Center for Documentary Studies

Courses created:

A World of Words: Writing from a Documentary Perspective - Looks at creative nonfiction as a form of documentary writing. Students create a major documentary project of their own choosing and present it to the class.

The Art of Spoken Word - Takes a critical look at spoken word poetry and its place in contemporary culture. Students study writing and performance approaches and craft new works of poetry to share on stage.

Creative Writing - Students learn about different types of creative writing and approaches to creating their own works.

DEPARTMENTAL/UNIVERSITY SERVICE

2012-2015 Academic Policies Committee, Academic Affairs, Saint Augustine's University

2007-2015 Editor, Inside Out Literary Magazine, Saint Augustine's University

2012-2014 English Essay Placement Scoring Team, English Department, Saint Augustine's University

2011-2014 Freshman Writing Initiative Team Member, Freshman Success Initiatives, Saint Augustine's University

2012-2014 Transformative Education Program Committee, Academic Affairs, Saint Augustine's University

2012-2013 African Diaspora/African American Studies Task Force, Academic Affairs, Saint Augustine's University

2013 Motivational Task Force Consultant, NCCU Homecoming Week Professional Seminars, North Carolina Central University

2013 Panelist, I'm Not Just Black in February, Gamma Rho Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc, Saint Augustine's University

2012 Facilitator, Undergraduate Research Day, Saint Augustine's University

2012 Host, Miss Saint Augustine's University Pageant, Saint Augustine's University

2012 Reflective Essay Scoring, English Department, Saint Augustine's University

2012 Student Life Awards Committee, Student Activities, Saint Augustine's University

2010-2011 Course Content & Strategies Subcommittee co-chair, Task Force II, Saint Augustine's University

2009-2010 Literature Review Committee, Quality Enhancement Plan, Saint Augustine's University

2008-2009 English Department Activities Director, English Department, Saint Augustine's University

2008 Comprehensive Tutorials Committee, Saint Augustine's University

2007-2008 Tutor, Tutorial & Educational Advising/Mentoring Program Supplemental Instruction (TEAM SI), Mellon Foundation/Saint Augustine's University

EXTRACURRICULAR UNIVERSITY SERVICE

2008-2015 Advisor, Falcon Poetry Club, Saint Augustine's University

2007-2015 Sigma Tau Delta, Saint Augustine's University

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

2019-Present Board Member, The Watering Hole, Columbia, SC

2017-2019 Board Member, Southern Fried Poetry Inc, Atlanta, GA

2012-2014 Board Chair, Sacrificial Poets Youth Poetry Organization, Chapel Hill, NC

2011-2012 Board Member, Stand Up Speak Out NC, Durham, NC

2010-2012 Board Member, St. Joseph's Historic Foundation, Durham, NC

PROGRAM DEVELOPER, ORGANIZER, & MODERATOR

2016 Radicalism in Voice and Pen featuring Mahogany Browne (Event), Hip Hop Archive and Research Institute, Harvard University (April)

2013 Relevance, Rigor, and Rhetoric: The Keys to Cultural Relativism and Writing Cultivation (Conference), Freshman Writing Initiative/Freshman Success Initiatives, Saint Augustine's University (October)

2012-2013 Homecoming Poetry Jam (Event), Student Activities, Saint Augustine's University, (October)

2013 Rhythm and Rhymes: The Art of Words Colloquium Freshman Writing Initiative/Freshman Success Initiatives, Saint Augustine's University (August)

2013 Right Place, 'Write' Time: Fostering Student Success in Writing and Critical Thinking Conference, Freshman Writing Initiative/Freshman Success Initiatives, Saint Augustine's University (March)

2012-2013 Speak Literature Author Series, English Department, Saint Augustine's University

2013 Representations of Black Masculinity and Femininity in the Telling of Our Stories (Colloquium), Freshman Writing Initiative/Department of Film & Interactive Media, Saint Augustine's University (February)

2008-2009 Guest Lecturer/Reading Series, English Department, Saint Augustine's University

COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS/ACTIVITY

Presentations

2018 "The Impact We Make Every Day: Reflecting our Societal Context" NC Arts Council Art's Education Symposium, The Carolina Theatre of Durham (Durham, NC)

2018 "Everything Worth Fighting For" SwitchPoint, Intrahealth International (Saxaphaw, NC)

2018 "The Art of Reimagining" Shaping our Communities: Artists at Work, Ella Fountain Pratt Emerging Artist Award Celebration, Durham Arts Council, Durham, NC (March)

2017 “Health Equity in the Arts” Health Equity Lunch & Learn Series, NC Office of Minority Health, Raleigh, NC (December)

2017 “Musicology 101: Journey Through Genres” DJ & The Professor Series, Beyu Caffè, Durham, NC (October)

2017 “Art and Social Justice” Resistance Con, Durham, NC (June)

2017 “Spoken Word Storytelling” Art Line, City of Raleigh Capital Area Transit. Raleigh, NC (May)

2016 “Spoken Word, Rap, and Rebellion” J Cardinal Events: A Thousand Words, Stagville, NC (July)

2016 “Brown Bag Daddy: Radical Voice and Artistic Expression” TEDxDurham: Centers and Edges, Carolina Theatre, Durham, NC (July)

2016 “Shots Fired: Examining A Lyrical Canon” Community Presentation, Lena Park CDC, Dorchester, MA (April)

2016 “Shots Fired: Examining A Lyrical Canon” Winter Community Show, Carrack Modern Art Gallery, Durham, NC (January)

2014 “Hip Hop and Higher Ed” Communities in Schools (CIS) Charlotte Grad Nation: Charlotte Education Summit, Charlotte, NC (January)

2011 “Finding Success” Man Up Summit, Communities in Schools North Carolina, West Charlotte High School (February)

2010 “4 Elements of Hip Hop Education” Hip Hop Education for Educators, The Power of Poetry/Art of Spoken Word, NC Center for Advancement of Teaching (November)

2010 “4 Elements of Hip Hop Education,” “The Power of Poetry/Art of Spoken Word” The Last Dropout, NC Center for Advancement of Teaching (October)

2009 “Empowerment Through Creative Writing” CISNC 20th Anniversary Training Conference, Pinehurst Resort (January)

Panels

2017 “Black History Month Program” FACE IT and the Department of Psychology, Norfolk State University (Norfolk, VA)

2017 “Self-Destruction pt.2: Stakes is High” FACE IT & The Department of Psychology, Norfolk State University (Norfolk, VA)

2016 “Hip Hop and Social Justice/BLM” Honors College, UMASS Boston (Boston, MA)

2016 “Self-Destruction: Different Day, Same Song?” FACE IT & The Department of Psychology, Norfolk State University (Norfolk, VA)

2013 “I’m Not Just Black In February” Gamma Rho Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc, Saint Augustine’s University (Raleigh, NC)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2015 “Hacking Arts 2015” MIT, Boston, MA (September 26-27)

2014 “Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association National Conference” Chicago, IL (April 16-19)

2014 “National Black Writer’s Conference” Center for Black Literature, Medgar Evers College (CUNY), Brooklyn, NY (March 27-30)

2014 “Southeastern Writing Center Association Conference” East Carolina University Campus, Greenville, NC (February 6-8)

2013 “UNC-Charlotte Writer’s Project Digital Media Conference” UNC-Charlotte Center City, Charlotte, NC (September 30)

2013-2014 “University Fellows Program” Saint Augustine’s University (Raleigh, NC)

2013 “At-Risk for University & College Faculty” Kognito Interactive, Online (May 13)

2012 “UNCF Mellon Conference” Spellman College, Atlanta, GA (October 4-7)

2012 “Future of Minority Studies Colloquium” Spellman College, Atlanta, GA (September 13-15)

2010 “Split This Rock Writer’s Conference” Thurgood Marshall Center, Washington, DC (March 10-13)

2008 “Tinker Mountain Writer’s Workshop” Hollins University, Roanoke, VA (June 8-13)

TEACHING INTERESTS

Hip Hop Pedagogy

Popular Culture in Pedagogy

Creative Writing

Black Art & Creativity