

TOKEYA C. GRAHAM
email: tokeya@soulstainableliving.com

AREAS OF SPECIALTY

- Black Women
- Creative Writing
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Education and Curriculum
- English (Literature, Composition, and Language)
- Race (Anti-Racism and Combating Bias)

EMPLOYMENT

- English Professor, English/Philosophy Department, Monroe Community College, 2007 – Present

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- American Minorities in Literature
- Advanced Composition
- College Composition
- Creative Writing
- Introduction to Literature
- Introduction to Creative Writing
- Literature of the Black Experience
- Poetry
 - The City (Honors)
- Women in Literature
- Writing and Social Issues

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- American Education Research Association, 2019 – Present
- Association of Writers and Writing Programs, 2016 – Present
- College Language Association, Creative Writing Committee Member, 2017
- National Council for Teachers of English (NCTE), Black Caucus Committee Member, 2016 – 2017
- American Association of Women in Community Colleges, 2014 – 2016
- Motherhood Initiative for Research and Community Involvement, 2012 – 2013

COLLEGE/DEPARTMENT SERVICE

- English/Philosophy Awards Committee, 2020 – Present
- African American Affinity Group, Secretary, 2017 – Present
- Creative Writing Committee, 2016 – Present
- Black Student Union at the Downtown Campus Advisor, 2011 – Present
- Expanded President's Cabinet, Member, 2018 – 2019

- Chief Diversity Officer, Hiring Committee, 2018
- Striving Towards Acceptance, Equity, and Inclusion FIG, Co-Facilitator, 2017 – 2018
- Alice Young Internship Program Redesign, 2016 – 2018
- MCC Foundation Grants Committee, 2017 – 2018
- Human Book Project, 2016 – 2018
- MCC Diversity Council, 2012 – 2016
- ENG/PHL Curriculum Committee, 2009 – 2017
- Middle States Steering Committee, 2014 – 2015
- Liberal Arts Assessment Committee, 2011 – 2013
- Honors Panel Committee, 2011 – 2013
- Scholars' Day Committee, 2011 – 2012
- Course Coordinator, Honors Program at Damon City Campus, 2010 – 2012
- Teaching and Creativity Center Committee, 2009 – 2010
- T.R.U.T.H Women's Group, Co-Facilitator, 2010 – 2012
- "Just Us Girls Literary Society," Co-Facilitator, 2010 – 2012

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION WORKSHOPS/PRESENTATIONS/PANELS

- "How Can We Best Address Equity Issues Raised by the Pandemic for Education?," Colloquium Presenter, Center for Learning in the Digital Age (LiDA), University of Rochester, 2020
- "An Opening 'Talk to Teachers'," Teaching and Creativity Center, Monroe Community College, 2020
- "Get on Board: Building Inclusive Practices for an Equity-Minded Board of Directors," Professional Development, Greater Rochester Association of Women Attorneys, 2020
- "Anti-Blackness: Pogroms, Lynchings, and Other Aggressions" Long Table Discussion Panelist (part of the BlackOut Summer Series), 21st Century Arts: Activating Arts and Justice, 2020
- "The Fragility of Freedom: A Virtual Long Table Conversation" Long Table Discussion Panelist (part of the BlackOut Summer Series), 21st Century Arts: Activating Arts and Justice, 2020
- "#BlackLivesMatter: Black History Month Presentation," Alfred State College, 2020
- "James Baldwin's America: Race and Modern Society," Filling Station, 2019
- "Building an Inclusive Classroom," Genesee Community College, 2019
- "Inclusive Literature for Educators," Writers & Books, 2019
- "Rebuilding Community Amid Societal Unrest," Keynote, Students of Color Leadership Summit, St. Bonaventure University, 2019
- "The Etymology of the N-Word and Other Racial Slurs," St. Bonaventure University, 2018
- "The Dr. Alice Holloway Young Diversity Internship Program Revamp," 2018
- "Cool It Now: James Baldwin's America," Humanities Institute, 2018
- "Cultural Competence in Literature," Genesee Community Charter School, 2018
- "Cultural Competence in Literature," Pittsford Central School District, 2018
- "Integrating Materials with Diverse Identities and Perspectives," Panelist, Winter Teaching Institute, 2018

- “Crafting a Culturally Competent Curriculum,” Webster Central School District, 2017
- *I Am Not Your Negro* Film Discussion “RABJ Black Cinema Series,” Panelist, Rochester Association of Black Journalists, 2017
- *I Am Not Your Negro* Film Discussion, Facilitator, Rochester AmeriCorps, 2017
- “I’m Not Your Mama, Do Your Work: The Plight of the Black Female Academic as Surrogate Mother,” MCC, 2017
- “Black Women and Girls are Magic.” National Council of Negro Women Metropolitan Women’s Network, Keynote, 2016.
- “Student Diversity in the Classroom” Panel, Teaching and Creativity Center, 2016
- “Why Throw Rocks? Contemporary U.S. Race Relations Beyond Dr. King., Co-Facilitator, 2015
- “The N-Word: Then and Now,” Panelist, 2015
- “Racism Without Racists,” YWCA’s Stand Against Racism, 2014
- “Anti-Racism for Bigots,” In collaboration with YWCA National Stand Against Racism Initiative, 2013
- “Retaining Women Faculty of Color,” Rochester Institute of Technology, 2013
- “Growing in Grace: I Am My Sister’s Keeper” AKOMA: African American Women’s Choir, Keynote, 2014
- “Connection Across the Generation: Rochester’s African-American History,” Black History Month Celebration, Panelist, 2013
- “Righting Representation: Civil Rights, Resistance, and the Real Help,” St. John Fisher College, 2011
- “When Professor Equals Mama: The Plight of the Black Female Academic,” Motherhood Initiative for Research and Community Involvement Conference, 2011
- “Porch Talk: *The Help*,” African American Studies, St. John Fisher College, 2011

INVITED TALKS/PRESENTATIONS/PANEL DISCUSSIONS

- “Message to the Graduates,” Keynote, Monroe Community College, 2019
- *Inspiring Our Community: Today, Tomorrow, and Always*, “Who You Surround Yourself With Is Who You Are,” Co-Presenter, City of Rochester, 2018
- “Healing through Writing,” Hillside Work-Scholarship Connection, Professional Development, 2018
- “Writing the Self: Finding the ‘I’ in Poetry,” Writers & Books, SummerWrite, 2018
- “Get Up 10 Times,” Hillside Work-Scholarship Connection, Commencement Speaker, 2018
- “Started from the Bottom,” Rochester Institute of Technology HEOP Graduation, Keynote Speaker, 2016
- “Yes, You Can,” SUNY Brockport’s HEOP Women of Distinction Program, Speaker, 2016
- “Self-Awareness and Respect,” Workshop. A Call to Women and Girls of Color, 2016
- Straw Mat Writers’ Salon, Poet, 2016
- *Listen to Your Mother*, “All That Was Unwritten,” Poet, 2016
- “Calling All Women and Girls, *A Call to Women and Girls of Color Conference*, 2015
- “I Still Have a Dream,” Rochester Educational Opportunity Program MLK Celebration, Speaker, 2015

- “Frontiers, Aspirations, and the Spirit of Exploration,” Phi Theta Kappa Induction Ceremony, Keynote Speaker, 2015
- “Toddlers and Tiaras—Popular Culture or Pedophilia Culture?” Diversity and Community Studies Film Series, 2012
- *Women and Girls’ Empowerment Arts* night, MJS Productions and the City of Rochester, Poet, 2012
- “*Voices of Experience*,” Women’s Foundation of Genesee Valley, 2011
- “Preparing for Higher Education Workshop,” Memorial AME Zion C.I Bullock Scholarship Committee, 2011
- “Turning ON Cell Phones for Instruction,” Teaching and Creativity Center, 2011
- “Voices of Experience,” Women’s Foundation of Genesee Valley, 2010
- “*Getting to Happy* Book Talk.” Mood Makers Books, 2010
- “Overcoming Obstacles for Future Success,” Dr. Betty Marion Anderson Young Women’s Conference sponsored by National Council of Negro Women Metropolitan Women’s Network, 2010
- “From EOC to MCC: 20 Years Later,” SUNY Brockport’s Educational Opportunity Center, 2010
- “REACHing Your Goals: Using Education to Pave the Way to Future Success,” Keynote. East Henrietta Road Church of Christ, 2010
- “Working with Race,” Students Events and Governance Association, 2010
- “Hip Hop: Beyond Beats and Rhymes—A Discussion,” Sociology Film Series, 2010
- “Womanism: An Exploration into Black Feminist Thought,” SUNY Brockport College Women’s Studies, 2010

PANEL FACILITATOR

- “Women Supporting Women,” Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and Monroe Community College, 2019
- “Make Me Wanna Holler: The Healing Power of Justice and Love Through the Lens of African American Literature,” Clergy Mental Health Consultation, Office of Mental Health Promotion, Department of Psychiatry, and University of Rochester Medical Center, 2019
- “Cultural Awareness: Why We Need It,” Urban Suburban Program, 2019
- “A Divided City: Navigating Race, Gender, and Class in the Rustbelt,” *The Ladder* Literary Conference, *Writers & Books*, 2018
- “How a Book Happens,” *The Ladder* Literary Conference, *Writers & Books*, 2018
- *Voices of Experience*, Women’s Foundation of Genesee Valley, 2015 – 2018
- *Rochester’s Black Author Expo*, 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018
- *Black Women’s Book Festival*, 2017

EVENT MISTRESS OF CEREMONY

- “The Intersectionality of Women and Girls of Color and the Impact on Mental Health and Overall Well-Being,” MJS Productions and Monroe Community College, 2019

- “Women and Girls Empowerment Summit: Rewriting Our Narrative—Black Women and Girls’ Mental Health and Wellness, Mistress of Ceremony, A Community Discussion, MJS Productions and Monroe Community College, 2019
- “Women and Girls Empowerment Summit: The Power of Purpose, Faith, and Self-Love,” MJS Productions, 2019
- *Sisters Together Achieving Results Cotillion*, 2015 - 2018
- *Black Heritage Gala*, City of Rochester, 2017
- *Roc the Park Presents Motown*, City of Rochester, 2017
- *Afrikan American Festival*, 2017
- *The Reentry and Community Development Center Community Celebration*, 2017
- *Women and Girls Empowerment Conference* featuring Angela Davis, MJS Productions, 2016
- *Women’s Foundation of Genesee Valley Donor Luncheon*, 2014/2015
- *Depression Dialogues Conference*. MJS Productions, 2015
- *Women and Girls Empowerment Conference* featuring Jessica Care Moore, MJS Productions, 2015
- *Women and Girls Empowerment Conference* featuring Cynthia Bailey, MJS Productions, 2014
- *Diversity and Empowerment Conference* featuring Sheryl Lee Ralph, University of Rochester and MJS Productions, 2012

PUBLICATIONS

- “If Only for a Moment...Today,” *Upstate Gospel Magazine*, May 2020
- “5 Women I Admire,” *Path to Excellence Magazine*, September 2019
- “Black Lives Matter: An Obituary,” *Lake Affect Magazine*, Summer 2018
- “8 Women of Color on Whether Women’s History Month Matters,” *Bustle*, 2017
- “Viewpoints: The Perks of Technology,” *Esperanza Magazine*, 2014
- Various. “HerRochester” weekly blog, *Democrat and Chronicle* online, 2011 – 2014
- “10 Questions with Bernard Smith,” *Our Voice –The Magazine*, 2013
- “10 Questions with Roosevelt Mareus,” *Our Voice –The Magazine*, 2013
- “Men of Measure,” *Our Voice–The Magazine*, 2013
- “Giving You the Best That You’ve Got,” *Our Voice –The Magazine*, 2013
- “I’m Not Your Mama, Do Your Work: The Plight of the Black Female Academic as Surrogate Mother,” *Laboring On: Black Mothering in the Academy*, Demeter Press, 2013
- “My Life, My Words,” *Democrat and Chronicle* newspaper, 2011
- “Love of My Life: A Black Mom Celebrates the Wonder of Motherhood.” *My Brown Baby*, 2011

PRODUCTIONS/CREATIVE PRESENTATIONS

- *When and Where We Enter: Black Women Writers + Intersectional Arts Activism*, w/ We All Write, Seneca Falls Dialogues, 2018
- *We All Write Presents BirthWrite*, Rochester Fringe Festival, Co-Writer/Performer w/ We All Write, 2018/2017

- “Civil Writes: Remembering MLK,” w/ We All Write, St. John Fisher College, 2018
- “#BlackWomenMagic,” w/ We All Write, Pittsford Mendon, 2018
- *Get Lit Pub Crawl*, Writers & Books, Poet, 2017
- “And Ain’t I a Woman? A Long Table Conversation,” 21st Century Arts, 2018
- “Interiors and Exteriors: Writing the ‘I’ in Poetry,” Just Poets, 2017
- “Poetry, Potluck, and Pinot,” Writers & Books, Poet, 2017
- “A Night of the Arts,” Renaissance Academy Charter School Fundraiser, Poet, 2017
- *Black Women’s Book Festival*, Poet, 2017
- *Black History Month Family Day*, Memorial Art Gallery, Poet, 2017
- *Words on the Verge*, Poet, 2017
- “Educate Yourself,” Short Film, Director, 2016
- “Let’s Talk About Race,” Monroe Community College, Literature of the Black Experience: ENG 210 Student Film, Director, 2016
- “Celebrating Her Vision: Girls Transforming the World,” Editor/Co-Writer, Emma Willard School for Girls, 2014
- “Building a Better You,” Young Women of Color Empowerment Conference, 2013
- *Superior Donuts Poetry Jam*, Writers & Books and Geva Theatre, 2012

MEDIA

- “Self-Care in the Time of COVID,” *Village Vibez* podcast, 2020
- “Audre Lorde and Toni Morrison,” *Up Close and Cultural* radio show, 2019
- “Remembering the Life and Work of Toni Morrison,” *Connections with Evan Dawson* radio show, 2019
- “Remembering Toni Morrison,” *The Goddess Hour* radio show, 2019
- “Fringe Rochester Preview Show,” *Connections with Evan Dawson* radio show, 2018
- “The Ladder Literary Conference,” *Connections with Evan Dawson* radio show, 2018
- “Teaching Poetry to College Students,” *Flower City YAWP* radio show, Radio Show, 2018
- *One More Thing* podcast, Dixon Schwabl, Podcast, 2018
- “Being Art,” *Up Close and Cultural* radio show, Radio Show, 2018
- “Building Community,” *The Purposeful Professor Project*, 2018
- “They All Write,” *585 Magazine*, 2017
- “A Picture...1000 Words,” *Lake Affect Magazine*, 2017
- “Get Lit Pub Crawl Blends Literary & Liquid Refreshments,” *The Wedge*, 2017
- “Rochester’s Sankofa Theater Marks Ten Years,” *Open Mic*, 2017
- “Check Out the Power of the P,” *Roc-Arts*, 2017
- “Memorial Art Gallery Celebrates Black History Month,” 2017
- “*I Am Not Your Negro* Black Cinema Series Kicks Off,” *Open Mic Rochester*, 2017
- “Let’s Talk About Education,” *The Goddess Hour* radio Show, 2016
- “Listen to Your Mother,” *City Wise* Television. Interview, 2016
- “Voices of Experience,” *City Wise* Television, 2016
- “Inspiring Woman,” *Rochester Woman Magazine*. Print, 2015
- “Woman to Watch,” *Democrat and Chronicle*. Print, 2015
- “Bully Films Bring Hundreds with Emotion to Little Theater,” *WHEC*. Interview, 2012

VOICEOVER ARTIST

- “For Greater” television advertisement, *ROC 2025*, 2020
- “The Great NYS Fair” radio spot, *New York State Fair* and *Dixon Schwabl*, 2018
- “Welcome to Monroe Community College Theatre,” *Monroe Community College*, 2018

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- *Common Ground Health*, Community Engagement African American Focus Team, 2020 – Present
- *The Avenue Black Box Theatre*, Literary Curator/Dramaturg, 2018 – Present
- *Seneca Falls Dialogues*, Committee Member, 2016 – Present
- *Democratic Legislative District 25* Committee Member, 2016 – Present
- *Charity ROCs*, Founder, 2012 – Present
- *Women’s Foundation of Genesee Valley*, After School Literacy Program and Voices of Experience, Chair, 2014 – 2020
- *Democrat and Chronicle*, Time to Educate, Expert Advisory Panel, 2018 – 2020
- *Writers & Books*, Board of Directors, 2018 – 2019
- *Boy Scout Troop and Cub Pack #293* Volunteer, 2013 – 2018
- *Project YOU*, Advisory Council Member, 2016 – 2018
- *Soulstainable Living #WalkingWednesdays*, 2016
- *Women’s Foundation of Genesee Valley*, Board of Directors, 2011 – 2016
- *City of Rochester Pillars of Hope*, Committee Member at Frank Fowler Dow #52 school, 2014
- *Black Women Professors’ Forum*, Technology Coordinator, 2011 – 2013
- *The NIA Arts Foundation*, 1st Vice Chair, 2011 – 2013

AWARDS/HONORS

- *Social Activist Award*, The Reentry for Community Development Center (RCDC-17), 2020
- *Raymond L. Graves Community Service Award*, Black Student Caucus, Colgate Rochester Crozier Divinity School, 2020
- *Keeper of the Flame*, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, 2019
- *Arts Award*, The Rochester Chapter of the Links, 2019
- *Professional Women’s Award*, The Rochester Genesee Valley Club of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women’s Clubs Inc., 2019
- *Women of Excellence*, Rochester Business Journal, 2019
- *Leadership Award*, Women’s Foundation of Genesee Valley, 2018
- *Young Professional Finalist*, ATHENA Awards, 2017
- *Community Service Award*, BreakThru Magazine, 2016
- *Outstanding Professor Award*, Monroe Community College, Damon City Campus Human Service Club, 2015
- *Humanities Assessment Certificate of Achievement*, Monroe Community College, 2014
- *Most Notable Contribution to an Assessment Project*, Monroe Community College, 2014
- *Women and Girls Empowerment Community Leader Award*, MJS Productions, 2012
- *Excellence in Teaching Award*, National Institute for Staff and Organizational

Development, 2012

- *Service Award*, Monroe Community College, 2011
- *Service Award*, Monroe Community College, 2010

ADDITIONAL EMPLOYMENT

- Soulstainable Living LLC, Founder/CEO, 2019 – Present
 - Equity and Inclusion Strategist
- University of Rochester/East EPO, Step to College, Curriculum Coordinator, 2019 –Present
- University of Rochester/East EPO, Step to College, Academic Boot Camp, ELA Instructor, 2019 – Present
- *Soulstainable Living* Weekly Radio Show, WAYO LP 104.3 FM and WGMC Jazz 90.1 FM, Host, 2017 – present
- *We All Write*, Founder/Writer, 2016 – Present
- *T. Cornell Writing Resource*, Owner/Editor, 2008 – Present
- *Our Voice—The Magazine*, Editor, 2013 – 2014
- *Democrat and Chronicle* HerRochester, Blogger, 2011 – 2014

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- *Diversity and Inclusion*, Certificate, Cornell University
- *Sexual Assault for Graduate Students*, Certificate
- *Human Research, Social-Behavioral-Educational Researchers*, Certificate
- *Mentors in Violence Prevention*, Certificate
- *SafeZone Project (LGBTQ+)*, Certificate
- *STARS Project (Military)*, Certificate
- *Reading + Discussion Group* Facilitator training, Humanities NY

EDUCATION

- Doctor of Education, Educational Administration, University of Rochester
Expected completion: May 2022
- Master of Arts, English, University of Rochester
- Bachelor of Science, English: Concentration: Creative Writing (Summa Cum Laude), SUNY Brockport
- Associate of Applied Science with Distinction, Human Services, Monroe Community College