

신 선 영 Sun Yung Shin was born in Seoul, Korea, during 박 정 희 Park Chung-hee's military dictatorship, and grew up in the Chicago area. She is the editor of the best-selling anthology A Good Time for the Truth: Race in Minnesota, author of poetry collections Unbearable Splendor (finalist for the 2017 PEN USA Literary Award for Poetry, winner of the 2016 Minnesota Book Award for poetry); Rough, and Savage; and Skirt Full of Black (winner of the 2007 Asian American Literary Award for poetry), co-editor of Outsiders Within: Writing on Transracial Adoption, and author of bilingual illustrated book for children Cooper's Lesson.

She lives in Minneapolis where she co-directs the community organization <u>Poetry Asylum</u> with poet Su Hwang.



Taiyon J. Coleman's writing has appeared in *Bum Rush the Page, Sauti Mypya, Drumvoices Revue, Riding Shotgun; The Ringing Ear, Blues Vision, How Dare We! Write,* and *Places* Journal. Her essay, "Sometimes I Feel like Harriet Tubman," appears in the fall 2018 issue of *Minnesota Alumni Magazine*, and Taiyon has an essay forthcoming in *Shadowlands: An Illustrated Reader in Racialized Violence in America, Selected Writings on the Art of Ken Gonzales-Day* (Minnesota Museum of American Art). Taiyon is a 2017 recipient of a McKnight Foundation Artist Fellowship in Creative Prose, and she is Assistant Professor of

English Literature at St. Catherine University in St. Paul, Minnesota. Currently, Taiyon is working on her YA novel, *Chicago@Fifteen*.



Shannon Gibney is a writer, educator, activist, and author. A Bush Artist and McKnight Writing Fellow, her young adult novels *Dream Country* and *See No Color* are both Minnesota Book Award-winners. She is coeditor of the recent anthology *What God is Honored Here: Writings on Miscarriage and Infant Loss by and for Native Women and Women of Color*. Gibney is faculty in English at Minneapolis Community and Technical College, where she teaches critical and creative writing, journalism, and African Diasporic topics.



David Lawrence Grant has written drama for the stage, film, and television, as well as fiction and memoir. He has written major reports on racial bias in the justice system for the Minnesota Supreme Court and on racial disparities in the health care system for the Minnesota legislature. He teaches screenwriting at FilmNorth.



Carolyn Holbrook is a writer, educator, and longtime advocate for the healing power of the arts. She is founder and director of More Than a Single Story, and Executive Editor of the Saint Paul Almanac. She is the author of a new essay collection, *Tell Me Your Names and I Will Testify* and is co-author with Arleta Little of MN civil rights icon, Dr. Josie R. Johnson's memoir, *Hope In the Struggle*. Her personal essays have been published in *A Good Time for the Truth: Race in Minnesota* and *Blues Vision: African American Writing from Minnesota*. She received the Kay Sexton Award from the Minnesota Book Awards, two

Minnesota State Arts Board Artist Initiative Grants, and a 50 over 50 award from AARP & Pollen/Midwest. She teaches creative writing at Hamline University and other community venues.



IBé lives in the Middle of the Atlantic, between Guinea, Sierra Leone and the US. From here he writes poetry, essays and short stories about aliens and the sea. He is the recipient of numerous recognitions, such as Verve Grant and Midwestern Voices Award, but considers fatherhood his most valuable work. During the day, he works as an IT Project Manager, and spends his in-between time looking for the perfect fries.



Andrea Jenkins is a writer, performance artist, poet and transgender activist. She is the first African American openly trans woman to be elected to office in the United States. Since January 2018, she has served as Vice President of the Minneapolis City Council. A Bush Fellow and a locally and nationally recognized poet, she has earned many awards, fellowships, and commissions. She is an oral historian at the Tretter Collection at the University of Minnesota Archives.

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