Contributor Biographies

Theresa Abodeeb-Gentile is an Associate Professor of Education and the Director of Elementary Education at the University of Hartford, CT, USA. Dr. Abodeeb-Gentile received her doctorate from the University of Massachusetts Amherst in Literacy Language and Culture. She has been a classroom teacher and literacy specialist in Massachusetts for 16 years. She continues to be active in schools, while doing both professional development and research. Her scholarship interests include: intersections of pedagogy, learning, literacy, identity and inclusive education.

Edward Baugh is Professor Emeritus of English, University of the West Indies, Mona, Kingston, Jamaica. Born in Port Antonio, Jamaica, he attended Titchfield High School, the University College of the West Indies (BA, 1957), Queen's University, Ontario, Canada (MA, 1959) and the University of Manchester, England (PhD, 1964). He joined the Faculty of the University of the West Indies at the Barbados campus in 1965, and transferred to Mona in 1968, from where he retired in 2001. He was Visiting Professor of Caribbean Literature at Howard University, Washington, DC, for the academic year 2001-2002. Edward Baugh was the Chairperson for the Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies from 1989 to 1992.

Professor Baugh's three collections of poetry are: *A Tale from the Rainforest* (Sandberry Press, 1988), *It Was the Singing* (Sandberry Press, 2000), and *Black Sand: New & Selected Poems* (Peepal Tree Press, 2013). His poems have appeared in numerous journals and anthologies. He has given readings of his poetry in Australia, Canada, the Caribbean, England and the USA. Two compact discs of him reading his poems have been produced: *Edward Baugh: Poems from "It Was the Singing"* (New Jersey: Intermedia Foundation, 2002), and *Edward Baugh "Reading from his Poems"* (The Poetry Archive of Great Britain, 2011). As a literary scholar and critic, Edward Baugh has earned a reputation for his work on the Nobel Laureate, Derek Walcott. Baugh edited Walcott's *Selected Poems* (Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2007). His *Derek Walcott* (biography), was published by the UWI Press in 2017. Edward Baugh's honours and awards include: the Jamaican National Honour of CD, an Honorary D.Litt. degree from the University of the West Indies, and a Gold Musgrave Medal from the Institute of Jamaica.

Born in Kingston, Jamaica, **Carol Campbell**, graduated from the Alberta College of Art (now The Alberta College of Art and Design), Calgary, Canada, with a Diploma in Applied Art (Jewellery and Metals major, Fabrics minor), in 1974. Campbell has distinguished herself in the field of jewellery design by winning several international awards for her innovative use of surface and colour in her unique, one-of-a-kind, signature pieces. Major commissions include the design and production of jewellery for HRH, Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother's 100th birthday. In recent years, her work has been breaking new ground, by successfully combining sculpture and installation elements with wearable jewellery. Campbell's talents have been engaged in the jewellery, fashion, and film industries, as well as in Education, Museums, and the Performing Arts. Carol Campbell has acted as a consultant to many Art/Craft organizations in Jamaica, the Caribbean and North America, including: The Jamaica Guild of Artists, UNESCO-Jamaica; The Caribbean Export Development

Agency (CEDA) (Barbados); Diaspora Vibe Cultural Arts Incubator (Miami, USA); The Clive Thompson Foundation for Dance Education (Jamaica); and previously, The Alberta Craft Council, Canada, where she was the Vice-President (1990-1995). Now retired, Carol Campbell was a senior lecturer at the Edna Manley College of the Visual and Performing Arts, School of Art, for 15 years, as well as the owner/operator of the well-known, Revolution Gallery in Kingston, Jamaica.

Dennis A. Conrad is currently the Manager of Student Support Services with the Ministry of Education in Trinidad and Tobago and Emeritus Professor of Education at the State University of New York - Potsdam, where he earned the President's Award for Excellence in Research and Scholarship - Cultural Pluralism. Professor Conrad has also been a board member of the EERA and Chair of AERA's - Caribbean and African Studies in Education SIG. His research interests include the intersection of leadership, diversity, disability, and inclusive education.

Paula Daley spent seven years pursuing separate diplomas in Painting and Sculpture at the Edna Manley College of the Visual and Performing Arts, Jamaica. She holds an MFA from Maryland Institute College of Art. She lives and works in Kingston Jamaica, and is currently a Senior Lecturer and Head of the Sculpture Department and the Acting Assistant Director of the School of Visual Arts. Her work incorporates various disciplines such as painting, sculpture, printmaking and installation and is driven by personal and social commentary. **Email:** monarch1811@hotmail.com

Nicholeen DeGrasse-Johnson has been involved in dance and dance education for over three decades. She holds a PhD in Dance from Temple University, a MA of Arts in Dance Education, a BSC in Dance from the State University of New York (SUNY) College at Brockport, and a Diploma in Teacher Education from the Cultural Training Centre (now Edna Manley College of the Visual and Performing Arts, EMCVPA), School of Dance. She was the recipient of the LASPAU/OAS Fellowship in professional development in 2002. Dr. DeGrasse-Johnson has offered over two decades of exemplary service to the School of Dance where she transitioned through the ranks, from Lecturer, to Senior Lecturer and ultimately, to Director of Studies. In 2012, she was promoted to the top of the College's hierarchy and has continued to provide insightful and visionary leadership as Principal of the EMCVPA. DeGrasse-Johnson still lectures in Methods for Teaching Studio Dance and Applied Movement Technique for the Classroom at the School of Dance. She has also lectured at Shortwood Teachers' College and The Mico University College in Jamaica, the North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, USA, and the University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica.

Beulah Forteau-Jaikaransingh is a retired primary education teacher with the Ministry of Education, Trinidad and Tobago. Dr. Forteau-Jaikaransingh is a lifelong poet who has been engaged in efforts to promote literacy and a 'joy of reading' within her school community. She received her doctorate from the University of Sheffield, England. Her research interests include critical pedagogy aimed at transforming school culture; with a special focus on qualitative research. She describes herself as an avid qualitative researcher who uses historical and arts-based methods.

Yasmin Ginton is a Nassau native with a love for creating stories through poetry. In her work, Ginton focuses on place, the importance of self-evaluation and relationship dynamics. She explores how relationships are defined by social expectations when we fail to question and define them ourselves. She has performed spoken word poetry in Canada and The Bahamas. Ginton's works have appeared in Bahama Mama 2011, Gumelemi 2015, NE8 and The Year She Wrote. Ginton's debut book of poetry 'The Year She Wrote' was self-published June 2017. Yasmin Ginton has completed her MA in Creative Writing and Education at Goldsmiths, University of London. Her dissertation explored the manifestation of the Bahamian voice, assimilation and longing for home as a result of migration. Currently, Yasmin Ginton teaches at C.V. Bethel Nassau, Bahamas.

Charlotte Henay is a Bahamian diasporic storyteller and researcher. She works with poetry, lyric and visual essays in writing about cultural memory to counter extinction myths. Charlotte's professional background in critical race theory, and personal experience of being exiled, inform her work and journey, through the interstices of blackness and indigeneity. Charlotte's work imagines Afro-Indigenous futurities. Charlotte Henay's writing has appeared in ROOM Magazine, Demeter Press' Mothers & Daughters, C-Magazine, No More Potlucks, Feral Feminisms, Decolonization, Indigeneity, Education and Society, and Cultural and Pedagogical Inquiry (CPI). Her visual artwork has been shown at FAC: Toronto's Feminist Art Conference, York University's Crossroads Gallery and 416 Gallery for MIXEDArtTO. Charlotte's moving poems in the series All of My Peoples' Bones Are Here, were part of the NE8. Charlotte Henay is currently a PhD candidate in Comparative Perspectives and Cultural Boundaries at York University, Ontario, Canada.

Glenda-Rose Nassoma Layne grew up in South Trinidad and presently resides on the island of Tobago where she is the Coordinator/Director for Culture in the Division of Tourism Culture and Transportation, Tobago House of Assembly. Glenda-Rose holds a Post Graduate Diploma in Arts and Cultural Enterprise Management from the University of the West Indies (UWI), a Masters in Carnival Studies, and is presently a PhD Student at the University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) where she is pursuing studies in Cultural Studies with a focus on the Traditional and Indigenous Arts of the Caribbean. Ms. Layne is a certified Theatre in Education Drama in Education Practitioner and a Researcher with specific focus on the Indigenous and Traditional Arts. A playwright, director, storyteller and a general practitioner in various forms of the performing arts, Glenda-Rose Nassoma Layne continues to perform nationally and internationally.

Tsai Lu Liu, Professor of Industrial Design, is the Head of the Department of Graphic Design and Industrial Design at the College of Design at NC State University, USA. Before teaching industrial design, Professor Liu managed new product/service design and marketing for 12 years in the toy, healthcare, gaming, semiconductor, and communication industries. His interdisciplinary teams developed electric ride-on toy vehicles, internet telecommunication services, commercial gaming systems, multimedia online advertising platforms, occupational therapy stations, and pediatric sitting/positioning furniture. With a user-centered approach to innovation, his teams successfully brought several products to the international markets through comprehensive research, design, engineering, production, and marketing endeavors. In 2012, Professor Liu joined NC State

University's College of Design. As a Department Head, he is responsible for the academic and administrative successes of the undergraduate Graphic Design and Industrial Design programs, the graduate Graphic Design program, and the graduate Industrial Design program. Professor Liu has also facilitated the establishment of sponsored research/design projects with organizations such as Becton, Dickinson and Company, Bosch-Siemens Home Appliances Group, Eastman Chemical Company, Hanes Brands Inc., IBM, JLG Industries Inc., NSA, and SAS Institute. The recipient of the Southern Governors' Association's Innovator Award and an NC State service/extension award, Professor Liu has also received several outstanding teaching awards.

Lesley-Ann Noel, completed her PhD in Design at North Carolina State University in 2018. Her doctoral research focused on design thinking at a rural primary school in Trinidad and Tobago. She also holds a Master's degree in business administration from the University of the West Indies and a Bacharelado (equivalent to Bachelor's degree) in industrial design from Universidade Federal do Paraná. Dr. Noel is a former Fulbright Scholar and lecturer at the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus in Trinidad and Tobago.

As the Associate Director for Design Thinking for Social Impact, and Professor of Practice, Dr. Noel teaches design thinking courses for the Social Innovation and Social Entrepreneurship Minor. Dr. Noel was part of the 2018-2019 Ocean Design Teaching Fellowship, a cohort of fellows that brought deep experiences in design, ocean science and international policy. The Ocean Design Teaching Fellow program is co-hosted with the Stanford School, where she also served as a lecturer. In her professional practice, she draws on the fields of design, anthropology, business and education to create product development and business strategy with stakeholders. Dr. Noel focuses on developing design curriculum for non-traditional audiences and promoting the work of designers outside of Europe and North America. She has exhibited work at design exhibitions in Trinidad & Tobago, Jamaica, Brazil, Tanzania, Germany, France and the USA. She has presented peer-reviewed papers at design conferences in the Caribbean, the US, the UK and India.

Alix Pierre, PhD, teaches at Spelman College in the Department of International Studies. His research focuses on the Diasporan retention and transformation of culture that includes the feminist perspective. He favors a transnational approach to Diasporic cultural production(s) beyond the boundaries of nations-states. He explores the representation and visualization of black bodies, voices, thoughts, and aesthetics across media. He thrives at contributing supplemental analytical tools with which to better grasp the challenges that Afro-descendants are faced with in their attempts to fully realize themselves. Since 2015, he has been collaborating with Diaspora Vibe Cultural Arts Incubator (DVCAI) in Miami as co-project manager and scholar-in-residence. He is on the editorial board of **Caribbean Vistas Journal: Critiques of Caribbean Arts and Cultures**. His publications have appeared in several journals and he is the author of *L'image de la femme résistante chez quatre romancières noires : vision diasporique de la femme en résistance chez Maryse Condé, Simone Schwarz-Bart, Toni Morrison et Alice Walker* (PAF : 2014). He recently co-moderated a panel conversation with DVCAI artists at the Miami Creative Summit 2018. In January 2019, he will be participating in the CAORC-WARC, Faculty Development Seminar in Senegal.

Dr. Traci Rose Rider received her professional B. of Architecture degree from the University of Cincinnati and her Master's degree in Human-Environment Relations with a focus on Environmental Sociology from Cornell University. Her doctoral degree focusing on the integration of sustainability within formal design education was granted from the College of Design at North Carolina State University. As Assistant Professor of Architecture, Doctor of Design faculty, and PhD Faculty at North Carolina State University's College of Design, her research has focused on the relationship between the design culture and the notion of sustainability, exploring factors impacting environmental attitudes of designers, including: environmental education, learned associations, and informal influences. Her funded research projects include methods for introducing building science and health topics to middle school students in North Carolina through STEM exercises, as well as supporting the development of interdisciplinary focus areas for the NC State in the areas of Sustainable Cities. She is currently Principal Investigator on a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Grant under their Creating a Culture of Health umbrella, looking at how private multifamily developers conceptualize, understand and implement health and wellness strategies in their developments.

She has authored two books with W. W. Norton, and has a chapter in a book on interdisciplinary work, *Collaboration and Student Engagement in Design Education* (IGI Global, 2016). Traci Rose Rider frequently presents at both academic and professional conferences on various aspects of green, sustainability, integrated design and community engagement.

Oneika Russell received a Diploma in Painting from the Edna Manley College of the Visual and Performing Arts in Jamaica. She completed an MA in Interactive Media at Goldsmith College in London and postgraduate studies in Film, Video and Media Art at Kyoto Seika University in Japan. Residencies include: Post-Museum in Singapore, NLS in Kingston Jamaica, Vermont Studio Centre in Vermont, USA, and most recently Residency Unlimited in Brooklyn, USA. Major exhibitions include: *Jamaican Pulse* at The Royal West of England Academy, UK; the 2017 and 2019 National Gallery of Jamaica Biennial, Kingston; *At the Crossroads: Critical Film and Video* from the Caribbean at the Perez Museum of Art in Miami; the 2018 DAKAR Biennial, Senegal.

Jean Small was born in Guyana, South America. Dr. Small attended The University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica (1954). She became a respected educator and teacher of the French language and literature which she taught in Guyana, Nigeria, Australia, Guadeloupe, Martinique and Jamaica. Dr. Small was honoured three times by the French government for distinguished teaching of French, culminating with the Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur in 2015. She is the co-author of two books: "Vamos Amigos", and "French in Practice". Small is a well-known actress of solo performances in French and English which she writes and directs. Internationally, she has performed her monodrama, "Le Conte D'une Femme Noire". Dr. Small is a practicing storyteller and in 2010 received the Lifetime Award from the International Theatre Institute for her contribution to theatre. In 2018, she was awarded the Living Legacy Award by the Caribbean Community of Retired Persons for her work over the years as an educator, theatre practitioner and author. The University of the West Indies (UWI) selected her as one of the outstanding female graduates of the University at its 70th Anniversary celebrations in 2018.

Meagan Sylvester is a published author of over fifteen book chapters and journal articles and is a well known public academic in her native Trinidad and Tobago where she participates in both television and radio discussions on the Calypso and Soca musical art forms. Her research topics of interest are Music and National Identity in Calypso and Soca, Music of Diasporic Carnivals, Narratives of Resistance in Calypso and Ragga Soca music, Steelpan and Kaiso Jazz musical identities, Gender and Identity in Calypso and Soca music, and Music and Human Rights in the Americas. She has presented academic papers and hosted scholarly workshops in Europe, Latin America, South America, the United States and numerous islands in the Caribbean. Ms. Sylvester recently completed a PhD in Sociology of Music at The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus, Trinidad and Tobago, and holds memberships in professional organizations including the Society for Ethnomusicology, the International Association of the Study for Popular Music, Caribbean Studies Association, and the Association of Black Sociologists. She is a board member of the Trinbago Unified Calypsonians Organization and functions as the Chair of the Education and Research Committee.

Chris Walker, Professor of Dance at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, is the recipient of numerous awards including the New York-Thayer Fellowship, Prime Minister Award - Jamaica, the prestigious UW-Madison Romnes Fellowship and more recently the Villas Award. Walker is a choreographer with the National Dance Theatre Company of Jamaica, and Program Director for the New Waves Dance & Performance Institute based in Trinidad & Tobago with intensive programs throughout the African Diaspora. As founding Artistic Director of the First Wave Urban Arts and Leadership program at UW-Madison, Walker developed devising approaches to creating contemporary performance rooted in personal narrative, collective centering and African Diaspora aesthetics. Walker's most recent choreography for theatre includes 2019 premiere of *"The Secret Life of Bees"*, the musical for Atlantic Theatre Company, #barsworkshop and Lynn Nottage's *MLima's Tale* for The Public Theatre, NYC.

Eugene Williams was Director of the School of Drama of the Edna Manley College in Jamaica for seventeen years. He retired in 2016. He has had more than forty years of experience in the theatre, starting in his native country – Guyana, where he was a leading actor and stage manager at the Theatre Guild Playhouse. He began his professional career in 1981 upon graduation from the Edna Manley College of the Visual and Performing Arts, School of Drama in Jamaica, becoming a founding member of the Graduate Theatre Company. Williams is a Ford Foundation and Fulbright Scholar with an MFA in Directing (Brooklyn College - CUNY) and an MA in Performance Studies (New York University). This Guyanese/Jamaican is known in the local and West Indian theatre fraternity for his outstanding work as a Director and Dramaturge.

Mr. Williams has presented lectures on his research and laboratory work on a Caribbean performance technique - The Anancy Technique - at various academic institutions including: Rutgers University (New Jersey), York University (Toronto) and the University of the West Indies (Sir Philip Sherlock Lecture - Mona).

He is the beneficiary of a Silver Musgrave medal from the Institute of Jamaica for his distinguished work in Drama Education and was inducted into the Caribbean Hall of Fame in 2012, for his outstanding contribution to Anglo-Caribbean Theatre.

Donnette Zacca studied Graphic Design at the now Edna Manley College of the Visual and Performing Arts, Kingston Jamaica, Fine Art Photography at The University of Cincinnati, Ohio, and holds her MFA degree from the Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore, USA. She is a respected Jamaican artist, photographer and lecturer, as well as a founding and active member of the JBW Photographic Club in Jamaica, which started as an extension of the Edna Manley College Continuing Education Department where Ms. Zacca taught until retirement. Donnette is involved at the national levels in assisting organized groups such as NEPA (National Environment Protection Agency), the JCDC (Jamaica Cultural Development Commission), The Jamaica Environment Trust, High Schools Art and Photographic Departments in Kingston and rural Jamaica. She has written short stories for the Jamaica Observer photographic column and has been involved with the Liguanea Fine Art and Photographic annual exposition. Zacca was commissioned by The Jamaica Postal Service in 2003 to create a definitive series of twelve stamps featuring the Jamaican white sorrel and historical and modern buildings in Jamaica.

In 2004 Zacca was designated an invited artist of the National Gallery of Jamaica. Her work has been collected by that institution as part of the national collection. **Email:** donnettezacca@gmail.com