

Marlanda Dekine

EDUCATION

Converse University, Spartanburg, SC

Master of Fine Arts, Poetry

2020 - 2024

New York University, Paris, FR

Master of Fine Arts, Poetry

2019 (Transferred to Converse University due to COVID)

University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

Master of Social Work

2008-2011 | Licensed Master Social Worker, 9787, Current

Furman University, Greenville, SC

Bachelor of Arts, Psychology

2004-2008

PUBLICATION HISTORY

Full-Length Collections

Thresh & Hold, Hub City Press, 2022

i am from a punch & a kiss, self-published, 2017

Selected Anthologized Poems

This Is the Honey: An Anthology of Contemporary Black Poets, ed. by Kwame Alexander, "For the Healing", Little, Brown, 2024

What Things Cost, ed. by Rebecca Gayle Howell & Ashley M. Jones, "I Am Bound for de Kingdom", University of Kentucky Press, 2023

Selected Poems

The Academy of American Poets Poem-a-Day, "Memory Poem", 2026

Salvation South, "Wild Violets" and "Coming to Life", 2025

Callaloo Literary Journal, "[Every War in Our House Started with A Song]", "Plantersville, South Carolina Gives An Oral Her-Story", "Arrival", and "From a Voice", 2024

Orion: Nature and Culture, "Gaadin/Garden", 2023

Southern Cultures: Inheritance Issue, "Jackson Village Road", 2023

American Life in Poetry, "I Am Bound for de Kingdom", reprinted 2022

Oxford American, "I Am Bound for de Kingdom", 2021 (Nominated for a Pushcart Prize)

Southern Humanities Review, "Plantersville, South Carolina", 2021

POETRY, "Grain Memory", "Perhaps I Am a Fugitive of Empathy", & "My Grandma Told Stories or Cautionary Tales", 2021

Emergence Magazine, "Recordkeeper" & "Acres of Ancestry", 2020, 2021

Flycatcher Journal, "Shine" & "Fruits of the Confederacy", 2015

SELECTED COURSES, PANELS, AND WORKSHOPS

- *Finding a Black South Aesthetic in the Ancestry of Dirt* with Tyree Daye, Ra Malika Imhotep, Ph.D, and Destiny Hemphill, *Furious Flower IV: Celebrating the Worlds of Black Poetry*, 2024
- *Stories from the Black South: Land, Place, & Ancestral Memory* with Halle Hill, Michelle Lanier, and Desiree Evans, Hub City Writers Project, 2023

SKILLS

Teaching, Creative Writing, Facilitation, Performance, Coalition Development, Community Engagement, Research, Public Speaking

VOLUNTEERISM

Bridge2Bridge Run, Friendship Place, 2026

Writing Mentor Periplus Collective, 2024-2025

Former Board Member

Freedom Readers Inc., 2025

Grants Reviewer MAP Fund &

Frances P. Bunnelle

Foundation, 2024

Former Board Member Hub

City Writers Project, 2013-2018

Volunteer Executive Director

Spoken Word Spartanburg,

2012-2017

Poetry Teacher Triune Mercy

Center, 2006

RECOGNITION

Poet Laureate Georgetown

County Library, 2025

Alumni Obsidian Foundation

United Kingdom, 2025

Individual Artist Fellowship

South Carolina Arts

Commission, 2023

Langston Hughes Fellowship

Palm Beach Poetry Festival,

2022

New Voices Southern Poetry

Prize Hub City Press, 2021

Tin House Scholar Tin House,

2021

- *Who is it can tell me who I am? Poetry and Identity* with Jubi Arriola-Headley, Cindy King and Peggy Robles-Alvarado and *Making a Life in Poetry* with Quenton Baker and Rochelle Hurt, Dodge Poetry Festival, 2022

SELECTED PERFORMANCES & COMMISSIONS

- *Ars Poetica* with Douglas Boyce, composer, and counter)induction, chamber ensemble, recorded on *The Bird is an Alphabet* (New Focus Recordings), performed at Soapbox Gallery, George Washington University Textile Museum, Chapel at St. Joseph's University, East Carolina University, University of Pittsburgh, Georgetown County Library, UNC-Chapel Hill, 2022-Present
- *This Is How We Listen* with Dr. Steven Graff and Erin Bailey, Converse University Daniel Recital Hall, 2026
- *Prologue Performance: New Chapters* with Arts Up SC, recordings at Fernwood Baptist Church, 2025
- *More Than Our Own Caves* with Omar Najmi, composer, and Kelley Hollis, soprano, performed at Multicultural Arts Center, 2023
- *Thresh & Hold*, with Starlitt Miller, dancer, and Moses Andrews III, pianist, Columbia Museum of Art, 2024 and Victoria Awkward, dancer, and Zahili Zamora, pianist, Boston Center for the Arts, 2022
- *The Transformative Power of Spoken Word*, TEDx Greenville, 2016

Fresh Voice of the Year SC Humanities, 2019

Outstanding Nonprofit Award
Riley Institute at Furman University, 2017

Mary L. Thomas Award for Civic Engagement (Co-Recipient) Spartanburg County Foundation, 2016

Peace & Dialogue Award
Atlantic Institute, 2016

Grand Champion Soul Sista Slam Atlanta, 2014

Slam Champion Queen of the South, 2012