

SECTION: 14  
DATE:  
December 8, 2022

**BOARD OF REGENTS**  
EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

**RECOMMENDATION**

**APPOINTMENT/REAPPOINTMENT OF CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS**

**ACTION REQUESTED**

It is recommended that the Board of Regents appoint the candidates listed below to serve three-year terms on the Board of Directors for the following public school academies (charter schools) authorized by Eastern Michigan University:

Charter School	Board Candidate(s)	Action
Academy for Business and Technology	John White	Reappointment
Grand Blanc Academy	Chelesia Brown	New Appointment
Grand Blanc Academy	Samantha Klaskow	New Appointment
Great Lakes Academy	Sharon Brooks	Reappointment
Great Lakes Academy	Melissa Trbovic	Reappointment
New School High	Catherine King	New Appointment
The James and Grace Lee Boggs School	Courtney Randolph	Reappointment

**STAFF SUMMARY**

According to the resolutions which establish these public school academies (charter schools), vacancies on the Boards of Directors shall be filled by the Eastern Michigan University Board of Regents.

**Academy for Business and Technology**

**John White** is a retired Principal from Finney High School in Detroit, Michigan. He earned a Master of Arts degree in Administration and Supervision at the School of Education at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Michigan and a Bachelor of Science degree in Social Studies at Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti, Michigan. He is the Vice-President of the Highland Park Men's Forum. He has served on the board of the Academy for Business and Technology since 2019.

### **Grand Blanc Academy**

**Chelesia Brown** is a Community Outreach Assistant at Westwood Heights School in Flint, Michigan. She earned a Liberal Arts Degree at Mott Community College in Flint, Michigan and is certified in Patient Care, Phlebotomy and EKG & Nurse Aid from Genesee CAN Academy in Grand Blanc, Michigan. She is a parent of a Grand Blanc Academy student. This is a new appointment.

**Samantha Klaskow** is the Director of the Academic Success Center at Kettering University In Flint, Michigan. She earned a Master of Education from Grand Valley State University in Grand Valley, Michigan and a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Michigan in Flint, Michigan. She was a member of LEAD Now, Flint & Genesee leadership development program 2021-2022. This is a new appointment.

### **Great Lakes Academy**

**Sharon Brooks** is a Substitute Teacher at Edu Staff in Grand Rapids, Michigan. She earned both a Master of Arts degree in Curriculum Design and Instruction in Education and Bachelor of Science degree in Community Development/Community Service at Central Michigan University in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan. She has served on the board of Great Lakes Academy since 2019.

**Melissa Trbovic** is the Dean of Warrendale Charter Academy Middle School in Detroit, Michigan. She earned a Master of Arts degree in Educational Leadership at the Saginaw Valley State University in Chesterfield Township, Michigan and Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education at Baker College in Clinton Township, Michigan. She is the Production Team Director at Grace Christian Church in Sterling Heights, Michigan. She has served on the board of Great Lakes Academy since 2019.

### **New School High**

**Catherine King** was a Store Manager of Green and Glamorous formerly of Canton, MI from 2018-2020. She has 25 years of secretarial experience. She earned a High School GED from Jared W. Finney High School in Detroit, Michigan. She is a parent of a graduate of New School High. This is a new appointment.

### **The James and Grace Lee Boggs School**

**Courtney Randolph** is a Community Engagement Manager at 826michigan in Harper Woods, Michigan. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology & African Studies at Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan and a Graphic Design Certificate at Specs Howard School of Media Arts in Southfield, Michigan. She is on the Wright A. House

Advisory Board. She has served on the board of The James and Grace Lee Boggs School since 2019.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

None.

**ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION**

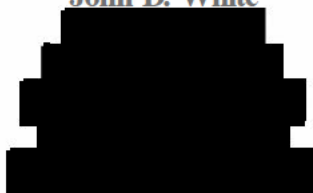
The proposed Board action has been reviewed and is recommended for Board approval.



University Executive Officer  
Rhonda Longworth, Ph.D.

11/28/22

Date

**John D. White**Education:

September, 1999	Wayne State University Admitted into the Doctoral Program Educational Leadership & Policy Studies
December, 1978	University of Michigan School of Education Administration & Supervision, MA
August, 1972	Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI Major: Social Studies Minor: English BS
June, 1967	Cass Technical High School High School Diploma

Administrative Experience:

September, 1981 - June, 1982	Administrative Intern, Barber Middle School School District of Highland Park
March, 1992 - June, 1992	Acting Assistant Principal, Ferris Elem. School School District of Highland Park
September, 1992-February, 1993	Assistant Principal, Ferris Elementary School School District of Highland Park
February, 1993 - March, 2001	Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Labor Relations - Facilities and Maintenance School District of Highland Park Highland Park Community College
March, 2001-June 30, 2002	Interim Superintendent School District of Highland Park
July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2003	General Superintendent School District of Highland Park

*Administrative Experience Continued:*

November 3, 2003 -August, 2004

Curriculum Leader, Social Studies  
Beaubien Middle School  
Detroit Public Schools

August, 2004 -December, 2004

Assistant Principal  
Parker Elementary School  
Detroit Public Schools

December, 2004 - June, 2005

Assistant Principal  
Drew Middle School  
Detroit Public Schools

July, 2005-2009

Principal  
Ronald McNair Middle School

August, 2009-July, 2010

Principal  
Finney High School

*Teaching Experience:*

September, 1972-September, 1991  
September, 1987 - June, 1988

Teacher for the School District of Highland Park  
Teacher for Davenport University, Learning Lab  
***Part time position***

September, 1991 - March 1992

Parent-Student Advocate - Liberty Elem. School  
School District of Highland Park

*Other Related Experience:*

1990-1992

Vice President Elect/Grievance Chairperson  
Highland Park Federation of Teachers  
School District of Highland Park

January, 1987 -June, 1987

Completion of 24 hours of leadership training  
***addressing the qualitative and practical  
dimensions of leadership.***

Aspiring Administrators Seminar  
Wayne County Intermediate School District

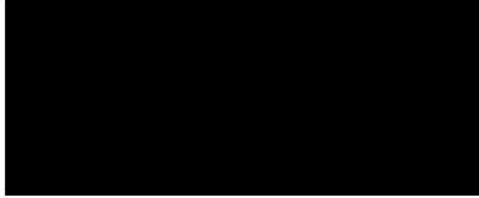
*Other Rdated Experience Continued:*

November, 1983 -February, 1984	Computer Literacy Project School District of Highland Park
1974-1977	Building Representative - Midland Elem. School Highland Park Federation of Teachers -Local 684
December, 2011	Michigan Department of Education Coaching 101 Foundations Training Michigan State University
July, 2010- Present	Board Member Empowerment Zone Coalition
June, 2012-Present	Vice-President Highland Park Men's Forum

*Graduate Level Courses taken relating to Human Resources*

- Human Resource Management  
Marygrove College
- Contracts and Labor Relations  
Marygrove College
- Dispute Resolutions - Negotiations  
Theory and Practice  
Wayne State University
- Labor Relations Law  
Wayne State University

## Chelesia Brown



### Work Experience:

#### Community Outreach Assistant

Westwood Heights Schools- Mt. Morris Township

May 2022-Present

Attend community events, Create partnerships with community businesses and organizations, Build relationships with at-risk families and children. Helping find sponsorships and grants from businesses and organizations.

#### Administrative Assistant

The Law Office of T. W. Feaster attorney at Law PLLC - Flint, MI

Sept. 2011 to Present

Managing office functions, Setting appointments, Client intake, Drafting legal documents, Filing papers, Answering phones, Processing incoming and outgoing mail, Meeting with Clients, Communicating with Attorneys, Judges and other law enforcement

#### Customer Service Specialist

Innersorce (Huntington National Bank)- Flint, MI

Jul2021 -Nov2021

Take incoming calls regarding bank accounts. Providing information regarding balances fraud disputes verifying the customer to the account providing maintenance to accounts.

#### Office Manger

Family Housing Realty

Jan. 2020-Jun.2020

I oversee all administrative functions in a realty office. Also handling daily operations, and assisting with contracts. Contacting repair companies for repairs in units,collecting rent and negotiating contracts.

#### Certified Nursing Assistant / Hospice Aide

Residential Home Health and Residential Hospice

Dec 2018 -Nov 2019

Providing care for patients in nursing facilities and in their homes under directions of nursing and medical staff. Answering signal lights, to determine patients' needs. Bathing, dressing, and undressing patients. Served and collected food trays and feeding patients requiring help. Transported patients, using wheelchair and wheeled cart and assisted

patients to walk Draped patients for examinations and treatments remaining with patients. Turned and repositioned bedfast patients to prevent bedsores. Toileting and changing when needed. Changed bed linens. Giving support to family

Assistant Campaign Manager  
Attorney Torchio Feaster Judge election  
Mar. 2019-Nov.2019

Promoting and setting up events, Canvassing the community, Planning and Analysis team to ensure the proper implementation for the candidate, Communicating and getting sponsorships, Set up meetings with local leaders and sponsors. Assist with fundraising

### **Education**

Home Study Careers - Massapequa, NY  
Feb.2002  
High school diploma

Genesee CNA Academy - Grand Blanc, MI  
Feb. 2002  
Certificate in Patient Care ,Phlebotomy and EKG Technician  
& Nurse Aide

Mott Community College- Flint, MI  
Feb 2007-2012  
Liberal Arts

### **Skills:**

Typing, Microsoft Office (Word/Excel/PowerPoint/Outlook) Supervisory/Office Management, Accounting, Answering multi-lines/Call Center, Front desk,Staff scheduling, Auditing, Negotiation

### **Volunteer Experience:**

Adopter of Rollingwood Park  
Working with Keep Genesee County Beautiful

Expungement Fair Genesee County Jail- Flint, MI  
Jun.- 2021  
Assist with the expungement process



City of Flint Clean up- Flint, MI

2019-Present

Cleanup Crew responsible for Bagging trash, Sweeping, and resident engagement

Genesee County Bar Association Christmas Party

Food Server

Food And Water Give-a-Ways 2019 to Present

Passing out water and food boxes to residents



## Contact



## Strengths

- Student Development/Theory
- Career Development/Counseling
- Academic Advising/Planning
- Private Case Management/Social Work
- Presentations/Workshop Development
- Public Speaking/Engagement
- Event Coordination/Program Development
- Team Building/Collaboration
- Recruitment/Networking
- Providing/Accepting Feedback

## Education/Training

Generative Knowledge Institute, 2021  
**Certification:**  
 Generative Coaching Level 1

Toastmasters International, 2018-2020  
**Pathways Program:**  
 Coaching and Mentoring

Mindfulness for Mental Health Workers, 2018  
 Oakland University

National Career Development Assoc., 2017  
**Certification:**  
 Career Development Facilitator

Institute for Healing Racism, 2016  
 Grand Rapids Community College

Grand Valley State University  
**Master of Education:**  
 College Student Affairs Leadership  
 Thesis: Career Decision Making for College Students

University of Michigan-Flint  
 Bachelor of Fine Art.

# SAMANTHA KLASKOW

Career Development  
**Higher Education**

## Professional Profile

Energetic and dynamic career and education professional with over 10 years of experience working with college and returning students in a variety of settings. Dedicated to aiding individuals as they discover their pathway while offering robust, holistic support. Highly skilled in communication, building relationships, problem solving, and navigating career and educational decision making. Diversified across community agencies, corporate, and education partners.

## Qualification Summary

### Development

- Recruited 100 participants for pilot grant program for workforce dev.
- Peer Advising program (in progress)
- Incoming student orientation program for academics
- Strengths and purposes coaching
- Advising council for prof. and faculty advisors

### Presentation/Public Speaking

- Presenter at GLRSSC 2021 & 2022
- Keynote speaker, Lavender Graduation (UMF) 2015
- Workshop presentation/development on professional skills, educational goals, and student success
- Trained in voice and movement

### Advising/Counseling

- Academic/graduation planning
- Career exploration/decision making (O\*Net/MBTI/STRONG)
- Financial coaching/credit repair
- Success coaching: academic recovery, time management, study skills, etc.
- Generative coaching

### Technology

- Banner, DegreeWorks, LMS (Blackboard/Canvas)
- Argos reporting
- FAFSA, Studentloans.gov, NSLDS.gov
- Google Suite, Microsoft, Social Media
- Application Tracking systems (UltiPro and People Soft)

## Professional Development

LEAD Now, Flint & Genesee leadership development program (2021-2022)  
 NACADA, National Academic Advising Association member (2013-Present)  
 Great Lakes Regional Student Success Conference, Oakland University

- Co-Presenter, "SOAR with the ASC" (2022)
- Conference planning committee & Co-Presenter, "Lessons Learned in a Pandemic" (2021)

College Life Coaching Institute, Florida State University

- Gold Track Certification: Developing an Effective Coaching Program (2019)

DegreeWorks Forum, New Orleans, LA (2019)

Re-Imagining Academic Advising to Support a Culture of Success (2019)

Lily Conference, Scholarship recipient (2018)

MOVE UP Grant, WK Kellogg Foundation Workforce Dev. Site Visits

- STRIVE, New York, NY
- HCAP, New York, NY
- West Oakland Job Resource Center, San Francisco, CA



## Professional Experience

**Director, Academic Success Center**  
Interim Director, Academic Success Center  
Assistant Director, Academic Success Center  
Kettering University

April 2020–Present  
August 2019–April 2020  
April 2018– August 2019  
Flint, MI

Manage all daily operations, personnel, university collaborations, and community efforts for the Academic Success Center. Oversee 9 full time employees and 20+ student employees. Entities within department include academic advising, success coaching, supplemental learning (tutoring), writing support, thesis, first year programs, and testing support services.

- **HIGHLIGHTS:**
  - Recipient of 2020 Charles F. Kettering Bulldog Award by University President, Dr. R.K. McMahan
  - Managed team through COVID-19 pandemic and shift into all virtual operations without eliminating critical student support services.
  - Development and implementation of SOAR (Student Orientation and Academic Registration) program for new students, est. 2020.
  - Pilot coaching program for Bridge 2020 and 2021 implemented to support at risk students through college readiness program.
  - Co-Grant Writer for National Science Foundation IUSE:HR (Improving Undergraduate STEM Education and Human Resources) grant to develop Bridge program for Kettering students, 2022.
  - Co-Pilot for SSTEM NSF grant for select students participating in robotics programming providing professional development and reflection activities and also co-managing reporting needs to NSF.
  - Implementation of several student outreach/at risk student initiatives including Early Grades Reporting, Thesis Completion, students not registered, students not meeting pre-requisites, etc.
  - Co-developer for Culminating Reflection Project (alternative thesis project) to supplement disruptions to students working on thesis projects during the pandemic including project outline, assessment criteria, training/development materials, advising, etc., 2020–present.

**Workplace Campaign Coordinator**  
United Way of Genesee County

October 2017–April 2018  
Flint, MI

- Build and maintain relationships with community and corporate partners throughout Genesee County attending community meetings, chamber events, and workplace events representing United Way.
- Present at local businesses and organizations regarding the services and opportunities with United Way.

**Career Navigator/Case Manager**

September 2015–October 2017  
Grand Rapids, MI

The SOURCE

- Manage \$600,000 WK Kellogg Foundation grant, MOVE UP.
- Developed and facilitate Spark at the SOURCE, pilot program developed for MOVE Up grant including all programming, assessments for candidates, quarterly reporting for grant, etc.
- Manage and maintain 50+ active client cases simultaneously responding as needed to emergencies of basic needs.
- Recruit and retain 100 participants developing individualized action plans which included education and career coaching.
- Fostered and developed relationships with key community partners including West MI Works!, Grand Rapids Community College, Cornerstone University, AACC Credit Union, Department of Health and Human Services, Literacy Center of Grand Rapids, and many more.

**Corporate Recruiter**

April 2015–September 2015  
Flint, MI

Diplomat Specialty Pharmacy

- Source, screen, and interview candidates for entry level call center jobs for specialty pharmacy.
- Developed information session for internship opportunities within Diplomat to present to college students.

**Academic Advisor/Career Counselor**

June 2012–April 2015  
Flint, MI

University of Michigan–Flint

- Academic advising and career coaching for all majors at the undergraduate level including academic planning and coaching, resume development and critique, interview preparation, administer career assessments, choosing a major, and academic coaching.
- Developed and presented multiple professional development workshops including Learning Styles, Career Portfolios, Resumes, Time Management, LGBTQ Professionals, LinkedIn, and Transferable Skills.
- Oversee all advising for concurrent enrollment program, Mott2UMFlint in partnership with Mott Community College.

# Sharon Lee Brooks



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## Education Administrator

Seeking an opportunity to utilize my professional skills as an Education Administrator, working to improve and support students' academic success.

### Skills

#### *Personal*

- ✓ Excellent' oral and written communication skills
- ✓ Experience in a school leadership role
- ✓ Strong analytical and critical thinking skills
- ✓ Effective use of technology

#### *Professional*

- ✓ Strong management skills.
- ✓ Results oriented in working with the administration and teaching staff to implement and reinforce school-\wide classroom management techniques.
- ✓ Experienced in implementing and supporting school guidelines and procedures.
- ✓ An experienced Community Organizer, who actively promotes student, parent, and community partnerships.
- ✓ Experience in developing strong disciplinary teams.
- ✓ Strong knowledge in developing a School-to-Work Program.

### Education:

- 2017      **Education Specialist (Ed.S)** University of Michigan (Central Office Admin. Endorsement Certificate)
- 2005      **Master of Arts**, Curriculum Design and Instruction in Education  
*Central Michigan University*
- 2003      **Bachelor of Science**, Community Development/Community Service  
*Central Michigan University*

### Education:

- |                    |                         |             |
|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| Adjunct Professor: | Spring Arbor University | 2007- 2012  |
| Adjunct Professor: | University of Detroit   | 2005-2006   |
| School Teacher:    | Pontiac School District | 1990 - 2001 |

# Melissa Ann Trbovic



## **CERTIFICATION:**

State of Michigan Administrator Elementary & Secondary K – 12 (ES):  
2012, Saginaw Valley State University

State of Michigan Professional Elementary K–5 (all subjects); K– 8 (self-cc);  
6– 8 (Math- EX): 2013

## **EDUCATION:**

Bachelor of Science Degree, Elementary Education, 2007:  
Baker College, Clinton Township, Michigan

Master's Degree of Educational Leadership: Principalship, 2012:  
Saginaw Valley State University, Chesterfield Township, Michigan

## **EDUCATIONAL WORK EXPERIENCES:**

### **2014-2016:**

Warrendale Charter Academy, Detroit, Michigan

#### **Mathematics Specialist; Dean of Middle School**

- Planned, co-taught, & modeled lessons for teachers & paraprofessionals
- Taught small group intervention based on triangulated data
- Conducted professional development focus groups
- Facilitated IAT intervention meetings
- Performed staff observations & gave feedback for growth
- 504 Coordinator
- English Language Learners Coordinator
- Conducted classroom observations & evaluations

### **2011-2014:**

Great Lakes Academy, Pontiac, Michigan

#### **Assistant Principal**

- District data analysis manager
- Professional development coordinator
- School & District Improvement Plan team leader
- Presented necessary proposals to the school board for modifications to new/existing programs
- Arranged and maintained daily schedules ensuring adequate exposure to academic and extra-curricular subjects
- Managed student discipline by providing applicable classroom management strategies/techniques
- Coordinated standardized assessments by serving as test coordinator
- Performed staff observations and evaluations

**2007-2011:**

Great Lakes Academy, Pontiac, Michigan

**Teacher- Grades 4-6**

**Summer School Lead Teacher & Administrator**

**Department Head/Lead Teacher**

- Created and implemented English Language Arts and Mathematics curriculum for the fourth grade
- Conducted yearly professional development trainings on using technology in the classroom
- Created a brain-based learning environment to enhance student achievement
- Developed hands-on, inquiry based learning activities to instigate student engagement
- Consistently applied conflict resolution techniques for students to promote a cooperative learning environment
- Actively supported field placement students from Baker College of Auburn Hills and Oakland University
- Developed and monitored a Summer School program

**PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT:**

Participant, Administrators Best Practice Summit, Grand Rapids, July 2015, 2016

Participant, Michigan's Fall School Improvement Conference, Lansing Center,  
Lansing, Michigan, August 2008-2016

Participant, Michigan's Spring School Improvement Conference, Lansing Center,  
Lansing, Michigan, April 2008-2016

Participant, MEMSPA Leadership Summit, Bay City, August 2012, 2014

Participant, Accountability Tour, Michigan Department of Education,  
Auburn Hills, November 2011

Participant, Best Practices, Oakland ISD, Baker College of Auburn Hills,  
Auburn Hills, Michigan, October 2011

Participant, Edline & Administrator's Plus workshop, Romulus, Michigan  
October 2010

Participant, Improving MEAP Scores, Quest Educational Systems, Troy,  
Michigan September 2009

Participant, Response to Intervention workshop, Southgate, Michigan,  
November 2008

**REGOGNITION:**

Teacher of the Year Bonus 2009

**CIVIC ACTIVITIES:**

Production Team Director, Grace Christian Church, Sterling Heights,  
Michigan, 2016-current

Program Assistant, Grace Christian Church, Sterling Heights,  
Michigan 2014-2016

Media Team Director, Grace Christian Church, Sterling Heights,  
Michigan 1997-2013

Youth Group Leader, Grace Christian Church, Sterling Heights, Michigan  
2003-2010

Grace Christian Church Member, Sterling Heights, Michigan 1990-current

# CATHERINE B KING

## JOB OBJECTIVE

To acquire a challenging and fulfilling position where I can utilize my skills and be of great benefit to the company I work for

## SKILLS

- \*Over 25 years of secretarial experience
- \*Excellent organizational skills
- \*Ability to work independently
- \*Fast learner
- \*Highly dependable

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### **Store Manager**

**2020 - 2018**

Green and Glamorous (formerly Canton MI)

Supervise staff, assist customers, take in clothing, cashier, keep store organized

### **Para**

**2015 – 2009**

Plymouth/Canton Schools, Canton MI

Work in elementary schools – preschool, k – 5, assist teachers, staff and students

### **Secretary**

**2008 – 2002**

L. J. Griffin Funeral Home, Westland and Canton

Assist funeral directors, staff & families, computer entry, filing, inventory, phones

<b>Legal Secretary</b>	<b>2001 – 1998</b>
Law Offices of Dennis A. Dettmer (formerly Detroit MI)	
Secretary to 5, phones, billing, filing, ordering supplies and stocking	
<b>Independent Contractor</b>	<b>1998 – 1997</b>
Legal secretary, receptionist, telemarketer	
<b>Office Manager</b>	<b>1996 – 1991</b>
Patrick, Johnson & King, P.C. (formerly Southfield MI)	
Run office, including supervise secretarial staff, implement office procedures, bookkeeping, billing, contract negotiations with vendors and building management	
<b>Administrative Secretary</b>	<b>1991 – 1987</b>
Miller, Canfield, Paddock & Stone, P.C., Detroit MI	
Secretary to CEO and Office Manager, former secretary to Controller, Assistant Controller, Cash Receipts Manager and Collections Coordinator. Maintained security system and assisted departments when shorthanded	
<b>Receptionist – promo to Secretary</b>	<b>1987 - 1981</b>
NBD Business Finance, Inc. (formerly of Detroit)	
<b>Receptionist/Secretary</b>	<b>1981 – 1979</b>
L. B. Para-Legal Services (formerly of Detroit)	
Office Manager assistant, assist tenants in suite, pickup and deliveries	



# COURTNEY WISE RANDOLPH

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**Courtney Wise Randolph is a storyteller.** Primarily, she uses the mediums of digital and audio journalism to amplify true stories about ordinary people and businesses that make an extraordinary impact in their local communities.

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## EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

### AUDIO:

- Host of "COVID Diaries," winner of the 2021 Edward R. Murrow Award for Excellence in Innovation.
- Produced, recorded, and edited [original audio stories for 101.9 WDET](#), as an inaugural WDET Storymakers Fellow.
- Multimedia contributor (photography, writing, and audio) to "[Restorying Agency](#)," a multi-sensory self-guided tour of Detroit area sites relevant to environmental justice.

### WRITING & EDITING:

- Produced and edited 5 youth-written story books, including the [New York Times reviewed](#) "*Where Is It Coming From?*" illustrated by Pulitzer Prize nominee Dave Eggers.
- Contributor to "[Black in the Middle](#)," an anthology produced by the Black Midwest Initiative and distributed by Belt Publishing.
- Operator and principal writer for [Kcen Composition](#), a small business that supports other small businesses, nonprofits, and individuals in using creative nonfiction to tell stories of impact.

### COMMUNICATIONS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

- Co-produced [The Song Shop](#) between 826michigan, Third Man Records-Cass Corridor, and Lafayette American agency, yielding a [vinyl and MP3 recording](#) of original songs from DPSCD high school students.
- Co-wrote the [826 National Inclusivity Statement](#) which was adopted across all nine 826 chapters in 2014.
- Led recruitment for 826michigan's Intern Cohort from 2015-2018, consistently meeting goals and signing on the first-ever retail interns at 826michigan.
- Distinguished as 826michigan's first-ever Detroit-based staff. Built an initial volunteer corps of 52 over 18 months, impacting 400+ Detroit youth, sparking community partnerships with 10 youth-serving agencies including traditional and charter public schools.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

### FREELANCE WRITER/JOURNALIST

2019-present

- Reporter and Producer of *Tight Knit*, season 2, a workforce development podcast produced by WDET and sponsored by the Ralph C. Wilson Foundation.
- [Copywriter](#) and [book reviewer](#) for MindSite News, a California-based mental health digital publication.
- Freelance reporter for [Detour Detroit](#), [Outlier Media](#), [Bridge Detroit](#), and other publications writing stories focused on art, inclusion, and community connection. [Contributing writer of sponsored content](#).
- Writer-in-Residence at the Education Trust-Midwest. Work includes conducting first round interviews of key staff at schools in the running for Building the Hope Awards, coordinating and conducting site visits, and finally [writing stories about the schools](#) being honored.
- Contributor to [Planet Detroit](#) and other local publications, including The Gander, Michigan Quarterly Review and the Detroit Free Press.
- Edited and copywrote for [BLAC Fridays](#), a weekly newsletter for BLAC Detroit magazine.
- Edited [The Blend](#), a Detroit-centric monthly newsletter for the Detroit Women's Leadership Network reporting on business and lifestyle issues for women.
- Coordinator and host of the [Culture D-Tour](#), a live on-air monthly segment on the CultureShift radio program.
- Recorded, produced, scripted and edited original content for WDET on radio.

826michigan, Detroit/Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti

2013-2020

### COMMUNICATIONS & DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

- Co-directed communications strategy for 826michigan to a digital and print audience of 12K+.

- Led Asset-Based Language Committee, developing narrative storytelling language that highlights student strengths to make a [case for support](#), rather than leaning on traditionally deficit-based appeals.
- Initiated and managed new and existing community partnerships, including corporate volunteerism efforts with local businesses, public school districts, universities, nonprofits, and for-profit organizations.
- Cultivated and engaged donors making gifts up to \$10,000; co-planned and administered special events.
- Regularly met or exceeded goals in 826michigan peer-to-peer fundraisers, yielding a combined \$30K over 3 years.
- Successfully wrote grant narratives securing nearly \$500K in funding for 826michigan during my tenure.
- Promoted to role after stints as Program Manager, Volunteer Coordinator, and Communications Coordinator.

**Forgotten Harvest, Oak Park, MI**

**2012-2013**

**AGENCY COMPLIANCE COORDINATOR**

- Initiated and fulfilled project to bring Forgotten Harvest into compliance with a City of Detroit Block Grant.
- Coordinated annual agency conference, hosting 85 agencies and their food program leadership.
- Standardized grant compliance procedures for City of Detroit Block Grant and Temporary Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP).
- Administered on-site partner agency inspections ensuring adherence to food safety guidelines.
- Appointed to Agency Quality Task Force, strategizing ways to improve customer relations, food quality, and warehouse operations with a team of 6 for 100+ partner agencies.

**Teach For America, New York, NY/Redford, MI**

**2011 Corps**

**CORPS MEMBER/SELF-CONTAINED ELEMENTARY EDUCATOR**

- Selected from approximately 40,000 applicants nationwide to join national teacher corps of recent college graduates and professionals.
- Participated in intensive summer training program to develop the skills and knowledge needed to achieve significant gains in student achievement. Simultaneously taught in summer school program ran by Teach For America for students in Bronx Lighthouse Academy in New York City under the supervision of a faculty of experienced teachers.
- Engaged in professional development activities, including seminars, discussion groups, workshops, individual and group reflections, readings, and 'learning teams' specific to my teaching license area.
- Taught self-contained 3rd grade class at Washington-Parks Academy in Redford Charter Township, MI.

**The Heidelberg Project, Detroit, MI**

**2010-2011**

**ART, COMMUNITY, AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION (ACE2) PROGRAM COORDINATOR**

- Recruited 2 Detroit public and charter schools for ACE2 participation.
- Taught 150 3rd grade students Heidelberg specific art curriculum for 10 weeks.
- Organized and curated the first ACE2 Art Exhibition at the Virgil Carr Center in downtown Detroit.
- Led on-site tours of groups as small as 5 and as large as 80 in the Heidelberg Project's outdoor art environment as a docent.

**FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS**

Inaugural WDET Storymakers Fellow  
2020 New Voices Scholar, Association of Independents in Radio  
Alumna, Discover-Engage-Transform (DET #3), a program of Leadership Detroit  
Alumna, City Year Detroit

**VOLUNTEER & PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Board President, The James and Grace Lee Boggs School  
Advisory Board Member, City Year Detroit  
Howard University Alumni Club of Detroit  
Detroit Chapter - National Association of Black Journalists

**EDUCATION**

**Bachelor of Arts, Wayne State University, *Sociology and Africana Studies***  
**Coursework completed, Howard University, *English and Theater Arts***