

# Len Lawson

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- Education: Ph.D. in English Literature and Criticism  
Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, PA  
Anticipating Graduation 2021-2022
- M.A. in English  
National University, San Diego, CA  
August 2007  
Thesis: *The Blackness of Darkness: Africanism and the Africanist Presence in F. Scott Fitzgerald's The Great Gatsby and Joseph Conrad's Heart of Darkness*
- Bachelor of Science in Business Administration  
Winthrop University, Rock Hill, SC  
December 2002
- Experience: Instructor of English  
University of South Carolina Sumter  
Sumter, SC  
August 2017-present  
Courses: ENGL 101 Critical Reading and Composition  
ENGL 102 Rhetoric and Composition
- English as a Second Language Instructor  
Global LT  
Sumter, SC  
November 2017-present
- Adjunct English Instructor  
Limestone College  
Florence/Columbia, SC  
January 2012-April 2017  
Courses: EN 101 Freshman Composition  
EN 102 Argument and Research  
EN 201 Experiences in Literature
- Instructor of English  
Central Carolina Technical College, Sumter, SC  
August 2014-May 2017  
Courses: ENG 100 Introduction to Composition  
ENG 101 English Composition I  
ENG 102 English Composition II

ENG 165 Professional Communication  
ENG 236 African American Literature

Instructor of English  
Morris College, Sumter, SC  
August 2010-January 2016

Courses:     DEG 101 Developmental English I  
              DEG 102 Developmental English II  
              FRS 100 Freshman Seminar  
              ENG 103 Fundamentals of Composition  
              ENG 202 Introduction to Literature

Online Adjunct English Instructor  
Claflin University, Orangeburg, SC  
August 2014-May 2015

Courses:     ENGL 101 English Composition I  
              ENGL 102 English Composition II

Adjunct English Instructor  
ECPI University  
Columbia, SC  
January 2013-August 2013

Courses:     EN 102 English Composition II

Adjunct English Instructor  
Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College  
Orangeburg, SC  
August-December 2010

Courses:     ENG 101 English Composition I  
              IDS 101 Human Thought and Learning

Facilitator/Consultant  
PRAXIS I Writing Workshop  
Morris College, Sumter, SC  
August 2011-November 2012

Middle Level English/Language Arts Teacher  
Estill Middle School, Estill, SC  
September 2007-June 2010

Technology Used:	SMART Board technology	Jenzabar
	Blackboard	Desire2Learn
	Moodle	Turnitin
	MS Office	Online research tools

PLATO software

Laptop/LCD Projector

Honors/Awards:

Artist of the Year  
Literary Arts  
Jasper Magazine /Jasper Project  
2016

Best of the Net Nominee  
Poetry  
2015 "Dead to You"  
2016 "Feel the Vibration"  
2017 "The Body Is a Cave" & "Church Fan"

Pushcart Prize Nominee  
Poetry  
2015 "Deep Sea"

Finalist  
Yellow Chair Review Chapbook Competition  
2016 *After a Morning Wrecks Me*

Finalist  
Mississippi Review Poetry Prize  
2016 "Praise Song for the Waters"

Finalist  
Berfrois Poetry Poetry  
2015 "Smashing Bottles"

Professor of the Year  
Morris College, Sumter, SC  
2012-2013

Excellence in Teaching Award  
South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities  
Scicu.org  
2013

Advisor of the Year  
Morris College, Sumter, SC  
2011-2012

Fellowships/  
Residencies:

Callaloo Creative Writing Workshop

University of West Indies  
Barbados  
May 2016

Vermont Studio Center  
Johnson, VT  
December 2017

Related  
Positions &  
Affiliations:

Board Member  
The Jasper Project (Arts Non-profit)  
Columbia, SC  
January 2018-present

Poet-in-Residence  
Sumter County Cultural Commission  
May 2015-2016

Acting Secretary  
Division of General Studies  
Morris College, Sumter, SC  
2011-2015

Panelist/Presenter  
ELA & Pedagogy Conference  
Claflin University, Orangeburg, SC  
2012

Member & Conference Chair  
College Language Association (CLA)  
Atlanta, GA  
2012

Book Reviewer  
Choice Magazine  
Association of College and Research Libraries  
Choicemag.org  
2012-2014

Member  
Sumter Chapter  
South Carolina Writers Workshop (SCWW)

Myscww.org  
2012-2016

Community  
Involvement:

Poetry Workshop Facilitator  
Engenuity SC  
Southeast Middle School  
Hopkins, SC  
September 2017-present

Poetry Judge  
"Young Minds Dreaming" Poetry Contest  
South Carolina State Library  
Columbia, SC  
April 2017

Host  
Central Open Mic Session  
Central Carolina Technical College, Sumter, SC  
2015

Host  
How Sweet the Sound Open Mic  
Coffee Palace, Sumter, SC  
2015

Facilitator  
Summer Poetry Workshop  
Patriot Hall, Sumter, SC  
June 2015

Poetry Facilitator  
Community Lock-in  
Sumter YMCA, Sumter, SC  
June 2015

Host  
Serendipity Poetry & Jazz Series  
Serendipity Café and Catering, Sumter, SC  
2015

Host  
Sumter Town Hall Meeting  
Serendipity Café and Catering, Sumter, SC

August 2015

Facilitator  
Poetry Workshop  
Fall for the Arts, Sumter, SC  
October 2015

Presentations: "Reaching African-American Students Moving Forward"  
Conference Chair  
CLA Annual Convention  
Atlanta, GA  
March 2012

"Teaching English in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century"  
Claflin University ELA & Pedagogy Conference  
Orangeburg, SC  
October 2012

"The Writer's Road to Publication: Editing Fiction Works"  
Morris College  
Sumter, SC  
April 2013

"The Writer's Road to Publication: Publishing Literary Works"  
Morris College  
Sumter, SC  
April 2014

Publications: *Chime*  
Full-length Poetry Collection  
Get Fresh Books  
Forthcoming 2019

*Hand in Hand: Poets Respond to Race*  
Poetry Anthology  
Ed Madden, Al Black, & Len Lawson, Editors  
Muddy Ford Press  
February 2017

*Before the Night Wakes You*  
Poetry Chapbook  
Finishing Line Press  
December 2016

"Back to the Future: Approaches to Best Practices in Reflective Teaching"  
*Preparing New Leaders for the Age of the Digital Platform: The Tenth Anniversary and Best Papers of the Claflin University Conference on Contemporary English and Language Arts Pedagogy*  
Anthology, Sharynn Etheridge and Mary Alice Trent, Eds.  
2015  
Cambridge Scholars Publishing

"Finney, Dawes hold poetry readings at Allen University"  
*The Sumter Item*  
27 March 2013  
Sumter, SC

"USC Gets into the Online Education Game"  
*Get Ahead: Guide to College Success*  
*Free Times*  
05 June 2013  
Columbia, SC

Single Poetry  
Publications:

2018

"Middle Passage"  
*Verse Daily* (Online)

"When I Fly Too Close to the Sun I Don't Smell Melting Wax"  
*The Good Men Project* (Online)

2017

"Battle Royal"  
Pennsylvania English (Print)

"Plan B"  
*The Baltimore Review* (Online)

"The Things You Should Hear"  
*Fall Lines* (Print)

"A Blind Man Gives [In] Sight"  
Syzygy Poetry Invitational

2016

"We're Taking About Practice"  
"black body be like"  
*The James Franco Review* (Online)

"The Invitation"  
Soundcloud  
*Get Fresh Books* (Online)

"George Zimmerman as Jack in Titanic Painting Trayvon Martin as Rose"  
"Krack"  
*Public Pool* (Online)

"For the Dead Whose Caskets Flowed out of Graves after the South Carolina Flood"  
"12-Year-Old Inside Me Seeks a Father Figure"  
"[Uneasy] Dreams of a Presidential Hopeful"  
"The Body Is a Cave"  
Interview  
*Connotation Press* (Online)

"The Black Life Anthem"  
*Free Times* (Online & Print)

"Google search for black lives matter"  
*Winter Tangerine Review* (Online)

"I Hate My Own Breath" & "Skinny Boy"  
*Pittsburgh Poetry Review* (Print)

"Church Fan", "Niger (or The Country with the Missing Letter), &  
"When a White Man in Camden Tells You to Act Like You Got Some Sense"  
*Drunk in a Midnight Choir* (Online)

"Feel the Vibration: Marky Mark & the Funky Bunch" *Yellow Chair Review*

"I Write My Body Eclectic" (w/ Audio)  
*[PANK] Magazine* (Online)

"Praise Song for the Waters"  
*Mississippi Review* (Print)

"Down South"  
*Charleston Currents* (Online)



"Briefcase of Little Tortures"  
"Separation"  
*Up the Staircase Quarterly* (Online)

2015

"Threes"  
Excerpt from "Page from the Coward's Playbook"  
*Jasper Magazine* (Online)

"Deep Sea" \*Pushcart Prize Nominee\* & "Uncle J's Blues"  
*The Petigru Review* (Print)

"Traffic Stop"  
"Sounds of the Police"  
*pluck! Black Poets Speak Out Issue* (Online & Print)

"The Warner Sallman Collection, Vol. 1"  
*Wake Magazine* (Online)

"Homeless Ex-con at Columbia Midlands Regional Transit Authority"  
*Jasper Magazine* (Print)

"Dead to You"  
*Diverse Voices Quarterly* (Online)

"Mosquito Music"  
*Control Literary Magazine* (Online)

"Smashing Bottles"  
*Berfrois Magazine* (Online)

2014

"Burn"  
"Sunday Night Revival"  
*Pamplermouse Magazine* (Print)

"Blond-haired Blue-eyed Jesus Bobble Head"  
*NYSAI Press* (Online & Print)

"Summer Night Revival"  
"This Life Ain't Fit for Nobody"

*The Southern Tablet (Online)*

Poetry Readings:

Café on Main  
Sumter, SC  
November 2013

Serendipity Catering and Café  
Sumter, SC  
April 2014

M.A.D. Open Mic  
Augusta, GA  
November 2014

Mind Gravy  
Drip Coffee, Columbia, SC  
March 2015

How Sweet the Sound Open Mic  
Coffee Palace, Sumter, SC  
February 2015

SC Book Festival  
Columbia Convention Center, Columbia, SC  
May 2015

Ekphrastic Poetry Reading  
Sumter County Gallery of Art, Sumter, SC  
May 2015

Poets Respond to Race Tour  
Speaking Down Barriers, Spartanburg, SC  
June 2015

Poets Respond to Race Tour  
M.A.D. Studios, Augusta, GA  
July 2015

Poets Respond to Race Tour  
Books on Broad, Camden, SC  
July 2015

Poets Respond to Race Tour  
Happy Accidents Art Studio

Rock Hill, SC  
August 2015

East Bay Meeting House  
Charleston, SC  
September 2015

Charlotte Writers Academy Conference  
Hilton Garden Inn  
Pineville, NC  
November 15, 2015

Poets Respond to Race Tour  
Presbyterian College  
Clinton, SC  
January 2016

Poets Respond to Race Tour  
Malaprops Bookstore  
Asheville, NC  
February 2016

Poets Respond to Race Tour  
Deckle Edge Book Festival  
Columbia Convention Center  
Columbia, SC  
February 2016

“Poets on Faith”  
Joe’s Place Bookstore  
Greenville, SC  
March 2016

Poets Respond to Race Tour  
Arts in the Heart Festival  
Augusta, GA  
September 2016

Fall Reading  
University of South Carolina-Sumter Campus  
Sumter, SC  
October 2016

Poetry Pendleton

Viva la Vida  
Pendleton, SC  
January 2017

Litchfield Poetry Series  
Waccamaw Neck Branch Library  
Pawleys Island, SC  
February 2017

Poets Respond to Race  
The Book Tavern  
Augusta, GA  
February 2017

Poets Respond to Race  
Sponsored by the Pat Conroy Literary Center  
Historic Grace AME Church  
Beaufort, SC  
February 2017

Deckle Edge Literary Festival  
Richland County Library  
Columbia, SC  
February 2017

Poetry Matters Project  
Augusta Riverwalk & The Book Tavern  
Augusta, GA  
April 2017

Poets Respond to Race  
The Third Place  
Charlotte, NC  
April 2017

Monday Night Poetry & Music  
East Bay Meeting House  
Charleston, SC  
May 2017

Waterbean Poetry Night at the Mic  
Presented by Iodine Poetry Journal  
Waterbean Coffee  
Huntersville, NC

May 2017

Poets Respond to Race  
Holy Cross Faith Memorial Episcopal Church  
Pawleys Island, SC  
February 2018

Poets Respond to Race  
Savannah Black Heritage Festival  
Savannah, GA  
February 2018

SC State House Reading  
Enjoy SC  
Columbia, SC  
April 2018

McLeod Plantation Workshop & Reading  
McLeod Plantation Project  
James Island, SC  
May 2018

The Forum Event Reading & Workshop  
Poetry Society of South Carolina  
Charleston, SC  
May 2018