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About the Contributors

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About the Contributors

Yolanda J. Franklin

She is a graduate of Lesley University's MFA Writing Program and is a PhD student at Florida State University. She has appeared in *African American Review*, *Kweli*, *PMS:poemmemoirstory*, *Burntdistrict*, *Sugar House Review*, and many more. Her awards include a 2012 and 2014 Cave Canem fellowship, the 2013 Kingsbury Award, and several scholarships. Her poem, "Manual for Still Hunting White-tailed Deer in a Gated Community" was chosen by Harryette Mullen for the College Language Association (CLA) Creative Writing Award.

Jean LeBlanc

Teaches writing and literature at Sussex County Community College in Newton, New Jersey. Her poetry has appeared in numerous journals, including the *Lullwater Review*, *Bellevue Literary Review*, and the *Journal of New Jersey Poets*. She is an executive editor for the Paulinskill Poetry Project in Andover, New Jersey, also does editorial work for *Cyberwit.net*, including editing the anthology *A World Rediscovered* (2012).

Dr. Albert Uriah Turner, Jr.

Poet who is influenced by the sounds of community – be they the rhythms and existential arguments of jazz, R& B, and reggae or the people and stories to which he was exposed growing up in the Mattapan of the 1970s. His poetry is also influenced by 19th century romantic poets such as Wordsworth and Whitman, writers of the "beat generation," post-World War II American "confessional" poets, and Black Arts Movement writers such as the late Amiri Baraka.

Robin Linn

Received her MFA from Lesley University. Her poetry can be found in the anthology "A World Rediscovered" and in literary journals such as *Saranac Review*, *SPECS*, *Redactions* and *Amethyst Arsenic*. Her collection, *Fairytale-Ending Machine*, was published by FootHills Publishing. Robin's critical work and poetry have also been featured in *Sugar House Review*. A facilitator of local poetry workshops, Robin also volunteered for a number of years with PEN New England's Freedom to Write prison writing program.

Steven Cramer

Recipient of two fellowships from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, and from the National Endowment for the Arts, he has taught literature and writing at Bennington College, Boston University, M.I.T., and Tufts University. He currently directs the Low-Residency MFA Program in Creative Writing at Lesley University in Cambridge, named by Poets & Writers as one of the top ten low-residency MFA programs in the country. His poems and reviews have appeared in numerous literary journals and his work has been represented in anthologies such as *The Autumn House Anthology of Contemporary*

American Poetry, Villanelles (Everyman's Library Pocket Poets series), and The POETRY Anthology, 1912- 2002 (Ivan R. Dee).

Natalie Young

Founding editor and graphic designer for the poetry magazine Sugar House Review, based out of Salt Lake City. Her recent publications include Green Mountains Review, Tar River Poetry, Tampa Review, Rattle, South Dakota Review, terrain.org, and others. She is a fan of green olives and Jim Henson.

Tom Daley

Serves on the faculty of the Online School of Poetry and leads writing workshops at the Boston Center for Adult Education and Lexington Community Education. His poetry has appeared or is forthcoming in a number of journals including The Boston Globe, Witness, Crazyhorse, Massachusetts Review, and 32 Poems. He is a recipient of 2012 Dana Award in Poetry and the Charles and Fanny Fay Wood Poetry Prize from the Academy of American Poets. He is the author of two plays, Every Broom and Bridget—Emily Dickinson and Her Irish Servants and In His Ecstasy—The Passion of Gerard Manley Hopkins, both of which he performs as a one-man show.

Elizabeth Gordon McKim

Published five books of poetry, the latest being The Red Thread (Leapfrog Press). She is a teacher, performance poet, spoken word artist, and has been an adjunct professor for forty years in the department of Creative Arts in Learning at Lesley University. McKim is the poet laureate of the European Graduate School, and the Jazz Poet of Lynn where she lives, in a renovated shoe factory. She is included with four others in the new anthology, Wild Women of Lynn, published by Blaine Hebbel and The Ring of Bone Press.

Jamie Leighton

Has a Bachelor of Arts in English from Yale University and a law degree from New England School of Law. She was a Presidential Scholar in the ARTS. Her work has been published in literary magazines and journals including Poetry Now, Emerson Review, Newport Review, Magnolia: A Journal of Socially Engaged Literature, Calliope and others. For the past two years, her Saturdays have included assisting low-income freshmen students who have failed one or more classes. Her artistic concerns are writing and collaborating with others to create “true notebooks.”