

SASHA ANN PANARAM

curriculum vitae

Rutgers University
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PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2023 – 2024 Cheryl A. Wall Postdoctoral Fellow in African American & African Diasporic Literary Studies and Institute for the Study of Global Racial Justice Postdoctoral Fellow, Rutgers University
- 2021 – Assistant Professor, Department of English, Fordham University – Rose Hill
Affiliated Faculty, African & African American Studies
Affiliated Faculty, Comparative Literature
- 2020 – 2021 Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of English, Fordham University – Rose Hill

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. English, Duke University, May 2020
Certificate in African & African American Studies, Certificate in Feminist Studies, and Certificate in College Teaching
- M.A. English, Duke University, May 2016
- B.A. English, Georgetown University, May 2013
cum laude, departmental honors

PUBLICATIONS

Book Manuscript

The Aesthetic Afterlives of the Middle Passage: Black Movement, Catastrophe, and Choreographies for Living (revision in progress)

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- 2023 “Gloria Naylor: Literary Geographer of the Black South,” *Southern Cultures* 29.2 (2023): 9-19.
- 2023 “Andaiye and Audre Lorde’s Black Transnational Sisterhood or, ‘I want you in this world,’” *Small Axe* 27.1 (March 2023): 19-33.
- 2022 “Bloom’s Butler’s Taxonomy,” *The Black Scholar* 52.2 (May 2022): 38 – 49.
- 2019 “Afrosporic Intimacies: Breath, Song, and Wind in M. NourbeSe Philip’s *Zong!*,” *The Black Scholar* 49.3 (July 2019): 21-35.

In Progress

“El/Oil Dorado: Art and Activism in Guyana,” *Journal of West Indian Literature* (revision in progress)

“Ed Roberson.” *Twenty-First-Century African American Poets*, volume 392, ed. Kwame Dawes. (invited contributor)

Public-Facing Peer-Reviewed Scholarship

2022 “Keep Your Own Counsel’: Talking Octavia E. Butler with Lynell George.” publicbooks.org. June 22.

2022 “The World Continues to Need Octavia E. Butler.” publicbooks.org. June 21.

2021 “Listening for the Caribbean on The Crown.” lareviewofbooks.org. February 16.

2021 “Cauleen Smith: *Mutualities*.” brooklynrail.org. January 20.

2020 “#SayHerName: Seeking Justice for Breonna Taylor.” aaihs.org/black-perspectives. Nov 2.

2019 “A Photographer Retraces the Underground Railroad’s Secret Routes.” hyperallergic.com. April 18.

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2023 – 2024 Institute for the Study of Global Racial Justice Postdoctoral Fellow, Rutgers University

2023 – 2024 Cheryl A. Wall Postdoctoral Fellow in African American & African Diasporic Literary Studies, Rutgers University

2023 Distinguished Alumna Keynote, Asian Heritage Graduation, Georgetown University

2023 Franklin Research Grant, American Philosophical Society

2023 Faculty Research Grant, Fordham University

2023 Alpha Chi Omicron Award for Outstanding Teaching in Upper-Level English, Department of English, Fordham University

2022 – 2024 Summer Institute on Tenure and Professional Advancement, Duke University

2022 Honorable Mention, Alpha Chi Omicron Award for Outstanding Teaching, Department of English, Fordham University

2021 – 2022 Fordham University Arts and Sciences Dean’s Faculty Challenge Grant, Fordham University

2021 Larry J. Hackman Research Residency Award, The New York State Archives

2021 Distinguished Alumna Award, Preston High School

2020 – 2022 Post-Doctoral Residential Research Fellowship, Carter G. Woodson Institute for African-American and African Studies, University of Virginia (declined)

- 2020 – 2022 Consortium for Faculty Diversity Post-Doctoral Fellowship and Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of English, Amherst College (declined)
- 2019 Gender and Race Research Award, Gender Sexuality & Feminist Studies Department, Duke University
- 2019 Dissertation Domestic Travel Award for Research, Toni Morrison Papers, Princeton University, Duke University Graduate School
- 2019 Srinivas Aravamudan Travel Award, Venice International University Summer Program, “How Can The Humanities Save the Planet?” Duke University
- 2018 – 2019 Anne T. and Robert M. Bass Instructional Fellowship, Instructor-of-Record, Duke University Graduate School
- 2016 Ph.D. Lab in Digital Knowledge Scholar, Franklin Humanities Institute, Duke University

SELECTED LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

Symposia Organized

- 2019 “Archival Noise: Black Women, Sonic Remains, and Afterlives in Transatlantic Slavery.” Black Portraiture V: Memory and the Archive, 1619-2019. Past/Present/Future, New York, NY. (October)
- 2017 Symposium Co-Coordinator. “Black Is, Black Will Be: On Black Futures.” Department of African & African American Studies. Duke University.
<https://blackfuturessymposium.wordpress.com/>

Conference Presentations

- 2023 “Solidarity Sisters: Andaiye and Audre Lorde’s Black Transnational Sisterhood,” *Solidarity: What Love Looks Like in Public*, American Studies Association, Montreal, Canada. (November)
- 2023 “Sister Survivors: Audre Lorde and Andaiye’s Black Transnational Feminist Praxis and Cancer Caring Communities,” *A Luta Continua/ The Struggle Continues: Resistance, Resilience, Resurgence*, National Women’s Studies Association, Baltimore, Maryland. (October)
- 2022 “Kindle Fire: On Andaiye, Audre Lorde, and *A Burst of Light*.” *The Roof is on Fire*, American Studies Association, New Orleans, Louisiana. (November)
- 2021 “Zong! Then and Now and Always: A Meditation on Holding.” *Absent/ed Presence*. Black Portraiture, Toronto, Canada. (October)
- 2021 “The Pieces They Are: The Black Locomotive Afterlives of *Beloved*.” *Creativity within Revolt*, American Studies Association. San Juan, Puerto Rico. (November)
- 2020 “Premature Lives, Premature Deaths: Afterlives of Slavery in Toni Morrison’s *Beloved* and Its Accompanying Archive.” *Creativity within Revolt*, American Studies Association. Baltimore, Maryland. (cancelled due to COVID-19).

- 2019 “Towards a Black Feminist Poet(h)ics of Listening: Remnants and Reparations in M. NourbeSe Philip’s *Zong!*” *Build As We Fight*, American Studies Association. Honolulu, Hawaii. (November)
- 2019 “Venus | Ventus: Black Women, Breath, and Performances of *Zong!*” *Black Portraits V: Memory and the Archive, 1619-2019, Past/Present/Future*. New York, NY. (October)
- 2019 “Walk This Way: Groundings and Landings in Paule Marshall’s *Praisesong for the Widow*.” *Expanding Narratives*, College Language Association, Raleigh, NC. (April)
- 2018 “Conjuring Faith in the Ocean: Landing on Water in Paule Marshall’s *Praisesong for the Widow*.” *States of Emergence*, American Studies Association. Atlanta, Georgia. (November)
- 2016 “Staging Black Female Flawlessness: On Beyoncé’s Performance of Feminism and Womanism.” American Comparative Literature Association. Boston, MA. (March)
- 2015 “Mobile Manhood: How Frederick Douglass Learned to Walk as a Freeman with Women.” *Expanding Frontiers*. College Language Association. Dallas, Texas. (April)
- 2015 “Naming Resistance: Identifying Forms of Black Womanhood in *Sula*.” American Comparative Literature Association. Seattle, WA. (March)

Invited Talks & Keynote Engagements

- 2023 **Keynote Speaker.** “What is For You.” Georgetown University Asian Heritage Commencement Ceremony, Georgetown University. (May)
- 2021 **Keynote Speaker.** “The Things They Carried.” Preston High School Commencement Ceremony, Preston High School. (June)
- 2021 **Invited Presenter.** “The Land(ing): Flying Africans and Paule Marshall’s Black Analytics of Arrival.” The University Seminars, Columbia University. (January)
- 2020 **Invited Presenter.** “Honoring Black Women: Remembering Breonna Taylor with Social Justice Research, Activism, and Teaching.” APA Division 9: Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI). (December)
- 2019 **Facilitator and discussant.** “Brittle Paper: A Conversation with Ainehi Edoro.” Forum for Scholars & Public, Duke University. (October)
- 2019 **Presenter.** “Digital Mapping for the Digital Age.” Digital Brown Bag @ The Murthy Digital Studio, Duke University Libraries. (April)
- 2019 **Facilitator.** University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill Student National Medical Association Film Screening – *I Am Not Your Negro*. University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill. (February)
- 2018 **Keynote Speaker.** “The Crisis in the Humanities and Other Fictions.” National English Honor Society, Preston High School. (February)
- 2018 **Keynote Speaker.** “Kindle Fire: Notes on Activating Fellowship.” Patrick Healy Fellowship Reception Ceremony, Georgetown University. (February)

Public Engagements and Collaborations

- 2023 **Invited Panelist.** New Faculty Orientation. Fordham University (August)
- 2023 **Facilitator and discussant.** “Black Ephemera: The Crisis and the Challenge of the Musical Archive with Mark Anthony Neal and I. Augustus Durham,” IASPM-US Popular Music Books in Process Series. (March)
- 2022 – 2023 **Speaker Series Organizer.** “Black Letters: The Making of a Literary Tradition.” Fordham University. * *Series supported by the Fordham University Arts and Sciences Deans’ Faculty Challenge Grant and the English Department.* Speakers included Brian Hochman (Georgetown University), Ashon Crawley (University of Virginia), and Pyar Seth (John’s Hopkins University).
- 2022 **Invited Panelist.** “Women in Academia and Cultural Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Panel.” Women in Academia (WIA) and Graduate Body for Cultural Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (CDEI), Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. Fordham University.
- 2021 – 2022 **Speaker Series Organizer.** “The Middle Passage: Then, Now, and Always.” Fordham University. * *Series supported by the Fordham University Arts and Sciences Deans’ Faculty Challenge Grant and the English Department.* Speakers included Jessica Marie Johnson (John’s Hopkins University), Rinaldo Walcott (University of Toronto), Nalini Mohabir (Concordia University), and Jameelah Imani Morris (Stanford University).
- 2021 **Invited Panelist.** Affiliated Faculty and Research. Department of African and African American Studies. Fordham University. (December)
- 2021 **Presenter.** “The History of ‘Diversity.’” Diversity and Social Justice Committee, English Department. Fordham University. (November)
- 2021 **Presenter.** Lit Club: Imani Perry’s *Breathe: A Letter to My Sons*. English Department, Fordham University. (March)
- 2020 – 2021 **Speaker Series Organizer.** Black Feminist Worldmaking Speaker Series. Fordham University. * *Series supported by the Fordham University Arts and Sciences Deans’ Faculty Challenge Grant, the English Department, and the Women’s Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program.* Speakers included Jennifer C. Nash (Duke University), Bettina Judd (University of Washington), and Salamishah Tillet (Rutgers University).
- 2019 **Panel Organizer and Moderator.** “Caribbean (Under)currents: Sonic, Visual and Tactic Engagements with the Sea.” Department of English and Representing Migration Humanities Lab, Duke University. (April)
* Speakers included Tao Leigh Goffe (Cornell University), Kaneesha Parsard (Northwestern University), and Petal Samuel (University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill).
- 2018 – 2020 **Co-host.** In conjunction with Mark Anthony Neal, I served as the co-host for the digital-video podcast, *Left of Black*, that stages discussions with academics, artists, and activists working on issues related to the Black diaspora. I prepare interview materials, compile editorial notes including literature reviews, transcribe interviews, and interview junior scholars and artists working on African American and Caribbean literature and culture.

<https://leftofblack.tumblr.com/>
- 2016 **Graduate Student Panelist.** New Student Orientation. Duke University Graduate School. (August)

TEACHING

Instructor of Record – Fordham University

- 2023 ENGL 3645.R01: "The Middle Passage" (spring)
- 2023 ENGL 2000.R04 and R02: "Texts & Contexts: Treasure(d) Maps, Black Women, and Southern Literature" (spring, 2 sections)
- 2022 ENGL 4008.R01 and R02: "Black Letters" (fall, 2 sections)
- 2022 ENGL 3645.R01: "The Middle Passage": (spring)
- 2022 ENGL 2000.R04: "Texts & Contexts: Treasure(d) Maps, Black Women, and Southern Literature" (spring)
- 2021 ENGL 2000.R03 and R04: "Texts & Contexts: Treasure(d) Maps, Black Women, and Southern Literature" (fall, 2 sections)
- 2021 ENGL 2000.R05: "Texts & Contexts: The Middle Passage" (fall)
- 2021 ENGL 3645.R01: "The Middle Passage" (summer)
- 2021 ENGL 2000.R33 "Texts & Contexts: Treasure(d) Maps, Black Women, and Southern Literature" (spring)
- 2020 ENGL 2000.R33 "Texts & Contexts: Treasure(d) Maps, Black Women, and Southern Literature" (fall)

Instructor of Record – Duke University

- 2019 English 374, "Treasure(d) Maps: Writing the Land and the American South" (spring)
* *Taught with support from the Anne T. and Robert M. Bass Fellowship.*
* *Affiliated course with the Representing Migration Humanities Lab at Duke University.*
- 2016 English 90, "Sports and Spectacle" (fall)
* *Crosslisted with the Department of African and African American Studies.*
* *Affiliated course with the Franklin Humanities Story Lab at Duke University.*
- 2015 Writing 101, "Black Authorship and Barack Obama," Thompson Writing Program (fall)

Invited Guest Lectures

- 2023 "where etc... tunes justice' Listening for the Dead in M. NourbeSe Philip's *Zong!*," English 400: Wight Power, Lehman College
- 2020 "The Mattering of Black Life or The *Zong* Massacre, Revisited," English 276: African Diaspora Literature: Black Lives Matters, Duke University.
- 2019 "Towards a Black Feminist Poet(h)ics of Listening: Hearing History in M. NourbeSe Philip's *Oeuvre*," English 365: Caribbean Literature, Virginia Commonwealth University.

Other Teaching and Mentorship – New York, New York

2017 – 2018 **Undergraduate Student Advisor.** Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute, New York University.

2017 **Instructor.** Saturday Academy SAT Preparation, New-York Historical Society.

Teaching Assistantships – Duke University

2017 Prof. Thomas Ferraro and Michael Moses, English 277-01, “The Novel, Live!” (spring)

2016 Prof. Denise Comer, Writing 165, “Making Your Voice Heard: The Arts of Oral Communication, Critical Speaking, and Digital Rhetoric”, Thompson Writing Program (summer)

* *This new writing course is sponsored by LAMP, the Duke Language, Arts, and Media Program.* Invited to serve as a teaching assistant for the course.

2016 Prof. Mark Anthony Neal and Patrick Denard Douthit, African and African American Studies (AAAS) 335, “History of Hip-Hop” (spring)

2015 Prof. Nathaniel Mackey, English 420S, “Advanced Workshop in the Writing of Poetry” (spring)

Tutor/Mentor – Duke University

2015 – 2019 Writing Center Advisor. Academic Support Program for Student-Athletes, Duke University.

2014 – 2015 Tutor. Academic Support Program for Student-Athletes, Duke University.

2013 – 2017 Academic Mentor. Academic Support Program for Student-Athletes. Duke University.

PEDAGOGICAL DEVELOPMENT

2022 **Participant.** Seminar on the Future of Jesuit Higher Education.

2022 **Participant.** Faculty Development Retreat. Fordham University.

2020 – 2021 **Participant.** New Faculty Development Seminar on Mission, Fordham University.

2016 – 2017 **Fellow.** Preparing Future Faculty Program; faculty mentor: Alisa Johnson, Meredith College

RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS

2018 – 2019 **Research Assistant.** The Representing Migration Humanities Lab, Department of English, Duke University.

Research lab, co-directed by five faculty members in the department of English at Duke University, dedicated to investigating stories of migration from the origins of modernity to contemporary concerns. Participants in this lab engage in collaborative research projects on the representation and cultural expression of migration in literature, music, and performance cultures. I organized monthly working group sessions on refugee literature, helped the undergraduate and graduate fellows develop their proposed research projects, moderated public panels on Caribbean literature and migration, and provided general administrative assistance such as updating online website and preparing for events.

SERVICE

External Service

2022 – **Committee Member**, Middle States Accreditation Team, Preston High School.

2018 – 2022 **Board Member**, Patrick Healy Fellowship. Georgetown University.

The Patrick Healy Fellowship is an organization comprised of current students and alumni of Georgetown University dedicated to supporting students of color navigate higher education and the professional world. In my capacity as board member, I offer input on yearly academic programming, contribute to the Alumni Development Planning Committee, and mentor two students interested in the humanities and urban education.

Service to Profession

2023 **Manuscript Reviewers**, *The Black Scholar*

2022 **Manuscript Reviewer**, *Diaspora: A Journal of Transnational Studies*

2022 **Manuscript Reviewer**, *Comparative Literature*

2022 **Manuscript Reviewer**, *Texas Studies in Literature and Language*

Fordham University – University Service

2022 **Participant**. Seminar on the Future of Jesuit Higher Education.

2020 – 2021 **Participant**. New Faculty Seminar on Mission.

Fordham University – Departmental Service

2022 – 2023 **Member**. Black Studies African Literatures Job Search Committee. English Department.

2022 **Member**. Graduate Student Admissions Committee. English Department.

2021 – **Member**. Diversity and Social Justice Committee. English Department.

2021 **Member**. Oral Exam Committee for Corey Lionel Spencer. English Department.

2020 – **Participant**. Slavery and Freedom Working Group. Department of African & African American Studies.

2020 – **Participant**. Race, Empire, and Colonialism Working Group. English Department.

Duke University

2016 – 2017 **Working Group Coordinator**. Long Histories/Emerging Presents of Migrancy.

2016 – 2017 **Graduate Student Representative**. Department of African and African American Studies.

- 2016 – 2020 **Mentor for First Year Students.** English Department.
- 2016 **Staff Assistant.** Duke in New York.
- 2015 **Planning Committee.** Department of African and African American Studies Speaker Series.
- 2014 **Manuscript Reviewer,** *Novel: A Forum on Fiction*
- 2014 – 2017 **Participant.** Graduate and Professional Student Advisory Board. Duke University Library.
- 2014 **Manuscript Reviewer.** *Deliberations: A Journal of First-Year Writing at Duke University.*
- 2014 **Planning Committee.** Americanist Speakers Series.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Studies Association

Modern Language Association

Caribbean Studies Association

National Women’s Studies Association

REFERENCES

Tsitsi Jaji (tsitsi.jaji@duke.edu) | (607) 280-1399

Bacca Foundation Associate Professor of English and African & African American Studies, Duke University

Soyica Diggs Colbert (Soyica.Colbert@georgetown.edu) | (202) 687-1721

Vice President for Interdisciplinary Initiatives and Idol Family Professor of African American Studies and Performing Arts, Georgetown University

Mark Anthony Neal (man9@duke.edu) | (919) 684-3987

James B. Duke Professor and Chair of African & African American Studies, and English, Duke University