



Summer R.J. Tate

 (860) 670-8769

 summertate@sbcglobal.net

 103 Giddings Ave, Windsor, CT 06095

EDUCATION

PhD English African American Literature
Howard University, Washington DC

Fall 2024 -Current

MFA Creative Writing and Publishing
Fairfield University, Fairfield, CT

2018

Thesis title: *The Malaga Island Project*

Advisor: Dr. William Patrick

MA in English Education
University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

2008

Thesis title: *Environmental Literacy in Public School*

Advisor: Dr. John Zack

BA in Liberal Studies, Cum Laude
Bay Path University, Longmeadow, MA

2007

TEACHING & ADVISING

English Teacher
Hartford Public Schools, Hartford, CT
7-12 English Certification 015

2008-Current

Middle School
High School

2008-2014

2014-Current

- **Literature and Composition II**
- **World Literature**
- **AP Literature and Composition**
- **Differentiated Yearlong Literature and Composition**
- **College Writing**
- **Poetry and Publishing**

Additional Programs and Roles:

- Summer Writing Program-Trinity College
- Teacher liaison for the Governance Council
- *Poetry Out Loud* Lead Teacher
- Words Alive in the Middle Arts program-Hartford Stage

TEAM Cooperating Teacher

2015-Current

- Advised teacher candidates by offering support, understanding, help, and encouragement to ensure they are developing effective teaching strategies.
- Modeling decision-making and reflection process
- Assessing the student teacher's progress formally and informally.
- Conferring with the university supervisor to ensure the student teacher is on track for success.

Team Leader

2021-2023

- Direct weekly meetings with certified staff
- Liason between staff and administration
- Communicate with families via Parent Square/ website
- Oversee the maintenance of team bulletin boards
- Coordinate safe transitions, recess, and lunch detention schedule
- Review and support planning and implementation of school events
- Coordinate and co-lead quarterly grade-level meetings/ award Currentations
- Facilitate testing schedules in conjunction with testing coordinators
- Support the planning of parent meetings/ conferences
- Oversee or ensure field trip planning and coordinate activities

Head of English Department

2018-2020

- Planning and chairing all department meetings
- Liaison to Administration and Central Office Curriculum Leaders
- Coordination of standardized testing specific to the content area
- Review, provide feedback, and approve all mid-year and final course assessments.
- Access and analyze standardized and course assessment data to inform curricular and instructional decisions.
- Facilitate Data Team Meetings
- Ordering curriculum materials and books, etc.
- Coordination of curriculum, materials, support, and necessary PD
- Handling parent concerns related to student concerns and curriculum in the specific department.

Faculty Professor of English

Summer 2024/2025

Yale University, New Haven, CT
Yale Youth Writing Workshop

- **Poetry Writing Workshop**

Adjunct Professor of English

Fall 2023-Spring 2024

Asnuntuck Community College, Enfield, CT
Second Chance Pell Program- Department of Corrections

- **ENG 1010 Composition**
- **ENG 0910 Composition with Workshop**

Adjunct Professor of English
Fairfield University, Fairfield, CT

Spring 2022

- **ENW 1802A Creative Writing - Poetry**

Lead Teacher Mentor and Liaison
Trinity College, Hartford, CT

2011-2023

- Responsible for corresponding with the administration
- One-on-one mentorship with middle school students
- Assist in program organization and development of curriculum
- Led training for Trinity student mentors on differentiating and working with diverse learners.
- Chaperone off-site field trips and program banquets

Teaching Assistant
Department of English, Fairfield University

Summer 2018

- Planned and led a summer session of a poetry writing workshop.
- Assigned readings and conducted a close analysis of poetry.

Adjunct Professor of English
Springfield College, Springfield, MA

2016-2018

- **HUSB 233 Communication II**
- **HUSB 239 Exploring Racial Perspectives Through Literature**

Adult Education Teacher
Windsor Public Schools, Windsor, CT

2014-2016

- Taught the English portion of Adult Basic Education
- Assisted in administering the GED curriculum and practice exams

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Woodhall Press Hartford CT
Poetry Editor-Connecticut Literary Anthology

2023-Current

- Promote the call for submissions.
- Hosted author readings.
- Select poetry and notify authors.

Causeway Lit Fairfield, CT
Poetry Editor-in-Chief

2017-2018

- Oversaw the production of the online magazine
- Scheduled and assigned reading for poetry editors
- Maintain editorial correspondence with prospective contributors.
- Conduct business transactions, including publicity, subscriptions, and advertising.
- Facilitated a Poetry Writers Workshop

The Artist's JunXion

Hartford, CT

2000-2001

Co-producer, Chief Financial Officer, Slam Master

- Responsible for comprehensive weekly program production
- Financial Management, including bookkeeping, projections, and marketing
- Editor-in-chief of the monthly publication

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Teacher Leadership AFT Union Committee, Hartford, Connecticut 2023-2024

- Literature review of mandated African-American Studies curriculum and assessments
- Data collection of educator materials and interviews
- Current results to inform Board of Education policy suggestions

Climate and Culture Committee. Hartford, Connecticut 2021

- Reviewed survey information to determine students' and family's thoughts about their connection to the school community.
- Created and implemented reach-out programs with administration, teachers, and school staff to pinpoint students in need.

School Data Team. Hartford, Connecticut 2018-2020

- Evaluated English language Art test scores to determine interventions.
- Shared information to the English Department and Administration.
- Established and applied Tier 1 and Tier 2 strategies in the English classroom.

Malaga Island Project. Fairfield, Connecticut 2017-2018

- Created research questions to develop a study of the community on Malaga Island.
- Utilized the Main Museum and Historical Society to review archived newspaper articles, ledgers, pictures, and archeological artifacts.
- Used interviews to develop writing with critical characteristics of historical figures.

Environmental Literacy in Public Schools. Storrs, Connecticut 2008

- Crafted and implemented a study on the impact of visual literacy in suburban and urban schools.
- Researched the methods different schools used to inform, educate, and maintain environmental information in the school building.
- Findings were shared with schools with detailed implementation guidelines for improving environmental education.

PERFORMANCE/READINGS/WORKSHOPS

Zora Neale Hurston Workshop: Howard University	2024
The Work Podcast	2024
Real Art Ways: Connecticut Literary Festival: CT Literary Anthology	2023
Poetry Rocks Vernon Arts Commission	2022
Milton Avery Wadsworth Atheneum Ekphrastic Poetry	2022
AIDS Day Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art	2021
LitTalks: Celebrate Poetry Month with Connecticut Poets	2021
Beta Iota Boule's Celebration of Black Love	2020
5 th Annual Men Against Domestic Violence(MADV) @ Two Rivers College	2018
Ekphrasis v. Art of the Gesu: Bernini and his Age	2018
Hillstead Museum Makeshift Theater: Poetry of Our World	2017
Rockville High school Black History celebration	2017
Trinity College Umoji	2015
Billings Forge: Welcome to Bohemia	2012
NPR Colin Macenroe Beat Poetry	2010

PUBLICATIONS

Tate, S (2025) "Wright is why I write" and "I am not from where I am..."	Mid-Atlantic Review
Tate, S. (2025) "Father Lost at Sea"	Wesleyan U Press
Tate, S. (2024) "Unnamed Town, ME"	New Square, Spring Edition
Tate, S. (2023) "Empty Nest" Connecticut Literary Anthology,	Woodhall Press
Tate, S. (2022) "If we are what we are then..."	Here Poetry Journal, Eastern CT State University
Tate, S. (2019). "Perfect Stock"	Meat for Tea: The Valley Review

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

GESA Conference: Fat as a Tool of Reclamation	Washington, DC	2025
ALA: Ghostwriting as a Positive Mimesis	Boston, MA	2025
CLA: Counter Histories and the Labeling of Genres	Vancouver, WA	2025
Connecticut Literary Festival: CT Literary Anthology	Hartford, CT	2023
Connecticut Literary Festival: Tiny Reading Gallery	Hartford, CT	2021
AWP: Beyond Frost's Fences: New England Poetry with Ethnic Roots	Tampa, FL	2018

HONORS AND AWARDS

Fredrick Douglas Scholarship	2025
Awarded the Fairfield University MFA Truben	2019

- Awarded the Truben Award for Uniqueness and embodiment of literary life.

MFA Graduate Reading

- Voted Graduation Speaker/Poet

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

National Council of English Teachers (NCTE)
 Association of Writers and Writing Program (AWP)
 Hartford Connecticut Teachers Union (HFT)
 Modern Language Association (MLA)

College Language Association (CLA)