

ANGELA ARDS

SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

DALLAS, TEXAS 75275

AARDS@SMU.EDU / TEL 214.768.9197 / FAX 214.768.9191

EMPLOYMENT

2007-present SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY
Associate Professor of English
Assistant Professor of English

2000-2002 SURDNA FOUNDATION
Associate Program Officer

1999-2001 *Ms. MAGAZINE*
Associate Editor/Contributor

1998-1999 THE NATION INSTITUTE
Writing Fellow

1993-1998 *THE VILLAGE VOICE*
Senior Editor/Contributor
Deputy Copy Chief

EDUCATION

2002-2007 PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
PhD in English
MA in English

1991-1993 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES
MA in Afro-American Studies

1987-1991 UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA, CHAPEL HILL
BA in English and Afro-American Studies

HONORS

2015 Mentor in Residence, Kopkind Writers Colony

2011-2012 Sheila Biddle Fellow, W.E.B. Du Bois Institute for African and African
American Research, Harvard University

2011 Writer in Residence, Hedgebrook

2010-2011 William Bentinck-Smith Fellowship, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study,
Harvard University

2009 Research Grant, University Research Council, SMU

2008 Travel Grant, Godbey Lecture Series Fund for Faculty Excellence, SMU

2006-2007 Dissertation Fellowship, Center for the Study of Religion, Princeton
University

2005 Dissertation Research Grant, Program in African American Studies,
Princeton University

2002-2003 Preyer Fellowship in English Literature, Princeton University

2002-2003 Charles Revson Fellowship, Columbia University

BOOKS

in progress *Homesteading: Black Regional Identity in the Global South* (prospectus in
preparation for submission to editor Mark Sampson at UNC Press)

- 2015 *Words of Witness: Black Women's Autobiography in the Post-Brown Era*
(Madison: U of Wisconsin P)
- 2013 *The Hockaday School: An Anthology of Voices and Views, 1913-2013*, co-editor
(Austin: Pentagram)

**SCHOLARLY
PUBLICATIONS**

- in progress "Be Like June: An Intellectual Autobiography," a personal reflection on encountering the archive of June Jordan, in preparation for submission to *Transition*
- 2014 "June Jordan," in *American National Biography*, ed. Susan Ware (New York: Oxford U P)
- 2012 "Memoir," in *Oxford African American Studies Center*, ed. Henry Louis Gates Jr., (New York: Oxford U P)
- 2004 "Organizing the Hip-Hop Generation," in *That's the Joint: the Hip Hop Studies Reader*, eds. Murray Forman and Mark Anthony Neal (New York: Routledge)
- 2003 "First Person: Chino Hardin Imagines the Promised Land," *Souls: A Critical Journal of Black Politics, Culture, and Society*, 5.3 (50-70)
- 2000 "Race Natters: The Chattering Classes Convene on Martha's Vineyard," in *Step into a World: A Global Anthology of the New Black Literature*, ed. Kevin Powell (New York: John Wiley & Sons)
- 1999 "To Be Young, Female & Black: A Real Live African American Role Model Goes To Work at a Shelter for Homeless Teenage Moms," in *Still Lifting, Still Climbing: Contemporary African American Women's Activism*, ed. Kimberly Springer (New York: New York U P)

**BOOK REVIEWS
& ESSAYS**

- Sept 2013 "A World of Difference," in *The Hockaday School: An Anthology of Voices and Views, 1913-2013*
- Jun 2006 "Character Study: Anna Deavere Smith as Herself," *Black Issues Book Review*
- Mar 2006 *Our Town: A Heartland Lynching, a Haunted Town, and the Hidden History of White America* by Cynthia Carr, *The Village Voice*
- Oct 2005 *Spike Lee: That's My Story and I'm Sticking to It* by Kaleem Aftab, *Los Angeles Times Book Review*
- Aug 2005 *Blink* by Malcolm Gladwell, *Black Issues Book Review*
- Jan 2004 *Random Family* by Adrian Nicole LeBlanc and *Flat Broke with Children* by Sharon Hays, *The Women's Review of Books*
- Aug 2003 *The Practice of Diaspora: Literature, Translation, and the Rise of Black Internationalism* by Brent Edwards, *The Crisis*
- Dec 2001 *If You Can't Be Free, Be a Mystery* by Farah Jasmine Griffin, *The Crisis*
- Nov 2000 *An American Story* by Debra Dickerson, *Voice Literary Supplement*
- Oct 1999 *When Chickenheads Come Home to Roost: My Life as a HipHop Feminist* by Joan Morgan, *The Women's Review of Books*

- Jun 1998 "The Diaspora Comes to Dartmouth: August Wilson and Company Discuss the Future of Black Theatre in America," *American Theatre*, 15.5: 50-52
- Oct 1997 "Literary Woodstock: NYU Yari Yari Conference Explores the Future of Black Women's Writings," *The Village Voice*
- Nov 1996 *Maker of Saints* by Thulani Davis, *The Village Voice*
- Mar 1996 "Black Bibliophiles: Professional and Amateur Collectors Indulge a Passion for Black History and Culture," *Quarterly Black Review of Books*
- Feb 1996 *A Litany of Survival: The Life and Work of Audre Lorde* by Ada Gay Griffin, *The Village Voice*
- Jul 1996 "Community Pride: Reclaiming a Neighborhood in Central Harlem" (New York: The Edna McConnell Clark Foundation)
- Dec 1995 *We Flew over the Bridge* by Faith Ringgold, *Quarterly Black Review of Books*
- Feb 1995 *Krik? Krak!* by Edwidge Danticat, *Voice Literary Supplement*

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Nov 2016 AMERICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION
"Homesteading: Black Regional Identity in the Global South" (accepted). Denver, CO.
- Apr 2016 COLLEGE LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION
"Children of the Sea': Diasporic Consciousness in Edwidge Danticat's *Brother, I'm Dying*" (accepted). Texas Southern University, Houston, TX
- Oct 2015 "MINDING THE FIELD": WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES CONFERENCE IN NORTH TEXAS. Roundtable: "Black Women's Intellectual Work of Our Times." University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, TX
- Jun 2015 COLLEGIUM FOR AFRICAN AMERICAN RESEARCH CONFERENCE
"Children of the Sea': Diasporic Consciousness in Edwidge Danticat's *Brother, I'm Dying*." University of Liverpool, Liverpool, England
- Nov 2012 AMERICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION
"Richard's Legacy." Minority Scholars' Committee Ceremony for the Richard A. Yarborough Mentoring Award, San Jose, PR
- Mar 2012 BARACK OBAMA AND AMERICAN DEMOCRACY, 3RD ANNUAL CONFERENCE
"Obama and the Joshua Generation." Tufts University, Medford, MA
- Feb 2010 LOUISVILLE CONFERENCE ON LITERATURE & CULTURE SINCE 1900
"New Black Man: Deconstructing Traditional Notions of African American Masculinity in Barack Obama's *Dreams from My Father*." University of Kentucky, Louisville, KY
- Dec 2009 MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION
"On the Battlefield for My Lord: Sacrifice as Citizenship in Melba Beals' Civil Rights Memoir." Autobiography & Biography Panel: "Lives in Politics." Philadelphia, PA
- Feb 2009 NORTHEAST MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION, ANNUAL CONFERENCE
"On the Battlefield for My Lord: Troubling Traditional Civil Rights Discourse in Melba Beal's *Warriors Don't Cry*." "Historicizing Memory/Remembering History II" Panel. Boston, MA

Mar 2006 KNOW-THE-LEDGE: HIPHOP SCHOLARSHIP MEETS HIPHOP MEDIA CONFERENCE. "The Highs of Low-End Theory." Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA

CONFERENCE ORGANIZING

May 2014 LITERATURE FOR REAL: JOURNALISM, THE AMERICAN CANON, AND THE EVOLVING AMERICAN SOUTH
A symposium with papers from Dr. Farah Jasmine Griffin (Columbia University), Isabel Wilkerson (*The Warmth of Other Sons*), Ta-Nehisi Coates (*The Atlantic*), Dr. Brittney Cooper (Rutgers University), Dr. Daina Ramey Berry (University of Texas at Austin), and Dr. Walton Muyumba (University of North Texas). SMU, Dallas, TX

INVITED TALKS

Feb 2016 DALLAS INSTITUTE OF HUMANITIES AND CULTURE
4-week series: "An Introduction to African American Literature"

Feb 2016 GEORGE W. BUSH PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM
Brown Bag Lunch Series: "Words of Witness"

Feb 2015 MERCEDES-BENZ FINANCIAL SERVICES
Keynote: "The State of the Culture: From Selma to Ferguson"

Jan 2014 DALLAS INSTITUTE OF HUMANITIES AND CULTURE
The Ninth Annual MLK Jr. Symposium with Touré, Rev. Peter Johnson, and Lauren Embry

Oct 2011 MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
"The Moral Meaning of Memory in June Jordan's *Soldier: A Poet's Childhood*"

Sept 2011 W.E.B. DU BOIS INSTITUTE, HARVARD UNIVERSITY
"The Faithful, Fighting, Writing Life of June Jordan"

Mar 2011 HIP HOP ARCHIVE, HARVARD UNIVERSITY
Respondent, "Author Meets the Critics"

Mar 2011 RADCLIFFE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY, HARVARD UNIVERSITY
"Be Like June: An Intellectual Autobiography"

Feb 2011 MODERNISM SEMINAR, HUMANITIES CENTER, HARVARD UNIVERSITY
"A Portrait of the Artist as a Black Girl: June Jordan's Afro-Modernist Autobiography"

BROADCAST MEDIA

Feb 2016 INTERDISCIPLINARY RADIO: SCHOLARSHIP BY OTHER MEANS
Podcast: "African American Political Thought, Part 1" with Dr. Shana Redmond (University of Southern California) and Dr. Nick Brommell (University of Massachusetts)

CLASSES TAUGHT

2007-present SMU, UNDERGRADUATE & GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
African American Autobiography: The Canon and the Contemporary
African American Literature: Vernacular Roots of a Literary Tradition
Black Women Writers: Foundations and New Directions
Introduction to Literary Study: Imagining "America" in Narrative
Literature and Culture of the African Diaspora

Literature for Real: Memoir & the Essay
Migration Narratives: Urban Exodus, Ancestral Returns, and Global Souths
Understanding Ferguson

Fall 2006
Summer 2006
2002
2000
Spring 1993

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY, ENGLISH DEPARTMENT, ASST IN INSTRUCTION
American Literary Modernism: 1930 to Present
American Literature: 1855-Present

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM, GUEST LECTURER
Personal Narrative Writing
Cultural Affairs Reporting & Writing

UCLA, CENTER FOR AFRO-AMERICAN STUDIES, TEACHING ASSISTANT
Bridging the Gap: The Communal Origins of Afro-American Studies

**PROFESSIONAL
SERVICE**

2015-present
2012-present
2000-present
2009
2008-2014

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN PRESS
Manuscript Reviewer

MOREHEAD-CAIN SCHOLARS FOUNDATION
Central Selection Committee

KOPKIND WRITERS COLONY
Advisory Board

AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE AND CULTURE INSTITUTE, UTSA
Advisory Council

THE HOCKADAY SCHOOL
Board of Trustees

**PROFESSIONAL
AFFILIATIONS**

2016-present
2013-present
2010-present
2007-present

National Women's Studies Association
College Language Association
American Studies Association
Modern Language Association