

YVETTE HEYLIGER

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EDUCATION

Hunter College CUNY, New York, NY

School of Education

Master of Theatre Education - Lincoln Center Scholars / Hunter College
Alternative Certification Program for Creative Arts Education

Fieldwork

Theatre Development Fund's Summer Playwriting Intensive, NY, NY
Brooklyn High School of the Arts, Brooklyn, NY

Queens College CUNY, New York, NY

English Department

Master of Fine Arts, Creative Writing—Playwriting, 2010

Thesis: *Code Name: Operation Lysistrata!*

(A full-length comedic play accompanied by a process paper.)

New York University, New York, NY

Gallatin School of Individualized Study

Master of Arts, Theatre, 1987

Thesis: *Autobiography of A Homegirl*

(A full-length dramatic play and research manuscript originally entitled, *Barbie Dolls*.)

New York University, New York, NY

Gallatin Division—University Without Walls

Bachelor of Arts, Acting, 1983

Studied Sanford Meisner acting technique with William Esper.

PUBLICATIONS

“Later Chapters: The Best Scenes and Monologues for Actors over 50”

Edited by Diana Amsterdam for Applause Books and includes Heyliger's monologue, *On the Brink of Middle Age*. (Publication pending).

What A Piece of Work Is Man! Full-Length Plays for Leading Women

Heyliger, Yvette. Bloomington, IN: Writer's Club Press

Includes *Bridge to Baraka: I Am That Bear*, *White House Wives: Operation Lysistrata!*, *Hillary and Monica: The Winter of Her Discontent*, *What Would Jesus Do?*, *Father's Day*, and *Homegirl*. Edited by Alexis Greene; Foreword by Voza Rivers, New Heritage Theater.

Indie Theatre Now. A Digital Theatre Library

Heyliger, Yvette. *Reproductive Freedom Festival Plays, a collection of short original works recognizing and celebrating reproductive freedom, health, rights and justice*. Includes the monologue, *On the Brink of Middle Age*, in Section Four: Body Politics (segment 39 - 40).

Continuum. *The Journal of African Diaspora Drama, Theatre and Performance*
Heyliger, Yvette. "Parity, Me and Amiri B." Article appears in the issue
entitled, *Amiri Baraka: Reevaluation and Appreciation* (Vol. 1, No. 2)
www.continuumjournal.org

Indie Theater Now. *A Digital Theatre Library*
Heyliger, Yvette. "Bridge to Baraka." September, 2014.
www.indietheaternow.com.

The Dramatist. *The Journal of the Dramatists Guild of America, Inc.*
Heyliger, Yvette. "My Bold Request," Nov/Dec 2013 (Vol. 15, No. 1)

HowlRound. *We Are a Center for the Theatre Commons*
Heyliger, Yvette. "Artist as Activist: Civilization's Radical Voice." 29 August 2013.
www.howlround.com.
Heyliger, Yvette. "My One Thing: Achieving Gender Parity through Legislation."
23 December 2015. www.howlround.com
Heyliger, Yvette. "Kicking the Can Down the Road Towards Parity." 2 February
2015. www.howlround.com.

StageReads. *Mobilizing Playwrights*
Heyliger, Yvette. "Bridge to Baraka: The Pen Instead of the Gun." June 2013.
www.stagereads.com.

**No Limits: A Book of Poems on Life's Lessons, Changing the World, Love,
Loss, Spirituality and Self Esteem.**
Heyliger, Yvette (Contributing poet). Pens Up Press: New York. 2013.

24 Gun Control Plays. New York, NY: NoPassport Press, 2013.
Yvette Heyliger's play, "Bridge to Baraka: The Pen Instead of the Gun," is
included in this anthology edited by Caridad Svich and Zac Kline.

The Dramatist. *The Journal of the Dramatists Guild of America, Inc.*
Heyliger, Yvette. "Self-Production Boot Camp 2012... and Me!" Sept/Oct 2012
(15.1)

Indie Theatre Now. *A Digital Theatre Library*
Heyliger, Yvette. "White House Wives: Operation Lysistrata!" June 2012.
www.indietheaternow.com.

Black Masks. *Spotlight on Black Art*
Contributing Editor of this bi-monthly magazine which features information about the
Black performing, literary and visual arts.

Heyliger, Yvette. "Finding His Song: Kim Sullivan, Actor." Summer/Fall 2017.

Heyliger, Yvette. "Tonya Pinkins: Getting Her Black On at the National Black
Theatre Festival." Spring/Summer 2013 (21.1 & 2)

Heyliger, Yvette. "An Open Letter to First Lady Michelle Obama." Fall/Winter
2012 (19.4)

Heyliger, Yvette. "Voza Rivers: Harlem's Arts and Culture Magnet." Jun/Jul
2009 (18.6).

Heyliger, Yvette. "First National Meeting of Women of Color Writing Drama."
Mar/Apr 2009 (18.5).

Heyliger, Yvette. "Harlem Arts Alliance: The Hottest Ticket in Town!" Jul/Aug
2008 (18.4).

Heyliger, Yvette. "Main Stage at the National Black Theatre Festival: What Being Selected Means to a Producing Artist." Jan/Feb 2008 (18.3).

Best Women's Stage Monologues 2003.

Heyliger, Yvette. New Hampshire: Smith and Kraus, 2004.

A monologue from Heyliger's play, *Autobiography of A Homegirl*, was selected for inclusion in this edition edited by D.L. Lepidus.

Best Stage Scenes 2003.

Heyliger, Yvette. New Hampshire: Smith and Kraus, 2004.

A scene from Heyliger's play, *Autobiography of A Homegirl*, was selected for inclusion in this edition edited by, D.L. Lepidus.

Autobiography of A Homegirl.

Heyliger, Yvette. Nebraska: Writer's Club Press, 2001.

This powerful, thought provoking in-your-face drama candidly yet humorously takes a fresh look at race, color, beauty and self-esteem in American society. Comprehensive Study Guide Notes included in this edition.

EMPLOYMENT

- 2017 **ESF Camp at Riverdale Country School** Bronx, NY
True Life Adventure Specialist: Young Playwriters Workshop (for 9-15 year olds)
- 2017 **Greenhope Services for Women, Inc.** Harlem, NY
Creative Theatre and Arts – Playwriting
- 2015 – **Arts Matter, New York City Department of Education** New York, NY
- 2016 PS 188 - The Island School, New York, NY (Drama teacher)
PS 140 - Nathan Strauss, New York, NY (Drama Teacher)
- 2016 **Summer Institute for the Humanities & Social Sciences, a College Now Program at Queens College CUNY** Queens, NY
Returning Guest Artist/Speaker since 2011 for this college preparatory program which is designed to address academic, cultural and social interests and needs of high school students.
- 2011 **Young Playwrights, Inc. at HS for Media and Communications** Queens, NY
Workshop Leader in playwriting for arts elective class of 10th – 12th graders.
- 2011 **Young Playwrights, Inc. at Queens High School of Teaching** Queens, NY
Workshop Leader in playwriting for after-school drama club of 9th – 12th graders.
- 2010 **Young Playwrights, Inc. for Lead America** Bronx, NY
Team workshop leader for high school students participating in this one-day workshop at Fordham University/Fordham College at Rose Hill.
- 2010 **Young Playwrights, Inc. at High School for Media and Communications** Bronx, NY
Workshop Leader in playwriting for a "special education" class of 10th graders and an Intro to Drama class of 11th and 12th graders.
- 2010 **The Scholastic Writing Awards** New York, NY

Served as a reader since 2006 adjudicating work of aspiring young writers from different genres, grades 7 – 12.

- 2009 **Young Playwrights, Inc. at Harlem Children’s Zone** Harlem, NY
Ace Academy
 Workshop Leader in playwriting for 6th, 7th and 8th graders.
- 2009 **Young Playwrights, Inc. at ENACT at PS 399** Bronx, NY
 Workshop Leader in this after-school residency instructing students in the craft of playwriting.
- 2008 **City Lights Youth Theatre at MS 126** Brooklyn, NY
 Team-taught “Act It Up!” residency in seven 6th and 8th grade classrooms.
- 2008 **Young Playwrights, Inc. at ENACT at PS 399** Bronx, NY
 Workshop Leader in this after-school residency instructing students in the craft of playwriting; also taught in 6th, 7th and 8th grade classrooms.
- 2008 **Young Playwrights, Inc. at Brooklyn Academy** Brooklyn, NY
 Workshop Leader in this residency instructing students in the craft of playwriting.
- 2008 **American Place Theatre** New York, NY
 Facilitator for Literature To Life performance of *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini.
- 2007 **American Place Theatre at Repertory High School** New York, NY
 Assistant teacher in this Literature To Life residency where students created an original performance piece inspired by the book, *The Kite Runner*.
- 2007 **City Year** (an Americorps organization) New York, NY
 Did a playwriting lecture/workshop with 17-24 year olds trainees who are doing full-time community service within schools and communities.
- 2006—**Enter Stage Write at The Town School** New York, NY
 2007 In this after-school program at a private school, kindergarten students create, rehearse and perform an original play.
- 2006 **Community Works/ Harlemwood Film Festival** New York, NY
 ABC New Talent winner, Yvonne Farrow’s short film, *I’d Rather Be Dancing*, was presented to NYC public school students; as co-director of the film, facilitated the Q & A and prepared study guide.
- 2006 **WNYE-FM 91.5 Dept. of Education Radio** New York, NY
 Produced by Teachers & Writers Collaborative, playwright and cast members read and discussed excerpts of *What Would Jesus Do?* on the radio program, “Everything Goes?” during Public Health Week.
- 2006 **New Jersey Training School for Boys** Monroe, NJ
 Writer/Director and cast members present excerpts of the play, *What Would Jesus Do?*, about HIV/AIDS to a juvenile prison for boys. Presentation followed by Q & A w/Heyliger and HIV experts.
- 2005 **Harlem Children’s Zone TRUCE** New York, NY
(The Renaissance University for Community Education)

- Excerpts from the play, ***What Would Jesus Do?***, were presented and supplemented with responses by HIV/AIDS educator.
- 2005 **Periwinkle National Theatre** at Bronx, NY
Academy of Scholarship and Entrepreneurship
This 6th and 9th grade residency focuses on the book *Holes* by Louis Sachar and *Monster* by Walter Dean Meyers respectively; invited an ex-offender from Riker's Island to speak about first hand experiences.
- 2005 **Periwinkle National Theatre** at Harlem, NY
Junior High School 13
Team taught radio drama and conducted an after-school drama club.
- 2005 **Riker's Island Prison, Fresh Start Instructor** at Queens, NY
Island Academy
Team-taught using drama and playwriting in this literacy-based class; worked with the inmates on writing original monologues and scenes; read and discussed short plays and did improvisations.
- 2005 **The Knowledge Project at IS 174** Bronx, NY
Organized dramatic readings & discussions of the book *Monster* by Walter Dean Myers and invited an ex-offender from Riker's Island to speak about first hand experiences.
- 2004–**Riker's Island Prison for Community Word Project** Queens, NY
2005 In this internship, team-taught, working with the inmates on their writing in this literacy-based class using drama and visual arts; created and taught an HIV/AIDS Workshop for men who would soon be released from prison.
- 2006 **Boys and Girls Harbor** New York, NY
Taught acting and play production classes to aspiring inner-city youth; directed *The Mousetrap*.
- 2003 **Community Works** New York, NY
Writer/Researcher for this organization which serves public school students and their communities; specifically *harlem is: The Gospel Tradition*, a touring exhibition.
- 1989 **Creative Arts Team, Educational Theatre Specialist** Borough-wide
Taught AIDS awareness workshops through CRTD (Conflict Resolution Through Drama) as an "actor-teacher" in the public schools of New York.

NY STATE LICENSE and CERTIFICATES

Transitional B Certification; Fingerprint Clearance

COLLEGE PRESENTATIONS

(Guest Artist)

- 2014 **Black Theatre Network**
Presented a workshop, Self-Publishing Pros and Cons at the 2014 National Conference, "Our Play's the Thing."
- 2013 **LIM College** New York, NY

- Invited to present solo play, *Bridge to Baraka*, followed by a Talk Back for Professor Natasha Yannacañedo's Modern Drama Class.
- 2012 **St. Francis College** Maroney Theater New York, NY
Invited by Professor Natasha Yannacañedo to present solo play, *Bridge to Baraka*, followed by a Talk Back, to the student body.
- 2012 **New York University** New York, NY
Invited guest artist and panelist for Gallatin Alumni Arts & Society moderated by Professor Laurin Raiken.
- 2011 **Rutgers University** New Brunswick, NJ
Invited to be a guest lecturer for Professor Marshall Jones III's Theatre Management course in Mason Gross School of the Art.
- 2010 **Association of Writers and Writing Programs** Denver, CO
Selected to present workshop/panel "Writing Plays About Real People" featuring the plays *Hillary and Monica: The Winter of Her Discontent* and *Code Name: Operation Lysistrata!* at this prestigious annual conference representing writers, as well as writing programs in colleges and universities across the country.
- 2010 **Eugene Lang College @ The New School** New York, NY
Invited guest lecturer; presented excerpts and discussed the play *What Would Jesus Do?* for Professor Anthony Petro's class, "American Religion in the Age of AIDS."
- 2008 **1st National Meeting of Women of Color Writing Drama** Chicago, IL
Panelist: The Pros and Cons of Self-Producing. Conference presented by the Black Women Playwrights Group, Washington DC.
- 2008 **Vassar College** Poughkeepsie, NY
Invited guest lecturer; presented excerpts and discussed the play, *What Would Jesus Do?*, for Professor Heather White's class, "Religion and Sexuality."
- 2004– **Vassar College** Poughkeepsie, NY
2007 Invited guest artist; presented excerpts and discussed the play, *What Would Jesus Do?*, in yearly World AIDS Day events at the college.
- 2006 **Wesleyan University** Middletown, CT
Invited guest speaker; presented excerpts and discussed the play, *What Would Jesus Do?* for HIV and AIDS prevention and education program.
- 2001– **Rutgers University, Mason Gross School of the Arts** New Brunswick, NJ
2006 Invited guest artist and lecturer; presented excerpts of plays and the book, *Autobiography of A Homegirl*, as well as her life as a writer/director/producing artist; also an invited guest lecturer for *Rutgers University Summer Acting Conservatory* for high school students.
- 2006 **Kean University** Union, NJ
Invited guest lecturer; presented excerpts and discussed the play, *What Would Jesus Do?* for HIV and AIDS prevention and education programs.
- 2005 **Eastern Correctional Facility** New York, NY

Invited by Vassar College Professor Larry Mamiya to present excerpts and discuss the play, *What Would Jesus Do?*, at this maximum security prison which has a community service outreach program for Vassar Students.

- 2005 **New York University** New York, NY
Invited guest artist; presented the play, *Hillary and Monica: The Winter of Her Discontent*, in Gallatin School of Individualized Study class *Dramatizing History I* with Professor Michael Dinwiddie.
- 2002 **Western Michigan University** Kalamazoo, MI
Invited by the Western Michigan University Visiting Artists and Scholars Program for a residency during which a public presentation featuring the play and book, *Autobiography of A Homegirl* was presented to the university and surrounding community organized by Professor Von Washington.
- 2002 **Kalamazoo College** Kalamazoo, MI
Invited guest lecturer on the book, *Autobiography of A Homegirl*, for Professor Von Washington's Black Drama class.
- 1993 **Florida State University** West Africa
Commissioned by Prof. Larry Farrow of Florida State University School of Music, to research and write a documentary, *Spirituals: The African American Connection*, which subsequently led to trip to Senegal and The Gambia, West Africa for further research.
- 1990's **SUNY Stony Brook** Stony Brook, NY
Visiting playwright; discussed the play, *Homegirl*, with students from Professor Glenda Dickerson's acting class.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 2017 **Lincoln Center Education**, Aesthetic Education Immersion
- 2017 **Mindful Schools**, Mindfulness Fundamentals (online course)
- 2016 **Urban Word NYC** at Hunter College
- 2016 **United Federation of Teachers** PD workshops for New Teachers
- 2016 **Lincoln Center Scholar Collegium** for New Teachers w/Aliza Sarian
- 2016 **Mindfulness Leadership Summit**
- 2016 **Little Flower Yoga** / Mindful Educator Professional Support Workshop
- 2016 **Roundabout Theatre Company**, Theatrical Teaching Institute / Postcard Production Workshop
- 2016 **Theatre Development Fund**, Directing Musicals and Plays for the Classroom w/ Stephen DiMenna
- 2016 **Mindful Classroom** (at Garrison Institute w/ Bonnie Levine) What's In Your Mindful Toolbox?: A Mindfulness Retreat and Training for Educators
- 2016 **Lincoln Center Education**, Aesthetic Education Immersion
- 2016 **Manhattan Field Support**, United Federation of Teachers New Teacher Symposium
- 2016 **Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM)** Shakespeare Conference w/ Royal Shakespeare Co., Folger Institute and Ohio State University: Folios and Quartos Will Change the Way You Think about Shakespeare; From Page to Stage: Presenting Shakespeare in the Classroom
- 2016 **Office of Leadership/New Teacher Support**, NYC Department of Education, New Teacher Affinity Group
- 2015 - **Office of Arts and Special Projects**, NYC Department of Education (Theatre)

- 2016 Citywide Theatre PDs; Arts Mondays PDs; Teacher Effectiveness in the Arts PDs
- 2014 **Lincoln Center Education** w/Actors Work Program
- 2012 **Common Sense Common Core Through the Arts** w/Bruce Taylor for AWP
- 2011 **New Jersey Performing Arts Center**, Teaching Artist Training
- 2011 **Young Playwrights, Inc.** Workshop Leader Training participant since 2008
- 2011 **Sociodrama Workshop** w/Nancy Sondag, RDT/BCT/LCAT
- 2010 **Classroom Management** with Howard Katzoff, **Actors Work Program**
- 2010 **Lincoln Center Institute/Actors Work Program**
- 2008 **American Place Theatre** Literature to Life Symposium, Master & Teaching Artist Training participant since 2006-2008
- 2008 **Voices Unbroken** Teaching Artist/Youth Worker Training
- 2008 **Epic Theatre Ensemble** Citizen Artist Conference/Teaching Artist Training
- 2007 **Commercial Theatre Institute** Creative Development Intensive
- 2007 **New Jersey Performing Arts Center**, Teaching Artist Training
- 2007 **Community Word Project**, Advanced Training
- 2006 **Creative Arts Team**, workshops exploring drama in the classroom
- 2005 **Sociodrama Workshop**, with Prof. Patricia Sternberg, RDT/BCT
Credited hours recognized by the National Association for Drama Therapy
- 2005 **Community Word Project**, Beginning Training & Internship
- 2005 **Actors Work Program** Teaching Artist Training w/Jane Ives
- 2002 **Commercial Theatre Institute** 14-week Course w/ Fred Vogel
- 1995 **Lincoln Center Theatre Director's Lab**, member of the first Director's Lab

WRITER/DIRECTOR/PRODUCER

(Selected Highlights)

- 2016 ***Reproductive Freedom Festival, NY***
MOJOAA Performing Arts Company, NC
Monologue, *On the Brink of Middle Age*, presented in these festivals.
- 2014 ***Manhattan Repertory Theatre, NY***
Performed her solo play, *Bridge to Baraka*, in their Summerfest 2014 festival.
- 2013 ***STOP GUN VIOLENCE NOW Theatre Festival, NY***
Performed her short-subject solo play, *The Pioneers of the Modern Gun Rights Movement* in this festival held at the WorkShop Theatre.
- 2013 ***National Black Theatre Festival, NC***
Performed her solo play, *Bridge to Baraka* in this festival showcasing the best of Black Theatre from around the country.
- 2013 ***St. Francis College, Maroney Theater, NY***
Performed her solo play, *Bridge to Baraka* for student body.
- 2013 ***Gun Control Theatre Action, New Dramatists, NY***
Participated in a Gun Control Theatre Action featuring plays from *24 Plays on Gun Control*; read her play, *Bridge to Baraka: The Pen Instead of the Gun*.
- 2013 ***Los Angeles Women's Theatre Festival, CA***
Performed her solo play, *Bridge to Baraka* (30 minute version).
- 2013 ***Midwinter Madness Short Play Festival, NY***

- Performed her solo play, *Bridge to Baraka*, in a limited run (30 minute version).
- 2012 ***The Davenport Ten Minute Play Contest, NY***
 Wrote and performed in this two-character piece, *I Think I Would Remember If I Had Sex With Denzel Washington* which was a finalist in this writing contest.
- 2012 ***All For One Festival***
 Was identified as an “up-and-coming solo artist” and selected to present 10 minutes of her solo work, *Bridge to Baraka*, in AFO’s festival “Salon.”
- 2012 ***Planet Connections Theatre Festivity, NY***
 Performed in her solo show, *Bridge to Baraka*.
- 2012 ***Manhattan Repertory Theatre, NY***
 Performed *Bridge to Baraka* which was presented in their Winter One-Act Play Competition.
- 2011 ***Tribeca Performing Arts Center Writers in Performance, NY***
 Performed 10 minute excerpt of one woman-show, *Bridge to Baraka*.
- 2011 ***Planet Connections Theatre Festivity, NY***
 Wrote and directed *White House Wives: Operation Lysistrata!* which won the award for “Outstanding Book, Music & Lyrics or Play with Music.”
- 2011 ***National Black HIV/STD Theatre Initiative***
 Launched this annual theatre initiative which enlists playwrights and theatre artists in the fight against relentless HIV infection rates in cities nationwide.
- 2010 ***Uptown/Downtown: Works In Progress***
 Wrote and performed one-woman show, *Yvette X: Bridge to Baraka*, in this performance art workshop program presented by Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, The Field and Harlem Arts Alliance.
- 2010 ***Girl Play: The Second Annual Lesbian Play Reading Festival***
 Wrote ten-Minute Play, *A Better Wife*, which was selected.
- 2010 ***John Chatterton’s Short Play Lab, NY***
 Wrote and directed the Ten-Minute Play, *The Valentine*.
- 2010 ***Where Eagles Dare Short Play Lab, NY***
 Wrote and directed the Ten-Minute Play, *A Better Wife*.
- 2009 ***Billie Holiday Theatre, NY***
 Wrote and directed the multiple AUDELCO Recognition Award for Excellence in Black Theatre winning full-length play with music, *What Would Jesus Do?*
- 2009 ***Awassa Children’s Center*** Awassa, Ethiopia
 Wrote a children’s play based on an Ethiopian folktale, *Fire in the Mountain*, which was performed by children studying English at this orphan care facility.
- 2009 ***Hippias Colonus Theatre*** Athens, Greece
 Assistant to the Director, Susan Einhorn, in the world premiere of *The Rest of Oedipus*, words and music by Robert Montgomery, produced by Queens College and University of Indianapolis Athens Campus.

- 2008 **Tribeca Performing Arts Center Writers in Performance, NY**
Wrote and performed original poetry.
- 2008 **Midtown International Theatre Festival, NY**
Wrote and directed the one-act play, *Hillary and Monica: The Winter of Her Discontent*.
- 2007 **National Black Theatre Festival, NC**
Wrote and directed three plays which were presented main stage in this national festival featuring the best of black theater from around the country: *What Would Jesus Do?* (2007), *Hillary and Monica: The Winter of Her Discontent* (2003) and *Autobiography of A Homegirl* (2001).
- 2007 **Gloucester Stage Company, MA**
Directed the play, *Hillary and Monica: The Winter of Her Discontent*.
- 2006 **Artz, Rootz and Rhythm Festival, NY**
Monologue. On the Brink of Middle Age, presented in Harlem Arts Alliance's annual festival.
- 2006 **Hollywood Court Theatre, LA**
Wrote and directed the play, *What Would Jesus Do?*, which was presented by Twinbiz for World AIDS Day 2006 in recognition of 25 years of HIV and AIDS in America.
- 1996 **Hollywood Court Theatre, LA**
Wrote and directed *Homegirl*.
- 1990 **Frank Silvera Writer's Workshop**
Wrote *Father's Day* which was subsequently produced by FSWW.
- 1988 **Twinbiz™**
Founded and is co-partner in Twinbiz, producing original works for stage, television and film which educate, entertain and serve.

AWARDS and NOMINATIONS

- 2013 **The Writer's Well Retreat**, Georgia
Pending trip to this women writer's retreat in Sharpsburg.
- 2011 **Hedgebrook**, Washington
Selected for alumna return-stay at this women writers colony on Whidbey Island.
- 2011 **Emerging Producer Award, National Black Theatre Festival**
Received this inaugural award from the National Black Theatre Festival along with producing partner, Yvonne Farrow.
- 2011 **Outstanding Book, Lyrics, Music or Play With Music Award**
Wrote and directed *White House Wives: Operation Lysistrata!*, a multiple-award nominated play with music presented in Planet Connections Theatre Festivity.
- 2011 **Resolution, City of Los Angeles**

- To commemorate the launch of their National Black HIV/AIDS Theatre Initiative, Twinbiz was honored with a Resolution, recommended by Councilmember Bernard C. Parks and signed by all 15 District Council members.
- 2010 **AUDELCO's August Wilson Playwright Award**
Winner of this AUDELCO Recognition Award for Excellence in Black Theatre for *What Would Jesus Do?*; the play also won six other awards including "Dramatic Production of the Year."
- 2008 **Hedgebrook**, Washington
Selected for residency at this women writers colony on Whidbey Island.
- 2007 **Strawberry One-Act Festival**
Nominated "Best Director" for *Coming Clean* by Steven Shapiro.
- 1996 **NAACP Annual Theatre Awards**
Nominated "Best Playwright" for *Autobiography of A Homegirl*.

GRANTS

- 2013 **Harlem Community Arts Fund**
Awarded a grant to write a new play about children and gun violence in Harlem.
- 2012 **Lower Manhattan Cultural Council**
Manhattan Community Arts Fund grant to produce *A Seat at the Table*; an evening of concert readings of ten-minute plays and excerpts, penned by women dramatists of color. This event was created in response to the lack of production opportunities nationally for women in theatre and women of color in particular.
- 2008 **Urban Arts Initiative**
Buddy Fund for Justice through the Rockefeller Philanthropic Advisors.
- 2006 **Regional Resource Network**
Capacity-Building Mini-Grant to present *What Would Jesus Do?: HIV/AIDS and Our Seniors* for Harlem Congregations for Community Improvement.
- 2005 **Riverside Mission and Social Justice Commission of the Riverside Church in the City of New York**
Riverside Sharing Fund grant to assist in producing *What Would Jesus Do?*
- 2005 **Lower Manhattan Cultural Council**
Fund for Creative Communities grant to present *What Would Jesus Do?* in partnership with Harlem Congregations for Community Improvement, a community based organization.
- 2003 **Harlem Arts Alliance/ Rockefeller Foundation Re-grant**
Re-grant to support work as an artist in the Harlem community.
- 2003 **New York State Council on the Arts**
Individual Artist Program grant to write *What Would Jesus Do?*, a play about HIV/AIDS. National Black Theatre was the umbrella organization.
- 1996 **Department of Cultural Affairs, City of Los Angeles**

Grant to produce *Autobiography of A Homegirl* at the Hollywood Court Theatre which was presented by Twinbiz, Heyliger's production company.

1994 ***Lower Manhattan Cultural Council***

Manhattan Community Arts Fund grant to produce *Autobiography of A Homegirl* as part of New Heritage Theatre Group's 1995 "Voices of Griots" Roger Furman Reading Series.

1990 ***New York State Council on the Arts***

Individual Artist Program grant to write *Father's Day*, a play about childhood sexual abuse; Frank Silvera Writers Workshop was the umbrella organization.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

(past and present)

•Dramatists Guild •Broadway League •Stage Directors and Choreographers Society
•Actors Equity Association •Screen Actors Guild–American Federation of Television and Radio Artists •League of Professional Theatre Women •Harlem Arts Alliance •Theatre Resources Unlimited •AUDELCO •Black Filmmaker Foundation

COMMUNITY SERVICE

(past and present)

Organizing for Action National Lead, Fulfilling the Promise
Organizing for Action Co-New York State Lead, Fulfilling the Promise
Senior Fellow, Organizing for Action
Fellow, Obama for America
Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America
Playwrights' Council, indieheaternow.com
Americans for the Arts Action Fund
All for One, Associate Board Member
Hedgebrook/Lark Advocacy Committee for Women Dramatists
National Black HIV/STD Theatre Initiative
Women's Initiative (made up of members of the Dramatists Guild)
50/50 in 2020
Hedgebrook Alumnae Leadership Council
Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) at Actors Equity Association

REFERENCES

Marci Goodman, Queens College
Martha Richards, WomenArts
Beth Turner, *Black Masks*
Cynthia Cooper, Author
Patricia Schwadron, Actors Fund of America
Michael Dinwiddie, New York University
Von Washington, Western Michigan University and Kalamazoo College
Dr. Vanita Vactor, North Carolina A & T State University
Marshall Jones III, Rutgers University