



Khadijah Z. Ali-Coleman, Ed.D. is a cultural curator, community organizer, nationally recognized speaker, and writer based in Fort Washington, MD. She has had more than a dozen of her plays presented publicly in venues throughout the country, including the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Theater Alliance, and Baltimore Theater Project. She has served as a poetry host for Busboys & Poets (2015-2018) and as an independent artist, curated over 100 events from 2008-2023

showcasing her own talents as a multidisciplinary artist and the works of those in the community. Dr. Ali-Coleman's highlighted accomplishments include serving as a Theater Alliance Quadrant Playwright from 2019-2021, a 2019 Fulbright-Hays scholar, a 2015 Maryland State Arts Council Independent Artist awardee and a 2012 Prince George's County Social Innovation Fund Forty Under 40 awardee. She is host of the podcast, *The Black Writer's Studio* and has had been featured in The Washington Post, The AFRO, DC Theatre Scene, WomanArts and more.

Dr. Ali-Coleman is author of the children's book *Mariah's Maracas* and co-editor of the book *Homeschooling Black Children in the US: Theory, Practice and Popular Culture*. She is founder of the multidisciplinary arts company Liberated Muse Arts Group and co-founder of the education research group Black Family Homeschool Educators and Scholars (BFHES). Her poetry is featured in the first and second volumes of the anthology series *The Fire Inside: Collected Stories and Poems from Zora's Den* and featured in over a dozen recordings and broadcast presentations. She has edited three volumes of poetry and short fiction for Liberated Muse, including *Volume I: How I Freed My Soul*, *Volume II: Betrayal Wears a Pretty Face* and *Volume III: Creases Expelled from the Fold*.

Dr. Ali-Coleman holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Interdisciplinary Studies (African American Studies and Mass Media) and a minor in Writing from the University of Maryland Baltimore, County; a Master of Arts degree in Mass Communication from Towson University and a doctorate in education from Morgan State University.

Engaging Performance Poet

For over 20 years, Dr. Ali-Coleman has engaged audiences as a performance poet. She has toured extensively as both an independent artist and as part of her performance group, Liberated Muse. She has performed her poetry throughout the Washington DC area and Baltimore, MD at venues and events including (a short list):

- [The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts](#) (2023, 2020, 2019)
- [STABLE Arts Gallery](#) (2021),
- [The Eubie Blake Center's Kwanzaa Extravaganza](#) (2021),
- [Baltimore City's Martin Luther King Day Celebration](#) (2021),
- [Montgomery County NAACP Act-So Virtual Event](#) (2020)
- Prince George's African American Museum & Cultural Center (2019-2020)
- Alice's Jazz & Cultural Society (2019)
- RL Hotel's Living Stage (2017-2019)
- [Alexandria Library](#) (2019)
- [The DC Poetry](#) Festival (2018),
- The Hurston/Wright Foundation's Legacy Awards (2018),
- Busboys and Poets (2015-2018 as poetry host)
- Prince George's County Memorial Library System
- Honfleur Gallery
- Anacostia Arts Center

Award-Winning College Professor

From 2011 until the COVID-19 global quarantine in 2020, Dr. Ali-Coleman served as teaching faculty, teaching Communication Studies and Fine and Performing Arts courses at area community colleges and universities, including the University of Maryland, Northern Virginia Community College, Prince George's Community College (PGCC), Community College of Baltimore County, Morgan State University and Montgomery College. She won numerous grant awards for her work as an instructor, including a 2015 Prince George's Community College Foundation Impact Grant which allowed her to implement the Mid-Atlantic Communication and Media Arts conference. This led to her later creating the brand [StudentMediaOnline.com](#). She served as the faculty advisor for PGCC's student literary magazine, Reflections from 2013-2016.

Teaching Artist, Curator & Scholar

Dr. Ali-Coleman served from 2019-2020 Scholar-in-Residence at Prince George's County African American Museum and Cultural Center (PGAAMCC) where she also served as a teaching artist. She curated and presented her family history and that of four other families through the multidisciplinary exhibit *Flying Towards Freedom* during her time at PGAAMCC.

As a teaching artist, she worked with students at Annapolis Road Academy Alternative High School. Annapolis Road Academy is one of two alternative academy programs in Prince George's County, MD with a primary focus on students in grades 9 through 10 who are experiencing behavioral and attendance concerns in the regular classroom setting. Dr. Ali-Coleman used a multi-disciplinary approach with the students, teaching the history of the Piscataway native people of Maryland and the Guinea people of Africa and their early

existence in Maryland during colonial times. Using the drum as a centerpiece for learning and arts creation, she led the children in activities centered on identity, culture and communication, executed through designing drums and crafting poetry later transformed into spoken word pieces. She also facilitated a tribal drum workshop for families in the museum during the Kwanzaa season.

Non-Profit Administrator

As an educator, she has created and led educational programs for over 20 years at numerous organizations. She currently serves as the Executive Director of The Hurston Wright Foundation. She previously served as the Director of Education and Community Engagement for Montgomery Community Media (MCM). At MCM, within 15 months, she coordinated the development of the organization's virtual media training curriculum, broadened grant-funded programs and led efforts to create and sustain community educational partnerships. Highlights include the development of the MCM Youth Media Academy and a media mentorship program serving seniors 55 years-old and older.

Creativity Coach

Dr. Ali-Coleman has helped dozens of writers complete their writing projects through services ranging from outline assistance, editing, character/story development, and publishing support to workshops and webinars on self-publishing and distribution. From 2012 to 2022, she helmed the brand the Creative Midwife, offering a bevy of creative and healing services and supports.

Writer, Performer, Community Organizer

Khadijah Z. Ali-Coleman has written over 200 poems, publishing or performing dozens in various ways. More than three dozen of her stage plays have been produced, workshopped, and/or directed on various stages since 2008. [Learn more here](#). As founding director of **Liberated Muse Arts Group**, she has organized more than 100 events featuring more than 500 performing, literary and visual artists. Some of the events she organized include multi-year events like **The Capital Hip Hop Soul Festival**, specialty cultural events like **Kwanzaa in August**, fundraisers like **To Haiti, With Love**, performance series' like **#theSPILL**, and **Creative Creatives Creating (C3)**, and a variety of virtual and in-person events that educate, inform and mobilize around issues. [Learn more here](#).