

CURRICULUM VITAE

CARMEN ESTELA KENNEDY SALEH

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EDUCATION

Educational Leadership, EdD

Fall 2026

San José State University, San Jose, CA

Dissertation: *Banned: Literacy, Literature, and a Legacy of Bay Area Black Bibliophiles*

Director: Maria Ledesma, PhD

Creative Writing, MFA

Fall 2021

San José State University, San Jose, CA

Concentration: Nonfiction and Fiction

Director: Selena Anderson, PhD

Advertising Art, BFA

Spring 1984

University of San Francisco (USFCA), San Francisco, CA

Academy of Art University, San Francisco, CA (USFCA cooperative degree program)

Concentration: Commercial Art

EXPERIENCE

Lecturer: African American Studies

2022-present

San José State University, San Jose, CA

African American Studies and the Humanities (AFAM 22)

- Design and teach courses involving literature, history, culture, and society centered in Pan-Africanism
- Lead students in a capstone project relevant to their discipline that demonstrates their grasp of key topics
- Advise and mentor students, and evaluate student work

Writing Workshop (AFAM 100W)

- Develop and nurture undergraduate research, literary criticism, and writing across the curriculum
- Help students cultivate a body of scholarly/creative work to purpose as professional portfolio content
- Participate in departmental and university events that advance my literary pedagogy and praxes

Teaching Assistant: Topics in Ethnic Literature (AFAM 165)

Spring 2019

San José State University, San Jose, CA

Professor: Theodora Berry, PhD

- Helped with smart-classroom technologies and copied/distributed classroom materials
- Facilitated discussions and worked with students in groups
- Provided students with praise and/or critical feedback
- Publicized and attended literary readings and events

Teaching Assistant: Introduction to Creative Writing (ENGL71)

Fall 2018

San Jose State University, San Jose, CA

Professor: Alan Soldofsky, MFA

- Cued lessons on the classroom's smartboard and projection equipment and shared Canvas functionalities
- Assisted the professor with researching and suggesting supplemental materials
- Facilitated group discussions and workshoped student literature
- Graded final portfolio submissions
- Attended literature readings and helped students formulate literary reviews

College Essay Instructor

Summer-Fall 2017

Flex College Prep, Cupertino, CA

- Acquainted students with college admissions, including the Common App and CSU portal
- Guided students to topics that best demonstrated their critical thought and an understanding of social justice

- Assisted students with the basics of writing a college essay (e.g., structuring narrative, finding that “Ah-ha!” moment, polishing an ending, cutting word count, and editing grammar and syntax)
- Taught students to multipurpose essays by reimagining them for scholarship and grant applications

Student Assistant: African American Studies Department

Fall 2016

San José State University, San Jose, CA

Professor: Ruth Wilson, PhD

- Assisted with events, scheduling, outreach, and advertising AFAM Studies Department courses
- Sought and acted on fundraising and donation channels for the department
- Established a donation ledger and thanked benefactors
- Secured locations for department sponsored events
- Photographed department events and reported on them and/or engaged Spartan Daily to do the same
- Planned e-strategies for outreach that included redesigning the department’s page, targeting social media, and establishing SJSU email

RELATED EXPERIENCE

Managing Editor: The Diasporic Peoples Writing Collective (DPWC)

2018-present

San José State University, San Jose, CA

Faculty Advisor: Keenan Norris, PhD

- Platform writers that have been historically sidelined in the literary arts and in institutional programming
- Create digital infrastructure, curate the organization’s online presence, and produce content
- Facilitate online writing workshops that inspire new articles and site content
- Generate membership that surpasses our zero to 300 metric met prior to the pandemic
- Source income opportunities for members who would like to work with our clients:
 - Grammarly
 - San José State University’s Center for Literary Arts
- Attract volunteer mentors and veteran literary artists to collaborate with nascent writers

Freelancer

2010-Present

San Jose, CA

Clients: Grammarly, San José State University, Saleh for CUHSD, Apple, Claris, Siemens, and more

- Storyteller, weaving tales of corporate heroes into adaptable copy and content
- Editor, providing e-search, critique, and courteous nit-picking for clients upon request
- Producer, collaborating with fellow creatives to build projects that are on-point and on-budget
- Blog author, writing book reviews and interviews at simplyforgotten.blog

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE

Corporate Instructor: Siebel Systems

Created course materials and taught classes to end-users on the functionality of Siebel Software

Editor: Siemens Enterprise Communications

Edited Siemens' manual and course workbook: *Phonemail Data Collection Tool*

Course Developer: Anderson Soft-Teach

Produced courseware and briefed sales managers on the same

Training Specialist: Santa Clara County Office of Education

Trained teachers and staff on assorted software and technology

Professional Development Instructor: Lockheed Martin

Taught Mac and PC classes in the Professional Development Department

PUBLISHED WORK

A Love Letter (Nomadic Press, adopted by Black Lawrence Press 2023)

Spring 2023

Medical Apartheid, The Dark History of Medical Experimentation on Black Americans from Colonial Times to the Present (Themis Research Journal of Justice Studies and Forensic Science, Book Review, 2018)

Spring 2018

LITERARY RECOGNITION AND ART STEWARDSHIP

San Francisco Foundation (SFF) & Nomadic Press

Guest Judge, for the literary award in the category of fiction _____ **Spring 2023**

Lyrics & Dirges

Reading and discussion at Oakland's Pegasus Books _____ **Spring 2023**

Solas Award

Inshallah (Traveler's Tales: category of Culture & Ideas, 2018) _____ **Spring 2018**

James D. Phelan Literary Award, 1st Place

Diagnosing It _____ **Spring 2018**

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND ORIGINAL PRODUCTIONS

Unbanned: A Collective Response to the Political Action That's Silencing Our Histories

San José State University, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library: a week of readings and discussions _____ **Fall 2023**

Trauma, Tresses, & Truth: Untangling Our Hair Through Personal Narratives

San José State University, Hammer Theater, Black Box: literary reading and discussion _____ **Spring 2023**

DPWC features the 2021-22 Season of Poetry and Prose

San José State University, online, discussions with selected authors and poets from Nomadic Press _____ **Spring 2022**

Closing the Distance: Sheltering in Technologies

San José State University, Legacy of Poetry video feat. selected authors and poets from Nomadic Press _____ **Spring 2021**

Payday: The Legacy of Letter Writing in Black Activism

Stanford University, CESTA Conference _____ **Summer 2018**

Entrée to Writing for Creatives

The Acacia Conference and Journal _____ **Spring 2018**

ORGANIZATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

Association for Ethnic Studies (AES), lifetime member

The Diasporic Peoples Writing Collective (DPWC), managing editor

The Center for Literary Arts (CLA), supporter and collaborator

The San José State University Chapter of the National Society of Leadership and Success (NSLS), member

AfroUPRIS, Political Action Group, member