

candice iloh

Philadelphia, PA
414-241-7118
candiceiloh@gmail.com

EDUCATION

- 2017 Masters of Fine Arts (MFA) - Writing for Young People + Verse
Lesley University, Creative Writing Program
Advisors: Jason Reynolds, Tracey Baptiste, and Adrian Matejka
- 2010 Bachelor of Arts (BA) - Public Relations + Sociology
Howard University, School of Communications

ACADEMIC AND ARTISTIC POSITIONS

- MFA Faculty (Fiction), Stonecoast MFA, University of Southern Maine
March 2025 - May 2026
- Lecturer of Nontraditional Writing for Young Adults, University of Pennsylvania
August 2024 - May 2026
- YA Fiction Faculty/Instructor, Lambda Literary Summer Workshop
Summer 2023
- YA Fiction Faculty/Instructor, Tin House
Winter 2022
- Writer in Residence/Editor-in-Chief, Bronx Academy of Letters
2016-2019
- Workshop Facilitator, Teachers & Writers
2016-2018
- Youth Advocate, Parsons Scholars Program at The New School
2016-2018
- Writing Advocate & Curriculum Specialist, Harlem Children's Zone
2014-2016
- Workshop Facilitator and Interim Program Director, Voices Unbroken
2013-2014
- Program Coordinator and Development Coach, Playworks
2010-2011
- Workshop Facilitator, American Poetry Museum
2009-2013

OTHER POSITIONS

Facilitator & Associate Manager of Public Support, StoryCorps
2022 - 2024

Professional Development Specialist, Marquis Studios
2018 - 2020

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Subwoofer (Penguin Random House/DUTTON YA, *Forthcoming 2027*)

Glad UR O.K. (Penguin Random House/Dutton YA *Forthcoming 2027*)

Emeka: Eat Egusi! (Simon & Schuster/Atheneum Books 2026)

Salt the Water (Penguin Random House/DUTTON YA 2023)

*Printz Honor Book

Break This House (Penguin Random House/DUTTON YA 2022)

*Junior Library Guild Honor Book

Simon Takes a Stand: book two (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers 2022)

Simon B. Rhyming: book one (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers 2021)

Written under alias “Ellien Holi” in partnership with Dwayne Reed

Every Body Looking (Penguin Random House/DUTTON YA 2020)

*Printz Honor Book

*National Book Award Finalist

Essays, Poems, and Interviews

“What if it All Ends Tonight,” *Booklist* (2024)

“The Complex Grief of Losing a Mother You Already Mourned,” *Lithub* (2022)

“alleged.,” *Breakbeat Poets Vol. 2: Black Girl Magic Anthology* (Haymarket Press, 2018)

“And What.,” *The Only Thing That’s New is Us: Ulysses Reprint Anthology* (Montez Press, 2018)

“Sexual Assault Survivor,” *Really System* (2016)

“untitled. for them. for us.,” *No, Dear Magazine* (2016)

“And We Live Here. For Flint Michigan,” *A Quiet Courage* (2016)

“Black Women’s Safety at the Barbershop,” *Blavity* (2015)

“How the Words of Nikky Finney Help Get Us Through Breaking Up & Breaking Down,” *Lambda Literary* (2015)

“Beliefs,” *Lambda Literary* (2015)

AWARDS, HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND RESIDENCIES

- 2026 Bassini Apprenticeship Advisor, University of Pennsylvania
- 2025 Judge for Young People's Literature, National Book Award
- 2025 National Finals Judge, Poetry Out Loud
- 2025 Fellowship/Residency, Baldwin for the Arts
- 2025 Transformation Award, Leeway Foundation
- 2024 Honoree, Michael L. Printz Award, American Library Association
- 2023 Pew Fellow, Pew Center for Arts and Heritage
- 2022 Honoree, Junior Library Guild
- 2022 Bechtel Prize, Teachers & Writers Magazine
- 2021 Honoree, Michael L. Printz Award, American Library Association
- 2020 Finalist, The National Book Award, The National Book Foundation
- 2019 Kimbilio Fellow, Kimbilio for Black Fiction
- 2016 Writer-in-Residence, Rhode Island Writers Colony
- 2016 Fellow, The Home School, Lambda Literary
- 2013 Fellow, Voices of Our Nation Arts Foundation
- 2012 Art, Books, & Creativity Teacher Institute (Workshop)

LECTURES AND SPEAKING

- 2024 DeMarco Youth Literature Program Featured Speaker, Kelly Writers House, University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia, PA)
- 2023 Guest Speaker, Teen Library Day, Kutztown University (Kutztown, PA)
- 2023 Featured Author, Philly Pigeon (Philadelphia, PA)
- 2021 Guest Lecturer, Finnegan Thought Leadership Series, Lesley University (Boston, MA)
- 2012 Guest Speaker and Facilitator, Prince George's Community College (Largo, MD)
- 2012 Guest Speaker and Facilitator, Bowie State University (Bowie, MD)

PRESS (SELECTED)

The Republic Journal, **2024**

Publisher's Weekly, **2023**

Teen Vogue, **2020**

The New York Times, **2020**