

Jason Nicolas Vasser-Elong
Curriculum Vitae
jvasserelong@gmail.com / 314.327.0799

Recognized academic who examines the intersection of history, creative expression, and blends research to engage the next generation of scholars. Seasoned, interdisciplinary higher education professional with over ten years of collegiate experience as a faculty member, workshop developer and researcher, with expertise in community engagement, campus service, grant management, and mentoring.

Education

- 2021-2024 University of Missouri – St. Louis (UMSL)
 Ed.D., Higher Education – Educational Practice, KΔΠ
 Dissertation title: STEMInism: Analyzing Factors that Improve the Retention of Women in STEM.
 Concentration: Student Retention and Matriculation
- 2012-2014 University of Missouri – St. Louis (UMSL)
 M.F.A., Creative Writing, ΣΤΔ
 Thesis: Shrimp: Poetry that Analyzes Identity in a post-colonial context.
 Concentration: African American Literature
- 2008-2012 University of Missouri – St. Louis (UMSL)
 B.A. Major: Cultural Anthropology, ΔΔ
 Capstone: Rhyme & Reason: Poetics as Societal Dialogue
 Concentration: African Diaspora Studies

Note: UMSL is located at 1 University Blvd. Normandy, MO. 63121

Research and Teaching Interests

Curriculum Development

Arts-based pedagogy
 Abolitionist pedagogy
 History

Student Retention

Women in STEM
 Student success
 Learning modality

Literacy Studies

Critical Discourse Analysis
 Poetic praxis
 Writing

Professional Development

Online Teaching Certification: Center for Teaching and Learning, UMSL
 Certificate in University Teaching: UMSL
 NCCJ – St. Louis: Certified Diversity Facili-Trainer
 Diversity Awareness Partnership: Diversity Training
 Regional Arts Commission: Community Arts Training Fellow
 The Center for Human Origin and Cultural Diversity-Internship
 Missouri Historical Society: America I AM: The African American Imprint – Internship

Competitive grants awarded

- 2026 Community Engagement Grant. American Anthropological Association Conference, St. Louis, MO. On the Verge. Awarded.
- 2023 The University of Missouri South African Education Program Award. Awarded.
Regional Arts Commission Artist Support Grant. Awarded.
- 2021 General Anthropology Division: Travel Award, American Anthropological Association. Awarded.

Awards

- 2025 Lee D. Baker Presidential Service Award, Association of Black Anthropologists.
- 2023 Focus on Teaching and Technology (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access Award) for Instruction. University of Missouri – St. Louis. Awarded.
- 2022 Best of Sapiens, ‘Maize and Okra’, Poetry.
- 2014 Margaret Bush Wilson Scholar, supervised by Dr. Pricilla Dowden – White. Dept. of History: University of Missouri – St. Louis.
- 2012 Distinguished Service Award: Dept. of Sociology, Anthropology & Languages.

Grant Funding & Development

- 2013-2025 Your Words STL: Developed funded programs
Board Member
Interim Executive Director
- 2016-2021 Midwest Artist Project Services: Community Support
Grant Funding Organization
Board Member
- 2012-2016 Missouri Arts Council: State arts funding organization
Community Arts Grants
Missouri Touring

Community Engagement

- 2026 Music at the Intersection Documentary
[Associate Writer and Researcher](#)
- Music at the Intersection
[Curator](#), Write On: Poetry at the Confluence
- 2026 Saint Louis Art Museum
[Contributor](#), Living With Art

- 2025 Saint Louis Art Museum
[Project Developer](#), Poetry for the People
- Music at the Intersection
The Shirley Bradley Price LeFlore Foundation
[Presenter](#), Poetry in Motion
- 2024 Saint Louis Art Museum
[Contributor](#), Art on the Move
- Diving With a Purpose
Monrovia, Liberia
[Delegate](#), The Search for the Guerrero
- 2022 Missouri Humanities Council
[Presenter](#), “Foodways to Culture”
- 2023 Diving With a Purpose
Biscayne National Park
[Creative Writing Director](#), The Search for the Guerrero
- Missouri Humanities Council.
[Presenter](#), “Routes and Routes”
- 2019 COCAedu Summer Institute: Professional Development
[Workshop facilitator](#). “Lets’ Write Read Analyze and Process”
- 2018 Gateway Writing Project: Professional Development
[Workshop facilitator](#). Piloted “Lets’ Write Read Analyze and Process”
- University-based symposia, panels, lectures**
- 2026 [Presenter](#). “Using APA in your essays”. African Roots and Heritage Foundation. African Studies and Globalization. University of Dschang. Dschang, Cameroon.
- 2025 [Presenter](#). “Cultural border Crossing: Reconciling Shared history” Belize Keeping Up with Language, Culture, Heritage, and the Arts (KULCHA) Symposium.
- [Presenter](#). American Anthropological Association’s Annual Meeting. Ghosts. “Identity at the Intersection: New Pathways Through Poetry”. Paper.
- [Panelist](#). American Anthropological Association’s Annual Meeting. Ghosts. (George Stocking Jr. Symposium) The New Negro @ 100: Anthropology and The Anthology That Catapulted a Movement.
- [Featured interview](#). American Anthropological Association’s Annual Meeting. Ghosts. What Walks with Us Daily: Dialoguing on Poetics as Ethnological Praxis. Interview.

Organizer. American Anthropological Association's Annual Meeting. Ghosts. Shadows: Addressing Our Past, Reconciling the Present within the African Diaspora.

Presenter. Music at the Intersection: Poetry Panel and Presentation.

- 2024 **Presenter and Panelist.** PROUD Oak Park Conference. Arts – Integration. Sponsored by Florissant Valley Community College.

Screening Session Panelist. BEAN: (Short Film Premier). A short story of the obstacles to a basic task faced by a normal teenager. St. Louis Central Library.

Co – Presenter. “Cultural Border Crossing: Developing a Sustainable Educational Curricula for the African Diaspora.” American Anthropological Association.

Group facilitator. Improving the Retention for Colored STEM Students. University of the Western Cape, Cape Town, South Africa.

Panelist. African Americans in History and the Arts, St. Louis Public Library.

Panelist. African Americans in History and the Arts. Black Faculty and Staff Association, University of Missouri – St. Louis.

- 2023 **Panelist and presenter.** The African in our American. African Roots and Heritage Foundation: Pan African Conference. The Department of African Literature and Civilizations. University of Yaoundé 1, Yaoundé, Cameroon.

Panelist and presenter. “Americanesque: Excerpts.” Poetry at the Point. Sponsored by the St. Louis Poetry Center.

Panelist. The Intersection of Art and Activism. African American History and the Arts. University of Missouri – St. Louis. Sponsored by the Black Faculty and Staff Association.

- 2021 **Paper presentation.** “Treading the Atlantic.” American Anthropological Association's Annual Meeting in Baltimore, Maryland.

- 2018 **Keynote Speaker.** Gateway Writing Project: Conference on Writing. Writing with Intention. The University of Missouri – St. Louis. Sponsored by the Gateway Writers Conference.

Presenter. Gateway Writing Project: Conference on Writing. How Arts Stimulate Student Learning. University of Missouri – St. Louis.

- 2017 **Panelist.** Black Speculative Art Movement Conference, Harris – Stowe State University. Sponsored by the Department of Humanities.

- Panelist.** MO Assoc. of Community Arts Agencies Conference, Columbia, Missouri.
- Panelist.** Diversity Conference, Stephens College, Columbia, Missouri.
- 2015 **Keynote Speaker.** “Honoring Maya Angelou, St. Louis Poetry Center Spring Benefit”. Sponsored by the St. Louis Poetry Center.
- 2014 **Presenter.** LEAP Kickoff: Getting Involved on Campus, University of Missouri – St. Louis.
- Keynote Speaker.** Epsilon Lambda Scholarship Foundation, Scholarship Banquet.
- Presenter.** Leadership Retreat: Fraternity and Sorority Life. University of Missouri – St. Louis.
- Keynote Speaker.** New Member Institute: Fraternity and Sorority Life, University of Missouri – St. Louis.
- 2013 **Presenter.** The University World View: Unity, Harmony, and Respect for Different Points of View, University of Missouri – St. Louis.
- Paper presentation.** “Rhyme and Reason: Poetics as Societal Dialogue”, Undergraduate Research Symposium. University of Missouri – St. Louis
- 2012 **Paper presentation.** “Rhyme and Reason: Poetics as Societal Dialogue”, Departmental Thesis Presentation.
- Presenter.** Applied Credit Program, University of Missouri – St. Louis.
- Presenter.** First Year Experience, University of Missouri – St. Louis.
- Group facilitator.** Imprint of Fatherhood: Missouri History Museum. America I AM: The African American Imprint Exhibit.
- 2011 **Presenter.** Shades of Brown: Office of Multicultural Relations, University of Missouri – St. Louis.
- 2010 **Co – presenter.** “Inspiring youth through The Center for Human Origin and Cultural Diversity”. American Anthropological Association’s Annual Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana. Co – presented with Dr. Jaqueline Lewis – Harris.
- 2009 **Presenter.** The Grey Area: Riverfront Radio.
- Poetry presentation.** The Last Poets: Opening Poetry Performance. UMSL
- 2008 **Presenter.** Celebrating a Culturally Rich Mosaic: St. Louis African Arts Festival.

Teaching experience (*Courses created)

Saint Louis University (SLU)

Patriotic Education. Saint Louis University: Trio/Upward Bound (In-person)

Educational Consultant

This interdisciplinary survey course explores the notion of patriotism in America from its founding in 1776 to the present day. From historical and literary perspectives, students will discover the relationships among ideas, text, and/or creative works and their cultural and historical contexts. By the end of this course, students will be able to critically assess the ideas, forces, and values that created modern American society.

The University of Missouri – St. Louis (UMSL)

Modern Africa: From Colonies to Nations. UMSL Department of History (Asynchronous)

Adjunct Professor

This course uses film, fiction, music, and historical sources to explore the history of twentieth century Africa, focusing on African experiences of the colonial and postcolonial periods. This course fulfills the Cultural Diversity Requirement.

From Civil Rights to Black Power: UMSL Department of History (In-person)

Adjunct Professor

This course highlights numerous activities, ideas, movement centers, and personalities central to the origins and development of the modern Civil Rights and Black Power movements. Primarily concerned with the roles of the African American masses, college students, and leadership in these movements, the course will analyze points of conflict, cooperation, and interaction as these took place between African Americans and the larger American society. This course presupposes some familiarity with the broad contours of recent United States history.

English Composition: UMSL Department of English (Asynchronous)

Adjunct Professor

This course focuses on writing and illiteracies in various contexts. Builds on intellectual maturity, knowledge, and abilities gained through prior university studies. Enhances analytical, communicative, persuasive, and explanatory capabilities. Includes complex readings and research.

African & African Diaspora Studies: UMSL Department of History (In-person)

Assistant Teaching Professor

I enhanced the existing curriculum for this CORE course, designed for students pursuing a certificate in African Diaspora Studies. This course introduces students to the diverse discipline of African & African American Studies (aka Africana Studies or Black Studies), the interdisciplinary field of study dedicated to exploring the history, politics, religions, culture, and social movements of Africans in America and throughout the diaspora.

Writing the City: UMSL Pierre Laclède Honors College (In-person)

Assistant Teaching Professor

I enhanced the existing curriculum of this junior level composition course by adding units on Cahokia Mounds and African American St. Louis History.

[Allies, Spies and Secret Friends*](#): UMSL Pierre Laclède Honors College (In-person)

Assistant Teaching Professor

This examined how allyship has shaped the lives of important figures throughout history over space and time. Who helped Phillis Wheatley publish her book and cement her legacy as the first African American woman to publish a collection of poetry? How did a printing press aid the abolitionist movement? Who were the Freedom Riders? Who were some of the secret friends behind the scenes? These, and other questions are addressed as we learn how members of the White community have laid their lives and livelihoods on the line for Black Americans.

[Rhyme & Reason: African American Poets in Dialogue with Notions of Slavery, Identity, & Existence*](#): UMSL Pierre Laclède Honors College (In-person)

Assistant Teaching Professor

This survey course examines African American poetic tradition from its beginnings in the 1700s to the present. This course explores, through poetry, the lived experiences of enslaved African Americans, whose works are read in dialogue with contemporary African American poets who write about issues relating to slavery. This survey course examines poetry from Phillis Wheatley, Jupiter Hammon, George Moses Horton and others who were enslaved, and their works are compared with contemporary writers such as Derek Wolcott, Rita Dove, Jericho Brown, and others. In addition to analytical essays, students will also write their own poetry centered in their lived experiences with identity and the complexities therein.

[Independent study](#): UMSL Pierre Laclède Honors College (Supervised Student Research)

Assistant Teaching Professor

Over the course of three years, I supervised student independent research and encouraged student participation in the Undergraduate Research Symposium.

[Independent study](#): UMSL Pierre Laclède Honors College Honors Portfolio Writing (Hybrid)

Assistant Teaching Professor

Over the course of three years, I supervised student professional development interview preparation, e-portfolio as well as resume development.

Harris-Stowe State University (HSSU) (Summer Bridge & Trio Academy)

[English Composition and Other ideas *](#)

Adjunct professor

This seminar style survey course is designed to offer high school students the rigor of the college classroom while also helping them understand the complexity and use of English as a mode of communication. Students can expect to learn how to craft an email to professors, develop their own writing process, understand the value of peer review, rhetoric, and the basic mechanics of grammar and citation methods.

[English Composition](#): HSSU Dept. of Humanities

Adjunct professor

Emphasizes the process of writing effectively for a variety of audiences and purposes.

[Advanced Composition:](#) HSSU Dept. of Humanities

Adjunct professor

Builds upon the skills developed in English Composition I and focuses primarily upon the process of writing with sources.

[American Literature Beginnings to 1865 I:](#) HSSU Dept. of Humanities

Adjunct professor

This survey course examines American literature from its pre-colonial beginnings through the Civil War.

[American Literature 1865 to the present II:](#) HSSU Dept. of Humanities

Adjunct professor

This survey course is designed to cover the texts of the major authors in American literature from 1865 until the present day.

[Introduction to Literature:](#) HSSU Dept. of Humanities

Adjunct professor

Involved reading and writing about literature from around the world with an emphasis on literary elements and reader responses.

[Modern English Grammar:](#) HSSU Dept. of Humanities

Adjunct professor

Employs a seminar setting with student recitation and problem solving and includes three moderate exams to assess students on knowledge of useful paradigms.

[Themes & Topics in British Literature:](#) HSSU Dept. of Humanities

Adjunct professor

In the course students examined important aspects of British literature.

[Harris-Stowe State University's Hornet Summer Bridge Program,](#)

Writing Instructor

Is a six-week residential experience that allows incoming first-year students to receive the tools necessary to have a successful transition from high school to college.

[Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies:](#) UMSL Women's & Gender Studies

Lecturer

This core class introduces students to cultural, political and historical issues that shape gender. Through a variety of disciplinary perspectives in the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences, the course familiarizes students with diverse female and male experiences and gendered power relationships.

[Introduction to Feminist and Gender Theory:](#) UMSL Women's & Gender Studies

Lecturer

This course serves as an initial intellectual investigation into gendered ideologies (such as the effects of race, ethnicity, nationality, socioeconomic class, sexuality, and religion) and functions as a bridge to later advanced gender theory and methods courses. Topics included

interdisciplinary feminist theories (with a focus on gender equality), including masculinity theory, queer theory, muted group theory, and other evolving frameworks.

Special Topics in Gender Studies: UMSL Women's & Gender Studies,

Lecturer

This course selectively surveyed the experiences of African Americans from the period of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade to the late twentieth century. Among the topics covered: the development of the slave trade and the institutionalization of slavery, slave culture and resistance, the role of African Americans during the Civil War and Reconstruction period.

University of Missouri St. Louis Bridge Program

Intensive Writing Instructor

Provides unique and comprehensive year-round pre-collegiate programming for St. Louis area high school students and parents.

Webster University

English Composition: Department of English

Adjunct professor

Emphasizes the process of writing effectively for a variety of audiences and purposes.

Advanced Composition: Department of English

Adjunct professor

Builds upon the skills developed in English Composition I and focuses primarily upon the process of writing with sources.

Programming experience

2026 *Co-Producer* Write On: Poetry at the Confluence, Music at the Intersection

In this role I moderated a roundtable discussion "How St Louis and East St Louis Changed American Arts and Culture through Poetry" and curated two poetry performances featuring local St. Louis writers and artists.

Programming Committee Chair Assoc. of Black Anthropologists Executive Board

In this role, I lead ABA members in the programming of events as they relate to our professional American Anthropological Association conference.

Local Organizing Committee member: American Anthropological Association

As a member of this committee, I strategize with other anthropologists as they develop programming in preparation for our annual conference that will take place in St. Louis.

2025 *Lead Teaching Artist:* Art on the Move: St. Louis Art Museum

As a teaching artist, I wrote ekphrastic poetry in response to [Home#30](#). In addition, I created and facilitated programming designed to uplift St. Louis residents affected by the tornados of May 16th, 2025.

Lead Teaching Artist: Saint Louis Artworks

As Interim Executive Director of Your Words STL, I worked in collaboration with Creative Reaction Lab and Saint Louis Artworks (SLAW) to develop an anthology of poetry for student apprentices at SLAW. I created and led creative writing workshops, edited the manuscript and prepared *Let me introduce Myself* for publication.

2024 *Lead Teaching Artist: Art with Us: Saint Louis Art Museum*

As a teaching artist for the Narrative Wisdom and African Arts exhibit at the Saint Louis Art Museum, I created interdisciplinary curricula, which included a series of art-based learning experiences for participating youth with [The Village](#).

2023 *Opportunity Scholars Program: University of Missouri-St. Louis*

As faculty liaison to the St. Louis Scholars, a cohort of students who are finalists for the OSP Scholarship, I developed professional development and social activities for students.

2023 *The Search for the Guerrero: [Diving With a Purpose](#)*

As Creative Writing Director, I developed a series of creative writing workshops and talking circles that related to the Slave Ship Guerrero for members of the DWP staff as well as the Youth Diving with a Purpose cohort of students.

Ekphrasis: Prison Performing Arts

Created creative writing workshops for participants of Prison Performing Arts. As a group, learners wrote poetry, workshopped their work and created visual art based on their poem.

2022 *Foodways to Culture: Missouri Humanities Council*

As a presenter, I developed and moderated a creative writing workshop centered on foodways and the impact that food has as part of our culture. Participants reflected and wrote poetry and short essays on how the food they grew up eating has impacted their lives as adults.

St. Louis Veterans Writers Workshop: Missouri Humanities Council.

As a presenter, I developed and moderated a writing workshop centered on processing trauma for Veterans. Participants reflected and wrote creatively about their experiences as veterans.

2021 *Diversity Awareness Partnership (DAP): Webster University.*

In collaboration with DAP, I created and facilitated a workshop as part of their “Give Respect, Give Respect” program. Participants included employees from the Saint Louis Zoo and the Missouri Botanical Gardens.

2021 *Presenter: Center of Creative Arts (COCAedu)*

After piloting *Let’s Write Read Analyze & Process*, I presented to high school teachers as part of the COCAedu professional development training.

Curriculum Development

2026 [Community Arts Training \(CAT\) Institute](#)

In service to the CAT Institute, I developed new and revised existing curricula. The CAT Institute became its own 501 (c3) organization in 2025. Prior to that it was part of the Regional Arts Commission's programming for artists, social workers, grassroots organizers and civic leaders.

[Patriotic Education](#) (Saint Louis University: Trio/Upward Bound)

This interdisciplinary survey course explores the notion of patriotism in America from its founding in 1776 to the present day. From historical and literary perspectives, students will discover the relationships among ideas, text, and/or creative works and their cultural and historical contexts. By the end of this course, students will be able to critically assess the ideas, forces, and values that created modern American society.

[From Civil Rights to Black Power](#) (UMSL: Department of History)

In service to the department of history at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, I elevated this course with content relevant to how The Arts have also contributed to the Civil Rights Movement. This course highlights numerous activities, ideas, movement centers, and personalities central to the origins and development of the modern Civil Rights and Black Power movements. Primarily concerned with the roles of the African American masses, college students, and leadership in these movements, the course will analyze points of conflict, cooperation, and interaction as these took place between African Americans and the larger American society. This course presupposes some familiarity with the broad contours of recent United States history.

[Modern Africa: From Colonies to Nations](#) (UMSL: Department of History)

In service to the department of history at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, I elevated this course by adding more to the 8-week syllabus, building out a 16-week course. This course uses film, fiction, music, and historical sources to explore the history of twentieth century Africa, focusing on African experiences of the colonial and postcolonial periods. This course fulfills the Cultural Diversity Requirement.

2025 [English Composition & other ideas](#) *(Harris-Stowe State University)

This seminar style survey course is designed to offer high school students the rigor of the college classroom while also helping them understand the complexity and use of English as a mode of communication.

2023 [Ujamaa](#) (Collective Work and Responsibility)

In collaboration with [Diving With a Purpose](#), I developed an arts-based learning curriculum to aid in participant learning experiences as they related to the Spanish Pirate Ship Guerrero.

2022 [Allies, Spies and Secret Friends](#)

It is often said that history belongs to the victors, but this course challenges that notion and examines how allyship has shaped the lives of important figures throughout history over space and time.

2021 [Rhyme and Reason: African American Poets in Dialogue with Notions of Slavery, Identity and Existence.](#)

This survey course examines African American poetic traditions from its beginnings in the 1700s to the present. This course explores, through poetry, the lived experiences of enslaved African Americans, whose works will be read in dialogue with contemporary African American poets who write about issues relating to slavery.

2020 [Let's Write, Read, Analyze & Process \(Let's W.R.A.P.\)](#)

My student-centered curriculum is designed to engage student inquiry. Using what students already know about subject matter, my model aids with self-efficacy as students learn new concepts and ideas.

[Current Research](#)

2026 *Anthropoetry: an arts-based approach to ethnography and lived experience*

My current research analyzes how ethnographers can use poetry as a methodology during fieldwork. It also examines, through poetry, the lived experiences of people throughout space and time.

[Past Research Projects](#)

2024 *The Guerrero Project Homeward Bound*

I participated in the joint effort of retelling the historic narrative of the Guerrero Slave shipwreck that occurred off the Florida Coast on December 19, 1827, carrying over 561 captive Africans to Cuba. Through a series of interviews, a symposium and filming in Liberia, West Africa from December 3-15, 2024, I gathered qualitative data from living descendants. My data will contribute to the development of my new course "Across the water".

Retaining Colored students at the University of the Western Cape

In March of 2024, as the recipient of University of Missouri South Africa Educators Fellowship, I collected qualitative data from students who identify as Colored in a post-Apartheid South Africa. The data will be used to compare how students in Cape Town, South Africa absolve lasting legacies of oppression while obtaining a college education.

2022 *Peacemaking in Children's Literature: UMSL*

With Dr. Rebecca Rogers and Luzkarime Calle-Díaz, we analyzed the discursive contours of peacemaking within families as represented in children's literature. We turned to the Jane Addams Children's Book Award (JACBA), which recognized literature that engaged children in thinking about peace and social justice. We analyzed the 2015-2021 collection of twenty-six award winning books for younger children.

Professional Positions

2026 – Present Instructor, Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville. Teaching appointments in the Dept of English & the John Martinson Honors Program.

2026 – 2026 Adjunct Faculty, Saint Louis University. Trio/Upward Bound Program.

2025 – Present Adjunct faculty, University of Missouri – St. Louis. Department of History.

2025-2026 Adjunct Faculty, University of Missouri – St. Louis. Department of English.

2022-2023 Interim Executive Director, Your Words STL.

2022 – 2025 Assistant Teaching Professor of English and African American Studies, Pierre Laclède Honors College, University of Missouri – St. Louis (UMSL). NTT.

2022-2022 Adjunct Faculty, Harris-Stowe State University. Summer Bridge Program.

2021 – 2021 12th Grade Cohort Manager, College Bound – St. Louis.

2020 – 2021 Museum Educator, Contemporary Art Museum.

2019 – 2021 Adjunct Faculty, Department of English, Webster University.

2014 – 2020 Adjunct Faculty, Department of Humanities, Harris – Stowe State University.

2012 – 2014 Graduate Assistant, Student Enrichment & Achievement. Women's and Gender Studies. UMSL.

2012 – 2014 Coordinator, The Writers in the Schools Program, UMSL.

2012 – 2016 Program Specialist, Missouri Arts Council. Grant Management.

2008 – 2012 Teaching Assistant, Center for Human Origin and Cultural Diversity, UMSL.

Other Professional Positions

2026 *Associate Writer & Researcher.* Music at the Intersection.

2025 *Interim Executive Director.* Your Words STL.

2024 – 2024 *Teaching Artist,* Saint Louis Art Museum. *Art With Us.* Created art-based pedagogy and facilitated workshops for youth in connection with Narrative Wisdom: An African Arts Exhibit.

Creative Writing Director, [Diving With a Purpose](#). Featured in “The Search” for the [Guerrero Documentary – BBC](#).

- 2023 – Pres. Owner, [JNVE Consulting](#) – an Educational Consulting Firm.
- 2022 – 2023 [Poet – in – Residence](#), Sapiens – Anthropology Magazine: An editorially independent anthropology magazine of the Wenner-Gren Foundation & University of Chicago Press.
- 2021 – Pres. Executive Board Member, [Association of Black Anthropologists](#). Programming Committee. American Anthropological Association section group.

Books

- 2026 *Flowers in the Valley* (In-progress). Poetry.
- 2026 *Lavender* (Peer – reviewed manuscript in progress). Anthropology.
- 2022 Noodin, M., Weeber C., Vasser-Elong, J. [Indigenizing What it Means to Be Human](#). Sapiens.
- 2020 Vasser-Elong, J. (Ed.). (2020). *Bamileke Traditions and Globalization*. Chapitre.com
- 2018 Vasser-Elong, J. (2018). *Shrimp*. 2Leaf Press.

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles and Book Review

- Vasser-Elong, J. (2025). Arts – based Pedagogy: More than a Creative Approach to Teaching. *Abolitionist Pedagogy Series*. [Link to article](#).
- Rogers, R., Calle-Díaz, L., Vasser-Elong, J., & Pacheco, S. (2023). Peacemaking in Children’s Literature. *Journal of Children’s Literature*, 49(1), 10–29.
- Rogers, R., Calle-Díaz, L., Vasser-Elong, J. (2023). Family literacies as peacemaking. *Journal of Early Childhood Education*, 1-26. [Link to article](#).
- Vasser-Elong, J. (2022). Transitions. *Canadian Journal for Netherlandic Studies*, 41(2), 123–123. [Link to poem](#).
- Vasser-Elong, J. (2016). Perfect Water. *Canadian Journal for Netherlandic Studies*, 37(2), 7–20. [Link to Essay](#).
- Vasser-Elong, J. (2016). Treading the Atlantic. *Canadian Journal for Netherlandic Studies*, 37(2), 7–20. [Link to the essay](#).

Invited Book Review

- Vasser-Elong, J. (2022) *Black man in the Netherlands: An Afro-Antillean anthropology*, Francois Guadeloupe. *Canadian Journal for Netherlandic Studies*, 42 (1), 261-266. [Link to the review](#).

Publicly engaged scholarship

Vasser-Elong, J. (2025). Art on the Move: Pocket Poetry for the Community. [Poetry]. In connection with [Home #30](#) by Al Loving. Saint Louis Art Museum.

Rogers, R., Tharian, A., and Vasser-Elong, J. (2024). *A Visual Journey through the Research and Art of Peacemaking Literacies*. [Paintings]. *Celebrating the Arts 2024*, Honors College, University of Missouri-St. Louis, St. Louis, MO. United States.

Vasser-Elong, J. (2024). *Selected Works*. [Poetry]. *Ferguson and Beyond: Artistic Responses to a Decade of Social Upheaval*. Webster University's Cecille R. Hunt Gallery. Webster Groves, MO. United States. <https://www.webster.edu/art/hunt-gallery.php> Curated by Terri Reilly.

Vasser-Elong, J. (2024). *Excerpts from Lavender*. [Poetry] *Turn Upon Them Reveal to Heal: An artistic expression of injustice, healing, and communal outreach*. Gallery 210, University of Missouri – St. Louis. Curated by Allena Brazier.

Vasser-Elong, Jason. 2024. *Dear Brother* [Mixed Media Painting on Canvas]. *Terang' ART II: A Celebration of Art and Hospitality*. The Griot Museum of Black History. Curated by Lois Conley and sponsored in part by Mary Strauss.

Vasser-Elong, Jason. 2021. *Farewell* [Watercolor on Canvas]. *Listen, Look: A Reconciliatory Journey through Black Grief and Joy*. The Griot Museum of Black History, St. Louis, MO, United States.

Vasser-Elong, Jason. 2018. *They Hurt* [Poetry on found object]. *Impact HIV/AIDS Initiative*. The Griot Museum of Black History, St. Louis, MO, United States.

Vasser, Jason. 2018. *Global Cultures* [Juror: Exhibition]. Manchester Arts Center, Manchester MO.

Vasser, Jason. 2016. *Context II* [Juror: Exhibition]. Foundry Art Centre, St. Charles, MO. <https://foundryartcentre.org/context-ii>

Notable publications of essays and poetry

Non-Peer Reviewed Essays and poems

Vasser-Elong, Jason. 2025. "White Noise." *Anthropology News* website, May 27, 2025.

Vasser-Elong, Jason. 2024. "I saw Mike Brown at the library". *St. Louis Post Dispatch*, August 4, 2024. pp. B1–B6.

Vasser-Elong, Jason. 2022. "St. Louis Sound: Then and Now". *St. Louis Symphony Orchestra*. February 1, 2022 <https://slso.org/st-louis-sound-then-and-now/>

- Vasser-Elong, Jason. 2021. Red Brick. *New Square: SANCHO PANZA LITERARY SOCIETY*, 4(1). <https://www.sanchopanzalit.com/post/red-brick>
- Vasser-Elong, Jason. 2020. "From Kente cloth to shrimp: symbols can tell powerful stories". *St. Louis Post Dispatch*. June 12, 2020.
- Vasser-Elong, Jason. 2020. Where the 'Shrimp' story begins. *St. Louis American*. June, 17, 2020.
- Vasser-Elong, Jason N. 2019. "The accident", "Delmar Loop Pantoum", "City", and "An ode to Imo's." *The St. Louis Anthology*.
- Vasser-Elong, Jason. 2018. *Shrimp*. 2Leaf Press. February 1, 2018.
- Vasser, Jason N. 2017. "If/Then". *Black Lives Have Always Mattered*, 73–73.
- Vasser, Jason N. 2017. "Foster", "June Bug in the Alley". *Crossing the Divide: From the Poets of St. Louis*, 116–117.
- Vasser, Jason N. 2014. "Sons of Singleton". *The Sphinx Magazine*, 99(2), 41–41.

Software

- Articulate Storyline 360 (Learning)
- Canvas (Advanced)
- Blackboard (Advanced)
- Office 365 (Advanced)
- Google Suite (Advanced)

Invited Lectures, Presentations and Workshops

- 2026 *Guest faculty and workshop moderator. [Poetry in the Woods](#). "Advice and Affirmations."*
- Creative Writing Workshop Moderator. "Talented Teenagers". Every Child's Hope.*
- Creative Writing Workshop Moderator. "Poems on positivity". Hope Creates.*
- Creative Writing Workshop Moderator. "Villanelles for Vikings". Parkway North High School.*
- Creative Writing Workshop Moderator. "Poetry in Focus". Saint Louis University – Jesuit Worldwide Learning.*
- Creative Writing Workshop Moderator. "Craft & Culture: Illustrating Ideas". Diving With a Purpose.*
- Seminar. Healthy Relationships Series "The form and function of healthy relationships. Devine Daughters at the Haven of Grace.*

- 2025 *Workshop moderator.* [Sunday Workshop](#), St. Louis Poetry Center. Drawing Solutions: Creative Pathways Through Poetry – revision workshop.
- Workshop and panelist.* [Poetry in the Woods](#).
- Featured interview.* Verse and Voice: The Podcast.
- Presenter.* The Shirley Bradley LeFlore Foundation PRESENTS: POETRY IN MOTION: STL POETS TAKE THE MIC. 2025! Three Days. One Mic. Limitless Voices.
- Co-Presenter.* “Anthropology and the Black Experience” Dakar, Senegal. May 14-18. Paper presentation.
- 2024 *Guest Faculty* for English 3030 – 01. Webster University, Department of English. Dr. Elizabeth Hoover. Poetry Workshop.
- Workshop moderator.* [Sunday Workshop](#), St. Louis Poetry Center. Poetry Workshop.
- Guest Faculty* for [Poetry in the Woods](#). Weekend long writer’s retreat, sponsored by Washington University in St. Louis.
- Presenter.* “Education as a metaphor for freedom.” The State of Black UMSL. University of Missouri – St. Louis (UMSL). Arts –based learning presentation.
- Presenter.* “Not just pretty words”. Tennessee Aquatic Project. Creative Writing Workshop, sponsored by the Tennessee Aquatic Project.
- Presenter.* 100 thousand Poets and Musicians for Change. Poetry presentation.
- Presenter and panelist.* “Americanesque: Excerpts”. Ferguson and Beyond: Artists and Poets Speak Out. Sponsored by Webster University.
- Presenter.* “Phillis Wheatley and the Pursuit of Freedom”. City College of San Francisco. Guest lecture, sponsored by the City College of San Francisco.
- 2023 *Presenter.* “Rhyme & Reason: Form and Practice”. Dr. Jerome Morris Lecture Series. Sponsored by the Black Faculty and Staff Association at UMSL.
- Workshop presenter.* “Ujamaa: Collective Work and Responsibility”. Diving With a Purpose. Programming for “The Search” for Guerrero. Biscayne National Park, Florida Keys. Sponsored by Diving With a Purpose.

Presenter and poetry performance. “Sankofa is a bird”.

Wenner – Gren/Transforming Anthropology Reception. American Anthropological Association’s Annual Meeting, Toronto, Canada. Sponsored by the Association of Black Anthropologists.

Presenter. “Routes and Routes”. Missouri Humanities Council. Sponsored by the Missouri Humanities Council.

Featured Poetry performance. “Re: Born Poetry and Open Mic.”

2022 *Presenter.* “Foodways to Culture”. Missouri Humanities Council.

Presenter. “Summer of the Word.” [Nerdacity Podcast](#). Featured. Online/YouTube.

Workshop facilitation. “St. Louis Veterans Writers Workshop”. Missouri Humanities Council.

Poetry presentation. Webster Groves Arts Commission.

Workshop facilitation. “Equity in the workplace”: Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner. Sponsored by Bryan Cave Leighton.

Poetry presentation. “High Noon Reading Series”. Kranzberg Arts Foundation. Sponsored by the Kranzberg Arts Foundation.

Workshop facilitation. “Writing for Liberation”. BJC. Writing Workshop. Sponsored by Barnes Jewish Christian Hospital.

Poetry presentation. “The Black Futurity Group presents a Humanities Week Event: Black Art!”. Sponsored by the University of Missouri – St. Louis.

2021 *Poetry presentation.* “Readings from *Shrimp*”. Open Door Reading Series: The Poetry Foundation. Sponsored by the Poetry Foundation.

Diversity Workshop. “Give Respect, Give Respect”. Diversity Awareness Partnership. Sponsored by Webster University.

Art commentary [“Black St. Louis Artists Explore Generations of Racial Trauma and How Joy Heals”](#), Henderson, A. NPR.

Poetry presentation. “Kuumba: Creativity”, University of Missouri – St. Louis.

2020 *Poetry presentation* “Readings from *Shrimp*”. Missouri Writer’s Series. Missouri State University. Sponsored by Missouri State University.

Workshop facilitation. “Let’s W.R.A.P.” Center of Creative Arts: Summer Institute for Educators. Sponsored by the Center of Creative Arts.

Poetry presentation. Writer in Residence: OneCity Stories. Sponsored by the University of Missouri – St. Louis.

2019 *Guest lecture.* “Baldwin and beyond”. Department of English, Washington University in St. Louis. Ron Austin. Writing workshop.

Poetry presentation. The Griot Museum of Black History & Culture.

Workshop facilitator. COCAedu Summer Institute. Sponsored by the Center of Creative Arts.

Presenter. One City Stories. University of Missouri – St. Louis

2018 *Guest lecture.* “What are you studying”. Department of Anthropology. Course: Ethnographic Field Methods. University of Missouri – St. Louis.

Guest lecture. “What is Anthropology”. Department of Anthropology. Course: Introduction to Cultural Anthropology. University of Missouri – St. Louis

Field experience

2026 Art With Us: St. Louis, MO.

Teaching Artist: Saint Louis Art Museum
Community Engagement

- I created an interactive writing exhibit for the community to use to write poetry and create visual art related to the concept of home.

2025 Art on the Move: St. Louis, MO.

Teaching Artist: Saint Louis Art Museum
Community Engagement

- Wrote ekphrastic poetry from Home #30 by Al Loving, and led teaching demonstrations in the community for residents impacted by the May 16th tornado. An art installation with their works will be on display Nov. 15.

2024 Guerrero Project Homeward Bound: Monrovia, Liberia

Researcher: Guerrero Project Homeward Bound
Data collection

- Co – developed a questionnaire with Dr. Deneia Y. Fairweather to gather data on the descendants of Guerrero; data will be used to develop a course.

Saint Louis Art Museum

Teaching Artist: Narrative Wisdom and African Arts
Curriculum Development and Workshop Facilitator

- Created interdisciplinary workshops for youth in The Village Mentoring Program and creative works related to Narrative Wisdom: And African Arts.
- 2023 ‘The Search’ for the Guerrero
Creative Writing Director: Diving With a Purpose
Curriculum Development
- Developed and presented workshops to students who conducted marine archaeology in Biscayne National Park, searching for the Guerrero.
- 2021-2022 Center of Creative Arts
Teaching Artist: COCAedu
- Presented a final draft of my learning model Let’s Write Read Analyze & Process with high school teachers.
 - Created curricula and piloted my educational learning model Let’s Write Read Analyze & Process with high school teachers.
- 2014 Writers in the Schools Program: University of Missouri – St. Louis
Coordinator: Department of English
- Served as the liaison for area high school English teachers who participated with graduate students who needed teaching experience.
- Women’s & Gender Studies: University of Missouri – St. Louis
Graduate Teaching Assistant with Dr. Sara Ebest
- Developed and expounded upon existing coursework for the Women’s & Gender Studies Department.
- 2010 Archeological Field School: University of Missouri – St. Louis
Student researcher with Dr. Patti Wright of the Department of Anthropology
- Surveyed and excavated for artifacts at the Daniel Boone Home and on Main Street in St. Charles, Missouri.
- Biological Anthropology: Human Variation
Teaching Assistant with Dr. Pamela Ashmore, (then) Chair of the Department of Anthropology. UMSL.
- Facilitated group discussion
 - Enhanced existing curricula
- Field Researcher with the Schmidt Arts Center
Researcher: Collected qualitative data and an artifact for the exhibit: “Objects, Stories and Places”.

Consulting: Workshop development and facilitation

2026	Consultant. Every Child's Hope. Workshop.
	Consultant. Hope Creates. Make Your M.A.R.C. Workshop
	Consultant. Community Arts Training Program .
	Consultant. Be the Change. Poetry and performance.
	Consultant. Saint Louis University. Trio/Upward Bound Program .
	Consultant. Board Development. Metro Theater Company .
	Consultant. Hope Creates. Make Your M.A.R.C. Workshop
	Consultant. Divine Daughters at the Haven of Grace. Workshop.
	Consultant. Saint Louis University. Jesuit Worldwide Learning .
	Consultant. Diving With a Purpose . Workshop.
2024 – 2025	Consultant. The Village on programming at The Saint Louis Art Museum. Workshop.
2023 – Present	JNVE Consulting – an Educational Consulting Firm, Owner.
	Consultant. Tennessee Aquatic Project to prepare students for travel blog writing. Workshop.
	Consultant. Diving With a Purpose on programming for “The Search” for the Guerrero, a Spanish slave ship that wrecked off the coast of Florida in 1827. Workshop.
2022	Consultant. Missouri Humanities Council on programming for their St. Louis Veterans Writers Workshop.
2021	Consultant. Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner for their Juneteenth celebration. Workshop.
	Consultant. Missouri Humanities Council on programming for Foodways to Culture. Workshop.

- 2020 Consultant. Center of Creative Arts for programming for their COCAedu Summer Institute. Programming.
- 2019 Consultant. Center of Creative Arts for programming for their COCAedu Summer Institute. Curriculum Development and Workshop.
- 2014 Consultant. The Foundry Arts Centre, St. Charles, Missouri on exhibit 'Context II'.
- 2008 – 2013 Consultant. Studio STL for programming for their:
- Confluence Academy, Creative Writing Workshop, 2013.
 - Pagedale Family Support Center, Superhero Power Book, 2012.
 - Wellston Book Project, *How My Life Has Been*, 2008.

Internships

- 2008 – 2012 Connecting Human Origin and Cultural Diversity (CHOCD), UM-St. Louis
The CHOCD, founded in fall 1995, was a joint venture between the Anthropology Department, the College of Education and the Maybuy Center (Archive of the African National Congress) at the University of the Western Cape, South Africa. Co-Presenter at American Anthropological Association's meeting, Nov. 2010.
- 2010 – 2011 Missouri History Museum, America I Am: The African American Imprint
Programming and Development, 2010-2011.
- Developed and facilitated the program The Imprint of Fatherhood, 2010.
Workshop Moderator.
- 2004 – 2006 Children's Defense Fund: Freedom School Educator
Site Coordinator: Reading enrichment
Site Assistant: Reading enrichment

Professional Development

- 2026 Online Teaching Certification: Center for Teaching and Learning, UMSL
- Teaching at UMSL and Setting Your Course Goals
 - Alignment of Course and Module Objectives
 - Building Instructional Materials
 - Assessments in Student-Centered Online Course Design
 - Creating Varied and Inclusive Modes of Engagement, Interaction
 - Assessment Through UM System-Supported Technologies
 - Peer Review and Feedback

- 2023 The Kranzberg Arts Foundation
Kranzberg High Low Artist in Residency Panelist
Selected by peers to participate in the Kranzberg Residency programs. As a panelist, I reviewed over 20 applications, met with my cohort of fellow reviewers, and sent recommendations to the board for approval.
- 2018 Gateway Writing Project Conference on Writing
How Arts Stimulate Student Learning
Arts integration emphasizes creativity and innovation, two skills consistently ranked as important for a 21st century workforce. In my session, participants considered how they might integrate the arts into their existing curricula. Beginning with curriculum crosswalks, participants were guided to explore natural areas of overlap between their curriculum and the arts.
- 2016 National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ – St. Louis)
Certified Diversity Facilitator
NCCJ promotes understanding and respect among all races, religions, and cultures through advocacy and educational programs that embrace diversity, self-awareness, and community-wide change.
- 2012 – 2014 Certificate in University Teaching (CUT) at UMSL
CUT offers the option of a formal course or workshops, conferences for professional development, feedback on teaching, and seminars.
- Unit 1: Teaching for Learning in the University
 - Unit 2: Preparing for University Teaching
 - Unit 3: Teaching with Technology
 - Unit 4: Teaching Practicum
 - Unit 5: Professional Development
- 2008 Regional Arts Commission (RAC)
RAC was founded in 1985 to promote, encourage, and foster the arts and cultural institutions in St. Louis City and County and to contribute to the economic development of the area through a strong presence of the arts.

Professional service

- 2026 (Peer review) "Paying It Forward: How Diversity Professionals Produce Racial and Gender Indebtedness." *Cultural Anthropology*. September 15th, 2026.
- (Peer review) Peer review committee: American Anthropological Association
In service to my colleagues in the field of anthropology, I serve on the Association of Black Anthropologists Peer Review Committee. In this role, I review abstracts in preparation for the forthcoming conference "On the Verge" taking place in St. Louis, MO November 18-22, 2026.

- (Community engagement) Local Organizing Committee
In service to my colleagues in the field of anthropology and the broader St. Louis Metropolitan area, I serve on the Local Organization Committee. In this role, I work with colleagues to plan cultural events for conference attending “On the Verge”, taking place in St. Louis, MO November 18-22, 2026.
- 2024-2026 (Student success) Chapter Advisor: Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Iota Pi Chapter. As chapter advisor, I work in collaboration with the District Director to aid in the programming and professional development of a college chapter.
- 2025 (Community engagement) Chair, Health and Wellness: Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. *Alpha Impact* District of Illinois Convention. As chair, I lead the Banned Book Drive and serve as the point of contact for our Health and Wellness series of activities that include a Mental Health Awareness panel, a Well-being and Life Skills panel, a Blood Drive & Health Fair, Looking Good/Feeling Good event, a Banned Book Drive and a 3K Wellness Walk.
- (Community engagement) Webster Groves Safe Streets Taskforce: is responsible for supporting the project team in planning community engagement and serving as a vital community sounding board for recommendations to the safety action plan. Furthermore, it functions as the leadership body that advocates for the adoption of the plan.
- (Community engagement) Webster Groves Historical Preservation Commission: The Historic Preservation Commission protects, enhances, and promotes historic districts, structures, and land in Webster Groves.
- 2024 (Community engagement) Poetry in the Woods, sponsored by Washington University in St. Louis, Guest faculty
- (Student success) Undergraduate Research Symposium, University of Missouri – St. Louis, Juror: Visual presentations.
- 2021 – 2024 (Student success) Student Conduct Committee: Pierre Laclède Honors College
Collaborated with colleagues to develop the Honors Code of Conduct
- 2023 (Campus engagement) Anti – Racists Educators Group, Committee
- (Peer review) Journal of Children’s Literature: Editorial Review Board
- (Student success) Undergraduate Research Symposium
Juror: Visual presentations

- 2021 – 2023 (Student success) Student Conduct Committee, UMSL
Convened with faculty and staff on appeal hearings pertaining to student conduct.
- 2021 – 2025 (Student success) Faculty Liaison, PLHC, UMSL
St. Louis Scholars the Saint Louis Scholars are finalists for the University of Missouri-St. Louis' Opportunity Scholars Program. This cohort of students represent students who are first generation and members of various socio-economically deprived groups. Through professional development and community service, students take part in various campus – wide and Pierre Laclède Honors College specific events.
- Provided professional development opportunities
 - Organized a food drive
 - Collaborated with the St. Louis Area Food Bank
 - Organized an Etiquette Luncheon
 - Organized a Volleyball De-stress event for students
- 2021 – 2024 (Student success) Academic Advising
Advised approximately 60 honors undergraduates each academic semester on course selections, pre-requisites, and offerings in-person, via Zoom, via telephone, via email, or other delivery formats as needed. In addition to registering advisees for courses, I monitored their academic progress and discussed their broader educational aspirations implanting a student-centered theory of advising.
- Conducted prospective student interviews; register admitted students
 - Referred students to a range of campus resources including tutoring centers, Career Services, and major-related student organizations
 - Served as liaison between students and advisors in Arts and Sciences as well as faculty advisors in students' home departments
 - Counseled students about potential career paths based on major and interests
- 2019 – 2025 (Community engagement) YourWords STL, Board of Directors
YourWords STL uses one-on-one tutoring, creative writing workshops to amplify the voices of St. Louis youth. I was an organizer/collaborator for their Louder Than a Bomb poetry event, 2017.
- 2017 –2021 (Community engagement) Midwest Artist Support Services: Board of Directors
MAPS offer free or low-cost resources for working artists in all disciplines— visual artists, musicians, creative writers, craft artists, theater and dance artists, filmmakers, and other originating artists— in the St. Louis region and beyond.

2010 - 2012 (Community engagement) Docent, Missouri Historical Society
America I AM: The African American Experience

1999 – Present (Community Engagement) Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. (ΑΦΑ). ΙΙΙ & ΔΕΑ
Chapters develops leaders, promotes brotherhood and academic excellence while
advocating for our communities.

- Health and Wellness Chair (District of Illinois Convention), 2025
- Iota Pi: Chapter Advisor, 2024 – 2026
- Executive Board; Assoc. Editor to the Sphinx (ΔΕΑ), 2023-2024
- Iota Pi 50th Anniversary: Service and Advocacy Chair, 2024

I supervised the following student research projects:

2025 Macallan Lay
“The Orchid of Mirrors”
Graduate: MFA Thesis

2024 Rae Miller, Junior Studio Art
“Art and Artificial Intelligence”
Undergraduate Research Symposium: Paper presentation, 2025
Lily Warden, Senior Communications
“The benefits of language labs” Capstone project

Frederick McCullough, Junior in Anthropology
“Reparations: Generational Perspectives”
Undergraduate Research Symposium: Paper Presentation

Dominique Bell, Senior in (Cultural) Anthropology
“African American Spiritual Practices”
Capstone Project

Shannon McCormick, Senior in Social Work
“Mental Health in K-12 Learning Environments”
Pilot with the Center of Creative Arts

2023 Jay Gaskin, Junior in the College of Communications
“Seeing Me: Influential Queer Black Men in Entertainment”
Undergraduate Research Symposium: Paper Presentation

Diamond Cannady, Senior in the College of Education
Data collection for course development “Allies, Spies, and Secret Friends”

Professional Association Memberships

2025 – Present	St. Louis Arts Chamber of Commerce
2024 – Present	St. Louis African Chamber of Commerce
2021 – Present	Association of Black Anthropologists (ABA)
2012 – Present	American Anthropological Association (AAA)
1999 – Present	Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.
2018 – 2024	Your Words STL, Board of Directors
2019 – 2023	Council on Anthropology and Education (CAE)
2014 – 2023	Association of Writers and Writing Programs (AWP)
2019 – 2022	Association of Africanist Anthropologists (AfAA)
2018 – 2021	Midwest Artist Project Services Board of Directors
2018 – 2020	Arts and Education Council's Young Friends, Board of Directors
2014 – 2020	St. Louis Poetry Center, Board of Directors

Media Appearances

- Vasser-Elong, J. (2026, March 15). *Half Order: A Remrod Original Documentary* [Documentary]. Poetry. Instagram post. St. Louis, MO. <https://www.remrod.com/film>
- Roberts, T., Gaye, A. Kushner, D., Vasser-Elong, J. (2024, October 9). *The Significance of the Guerrero* [Radio broadcast]. OKFM, Monrovia, Liberia. [Link to our interview on OKFM](#)
- Vasser-Elong, J. (2024, August 22). *Race: Listen. Learn. Live. - Voices of Ferguson* [Documentary]. YouTube. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gbj_Hx1uOF8
- Vasser-Elong, J. (2024, March 17). *BBC News: The Documentary – Diving With a Purpose* [Audio]. BBC News. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/w3ct6p3h>
- Christian, D. (Director). (2020, July 12). *Poetry in Motion: St. Louis Poets Take the Mic* [Documentary]. <https://artsci.washu.edu/events/poetry-motion-st-louis-poets-take-mic>
- Brown-Ward, D. (Director) (2017, July 1). *Never Been a Time* [Documentary]. 365 Degrees Productions. <https://www.365degreesproductions.com/never-been-a-time>

References upon request