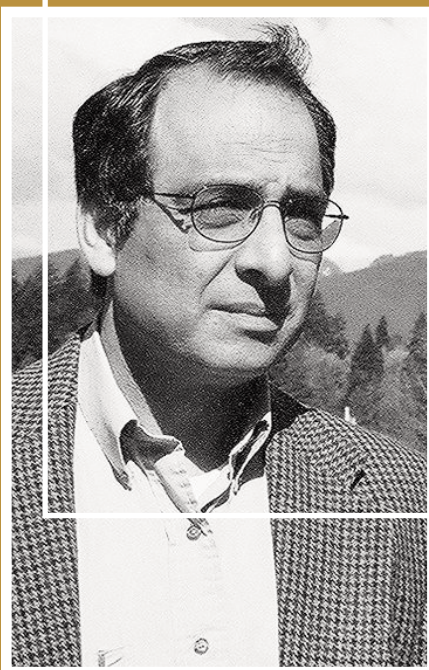


CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY'S

VISITING WRITERS

READING SERIES



Oct. 16 | 7 p.m.

Waqas Khwaja | poet

Waqas Khwaja, associate professor of English at Agnes Scott College, has a Ph.D. in Victorian Fiction from Emory University and L.L.B. from Punjab University, Lahore, Pakistan. He has published three collections of poetry, *No One Waits for the Train* (2007), *Six Geese from a Tomb at Medum* (1987) and *Mariam's Lament* (1992); a literary travelogue, *Writers and Landscapes* (1991); and two anthologies of Pakistani literature in translation. He was a practicing lawyer and visiting professor of law in Pakistan before he emigrated to the U.S. in 1994. He is currently working as translation editor on an anthology of Pakistani Poetry in English and is also co-editing (with Prof. Ghazala Hashmi) the forthcoming issue of *Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies on Pakistani Literature*.



Nov. 19 | 6 p.m.

Kodac Harrison | poet,
performance artist

Kodac Harrison is originally from Jackson, Ga. and received a BS from Georgia Tech and a MBA from Tulane. He has released 14 recordings of original songs, the last four of which contain spoken word. He has made seven tours of Europe, performed for President Jimmy Carter and for Andrew Young, performed at the 2004 Prague International Jazz Festival, and has introduced and sang with Patti Smith. In 2002, 2003, and 2004, Harrison was named "Atlanta's Best Spoken Word Artist" in *Creative Loafing*. Harrison has co-edited three anthologies of poetry and is chairman of Poetry Atlanta. He is a recipient of *Creative Loafing's* "Best of" award, a Pushcart Prize, and the "Taran Family Memorial Award" for outstanding achievement in support of poetry. He hosts the award winning Java Monkey Speaks.

Feb. 17 | 6 p.m.

Laurel Snyder | poet, novelist

Laurel Snyder is the author of two collections of poetry, *The Myth of the Simple Machines* (No Tell Books, 2007) and *Daphne & Jim: a choose-your-own-adventure-biography-in-verse* (Burnside Review Press, 2005). Laurel is also the author of a picture book, *Inside the Slidy Diner* (Tricycle, October, 2008) and a children's novel, *Up and Down the Scratchy Mountains OR The Search for a Suitable Princess* (Random House, August, 2008). A graduate of the Iowa Writers' Workshop and a former Michener-Engle Fellow, she is also a blogger and commentator for NPR's All Things Considered. She lives in Atlanta, and online at <http://laurelsnyder.com>.



Mar. 19 | 7 p.m.

Megan Volpert | poet



Megan A. Volpert is a performance poet from Chicago who holds an MFA in Creative Writing from Louisiana State University and currently teaches high school English. *the desense of nonsense* is her second full-length book of poems, forthcoming from BlazeVOX Books in 2009. She published two collections in 2007: *face blindness* and *domestic transmission*. Her other publications credits include *columbia poetry review*, *Exquisite Corpse* and *MiPOesias Magazine*. Volpert has been in competition at the National Poetry Slam, and is a board member of Poetry Atlanta Inc. She has been nominated twice for Georgia Authors of the Year in Poetry, as well as for a Pushcart Prize. Her work has a strong interest in the performative and is also influenced by second-generation New York School poetry.

Apr. 14 | 6 p.m.

Kevin Young | poet

Kevin Young is widely regarded as one of the leading poets of his generation, one who finds meaning and inspiration in African American music, particularly the blues, and in the bitter-sweet history of Black America. His newest book is *For the Confederate Dead*, published in January 2007. His earlier collection, *Black Maria: Poems Produced and Directed by Kevin Young* has been called "film noir in verse." Young's *Most Way Home* received the John C. Zacharis First Book Award of *Ploughshares* magazine and was a 1993 National Poetry Series winner. Young's poetry and essays have appeared in many publications. His awards include a Stegner Fellowship in Poetry at Stanford University, a Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship, and a MacDowell Colony Fellowship. He is currently a professor of poetry at Emory University.



All fall semester readings will be held in UC 272. Spring semester reading locations TBA; contact brigittebyrd@clayton.edu for details.

A Question & Answer session and book signing will follow each reading. Books will be available for purchase.

This series is free and open to the public.

Clayton State University
2000 Clayton State Boulevard
Morrow, GA 30260

<http://a-s.clayton.edu/langlit/>

Apr. 23 | 6 p.m.

CYGNET release party
and POETRY PALOOZA