

# RANA TAHIR

[Website](#) · [LinkedIn](#)

**Bio:** Rana Tahir is a poet, educator, and artist living in Portland, OR. For bookings, please contact her through her website.

## EDUCATION

**JUNE 2015**

**MASTER OF FINE ARTS IN WRITING, PACIFIC UNIVERSITY**

**Thesis:** *Old Tea: A Collection of Poems*

Narrative transcript available upon request.

**AUGUST 2013**

**CERTIFICATE IN PUBLISHING, UNIVERSITY OF DENVER**

Coursework followed the publishing industry from acquisitions, editing, and design to marketing and sales.

**JUNE 2013**

**BACHELOR OF ARTS IN CREATIVE WRITING & POLITICAL SCIENCE, KNOX COLLEGE**

**Honors Thesis:** *Bukhoor: A Collection of Poems & Paintings*

**GPA:** 3.67, Cum Laude

**Honors & Awards:** College Honors for Thesis, Richter Award, Pearl Harris Award, Hermann R. Muelder Prize, Alpha Delta Epsilon Scholarship, Reverend Pete Hosutt Scholarship, Pi Sigma Alpha, Mortar Board, Dean's List of Distinguished Students

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**AUGUST 2019 – PRESENT**

**SUBSTITUTE TEACHER, PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**AUGUST 2019 – JUNE 2022**

**ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, PACIFIC UNIVERSITY**

Taught undergraduate composition & research for six semesters. Student evaluations available upon request.

**AUGUST 2016 – AUGUST 2019**

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS TEACHER, HOMEDALE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Taught six sections of ELA with experience at secondary level adhering to state standards.

**SEPTEMBER 2010 – DECEMBER 2010**

**TEACHING ASSISTANT, KNOX COLLEGE**

Taught college level writing specifically targeting key areas such as outlining, the use of quotes and citation, and constructing thesis statements and introductory paragraphs.

## **OTHER EXPERIENCE**

**OCTOBER 2020 – OCTOBER 2022**

**TREASURER, OREGON POETRY ASSOCIATION**

Volunteered as part of the nonprofit board, completing a two-year term. Additionally served as events coordinator, webmaster, and other functions.

**AUGUST 2013 – MAY 2014**

**EDITORIAL INTERN, SMITHSONIAN BOOKS**

Assisted the editor and editorial assistant on tasks ranging from running acquisition meetings, to making edits, to organizing contract archives.

**JUNE 2012 – JUNE 2013**

**POETRY EDITOR, CATCH LITERARY MAGAZINE**

Solicited and read through submissions to the magazine and made selections for publication. Facilitated signing of publishing contracts.

**NOVEMBER 2012 – JUNE 2013**

**ASSISTANT, OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS, KNOX COLLEGE**

Assisted the Director of Communications at Knox College.

**AUGUST 2011 – NOVEMBER 2012**

**WRITER, PUBLIC RELATIONS, KNOX COLLEGE**

Wrote special interest stories and feature articles for the Knox College website.

**2009**

**BUSINESS WRITER/EDITOR FOR THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE, AL MANAR CLINIC**

Created and edited materials in the English language for the clinic and its website.

## **FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS**

### **FELLOWSHIPS**

- **Kundiman**, Fellow since 2019.  
Kundiman is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to nurturing generations of writers and readers of Asian American literature.

### **AWARDS**

- **Live Poets Society of New Jersey**, American High School Poetry Award, Second Place 2008
- **Fresh! Literary Magazine**, Short Story Award, Second Place 2008
- **Poet's Night Out**, Audience Favorite 2008

## MEMBERSHIPS

- **Radius of Arab American Writers, Inc**, member since 2021
- **Oregon Poetry Association**, member since 2015
- **American Academy of Poets**, member since 2015
- **Association for Writers & Writing Programs**, member since 2013

## PUBLICATIONS

### BOOKS

- **Choose Your Own Adventure Spies: Noor Inayat Khan**, ChooseCo LLC, 2020
- **Artists of the Harlem Renaissance: Countee Cullen**, Cavendish Square Press, 2016

### POETRY

#### Quarterly West

“Off the Knife” 2022

“Estate Sale: Reduction” 2022

#### Palette Poetry

“Belief” 2022

#### Poetry Online

“Highway 80” 2022

#### BAHR Magazine

“Surah for the Birds,” Issue 2, 2021

#### Print Oriented Bastards

“The Beings of Physics” 2011

#### Catch Literary Magazine

“To Yesenin,” Spring 2012

3 Poems from “Letters to Jim Harrison,” Spring 2011

“Prayers Under Blankets,” Fall 2010

#### The Interlochen Review

“Lullaby,” May 2009

#### Live Poets Society of New Jersey

“Letter to Jim Harrison 3,” 2008

### NONFICTION

#### Catch Literary Magazine

Excerpts from “God Songs,” Spring 2012

### FICTION

#### Fresh! Literary Magazine

“My Church,” 2008

**OTHER PUBLICATIONS****The Knox Student****Columnist for "World Politics Corner":**

*Last Thoughts: Finding Truth and Understanding*, May 22, 2013  
*Learning from the Tragedy at the Boston Marathon Bombing*, May 2, 2013  
*Marriage Inequality*, April 10, 2013  
*Immigration Reform: a personal experience*, February 20, 2013  
*Who is Kuwaiti?*, January 30, 2013  
*Can We Just Admit That Nobody Cares About Syria?*, January 16, 2013  
*Vice-Presidential Debates*, October 17, 2012  
*Dealing with Discrimination, Caste System in India*, October 3, 2012  
*A Muslim Student's Take on "Innocence of Muslims"*, September 20, 2012  
*When Good Men Do Nothing*, April 19, 2012  
*Questioning Western Terminology*, April 11, 2012  
*Keeping Western Hands Off Africa*, April 4, 2012  
*Love Around the World*, February 15, 2012  
*The Politics of Genocide Denial*, February 8, 2012  
*Nuclear Double Standards*, January 25, 2012  
*Iraq's Oily Problem*, January 11, 2012  
*Election Season Comes to Tunisia*, October 26, 2011  
*The Death of Anwar Al-Awlaki*, October 5, 2011  
*Pakistan's Problems*, September 28, 2011  
*Independent Palestine?*, September 22, 2011  
*Bin Laden*, May 5, 2011  
*Qur'an Burning*, April 21, 2011  
*Terrorist or Victim?*, April 7, 2011  
*Muslim Brotherhood*, February 17, 2011  
*Revolt in Egypt*, February 3, 2011  
*Weeding Out Disagreeables*, January 13, 2011  
*The Myth of Targeted Strikes*, October 28, 2010  
*You Are Either With US or We'll Sanction You*, May 26, 2010  
*Middle East Deportations?*, April 29, 2010  
*Islamophobia in Europe*, April 15, 2010

**Reporter:**

*Obamacare and the Partisan Summit*, March 4, 2010  
*Student-run Forum Addresses Assault*, March 4, 2010

**PRESENTATIONS, WORKSHOPS, READINGS, INTERVIEWS, CONFERENCES & RETREATS, AND PERFORMANCES****PRESENTATIONS**

- **Book Club Pick, Belmont Books**, Virtual, June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020
- **Choose Your Own Adventure BINGO!**, **LitCrawl Portland**, Portland, OR, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**WORKSHOPS**

- **How to Write a Scene**, **Garden Home Community Library**, Virtual, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020
- **Choose Your Own Adventure Workshop**, **Books With A Past**, Virtual, June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020
- **Choose Your Own Adventure Workshop**, **Read It Again Books**, Virtual, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020

- **Choose Your Own Adventure Workshop, Midtown Reader**, Virtual, May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020
- **Choose Your Own Adventure Workshop, Rediscovered Bookshop**, Virtual, May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020
- **Choose Your Own Adventure Workshop, The Frugal Frigate**, IGTV, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020
- **Choose Your Own Adventure Workshop, Book Revue**, Virtual, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020
- **Choose Your Own Adventure Workshop, Books Are Magic**, Virtual, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020

### **READINGS**

- **Poetry Night with Rana Tahir & Nicole Yackley, Read it Again Books**, Virtual, July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020
- **Choose Your Own Adventure Interactive Reading, The Frugal Frigate**, IGTV, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020
- **Thesis Reading**, Pacific University, June 2015
- **Student Readings**, Pacific University
- **Senior Night**, Knox College, 2013
- **Student Reading**, Interlochen Arts Academy, May 2009
- **Poet's Night Out**, Traverse City, MI, 2008

### **INTERVIEWS**

- **Wider Window Poetry featuring Rana Tahir, KBOO Portland**, Radio/Podcast, August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022
- **Interview with Rana Tahir, Yale University Radio**, Radio/Podcast, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021
- **Author Talk with Rana Tahir, Book Talk Bakersfield Episode 28**, Podcast, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020
- **Meet Rana Tahir, Gamebook Academy**, Article, July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020
- **Knox Senior's Honors Project Combines, Art, Poetry, War, Knox College**, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013

### **CONFERENCES & RETREATS**

- **Oregon Poetry Association Conference**, Virtual, October 2020, 2021, 2022
- **Kundiman Retreat**, New York, NY, June 2019
- **Association of Writers and Writing Programs Conference**, Portland, OR, March 2019

### **PERFORMANCES**

- **For colored girls who have considered suicide / when the rainbow is enuf**, Knox College, Spring 2011 — Role of Lady Orange
- **International Fair**, Knox College, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013  
Various skits, and belly dance performances.