



Cherita Harrell earned a Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing at Rutgers University-Camden and a Master of Science in Education at Walden University. She graduated summa cum laude from Rowan University, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts in Writing Arts and was the recipient of the Excellence in Writing Arts Award in 2013. She is a doctoral candidate at Walden University in the Ed.D. program for reading, literacy, and assessment. Her scholarly interests include literacy and assessment, critical race theory, and Black feminist theory. Her research explores the relationship between Black feminist theory and creative writing; specifically, how creative writing coursework rooted in Black feminist theory may help to improve the literacy development of students of color, as well as create spaces that allow for the exploration of students' lived experiences through forms of expression, such as oral stories, narratives, visual media, and other literary contributions.

Cherita Harrell is a 2016 VONA/Voices Fellow and was one of seven fellows awarded a Diversity Fellowship at the Community College of Philadelphia in 2018. In her spare time, she writes fiction, and her short stories have appeared in *Minetta Review*, *The Bleeding Lion*, and *Decades Review*.

As a fellow, she will work with the School of Arts and Humanities (ARHU) to develop a curriculum-based project. For the 2019-2020 academic year, she will teach Writing about Literature and Cultures, Ethnic Relations, and Literature of the African Diaspora.