

THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT AT WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY PRESENTS
The Gwen Frostic Reading Series
Fall 2025

WMU ALUMNI
TRACI BRIMHALL & MELBA JOYCE BOYD

Friday, Oct. 10, 5–6 pm, Q&A to follow
1110 Dalton Center



Traci Brimhall is a professor of creative writing at Kansas State University. She is the author of five collections of poetry, including *Love Prodigal* (Copper Canyon, 2024). Her poems have appeared in publications such as *The New Yorker*, *The Nation*, *Orion*, *The New Republic*, *Poetry*, *The New York Times Magazine*, and *Best American Poetry*. She's received fellowships from National Endowment for the Arts, the National Park Service, the Academy of American Poets, and Purdue Library's Special Collections to study the lost poem drafts of Amelia Earhart. She's currently the poet-in-residence at the Guggenheim Museum and Poet Laureate for the State of Kansas.

Melba Joyce Boyd is the third Poet Laureate of the State of Michigan and the 2023 Kresge Eminent Artist. She is the award-winning writer of nine books of poetry; the biographies of two major African American writers, Dudley Randall and Frances E. W. Harper; editor of *Roses and Revolutions: The Selected Writings of Dudley Randall*; and co-editor with M.L. Liebler of *Abandon Automobile: Detroit Poetry 2001*. She has over 100 published essays and directed two documentary films about Detroit poets, Dudley Randall and Naomi Long Madgett. She was a distinguished professor of African American Studies at Wayne State University, and adjunct professor at the University of Michigan.



AND A CRAFT TALK WITH MELBA JOYCE BOYD

"Writing Outside of Self: Connecting with Nature, Others and Historical Experiences"

Thursday, Oct. 9, 12:30 pm–1:30 pm
Dunbar 4433



WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
University Libraries
Zhang Legacy Collections Center



this is a bookstore & Bookbug
kalamazoo, michigan



WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY