

TEGA OGHENECHOVWEN (*he/him*)

toghenehovwen@gmail.com

EDUCATION

University of Tennessee, Knoxville, to start August 2026 -
Ph.D. in English (Creative Writing Concentration)

University of Maryland, College Park, Aug 2022 - May 25
M.F.A in Creative Writing (Fiction)

University of Jos, Nigeria, Feb 2016 -2019
M.A in Literature-in-English

Delta State University, Nigeria, Aug 2009- 2014
B.A in English

SCHOLARSHIP

Fiction; Postcolonial Literature; Transnational Literature; World Literature; African and African
Diasporic Literature

PUBLICATIONS

Short Stories

- We Can Start This Story, in *The Kenyon Review*, 2024
- Lazarus Woman, in *Joyland*, 2022
- To Start A Fire, in *The Ruminant*, 2020
- A Brief History of Three Kolos, in *Aké Review*, 2019
- Days without Annette, in *Black Sun Lit*, 2019
- Crossover, in *K and L Anthology*, 2018
- Loving From The Diaspora, in *Afreeda*, 2017
- Skipping Clues, in *Litro Magazine*, 2017

Essays

- Scars, in *Longreads*, 2022
- Trudging Down Death Road, in *The Rumpus*, 2019
- Aké: A Time and A River, in *Arts and Africa*, 2018
- Come Back, in *Agbowó*, 2019

Conducted Interviews

- One Book Into A Writing Career: A Dialogue With Nnamdi Oguike, in *Africa in Dialogue*
- Canvassing The Body: A Dialogue With Aziz Olamide, in *Africa in Dialogue*
- With Ten Writers Discussing Their Writing Philosophies, in *Creative Writing News*

TEACHING

University of Maryland, College Park, MD

- Instructor, Academic Writing (Eng 101). Spring 2025.
- Instructor of Records for Introductory Fiction Workshop, Spring and Fall 2024
- Teaching Assistant for a Gen Ed course on the importance of Fiction. Fall 2023

LITERARY EDITING AND PUBLISHING

- **Mukana Press**, Oct 2020 -2022
Publishing Assistant: Scouting writers, managing communications, and facilitating partnership between literary magazines
- **Africa in Dialogue**, Nov- 2019 to June 2020
Intern Editor: Edited Fiction, Visual and Performing Art Interviews
- **Creative Writing News**, 2018- 2020
Staff Writer/ Contributing Editor: Selected contributions from the slush pile and Developed creative content to guide young writers.
- **Barren Magazine**, 2018 —2019
Assistant editor for Flash Fiction: Assisted with content selection, creation, and proofreading/editing

accepted flash fiction for each issue.

VOLUNTEERING AND SERVICE

University of Maryland Day April 27th, 2024

Volunteer worker: Manned one of the nine information/freebies' booths on campus

Kaduna Book and Art Festival, Kaduna, Nigeria, 2019

Volunteer Media Team Member: responsible for writing about festival panels and interviewing guest artists.

Ake Arts and Book Festival, Lagos, Nigeria 2018

Media Team Member: responsible for writing about festival panels and interviewing guest artists.

FELLOWSHIPS, RETREATS, RESIDENCIES, GRANTS

- 2025-2026 **George Bennett Fellowship Award** (Writer in Residence position at Phillips Exeter Academy, New Hampshire)
- 2026 **Workshop Fellowship Award** to Key West Literary Seminar to study under Lisa Zeidner (Jan 4-8 2026, Key West Florida)
- 2025 **Elizabeth George Foundation Grant** recipient
- 2025 **John Anson Kittredge Fund** Recipient
- 2025 **Caine Prize** Six-Weeks Online Editorial Workshop Participant (worked with Vimbai Shire)
- 2024 **Tin House Scholar**, studied under Ghassan Zeineddine from July 12-21, 2024, in Reed College, Portland Oregon
- 2024 **Kimbilio Fellowship** and Summer Retreat to study under Lesley Arimah and Jacinda Townsend (held in Taos, New Mexico from July 21- 27, 2024).
- Rhizome Dc Writers' Retreat Participant, April 13th and 14th 2024 Washington D.C.
- 2020 Fellow, *Ebedi International Writers Residency*, Iseyin, Oyo State, Nigeria. (*Designed a creative writing curriculum and taught creative writing to students at a community school for six months*).
- 2019 Fellow, *African Writers Development Trust Residency Program* (Co-sponsored by European Union)
- 2018 *Short Story Day Africa/ Goethe Institut Writing and Editing Workshop Participant*. Facilitated by Dami Ajayi, Nigerian Poet and Essayist.
 - *Aké Arts and Book Festival* 2018 Writing workshop participant. Lagos, Nigeria. Facilitated by Ben Aaronovitch, British Novelist.

PLACEMENTS

- 2025 Deborah Rogers Award Finalist
- 2024 Periplus Collective Fellowship Finalist
- 2025 Chautauqua Janus Prize Semi-Finalist
- 2024 Granum Prize Longlist
- 2021 Ecotheo Short Story Prize Finalist
- 2018 Longlist K & L Prize for Literature

Last Update: March 2026