

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Juanita Lester: awppr@awpwriter.org



September 22, 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AWP Launches HBCU Fellowship Program

Norfolk, VA — AWP recently announced the launch of its <u>HBCU Fellowship Program</u>, which aims to uplift creative writing programs at HBCUs and encourage the involvement of HBCUs within AWP. The inaugural events will take place from March 8–11 at the 2023 Conference & Bookfair in Seattle, Washington.

Sponsored by a grant from the NEA, this program will award two HBCU faculty members and four HBCU students fellowships. The faculty fellowships (whose applications are open now through October 31) include a \$4,000 honorarium, paid travel expenses and lodging for the duration of the conference, and publication in *The Writer's Chronicle* regarding their experience at the conference.

The selected fellows will serve as mentors to two students each and will also have the opportunity to work closely with A.J. Verdelle, an HBCU professor and award-winning author of The Good Negress and Miss Chloe: A Memoir of Literary Friendship with Toni *Morrison.* Together, Verdelle and the fellows will discuss ways to support creative writing endeavors at HBCUs.

Active HBCU faculty, both part-time and full-time, are encouraged to apply on AWP's Submittable page. Applications for student fellows will open in November. For additional questions or more information, please email awp@awpwriter.org. For press inquiries, email awpPR@awpwriter.org.

AWP provides support, advocacy, resources, and community to writers, college and university creative writing programs, and writers' conferences and centers. Our mission is to amplify the voices of writers and the academic programs and organizations that serve them while championing diversity and excellence in creative writing.