



## **2019 Fall Residency Program at Hopscotch House: Invitation, Information, and How to Apply**

**Applications must be submitted by July 8, 2019 at 5 pm EST**

### ***Home Ground: In Search of Our Mothers Gardens with Carolyn Finney***

*"Proceed until apprehended." – Margaret Wheatley*

*"Let there be light." – Zora Neale Hurston*

#### **Invitation:**

KFW's 2019 Fall Residency Program invites applications from Kentucky women artists who wish to work closely with Artist-in-Residence Carolyn Finney to develop their artistic skills. This workshop is open to writers & performers at all stages of experience whose use of story is central to their development of a practice that embraces the complexity of our past as way to imagine a different future.

Join storyteller Carolyn Finney at Hopscotch House for a weekend this fall where we will dive deep into our stories of identity, difference, belonging & home. Using the garden as a metaphor, we will get our hands and hearts dirty by digging deeply into our past – the history of this land, of our family & of ourselves – in order to make healthy soil and create fertile ground for a future possible. Remembering, reconciliation and redemption are the compost needed to contribute to a collective vision of who we can be in relation to the earth and to each other. How might our individual stories of the past and present assist us in growing a new vision of the future?

In *The Same River Twice: Honoring the Difficult*, Alice Walker says:

"I belong to a people so wounded by betrayal, so hurt by misplacing their trust, that to offer us a gift of love is often to risk one's life, certainly name and reputation. I do not mean only the Africans, sold and bought, and bought and sold again; or the Indians, who joyfully fed those who, when strong, gleefully starved them out. I speak as well of the shadowy European ancestor, resentfully denied, except that one cannot forget the thatched one-room hovels of old Europe, put to the torch by those who grabbed the land; and the grief of the starving, ashen ancestor, forced to seek his or her lonely fortune in a land that seemed to demand ruthlessness if one intended to survive. I belong to a people, heart and mind, who do not trust mirrors. Not those, in any case, in which we ourselves appear" (Walker, p. 3)

During this workshop, we will cultivate our ability to delve into the shadows of our collective past and articulate and share these moments through our personal stories as a way to invite others to do the same. As Alice Walker states, “Art is the mirror, perhaps the only one, in which we can see our true collective face. We must honor its sacred function. We must let art help us.” (p. 4)

Carolyn invites you to bring a piece to share with the other participants (an essay, short performance piece, spoken word); she will also bring a work-in-progress as a way to explore how we observe, relate to and curate our own stories. Over the course of the weekend, there will be opportunity for one-on-one sessions with Carolyn and time to reflect on and further develop your own work.

### **About KFW’s Fall Residency Program at Hopscotch House**

KFW’s 2019 Fall Residency Program offers four participants a 3-day immersion in writing craft, deep reading, and community building. The program provides writers and performers with a skilled and experienced writer/instructor, Carolyn Finney, who will facilitate group workshops and provide individual mentoring. The program offers an accessible entry point for developing artists as well as an opportunity for established feminist artists to deepen their work and consider the social change power of their art. Residents will also share ideas, exchange work, and make connections that will help strengthen the collective experience. A combination of the individual transformation experience and the community building experience will give participants time to produce new work and new perspectives and to continue to develop as artists beyond the residency.

The natural setting at Hopscotch House provides an opportunity to explore the power of creativity within a feminist social change artist community. Participants have access to 400 acres of historically significant, privately-held land surrounding Hopscotch House. The forests, watersheds, meadows, wildflowers, and wildlife can be sources for inspiration, reflection, and connections to the natural world. Through this special Residency opportunity, Kentucky feminist literary artists will spend 3 days and 2 nights, **October 10-12**, at Hopscotch House, deepen their writing practice, and consider strategies to expand the social change impact of their work.

### **Housing and Food**

Residents will be provided a space within Hopscotch House or in the adjacent studio structure. Participants will have a private room, with either a private or shared bathroom. KFW will provide a stipend for food costs, and residents will work out a plan for taking turns cooking and cleaning up or develop an alternate plan for sharing kitchen space.

### **Costs**

This residency is offered free of cost to participants. KFW provides housing, a food stipend, instruction and mentoring, and any other activities related to this residency.

### **Who Can Apply?**

The 2019 Fall Residency program is open to all women who are feminist social change

artists with a literary-arts focus who live and work in Kentucky. Artists with varied backgrounds, worldviews, cultural heritages, and sexual orientations are encouraged to apply. The communal environment created by the residents offers fresh thinking and cross-fertilization of ideas. Residency participants regularly report that these kinds of exchanges inspire new insights, which strengthen their individual work. KFW is committed to making the residency program accessible to a wide range of women regardless of age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, educational level, economic condition, or geographic origin. All applicants must be able to commit to completing the full three-day, two-night residency from October 10-12, 2019.

### **About Carolyn Finney:**

Carolyn Finney, PhD is a storyteller, author and a cultural geographer. She is deeply interested in issues related to identity, difference, creativity, and resilience. In particular, Dr. Finney explores how issues of difference impacts participation in decision-making processes designed to address environmental issues. More broadly she likes to trouble our theoretical and methodological edges that shape knowledge production and determine whose knowledge counts. Carolyn is grounded in both artistic and intellectual ways of knowing- she pursued an acting career for eleven years, but a backpacking trip around the world and living in Nepal changed the course of her life. Motivated by these experiences, Carolyn returned to school after a 15-year absence to complete a B.A., M.A. (both of these degrees focused on gender and environmental issues in Kenya and Nepal, respectively) and Ph.D. (which focused on African Americans and environmental issues in the U.S.) She has been a Fulbright Scholar, a Canon National Parks Science Scholar and received a Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship in Environmental Studies. Along with public speaking, writing, consulting and teaching (she has held positions at Wellesley College, the University of California, Berkeley and the University of Kentucky), she served on the U.S. National Parks Advisory Board for eight years which assists the National Park Service in engaging in relations of reciprocity with diverse communities. Her first book, *Black Faces, White Spaces: Reimagining the Relationship of African Americans to the Great Outdoors* was released in 2014 (UNC Press). Current projects include a performance piece about John Muir titled, "The N Word: Nature Revisited" and a new book (creative non-fiction) that takes a more personal journey into understanding the complicated relationship between race, land and belonging. This fall, Carolyn will begin a two-year residency in the Franklin Environmental Center at Middlebury College as the Environmental Studies Professor of Practice.

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## How Do I Apply?

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**Application portal opens June 18**

**All applications must be submitted by July 8, 2019 at 5 pm EST**

The Residency will take place October 10-12, 2019

*These are the questions that will be on the online application. They are provided here for you to prepare your application materials and work sample in advance. If you need help with the online system or need to submit a paper copy of your application, contact [hopscoth@kfw.org](mailto:hopscoth@kfw.org) or call 502-439-4486.*

1. APPLICATION FORM: You will fill in basic information about the applicant on this online form.
2. NARRATIVE: The following questions will have a text box where you can copy and paste your responses.
  - a) In three to five sentences, please describe how the 2019 Fall Residency at Hopscotch House will further your development as a feminist and as an artist working for social change.
  - b) Describe your understanding and practice of feminism and how it relates to your writing. How will a residency with this visiting artist/ exploring this theme further your approach to feminism and writing? (2-5 paragraphs)
  - c) Describe the project you are proposing to initiate or continue during the residency. What are your overall goals for the project? How does it fit with the theme of this residency? How will working with this visiting artist help you achieve those goals? (about 3-5 paragraphs)
  - d) Sharing living, kitchen, and bathroom space can be both bonding and challenging. Explain how participating in a communal environment of artists dedicated to feminist social change could be beneficial as well as challenging. Describe how you would both contribute to and benefit from the community. Describe any experiences you have had living or working in a communal environment. What tools do you have for self-care if challenges arise? In what way will you interact with others to maintain positive communication throughout the weekend? (about 2-5 paragraphs)
  - e) Describe your commitment to writing. Please include any formal or informal education, participation in writing groups, personal desire, publications, teaching, etc. Feel free to include any relevant credentials that describe you as an artist. (about 2-5 paragraphs)
3. WORK SAMPLE: You will be asked to upload a writing sample that best represents you as a literary artist. Submit writing in the genre that you expect to work with while at the residency. You may submit a mixed genre sample, but your writing sample must be formatted as a single PDF or DOC file that is no more than 10 pages. Prose should be double-spaced, and poetry should be single-spaced.

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## About the Application Process

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### **Who reviews the applications?**

A panel of independent peer reviewers will read all applications and make the final recommendations concerning the selection of the Fall Residents. The reviewers understand the power of a residency for building community and advancing feminist artmaking for social change and are familiar with the merits of creative writing. KFW staff do not make selections for this program.

### **What criteria will the reviewers use in selecting the 2019 fall residents?**

1. Application clearly describes how working with this visiting artist/ this residency theme will further the applicant's development as a feminist and as an artist working for social justice.
2. Application clearly describes how the applicant's understanding and practice of feminism relates to their writing.
3. Application clearly describes how the applicant's writing can advance social change.
4. Application demonstrates a clear understanding of the benefits and challenges of participating in a communal environment of feminist social change artists and clearly describes how the applicant would both contribute to and benefit from the community.
5. Application clearly shows the applicant's commitment to writing (formal or informal education, participation in writing groups, personal desire, publication, teaching, etc.) and relevant credentials (if any).

### **A Note About Archives**

*Duke University is the designated archive for all KFW records. After five years, the foundation forwards all paper and digital files concerning the residency and retreat programs to the Rare Book Manuscripts and Special Collections Library at Duke University. All KFW records deposited at Duke are open to qualified researchers. By submitting this application, you waive any right to claim a privacy interest in the accepted residency project.*