

## Maya Odim

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b. 1988 | Nigerian-American (American & Nigerian dual citizenship)

### Education

*Canididate*, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, July 2022- May 2024 — MA, Writing  
Wesleyan University (Middletown, CT), May 2010 — BA, American Studies

### Languages *fluent speaking, reading and writing*

English & Spanish

### Work & Volunteer History

<i>Poetry Teaching Artist</i>	Chicago Poetry Center Chicago, IL	2023-Present
<i>Volunteer</i>	Spanish-English Translator, 826CHI Chicago, IL	2017-Present
<i>Partnerships &amp; Learning Consultant</i>	Ingenuity-INC, Chicago, IL Partnerships & Learning Intern	September 2022- July 2023
<i>Dance Instructor</i>	Wellness for Everyone, Chicago, IL	Fall 2021- Summer 2022
<i>Dance Instructor</i>	<i>Art Start, Oak Park Education Foundation</i> Lincoln Elementary School, Oak Park, IL	Fall 2019- Summer 2022
<i>Dance Instructor</i>	<i>Logan Square Neighborhood Association</i> Schurz High School, Chicago, IL	Winter 2019-Fall 2020
<i>School Garden Coordinator</i>	<i>Chicago Public Schools,</i> Schurz High School, Chicago, IL	Winter 2017- Spring 2022
<i>Teaching Artis</i>	Changing Worlds, Chicago, IL	Summer 2016- Spring 2022
<i>Poetry, Dance &amp; STEAM Instructor</i>	<i>Oak Park Education Foundation, BASE Camp</i> Oak Park, IL	Summer 2017-Present
<i>Dance Instructor</i>	<i>Design Dance, Chicago, IL</i>	Fall 2013- Summer 2017
<i>Science Teacher</i>	<i>Village Leadership Academy, Chicago, IL</i>	Fall 2015-Fall 2016
<i>K-3</i>		
<i>Teaching Artist</i>	<i>Columbia College After School Program</i>	Fall 2012-

	Schurz High School, Chicago, IL	Winter 2015
<i>After School &amp;</i>	<i>AmeriCorps Member</i>	Summer 2011-
<i>Community</i>	Alternatives, Inc., Chicago, IL	Summer2012
<i>Arts Coordinator</i>		

## Publications

Odim, Maya. *The Occidental Jet Stream: tellin' stories, a response to the article: "Chicago dance has had a long love affair with process. Doubling down, are their audiences on board?"* Performance Response Journal, 2021 <https://performanceresponsejournal.com/2021/occidental-jet-stream-response-by-maya-odim>

Odim, Maya. *Settling, Rocking, Riding the Air*. Performance Response Journal, 2019 <https://performanceresponsejournal.com/2019/06/21/settling-rocking-riding-the-air-a-response-by-maya-odim/>

Odim, Maya. *Places Where We Can Imagine*. Self published, Udala Press, 2014.

Odim, Maya. *Planets, Gourds and Traveling Staffs*, Self published, Udala Press, 2011

Odim, Maya. Poem "Redefining Return". Black Arts Quarterly (now the International Review of African American Art) a publication of Stanford University, Spring 2008.

## Choreographic Exhibitions

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|---|----------------|
| <i>Plinths of the People</i><br>Commissioned by 21c Museum Hotel Chicago, in and around Kelly Kristin Jonse's work, "Plinths of the People", with Luis "Logan Lu" Tubens<br>Chicago, IL | April 2023     |
| Virtual Exquisite Crawl<br>Commissioned by MAKE Literary Productions Virtually<br>from Chicago, IL  | August 2020    |
| <i>Untitled</i><br>Commissioned by Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs & Special Events<br>Millennium Park, Boeing Galley South, Christine Tarkowski Installation<br>Chicago, IL     | July 2021      |
| <i>Erosion</i><br>Commissioned and Supported by Chicago Dancemakers Forum<br>Virtually from Chicago, IL   | September 2020 |
| <i>Strong Wind, Deep Roots</i><br>Commissioned and Supported by Chicago Dancemakers Forum<br>Virtually from Chicago, IL   | May 2020       |
| <i>I Heard 'em Say</i><br>Commissioned by the DePaul Art Museum   | November 2018  |

Brendan Fernandes Galleries, DePaul Art Museum, Chicago, IL

*The Long Arc: Reach, Burry, Catch, Move, Hold* September 20-23, 2018  
Commissioned for Links Hall 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Links Hall, Chicago, IL

*Around Us* June 23, 2018  
Commissioned by, Street Wise, for annual fundraising gala  
The Chop Shop, Chicago, IL

*In Parts* May 10, 2018  
Community Based Performance  
Star Lounge Coffee Bar, Chicago, IL

*The Heist* September 2017  
Commissioned by Elastic Arts  
Chicago, IL

*Children of the Wall at The Hyde Park Arts Center, Chicago, IL* December 2017

*A Great Day in the Neighborhood, by Marvin Tate,* December 2017  
*produced by The Jazz Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL*

*Sinesthesia, Guatemala City, Guatemala* June 2016

*Yin Yang, Hand Job/99cents+ Gallery, New York, NYC* June 2014

### **Residencies & Awards**

*Recipient*      *Studio Residency, The Ragdale Foundation*      March 2023  
Lake Forest, IL

*Recipient*      *Survive & Thrive, grant awarded by Changing Worlds*      June 2021-  
March 2022

*Finalist*      *2020 DanceMakers Forum Chicago Lab Artist Award*      Fall 2020  
Chicago, IL

*Recipient*      Links Hall Co-Missions Residency      Chicago, IL

Fall 2018

*Finalist*

Guttenberg Arts Interdisciplinary Residency

Fall 2014

Guttenberg, NJ

### **Volunteer & Panel Experience**

<i>Volunteer</i>	<i>Food Pantry Program Driver &amp; Event Volunteer Brave Space Alliance Chicago, IL</i>	<i>2020-Present</i>
<i>Volunteer</i>	<i>Spanish-English Translator, 826CHI Chicago, IL</i>	<i>2017-Present</i>
<i>Apprenticeship</i>	<i>Yoruba Andabo Rumba &amp; Afro Cuban Folkloric Dance Havana, Cuba</i>	<i>July-August 2010</i>
<i>Panelist</i>	<i>How We Got On Post show conversation Haven Theatre, Chicago, IL</i>	<i>Fall 2016</i>
<i>Fundraising &amp; Direction</i>	<i>Cyphers: Break Battle &amp; Poetry performance Elastic Arts, Chicago, IL</i>	<i>August 2015</i>
<i>Panelist</i>	<i>Post performance conversation with dancer, and poet Raphael Xavier Columbia College Chicago Dance Center Columbia Chicago, IL</i>	<i>Winter 2014</i>
<i>Selection Committee Senior Class Speaker</i>	<i>Invited reader part of the selection committee Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT</i>	<i>Spring 2010</i>
<i>Student Keynote speaker</i>	<i>Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Celebration Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT</i>	<i>Winter 201</i>
<i>Co-facilitator</i>	<i>Cross Roads: The Politics of Identity, a creative writing workshop York Correctional Institute, Niantic, CT</i>	<i>Fall 2009-Spring 2010</i>
<i>Volunteer Teaching Artist</i>	<i>Poetry Writing &amp; Performance Workshops Juvenile Matters, Middletown, CT</i>	<i>Fall 2009-Spring 2010</i>

*Student Keynote Speaker*

Black and Latino Unity Formal  
Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT

*Spring 2008*

*Intern Appointment* Dean Daniel Teraguchi Ed. D, Fall 2007-Spring  
Dean of Diversity and Academic Advancement 2008  
oral history collection effort  
Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT,

*Residential Advisor* 200 Church: a student house with a committed Fall 2007-Spring  
mission of promoting allyship, equity, civic and 2008  
artistic engagement  
Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT

### **Undergraduate Choreographic Experience**

*Principal Salsa Choreographer Caliente*, Wesleyan University Latin Dance Troop  
Fall 2007-Spring 2010

*Ensemble Member* *Caliente*, Wesleyan University Latin Dance Troop  
Fall 2006-Spring 2010 Salsa, Merengue & Bachata

*Ensemble Member* *(Re)Defining and Transgressing Norms of Black Female Sexuality*  
Fall 2009 – Spring 2010 Senior Dance Thesis/Performance, under the direction of then senior:  
Indee Mitchell  
Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT

*Ensemble Member* *Moving Being, Being Moved: Critical Perspectives on the Practice*  
Fall 2008 – Spring 2009 *of Authentic Movement*  
Senior Dance Thesis/Performance, under the direction of:  
Shayna Keller Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT

*Ensemble Member* *No Eggshells/Outside*  
Fall 2008-Spring 2008 Directed by Dr. Pedro Alejandro, Dance Department Chair 1995-2007  
Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT



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