

Maya Odim

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School of the Art Institute of Chicago (Chicago, IL), 2024 — MFA, Writing
Wesleyan University (Middletown, CT), 2010 — BA, American Studies

Languages

English & Spanish

Work

Lecturer: *English 101* Roosevelt University, Chicago, IL 2025-present

fall semester: English 101: Composition

Lecturer: *Theater & Performance Studies* The University of Chicago Chicago, IL 2024-present

fall quarter 2024 & 2025 : Moving & Thinking/Thinking & Moving; spring quarter 2025: Contemporary Dance Practices

Judge Gwendolyn Brooks Youth Poetry Awards 2024-present
Illinois Humanities Council, virtual appointment; *Summer 2024; Summer 2025*

Poet in Residence Chicago Poetry Center 2023-present
Chicago, IL

Copy Editor F News magazine, SAIC, Chicago, IL 2023-2024

Intern: Partnerships & Learning Ingenuity-INC, Chicago, IL 2022-2023

Dancer in Residence Wellness for Everyone, Chicago, IL 2021-2022

Dancer in Residence Art Start, Oak Park Education Foundation 2019-2021
Oak Park, IL

Dancer & Poetry Changing Worlds, Chicago, IL 2016-2022

Dance & Poetry Oak Park Education Foundation, 2017- 2022
BASE Camp, Oak Park, IL

Dance Instructor: Design Dance, Chicago IL 2013-2017
Breaking & Contemporary

Publications

Odim, Maya. Bet on the Muse, fnews magazine, April, 2024

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/occidentaljet-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-responseby-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.

Exhibitions & Invitations

Exhibitions

Forthcoming 2025 | Rhino Fest, dramaturgy & performance
Facility Theatre, Chicago, IL

2025 | The Infinity Play, by Paul Brennan, *dramaturgy & performance*
Jarvis Square Theater, Chicago, IL

2025 | Word Is Rhythm Poetry Festival, *poetry keynote*
Invited by The Poetry Foundation & University of Chicago Education and Family Programs
Community Arts Engagement, Reva and David Logan Center for the Arts, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

2025 | *Performance Lecture*: “Like an Arrow: Movement’s Trajectory to Dance”
Theater and Performance Studies Workshop, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

2024 | Pop-Up Performance, sculpture unveiling: *To Sit a While*, Alison Saar, *movement & poetry*
Invited by the Lorraine Hansberry Initiative, Navy Pier, Polk Bros Park, Chicago, IL

2024 | Rhino Fest: Breach, *dramaturgy & performance*
Facility Theatre, Chicago, IL

2024 | Rhino Fest: The Impossible Knot, *writer & ensemble*
Chicago Dramatists | Chicago, IL

2024 | And Another More, *poetry*
Greystone Studio, Chicago, IL

2024 | Graduate Exhibition One, *exhibiting artist*
School of the Art Institute of Chicago | Chicago, IL

2023 | Graduate Student Senate Exhibition, *exhibiting artist*
School of the Art Institute of Chicago | Chicago, IL

2023 | but i cd only whisper, written by Kristiana Rae Colón, *choreographer & dance ensemble*
Chicago Dramatists, Chicago, IL

2023 | Plinths of the People, *movement*
Commissioned by 21c Museum Hotel Chicago, performed with the plinth from Kelly Kristin Jones' work, “Plinths of the People”, with Luis “Logan Lu” Tubens | Chicago, IL

2023 | Poetry Reading with artist Carmen Neely
Mariana Ibrahim Gallery, Chicago, IL

2022 | *Untitled*, in performance with Veronica Anne-Salinas and Flux Bikes, *dancer*
Commissioned by Compound Yellow Oak Park, IL

2021 | *Untitled*, *movement & poetry*
Commissioned by Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs & Special Events, with Flux Bikes
Performed in Millennium Park, Boeing Galley South, in the installation of Christine Tarkowski
Installation | Chicago, IL

2020 | Virtual Exquisite Crawl, *movement*

Commissioned by MAKE Literary Productions Virtually from Chicago, IL

2020 | Erosion, *dramaturgy & performance*

Commissioned and Supported by Chicago Dancemakers Forum Virtually from Chicago, IL

2020 | Strong Wind, Deep Roots, *dramaturgy & performance*

Commissioned and Supported by Chicago Dancemakers Forum Virtually from Chicago, IL

2018 | I Heard 'em Say, *dramaturge, choreographer & ensemble*

Commissioned by the DePaul Art Museum, performed in the Brendan Fernandes installation The Living Mask, performed with Noelle Awadallah and Marceia L. Scruggs
DePaul Art Museum, Chicago, IL

2018 | The Long Arc: Reach, Burry, Catch, Move, Hold, *movement & poetry*

Commissioned for Links Hall 40th Anniversary, Links Hall, Chicago, IL

2017 | The Heist, *dramaturge, choreographer & ensemble*

performed with Chelz Jordan and Kiana Cook | Elastic Arts, Chicago, IL

2017 | poetry displayed for: *Children of the Wall*, by Beloved

The Hyde Park Arts Center, Chicago, IL

2017 | *A Great Day in the Neighborhood*, by Marvin Tate, *dance ensemble*

Commissioned by The Jazz Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL

2016 | *Sinesthesia*, *movement & poetry*

Commissioned by Espiral Dance Company, Guatemala City, Guatemala

2014| *Yin Yang*, *multimedia work displayed*

Hand Job/99cents+ Gallery, New York, NY

Invitations

Judge | 2025

NAACP ACT-SO National Competition: Contemporary Dance
NAACP, Charlotte, NC

Speaker; Keynote Poet | 2025

International Women's Day Celebration 2025
Northwestern University Women's Center, Evanston, IL

Poet | 2024

This is for You, poetry workshop
ECOS Festival, Hosted by The Poetry Foundation at Drake Gardens, Chicago, IL

Residencies & Honors

Recipient | 2025

Chicago Performance Lab, Performance Residency
The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

Honorable Mention | 2024

Ruth Weiss Haiku Competition, Ruth Weiss Foundation

Nominee | 2024

3Arts Artist Award, Chicago, IL

Recipient | 2023

Ragdale Interdisciplinary Residency , The Ragdale Foundation Lake Forest, IL

Recipient | 2021

Survive & Thrive, grant awarded by Changing Worlds, Chicago, IL

Finalist | 2020

DanceMakers Forum Chicago Lab Artist Award , Chicago, IL

Finalist | 2014

Guttenberg Arts Interdisciplinary Residency, Guttenberg, NJ