

Trotter Review

Volume 22

Issue 1 *Appreciating Difference*

Article 10

7-21-2014

Contributors

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Recommended Citation

(2014) "Contributors," *Trotter Review*: Vol. 22: Iss. 1, Article 10.

Available at: http://scholarworks.umb.edu/trotter_review/vol22/iss1/10

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Contributors

Paul Camacho, a sociologist, retired as assistant director of the William Joiner Center for the Study of War and Social Consequences at the University of Massachusetts Boston.

Kenneth J. Cooper, editor of the *Trotter Review*, is a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist who has worked at the *Washington Post* and *Boston Globe*. During nearly 30 years at newspapers, he covered state and national politics, Congress, education, and the Indian subcontinent. He is coauthor with photographer Don West of the forthcoming book, *Portraits of Purpose*.

Abdi Dirshe, a political analyst, is currently the permanent secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Federal Government of Somalia. He was previously president of the Somali Canadian Diaspora Alliance based in Toronto.

Fabienne Doucet is an associate professor at New York University in the Department of Teaching & Learning, where she leads programs in early childhood education and childhood education. Her research examines how immigrant and U.S.-born children of color and their families navigate education in the United States and how taken-for-granted beliefs, practices, and values of the American educational system disadvantage children and families who are linguistically, culturally, and socioeconomically diverse.

Mohamed J. Farah is a senior counselor and instructor at Bunker Hill Community College. He also mentors students in the Boston area.

Mohamoud A. Hiray is a senior business analyst, most recently with National Grid. He is a longtime member of Boston's Somali community and lives in the city's Hyde Park neighborhood.

Yndia S. Lorick-Wilmot is a senior lecturer in sociology at Northeastern University's College of Professional Studies in the areas of race and ethnic identity, social inequality, human services, immigration, and the Caribbean Diaspora. She has worked as a consultant and social policy researcher for nonprofits, foundations, and research centers in Boston, New York City, and Washington, D.C. In 2010, the Association of College and Research Libraries rated her first book, *Creating Black Caribbean Ethnic Identity*, as a "Recommended Read for Undergraduate and Graduate Students, and Community Organizers."

Nzinga Metzger is an instructor in the Department of History and Political Science at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University. Her scholarly work addresses West African notions of personhood, the historical context and the socio-cultural politics of identity in relation to colonial power, Diaspora issues, identity formation, and ethno-genesis. She is also interested in the fluidity of individual and group identities throughout history as they confront changing socio-political climates. She is author of *Life in the Banyan Branches: African Americans and Orisa Tradition in Philadelphia*.

Mwalim (Morgan James Peters), associate professor of English and director of Black Studies at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, is an award-winning, multifaceted performing artist, writer, and digital media artist. His work spans the genres of music, literature, theater, musicology, and oral traditions, as well as contemporary forms of Native American and African American traditions. He is the playwright-in-residence at the New African Company in Boston and academic-in-residence with the public school system in Mashpee, Massachusetts.

Zacharia N. Nchinda is a lecturer in the Africology Department of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and an instructor in the History Department of Milwaukee Area Technical College. His areas of interest are poverty, urbanization, and African immigrant families. He is presently working on a journal article titled "The Concept of Homeland: Burial Location of African Immigrant Families in the U.S."

Chioma Nnaji, a community activist and researcher in the Boston area, is a program director at the Multicultural AIDS Coalition, co-founder and president of the African National HIV/AIDS Alliance, and a board member of the Community Campus Partnerships for Health. Most of her work focuses on racial and health equity, specifically

mobilizing communities of color in Massachusetts to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic and the conditions that fuel it.

Juan Carlos Santoro, born in Venezuela, is an amateur photographer who lives in Putnam, Connecticut, and takes pictures on his travels. His photos have appeared in *enRoute*, the in-flight magazine of Air Canada, and other travel magazines.

Talia Whyte is a Boston-based freelance journalist who has been reporting on issues related to social justice, media, and technology for 15 years. Her work has appeared in the *Boston Globe*, *Houston Chronicle*, *The Progressive*, on theGrio.com, and on MSNBC, PBS, and Al Jazeera English.