

# MASTER OF FINE ARTS

# Writing

[saic.edu/mfaw](http://saic.edu/mfaw)



Ana Asantewa Diaka  
*Tentacles, 2019*

The Master of Fine Arts in Writing (MFAW) program distinguishes itself by tapping the unique potential of interdisciplinary writing through a curriculum modeled on studio art training.

### *Freedom to Choose*

We welcome writers of all genres, as well as visual artists who work with language as an integral component of their practice. Students move freely between poetry, fiction, playwriting, non-fiction and comics, and work with their advisors to develop a course of study that includes related fields such as performance, film, sculpture, arts journalism, and sound. We encourage hybrid work and collaborative engagement. Student projects span flash fiction, digital poetics, long-form narrative, ekphrastic songs, poetic theater, graphic novels, artists' books and more.



School of the Art Institute  
of Chicago

### Faculty

SALLY ALATALO  
JESSE BALL  
MARK BOOTH  
JANET DESAULNIERS  
SARA LEVINE  
RUTH MARGRAFF  
JAMES MCMANUS  
BETH NUGENT

For complete faculty listing visit:  
[saic.edu/mfaw](http://saic.edu/mfaw)

### Faculty

The MFAW draws on a distinguished faculty passionate in their disciplines and with diverse artistic and intellectual backgrounds. A robust program of visiting writers, artists, and designers augments our core faculty each semester, giving students opportunities to make professional connections from around the globe. Recent visitors include Christian Campbell, Cathy Park Hong, Juan Martinez, Maggie Nelson, Sarah Schulman, Layli Long Soldier, and Mai Der Vang.

### Professional Preparation

Our MFAWs may apply for teaching assistantships both in the Writing Program and across the School to gain experience in the teaching environment. Our students often work as editors and journalists on SAIC's *F Newsmagazine*, as well as on independently edited and produced publications. They create podcasts for Free Radio SAIC, a student-run radio station, which broadcasts daily to a global audience. MFAWs present their work in a student-organized lecture series and graduating students participate in a culminating Thesis Reading. MFAWs who demonstrate a studio practice may take part in the annual school-wide MFA Thesis Exhibition or time-arts events. Our program alumni write and publish books, stage plays, perform, teach, and establish galleries, small presses, independent theater spaces and salons nationally and internationally.

### Scholarships and Grants

Merit scholarships are awarded to applicants of exceptional promise by the Admissions Committee as part of the admissions process. We also offer teaching assistantships, incentive awards and small project grants. Three MFAW fellowships are awarded to graduating MFAW students each year. Past jurors include Eula Bliss, Thalia Field, Fanny Howe, Bhanu Kapil, Ben Marcus, Sawako Nakayasu, Paisley Rekdal and Prageeta Sharma.

### Curriculum Requirements

Credit Hours

WRIT 5001 Writing Workshop	12
WRIT 5500 Topics in Writing Seminar	12
MFA 6009 Graduate Projects (minimum of 12 credits with writing advisors)	24
Electives (Courses at the 3000 level or above. Art History courses must be at the 4000 level or above)	12
▶ Participation in four graduate critiques	
▶ Inclusion in one of the culminating graduate exhibitions, events or publications	
▶ Completion of the thesis	
<b>TOTAL CREDIT HOURS</b>	<b>60</b>

Students may select internships to satisfy up to 6 hours of elective credit.

### Application Process

#### Submit:

- ▶ Online application
- ▶ Application fee
- ▶ Official college transcripts
- ▶ Statement of purpose
- ▶ Letters of recommendation
- ▶ ePortfolio
- ▶ Résumé

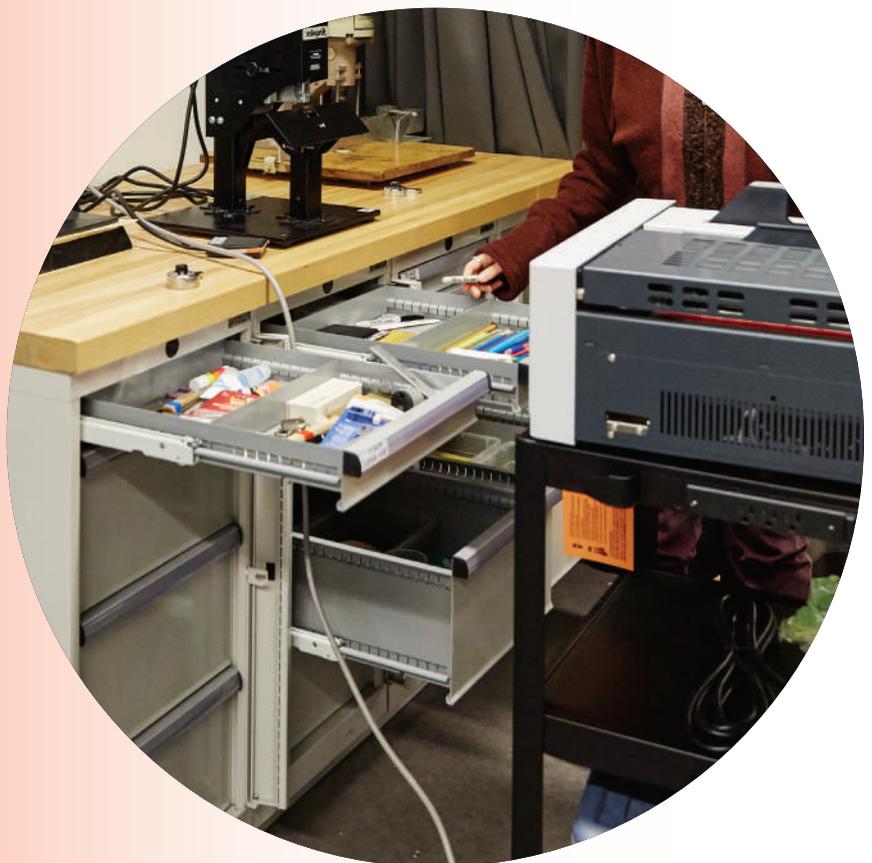
For more information  
on requirements,  
please visit:

[saic.edu/mfaw](http://saic.edu/mfaw)



## BlackBox Studio 808

The BlackBox Studio 808 is uniquely designed to encourage writing-driven and transdisciplinary studio practice. Resources include a flexible performance black box and a BookLab equipped with tools and materials to aid the research and production of independent publications and artists' books.



I THOUGHT  
THERE MIGHT  
BE SOMETHING  
THERE.



**Graduate Admissions**

36 South Wabash Avenue, suite 1201  
Chicago, IL 60603

Phone 312.629.6100 / 800.232.7242  
gradmiss@saic.edu

**Application Deadline: January 10**

For application requirements,  
visit [saic.edu/mfaw](http://saic.edu/mfaw)

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