

# HIRAM SIMS

POET, PROFESSOR

## ABOUT ME

Hiram Sims is a poet, essayist, and creative writing professor with The Community Literature Initiative. He graduated from the University of Southern California and received a BA in Creative Writing and an MPW in Poetry. In addition to teaching, he has published three collections of poetry and a creative writing textbook entitled THESE PAGES SPEAK. He is the co-founder of World Stage Press and founder of the Sims Library of Poetry.

## EDUCATION

### UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

August 2007 | MPW in Poetry

### UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

August 2005 | BA in Creative Writing

## EXPERIENCE

08/13 -  
present

### THE COMMUNITY LITERATURE INITIATIVE POETRY INSTRUCTOR/FOUNDER

- Teaching creative writing to writers from the community
- Educating students on preparing a manuscript for publication
- Building liaisons between LA authors and small presses
- Coordinating programming, guest lectures, and panels

04/14 -  
02/21

### THE LOS ANGELES FILM SCHOOL CREATIVE WRITING PROFESSOR

- Taught full semester courses in the fundamentals of poetry and short fiction.
- Trained students to learn and use English grammar, punctuation, spelling, reading analysis, and composition.
- Conducted faculty trainings on the subjects of Creative Writing Pedagogy and Teacher/Student Relations
- Started Living Writers series program connecting students with writers

01/13 -  
present

### USC (NAI SATURDAY ACADEMY) POETRY INSTRUCTOR

- Instructing students on the mechanics of poetry
- Creating innovative curriculum focused on contemporary performance poetry
- Creating anthologized published work
- Organizing recitals and public performances

## CONTACT

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**08/11 - present**     **CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LOS ANGELES**  
ENGLISH COMPOSITION INSTRUCTOR

- Course levels taught: ENGL95/96
- Teaching remedial composition to undergraduate freshman
- Coordinating private tutorial sessions with students
- Assisting in the creation of assessment rubrics

**01/11 - present**     **LONG BEACH CITY COLLEGE**  
ENGLISH INSTRUCTOR

- Course levels taught: ENGL1 – transfer level
- Teaching students to read and analyze college-level texts; write academic prose with a clear purpose and effective, relevant support from sources; locate, evaluate, organize, and synthesize research material from a variety of sources; compose essays that demonstrate consistent control of academic discourse and rhetoric

**08/10 - 08/14**     **EL CAMINO COLLEGE (COMPTON CENTER)**  
ENGLISH INSTRUCTOR: CREATIVE WRITING,  
LITERATURE

- Course levels taught: ENGL 25A/24A: Intro to Fiction/Poetry

**08/09 - 01/10**     **CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY,  
DOMINGUEZ HILLS**  
ENGLISH COMPOSITION INSTRUCTOR

- Course levels taught: ENGL110 – Freshman Composition
- Taught several full semester courses in Freshman level English for the EOP program

**06/09 - 08/09**     **SANTA MONICA COLLEGE**  
CREATIVE WRITING INSTRUCTOR

- Created and taught a creative writing summer workshop for the Black Collegians Program

**08/07 - 06/10**     **SANTA MONICA COLLEGE**  
ENGLISH INSTRUCTOR

- Course levels taught: ENGL21A, ENGL21B, ENGL22
- Teaching full semester courses (including an online course) in the fundamentals of English grammar, punctuation, spelling, reading analysis, and composition. I also worked in the writing center helping all SMC students work on their individual writing skills.

**08/06 - 08/11**     **URBAN POETS CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP**  
INSTRUCTOR/FOUNDER

- Instructed students on the mechanics of performance poetry
- Created innovative curriculum focused on contemporary performance poetry
- Created anthologized published work
- Organized recitals and pub performances

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- 01/04 – 05/04 **C.A.T.C.H.E. CHARTER SCHOOL**  
TEACHER OF CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP
- Taught young high school students creative writing
  - Organized field trips to campus and other academic locations
  - Conducted fundraising projects
  - Coordinator of special events

## TEACHING AREAS

Poetry, Fiction, Short Fiction, Classic American Poetry, Contemporary American Poetry, African American Poetry, Slam and Performance Poetry, Freshman Composition, Advanced Composition.

## PUBLICATIONS

- 2022** Sims, Hiram, editor. *The Inauguration Poems*. World Stage Press, Forthcoming 2022.
- 2021** Sims, Hiram, editor. *Poems in Praise of Libraries*. SLP Books, Forthcoming 2021.
- 2021** Sims, Hiram. Foreword. *The Distance of Observation*, by Conney Williams. World Stage Press, 2021.
- 2020** Sims, Hiram. Foreword. *If Love Had a Name*, by Davina Ferreira. Alegria Publishing, 2020.
- 2017** Sims, Hiram. Foreword. *Articulate Scars: Comfortable Silences and Reluctant Tears*, by Derek Brown. CreateSpace, 2017.
- 2015** Sims, Hiram. (2nd Edition) *PHOTOETRY: Poetry and Photography from South Central*. Figueroa Press: University of Southern California, 2013.
- 2015** Sims, Hiram. *The Border Crossed US: An Anthology to End Apartheid*. Vagabond Books, 2015.
- 2015** Sims, Hiram. *These Pages Speak*. World Stage Press, 2015.
- 2014** Sims, Hiram. *Revolutionary Poets Brigade: Los Angeles Anthology*. Vagabond Books, 2014.
- 2014** Sims, Hiram. *The Inglewood Poetry Project Anthology*. Alter Destiny Press, 2014.
- 2013** Sims, Hiram. *PHOTOETRY: Poetry and Photography from South Central*. Figueroa Press: University of Southern California, 2013.
- 2013** Sims, Hiram. Foreword. *Ketchup: Sopa de Gato*, by Carlos Ornelas. Lulu, 2013.

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- 2012 Sims, Hiram. *The Invisible Door: A Collection from the 25A Fiction Writers*. LA Bookshelf Publishing, 2012.
- 2011 Sims, Hiram. "The Expenses of an Urban Slave." *Askew Literary Magazine*. Issue 12, Volume 1. June 2012.
- 2008 Sims, Hiram. *Write or Die: A Collection of Poetry from the Urban Poets Workshop*. LA Bookshelf Publishing, 2008.
- 2007 Sims, Hiram. "What God Creates." House of Jacob Communicator. April 2007.
- 2007 Sims, Hiram. "Writing Warriors." USC Black Voices E-Magazine. 15 March 2007.
- 2006 Sims, Hiram. "On the Tracks." *NFL/USC Poems of the Summer: A Student Anthology*. Jones Press. July 2006:14.
- 2005 Sims, Hiram. "The Black Blueprint Manual." 100 Black Men of USC Publications. 2005.
- 2005 Sims, Hiram. "Gangs vs. Greeks." *South Ben Chronicle*. March 2005. Section 4.
- 2005 Sims, Hiram. "Wisdom." USC's Black Voices E-Magazine. November 2005.
- 2004 Sims, Hiram. "Gangs vs Greeks." USC Angelingo Literary Journal. Issue 2, Volume 1. 2004.
- 2004 Sims, Hiram. "The Pigeon." 16 Poets: A Compilation. December 2004:10.
- 2004 Sims, Hiram. "Soul for Sale." USC Angelingo Literary Journal. Issue 1, Volume 1. 2004.
- 2003 Sims, Hiram. "The Purple Rose." *Poetry.com's Best Poets Edition*. Maryland: Poetry.com Press. 2003.
- 1999 Sims, Hiram. "Our Father." House of Jacob Communicator. January 1999.

## AWARDS

- 2012 **EL CAMINO COLLEGE (COMPTON CENTER)**  
FACULTY OF THE YEAR
- 2005 **UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**  
ORDER OF THE LAUREL AND THE PALM

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## PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- 2013 **ACADEMY OF AMERICAN POETS**

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## NOTABLE FEATURES: PROGRAMMING & READINGS

- 2021**      **SIMS LIBRARY OF POETRY**  
Host: Akoldpiece Ofwork  
*Pages on Stages*
  
- 2021**      **WOODBURY UNIVERSITY**  
Host: LA Film School, USC, and Woodbury University  
*Building Your Dreams During a Crisis*
  
- 2021**      **LA CITY COUNCIL**  
Host: LA City Councilmember Curren Price  
*Covid Tribute*
  
- 2020**      **POEMS UP FOR DEBATE (Instagram Live)**  
Host: Hiram Sims, sponsored by Poets & Writers Magazine
  
- 2019**      **THE LAST BOOKSTORE**  
Host: Lady Basco
  
- 2019**      **ASSOCIATION OF WRITERS & WRITING PROGRAMS**  
Host: AWP/Kaya Press  
*Create The Literary Future You Want Panel*
  
- 2018**      **BLACK WRITERS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD**  
Host: University of Southern California
  
- 2016**      **THE LIVING WRITERS SERIES**  
Host: World Stage Press/LAUSD  
*2016-2018*
  
- 2015**      **THE LIVING WRITERS SERIES**  
Host: Los Angeles Film School  
*2015-2021*
  
- 2014**      **UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**  
Host: Black Student Assembly
  
- 2014**      **UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES**  
Host: Bunche Center for African American Studies
  
- 2014**      **SANTA MONICA COLLEGE**  
Host: Black Collegians
  
- 2014**      **THE WORLD STAGE PERFORMANCE GALLERY**  
Host: Conney Williams, V. Kali
  
- 2014**      **CITY MARKET GALLERY COLLECTIVE**  
Host: Dr. William Doucuet
  
- 2014**      **BEYOND BAROQUE**  
Host: Billy Burgos, Antonieta Villameal
  
- 2014**      **UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA**  
Host: Toya J/Las Vegas Poetry Collective
  
- 2014**      **THE LAST BOOKSTORE**  
Host: Lady Basco

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- 2013 **CAL STATE UNIVERSITY, LOS ANGELES**  
Host: Dr. Laura Ramey
- 2013 **CAL STATE UNIVERSITY, DOMINGUEZ HILLS**  
Host: Dr. Thomas Bear
- 2013 **EL CAMINO COLLEGE (COMPTON CENTER)**  
Host: English Department
- 2013 **FOSHAY LEARNING CENTER**  
Host: English Department
- 2013 **LA SOUTHWEST COLLEGE**  
Host: English Department
- 2013 **SHADES OF AFRICA**  
Host: Impaac/Shy
- 2013 **SAN DIEGO FINE ARTS CENTER**  
Host: Ashanti Davis
- 2013 **LIBERTY ART GALLERY**  
Host: Julia Steinberg
- 2013 **COLORLAB TIERRASAL GALLERY**  
Host: Juvencio Conors
- 2013 **MACHINE POMONA**  
Host: Judah l
- 2013 **HIBBLETON GALLERY**  
Host: Jesse La Tour

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