



## 2024 MISA/Loft Excellence in Teaching Fellowship Recipients

At the Loft, we deeply value our teaching artists and all the work they do to support our community of students and writers. In partnership with the Madeline Island School for the Arts, we are thrilled to be able to offer a yearly fellowship for Loft teaching artists that is meant to foster and encourage one's writing practice and the start or completion of a writing project. For more information about what this fellowship entails, please see [loft.org](https://loft.org) under Awards. The Loft is proud to announce the 2024 MISA/Loft Excellence in Teaching Fellowship recipients, as highly nominated by Loft friends, teaching artists, and community members.

**Glenda Reed** is an award-winning, feminist writer, artist, educator, and adventurer. She's received support from the Jerome Foundation, the McKnight Foundation, the Barbara Deming Memorial Fund, among others and has twice been recognized by the Minnesota State Arts Board with an Artist Initiative Award. Her work has appeared in literary journals and anthologies, including *Creative Nonfiction* and *The Best Travel Writing*. Glenda is also a winner of The Moth StorySLAM. Her in-progress memoir follows the years she set out to sail around the world by hitchhiking on sailboats. At a time when the backlash against women's social progress and feminism is at a peak, Reed is writing her own true-life story of one woman who charted her own course for adventure ([GlendaReed.com](https://GlendaReed.com)).

**Emily Trenholm** is a multi-genre writer from Minneapolis, Minnesota. She holds an MFA from Naropa University, has taught writing to neurodiverse adults and undergraduate students, and taught English as a second language. Her work can be found in the anthologies *More Revolutionary Letters: A Tribute to Diane di Prima* (Wisdom Body Publications) and *Embodied Unconscious: the feminine space of sexuality, surrealism, and experimentation in literature* (forthcoming from Spuyten Duyvil).

A Black transgender woman with disabilities, **Taiwana Shambley** is an abolitionist fiction writer & teaching artist based in Minneapolis. She writes, teaches, performs, and shifts stories to empower marginalized youth in Minnesota. A Sunspot Literary Journal semi-finalist, her fiction

has been recognized with grants from the Loft Literary Center, the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs, and the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, and her work as an educator was honored with the 2022 PEN/Faulkner Teaching Fellowship. Author of the zine *One Good Argument for Youth Prison Abolition*, her writing is published by the Minnesota Women's Press, Belt Publishing, and the Academy of American Poets. She is also an MFA student at Warren Wilson College and teaches English Language Arts full time at PiM Arts High School. Feel free to book her for community-based performances, workshops, classes, & residencies or to subscribe to updates on her first novel at [taiwanashambley.com](http://taiwanashambley.com).

**Halee Kirkwood** is an emerging Ojibwe poet, teaching artist, and bookseller living in Minneapolis, MN. Their work has been published in Poetry Magazine, Poem-A-Day, Water~Stone Review, and others. Kirkwood is the 2022 winner of the James Welch Poetry Prize, forthcoming with Poetry Northwest. They are a 2022 IN-NA-PO (Indigenous Nations Poets) Fellow, a 2021-22 Minnesota State Arts Board Recipient, and a 2019-2020 Loft Mentor Series Fellow. Kirkwood is a direct descendant of the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Ojibwe.

**Allison Wyss** is the author of the short story collection, *Splendid Anatomies* (Veliz Books, 2022). She has a thing about body modification, dismemberment and fairy tales. Her stories have recently appeared in *Water~Stone Review*, *Cincinnati Review*, *Alaska Quarterly Review*, *Moon City Review*, *Yemassee*, *Lunch Ticket*, *Jellyfish Review*, and (less recently) elsewhere. Some of her ideas about the craft of fiction can be found in Reading Like a Writer, a monthly column she writes for the Loft Literary Center, where she also teaches classes.