



About Me

Dr. Brenda M. Greene, who has committed her life to teaching, learning, and scholarship, is professor of English, founder and executive director of the Center for Black Literature (CBL); director of the National Black Writers Conference (NBWC); and Senior Special Assistant to the Provost at Medgar Evers College of the City University of New York.

Professor Greene's research and scholarly work include composition, African American literature, and multicultural literature. She is editor of *The African Presence and Influence on the Cultures of the Americas* (Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2010), a book of essays that focus on the impact of Africa in the Americas from the perspectives of literature, language, music, dance, and psychology. She has co-edited *Resistance and Transformation: Conversations with Black Writers* (Morton Books, 2010); *Meditations and Ascensions: Black Writers on Writing* (Third World Press, 2008); *Defining Ourselves, Black Writers in the 90s* (Peter Lang Publishers, 1999); and *Rethinking American Literature* (National Council of Teachers of English, 1997). She has also written extensive essays, grants, and book reviews, and conducted presentations in English Studies. She earned a Ph.D. in English with a concentration in Composition and Rhetoric from New York University.

Dr. Greene's educational leadership and professional accomplishments span more than 45 years. Known as a literary activist over the years, she taught at the Board of Education before becoming director of the Right to Read Program at Malcolm King College Harlem Extension; has served on many college committees at Medgar Evers College; has served as director of literacy and writing programs for youth and adults; and has been a jurist for professional and literary organizations. Most notably through the Center for Black Literature, Dr. Greene has consistently pursued her passion of expanding, broadening, and enriching the public's knowledge and aesthetic appreciation of the value of the literature produced by Black writers. She is the visionary behind groundbreaking public and academic programs that support Black Writers. She is also the host of the long-running weekly program, *Writers on Writing*, heard on New York airwaves (WNYE, 91.5 FM) and globally

via YouTube. The program features writers of the African Diaspora discussing their lives, their creative process, and their work (novels, poems, plays, nonfiction, and more).

Dr. Greene has received many awards and has been inducted into the International Literary Hall of Fame for Writers of African Descent. Her awards include the Lucille Rose NAACP Living Legend Award from the Brooklyn Chapter of the NAACP, the Zora Neale Hurston Literary Award from the Brooklyn United Scholarship Association, the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Brooklyn Oldtimers Foundation, the Lynnette Velasco Community Impact Award sponsored by the Harlem Arts Festival, the Educational Leadership Award sponsored by the MEC Community Council, the MEC Percy E. Sutton SEEK Women's Empowerment Award, the City College Women in Arts and Culture Award, and the Phenomenal Women in the Media Award sponsored by Our Time Press. Dr. Greene has also received the Determined to Educate Award for Educational Leadership; the Harriet Jacobs Award for Excellence in Literature presented by the Greater Queens LINKS-Arts Facet, the Betty Smith Arts Award from the Brooklyn Borough President's Office, the Spirit of Africa Award for Achievements in the Creative Arts and in Connecting the World to the Works of Emerging and Established Writers of Color, and the National Conference of Artists Award for Excellence in the Promotion of Black Literature.

An active leader in CUNY, Dr. Greene is a member the CUNY Planning Commission on Black, Race and Ethnic Studies Initiative (BRESI). Learn more [HERE](#). In 2022, Dr. Greene was named as an inaugural member of the New York City Black Studies Commission, led by the Education Equity Action Plan Coalition (EEAPC). Greene will support the coalition in its charge to develop an interdisciplinary Pre-K-12 Black Studies Curriculum that acknowledges the history and contributions of Black people, beginning before slavery and continuing through the present."

Dr. Greene is the proud mother of two sons, [Talib Kweli Greene](#) (an internationally known hip-hop artist) and [Jamal K. Greene](#) (Professor of Constitutional Law at Columbia University).

www.drbrendamgreene.com

www.centerforblackliterature.org