

Gwendalynn Roebke (they/them/theirs)

B.A Distributed Studies *Magna Cum Laude* 2021, CU Boulder
PhD Philosophy, in Progress , University of Pennsylvania

gwendalynnroebke@gmail.com

Publications

“Untitled 1”, December 2021 | **Publisher** : TwentyBellows

One of several untitled poems to be published by an online magazine in preparation for featuring in their January event.

A Bruxist Manifesto, September 2021 | **Publisher**: ReallySeriousLiterature

My first full length poetry collection with pieces written between 2016-2021.

“Roses Encased in Glass”, Summer 2020 | **Publisher**: South Broadway Press

A poem I contributed to the anthology “Thought for Food” whose proceeds went to fighting food insecurity in the Denver region.

Magnitude and Bond Zine Collection, Winter 2020 | **Publisher**: Osier Root

4 poems of mine were featured in a series of small zines used to highlight 3 different BIPOC artists. My poems, and a couple of my drawings, were compiled into their own small zine.

"God is Dead; Suicide Calls for Us All I Guess", February 2018 | **Publisher**: Spit Poet Zine

A poem I contributed to an indie art/zine group based in Boulder, Colorado.

“Let there be Shadow”, Spring 2017 | **Publisher**: Colorism Healing

The first poem that I ever had published the fall after I graduated highschool. It deals with themes of colorism, internalized anti-blackness, and the struggles within the identities of being Black in the United States.

Performances and Events

Denver Art Museum “Untitled: Creative Fusions”, October 2021 | *Participant*

A friend and creative accomplice of mine invited me to collaborate with her as she curated this event. We put together a visual for my poem “Recuerdas, Red Women son Peligras”, which discusses grief and Blackness.

A Night of Open Grief, Fall 2020 | *Event Curator*

I was invited by the Arbor Institute in Boulder, CO to put together an event centered around our feelings during Covid-19. I invited several of the amazing BIPOC women and femmes I knew to perform and create art for the hybrid in person and online event.

Love Letters to the Earth, Summer 2020 | *Featured Poet*

I was invited to perform some poems around humanity and disrupting colonial beliefs about our relationship to the Earth for an online event put in by the Arbor Institute.

Recital de Poesia: feminismos negros y decoloniales, Fall 2019 | *Featured Poet*

As I finished my 4 months of research/exchange in Barranquilla, Colombia, a local café I frequented with the help of a philosophy grad student put on an event about Black feminism and decolonialism. They asked me to share a chapbook (*Elegia de los Arroyos*) I had written during my stay in Colombia about such themes.

Education

B.A Spring 2021, CU Boulder

Magna Cum Laude, Distributed Studies
(Astrophysics, Neuroscience, Philosophy)

Ph.D Student University of Pennsylvania (WIP)

Languages

- German | Intermediate
- Spanish | Intermediate
- Arabic | Beginning

Awards

Poetic License Micro grant Recipient
Fall 2020 | Writers Warehouse

I was awarded a microgrant to create a visual piece of poetry that spoke to the contemporary moment of performative allies and complexes of white guilt.

Featured Artist at Mercury Cafe, February 2019 | *Featured Poet*

I featured at the Mercury Cafe in Denver, Colorado after making a good impression at one of the weekly slam poetry events (where I won 2nd place at what was my 1st slam).

Featured Artist at Innisfree, February 2019 | *Featured Poet*

I featured at the Innisfree poetry bookstore and cafe in Boulder, CO. I had frequented the open mic's for about a semester and used it as a chance to introduce my first chapbook, "Of Thick Skin and Thin Blood: Learning to Speak with Shadows".

Punketry, Winter 2019 | *Featured Poet*

After a series of assorted, eclectic performances in artist spaces across Denver and Boulder, CO, I was invited to participate in Punketry, a tradition in the area where poets perform alongside punk bands.

Organizing Projects

Radical BIPOC Womxn/Femmes Collective, 2019-2021 | *Founder and member*

I formed and cultivated this group with people who were critical of the lack of spaces set aside specifically for BIPOC womxn/femmes. We set up activist campaigns around the lack of retention of BIPOC students, built up support spaces, and generally functioned as a "social organizing space" open for critical conversations around race, gender identity, and the effects of colonialism on those 2 constructions.

Building Leadership Amongst Communities of Color (BLACC), 2018-2021 | *Founder and member.*

BLACC was a project I started while I was a co-president for CU Boulder's BSA (Black Student Alliance). However, I was pushed to leave the BSA because I was told I made white allies uncomfortable, and that my radical leanings were not appropriate for the group (this included my gender identity and expression). After leaving BSA I got to fully develop BLACC into what it was meant to be, a space catering to critical conversations for and with Black folx of all identities to unpack colorism, sexism, classism, internalized antiBlackness, etc. BLACC grew into a small summer bridge experience, and remains to be focused around building up critical Black community at CU Boulder through mentorship and tough but necessary in community conversations in Blackness.