Author Bios – ENOUGH "Say Their Names . . . " Messages from Ground Zero to the WORLD



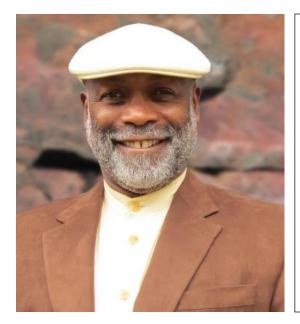
Annis Cassells, a writer, life coach, and career teacher, published her first poetry collection, *You Can't Have It All*, in 2019 and is working on her second volume. A native of Detroit, Annis lives half-time in California and in Oregon, where she conducts memoir writing classes for senior adults. She loves connecting with people and aims to continue making a difference in today's world.



Ronald Montgomery is a father, writer, activist, teacher and coach. In his numerous roles he views himself as an avid student of the human condition. Having lived and worked in several countries, he draws on multi-cultural experiences to augment his understanding of the skills needed to build interpersonal bridges that foster a sense of "global family." His writings stress the need for equality, justice, compassion and love as the cornerstones for healthy communities.



Amalie Rush Hill is a poet, novelist and artist who created the cover art for her four novels and poetry book. She is writing her fifth science fiction book and is working on a collection of short stories. Amalie and her husband live in the country surrounded by trees and share their home with his 98 year old mother, their older son and his daughter, as well as pet dogs and cats. Amalie continues to learn about new ideas and is currently reading books about quantum physics.



Lawrence Diggs believes that many critical subjects are left unsolved because there are not enough forums to wrestle with them in a safe environment. Lawrence Diggs uses an entertaining, interactive approach to tackle difficult subjects. He also uses poetry to help people wrestle with complex subjects nationally and internationally on many forums.



Annie Benjamin is an award-winning songwriter and playwright based in Texas. Her music has been featured in films and documentaries. As a human committed to social justice, she performs in schools, at demonstrations, and in front of civic and business leaders. She believes passionately that the arts have the power to heal hearts and minds while inspiring to bring about social change.



Anke Hodenpijl is a poet of Indonesian and Dutch heritage. She writes about identity, cultural memory, loss and transformation. On occasion she is known to kayak, read compulsively, eat junk food, hike and sing at the thresholds of life. Her favorite activity is to appear to be burning calories on her new electric bicycle.



Diane Ashburner is a writer, editor and project manager who has spent a good portion of her life in China working cross-culturally. She believes that we are forever changed by the experiences of our everyday lives. Her culturally diverse work and life experience represent a rich tapestry that feeds her writing skills. She currently bases out of St Louis, Mo.



Marilyn Johnston is a recipient of a Literary Arts Fellowship for Writers and winner of the Donna J. Stone National Literary Award for Poetry. The author of two collections of poetry, *Red Dust Rising* (2004), about her family's recovery from war, and *Beyond Igniting* (2020), she teaches creative writing as part of the Artists in the Schools program, primarily working with incarcerated youth.