

Michelle Heidenrich Barnes

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Summary

Award-winning poet, anthologist, blogger and teacher, passionate about sharing the wonder of poetry with others. Visit me at my website: MichelleHBarnes.com.

Experience

Poet, anthologist, and blogger, specializing in children's poetry. 2013-Present

- Poems commissioned by Lee Bennett Hopkins and former US Children's Poet Laureates J. Patrick Lewis and Kenn Nesbitt appear in I AM SOMEONE ELSE (Charlesbridge, 2019), THE POETRY OF US (National Geographic, 2018) and ONE MINUTE TILL BEDTIME (Little, Brown, 2016).
- My work also appears in trade anthologies published by Convergent Books, Eerdmans, and DK; and in educational resources published by Pomelo Books and others listed [on my website](#).
- Compiled and edited three BEST OF TODAY'S LITTLE DITTY anthologies.
- Participated as a judge for international children's poetry competitions.
- My blog [Today's Little Ditty](#) is a "poetry playground" featuring writing tips, educational resources, interviews with poets/verse novelists including Kwame Alexander, Nikki Grimes, Naomi Shihab Nye, Lee Bennett Hopkins, Jane Yolen, and others, and poetry challenges for anyone with a passion for wordplay.

Workshop presenter 2015-Present

Hands-on poetry workshops presented at P.K. Yonge Developmental Research School, the Hippodrome theatre, and with the We The People Arts Initiative. As a teacher, my greatest privilege was working with at-risk youth from Sequel Residential—a residential facility for 11-19 year old boys committed to the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice as first-time offenders.

Writer of greeting card copy 2004-2013

Hundreds of greeting card verse sales to US and UK publishers including Andrews McMeel Publishing, Blue Mountain Arts, Design Design Inc., Freedom Greetings, Koehler Companies, Laura Leiden Calligraphy, Papyrus, Watermark Publishing, and others.

Awards

- Finalist, Poet Laureate for Alachua County, Florida
- Honorable Mention, Golden Triangle Haiku Competition
- The Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators' Magazine Merit Award for Poetry

Education

MS in Training and Development, Lesley University, Cambridge, Massachusetts

BA in Theater, Connecticut College, New London, Connecticut