

## Harriet A. Washington

Harriet A. Washington is a science writer, editor and ethicist who is the author of *Carte Blanche: The Erosion of Informed Consent in Medical Research* (2021, Columbia Global Reports); and *A Terrible Thing to Waste: Environmental Racism and Its Assault on the American Mind*. She has been Writing Fellow in Bioethics at Harvard Medical School, the 2015-2016 Miriam Shearing Fellow at the University of Nevada's Black Mountain Institute, a Research Fellow in Medical Ethics at Harvard Medical School, Visiting Fellow at the Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health, a visiting scholar at DePaul University College of Law and a senior research scholar at the National Center for Bioethics at Tuskegee University. She has also held fellowships at Stanford University, and teaches bioethics at Columbia University, where she delivered the 2020 commencement speech to Columbia's School of Public Health graduates, and won the 2020 Mailman School Of Public Health's Public Health Leadership Award, as well as the 2020-21 Kenneth and Mamie Clark Distinguished Lecture Award. In 2016 she was elected a Fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine and in 2021 the American Medical Writers Association gave her the Walter C. Alvarez Award.

Her work provided the basis for the AMA's apology to the nation's black physicians in 2008 and led to the banishment of the James Marion Sims statue from Central Park in 2018.

Ms. Washington has written widely for popular magazines, newspapers, and science publications and has been published in peer reviewed books and journals such as *Nature*, *JAMA*, *The American Journal of Public Health*, *The New England Journal of Medicine*, *the Harvard Public Health Review*, *Isis*, *Medizin und Ethik in der Pandemie APuZ* and *The Journal of Law, Medicine, and Ethics*. She has been *Editor of the Harvard Journal of Minority Public Health*, a guest Editor of the *Journal of Law, Medicine and Ethics* and is a reviewer for the *Journal of the American Association of Bioethics and the Humanities*. Her other books include *Infectious Madness: The Surprising Science of How We "Catch" Mental Illness*, *Deadly Monopolies: The Shocking Corporate Takeover of Life Itself*, and *Medical Apartheid: The Dark History of Experimentation from Colonial Times to the Present*, which won a National Book Critics Circle Award, the PEN/Oakland Award, and the American Library Association Black Caucus Nonfiction Award.

A film buff and lover of baroque music, Ms. Washington has also worked as manager of a poison-control center, a classical-music announcer for public radio station WXXI-FM in Rochester, NY and she curates a medical-film series.

## **Hilda Hutcherson**

Hilda Hutcherson, MD, MS, is the Senior Associate Dean in the Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs at Columbia Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons and a Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Columbia University Irving Medical Center. She is a graduate of Stanford University, Harvard Medical School and received her MS degree from Columbia University Institute of Human Nutrition. She completed her residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at New York Presbyterian Hospital- Columbia.

Dr. Hutcherson grew up in Tuskegee, Alabama. Her experience as a first-generation college student from a low-income family motivates her to create opportunities for underrepresented youth. She has received state, federal, and foundation grants for pipeline programs that provide academic enrichment and mentoring for more than 400 underrepresented and disadvantaged middle school, high school and college students each year. Her work helps increase diversity of the healthcare workforce nationally.

As Senior Associate Dean, Dr. Hutcherson is charged with the recruitment and retention of a diverse student body. She established the Kenneth A Forde Diversity Alliance which brings together underrepresented students, residents, fellows and faculty at Columbia VP&S for mentoring and fellowship.

She has served on numerous task forces and advisory boards including the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Doris Duke Clinical Research Fellowship, New York Presbyterian Hospital, Associated Medical Schools of New York, Planned Parenthood of New York City and the New York State Department of Health. The Governor of New York State twice appointed her to the New York State Stem Cell Board, and she is currently a member of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Advisory Committee to the Director working group on Diversity. She received the VP&S Award for Excellence in Diversity, twice received the P&S Gender Equity Teaching Award, and was selected to the Academy of Community and Public Service at Columbia.

Dr Hutcherson is a nationally recognized expert in Women's Health who has devoted her career to patient education. She travels nationally and internationally to speak about women's sexual health issues. For more than 15 years, she served as the Sexual Health columnist for Glamour, Essence, and Redbook Magazines, and she currently contributes to multiple women's magazines and other media outlets. She is the author of three books: *Having Your Baby: A Guide for African American Women*, *What Your Mother Never Told You About Sex*, and *Pleasure*.

## **J.C. Hallman**

J.C. Hallman grew up in Southern California. He studied creative writing at the University of Pittsburgh, the Writing Seminars at Johns Hopkins, and the Iowa Writers' Workshop.

Hallman's narrative nonfiction combines memoir, history, journalism, and travelogue. His first book, *The Chess Artist*, tells the story of Hallman's friendship with African American chess player Glenn Umstead. His second, *The Devil is a Gentleman*, is an intellectual apprenticeship with philosopher William James. *In Utopia* explores the history of utopian literature in the context of visits to six modern utopias in various stages of realization. *Wm & H'ry* examines the copious correspondence of William and Henry James. And *B & Me* is an account of Hallman's literary relationship with Nicholson Baker.

Hallman has also published a book of short stories, *The Hospital for Bad Poets*, and edited two anthologies of "creative criticism," *The Story About the Story* and *The Story About the Story II*.

Among other honors, Hallman was a recipient of a 2010 McKnight Artist Fellowship in fiction, and a 2013 Fellowship from the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation in the general non-fiction category.

In 2015, Hallman unearthed the first evidence ever found that proved the existence of the young woman known as "Anarcha" that did not come from the dubious writings of J. Marion Sims, the diabolical surgeon who subjected her to dozens of excruciating experimental surgeries. Since then, he has tracked Anarcha's full life story, from the plantation where she was born to the lonely forest where she is buried. His book about Anarcha and J. Marion Sims, which builds off earlier articles that appeared in *Harper's*, *The Baffler*, and *The Montgomery Advertiser*, is forthcoming from Henry Holt.

## **Michelle Browder**

Michelle Browder is a nationally recognized artist, activist, and amplifier bridging the racial divide through art, history, and conversation.

The Artist:

The artistic and straightforward daughter of Chaplain Curtis and Buena Browder was born in the beautiful, snowcapped state of Denver, Colorado.

By the time Michelle was seven (7) years old; she and her family moved to Verbena,

Alabama. It was in Alabama that Michelle unfortunately became acquainted with racial bias and prejudice as a youth. She was bullied often and for protection displayed a defiant and revolutionary spirit. Michelle began vehemently confronting her bullies physically. This led to multiple school suspensions. It was during this time, that Michelle's father challenged her to express her aggressions through art and creativity.

Chaplain Curtis Browder, the first African American chaplain appointed to the state of Alabama; and Michelle's father, charged her to make art that would tell her story and liberate her voice.

Hailing from a family of entrepreneurs, Michelle started a hand-painted t-shirt business at thirteen (13) years old. She knew early on that art would play a major role in her life. After high school graduation, Michelle moved to Atlanta, Georgia to attend the Art Institute of Atlanta; where she studied Graphic Design and Visual Communications. While in Atlanta, she honed her natural artistic skills which led her to paint pieces for celebrities; Tyler Perry and Denzel Washington.

Michelle's artwork has been exhibited in art galleries around the world; most notably; the Rosa Parks Museum in Montgomery, Alabama.

#### The Activist:

For 30 years, Michelle has been an advocate and activist for the at-risk and marginalized. Her heart is especially tender toward disenfranchised youth.

Returning to Montgomery, Alabama; Michelle noticed that youth needed someone to listen, encourage, and provide a safe space for them. She created a space that immersed students in art, history, "real talk," spoken word, and visual art. This experience birthed an arts-centered diversion program that was used by juvenile detention centers in Alabama and Georgia.

In the spring of 2012, Michelle and a group of chaperones took 56 students to Washington, DC to see Attorney Bryan Stevenson argue a case before the United States Supreme Court. The case focused on the constitutionality of youth being sentenced to death in prison. This encounter changed both the students' and Michelle's lives exponentially and birthed the I Am More Than Youth Empowerment Initiative. This initiative expanded into a non-profit that hosted community conversations, arts-centered programs for schools and hosted youth-led conferences.

Michelle champions the message that young people are more than statistics, generalizations, or stereotypes but are vibrant contributors and citizens to our society.

#### The Amplifier:

Michelle owns and operates More Than Tours; which is a social enterprise that provides educational and interactive tours to students and tourists exposing the rich and sometimes haunting history of Montgomery, Alabama. More Than Tours has bridged the racial

divide by reaching nearly 10,000 students and tourists via tourism.

Through her social enterprise and bodacious personality, Michelle has helped to amplify Montgomery, Alabama and its evolving persona; making it a sought after tourist destination for many. She has been featured on PBS NewsHour, in Boston Globe, Preservation Magazine, National Geographic Traveler's Edition, New York Times, and the Washington Post for the experiential and interactive way she brings Montgomery, Alabama's history to life.

Michelle was honored with the Community Hero Award from the Montgomery Advertiser; presented to her by the Mayor of Montgomery Alabama, Todd Strange. She was recognized for her years of dedication and devotion and her consistent efforts as a bridge builder; connecting the community using art, history, and conversation. Governor Kay Ivey presented Michelle with the Rising Star in Tourism Award from the State of Alabama; recognizing the impact Michelle and her company has made in the industry.

Michelle resides in Montgomery, Alabama. In her free time; she spends quality time with her siblings, shops vintage, and paints her feelings on canvas.