



KAREN BASS
MAYOR

March 16, 2023

Honorable Members of the City Council
c/o City Clerk
City Hall, Room 395

Honorable Members:

Subject to your confirmation, I have appointed Mr. Hiram Sims to the Board of Library Commissioners for the term ending June 30, 2027. Mr. Sims will fill the vacancy created by Dale Franzen, who has resigned.

I certify that in my opinion Mr. Sims is qualified for the work that will devolve upon him, and that I make the appointment solely in the interest of the City.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Karen Bass'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

KAREN BASS
Mayor

KB:tga

Attachment

COMMISSION APPOINTMENT FORM

Name: Hiram Sims
Commission: Board of Library Commissioners
End of Term: 6/30/2027

Appointee Information

- 1. **Race:** African American
- 2. **Gender:** Male
- 3. **Council district and neighborhood of residence:** 8 - South LA
- 4. **Are you a registered voter?** Yes
- 5. **Prior commission experience:**
- 6. **Highest level of education completed:** MPW, Poetry, University of Southern California
- 7. **Occupation/profession:** Poetry Instructor/Founder, The Community Literature Initiative
- 8. **Experience(s) that qualifies person for appointment:** See attached resume/bio
- 9. **Purpose of this appointment:** Appointment
- 10. **Current composition of the commission (excluding appointee):**

Commissioner	APC	CD	Ethnicity	Gender	Term End
Eidmann, Kathryn	East	13	Caucasian	F	30-Jun-26
Cao, Bich Ngoc	East	13	Asian Pacific Islander	F	30-Jun-23
VACANT					30-Jun-25
VACANT					30-Jun-27
Blank, Linda	West LA	5	Caucasian	F	30-Jun-24

HIRAM SIMS

POET, PROFESSOR

ABOUT ME

Hiram Sims is a poet, essayist, and creative writing professor with The Community Literature Initiative. He graduated from the University of Southern California and received a BA in Creative Writing and an MPW in Poetry. In addition to teaching, he has published three collections of poetry and a creative writing textbook entitled THESE PAGES SPEAK. He is the co-founder of World Stage Press and founder of the Sims Library of Poetry.

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

August 2007 | MPW in Poetry

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

August 2005 | BA in Creative Writing

EXPERIENCE

08/13 -
present

THE COMMUNITY LITERATURE INITIATIVE POETRY INSTRUCTOR/FOUNDER

- Teaching creative writing to writers from the community
- Educating students on preparing a manuscript for publication
- Building liaisons between LA authors and small presses
- Coordinating programming, guest lectures, and panels
- Founded World Stage Press and Sims Library of Poetry

04/14 -
02/21

THE LOS ANGELES FILM SCHOOL CREATIVE WRITING PROFESSOR

- Taught full semester courses in the fundamentals of poetry and short fiction.
- Trained students to learn and use English grammar, punctuation, spelling, reading analysis, and composition.
- Conducted faculty trainings on the subjects of Creative Writing Pedagogy and Teacher/Student Relations
- Started Living Writers series program connecting students with writers

01/13 -
present

USC (NAI SATURDAY ACADEMY) POETRY INSTRUCTOR

- Instructing students on the mechanics of poetry
- Creating innovative curriculum focused on contemporary performance poetry
- Creating anthologized published work
- Organizing recitals and public performances

HIRAM SIMS

POET, PROFESSOR

- 08/11 - present** **CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LOS ANGELES**
ENGLISH COMPOSITION INSTRUCTOR
- Course levels taught: ENGL95/96
 - Teaching remedial composition to undergraduate freshman
 - Coordinating private tutorial sessions with students
 - Assisting in the creation of assessment rubrics
- 01/11 - present** **LONG BEACH CITY COLLEGE**
ENGLISH INSTRUCTOR
- Course levels taught: ENGL1 – transfer level
 - Teaching students to read and analyze college-level texts; write academic prose with a clear purpose and effective, relevant support from sources; locate, evaluate, organize, and synthesize research material from a variety of sources; compose essays that demonstrate consistent control of academic discourse and rhetoric
- 08/10 - 08/14** **EL CAMINO COLLEGE (COMPTON CENTER)**
ENGLISH INSTRUCTOR: CREATIVE WRITING, LITERATURE
- Course levels taught: ENGL 25A/24A: Intro to Fiction/Poetry
- 08/09 - 01/10** **CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, DOMINGUEZ HILLS**
ENGLISH COMPOSITION INSTRUCTOR
- Course levels taught: ENGL110 – Freshman Composition
 - Taught several full semester courses in Freshman level English for the EOP program
- 06/09 - 08/09** **SANTA MONICA COLLEGE**
CREATIVE WRITING INSTRUCTOR
- Created and taught a creative writing summer workshop for the Black Collegians Program
- 08/07 - 06/10** **SANTA MONICA COLLEGE**
ENGLISH INSTRUCTOR
- Course levels taught: ENGL21A, ENGL21B, ENGL22
 - Teaching full semester courses (including an online course) in the fundamentals of English grammar, punctuation, spelling, reading analysis, and composition. I also worked in the writing center helping all SMC students work on their individual writing skills.
- 08/06 - 08/11** **URBAN POETS CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP**
INSTRUCTOR/FOUNDER
- Instructed students on the mechanics of performance poetry
 - Created innovative curriculum focused on contemporary performance poetry
 - Created anthologized published work
 - Organized recitals and pub performances

HIRAM SIMS

POET, PROFESSOR

- 01/04 - 05/04 **C.A.T.C.H.E. CHARTER SCHOOL**
TEACHER OF CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP
- Taught young high school students creative writing
 - Organized field trips to campus and other academic locations
 - Conducted fundraising projects
 - Coordinator of special events

TEACHING AREAS

Poetry, Fiction, Short Fiction, Classic American Poetry, Contemporary American Poetry, African American Poetry, Slam and Performance Poetry, Freshman Composition, Advanced Composition.

PUBLICATIONS

- 2024** Sims, Hiram, editor. *The Inauguration Poems*. World Stage Press, Forthcoming 2024.
- 2021** Sims, Hiram, editor. *Poems in Praise of Libraries*. SLP Books, Forthcoming 2021.
- 2021** Sims, Hiram. Foreword. *The Distance of Observation*, by Conney Williams. World Stage Press, 2021.
- 2020** Sims, Hiram. Foreword. *If Love Had a Name*, by Davina Ferreira. Alegria Publishing, 2020.
- 2017** Sims, Hiram. Foreword. *Articulate Scars: Comfortable Silences and Reluctant Tears*, by Derek Brown. CreateSpace, 2017.
- 2015** Sims, Hiram. (2nd Edition) *PHOTOETRY: Poetry and Photography from South Central*. Figueroa Press: University of Southern California, 2013.
- 2015** Sims, Hiram. *The Border Crossed US: An Anthology to End Apartheid*. Vagabond Books, 2015.
- 2015** Sims, Hiram. *These Pages Speak*. World Stage Press, 2015.
- 2014** Sims, Hiram. *Revolutionary Poets Brigade: Los Angeles Anthology*. Vagabond Books, 2014.
- 2014** Sims, Hiram. *The Inglewood Poetry Project Anthology*. Alter Destiny Press, 2014.
- 2013** Sims, Hiram. *PHOTOETRY: Poetry and Photography from South Central*. Figueroa Press: University of Southern California, 2013.
- 2013** Sims, Hiram. Foreword. *Ketchup: Sopa de Gato*, by Carlos Ornelas. Lulu, 2013.

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- 2012 Sims, Hiram. *The Invisible Door: A Collection from the 25A Fiction Writers*. LA Bookshelf Publishing, 2012.
- 2011 Sims, Hiram. "The Expenses of an Urban Slave." Askew Literary Magazine. Issue 12, Volume 1. June 2012.
- 2008 Sims, Hiram. *Write or Die: A Collection of Poetry from the Urban Poets Workshop*. LA Bookshelf Publishing, 2008.
- 2007 Sims, Hiram. "What God Creates." House of Jacob Communicator. April 2007.
- 2007 Sims, Hiram. "Writing Warriors." USC Black Voices E-Magazine. 15 March 2007.
- 2006 Sims, Hiram. "On the Tracks." *NFL/USC Poems of the Summer: A Student Anthology*. Jones Press. July 2006:14.
- 2005 Sims, Hiram. "The Black Blueprint Manual." 100 Black Men of USC Publications. 2005.
- 2005 Sims, Hiram. "Gangs vs. Greeks." South Ben Chronicle. March 2005. Section 4.
- 2005 Sims, Hiram. "Wisdom." USC's Black Voices E-Magazine. November 2005.
- 2004 Sims, Hiram. "Gangs vs Greeks." USC Angelino Literary Journal. Issue 2, Volume 1. 2004.
- 2004 Sims, Hiram. "The Pigeon." 16 Poets: A Compilation. December 2004:10.
- 2004 Sims, Hiram. "Soul for Sale." USC Angelino Literary Journal. Issue 1, Volume 1. 2004.
- 2003 Sims, Hiram. "The Purple Rose." *Poetry.com's Best Poets Edition*. Maryland: Poetry.com Press. 2003.
- 1999 Sims, Hiram. "Our Father." House of Jacob Communicator. January 1999.

AWARDS

- 2012 **EL CAMINO COLLEGE (COMPTON CENTER)**
FACULTY OF THE YEAR
- 2005 **UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**
ORDER OF THE LAUREL AND THE PALM

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- 2013 **ACADEMY OF AMERICAN POETS**

HIRAM SIMS

POET, PROFESSOR

NOTABLE FEATURES: PROGRAMMING & READINGS

- 2021 SIMS LIBRARY OF POETRY**
Host: Akoldpiece Ofwork
Pages on Stages
- 2021 WOODBURY UNIVERSITY**
Host: LA Film School, USC, and Woodbury University
Building Your Dreams During a Crisis
- 2021 LA CITY COUNCIL**
Host: LA City Councilmember Curren Price
Covid Tribute
- 2020 POEMS UP FOR DEBATE (Instagram Live)**
Host: Hiram Sims, sponsored by Poets & Writers Magazine
- 2019 THE LAST BOOKSTORE**
Host: Lady Basco
- 2019 ASSOCIATION OF WRITERS & WRITING PROGRAMS**
Host: AWP/Kaya Press
Create The Literary Future You Want Panel
- 2018 BLACK WRITERS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD**
Host: University of Southern California
- 2016 THE LIVING WRITERS SERIES**
Host: World Stage Press/LAUSD
2016-2018
- 2015 THE LIVING WRITERS SERIES**
Host: Los Angeles Film School
2015-2021
- 2014 UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**
Host: Black Student Assembly
- 2014 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES**
Host: Bunche Center for African American Studies
- 2014 SANTA MONICA COLLEGE**
Host: Black Collegians
- 2014 THE WORLD STAGE PERFORMANCE GALLERY**
Host: Conney Williams, V. Kali
- 2014 CITY MARKET GALLERY COLLECTIVE**
Host: Dr. William Doucuet
- 2014 BEYOND BAROQUE**
Host: Billy Burgos, Antonieta Villameal
- 2014 UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA**
Host: Toya J/Las Vegas Poetry Collective
- 2014 THE LAST BOOKSTORE**
Host: Lady Basco

HIRAM SIMS

POET, PROFESSOR

- 2013 CAL STATE UNIVERSITY, LOS ANGELES**
Host: Dr. Laura Ramey
- 2013 CAL STATE UNIVERSITY, DOMINGUEZ HILLS**
Host: Dr. Thomas Bear
- 2013 EL CAMINO COLLEGE (COMPTON CENTER)**
Host: English Department
- 2013 FOSHAY LEARNING CENTER**
Host: English Department
- 2013 LA SOUTHWEST COLLEGE**
Host: English Department
- 2013 SHADES OF AFRICA**
Host: Impaac/Shy
- 2013 SAN DIEGO FINE ARTS CENTER**
Host: Ashanti Davis
- 2013 LIBERTY ART GALLERY**
Host: Julia Steinberg
- 2013 COLORLAB TIERRASAL GALLERY**
Host: Juvencio Conors
- 2013 MACHINE POMONA**
Host: Judah l
- 2013 HIBBLETON GALLERY**
Host: Jesse La Tour

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PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- 2013 **ACADEMY OF AMERICAN POETS**



KAREN BASS
MAYOR

March 16, 2023

Dear Mr. Sims:

I am pleased to inform you that I hereby appoint you to the Board of Library Commissioners for the term ending June 30, 2027, subject to confirmation by the City Council. In order to complete the process as quickly as possible, there are several steps that must be taken, many of which require visiting City Hall. If you require parking during these procedures, please contact my Commissions team by email at my-commissions@lacity.org, to make arrangements for you.

To begin the appointment process, please review, sign, and return the enclosed Remuneration Form and Undated Separation Letters **within one week** of receiving this letter. These documents are necessary to ensuring the most efficient, open, and accountable City government possible. Further, Mayor's Office policy requires all potential commissioners to be fingerprinted as part of the background check. The Commissions Team will assist in connecting you with the Personnel Background Unit so that you may schedule an appointment to have this done. You must schedule the appointment **within one week** of receiving this letter.

Should this apply to your Commission, you will be receiving a packet from the City Ethics Commission containing information about the City's conflict of interest laws, and a copy of the State Form 700/Statement of Economic Interests. You are required to complete and return this form **within 21 days** of your nomination to the City Ethics Commission at 200 North Spring Street, City Hall, 24th Floor, Los Angeles, California 90012. Any inquiries regarding this form should be directed to Nicole Enriquez at the Ethics Commission by email at nicole.enriquez@lacity.org.

Mr. Hiram Sims
March 16, 2023
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As part of the City Council confirmation process, meetings will be offered to Marqueece Harris-Dawson, your Councilmember, and Councilmember Eunisses Hernandez, the Chair of the Neighborhoods and Community Enrichment Committee, to answer any questions they may have. You will be hearing from a City Council committee clerk who will let you know when your appointment will be considered by the Neighborhoods and Community Enrichment Committee. Sometime thereafter, you will be notified by the committee clerk when your appointment will be presented to the full City Council for confirmation. Once you are confirmed, you will be required to take the oath of office in the City Clerk's Office in Room 395 of City Hall.

Commissioners must be residents of the City of Los Angeles. If you move at any point during your term, have any changes in your telephone numbers, or in the future plan to resign (resignation must be put in writing), please contact my office immediately.

Congratulations and thank you for agreeing to serve the people of Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Bass". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

KAREN BASS
Mayor

KB:tga

Attachment I
Mr. Hiram Sims
March 16, 2023

Nominee Check List

I. Within 7 days:

_____ Schedule an appointment to get fingerprinted to complete a background check. The Commissions team will assist in connecting you with the Personnel Background Unit.

_____ Email the completed forms, found on the last three pages of this letter, to: myr-commissions@lacity.org OR mail them to: Commissions Team, Office of the Mayor, City Hall – Room 303, 200 N. Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

- Remuneration Form
- Undated Separation Letters

II. Within 21 days:

_____ File the following forms with the City Ethics Commission. *If you are required to file, you will receive these forms via email from that office.*

- **Statement of Economic Interest (“Form 700”)**
IMPORTANT: The City Council will not consider your nomination until your completed form is reviewed by the Ethics Commission.
- **CEC Form 60**

III. The Mayor’s Office will notify the below Councilmembers of your nomination, so that they may reach out to schedule a meeting with you should they wish.

_____ Your City Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson

_____ Councilmember Eunisses Hernandez, Chair of the Council Committee considering your nomination