Lauren-Ashley Howard
Laurenashleyarts087@gmail.com

Education

University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign

December, 2021
- Master of Arts in African Studies
- Foreign Language and Areas Studies Fellowship recipient (2020-21)
    - Received for Swahili Studies

May, 2020
- Master of Fine Arts in Studio Art
- McLellan Fellowship recipient 2017-18

State University of New York at Buffalo

May, 2013
- Juris Doctor

May, 2013
- Bachelor of Fine Arts in Visual Studies, General Studio Concentration, Magna Cum Laude

May, 2010
- Bachelor of Arts in Media Study, Production Concentration, Summa Cum Laude
- Minor in Japanese Language
- Dean's List 2006-2010

Professional Experience

2012-2014
- Chief Law Clerk, City of Buffalo Department of Law

2014-2017
- Assistant Corporation Counsel, City of Buffalo Department of Law

2018-2021
- Teaching Assistant
    - Image Practice (Fall 2018)
    - Intermediate Studio (Spring 2019)
    - Advanced Studio (Spring 2019)
    - Contemporary Issues In Art (Fall 2019)
    - Cosplay (Spring 2020) (Sole Instructor)
    - Performance and Worldbuilding (Spring 2021) (Sole Instructor)

2021-Present
- General Counsel, Buffalo Sewer Authority

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Language

Proficient in conversational Swahili

Group Exhibition

2013 **"**Shibboleth, BFA Thesis Show," Hi-Temp Fabrications, Buffalo, NY (Performance, Painting, Installation)
2014 "National Pan Hellenic Council Wine and Art Affair, Buffalo Arts Studio," Buffalo, NY (Installation)
2018 "Returning Grad Show," Link Gallery, Champaign, IL (Soft Sculpture Installation)
2019 "Boneyard 2019," Collaboration with Patrick Earl Hammie, Cohen Building, Urbana, IL (Performance, Installation)
2019 "Returning Grad Show," Link Gallery, Champaign, IL (Photo Installation)
2020 "2020 School of Art + Design Master of Fine Arts Exhibition," Virtual (Performance documentation)

Solo Exhibition

2014 **"**Voyager: Navigating the Black Feminine Space," 833 Michigan Ave., Buffalo, NY (Performance, Painting, Installation)

Collaboration

2014 "Dodge West," Halwalls Gallery, Buffalo, NY (Actress in film)

Convention Exhibition

2014 "Midwest Ethnic Convention for Comics and Arts (MECCA Con)," The Carr Center, Detroit, MI (Performance, Painting, Installation)
2016 "Black Speculative Arts Movement (BSAM)," Toronto, ON (Performance, Installation)

Artist Talk and Convention Panels

2016 "Black Speculative Arts Movement (BSAM)," Toronto, ON (Artist Talk with Stacey Robinson)
2017 "POC Cosplay at Anime North," Toronto, ON (Convention Panel)
2018 "POC Cosplay at Anime North," Toronto, ON (Convention Panel)

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Performance

2017 "Losing You," South Studios, Champaign, IL (Dance)
2018 "Aja," South Studios, Champaign, IL (Spiritual Summoning)
2018 "Spirits," South Studios, Champaign, IL (Cleansing)
2018 "Adanko," South Studios, Champaign, IL
2019 "Homegoing," South Studios, Champaign, IL (Morning Praise Service)
2019 "Homegoing," Cohen Building, Champaign, IL (Evening Praise Service)
2019 "Pray For Me," South Studios, Champaign, IL (Dance)
2019 "Stardust," South Studios, Champaign, IL

Cosplay Performance

2013 **Anime North**, Toronto, ON (Miss All Sunday; Nico Robin; Princess Jasmine)
2014 **Anime North**, Toronto, ON (Sailor Moon Afro Remix; Eternal Sailor Moon Afro Remix; Miss All Sunday)
2014 **Midwest Ethnic Convention for Comics and Arts (MECCA Con)**, The Carr Center, Detroit, MI (The African Baby Doll)
2015 **Anime North**, Toronto, ON (Sailor Moon and Sailor Chibi Chibi Moon Afro Remix)
2015 **Buffalo Comicon**, Buffalo, NY (Kiki's Delivery Service)
2016 **Anime North**, Toronto, ON (Cosplay performance, Sailor Neptune Afro Remix; Afro Lolita)
2016 **Buffalo Comicon**, Buffalo, NY (Harley Quinn)
2016 **Black Speculative Arts Movement**, Toronto, ON (Sailor Moon Afro Remix; Princess Serenity Afro Remix)
2016 **Youmacon**, Detroit, MI (Storm; Sailor Moon Afro Remix)
2017 **Anime North,** Toronto, ON (Star Butterfly (Mewberty) and Princess Ponyhead Afro Remix; Star Butterfly and Princess Ponyhead Afro Remix; Princess Star Butterfly and Princess Ponyhead Afro Remix)
2018 **Anime North**, Toronto, ON (Princess Star Butterfly Afro Remix; Star Butterfly Afro Remix; Sailor Neptune and Sailor Chibi Chibi Moon Afro Remix; Sailor Moon Afro Remix)
2019 **Anime North**, Toronto, ON (Sailor Moon Afro Remix; Eternal Sailor Moon Afro Remix; Star Butterfly and King Ponyhead Afro Remix)
2020 **Chicago Comic & Entertainment Expo (C2E2)**, (Sailor Moon Afro Remix; Eternal Sailor Moon Afro Remix)

Related Experience

2014 Co-Chair, Delta Sigma Theta Buffalo Alumnae Chapter Arts and Letters

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Committee

2014-2017 Legal Counsel, Buffalo Arts Commission

2020 Marketing and Social Media Officer, African Students Organization

Awards and Recognition

2013 Levy-King-White Award, University of Buffalo Department of Media Study

2015 Changemakers: 30 Under 30

2016 Buffalo Black Achievers Award