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## ALAN Online News: Announcing the ALAN 2020 Virtual Workshop Keynote and Anti-Racist Breakout Speakers

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*In this issue:* our 2020 virtual workshop keynote speakers, more information on our ALAN Award Winner: Nikki Grimes, opportunities to get involved in this year's workshop.

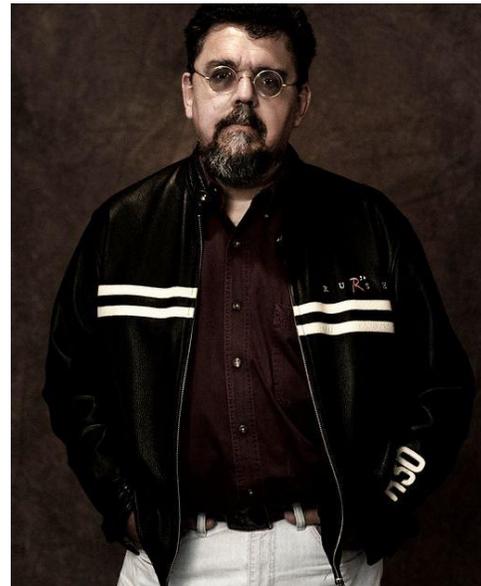
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## Announcing the 2020 Virtual ALAN Workshop Keynote Speakers: Samira Ahmed and Eric Gansworth!

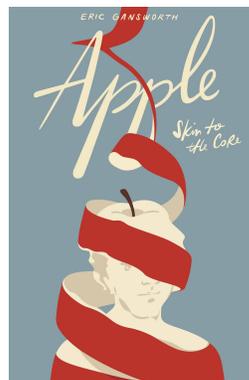
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Samira Ahmed



Eric Gansworth



# Announcing our 2020 Inaugural Anti-Racist Breakout Session Speakers

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ALAN is pleased to announce the 2020 recipients of the Anti-Racist Session Award. This (new) annual breakout session is dedicated to implementing anti-racist work in schools, libraries, and/or universities. The intent of the session is to continue the conversation and provide actionable items and recommendations for attendees to implement in their different contexts. The speaker(s) are awarded a \$500 honorarium as a way to recognize their labor, care, and commitment. Thank you to all those who submitted proposals.

We are grateful to share that, due to the generosity of an anonymous donor, we were able to support two anti-racist sessions this year. Please join us in congratulating our presenters this year. Their presentations will be offered live and back-to-back on the first day of the ALAN Workshop virtual program on Monday, November 23, so attendees will be able to attend both sessions.

Our 2020 presenters and presentations are:

[Julia E. Torres](#) and [Tiffany D. Jackson](#)'s "**Making the Erased, Visible: Reading, Teaching, and Learning about Missing and Exploited Black Girls, Womxn, and Femmes**"

[Latasha McKinney](#) and [Rebecca Maldonado](#)'s "**Art as an Agent of Change: Using Art and Literature to Deconstruct and Eradicate Prejudice**"

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## More Details on our 2020 ALAN Award Winner: Nikki Grimes

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The Assembly on Literature for Adolescents of NCTE (ALAN) is pleased to announce Nikki Grimes as the recipient of the 2020 ALAN Award. The Award is given to someone who has made "outstanding contributions to the field of adolescent literature." Join us at the [ALAN Workshop breakfast](#) and help us honor Nikki Grimes, the recipient of this year's ALAN Award, who continues to make outstanding contributions to adolescent literature.

A bestselling author and a prolific artist, Nikki Grimes has written 77 books, many award-winning books for adolescents

including the Coretta Scott King Award winner for *Bronx Masquerade*; the Coretta Scott King Author Honor books *Jazmin's Notebook*, *Talkin' About Bessie*, *Dark Sons*, *The Road to Paris*, and *Words with Wings*; Horn Book Fanfare for *Talkin' About Bessie*; ALA Notable books *What is Goodbye?* and *Words with Wings*; and numerous picture books and novels including The New York Times bestseller *Barack Obama: Son of Promise*, *Child of Hope* and, most recently, *Garvey's Choice* and *One Last Word: Wisdom from the Harlem Renaissance*. In 2005, Ms. Grimes was awarded the Golden Dolphin Award by the Southern California Children's Book Association, recognizing her body of work. She has been honored with the NCTE Award for Poetry and the 2016 Virginia Hamilton Literary Award from Kent State University. In 2017, she was presented with the Children's Literature Legacy Award for her "substantial and lasting contribution to literature for children." ([List of books.](#))

And Nikki Grimes continues to publish books that speak to the times with a moving picture book biography of Kamala Harris in [Kamala Harris: Rooted in Justice](#), just released in August 2020. Her memoir, [Ordinary Hazards](#), is a Michael L. Printz Honor Award, one of ALA's most distinguished awards for adolescent literature, about which author Laurie Halse Anderson wrote: "This book will heal hearts." To be released January 2021, [Legacy: Women Poets of the Harlem Renaissance](#) is a feminist-forward new collection of poetry celebrating the little-known women poets of the Harlem Renaissance--paired with full-color, original art from today's most talented female African-American illustrators. In addition to her books, Nikki Grimes has an engaged presence on social media, making visible and accessible her writing life for fans and aspiring authors. She also amplifies the work of other writers in her media feeds and author panels. When visiting schools, she posts classroom images from across the country to promote reading as activism. Finally, Nikki Grimes uses her voice to respond to and interrogate our world with poetry. In "[You Still Dream](#)" on Poets.org, she wrote, "Please heal our nation./Cleanse our stubborn hearts./Show each of us what part to play" (2020).

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## Get Involved in the 2020 Workshop

Want to moderate an ALAN Workshop panel this year? Want to book-talk an e-galley during the special event? Please fill out this form, and we will work to accommodate as many people as we can! Form will be open until Friday, September 18:

<https://forms.gle/aocm3L4rc6bP1iVt7>

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## STAY CURRENT WITH ALAN

Don't miss a single issue of The ALAN Review or any ALAN communications. Keep us updated with your most current (and preferred) email and mailing addresses. Please let Suzanne Metcalfe ([alanya.membership@gmail.com](mailto:alanya.membership@gmail.com)) know as soon as possible if you prefer a different address or for any changes or questions.

NEED TO JOIN OR RENEW? You can do this online at <http://www.alan-ya.org/join/>. You'll find your expiration date on your mailing label right above your name.

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## Supporting ALAN

There are so many ways to support ALAN...coming to the workshop, voting, running for the Board, volunteering...and donating. Please support ALAN's Grant Projects by donating. Just click the button!

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### Membership Rates

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