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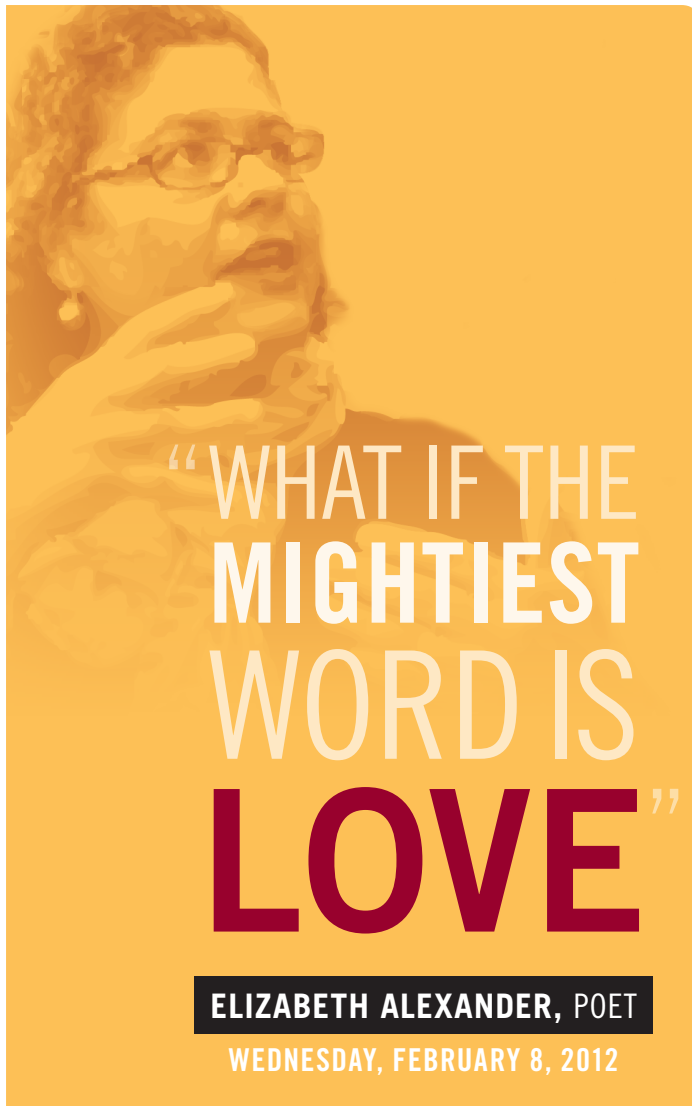
African American
Author Series

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“IF PART OF THE MISSION
OF THE ARTIST IS TO
EXPAND THE
THINKING
OF THE CULTURE IN
WHICH HE EXISTS,
**I HAVE MY WORK
CUT OUT FOR ME”**

PERCIVAL EVERETT, NOVELIST

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2011



“WHAT IF THE
MIGHTIEST
WORD IS
LOVE”

ELIZABETH ALEXANDER, POET

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2012



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

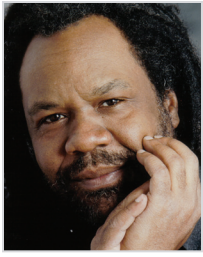
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African American
Author Series



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NOMMO AFRICAN AMERICAN AUTHORS SERIES

Literature is history. Our stories are the records of our imagination.

In this series, host and moderator Alexis Pate, University of Minnesota professor and author of *Amistad*, takes you on a journey into the consciousness of two luminary writers. These dynamic events feature the authors reading from their work and engaging in spirited dialogue with Pate about the state of the art of African American literature.

NOVEMBER 2, 2011

PERCIVAL EVERETT



Percival Everett is the author of nearly twenty novels, three collections of short fiction, and two volumes of poetry, including the recent collection *Swimming Swimmers Swimming*. Among his novels are *Assumption* and *I Am Not Sidney Poitier*, which won the Believer Book Award. Everett is also the recipient of the PEN Center USA Award for Fiction, the Academy Award from an American Academy of Arts and Letters, the Hurston/Wright Legacy

Award, The Vallombrosa Von Rezzori Prize, the PEN/Oakland-Josephine Miles Award for Excellence in Literature, and a New American Writing Award. His stories have been included in the *Pushcart Prize Anthology* and *Best American Short Stories*. He has served as a judge for, among others, the 1997 National Book Award for fiction and the PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction in 1991. He teaches fiction writing and critical theory and is currently Distinguished Professor of English at the University of Southern California.

FEBRUARY 8, 2012

ELIZABETH ALEXANDER



Best known for composing and delivering President Barack Obama's inaugural poem "Praise Song for the Day," **Elizabeth Alexander** is a poet, essayist, playwright, and teacher. Alexander has published five books of poems, including *American Sublime*, which was listed on the American Library Association's 2006 "Notable Books of the Year" and was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize that same year. Her first young adult

collection (co-authored with Marilyn Nelson), *Miss Crandall's School for Young Ladies and Little Misses of Color*, received the 2008 Connecticut Book Award. Her two collections of essays are *The Black Interior* and *Power and Possibility*, and her play, *Diva Studies* was produced at the Yale School of Drama. She has also composed words for musical projects with composers Elana Ruehr and Lewis Spratlan.

NOMMO IS A DOGON WORD MEANING "THE MAGIC POWER OF THE WORD."

TIME AND LOCATION

All events begin at 7:00 p.m. in Cowles Auditorium, Hubert H. Humphrey Center, University of Minnesota, 301 19th Avenue South, Minneapolis.

Parking map: www.umn.edu/twincities/maps/HHHSPA

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Creative Writing Program at the University of Minnesota

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Edelstein-Keller Visiting Writers Series

www.english.umn.edu/engagement/edelstein.html

TICKETS

Each event: \$15 / Series pass: \$25

BY PHONE

Call the U of M Tickets and Events (formerly Northrop Ticket Office) at 612-624-2345.

ON THE WEB

<http://z.umn.edu/libtix>

IN PERSON

U of M Tickets and Events office is open Monday–Friday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m., and is located at University Park Plaza Suite 720, 2829 University Ave SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414.

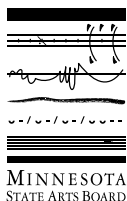
COMPLIMENTARY TICKETS

University of Minnesota students and members of the Givens Foundation and the Friends of the University of Minnesota Libraries (FOL) are eligible to receive up to two complimentary tickets for each event. U Card or FOL membership number must be provided when tickets are ordered. Complimentary tickets are available by phone or in person only.

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To receive this information in alternative formats or for disability accommodations, please contact Lanaya Stangret at 612-624-9339 or stangret@umn.edu.

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