



Curtis L. Crisler was born and raised in Gary, Indiana. He received a BA in English, with a minor in Theatre, from Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne (IPFW), and he received an MFA from Southern Illinois University Carbondale. Crisler's book, *THE GRAY aLBuM [PoeMS]*, was picked by Steel Toe Books for their 2016 Open Reading Period, and published in early 2018. His recent poetry books are *Don't Moan So Much (Stevie): A Poetry Musiquarium* (Kattywompus Press) and *"This" Ameri-can-ah* (Cherry Castle Publishing). His poetry chapbook, *Black Achilles*, was published by Accents Publishing. His previous books are *Pulling Scabs* (nominated for a Pushcart), *Tough Boy Sonatas* (YA), and *Dreamist: a mixed-genre novel* (YA). Other chapbooks are *Wonderkind* (nominated for a Pushcart), *Soundtrack to Latchkey Boy*, and *Spill* (which won a Keyhole Chapbook Award). He is the recipient of residencies from the City of Asylum/Pittsburgh (COA/P), a Cave Canem Fellow, the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts (VCCA), Soul Mountain, a guest resident at Hamline University, and a guest resident at Words on the Go (Indianapolis). Crisler has received a Library Scholars Grant Award, Indiana Arts Commission Grants, Eric Hoffer Awards, the Sterling Plumpff First Voices Poetry Award, and he was nominated for the Eliot Rosewater Award and the Jessie Redmon Fauset Book Award. His poetry has been adapted to theatrical productions in New York and Chicago, and he has been published in a variety of magazines, journals, and anthologies. He's been a Contributing Poetry Editor for *Aquarius Press* and a Poetry Editor for *Human Equity through Art* (where he's now a board member). He's the Coordinator for the Faculty/Student Reading Series, creator of the Indiana Chitlin Circuit, and an Associate Professor of English at Purdue University Fort Wayne (PFW).



September 24th @ 7:00 PM – Cherry Hall 125

Please join us for the newly renamed **Mary Ellen & Jim Wayne Miller Celebration of Writing**. This event was held as the Jim Wayne Miller Celebration for 21 years, but this year's event will celebrate the life and writing of **Mary Ellen Miller**, WKU's first Poet Laureate, and honor students for excellence in writing.

October 28th @ 2:00 PM - the Kentucky Museum

