

# 2019-2020 Humanities Center Brown Bag Series

## Sound and Sensibility: Composing Poetry for Music and Musicians

“Sound and Sensibility: Composing Poetry for Music and for Musicians” will be a conversation about the creative process and collaboration between poet Melba Joyce Boyd and jazz musician, Marion Hayden. Boyd will explain how she engages language and sound properties, while Hayden will explain how she translates poetics into musical compositions or applies them to songs that reiterate those elements inherent in the poetry. In addition to their conversation, they will perform a few pieces to illustrate their collaboration. Boyd will also show sequences from her documentary, *The Black Unicorn: Dudley Randall and the Broadside Press* and discuss the collaborative experience she engaged with the late Kenn Cox, who composed the original score for the film.

FREE AND OPEN  
TO THE PUBLIC

WAYNE STATE  
UNIVERSITY



Tuesday, March 17, 2020

12:30PM—1:30PM

Rm. 2339

Faculty Administration Building



Photo Credit: Dr. Boyd and band



**Dr. Melba Joyce Boyd**

Distinguished Professor

Department of African American  
Studies

**Dr. Melba Joyce Boyd** is a native Detroit and a Distinguished Professor in the Department of African American Studies at Wayne State University in Detroit, and an Adjunct Professor in Afroamerican and African Studies at the University of Michigan Ann Arbor. She is an award-winning author or editor of 13 books, nine of which are poetry. *Death Dance of a Butterfly* received the 2013 Library of Michigan Notable Books Award for Poetry, *Roses and Revolutions: The Selected Writings of Dudley Randall* received the 2010 Independent Publishers Gold Award, the 2010 Library of Michigan Notable Books Award for Poetry, and was a Finalist for the 2010 NAACP Image Award for Poetry and the 2010 ForeWord Award for Poetry. She wrote the official poem for the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, which is inscribed in the museum dedication wall.

For more info about the Humanities Center, call (313) 577-5471 or visit <https://research2.wayne.edu/hum/>