



The Chalk Circle: Intercultural Prizewinning Essays

Tara L. Masih, Ed.

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INCLUDES ESSAYS BY SAMUEL AUTMAN, SIMMONS B. BUNTIN, SHANTI E. BANNWART, M. GARRETT BAUMAN, LI MIAO LOVETT, BONNIE J. MORRIS, CHRISTINE STARK, and many more.

— WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY ACCLAIMED WRITER DAVID MURA —

This collection of essays provides a lens into intercultural experiences that will offer important insights for teachers as well as students...and can lead to a greater understanding of and appreciation for our global community.

— DR. ZALINE M. ROY-CAMPBELL, Associate Professor and Coordinator of the Program in Teaching English Language Learners, Syracuse University

In 2007, award-winning editor Tara L. Masih put out a call for Intercultural Essays dealing with the subjects of “culture, race, and a sense of place.” The prizewinners are gathered for the first time in a ground-breaking anthology that explores many facets of culture not previously found under one cover. The powerful, honest, thoughtful voices—Native American, African American, Asian, European, Jewish, White—speak daringly on topics not often discussed in the open, on subjects such as racism, war, self-identity, gender, societal expectations. Their words will entertain, illuminate, take you to distant lands, and spark important discussions about our humanity, our culture, and our place within society and the natural world.

This contemporary collection of essays will be an invaluable resource. I'm especially impressed by the range of themes...

— MARY McLAUGHLIN SLECHTA, ESL instructor, Nottingham High School



Tara L. Masih received a BA in English and a minor in sociology from C. W. Post College, and an MA in Writing and Publishing from Emerson College (where she taught Freshman Composition and Grammar). She is editor of *The Rose Metal Press Field Guide to Writing Flash Fiction* (a ForeWord Book of the Year), and her debut story collection, *Where the Dog Star Never Glows*, was a National Best Books Award finalist. Tara has published fiction, poetry, and essays in numerous anthologies and literary magazines (such as *Confrontation*, *Hayden's Ferry Review*, *Natural Bridge*, *New Millennium Writings*, *The Pedestal*, *Night Train*, and *The Caribbean Writer*), and her essays have been read on NPR and anthologized in numerous textbooks.

Awards for her work include first place in *The Ledge Magazine's* fiction contest, a finalist fiction grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, and Pushcart Prize, *Best New American Voices*, and Best of the Web nominations. She judges the Intercultural Essay prize for the annual Soul-Making Literary Contest.

Tara was the assistant editor for *STORIES* literary magazine, and a regular contributor to *The Indian-American* and *Masala* magazines, where her essays on race and culture were often featured. She now works as a freelance book editor in Andover, Massachusetts.

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