

# Ashanté J. Ford

## Bay Area Poet & Global Storyteller

Oakland CA, 94606

[a20ford1@gmail.com](mailto:a20ford1@gmail.com)

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/ashantejford>

Personal website: <https://spirituallyajar.blog/>

---



**Personal Statement:** International journalist, singer, blogger, author and poet- Ashanté is a walking scripture. She believes that the complexity of words woven through storytelling has the ability to heal and empower others. Ashanté is a Black & Queer womanist who lives for love and understands that the route to divinity lies between the spirit and the soul. Through her self-exploration website and performance poetry, she facilitates and instills joy within the Black community by rejoicing in her own truth.

## EDUCATION

**San Francisco State University, San Francisco CA** - *Bachelor's of the Arts in International Relations & Affairs*

August 2017 - May 2021

**GPA:** 3.8 Cumulative

**Area of Focus:** Global Development Policy in relation to the International Political Economy (IPE)

**Thesis Title:** [“West Africa’s Savior: The ‘Black Star’ of the Region”](#)

**Relevant Coursework:** Extensive research on topic of interest, conducting peer-reviews and copy edits weekly, presenting findings every few weeks to ensure success in the course and final showcase of work in the format of a 25-minute presentation; solidifying our expertise on the topic.

**Awards:** Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Recipient, Magna Cum Laude Honors, Dean’s List all 4 years of college and achievement of a double-minor in Journalism (Print and Online) and Africana Studies.

**The Danish School of Media and Journalism (DMJX), Aarhus Denmark** - *Global Journalist & Foreign Correspondent Student-Trainee*

January 2021 - June 2021

**Credits:** All ECTS Units achieved

**Final Multimedia Package:** [“There’s this huge culture of silence, if you want to say something, they can hunt you down if they want to”](#) and *personal favorite* piece: [“Diversity in Denmark: Youth, Culture & Identity”](#)

**Relevant Coursework:** Pitching and producing multimedia news-packages, working with a dynamic and diverse international editorial team, speaking and engaging with people all over the world primarily through social media, adhering to strict deadlines, presenting projects, staying in flow of international news, proof-reading, copy editing and traveling outside of the country to achieve first-hand stories.

## TEACHING, JOURNALISTIC & RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

### **Chapter 510 Nonprofit Organization, Oakland CA** - *Youth Mentor and Store Manager*

March 2022 - PRESENT

- Support students with their production of multimedia news packages
- Prepare students for interviews with community members
- Reflect on their interviews
- Record and write scripts for their final digital stories
- Present store log weekly to staff
- Leader of the store management team
- Facilitate communication with potential partners
- Conduct strategic product placement
- Navigate sales and create price points, leading the store to financial success through customer interactions which in turn help fund our free youth writing workshops

### **IMPACT Magazine, Aarhus DK** - *Web Designer and Journalist*

January 2021 - June 2021

- Created and coded the final website
- Took headshots of the team for the site
- Proofread and copy edited final projects as a member of the editorial team
- Acquired a transnational perspective on issues that are of critical importance in today's local and global society
- Enhanced awareness of national versus international reporting, and of the journalist's role in a global society
- Structured, planned and carried out journalistic research at an international level
- Identified new and critical angles in traditional stories
- Obtained and verified information from a wider range of sources
- Honed the ability to understand and apply methods and practices in key areas of journalism

### **International Relations Journal Publication, San Francisco, CA** - *Head Manager and Undergrad Professor*

August 2020 - December 2020

- Appointed leader for the IR Journal Publication
- Taught and organized citation and bibliography workshops
- Set up meetings/delegated tasks to my graduate and undergraduate students,
- Conducted all of the final copy edits and selected which articles should be published
- Evaluated graduate and undergraduate students throughout the semester
- Managed time and assignments for myself and the students

**The Tea on the Tenderloin & Movements in Real-Time, San Francisco, CA** - Reporter and  
Founder of these student news outlets

January 2019 - December 2020

- Creator/Founder of these websites and curator of initiatives
- Facilitated weekly meetings with my colleagues to present and share ideas about our site
- Reported on-site in 2019 and virtually in 2020 using a variety of sources
- Became well-versed in promotion/marketing to various social media platforms
- Produced weekly news stories and adhered to strict deadlines
- Learned how to efficiently use Adobe Premiere and Photoshop

## PRESENTATIONS, PRESS & PUBLICATIONS

[Rooted and Written](#) Fellowship “*Words of Color*” PRESS [link](#), (2022, August).

[Capsule](#), debut chapbook written and crafted by me. [Petrichor Magazine Review](#) (2022, July).

“[Aether](#)” live performance of *Remember this one* at an Art market at 1015 Folsom in association with the youthartx organization that supports the next generation of creatives in San Francisco, CA (2022, June).

“[Down with the Whiteness](#)” multidisciplinary showcase of Art and Activism curated by the *San Francisco State Art Student Union*, San Francisco, CA (2022, April).

Ford, A (2021, May). [The Black Writer’s Confessional](#), *Anti Fragile Zine*, 2020-2022.

Ford, A (2020, May). [10:09 am, My home is a food desert, The things I see on Thursday afternoons](#), *Petrichor Mag*, 2016-2022.

Ford, A (2020, March). [A Comparative Political Essay: The U.S. Constitution versus The Chinese Constitution](#), *Sutro Review SF State Journal for Undergraduate Composition*, 2020.

Ford, A (2020, March). “[The Invisible Hand](#)” of Foreign Aid: [Stabilizing and Destabilizing Economies](#), *LCA Undergraduate Research Showcase*, 2020.

Ford, A (2020, October). [Hye Won Hye, Plums in the Winter](#), *Pensive: a global journal of spirituality and the arts - Issue 1*, 2020.