



SEPTEMBER 14, 2009: 7pm

At the Art Reach Center: 319 University, Mt. Pleasant, MI

**Featuring: Vievee Francis, poet
with CMU graduate student writers (TBD)**



Vievee Francis lives in the Detroit area, where for 15 years she has been instrumental in fostering a literary community for poets outside of the academy. She is currently the Alice Lloyd Hall Scholars Program Poet-in-Residence. Her poems have appeared in anthologies and textbooks, as well as journals such as *Callaloo*, *Crab Orchard Review*, and *Rattle*, among others. Her work will also appear in the forthcoming *Norton Anthology of Contemporary African American Poets*. She is a Cave Canem Fellow, and is a recipient of a Rona Jaffe Foundation Writer's Award for 2009. Her first collection of poems, *Blue-Tail Fly* (Wayne State University Press, 2006), is described by her nominator for the award as a "remarkably compassionate and clear-eyed debut that is a masterly poetic sequence rooted in mid-19th-century American voices and history. It is confident and utterly compelling." Her new work takes on a wide range of subjects including the poet's responsibility in a time of war, agrarian nostalgia and mythology, and the trials of urbanity.

Author Photo by Khalid el-Hakim

A partnership between the English Department at Central Michigan University and the Art Reach Center of Mid Michigan, **The Wellspring Literary Series** provides a forum for the community to hear the work of established and emerging regional writers as well as works-in-progress by Central Michigan University graduate writing students and faculty writers at the Art Reach Center. Readings are generally held the first Monday of the month. For a schedule or more information, contact Robert Fanning, Assistant Professor of Creative Writing, at robert.fanning@cmich.edu, or (248) 462-2488.