

DORA E. MCQUAID

ONE WOMAN'S VOICE

DORA E. MCQUAID is an award-winning poet, activist, speaker and teacher whose work embodies the intersections between the arts and activism, service and empowerment.

Dora is the author of the groundbreaking collection of poems, *the scorched earth*, and its audio companion, *the scorched earth: spoken*. Eve Ensler, award-winning author of *The Vagina Monologues*, calls *the scorched earth* "...startling and visionary..." in the Foreword she wrote to the Expanded, Second edition of this collection released by Baskerville Publishers in 2015. Throughout 2015 and 2016, Dora will be touring internationally with *the scorched earth*, offering author and speaking events, as well as readings and performances.

Dora's unique blend of art, emotion and service has earned her numerous literary and service awards and honors. Dora's activism addressing sexual and domestic violence led to her portrait replacing that of former football coach and convicted pedophile Jerry Sandusky in 2012 in the Inspirations Mural near Penn State. She was honored with a Pushcart Prize nomination for poetry in 2014, as a 2012 Remarkable Woman of Taos, New Mexico and won the 2011 New Mexico Woman Writer's Fellowship from A Room of Her Own Foundation. Additionally, Dora's efforts garnered a 2003 Pennsylvania Governor's Pathfinder Award, recognition by the Pennsylvania Senate and a Vagina Warrior Award, all while serving as faculty at Penn State between 1999 and 2006, before pursuing poetry, performance and activism fulltime.

In addition to serving as a member of the Board of Directors of The Sage Institute for Creativity, Consciousness and Environment and The Council for Hope and Healing, Dora performs, speaks and teaches internationally, serves as consultant and expert witness in sexual violence legal cases, works collaboratively with an array of artists, activists, change-makers and cultural creative and publishes widely.

Dora's forthcoming collection is *Seven: Poems of The Interim*.

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