

Fiscal Year 2021 NEA Literature Translation Fellowship Recipients

Number of Grants: 24 Total Dollar Amount: \$325,000

**Photos of the FY 2021 Translation Fellows and project descriptions follow the list below.*

- **Naveed Alam**, Lahore, Pakistan (\$12,500)
- **Michael Berry**, Los Angeles, CA (\$12,500)
- **Dick Cluster**, Oakland, CA (\$12,500)
- **Lowell Cook**, Alpharetta, GA (\$12,500)
- **Sean Cotter**, McKinney, TX (\$25,000)
- **Allison A. deFreese**, Portland, OR (\$12,500)
- **Sharon Dolin**, New York, NY (\$12,500)
- **Rachel Galvin**, Chicago, IL (\$12,500)
- **Chloe Garcia Roberts**, Milton, MA (\$12,500)
- **Johannes Göransson**, South Bend, IN (\$12,500)
- **Tyrell Haberkorn**, Madison, WI (\$25,000)
- **Patricia Hartland**, Turners Falls, MA (\$12,500)
- **Hilary Kaplan**, Los Angeles, CA (\$12,500)
- **Mona Kareem**, Binghamton, NY (\$12,500)
- **Jae Kim**, St. Louis, MO (\$12,500)
- **Hamzat A Koriko**, Grand Forks, ND (\$12,500)
- **David Lisenby**, Kansas City, MO (\$12,500)
- **Johnny Lorenz**, Montclair, NJ (\$12,500)
- **JD Pluecker**, Houston, TX (\$12,500)
- **Jamie Richards**, Arcadia, CA (\$12,500)
- **Aaron Robertson**, Brooklyn, NY (\$12,500)
- **Raquel Salas Rivera**, San Juan, PR (\$12,500)
- **Brian Sneed**, Eastford, CT (\$12,500)
- **Maggie Zebracka**, Bemidji, MN (\$12,500)



Credit: Bernie DeChant

Johnny Lorenz, Montclair, NJ (\$12,500)

To support the translation from the Brazilian Portuguese of *Crooked Plow* by Itamar Vieira Junior. Born in Salvador, Bahia, in 1979, Vieira Junior is a descendant of African diasporic and Indigenous communities and his 2018 novel *Crooked Plow* received the Jabuti, Brazil's national literary prize for best novel of the year as well as the prestigious literary prize in Portugal, the Prémio LeYa. In its first two sections, *Crooked Plow* is told from the perspective of two sisters who are descendants of slaves and daughters of impoverished workers on a plantation in Bahia. These sections depict women characters in their ongoing struggle as land laborers who eventually turn to violence to redefine themselves. The third section shifts in narration to an *encantada*—a female Afro-Brazilian divinity—who is outraged by the pollution of her river and the misery of her devotees. The novel also offers a portrayal of sacred local rituals informed by the African diaspora and Indigenous belief systems. It has never been translated into English.

Johnny Lorenz is a poet, translator, and professor of English at Montclair State University. His translation of Clarice Lispector's *A Breath of Life* was a finalist for Best Translated Book Award and his translation of Lispector's *The Besieged City* was listed as one of the "Best Books of 2019" by *Vanity Fair*. His honors include a PEN/Heim Translation Fund Grant and a Fulbright Grant.