

Daniel David Moses

A short biography

Donato Santeramo and Craig Walker

One of Canada's foremost Indigenous writers, Daniel David Moses hails from the Six Nations community south of Brantford, Ontario, on the Grand River. He is of Delaware descent on his father's side and Tuscarora descent on his mother's. Daniel holds an Honours B.A. in General Fine Arts from York University and an M.F.A. in Creative Writing from the University of British Columbia.

He has worked as a dramaturge, editor, essayist, teacher, and artist, playwright or writer in residence with institutions as varied as Theatre Passe Muraille, the Banff Centre for the Arts, the University of British Columbia, the Sage Hill Writing Experience, Concordia University, the National Arts Centre's English Theatre and Institute for American Indian Arts (Santa Fe, NM). He has served on the boards of the Association for Native Development in the Performing and Visual Arts, Native Earth Performing Arts, and the Playwrights Guild of Canada and co-founded, with Lenore Keeshig-Tobias and Tomson Highway, the short-lived but influential Committee to Re-Establish the Trickster. In 2003, he joined the Department of Drama at Queen's University as a Queen's National Scholar, retiring in 2019. He is now Professor Emeritus with the Dan School of Drama and Music at Queen's University and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada.

His poetry collections are *Delicate Bodies*, *The White Line*, *Sixteen Jesuses* and *River Range*, a CD with original music by David Deleary. A collection, *A Small Essay on the Largeness of Light and Other Poems*, appeared in 2012. His plays include *Coyote City* (a nominee for the

1991 Governor General's Literary Award for Drama), *The Dreaming Beauty* (a winner of the 1990 Theatre Canada National Playwriting Competition), *Songs of Love and Medicine* (produced by Queen's Drama in 2005), *Brebeuf's Ghost*, and, his most produced work, *Almighty Voice and His Wife*, which completed a national tour in February 2012 and was staged in an acclaimed production at Soulpepper Theatre in 2019. His play *The Moon and Dead Indians* was a winner of Vancouver's New Play Centre's Du Maurier Playwriting Competition and, with its sequel, *Angel of the Medicine Show*, produced and published as *The Indian Medicine Shows*, garnered the 1996 James Buller Memorial Award for Excellence in Aboriginal Theatre. Daniel's honours include a 2001 Harold Award, the 2001 Harbourfront Festival Prize and a 2003 Chalmers Arts Fellowship.

He edited *The Exile Book of Native Canadian Fiction and Drama* (2010) and co-edited Oxford University Press' ground-breaking collection *An Anthology of Canadian Native Literature in English*, the fourth edition of which appeared in 2013, the twentieth anniversary of its original publication.



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