William A. Lowell (617) 248-4085 wlowell@choate.com

## March 7, 2022

To the Applicants for the 2022-2023 Amy Lowell Poetry Travelling Scholarship:

I am pleased to announce that Derrick Austin of Oakland, CA, and, Devon E. Walker-Figueroa, of Brooklyn, NY, have been chosen from among 211 applicants as the 2022-2023 Amy Lowell Poetry Travelling Scholars.

Derrick Austin was born in Homestead, Florida. He received a BA from the University of Tampa and, in 2014, an MFA from the University of Michigan. He is the author of *Tenderness* (BOA Editions, 2021), winner of the 2021 Isabella Gardner Award, and *Trouble the Water* (boa Editions, 2016), selected by Mary Szybist for the 2015 A. Poulin Jr. Prize. A Cave Canem fellow, he is the recipient of fellowships from The Wisconsin Institute of Creative Writing and Stanford University.

Devon Walker-Figueroa is the author of *Philomath*, selected for the 2020 National Poetry Series by Sally Keith and currently shortlisted for the National Book Critic Circle's John Leonard Prize. She grew up in Kings Valley, a ghost town in the Oregon Coast Range, and received her education from Cornell University, Bennington College, the Iowa Writers' Workshop, and New York University. Her writing has appeared in *The Nation*, *POETRY*, the *American Poetry Review*, *Lana Turner*, *The Harvard Advocate*, *Ploughshares*, *Zyzzyva*, and elsewhere. Devon is the recipient of the 2018 *New England Review's* Emerging Writer Award; the 2021 Poetry Society of America's Lucille Medwick Award; scholarships from the Rona Jaffe Foundation, Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, The Community of Writers, and Bucknell University; and is the current Jill Davis Fellow in fiction at NYU, where she teaches undergraduate creative writing courses. In the publishing realm, Devon has done editorial and publicity work for Bloomsbury Publishing UK, Tin House Books, Copper Canyon Press, Four Way Books, Conduit Books and Ephemera, *Kinnscreen*, and Horsetheif Books, and is the former poetry editor of *The Iowa Review*.

Thank you all, most sincerely, for your interest in the Scholarship and your effort in applying, and best wishes in your writing careers.

Very truly yours,

William A. Lowell

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Trustee under the Will of Amy Lowell