

Adefolatomwa Toye
Spring 2021 Fellow



2016 - 2023



Writing Fellowship Impact Report

This report may not be used for private or personal means not concerned or affiliated with Springg and without the knowledge and approval of the organization.

TABLE OF CONTENTS



-
- 03** Message from the CEO
 - 04** The Springg Team
 - 05** The Springg Writing Fellowship
 - 06** Our Impact Numbers
 - 08** Our Year-On-Year Impact: Applications & Enrollment
 - 09** Retention and Impact Beyond
 - 10** Our 2030 Vision
 - 11** Alumni Spotlight and Feedback
 - 12** How you can support us

MESSAGE **FROM THE CEO**

CHANGING THE GAME IN AFRICAN LITERATURE - ONE WRITER AT A TIME

Springg fosters a thriving network that empowers diverse African writers, amplifies their voices, and celebrates their literature.

“

The Springg journey began in 2016 when Kanyinsola Olorunnisola and I reflected on the limitations we faced in our journey to success as African writers. Despite being in our early stages, we took on a great challenge with the focus on developing a community of writers and engaging them through several initiatives.

For many years, writers in Nigeria and beyond have expressed the need for programmatic structures that engage creatives in literature. Repeatedly, we have discussed the limitations of social institutions to their craft, such as the lack of an MFA program in Nigeria dedicated to Creative Writing and how many writers have to go abroad to pursue their dreams.

Springg is changing the game from the grassroots! Unlike many organizations that apply the same approaches to all members, we recognize the uniqueness of each writer and creatively guide them to the spotlight through our programs. We do not only provide hope to our writers but put action behind our promise. You will be surprised how much growth our small team has accomplished, yet there is more work to do!

We hope you'll be inspired to join our journey as you read through our impact history and vision. We invite you to Springg with us wherever you are, and let's continue to change the outlook of African literature together.

Oyindamola Shoola
Co-founder and CEO of Springg





DIRECTOR

Ebukun G. Ogunyemi

2019 Fellow

THE SPRING TEAM



BOOK PROMOTIONS
MANAGER

Herioluwa Olatunde

2021 Fellow



CONTENT
COORDINATOR

Omolola Okunola

2019 Fellow



BRAND &
COMMUNICATIONS
MANAGER

Eniola Oni



AUTHOR PROMOTIONS
MANAGER

Adedayo Onabade

2020 Fellow



CONTENT AND
MARKETING INTERN

Adeola Oke

2020 Fellow



COMMUNITY &
ALUMNI RELATIONS
MANAGER

Adedolapo O. Lawal

THE SPRING WRITING FELLOWSHIP



The Springg Writing Fellowship (SWF) is an intensive 6-week online mentorship program for developing Nigerian, Ghanaian, Liberian, and South African writers with great potential and willingness to learn.

This fellowship focuses on 6 genres of literature: Poetry, Fiction, Non-Fiction, Book Review, Play/Drama, and Blogging. During the six weeks, mentees will be in contact with their mentors, sending them their works and getting reviews and commentaries. Mentors and mentees will aim to work on at least 1 piece of writing in their select genre per week. The Springg Creative Writing Fellowship is only open to writers (18-25) who have not published a book before (eBook/hardcopy). The medium of communication between the mentors and mentees throughout this program will be via email, phone calls, WhatsApp, and text messages. In addition, all mentees will be provided weekly airtime during the program.

The medium of communication between the mentors and mentees throughout this program will be via email, phone calls, WhatsApp, and text messages. In addition, all mentees will be provided weekly airtime during the program.

3K+

APPLICATION TO OUR
WRITING FELLOWSHIP

275

WRITERS ACCEPTED
INTO OUR FELLOWSHIP

249

WRITERS GRADUATED
FROM OUR FELLOWSHIP

90.5%

WRITING FELLOWSHIP
RETENTION RATE

120+

VOLUNTEER MENTORS
IN OUR FELLOWSHIP



Our Impact Numbers
From 2016 - 2023

Springg is not just a literary or publishing platform,
it embodies a transformative force within the industry and continent.

Our top 10 program outcomes reported by fellows include:

- Accepting admission to pursue a higher degree.
- Securing a new job in the writing or publishing industry.
- Establishing or leading a literary organization, platform, or community.
- Publishing a book (print, e-book, or chapbook).
- Publishing 3 or more works on literary platforms within a year.
- Receiving recognition via a writing, literature, or publishing-related award.
- Mentoring or teaching a writing-related course or topic.
- Completing a writing, literature, or publishing-related course.
- Participating in three or more literary events within a year.
- Editing or writing a foreword for an anthology.

A survey conducted among 50 alums of the Spring Writing Fellowship across 7 cohorts, representing approximately one-fifth of our 245 graduate pool, reported the following post-fellowship achievements.



4 in 5

alums have published 3 or more works on different literary platforms.

3 in 5

alums have secured a new role in the writing or publishing industry.

3 in 5

alums have received recognition via a writing, literature, or publishing-related award.



2 in 5

alums have mentored or taught a writing-related course or topic.

2 in 5

alums fellows have participated in 3 or more literary events.

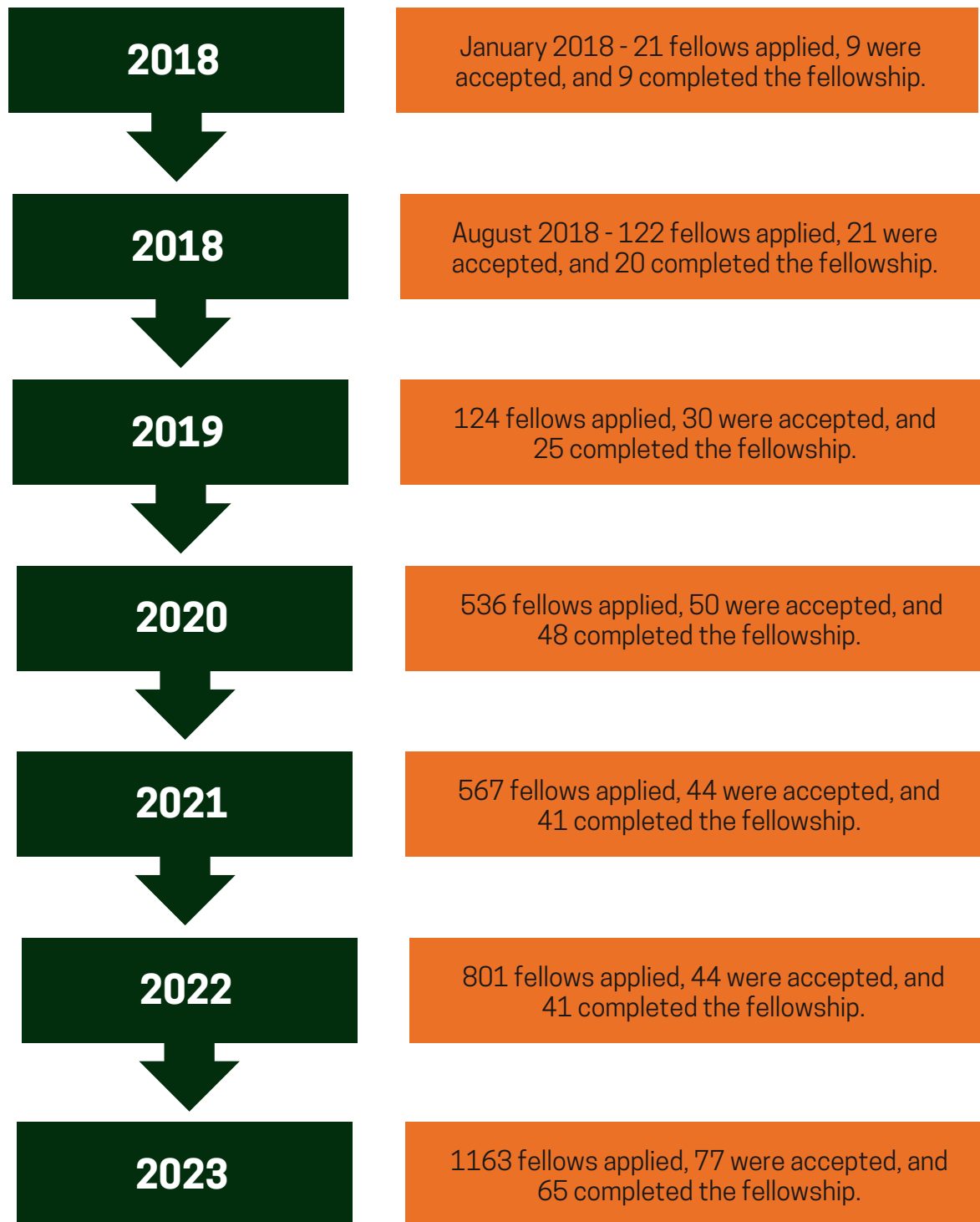
1 in 5 alums have

- completed a writing, literature, or publishing-related course or fellowship.
- established or led a literary organization, platform, or community.
- edited an anthology or wrote a foreword to an anthology.
- accepted an admission to pursue a higher degree.
- published a book.

Visit Spring.org/writing-fellowship to learn more.

IMPACT YEAR-ON-YEAR

SPRING WRITING FELLOWSHIP APPLICATIONS & ENROLLMENT



RETENTION & IMPACT BEYOND Springers!

Our work with the writers of the Spring Writing Fellowship is beyond the 6 weeks they spend with their mentors.

Our impact is much more, such that fellows return to serve and engage with the advancement programs and other opportunities provided.



ROSELINE MGBODICHINMA ANYA OKORIE

- 2020 Spring Writing Fellowship Mentee
- 2021 Spring Writing Fellowship Mentor
- 2021 Spring Advancement Fellowship Mentee
- 2021 Spring Poetry Contest Judge
- 2021 Spring Women Authors Prize Judge
- 2022 Spring Writing Fellowship Application Reviewer
- 2023 Spring Writing Fellowship Mentor
- 2023 Spring Advantage Program Mentee



PAMILERIN JACOB

A multi-nominated Best of the Net and Pushcart Prize poet, Pamilerin Jacob is the author of the chapbook titled *Gospels of Depression and Others*. He is also the Curator of Poetry Column-NND, the poetry column of Nigerian NewsDirect, a national newspaper.

Co-winner of the PIN Food Poetry Contest 2018 and second runner-up for the Sevhage Poetry Prize 2019.
2018 Fellow



Ugochukwu Damian Okpara
Author of the poetry collection,
In Gorgeous Display
2018 Fellow



Damilola Ruth Oyedeji
Writer & MA Student at
Missouri State University
2023 Fellow

Panelists of our 2024 Spring Writing Fellowship Q/A



2030 VISION

EXPANSION ACROSS AFRICA

By 2030, Springg will reach more than 25,000 writers across Africa through our social media and newsletters, engaging them with expanded programs and helping them transition to their unique paths within and beyond the literary industry.

Through our fellowships, we have reached writers in Nigeria, South Africa, and Ghana, expanding to Liberia in 2024. We will continue having 75+ fellows annually with progressive expansion across Africa. By 2030, we will have mentored at least 1,000 writers in our fellowships.



PROVIDING ACCESS

Several writers engaging in our work have expressed concern about the limited accessibility of publishing opportunities through digital platforms, e-books, and print books.

As Springg grows, we will establish more expanded and grassroots publishing opportunities for developing writers, leveraging our platform for their community accessibility and global reach.

INCREASING REPRESENTATION

We are creating a shared space for many young African writers to grow the skills needed to start or continue making an impact within their communities and beyond. We don't just want to provide solutions; we are developing the next generation of African literature leaders whose intentions, words, and actions will frame and change the literary arts and publishing landscape. We will connect them with intimate gatherings and networking events to co-innovators and sponsors who value their efforts and align with their dreams.



**Chisom Benedicta
Nsiegbunam**

Spring 2023 Fellow



Mentored By Uchenna Emelife

Visit Spring.org/writing-fellowship to learn more.

My mentor was really understanding and knew more about me and my work than I ever did. He understood what I needed to read, taught me how to properly read a writer's work rather than just the plot or story, and was approachable. Our connection was perfect from the very first moment (it made me wonder how the matching of mentors and mentees was done). He assigned me duties that I found challenging, but in the end, I saw tremendous growth in myself. He had a thorough understanding of what it takes to be a mentor. He made me believe in my writing for the first time—no one has ever made me feel so confident.

I loved the fellowship experience and am grateful to Spring, the contributors and sponsors, and my mentor.



SCAN TO DONATE

SCAN ME

Or visit springng.org/donate



Springng with Us!

DONATE TODAY

Here is how you are making a difference:

\$25 covers 3 winners of our fellowship contests.

\$30 sponsors 2 months Zoom subscription for weekly fellows and mentors' check-in.

\$100 pays for 2 weeks of airtime for our fellows.

\$125 provides a 6-month intensive internship experience for an alumni.

\$200 finances 20% of our annual Writing Fellowship expenses for 75+ fellows.

CONNECT

We are open to donations, collaborations, and partnerships that support our mission and expansion. For more inquiries or to speak with a member of our team, please email us.



Email

contact@springng.org



Website

www.springng.org



Social Media

[@SpringngIm](https://www.instagram.com/SpringngIm)

Visit springng.org/donate