

Dr. Khadijah Costley White

Dr. Khadijah Costley White doesn't exactly set aside time to write; nor does she write for a specific amount of time each day. In fact, if you ask her about her writing routine, she would say that she doesn't have one.

White is the author of "Branding Right-Wing Activism: The News Media and the Tea Party." She has been a contributor to *The Atlantic*, *The New York Times* and National Public Radio. White shared a few of her writing secrets during our October 2020 Writing Retreat.

If White doesn't have a set time to write, it's because she's writing all the time. She's writing in the shower; she's writing as she drives down the parkway. Having a handy recorder and note-taker in her cellphone means being able to capture important ideas or thoughts whenever (and wherever) they occur. To White, every moment is a writing moment, and every experience is generative. In other words, "writer" is not a mystical, separate and distinct persona. White's approach may be a necessary approach for a prolific academic, but it may also explain why her work is especially timely and relevant.

White is an assistant professor of journalism and media studies. She worked as a journalist on an Emmy-nominated team at NOW on PBS. In 2007, she was awarded a reporting fellowship to Senegal from the National Association of Black Journalists and the United Nations, and she interned in the Obama White House. She is a 2020-2021 Whiting Foundation Public Engagement Fellow.