

Herbert Woodward Martin has been told that he studied with the last of the formalists of the Twentieth Century. He has come to believe that assertion. He knows that he fully endorses the idea that revision is vital.

Martin began his teaching career at Aquinas College in Grand Rapids, Michigan and continued for almost three decades at The University of Dayton, in Dayton Ohio. He honed his poetic skills by first studying at Middlebury College Breadloaf School of English and finally at Carnegie Mellon University.

Over the decades while teaching he has managed to publish nine volumes of poetry and edit three volumes of the works of Paul Laurence Dunbar the Nineteenth Century celebrated African American poet born in Dayton, Ohio. He has also recorded some of Dunbar's work on DVD.

He has made a number of guest appearances as narrator with American symphonic orchestras. The most recent fruition of this work is a recording made with the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra of William Grant Still's *Symphonic #1: "The Afro-American"* which has as text four Paul Laurence Dunbar's poems. It is the first such recording of this work produced in the United States.

Martin is the librettist for two new American Operas, a Cantata, and a Magnificat. His poems have been set to music by Joseph Fennimore and Philip Carl Magnuson and Adolphus Hailstork.

He was a 1990-1991 Visiting Fulbright Scholar to Pecs, Hungary