

POETRY SLAM 4 PEACE

A PRESENTATION OF GLOBAL FAMILY FOR LOVE AND PEACE

HOST

Roberto Múkaró Borrero is an internationally respected human rights advocate, consultant, writer, musician, and artist. His unique perspectives draw from multiple sources including his own Indigenous Taíno heritage, mentorship from Indigenous leaders and elders from around the world, and real-time experience in the arts, as well as verifiable frontline human rights and environmental advocacy.

With over twenty-five years of experience working with non-profit/non-governmental organizations, including over a decade of experience as Senior Programs Coordinator for Public Programs in the Education Department of the American Museum of Natural History in New York, Borrero maintains a vibrant, diverse resource network locally, nationally, and internationally among Indigenous Peoples, civil society, business, and governmental sectors.

POETS IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

Ioana Lungu is a Romanian poet and spoken word artist based in Barcelona. Even though she has been writing since she was very young, Ioana started doing slam poetry only in September 2021. Since then, she has performed at various events and open mics in Barcelona and won a poetry slam competition. Ioana is working on an experimental book concept, while studying and working in totally unrelated fields. The purpose of her art is to genuinely connect with the listener, to heal and raise important social and existential questions.

Parul Mahajan is an avid spoken word poet and emcee. She is currently a third year law student at IP University, New Delhi. Parul comes from a small town Uttarakhand, India. Her writing has been published in DPS RK Puram's school magazine 'The Bubbling Cauldron'. She has also been published in Delhi Poetry Slam's electronic magazine thrice. Her writing style is tremendously influenced by contemporary poets like Rupi Kaur, Sarah Kay, Kalki Koechlin and Anna Akana. She finds inspiration in people, whose unique personal lives and circumstances are the basis of her work.

Nomfundo Khambule, South African writer and poetry/theatre performer offers most of her poems as a form of activism for Human rights. Highlighted by her performance on the TEDx stage discussing gender inequality and her performance at The Human Rights Festival at the Constitution Hill in South Africa under the topic of LGBTQIA+ rights. She has also performed at the Nelson Mandela centenary in the Eastern Cape. Nomfundo has performed in South Africa, Botswana and Nigeria and spoke on a panel in Zambia. She is inspired by the stories of black people from small communities.

The spirit of **Wayquay's** Native American Ojibwe culture is evident, both musically and lyrically, with the integration of pop, rock, and even funk. Her delivery, in a husky voice, is injected with a rap cadence, textured with traditional instruments, and layered with chants. Wayquay's music video "Navigate" won the best music video award from the American Indian Film Festival and the Native American Music Awards.

Lu Aya aka Luke Nephew (he/they/we) is the co-founder of The Peace Poets, a Hip Hop and Spoken Word crew from The Bronx that has made an indelible mark on the social movements of our times by supporting the re-emergence of the art of collective singing in protest and direct action. He is a poet, educator, emcee, musician, facilitator, and friend of the people. He has woven together the fields of art, human rights, and public health by designing programs and facilitating community building workshops for peace and justice from Ecuador to Sudan, from Afghanistan to Cuba.

Jeremy Roske is a fierce advocate for change, harnessing the power of music and poetry to help him achieve it. A founding member of the Earth Guardians, Jeremy has been touring and making music for over 25 years, consistently delivering songs and poems that uplift and inspire. His art is a soothing offering in a world of chaos. Lending a mesmerizing blend of world fusion, soul, and socially aware messages, he takes audiences on a beautiful, transformational, and utterly unforgettable journey through the most profound darkness and into a place where they can welcome love, compassion, and healing light.

May Garcés was born/raised in Temuco, in the south of Chile. After getting her BS in Education she developed several artistic educational projects with small communities in Chile, India, Ghana, Palestine & Jordan to explore values that foster empathy, global citizenship and self-care and understand how to build them. She's a mentor for social projects and collaborates in research in Cognitive sciences at U de Chile. She has a diploma in Philosophy of Cognitive Sciences and is currently Chief education officer at IffAmerica. She loves to dance, to sing, to eat plants and to make things with her hands.

Na'ilah Mu'ied aka Nubia - from Seattle, WA and currently living in Santa Monica California. She serves as a keynote speaker, workshop facilitator, and entrepreneur. She sees life on earth as a schoolroom for our Souls. We come to remember who we are and to express it through everything we do. Peace and Blessings!
<http://www.divinevariations.com/>

Dimitris Stamiris is a poet based in Athens. He is the National Champion of Poetry Slam Greece for the period 2020-2021. He participated in the European Poetry Slam Championship in 2021, opened the World Poetry Slam Championship in 2022, and participated at Duende Festival that took place at Barcelona in 2021. His poetry is existential.

Tawhida Tanya Evanson is a Canadian poet, author, artist and producer. In addition to her two poetry collections, her debut novel Book of Wings won the 2022 Nouvel Apport/New Horizons Prize; was on the CBC Canada Reads Longlist; and was one of Quill & Quire's Books of the Year. With a 25-year practice in spoken word, she performs internationally and has released several studio albums and videopoems. Director of the Banff Centre Spoken Word Program and VP of The Quebec Writers' Federation, she is at work on an Afrofuturist concert documentary coming in 2023. She moonlights as a whirling dervish. www.movertonguemediamedia.com

Mbonisi Zikhali (Zomkhonto) was born in Makokoba, in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. His spoken-word/storytelling name is Zomkhonto, which happens to be his bloodline's totem. He is a spoken-word artist, story-teller, arts educator, youth mentor, qualified community services worker, grassroots community organizer and mental wellness advocate. He considers himself an afro-empath, and is driven to ensure that people find joy in the power of words and story-telling. He has been published in several publications and had his poem "This Poem Was Written With Feathers In Mind" included in the video presentations at the recent 2022 World Poetry Slam Championships held in Belgium. <https://linktr.ee/Zomkhonto>

Ray Jane is a Brooklyn-born poet raised in Far Rockaway, Queens. She has moderated her own workshops with ¡Oyé Group! Poet's Corner (2021 and 2022) and runs her own open mics as the host of The Nuyorican Poets Cafe Thursday Night Online Open mic (2022) and for The Word Is Write. Her feature performances include: "MLK Poetry Jam/Slam " sponsored by Yale Peabody Museum and Citizens Bank. She is on several podcasts like Black Siren Radio and Sound Minds Podcast. Ray Jane is published in the literary magazine I Can't Breathe. To hear and read more please visit ItsRayJane.com.

Radhika Vekaria is a unique and classically trained musician who has performed in an impressive number of situations; from the lead in multi-faceted stage production “INDIA INDIA” to a member of bands supporting luminaries like Prince and Eddie Palmieri. This year she performed at the globally recognized SXSW in Texas and for ICMEC - the International Center For Missing and Exploited Children's Gala in NYC. In the last 18 months she has sung live, healing music for over 50,000 people worldwide and recently her voice was featured in the new Apollo Exhibition in Greece by renowned artist Jeff Koons. www.radhikavekaria.com

PRODUCTION TEAM

Created by Laurence Singer
Executive Producer: Laurence Singer

Producer/Director: Kit Thomas

Assistant Producer: Jessica Penn

Host: Roberto “Mukaro” Borrero

Edited by: Timothy Dixon

Graphic Design: Amanda Wolf, Timothy Dixon

Technical Direction: Ian Downie and Kalin Holmes

CO-SPONSORS

The Museum of World Religions – www.mwr.org.tw/mwr_en

Chan Space NYC – <https://chanspacenewyork.org/>

Purpose Earth – www.purposeearth.org

UNITY EARTH – <https://unity.earth/>

NGO Committee on Sustainable Development – NY – <https://www.ngocsd-ny.org/>

Wise Planet Media – <https://www.wiseplanetmedia.com/>

COLLABORATORS

Nuyorican Poets Cafe – <https://www.nuyorican.org/>

World Poetry Slam Association – World Poetry Slam Championship --
<https://www.worldpoetryslam.org/wps-championship-2022>

Delhi Poetry Slam – <https://www.delhipoetryslam.com/>

Global Beat Music – The Pulse of the Earth – <https://rhythmsoftheglobe.com/global-beat/>

The Peace Poets – <https://thepeacepoets.com/>

STREAMING PARTNERS

UNIFY – <https://www.unify.org/>

UNITY EARTH – www.mwr.org.tw/mwr_en

SINE – <https://sine.network/>

MUSEUM OF WORLD RELIGIONS – www.mwr.org.tw/mwr_en

ORGANIZATIONS

Global Family for Love and Peace was founded by Dharma Master Hsin Tao, who was tricked into joining a Burmese guerrilla army at nine years old. At the age of 15 Master Hsin Tao heard the story of Bodhisattva Guanyin, the Goddess of Compassion. From that moment, Master Hsin Tao made a vow to spend his life following the spiritual example of Bodhisattva Guanyin, working for peace through dialogue, education and service.

The long-term goal of GFLP is to sow the seeds of peace, bringing to life the United Nations Resolution on the Right of Peoples to Peace (A/RES/39/11): that “peoples of our planet have a sacred right to peace” and that “the maintenance of a peaceful life for peoples is the sacred duty of each State”. <http://gflp.org/>.

The Museum of World Religions was founded by Master Hsin Tao. utilizing the principles of nature to inspire love and peace through teachings of the world’s religious and spiritual traditions. The Museum’s interactive exhibits and the recreation of real-life experiences allows the visitor to better understand the bewilderment about life and enables them to reaffirm life's worth. https://www.mwr.org.tw/mwr_en.

Chan Space New York sits in contrast to a fast-paced city life, offering respite and teachings through dynamic and contemporary programs to encourage curiosity, conversation, reflection and enjoyment. Under the guidance of Venerable Guang Guo Shih, there are weekly meditation classes, courses on Buddhism, walking and sound meditations, musical events, art shows, calligraphy and tea ceremony. <https://chanspacenewyork.org/>.

Purpose Earth is an initiative of UNITY EARTH, created to inspire real-world impact driven by a sense of purpose. At the heart of PURPOSE EARTH is its grant and mentorship program focused on empowering social entrepreneurs, passionate community leaders and purposeful organizations creating positive change at the grassroots level. www.purposeearth.org

UNITY EARTH brings people together through fostering reverence for the Sacred and respecting all forms of diversity, using music, events and media to proclaim the universal unity of all beings. UNITY EARTH is building a worldwide movement for unity and peace. <https://unity.earth/>.

NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY monitors implementation of the commitments to the United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals for the success of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda. The Committee works closely with relevant UN commissions and agencies, and the United Nations NGO community. <http://ngocsd-ny.org/>.