

POETRY SLAM FOR PEACE

01.18.25

CONTINENTAL CLUB OAKLAND

Every voice matters
Every story heals
Every poem builds
The future we believe in



Global Family for Love & Peace
LOVE EARTH LOVE PEACE

GFLP.ORG/POETRY-SLAM

POETRY SLAM FOR PEACE

A PRESENTATION OF GLOBAL FAMILY FOR LOVE AND PEACE

HOST

Amikaeyla Gaston is a force for change. Proclaimed as one of the “purest contemporary voices” by National Public Radio, Amikaeyla is a public keynote speaker, performer, educator, and author. She travels the world serving as a Cultural Arts Ambassador for the State Department and is the Founder of the International Cultural Arts and Healing Sciences Institute and co-Executive Director for World Trust Educational Services Organization.

With over 25 years of experience in the Behavioral Health arena, Amikaeyla has been bringing together artists and healers of all forms and specialties to promote healing and wellness through the arts and activism. She leads corporations, universities, and organizations through cultural competency, restorative justice, and racial equity training designed to facilitate, engage and support people in exploring challenging conversations.

amikaeyla.com

POETS IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

1. **Nazelah Jamison** is a Bay Area-based performance poet, author, comedian, vocalist and emcee. Her first book of poetry, *Evolutionary Heart*, was released on Nomadic Press in 2016, and reprinted and re-released on Black Lawrence Press in Fall 2023. Her work can also be found in *The Racket Journal: Issue Fifteen* (2020), *Culture Counts Magazine* (2021), *La Raiz Magazine* (2022), *Better Ancestors*, *Sparkle + Blink 115* (Quiet Lightning 2022) and *The Town: An Anthology of Oakland Poets* (Nomadic Press, 2023). In her spare time, Nazelah enjoys writing horror screenplays and saving the day. She hosts *Thee Virtual Open Mic* every 1st & 3rd Friday on zoom, and gives the best hugs in the Bay Area.
nazelah.wixsite.com/nazelah
2. **Briana Victoria Leung** is a 21 y/o Bay-Area based queer BIPOC storyteller and healer who has been writing, performing, and competing in the local poetry scene for the last decade. Briana describes themselves as an “artist” (artist/activist), oral historian, and a conduit for their ancestors, using poetry and storytelling to explore social and political issues.
brianapoetry.squarespace.com
3. As a spoken word artist and storyteller, **Jamie DeWolf** performed on two seasons of HBO’s *Def Poetry Jam*, premiered his play “*In Spite of Everything*” at the first Hip Hop Theater Festival in Moscow and was awarded “Performance of the Year” by NPR’s *Snap Judgment*. An animated short film of his performance “*The Girl in the Hallway*” has won 26 international awards and was chosen by *Vimeo* and *The Atlantic* as one of the top 10 films of the year.
4. **Bri Blue** is a published author, motivational speaker, and Bay Area Creative Spoke Word Teaching Artist; from Berkeley, CA. Bri’s passionate and emotionally-charged performances allow her to connect with audiences through empathy, relatability and inspiration. She was the Founder and Host of the weekly “*Speakeasy*” open mic series, and created the ‘*Unapologetically You*’ Awareness Campaign with a mission to uplift and empower women.

Every voice matters

POETRY SLAM FOR PEACE

5. **Sophia Dunning** is a 6th grade Bay Area Creative student in Richmond, Ca. She writes poetry about her own life, and things she cares about.
6. **Myra Estrada** is an African American and Mexican female teaching artist and poet. She is the 2021 Oakland Youth Poet Laureate and has since then performed across the Bay Area in spaces such as the DeYoung Museum, Ella Baker Center, Youth Speaks, and The Oakland Public Library. She has had the honor to share space with community legends such as Black Panther Chairwoman, Elaine Brown and Co-Founder of the BLM Movement, Alicia Garza. Myra is currently studying Sociology at the University of California, Berkeley gaining knowledge on the world that surrounds her. She hopes to become a representation of the revolutionists who have walked these sacred grounds before her and the revolutionary brown babies that will come after her.
7. **Mike Taylor** is the Co-Founder and Executive Director of Bay Area Creative. His passion is to produce amazing arts experiences in the community, and to provide work for local performance artists. As a performer he's featured in Spoken Word shows all over the world from Berkeley, to New York, and London; writing about hope.
8. **Shaka Perdue** is a Bay Area Creative Hip Hop Teaching Artist. He started as a professional street dancer and competitor. He is the 2022 Yak films Life is Living Champion, and a 2024 Red Bull, Oakland qualifier champion. He has video appearances with Kendrick Lamar, Mr. Fab, E40, And many more artists.
9. **Thaillnai** is a southern born peach who was raised in the hyphy streets of Oakland California. Thaillnai is a colorful young woman promoting a positive image of black women, complimenting them in their entirety through art, dance, poetry and music. This performing artist singer-songwriter quadruples as a young visual artist, passionate about bringing awareness to the multitude of women whose voices and experience have been overlooked. With all expressions of her art, she intends to change the narrative of lost black voices.
linktr.ee/Thaillnai
10. **Papi Grande** is a multidisciplinary performance artist from Oakland California. Known for his spectacular stage presence, personality and deep themes of evolution, love and dedication. Confidence. Dynamic. Entertaining. Wavy. Expressive. Open. He/Him/Prince Papi has been striding around the community, many stages, making smiles on more than a few faces. With 2 books under his belt, he finds his place in poetry not just a grande time but a long time. His motto is "We All Had Choices," which is also the title of his first EP, check out his mixtape and ask him about its meaning.
11. Since 2008, **Nicole Klaymoon** has served as the founder and artistic director/executive director of the Bay Area Hip Hop Dance Theater Company Embodiment Project. She has directed and choreographed twelve original evening-length productions, including Music of the Actualized Child (2018) and the Isadora Duncan Dance Award-winning Chalk Outlines (2015). Embodiment Project wrapped up 2016 with the sold-out Seed Language, inspired by Black Lives Matter, which featured both words and in-person appearances by BLM cofounder Alicia Garza and former Black Panther leader Ericka Huggins. Nicole has been a faculty member in the Performing Arts and Social Justice department at the University of San Francisco since 2014, and has been a guest choreographer and lecturer at Arizona State University, Mills College, UC Riverside, UCLA, UC Berkeley, and Bates Dance Festival.

POETRY SLAM FOR PEACE

12. **Ellis, AKA E\$TEEZY** is a Cambodian and Lao-American Spoken Word Poet from the Dubbs in East Oakland. E\$TEEZY considers himself a social justice advocate and uses his writing to speak for his community by expressing their struggles in the form of spoken word. Through his writing, E\$TEEZY hopes to introduce others to the often unheard culture of South East Asians in Oakland. By amplifying cultural and communal struggles, E\$TEEZY wishes to mend and soothe his culture. In Spoken Word he finds freedom in being able to have no restrictions on what he has to say or how he says it.
13. **jelal huyler** is a biracial-black poet who does not condone linear time. / published individual works can be found in Ink & Nebula, 3Elements Review, Eleven Eleven, Drunk in a Midnight Choir, 580 Split, The Change Agent, FIVE:2:ONE Magazine, & Likely Red Press / his voice and work have been included in the documentary Cracking the Codes: The System of Racial Inequality, which explores race and restorative justice in the United States / he is the author of the book of poems, A Man Was Lynched Today published by GAME OVER BOOKS.
www.gameoverbooks.com/store/p/a-man-was-lynched-today
14. **Joyce Lee** is an Oakland native who has been writing since the age of 8 and performing since the age of 10. Joyce is the 2009 and 2010 Oakland Grand Slam champion, a noted storyteller on NPR's Snap Judgment, and a community college English professor in the East Bay as well as at Santa Rita County Jail. Joyce has also performed, curated open mics and taught internationally in places such as Germany, Switzerland, Turkey, Trinidad, Canada, and Colombia. Joyce Lee is the CEO and Founder of JL Soul Camp, a 4-day all expenses paid retreat and affinity space for Black women, held annually in Sonoma County.
Jlsoulcamp.com

POETRY SLAM FOR PEACE

PRODUCTION TEAM

Laurence Singer has represented Global Family for Love and Peace at the United Nations for 22 years, and is the creator and executive producer of the Poetry Slam for Peace. Founding Volunteer Lawyer for the Arts in Washington D.C. many years ago led to understanding of the crucial role creative communities play in this transformative time. Laurence has decades of experience in the arts and in the entertainment and media industries, founding and managing record companies, and in roles of executive producer, producer, creative director, and packaging entertainment projects, with extensive experience as an arts, entertainment and intellectual property lawyer. He is the founder of Rhythms of the Globe.

www.rhythmsoftheglobe.com

Graphic Design: Artwork by **Timothy Dixon**, from an original design by Amanda Wolf. As well as a graphic designer and video editor, Timothy is the sound engineer for Sonic Dragon recording studios in Virginia. He's also a musician, having performed all over the Bay Area in the 24 years that he was living there.

www.harmonicdreams.com

Photography: **Paige Stinson** is a San Francisco portrait photographer who specializes in creative artistic direction. Beyond the lens, she expresses her artistic vision through fashion styling and design.

Stage Manager: **Ahja Henry** is a second-generation San Francisco dancer and artist whose work spans performances and exhibitions throughout the Bay Area. She is excited to expand her artistry backstage and be a part of such an inspiring showcase of art.

VIDEO PRODUCTION

PUNCH UP PRODUCTIONS is an award-winning Bay Area based film production team led by partners Jamie DeWolf and Paige Goedkoop. The company's provocative visuals, daring content, and hard-hitting storytelling have intertwined art and activism for national campaigns, leading to film festival victories and viral videos worldwide.

Jamie DeWolf is a filmmaker, writer, performer, playwright and circus ringmaster from Oakland, CA. Jamie's original short dark comedies, horror and noir narratives have won over 35 international film festival awards. Jamie is also the host and creator of the Ruckus Revival, which the Huffington Post calls "one of the best underground performance art shows in America" and the "most consistently spectacular event Oakland's ever seen." The Ruckus Revival is every Second Thursday of the month in Oakland.

CREW

Jamie DeWolf

Nick Kasimatis

Paige Goedkoop

Asher Kennedy

POETRY SLAM FOR PEACE

FOUNDING SPONSORS



Dharma Master Hsin Tao believes it is necessary to have a diversity of methods for educating and broadening the awareness of people to become more attuned to those matters most important in their lives, to enable people to reaffirm life's worth. The **Museum of World Religions** displays cultural artifacts in an educational and technological environment to create dialogue and interaction between the world's religious and spiritual traditions and with the audience. The Museum is not age, gender, or culturally specific, rather it has an international field of vision, offering essential stories and a multiplicity of choices. It provides real-life experiences from which to choose one's own path.



Wisdom for Practical Wisdom for Spiritual Living

The **Spiritual Life TV Channel** features Wisdom Teachings from many spiritual traditions give a practical focus that shows how a person can use these teachings to live a more spiritual, happy life.

spirituallifetvchannel.com



UNITY EARTH: Inspired by the world's wisdom traditions and born out of the desire to meet global-sized challenges with global-sized solutions, the UNITY EARTH network is built to amplify the reach and impact of peace-aligned organizations and individuals. UNITY EARTH's programs and activities focus at the intersection of spirituality, science, technology, transformative practices, and the arts, to engage people across cultures, generations, and geographical boundaries.

unity.earth

Every poem builds

POETRY SLAM FOR PEACE



Purpose Earth

Empowering Extraordinary People Activating World-Changing Projects

Purpose Earth is a global grant and mentorship program empowering grassroots, community leaders and their transformative solutions. Each of us plays a critical role in creating a world that works for everyone. Join us in supporting world-changing projects on a mission to solve the challenges of our time.

purposeearth.org



Holomovement

The **Holomovement** is a social movement awakening us to our interconnectedness, igniting a critical mass of collaborative action serving the good of the whole. Guided by science and spirituality, this unifying movement is catalyzing a massive shift in human consciousness.

holomovement.net

CO-SPONSOR

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.

www.ngocsd-ny.org

IN COLLABORATION WITH

Bay Area Creative, providing opportunities for creative expression and the study of the cultural impacts of famous and contemporary works of spoken word poetry that empower individuals to develop empathic communication skills, fostering positive change in themselves and their communities.

www.bayareacreative.org

Youth Speaks, a leading presenter of Spoken Word performance and education, creating spaces that challenge youth to amplify their voices as creators of societal change.

www.youthspeaks.org

Groundfloor, an Oakland coworking space rooted in community, camaraderie, cultural arts, and social justice.

www.groundfloorclub.com/oakland

Oakland Youth Poet Laureate Program, a citywide effort to celebrate literacy through poetry and connect young writers to far-reaching opportunities.

www.oaklandlibrary.org/oakland-youth-poet-laureate

The future we believe in