

Spill Tea

**Community Support
Group Programming**
Marketing

Presenter
Affrica Spence

2022 Proposal



Spill Tea Poetry Edition

The Spill Tea Poetry edition is comprised of two complimentary workshops; the freestyle poetry write session and the spoken word poetry development session. The freestyle writing is great for those seeking to find their style/voice, creatively explore the art of poetry, and simply get into the practice of writing for the sake of writing. This session is especially made for those experiencing creative blocks as it gets one to freestyle ideas in a group setting. Ideally a morning and repeated afternoon program would be available.

The evening spoken word development session caters to poets who would like to take an additional step into honing their poetry skillset. This session does have a requirement of a pre made poetry piece to develop. Surrounded by a group of supportive peers, participants will recite their own poetry, study professionals in the field and take away commentary and development to their original piece.

Let's Talk Spoken Word Poetry

A Definition

Wiki

Spoken word refers to an oral poetic performance art that is based mainly on the poem as well as the performer's aesthetic qualities. It is a late 20th century continuation of an ancient oral artistic tradition that focuses on the aesthetics of recitation and word play, such as the performer's live intonation and voice inflection. Spoken word is a "catchall" term that includes any kind of poetry recited aloud, including poetry readings, poetry slams, jazz poetry, and hip hop music, and can include comedy routines and prose monologues.[1] Unlike written poetry, the poetic text takes its quality less from the visual aesthetics on a page, but depends more on phonaesthetics, or the aesthetics of sound.



Meet the Programmer



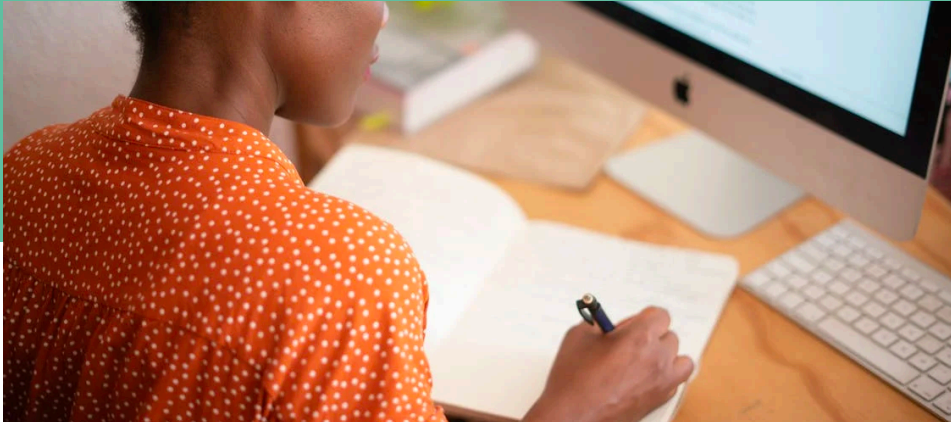
Affrica Spence

My name is Affrica Spence, a proud second generation Jamaican Canadian. A lover of all things arts and specialist in film creation, painting and spoken word poetry. I have done both film production and film studies training at Concordia University and the NYFA, as well as garnered notice as an official selection in several film festivals including but not limited to: the Caribbean Tales International Film Festival, Montreal Independent Film Festival, WebFest T.O and the NY International Arts Festival. My early years in the film industry was as a freelancer working on projects for groups such as Opine Entertainment, McGill University, Concordia University, MATV broadcasts and more. From 2016 to present day most of my attention has been building my passion project Voetry, a yearly docu-series that combines spoken word poetry and visual arts. As for painting and spoken word, I am self taught and utterly passionate about the two. I have performed for organizations such as Hamilton's Women's Day.



Workshops

Intro.



Freestyle Poetry Write Session
(Morning and Afternoon Time
Slots)



Spoken Word Poetry
Development Session
(Evening Time Slot)





A Creative Approach to Writing Poetry

Freestyle writing, is an approach to writing that is similar to brainstorming but this group focuses written in sentence and paragraph in poetry form. It is done without stopping and in turn increases the flow of ideas and reduces the chance of losing a good idea.

Optional writing prompts and group comments are tools to help spark participant creativity. These sessions are aimed to ideally be served with a warm beverage and accompanied with lofi music to set a calming tone.



Freestyle Poetry Write Session



Freestyle Poetry Write Session (1hr 40mins)



**Grab Tea
and Intro**

20 Min



**Writing
Prompt**

Ex: three chosen
words or song
prompt



**Freestyle
Writing**

15 Min



**Individual
Recites +
Comments X5**

15 Min



**Morning
Group**

10:00AM -
11:40AM



**Afternoon
Group**

12:30PM -
2:10PM

Create an Environment



Cafe and
Intimate
Vibe

It would be good for these to be at cafes or libraries.

Spill Tea is a strong reference to the heart warming and intimate nature of sharing a hot beverage with peers.





Spoken Word Poetry Development Session (2-3hrs)

I read once that the art of poetry is an inexpensive, portable, reproducible, and quickly consumed art. Poetry requires only literacy to participate and I aim for this workshop to facilitate learning the creativity of a poem. Spoken word teaches enunciation, play with words, tone, even rhythm in which words are said. It is so performative in many ways that it is taking communication to another level of narrative experience.

Max 10
Poets

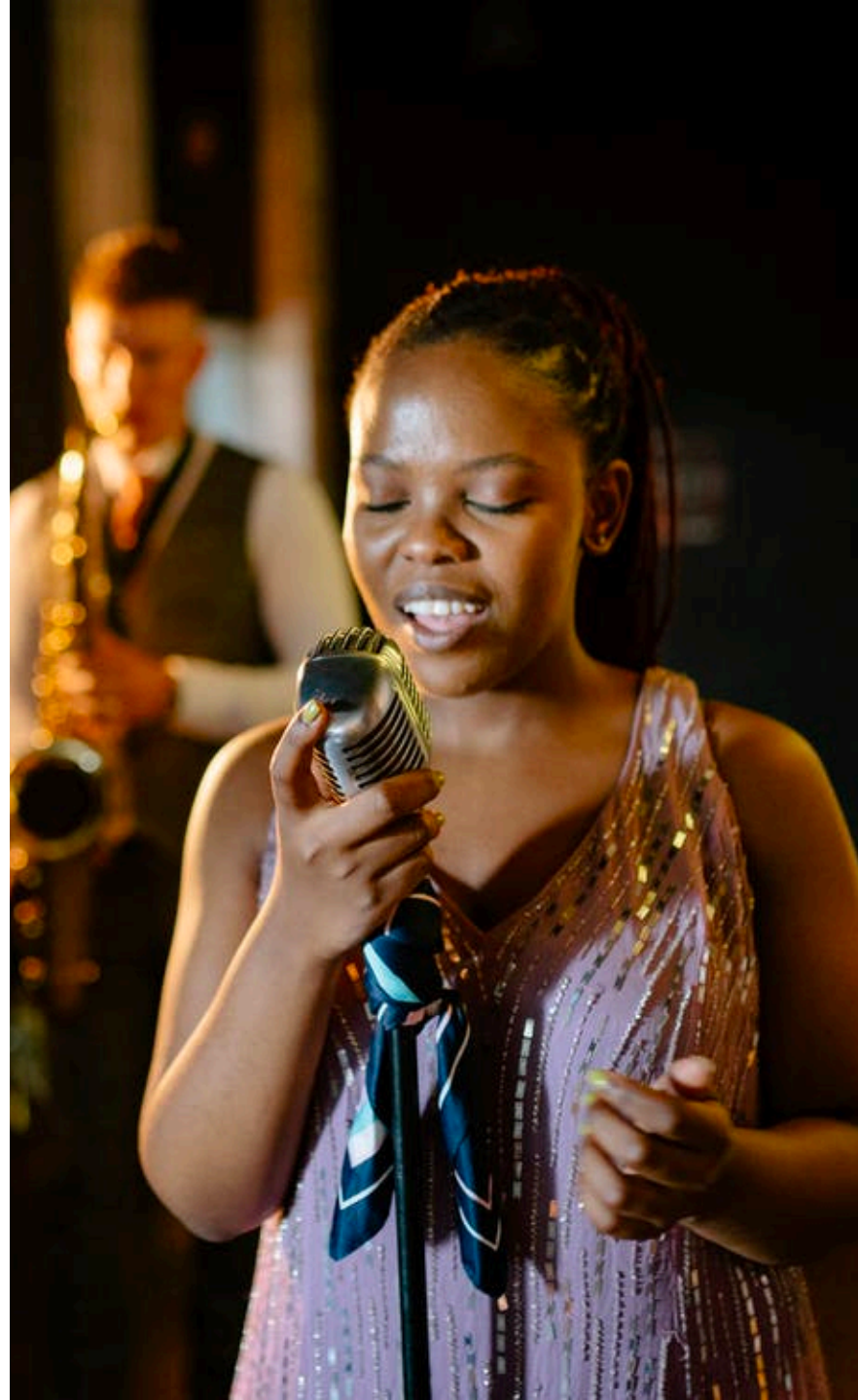
Tea/Food Intro

50 Min

Recite Prepped Poem X2

Submit Comments

Submit anonymous comments to me and I will provide it
to the poet. No tolerance of rude comments



30 Min

Study Professional Poets

Reference material to professional poets on stage
will be presented and commented on.

30 Min

Development Time

Tweak poem in accordance to comments or professionals watched, watch
more poetry I have handpicked, and/or practice poem more.

50 Min

Final Reciting +
Optional Comments

We Provide Recorded Reciting



Participants Take Away Their Own Work by Video

As a poet myself I found recording and playing back my recited poems an extremely useful tool when it came to refining my delivery. I'd be capturing by video the first presentation of a participants poem and then a second take after some development on their pieces. Recorded poems will be provided post program.





Create an Environment

As this will have an evening feel the tea aspect will still apply however an option perhaps to purchase some food may help set an intimate dinner table backdrop. Orders can be placed at the beginning of the group maybe at a subsidized cost so the full cost isn't a burden to the program but participants can still get an economical meal.

Post Program



Bi Annual Poet Feature

A custom video project that features 2 individual poets a year.

Consideration for Poetry Docu-Series

Interested Poets may submit to be featured in a video series that has been recognized as a section in film fest and galleries.

Exclusive WhatsApp Group

All participants will have an opportunity to join a WhatsApp group to keep up support between artists.

Consideration for One to One Mentor Session

Some veteran poets may allow access to their mentorship through a one to one meeting.

Mentorship

Consideration for Some to Have An Individual One Time Mentor Conversation With Poets Like:

Dwayne Morgan began his career as a spoken word artist in 1993. He is the founder of Up From The Roots Entertainment, which was established in 1994 to promote the positive artistic contributions of African Canadian and urban influenced artists.

Randell Adjei is an Author, Inspirational Speaker, Arts Educator and Community Leader who uses the spoken word to empower and transform through Edutainment. He is the founder of one of Toronto's largest and longest running youth led initiatives; Reaching Intelligent Souls Everywhere (R.I.S.E Edutainment).

Sydellia Ndiaye is an internationally recognized, veteran, recording spoken word artist who received her start in what is considered to be home to some of the world's best slam poets, Chicago. The Senegalese-American artist has been blessed to touch souls all over the world by performing her spoken word pieces/songs in North America, Europe, Africa, several French-Caribbean Islands and virtually.



Better Time
Connecting
With Leader

Voetry: Poetry Docu-Series

Bringing action to brands.

This project savours the hidden depth of filmed day to day moments while delivering the poetic confessions beyond these moments.

Each rendition of spoken word poetry paints the picture of individuals through a series of intimate stand alone episodes.

Characters explore poetry that inspires, advises, seeks truths and breaks through ever changing life lessons. Despite the variation amongst each poem, stands an undeniable connection to the human experience.

Enjoy a docu-series that will link word to individual, individual to a collective and the collective beyond the barriers of your screen. thisisvoetry.com/series





Possible Next Steps



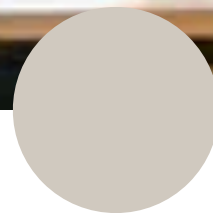
Grow Into an Event

Graduates of our programs could become features for an organized event post refining of their poetry.



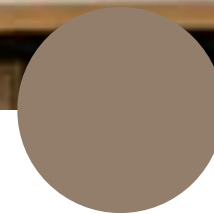
Grow Into Support Group

Social and mental health aspect of community as a type of support group by integrating more time to discuss private lives and more stories behind participant writing.



Grow Into Professionals

Grow this into elite group of writers to compete across in city poetry events or at other cities. Partnerships with pioneer poets like Randell Adjei, Paulina O'kiefte, or Dwayne Morgan can be consultants.



Grow Into an Artist Retreat

Incubator type of programming can be incorporated into a type day or weekend retreat for creating poetry and perfecting the craft.