



Poetic Release Performance Crew

Poetic Release is the University of Connecticut's premier spoken word poetry organization. Founded in the spring of 2011, Poetic Release has quickly become an established force in Connecticut's artistic community.

Since its inception, Poetic Release has produced a comprehensive workshop series, monthly slams inviting some of the most renowned spoken word artists working today, and has consistently increased the discussion of poetry as an art form in our area. Last year, Poetic Release sent UConn's first Slam Team to CUPSI, the national poetry slam for colleges. We made it to the semifinal round, ranking among the top 15 schools in the nation. In addition to gaining prestige for our University by competing in national and regional competitions, one of the main goals of our organization is to share the power of spoken word poetry with our local Connecticut community.

Poetic Release offers a variety of programs that can fit into any educational context. In addition to running workshops, the members of Poetic Release pride themselves on hosting fun and respectful poetry slams and open mics. A poetry slam is a competition where students would recite their poetry in front of a group of their peers, who would score them in order to elect a winner. A slam or open mic can be the perfect companion to a workshop, offering an entertaining and friendly environment for students to share their work with their classmates. On the University of Connecticut campus, Poetic Release hosts themed writing workshops every week, and at least one poetry slam and open mic a month, so our experience with producing energetic and engaging events is extensive.



Workshops

Our workshops are designed to help participants develop their poetic skills, critical thinking, and their own personal voices. They address poetics specifically and touch upon a wide range of topics, such as social justice, human rights, or free expression. Our workshops can be tailored to fit into any educational context, curriculum or program. All workshops are framed within an open and safe space where everyone has an opportunity to speak their mind. These workshops can utilize poetry as both a goal and a vehicle for empowerment.

Feature Performances

Poetic Release also offers performances of original poetry. Our poetry covers a wide variety of topics, from race and religion to gender identity and adorable kittens. Performance Sets can be as short as fifteen minutes or as long as an hour. The goal of our performances is to be both fun and thought provoking, and to engage our audiences on both an intellectual and emotional level.

Hosting a Slam

Our poets are experienced poetry slam hosts. What is a poetry slam? A slam is a high-energy competition where poets read or recite original work. Their performances are judged numerically by randomly selected members of the audience. They typically last for three rounds, usually two hours in length. Poetic Release hosts a slam every month on the UConn campus, and can help construct one in any capacity, from basic prep work to MC-ing the show itself.



Featured Performances



Captain Stress Reliever

Zach Johnson & Mikhail Gilbert

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sXLh2z0UL2Y>



Angry Black Woman

Pamela Achuka

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=36MOWEAGUKQ&list=PL41I-_JN-BEcozPFfe293sED4b1Ad3BXYL&index=8



Social Anxiety at 140 BPM

Aaron Burstein

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zz630krJWoE&list=PL41I-_JN-BEcozPFfe293sED4b1Ad3BXYL