



All of the artists featured here are Get Lit Players or graduates of the Get Lit Player program and are currently available for bookings.

**2019-2020
TALENT BOOKING ROSTER**

JASON ALVAREZ



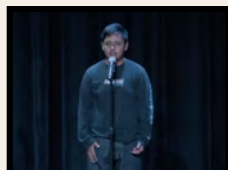
HI, I'M JASON ALVAREZ

I speak on culture, race, family,
masculinity, and friendship

ABOUT JASON

Jason is a poet who simply loves using his voice to tell stories. Whether it be about home, the hood, his friends, Mac'n'cheese, or even the daily life of a latino. Jason has touched the final stage of The Get Lit Poetry Slam on his first year competing. He has also performed for Jane Fonda, as well as, currently featuring in a movie. Jason strives to make the world a better place with his uplifting energy, his poetry, and art skills. To this day Jason continues to find new ways to build bridges, because he believes that teamwork makes the dream work. He is also featured in the upcoming 2020 film "Summertime", directed by Carlos Lopez Estrada, who's first feature film "Blindspotting" (starring Daveed Diggs and Rafael Casal) was nominated for the 2018 Sundance Grand Jury Prize, with Estrada nominated by the DGA for Outstanding Directorial Achievement of a First-Time Feature Film Director.

VIDEOS



AUSTIN ANTOINE - Mentor



HI, I'M AUSTIN ANTOINE

I am a multifaceted performance artist that blends the lines between music, poetry, and theatrics.

ABOUT AUSTIN

Austin Antoine is a multifaceted performance artist that blends the lines between music, poetry, and theatrics. Austin commits to mixing all of his passions with abilities that span from singing soulful solos to conquering an opposing rapper in a contest of improvised wit. After graduating California Institute of the Arts with a BFA in acting, Austin has sustained artistic success through touring performances, rap battles, musical collaborations, and hosting creative workshops. His work can be seen with Sofar Sounds, Guinness Book of World Records, TeamBackPack, ThatLowd, Joomanji, and TheyGotTime. He is also featured in the upcoming 2020 feature length film directed by Carlos Lopez Estrada, Summertime.

3,378

Instagram Followers

@austitheantoin

VIDEOS



MARQUESHA BABERS

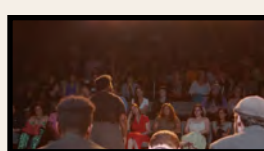


HI, I'M MARQUESHA BABERS

I speak on poverty, conquering adversity, female empowerment, and more.

ABOUT MARQUESHA

After growing up homeless and channeling her pain into power, Marquesha has become a mentor for Get Lit and an ambassador for the film *Girl Rising*, which stresses the importance of education for girls in developing countries. With Get Lit, she has performed at the MUSE Conference in Oregon, at the Women in the World Summit at Lincoln Center (alongside Angelina Jolie and Hillary Clinton), at Cadogan Hall in London, and at colleges and universities throughout the nation. She has also appeared on the series *Verses and Flow*, and she is a blogger for ONE.org. Look out for her poetry anthology and memoir, coming soon to a bookstore near you! She is also featured in the upcoming 2020 film "Summertime", directed by Carlos Lopez Estrada, who's first feature film "Blindspotting" (starring Daveed Diggs and Rafael Casal) was nominated for the 2018 Sundance Grand Jury Prize, with Estrada nominated by the DGA for Outstanding Directorial Achievement of a First-Time Feature Film Director.



BRYCE BANKS



HI, I'M BRYCE BANKS

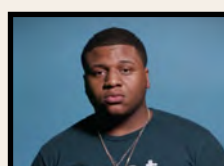
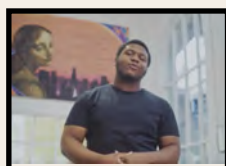
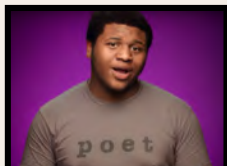
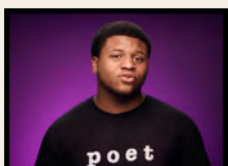
I speak on race, family, and the process that comes with accepting oneself.

ABOUT BRYCE

Bryce Banks recently graduated from the Academy of Music and Performing Arts at Hamilton High School. He has had the privilege of touching the final stage at the Get Lit Classic Slam twice. Bryce is a firm believer that race is not defined by birth place nor dialect. He speaks on his long battle with insecurities and how he overcame them. An active member of his community, Bryce has worked closely with his local YMCA for the past 4 years. Through Get Lit he has worked with: Adidas, Toms, and the UN. He is also featured in the upcoming 2020 feature length film directed by Carlos Lopez Estrada, *Summertime*, and Pamela Adlon's *Better Things* on FX. She is also featured in the upcoming 2020 film "Summertime", directed by Carlos Lopez Estrada, who's first feature film "Blindspotting" (starring Daveed Diggs and Rafael Casal) was nominated for the 2018 Sundance Grand Jury Prize, with Estrada nominated by the DGA for Outstanding Directorial Achievement of a First-Time Feature Film Director.



VIDEOS



BENE'T BENTON



HI, I'M BENE'T BENTON

I speak on race, mental illness, and politics.

1,020

Instagram Followers

@benetjolie

ABOUT BENE'T

Bene't Benton has performed at Dodger Stadium, Pantages Theatre, The Women of UTA, March for Our Lives LA, and public schools all over Los Angeles. She currently attends UC Santa Cruz where she studies theater. In 2019, she was featured in Pamela Adlon's Better Things on FX. She is also featured in the upcoming 2020 film "Summertime", directed by Carlos Lopez Estrada, who's first feature film "Blindspotting" (starring Daveed Diggs and Rafael Casal) was nominated for the 2018 Sundance Grand Jury Prize, with Estrada nominated by the DGA for Outstanding Directorial Achievement of a First-Time Feature Film Director.

VIDEOS



AMAYA BLANKENSHIP



HI, I'M AMAYA BLANKENSHIP

I speak on intersectionality, family,
and my experience
as a young biracial woman.

1,287

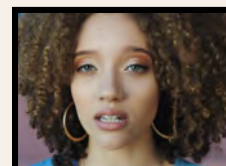
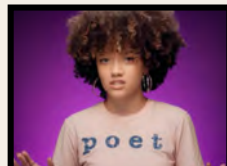
Instagram Followers

@ amaya.da.papaya

ABOUT AMAYA

Amaya Blankenship is currently a freshman at Santa Monica College. She was the highest scoring poet in the 2017 Get Lit Classic Slam and she has been featured in three Get Lit Now episodes. Additionally, she has been featured on KCET's Literary Riot series with her LACES high school classmates, and she recently had a reading at Skylight Books in Los Feliz with Julie-Lythcott Haims (Real American). During for the March for Our Lives march on Washington, a short video featuring Amaya speaking out against gun violence followed a performance of Miley Cyrus on the main stage. Amaya Blankenship is also a youth ambassador of peace for the UN and will speak in New York this fall for World Peace Day. She is also featured in the upcoming 2020 film "Summertime", directed by Carlos Lopez Estrada, who's first feature film "Blindspotting" (starring Daveed Diggs and Rafael Casal) was nominated for the 2018 Sundance Grand Jury Prize, with Estrada nominated by the DGA for Outstanding Directorial Achievement of a First-Time Feature Film Director.

VIDEOS



MILA CUDA



HI, I'M MILA CUDA

I speak on Womens' issues, Gay issues and Human Issues

3,561

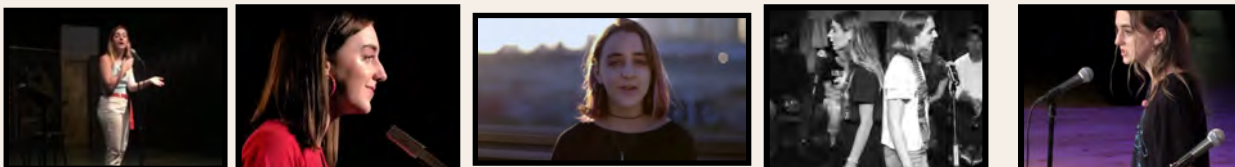
Instagram Followers

@ d.our

ABOUT MILA

Mila Cuda is the current Youth Poet Laureate of the West Coast. Her debut book, *Dishwater Blonde*, was released this past June. She is the former captain of the LA Brave New Voices team, a two time Classic Slam champion, and ranked fourth in the world for collegiate slam poetry, as part of the Wellesley College CUPSI team. Her work has been featured on Button Poetry, Rookie, and PBS, as well as the "Wonder Woman" dvd. Mila is a spider nerd and glitter enthusiast who loves her dogs despite her allergies. She is also featured in the upcoming 2020 feature length film directed by Carlos Lopez Estrada, *Summertime* and worked closely with Carlos as the film's story editor.

VIDEOS



SAMUEL CURTIS - Mentor



HI, I'M SAMUEL CURTIS

I'm a documentary filmmaker, musician, educator, and producer/manager. I speak on the future of digital cinema, the democratization of content creation, and American music history.

ABOUT SAMUEL

Samuel Curtis is the Head of Productions for Literary Riot Media, a social enterprise division of Get Lit - Words Ignite. He is responsible for the oversight, development, curriculum, and mentorship opportunities for their film/digital media programs and their professional creative collective, production company, and original content studio.

Samuel currently lives in Topanga, California, producing two feature music documentaries, anticipating releases in the spring of 2019 and fall of 2019; He has produced web series' for Red Bull, VICELAND, MeUndies, DreamworksTV and produced digital spots for Ford Motor Company and Post-It's/3M. His work has screened at The Grammy Museum, The Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences, The Skirball Cultural Center, The Actor's Gang Theatre, The Sarasota Opera House, on national television on the CMT network, and at regional film festivals across the country. He has a deep passion for roots music and produces live Americana shows throughout Los Angeles having worked with Jackson Browne, Ben Harper, Tim Robbins, and many more artists within the folk genre. In 2018 he directed Pablo Dylan's (Bob Dylan's grandson) first music video from his new album, "Eye of the Storm."

VIDEOS DIRECTED



VIOLETA ESQUIVEL



HI, I'M VIOLETA ESQUIVEL

I speak on immigration reform/DACA,
and youth power.

ABOUT VIOLETA

They call her "La Poeta.Violeta". Thirteen year old Violeta loves performing and building community across Los Angeles. You may have seen her at Avenue 50; Da Poetry Lounge, Beyond Baroque and Tia Chuchas. Violeta participated in a video series promoting Simon & Schuster's Get Lit Rising, and performed in a Puma campaign with Cara Delevingne in London. Published at the age of 10 she uses her words to cope with stressors in her life and to be an advocate for humanity..

1,122

Instagram Followers

@lapoetvioleta

VIDEOS



WALTER FINNIE



HI, I'M WALTER FINNIE

I speak on race, culture, fatherhood,
and more.

ABOUT WALTER

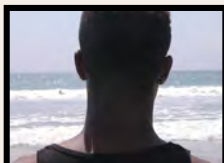
After graduating from Youth Opportunities High School, Walter became the feature of a Youth Speaks short documentary called The Drop-In, chronicling his amazing journey from a family that struggled with poverty and addiction to a scholarship at Lincoln University, the alma mater of his idol, iconic poet Langston Hughes. His poem "Stand Clear," written with Get Lit Players Brian Martinez and Kyland Turner, won the Raise Up Project, culminating in a performance at the John F. Kennedy Performing Arts Center in Washington, DC. In 2017, he starred in the production of Dante's Inferno: A Modern Adaption co-directed and produced by Cynthia Ettinger and Academy Award winner Tim Robbins. He is currently a writing consultant on Netflix's hit series, "On My Block". He is also featured in the upcoming 2020 film "Summertime", directed by Carlos Lopez Estrada, who's first feature film "Blindspotting" (starring Daveed Diggs and Rafael Casal) was nominated for the 2018 Sundance Grand Jury Prize, with Estrada nominated by the DGA for Outstanding Directorial Achievement of a First-Time Feature Film Director.

VIDEOS

1,586

Instagram Followers

@walterfinnie



HANNA HARRIS



HI, I'M HANNA HARRIS

I speak on mental health awareness,
feminism, & literature.

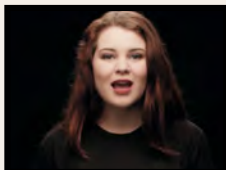
ABOUT HANNA

Hanna Harris is a professional spoken word artist and educator working to empower young people to improve their world through their lived experiences. She has performed for Hilary Clinton, Matthew McConaughey, the Women's March, LACMA, Warped Tour, Dodger Stadium, live on KPFK, and at over 100 schools in the LA area. Hanna is also the coach of the Los Angeles Youth Poetry Slam team and has taught residencies and workshops at UC Santa Barbara, Into Action, A Place Called Home, and various other schools & organizations all over Southern California. She is raising her cats to be feminists. She is also featured in the upcoming 2020 feature length film directed by Carlos Lopez Estrada, Summertime.

1,959

Instagram Followers
@hannaharrispoet

VIDEOS





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AGE 25

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213.388.8639

RAUL HERRERA



HI, I'M RAUL HERRERA

I speak on immigration, culture clash, technology, and more.



ABOUT RAUL

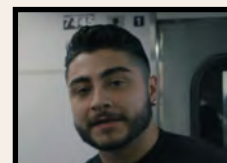
As a Mexican-American spoken word artist, playwright and educator, Raul Herrera has been involved with the non-profit Get Lit for over 8 years facilitating growth within students across the nation. Herrera has served the organization as a Get Lit Player, Literati Fellowship member, teaching artist, and is currently Get Lit's Education Coordinator. In 2014, he received the Pentathlon award given to the overall speaker at the California State Championship of Speech and Debate for Community Colleges. He placed 4th in the nation for Duo interpretation at the 2018 American Forensic Association (AFA) National Individual Events Tournament. His writing is featured in Get Lit Rising, Coiled Serpent published by Tia Chucha Press and, in 2017, he wrote Dante's Inferno: A Modern Adaption co-directed and produced by Cynthia Ettinger and Academy Award winner Tim Robbins. Raul has performed for thousands of youth across the nation, speaker for TEDxYouth and a panelist for AWP in 2018. He is a graduate of the University of Nebraska-Omaha with a bachelor's in communication studies Raul is also a graduate of Commedia dell'Arte, an eight-week acting class offered by The Actor's Gang in Culver City. He is also featured in the upcoming 2020 feature length film directed by Carlos Lopez Estrada, Summertime.

VIDEOS

1,749

Instagram Followers

@ rawrrule



GORDON IP



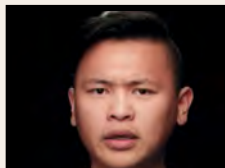
HI, I'M GORDON IP

I speak about the Asian-American community, immigrant and undocumented rights, and LGBTQ+ identity

ABOUT GORDON

Gordon is an Asian-American poet, teacher, and artist. He prioritizes the uplifting of Asian-American voices in all of his work, in an unapologetic, explicit fashion. He also speaks on issues of immigration, undocumented immigrants, and LGBTQ+ issues. He has performed at The Actor's Gang theatre owned by Tim Robbins, at UCLA, and at the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, and has been featured [twice](#) in the [Los Angeles Times](#). He is also featured in the upcoming 2020 film "Summertime", directed by Carlos Lopez Estrada, who's first feature film "Blindspotting" (starring Daveed Diggs and Rafael Casal) was nominated for the 2018 Sundance Grand Jury Prize, with Estrada nominated by the DGA for Outstanding Directorial Achievement of a First-Time Feature Film Director.

VIDEOS



KHAMAL IWUANYANWU



HI, I'M KHAMAL IWUANYANWU

I speak on race, stereotypes, violence,
and more.

ABOUT KHAMAL

I meld music, rap, and spoken word poetry to speak on culture, mental health, and more. Khamal Iwuanyanwu is a professional spoken word artist, VFX editor, and teaching artist who uses his art to build community, challenge status quos, and empower the youth to speak up for what they believe in. He has performed at high schools across California, bringing poetry as a performance art and for expression into the classroom. He has also done work with the United Nations, The Library of Congress, TD Jakes, The California Endowment, Jackson Browne, the NAACP, The ACLU, PolicyLink, LACMA, The Actors' Gang Theater, Dodger Stadium and many more notable organizations and venues. Khamal is currently a teacher for the Get Lit Saturday Class as well as the Emerging Writers Fellowship, a 32 week course designed to prepare youth poets for a career in writing and put them on the fast track to publishing. He is a writer for the upcoming 2020 feature length film, *Summertime*, directed by Carlos López Estrada. And is currently being featured as part of an upcoming documentary film called *Word*, directed by Jordan Barrow.

1,629

Instagram Followers

@atlas_speaks



VIDEOS



MARCUS JAMES



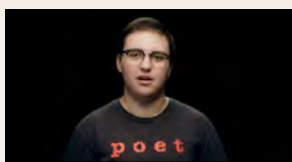
HI, I'M MARCUS JAMES

I speak on trans* issues, culture,
acceptance, and more.

ABOUT MARCUS

Marcus James is a spoken word artist and educator. He has performed at over 60 schools across California and has performed for the California Endowment for the Arts, Dodger Stadium, Warped Tour, Verses and Flow and Button Poetry. He has taught workshops at various schools and organizations across California some including UC Santa Barbara and Into Action. He is the coach of the LA Youth Poetry Slam team for Brave New Voices and a teaching artist for GetLit's Saturday Drop In Class. Currently, he is pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Film and Media at the University of California Santa Barbara. He is also featured in the upcoming 2020 feature length film directed by Carlos Lopez Estrada, Summertime.

VIDEOS



IAIN KOHN



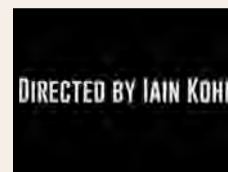
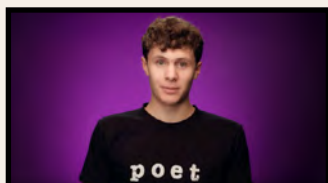
HI, I'M IAIN KOHN

I speak on education reform and
autism awareness

ABOUT IAIN

Iain is a Get Lit Words Ignite Literati Fellow, Literary Riot filmmaker, poetry coach and actor, currently studying creative writing and film at CSUN. He's represented Los Angeles as a Youth Poetry Ambassador from 2015 - 2017 and at Brave New Voices in Atlanta, Georgia in 2015. November 2019, Iain is starring as Christopher in the Greenway Court's "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time". Iain is a featured poet in "Get Lit Rising" published by Simon and Shuster in 2016 and has performed at Da Poetry Lounge, The LA Improv Comedy Club, The Ash Grove and at The USC Youth Empowerment Summit alongside Professor Cornel West--to mention a few. An advocate for Asperger's Syndrome acceptance and education reform, Iain's poem "Terrified of People" has over 250,000 views on Button Poetry, and was re-released by Jesse Dylan's Wondros series "Conversations". Iain directed his first documentary short "Cleveland High" which screened at the LAUSD Film Festival in May 2017 at the iconic Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. He is currently starring in the Greenway Court Theater production of "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time" in Los Angeles

VIDEOS





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AGE 18

BOOKING@GETLIT.ORG

213.388.8639

LUKAS LANE



HI, I'M LUKAS LANE

I speak on voting rights, gun control, youth involvement in politics, and using film to better society and create a new world.

1,167

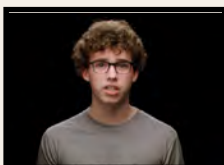
Instagram Followers

@_lalanee

ABOUT LUKAS

Lukas Lane is a activist and filmmaker who has produced and collaborated on countless viral hits on Youtube, Facebook, Instagram, Vimeo, and other platforms. He helped create centerpiece promotional content with Joss Whedon for March for Our Lives, and the Women's March in Los Angeles. He worked with March For Our Lives DC as a spokesperson against gun violence in a video that played during their live telecast and opened for Lin Manuel-Miranda. He is a United Nations Peace Day Ambassador, who has performed for the UN General Assembly and created poetic content for a Peace Day zine that is distributed fall 2018 throughout the United States. Lukas is currently attending Columbia College in Chicago, and as a filmmaker his videos range from 11,000 to over 1 million views on multiple platforms. He is a writer for the upcoming 2020 feature length film, Summertime, directed by Carlos López Estrada.

VIDEOS



DIANE LUBY LANE

- Founder



HI, I'M DIANE LUBY LANE

I speak on women's leadership, nonprofit management, for profit-nonprofit management, youth education

ABOUT DIANE

Diane Luby Lane is the founder and executive director of Get Lit – Words Ignite, a California-based arts education nonprofit that has transformed the landscape of teen literacy by empowering new generations in literature, self-expression and performing arts. She is also the founder of the Get Lit Players, an award-winning classic teen poetry troupe and the most watched poets on the internet with over 300 million views. The Get Lit Players tour throughout the country, have appeared at the White House three times, collaborated with the United Nations, were featured with John Legend at The Hollywood Bowl and perform each year for over 50,000 of their peers, igniting schools and communities with art and social consciousness. In 2012 Lane created the now annual Classic Slam, the largest youth classic poetry festival in the nation. Lane's Lit Kit, a standards based, in-school curriculum, has been adopted by schools throughout the U.S. and internationally. She is an actress with numerous commercial, TV and film credits and the author of the award-winning Get Lit Rising, published by Simon & Schuster and Words of Women, published by Samuel French. She is also the co-writer and co-producer of DANTE, an original adaptation of Dante's Inferno, which stars Get Lit Poets. She is a recipient of the Presidential Lifetime Volunteer Service Award.

VIDEOS



NIA LEWIS



HI, I'M NIA LEWIS

I speak on race, domestic violence,
women empowerment, and more.

ABOUT NIA

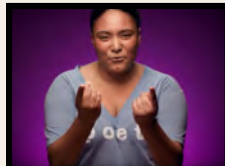
Nia Lewis is currently a freshmen at San Francisco State University. She is reserved and shy, but never afraid to speak on topics that bother her. She started the Black Student Union Club at her high school where she advocated for Black and Latino students. One of her poems, "Closed", is featured in the Huffington Post and her poem, "A Note for Richard, My Mother's Ex", will be featured in an upcoming short film. Hobbies include video editing, binge watching Netflix, and acting. She is also featured in the upcoming 2020 feature length film directed by Carlos Lopez Estrada, Summertime.

590

Instagram Followers

@nia.lewis

VIDEOS



CASSADY LOPEZ



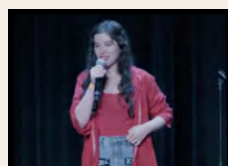
HI, I'M CASSADY LOPEZ

I speak on culture, identity, family,
and feminist issues.

ABOUT CASSADY

Cass is a bilingual latina who has performed on finals stage at the 2019 classic slam and competed with the 2019 L.A. brave new voices team in Las Vegas. She writes poetry, music, and is a self-proclaimed Space Cowboy. She is a gumball machine of contradictions and is always open to debates ranging from social justice to what type of breakfast food one thinks they are, always questioning herself she hopes to grow and decide on a name for her two-man band before the end of the year.

VIDEOS



PATHUM MADIGAPOLA



HI, I'M PATHUM MADIGAPOLA

I speak on geek culture and love and life as an immigrant.

ABOUT PATHUM

Pathum Madigapola is a 21-year old poet, filmmaker and standup comedian. He has done work for TD Jakes, The United Nations, Ford, and LAUSD. His poetry and comedy revolve around geek culture, educating kids, love and life as an immigrant. He hopes to create educational and entertaining content for children. He is also featured in the upcoming 2020 feature length film directed by Carlos Lopez Estrada, Summertime.

VIDEOS



MAIA MAYOR



HI, I'M MAIA MAYOR

I speak on perfectionism, image,
family, and more.

ABOUT MAIA

For the past eight years Maia has worked Get Lit as a writer, performer, and teacher. She has performed for thousands of youth nationwide. Her poems are viral sensations online, and her chapter in the award winning Get Lit Rising is the most requested for interviews and live performances. She has lectured at the ALAN Convention and was chosen as a panelist/performer in the latest NCTE conference where she spoke and performed for over 1,000 English teachers across the country. Maia has been featured on the TK Jakes Show, Huffington Post, TEDxYouth and more. In 2017 she performed in the production of Dante's Inferno: A Modern Adaption co-directed and produced by Cynthia Ettinger and Academy Award winner Tim Robbins. Most recently Maia has worked with One Vote at a Time, a grassroots PAC that focuses on gun safety legislation and electing progressive candidates into office. Maia now hosts an original web series called *Get Lit Globe*. She is also featured in the upcoming 2020 film "Summertime", directed by Carlos Lopez Estrada, who's first feature film "Blindspotting" (starring Daveed Diggs and Rafael Casal) was nominated for the 2018 Sundance Grand Jury Prize, with Estrada nominated by the DGA for Outstanding Directorial Achievement of a First-Time Feature Film Director.

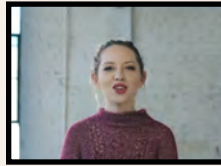
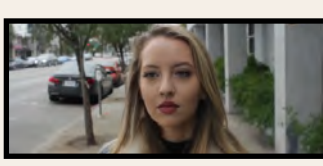
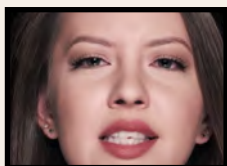
4,820

Instagram Followers

@maiamayor

writingonthebones.tumblr.com

VIDEOS





WWW.GETLIT.ORG

AGE 20

BOOKING@GETLIT.ORG

213.388.8639

RHIANNON MCGAVIN



HI, I'M RHIANNON MCGAVIN

I speak on internet culture, bullying, self-love, and more.

14,100

Instagram Followers

@ rhiannonmcgavin

5,128

Twitter Followers

@ rhiannonmcgavin

37,600

Youtube Subscribers

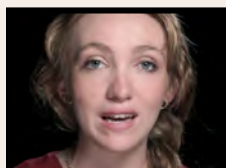
@ thegeekyblonde

ABOUT RHIANNON

After gaining recognition for her YouTube channel, "The Geeky Blonde," Rhiannon has grown to use the platform as a collection of DIY projects, "Condensed Shakespeare" vignettes, and original poetry, as well as to advocate for global freedom from sex trafficking and cyber bullying. She has performed at Lincoln Center, The Hollywood Bowl, and the Library of Congress. She co-wrote the manifesto for Dove's 2015 #ChooseBeautiful campaign, she is a member of Soul Pancake's "Bridge Exchange" to present poetry at film festivals, and she led Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas's 2014 March Against Sex Trafficking. Additionally, she co-wrote the preamble for the United Nations' Global Goals, and she is LA's Youth Poet Laureate!

Follow her journey at thegeekyblonde.com.

VIDEOS





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AGE 19

BOOKING@GETLIT.ORG

213.388.8639

OLYMPIA MICCIO



HI, I'M OLYMPIA MICCIO

I speak on LGBT+ issues, mental health, and more.

ABOUT OLYMPIA

Olympia is a purple-haired activist who has performed at the United Nations, the LA Times of Festival of Books, the Regent theater, and many high schools and colleges across Southern California. They are a Youth Poet Laureate Ambassador and United Nations Peace Ambassador, were a featured speaker at the Teen Vogue panel at INTO ACTION. They also opened up for Emma Gonzales at The March for Our Lives in DC, and helped create posters for march, of which 50,000 were distributed nationwide. After attending Venice High School, they attend The New School in New York studying political science and writing. They were featured in Pamela Aldons show Better Things on FX, and they are also featured in the upcoming 2020 film "Summertime", directed by Carlos Lopez Estrada, who's first feature film "Blindspotting" (starring Daveed Diggs and Rafael Casal) was nominated for the 2018 Sundance Grand Jury Prize, with Estrada nominated by the DGA for Outstanding Directorial Achievement of a First-Time Feature Film Director.

1,253

Instagram Followers

@sloucho



VIDEOS



MONIQUE MITCHELL



HI, I'M MONIQUE MITCHELL

I speak on Self Love, Spirituality, Education, Incarceration, Black Issues, and Women's Issues.

2,401

Instagram Followers

@ mnqmtchl

1,456

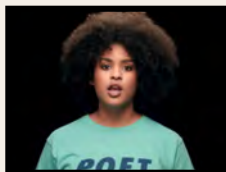
Twitter Followers

@ mnqmtchl

ABOUT MONIQUE

Monique Mitchell is a poet and community organizer. This past May, she was invited to perform for the State Senate in defense of SB 933, which secured \$50M for arts education across California. She has collaborated with the likes of Cass Bird, Cara Delevingne, Maria Shriver and Puma and has been published by The New York Times, Cultural Weekly, and various print publications across Los Angeles. She has performed and led workshops for museums, colleges, and conferences globally and believes that to be one's authentic self is the greatest act of service.

VIDEOS



MADYSON PARK



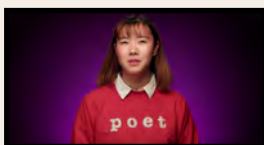
HI, I'M MADYSON PARK

I speak on Asian-American rights/
representation, youth culture,
politics, and more.

ABOUT MADYSON

Madyson Park is a 19 year old spoken word artist residing in Los Angeles, California. Madyson has competed all across the state of California in varying poetry slams including her 1st place win two years in a row at OCRYSE, and her semi final placement at the 2017 Get Lit Classic Slam. Madyson has appeared on national television performing poetry with accolades including performing her work on the FX show, Better Things, as well as being a co-writer in several films, projects, and other community organized events. Madyson's heart lies in her identity and how she can purposefully demonstrate how it feels to be a young, Asian American woman in today's society. You can find Madyson speaking on life, everything in between, and then some. When Madyson isn't writing away, she is finding ways to reach out to her community through social/political activism as a reminder to always remember where she came from and how she got to where she is today. Madyson always sits at the adult table at dinner parties even if you don't want her to. She is also featured in the upcoming 2020 film "Summertime", directed by Carlos Lopez Estrada, who's first feature film "Blindspotting" (starring Daveed Diggs and Rafael Casal) was nominated for the 2018 Sundance Grand Jury Prize, with Estrada nominated by the DGA for Outstanding Directorial Achievement of a First-Time Feature Film Director.

VIDEOS



981

Instagram Followers

@ Mjypark

TABBY PEREZ

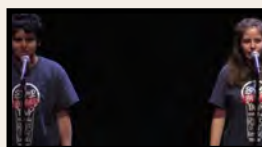
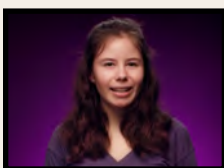


HI, I'M TABBY PEREZ

I speak on mental health, family issues, abandonment, struggles with religion, and self discovery.

ABOUT TABBY

While coming from a rough background, Tabatha found her true self in the back of her English class, scribbling poems into the margins of her notes. She was the Vice President of "Young Aspiring Writers with Power" (YAWP) at her high school. Tabatha has competed in the Get Lit Classic slam twice, once as co-captain of the team that took home the 1st place title. She has performed at events such as Why We Rise, competitions, high schools across LA, and open mics. She has 2 videos posted to Button Poetry, one of the largest providers of poetry media. Tabby may seem soft, but she is also one of the fiercest people you will ever meet. She is CPR and Disaster Rescue certified. Tabby ADORES her cat, Mr. Tigtig, and is studying to become a Respiratory Therapist.



ZACH PERLMUTER



HI, I'M ZACH PERLMUTER

I speak on immigration, culture clash, technology, and more.

499

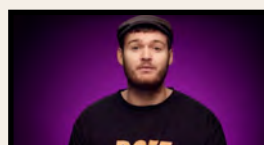
Instagram Followers

@moment_of_truth627

ABOUT ZACH

Zachary Marcus Perlmutter, 23, is a Los Angeles based Poet, Actor, Teacher and Hip Hop Artist. Born and raised in Los Angeles, Zach has been working with Get Lit Words Ignite for close to 5 years performing at hundreds of shows, hosting, and teaching workshops along side some of L.A.'s best poets. He has appeared on the T.D. Jakes Show, several viral commercials for the #THATSNOTLOVE campaign by One Love which have accumulated over 2 million views, and he has appeared in the 2017 production of Dantes Inferno: A Modern Adaptation co directed and produced by Cynthia Ettinger and Academy Award winner Tim Robbins. He has been to New Mexico for the Martin Luther King Youth Summit where he taught workshops and performed some of his pieces, He has been to Oregon to perform and teach workshops at Wordstock, and Portland Book Festival, and several schools in the area. He has a chapter in the award winning Get Lit Rising book. Zach has worked close to 3 years with the Turn Around Arts program, teaching elementary school students in San Bernadino, Inglewood, Compton and Canoga Park. His goal is to help kids understand that they are not alone in the constant battles we all face, he wants to give the youth a means of expressing themselves in a positive way, he knows the power that words possess, he knows the change that a positive mindset can bring and he wishes only to help whoever he can with what he has learned over the years. He is also featured in the upcoming 2020 feature length film directed by Carlos Lopez Estrada, Summertime.

VIDEOS



MYA RIGOLI



HI, I'M MYA RIGOLI

I speak on self-image, mental health,
family, and more.

ABOUT MYA

Mya Rigoli is a Spoken Word and Slam Poet currently attending Mt.Sac College. She is a captain of the Walnut High School Spoken Word Team who competes yearly at OCRYSE. Mya has competed in the Classic Slam and the international youth slam, Brave New Voices. In addition this Mya's work is featured on a digital media display at Occidental College. In her free time Mya is a tutor with the literacy center at the Covina Library, and is training her seven dogs to be her backup poets.

805

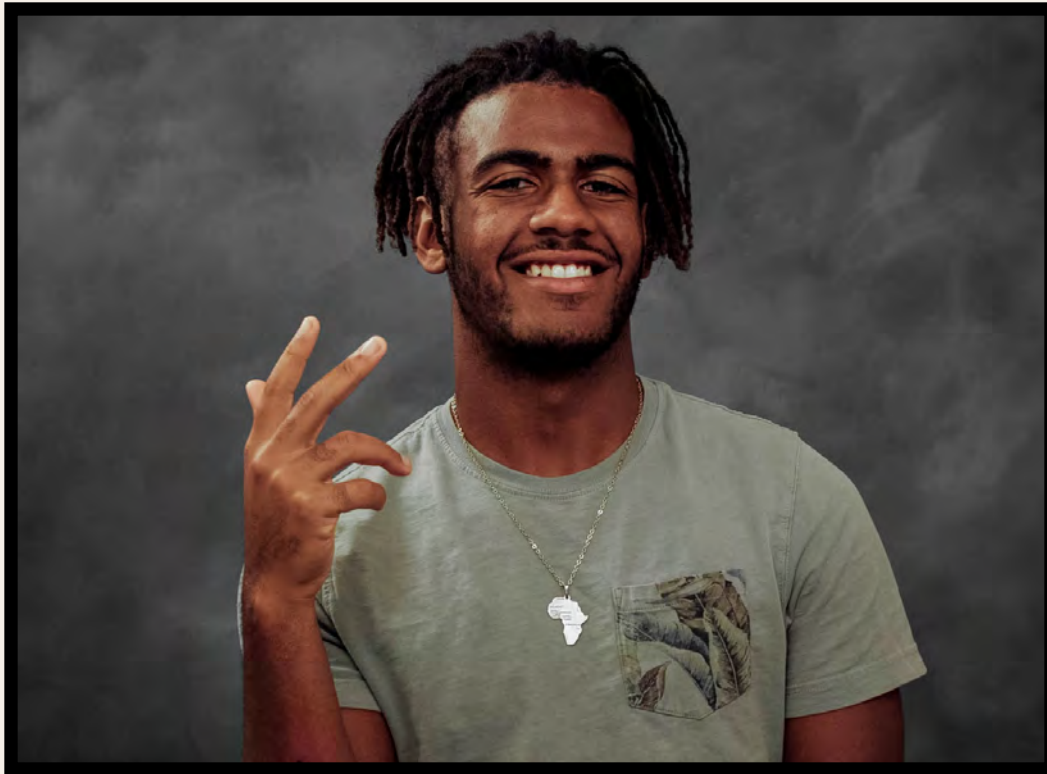
Instagram Followers

@myavrigs

VIDEOS



CYRUS ROBERTS



HI, I'M CYRUS ROBERTS

I speak on race, depression, adolescence, and more.

997

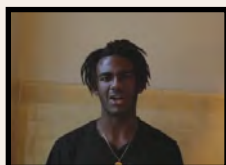
Instagram Followers

@cyruswrites

ABOUT CYRUS

Cyrus Roberts is the self-published author of the works *i*, *esoteric*, and *carpe forma* and performative spoken word artist from View Park, California. He utilizes his intense vulnerability and crafted cognizance of our world to create the poetry that speaks to us not as writers, but as beings through his interweaving of strict form, free verse, and hip-hop flow. He has worked as a U.N. Peace Ambassador and Poet Ambassador Finalist for LA Youth Poet Laureate and collaborated with Adidas, Toms Shoes, Get Lit Words Ignite, embRACE LA, education, mental health, and race summits and more. He is currently a Freshman at University of California, Santa Barbara and has hopes of establishing his own publishing company to foster and disseminate the works of inner city youth. He is also featured in the upcoming 2020 feature length film directed by Carlos Lopez Estrada, *Summertime*

VIDEOS



RODRIGO JOSE SIGALA



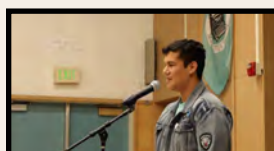
HI, I'M RODRIGIO JOSE SIGALA

I speak on culture, growing up, love,
his beautiful nana who makes the
meanest frijoles and more.

ABOUT RODRIGO

Rodrigo Jose Sigala is currently a senior at OFY in San Gabriel. He is a Mexican-American poet and photographer who has worked alongside Get Lit-Words Ignite for 3 years. Aside from performing at open mics all across California he has also performed at venues such as the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion and the Disney Hall.. Apart from writing poems that take you on a rollercoaster ride, some of his hobbies include drawing, hour-long phone calls and cooking while his best friend reads poetry while sitting on the counter.

VIDEOS



VANESSA TAHAY



HI, I'M VANESSA TAHAY

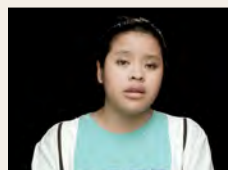
I speak on immigration reform, Latinx rights, culture, & love.

ABOUT VANESSA

Vanessa Tahay is a 19 year old poet graduated from Cleveland high school, she was named captain of the 2017 classic slam team and took first place for finals. Vanessa has been featured on the front page of [The Los Angeles Times](#), has been part of Vogue Magazine, The Huffington Post, NPR and many more.

She has also performed and spoke in over 100 schools nationwide, and had the honor to perform at the 2017 women's rally. Vanessa has had the privilege to work alongside Mitú, Brown Issues, and Undocumedia to spread awareness for undocumented families, women's rights, and empowering the youth to find their own voices.

VIDEOS



1,807

Instagram Followers

@vanessa_tahay

YOKO TAMADA



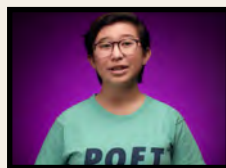
HI, I'M YOKO TAMADA

I speak on feminism, politics, biracial experiences, stereotypes, LGBTQ+ rights, and more.

ABOUT YOKO

Yoko Tamada attends Warren High School and has done multiple performances at Stay Gallery, a local art gallery in Downey, CA. She is the winner of the American Legion Award and the Mary Stauffer Scholarship, and she is vocal about universal problems and social issues, believing that change begins with unity. Hobbies include guitar, singing, and video-editing. She is vice president of Woke Words, a poetry club at her school, and she is ready to learn how to be an advocate of change. She is also featured in the upcoming 2020 feature length film directed by Carlos Lopez Estrada, Summertime.

VIDEOS



KYLAND TURNER



HI, I'M KYLAND TURNER

I speak on gun violence, PTSD, youth culture, and more.

ABOUT KYLAND

A cofounder of the Men of Excellence club at Youth Opportunities High School, Kyland is passionate about social activism and has performed on The Queen Latifah Show where he received a \$10,000 scholarship! Kyland has also performed for the Kennedy Center, the Entertainment Industry Foundation, the Los Angeles Times Festival of Books, and at colleges around the country. He was honored as an ABC "Cool Kid" for his work to improve academic engagement at his high school, and now attends Pasadena City College where he studies sociology and performs in theatrical productions. In 2017, he starred in the production of Dante's Inferno: A Modern Adaption co-directed and produced by Cynthia Ettinger and Academy Award winner Tim Robbins. He is currently a writing consultant on Netflix's hit series, "On My Block."

1,586

Instagram Followers

@kylandturner

VIDEOS



VIRGINIA VILLALTA



HI, I'M VIRGINIA VILLALTA

I speak on Latinx culture, the LGBTQ+ community and other issues regarding race, economic class, and personal obstacles.

ABOUT VIRGINIA

Virginia Villalta is a 17 year old, first gen, Mexi-Salvi American. Vi. is the youngest in her family and a senior at Venice High. Being the President of her GSA Club and Captain of her poetry team, Vi. often finds herself writing about her Latinx culture, the LGBTQ+ community and other issues regarding race, economic class, and personal obstacles. Competing in the Get Lit Classic Slam from 2017-2020 and being a Semi Finalist with her Brave New Voices Team, Virginia hopes to inspire other kids by using her art and voice. She hopes to help others to learn how to stand up for themselves and share their stories. She always believes there is hope, no matter the circumstances. Virginia hopes to be a medical examiner or a professional in the medical field.

JAZMINE WILLIAMS



HI, I'M JAZMINE

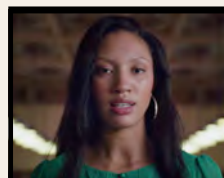
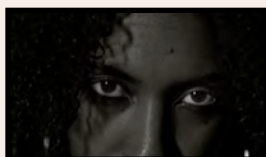
I speak on women's issues, being a single mom, Black issues, police brutality, education, and inspiration.

ABOUT JAZMINE

Jazmine began her writing career at 14 years old as a founding member of the award winning non-profit Get Lit - Words Ignite. Her refreshingly honest and powerful poetry highlighting stories of growing up in a hostile neighborhood during the beginning of gentrification, being born to a 15 year old, disowned by her prejudice biological family, and adopted by a black family that later would become unravelled through systemic failures began touching thousands in her teenhood. Jazmine has opened for Mariah Shriver, Marianne Williamson, Tim Robins, and honored Michelle Obama; she had also been featured in the LA Times, HBO, ABC News, KPFF, and KIIS FM radio.

Jazmine was a featured writer and performer on the award winning film Birth Of A Nation in 2016, an opening act for John Legend in 2018, and a feature poet on an upcoming feature documentary produced by a Golden Globe and Oscar award winning team set to release in 2019.

VIDEOS



3,224

Instagram Followers

@signedjymarie

TYRIS WINTER



HI, I'M TYRIS WINTER

I speak on Domestic Violence, Sexual
Trauma, Substance Abuse, Family,
and more

1,105

Instagram Followers

@ winterissues

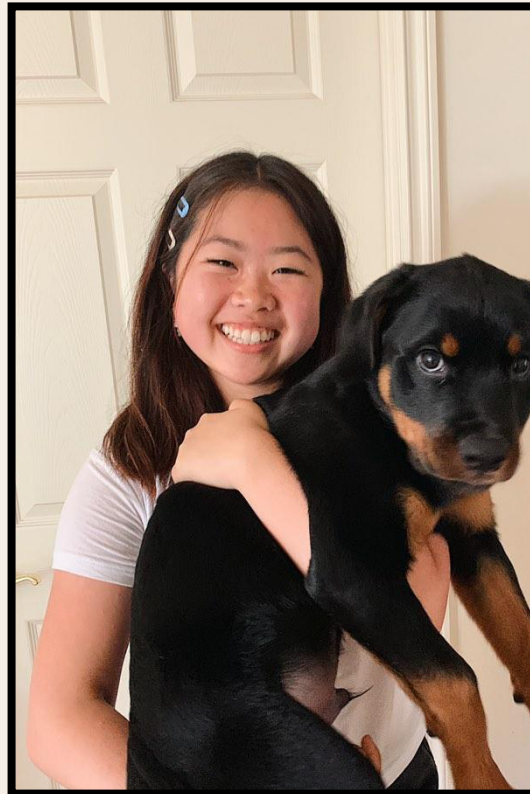
ABOUT TYRIS

Born to be an artist, aspires to be a legend. Tyris expresses himself through poetry, drawing and painting. He is the current Learn4life Los Angeles slam champion as, well as the L4L overall slam champion. From freshman year to Senior year, Tyris held a continuous 1st place streak at the AV Art Fair. As a sentient being Tyris' passion is to inspire others to be vulnerable with themselves. For in vulnerability there lies honesty, the seeds to create poetry for healing. She is also featured in the upcoming 2020 film "Summertime", directed by Carlos Lopez Estrada, who's first feature film "Blindspotting" (starring Daveed Diggs and Rafael Casal) was nominated for the 2018 Sundance Grand Jury Prize, with Estrada nominated by the DGA for Outstanding Directorial Achievement of a First-Time Feature Film Director.

VIDEOS



BRIDGETTE YANG



HI, I'M BRIDGETTE

I speak on social anxiety, identity,
and race

ABOUT BRIDGETTE

Bridgette Yang is an Asian American spoken word poet and current university student. A GetLit Player for two years, she has performed at various schools in Southern California as well as venues such as the Wallis Annenberg Center for Performing Arts in Beverly Hills, the Palace of Fine Arts in San Francisco, and the Getty Center in Los Angeles alongside John Legend. Bridgette has competed on the Classic Slam scratch team in 2016, won first place in the Arcadia Poetry slam, and competed in the international spoken word competition Brave New Voices in 2019 as the top pick on the Los Angeles team. She was also an honorable mention for the 2018 Los Angeles Youth Laureate Program, and collaborated with Wondros Studios to create a GetLit Now. She is still learning how to snap, but hopes to one day get there.

VIDEOS

