

MARCH IS HERE!



**CHECK OUT THE EXCITING
EVENTS AND PARTNERSHIPS
THE KALAMAZOO POETRY
FESTIVAL HAS COMING UP!**



**Institute of
Public
Scholarship**

RAWK

Read and Write
Kalamazoo



Upcoming Events

MARCH 8 @ 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**TASLEEM JAMILA: GRATITUDE THROUGH THE
DIVINE LENS: EXPLORING SACRED POETRY
FIRE HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL ARTS
COLLABORATIVE 1249 PORTAGE STREET,
KALAMAZOO, MI**



MARKEVA LOVE



"WORTH THE DETOUR"

MARCH 11 @ 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

**MARCH WORKSHOP: MARKEVA LOVE, WORTH
THE DETOUR
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 345 W
MICHIGAN AVE, KALAMAZOO, MI**

**APRIL 5 POETRY WORKSHOP
10-11:30AM @RAWK**



APRIL 5 @ 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

**RAWK AND KPF YOUTH POETRY WORKSHOP
READ AND WRITE KALAMAZOO 802 S
WESTNEDGE AVE, KALAMAZOO, MI**

APRIL 26 @ 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

**FEATURED READER WORKSHOP: AARON
COLEMAN
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 345 W
MICHIGAN AVE, KALAMAZOO, MI**



APRIL 26 @ 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

**FEATURED READER WORKSHOP: DENISE
MILLER
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 345 W
MICHIGAN AVE, KALAMAZOO, MI**





Gratitude



**POETRY WORKSHOP
WITH
TASLEEM JAMILA
ON THE THEME OF
“GRATITUDE”**



**GRATITUDE THROUGH THE DIVINE LENS: EXPLORING
SACRED POETRY**

**IN THIS WORKSHOP, PARTICIPANTS WILL EXPLORE
GRATITUDE AS A SPIRITUAL PRACTICE THROUGH
MYSTICAL POETRY, DRAWING INSPIRATION FROM
SACRED WRITERS, ENGAGING IN A GROUNDING
EXERCISE, ANALYZING POEMS, RESPONDING TO
CREATIVE PROMPTS, AND SHARING THEIR OWN WORK.**

[REGISTER HERE](#)

“HINDSIGHT IS 20/20 AND IT’S EASY TO GET CAUGHT UP IN THE THINGS WE THINK WE WANT/ DESIRE OR DESERVE. “ ATTENDEES WILL DISCUSS/ WRITE ABOUT A TIME OR AN EVENT WHERE THEY DID NOT GET WHAT THEY WANTED, BUT IT ACTUALLY WORKED IN THEIR FAVOR... EITHER TO HAVE NOT RECEIVED IT AT ALL OR JUST RECEIVED IT LATER. (EX. FIRST TIME EXPERIENCING LOVE, EVEN THOUGH IT WAS TOXIC, YOU STILL WANTED IT, ONLY TO LATER REALIZE IT WAS NEVER REALLY LOVE). THE FACILITATOR WILL INSTRUCT THE ATTENDEES IN HOW THEY HAVE TURNED A SITUATION LIKE THIS INTO SOMETHING CONSTRUCTIVE THROUGH WRITING. THE ATTENDEES WILL HAVE TIME TO WRITE, AND WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO READ THEIR WORK TO THE GROUP AT THE END OF THE WORKSHOP.



REGISTER HERE

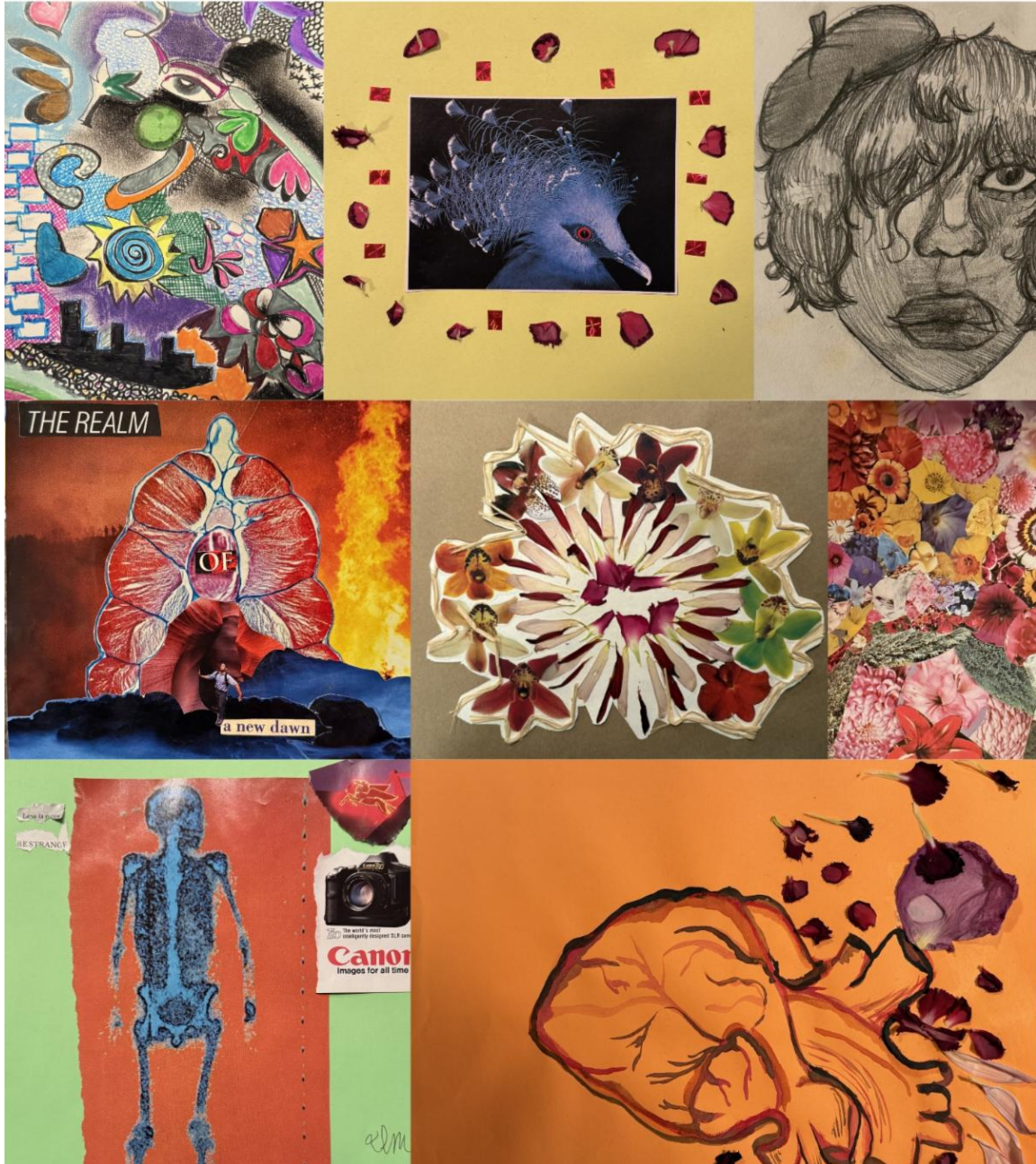
CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY POETS



**FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK, AND
KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR THE
EVENT PAGE, WHICH WILL BE
PUT UP IN EARLY MARCH!**

THE CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY POETS FEATURES PARTNERSHIPS WITH MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS AND SHOWCASES OVER TEN LOCAL POETS AND MUSICIANS PERFORMING ORIGINAL WORKS. IT ALSO INCLUDES THE PERFORMANCE OF THE KPF COMMUNITY POEM—CRAFTED BY THE KALAMAZOO FRIENDS OF POETRY AND INSPIRED BY VISUAL ART FROM THE 2024/2025 “GRATITUDE” EKPHRASTIC POETRY EVENT—ALONG WITH LIGHT REFRESHMENTS.

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK



THE ARTWORK ABOVE IS A PORTION OF WHAT WAS CREATED AT THE KPF EKPHRASTIC ART EVENT, HELD AT MOVE WITH JOY ON PORTAGE ROAD, AND FACILITATED BY DREAMSCENE PLACEMAKING! A SELECTION OF PIECES FROM THE EVENT WILL BE ON DISPLAY AT OUR CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY POETS ON APRIL 24 AT THE NACD!

PERFORMERS ANNOUNCED FOR OUR 2025 CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY POETS!

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY POETS

APRIL 24, 2025

6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

AT THE NACD

SHONDA BUCHANAN

KATHLEEN MCGOOKEY

KATERI MENOMINEE

JEFFREY ANGLES

VIDAL WILGER

HEADBANDHENNY

LESLIE "BISCUIT" BARAJAS

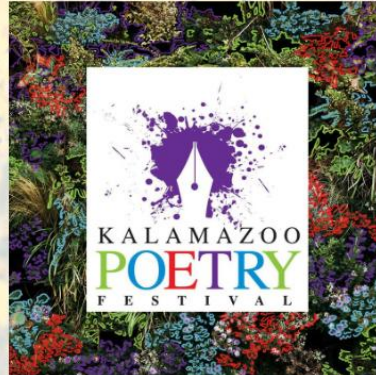
RAWK YOUTH

JEZREEL CRUZ

MONI WASHINGTON PADULA

MARCEL FABLE PRICE

***AND DJ QUINCY ELLIS**



FEATURING THE KPF COMMUNITY POEM BY FRIENDS OF POETRY

**CHECK OUT THIS OPEN MIC OPPORTUNITY AT THE
COMSTOCK LIBRARY!**



SPOKEN WORD & POETRY NIGHT



Celebrate "World Poetry
Day" with us!

EVENT RULES

Feel free to read a piece of your own, or your favorite piece from another poet. If you don't feel comfortable reading or speaking aloud, you can also come just to enjoy other presenters or to work on written pieces on your own.

All
Ages!



FRIDAY, MARCH 21
4:30pm – 5:45pm

Registration is not required.



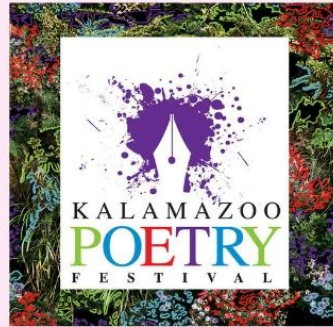
Comstock
Township
Library

Where community meets the world.

NEW PARTNERSHIP ALERT!



**Institute of
Public
Scholarship**



THE INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP IS DEDICATED TO FOSTERING JUST, RESTORATIVE, AND SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS THROUGH THE INTEGRATION OF THE ARTS, HUMANITIES, AND SCIENCES. OUR MISSION IS TO ADVANCE KNOWLEDGE AND CREATE IMPACTFUL, INTERDISCIPLINARY COLLABORATIONS THAT ADDRESS COMPLEX SOCIETAL CHALLENGES AND PROMOTE THE WELL-BEING OF BLACK AND BROWN COMMUNITIES. KPF WILL PROVIDE SUPPORT TO THE MONTHLY OPEN MICS AND WRITING SESSIONS THROUGH ARTIST STIPENDS AND REFRESHMENTS!

[VISIT THE INSTITUTE WEBSITE](#)

Kalamazoo Poetry Festival and The Institute of Public Scholarship are partnering on a three part workshop series for those involved with the writing and planning of the “Reclamation and Testimony” event on Feb 20.

The workshops are intended to help participants further the healing and growth they experienced in seeing their stories of housing insecurity represented as a stage reading and panel discussion.

The first workshop will discuss high level poetry composition, and the second will center around revision and performance.

The third segment will be an invitation to read at The Institute’s Third Friday Open Mic the following month.

We are so excited about this collaboration!



CHECK OUT THESE PHOTOS FROM THE RECLAMATION AND TESTIMONY EVENT!

STANDING OVATION!





KPF is expanding, offering more meaningful, year-round programming in response to your requests.

As we plan for the 2025/2026 festival season, we're growing our 'Community Betterment' initiative, using poetry's healing power to strengthen our humanities partnerships.

But we can't do this alone—we need your support! Please donate using the link below, and help us make every dollar count!

PLEASE GIVE

**WE ARE GRATEFUL
FOR YOU!**



Kalamazoo Poetry Festival | P.O. Box 19621 | Kalamazoo, MI 49019-9621 US

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