



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Office of LGBTQIA
Education & Engagement™

Pride Week Poetry Slam
Wednesday, October 13, 2021 | 8:00 p.m. CT
Student Union Building Ballroom

Join the Office of LGBTQIA Education & Engagement for the Pride Week Poetry Slam.

Participants will have the opportunity to workshop their piece(s) on Tuesday, October 12, with guest artist and emcee Regie Cabico. The Slam will consist of two (2) rounds of competition, preliminary and finals, that will take place on October 13 at 8:00 p.m. in the Student Union Building Ballroom.

Slam participants may be students, faculty, staff, or community partners. Registration for the Poetry Slam is open to all. There are no fees to participate in the Slam, but registration is requested. In-person and virtual participation opportunities are available.

Individuals are strongly encouraged to wear masks. Hand sanitizer will be provided at many locations throughout the space.

Snack foods will be provided. Mocktails and an assortment of candy will be provided by the Risk Intervention & Safety Education (RISE) Office

Questions about the Pride Week Poetry Slam should be sent to campuslife.lgbtqia@ttu.edu.

Guest Artist and Emcee



Regie Cabico (he/him), B.A., is one of the country's leading innovators and pioneers of The Poetry Slam, having won 3 National Top Prizes including the Nuyorican Poets Cafe Grand Slam. He produces Capturing Fire: An International Queer Poetry Slam. He participated in the 2019 Asian American Literature Festival hosted by the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center.

Participant Rules

1. Poems must be original works performed by the author. Sampled lines or lyrics are permissible.

2. No musical accompaniment; however, beat boxing or acapella singing by the author is permitted
3. **No costumes or props.** Taking off clothes, grabbing a necklace for emphasis would be considered a prop violation. Holding a microphone or mic stand is permissible.
4. All poems must be 3 minutes or less. Poems will be timed and there is a 20 second grace period. Time starts when the poet makes verbal or non-verbal contact with the judges and emcee. There will be a .5 deduction every 10 seconds a poet goes overtime.
5. Poems do not have to have "trans" or "queer" content.
6. Hate poetry against a group of people i.e. queerphobic. misogynistic, transphobic, racist, etc... will not be tolerated.
7. Poems do not need to be memorized. Poets will not be penalized for reading off the page. We discourage reading from a cell phone or electronic device, but it is permissible.
8. Poets will draw a number to determine order in preliminary and final rounds.
9. **Poets cannot repeat the same poem between rounds.**
10. The number of poets who get eliminated or proceed to the finals will be based upon the number of poets who sign up to compete.
11. Register for the slam by October 6.
12. Judges' scores are based on a rubric and noted on a spreadsheet. Score totals will not be announced. Poets will receive their score sheets at the end of each slam bout.
13. The top scoring poets may be asked to write a poem on the spot to break a tie or determine finalists or the slam champion.
14. Slam participants competing in-person are asked to arrive at the Student Union Building Ballroom no later than 20 minutes before the slam starts. All registrants will receive contact information of the bout manager for questions and to check in at the slam event. Slam participants competing virtually are asked to login to Zoom Webinar no later than 20 minutes before the slam starts (see additional information below regarding in-person and virtual participation guidelines).
15. Two-person or group pieces will not be permissible to compete. However, we are open to having group slam pieces presented throughout the slam. Please reach out to campuslife.lgbtqia@ttu.edu if you are interested in presenting a group piece.

Virtual Participation

Although bout organizers invite participants to compete in-person, participants who do not wish to compete in the Student Union Building Ballroom have the option to compete virtually without

penalty. This alternative method is intended for individuals who are at heightened risk for COVID-19 exposure and/or have deep concerns regarding potential exposure. When registering for the Slam, participants should indicate whether they are competing in-person or virtually. Participants may schedule times with bout organizers to test their Zoom setup on Tuesday, October 12.

On the day of the Slam, virtual participants must join the bout Zoom by 7:40 p.m. During the Slam, virtual participants will keep their video off and sound muted while not “onstage”. When it comes to their time to perform, each virtual participant will turn on their video and unmute their sound. Video filters will not be permitted. Points will not be deducted for minor technical difficulties, but we will deduct points for such difficulties if they persist. Finally, for the call-back and awards, virtual participants will turn on their video and may unmute their sound to accept an award.

Virtual Attendance

The Poetry Slam will be streamed on Facebook Live using the Office of LGBTQIA Education & Engagement page (@TTULGBTQIA) for anyone who wishes to join in the excitement of the event but does not wish to attend in-person.