



## Amoja Sumler

### Literary Arts: Poetry



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#### Program Types

Workshops, classes, performances, residencies

#### Language Proficiencies

English

#### Fees

Contact to inquire

#### Availability

Contact to inquire

#### Audiences

Middle and high school, young adult, adults, at-risk individuals, social service and incarcerated individuals

#### Venues

Schools, colleges, festivals, juvenile justice centers, detention centers and community centers

#### Technical requirements

Contact to inquire

#### Counties

Statewide

**NEVADA**  
ARTS COUNCIL

Amoja Sumler is a nationally celebrated poet, essayist and is one of the preeminent emerging voices of leftist intersectional social advocacy. From his essay's discussing the role of law enforcement to the value of capitalism, he is best known for fusing the art of the intellectual into the familiar. Amoja has headlined spoken word festivals such as the Austin International Poetry Festival, the Bridgewater International Poetry Festival, Write NOLA in New Orleans and Rock the Republic in Texas. As a resident artist of several Southern Arts in Education rosters, Amoja lectures at schools and literacy nonprofits, while teaching creative pedagogy. He has been a keynote speaker at social advocacy conferences including the Long Beach Indie Film Pedagogy Conference and Furious Flower.

Amoja has been the slam master in the Little Rock poetry scene since 2000. His role as co-founder of the Rocktown Slam, a non-profit literacy organization based in Arkansas, has proven to be the most rewarding. Through Rocktown Slam, he has continued to take an active role in improving literacy through the state and region, bringing an innovative, engaging, and inclusive perspective to students of all ages.

Amoja earned a BA in English with a minor in Creative Writing from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock where he had the honor of being a Coopers Scholar and a McNair Scholar.

#### Community Programming

**Finding the word in pictures:** A series of workshops involving the use of ekphrasis as a stimulation for creation. This workshop focuses on transformative art which reinterprets and reimagines existing works of art as poetry.

**Spoken Word as advocacy:** Utilizing your story to better magnify voice as a means of implementing societal change.

**Adventures in Language:** This workshop features the stylized abecedarian form of poetry as a tool to combat writers block. Analysis and interpretation of movement: An in depth look at the poetry of preceding literary movements ranging from American Romanticism up to and including the contemporary verse play of spoken word and the academic canon of poetry.