



## Order of Performance

### Part 1

**Savannah Morgan**

– live Reiki healing

**Angela**

– artist slide show

**Fernando Rover, Jr.**

– video poetry performance

**Meryl Ochoa**

– live music performance

**James Law**

– video dance performance

**Seddik Jelouane**

– live poetry performance

**MC Designs**

– artist slide show

**Sam the Sentient**

– live rap performance

**mo Santiago**

– video poetry performance

### 5-minute Intermission

### Part 2

**Melanie Randolph**

– live Seraphim Blueprint healing

**Sunshine**

– video poetry performance

**Dr. Mahima Gupta**

– video art presentation

**Senn Arts Senior Dancers**

– video dance performance

**Cookie Hiponia**

– live poetry performance

**Jamie Hawkins**

– artist slide show

**Iman Jamshidi**

– video music performance

**Younes Aomari, aka OtakufLOW**

– live poetry performance



### **Angela**

*is an artist who lives in a community of adults with intellectual and physical disabilities in Chicago. She is proud of her Mexican and Italian heritage and overcoming obstacles to get to where she is today, both as a human being and an artist. Angela has dabbled in theater, fiber arts/sewing, ceramics, and drawing and painting. Art has been a tool of self-expression for her for as long as she can remember, and it has allowed her to make community connections and find her individuality and voice.*



### **Cookie Hiponia**

*was born in the Philippines and immigrated to America when she was nine years old. As the mother of children born into two cultures, Cookie had spent years searching for books that reflect her family's experience. When she couldn't find such a book, Cookie heeded Toni Morrison and wrote the book she wanted to read with her daughters. We Belong is that book, a semi-autobiographical middle grade novel-in-verse about the Pilipinx American immigrant experience that weaves in Tagalog cosmic mythology. It's out on March 30 under Cookie's other name "Cookie Hiponia Everman." Cookie lives in Seattle with her family.*

***Find her on:***

***Instagram @titacookie1974***

***Twitter @titacookie1974***



### **Fernando Rover Jr.**

*is a San Antonio based author, freelance writer, and performance artist. He received his dual B.A in English and history from Texas Lutheran University and is pursuing his master's in Interdisciplinary Studies from Prescott College.*

*His work focuses on issues of race, gender, and sexuality through an intersected lens using elements of film, poetry, and storytelling. He is the author of two poetry anthologies, 'Labyrinth' and 'Sanctuary', both available on Amazon.*

*He is the recipient of both the 2019 Best Indie Book Award for Poetry and the 2020 Literary Titan Award.*

**Find him on:**

**Facebook @fernandoroverjr**

**Instagram @fernandoroverjr**

**Twitter @fernandoroverjr**



### **Iman Jamshidi**

*is a renowned Iranian composer and Tar player. Falling in love with the beautiful stringed traditional instrument, Tar, from the age of six. He has been playing it for many years. Iman places high value in transferring his skill and technique to the next generation and thus teach Tar to a wide variety of young students across the country. He is interested in art: he contributes to creating an art magazine, as well as writing poems. He published his poetry book a couple of years ago. Gaining popularity in recent years, Iman Jamshidi has had live performances in a variety of musical concerts in Iran. He is using his Instagram account to share his new, mesmerizing composition, while showing the beauty of Iranian authentic, melodic, and harmonious music culture to a wide range of audiences across the globe.*

**Find him on:**

**Instagram @imanjamshidi**



### **James Law**

*a.k.a Law is a native of Columbus Ohio born to a New York family, the youngest of three siblings. James discovered Latin ballroom dancing in his teens and trained to compete in competitions, but never actually did because of obstacles that affected loved ones in his personal life: e.g. addiction, abuse and poverty - which lead to depression and failure to perform in both school and work settings. After many setbacks, and dance being the only thing that seemed consistent in life, James decided to keep dance as close to his heart as possible.*

*Through dance, James was able to learn to understand life and escape his violent and traumatic home life. He moved to Chicago, IL, at the age of 24.*

*Law has been learning various dance styles for the past seven years while living in Chicago. He has been in numerous stage performances and concert pieces, but, for the past three years, he stumbled upon Zumba Fitness and became a certified instructor. This reignited his passion for Latin dance music and international rhythms, as well as his passion for life itself.*

*He now has a new motto, "From here on out, life will be full of excitement, fun and sensuality. I'm going to give my inner child everything he lacked growing up, and this time I won't let anyone stop me."*

*James now lives in Chicago and practices Spanish and Japanese language. He is an ESL tutor and Zumba instructor, as well as a Thai Cuisine apprentice. Reggaeton is currently his favorite music to listen to.*

**Find him on:**

**Instagram @Jameslawdesu**



### **Jamie Hawkins**

*(Artist/ Designer) - has a Minor in Fine Arts, an Associates in Graphic Design, and a Bachelors in Web Design. She enjoys painting and designing jewelry in her personal time. She's a Marketing Manager for her full-time job - but enjoys painting in the evening and weekends. Her inspiration comes from whatever she's feeling in that moment.*

*She has a personal website that she shares and sells her art and jewelry designs.*

**Find her at [www.thecrafty1.com](http://www.thecrafty1.com)**



## **Dr. Mahima Gupta Ph.D., M.A., B.F.A.**

is a freelance artist, curator, organizer, teacher, and a full-time mom, originally from India, now based in Florida for almost 2 decades.

### ***Mahima's Perspective: Art that explores the joy of togetherness.***

*Mahima knew from the first days of training as an artist that her artistic expression was going to be joyful, vibrant, and convey the beauty of peaceful, loving interaction between life forms - whether animal, plant, or human.*

*Mahima's paintings depict how natural forms are 'happy and pleasant when they have company to talk and play with.' This is particularly noticeable in her well-liked, multi-hued series featuring deer, birds, and flying fish.*

*In the artist's observation of nature, she saw that social interaction and intimacy seemed to bring the best out of every type of life form - even plants that are talked to grow more beautiful! Through her art, Mahima wants to give her patrons the warm, blissful feeling of being in harmony with themselves and the environment.*

*In her human art series, the artist aims to depict the joy that different communities and resident groups experience, and also the colorful life that they celebrate. She uses vibrant colors in her paintings that are so needed in today's world, so focused on the negative and dreary. Mahima aims to depict how both nature and human beings reach out for harmonic excellence in all they do.*

### ***Art is democratic: It cannot be bourgeoisie for either the creator or the viewer.***

*One of the underlying tenets of Mahima's approach to art is that self-expression is a fundamental right and should be available to everyone - young and old. It cannot be the prerogative of well-known artists alone. Putting our ideas into lines, shapes, and colors is a source of joy that all should experience!*

*Mahima spends as much time creating art as helping others realize their own potential and encouraging others to find their style. She started by encouraging those closest to her - including her 7-year-old daughter, to revel in the fun of colors, and her niece who found peace and relaxation in art. She has now expanded her scope and looks to help budding artists from across the globe find joy in art through mentorship and by organizing online exhibitions and record attempts.*

### ***Mahima's style and medium: An age-old Eastern tradition that honors nature.***

*Mahima has become well known for her unique Gond art series. Gond paintings originated from folk and tribal art that is practiced by one of the largest tribes in India with whom it shares its name. Gond comes from the Dravidian expression, Kond, which means 'the green mountain.' Nature is a dominant theme as the Gonds inhabited forests for centuries. This is why Mahima's Gond paintings include a diversity of flora and fauna in all settings.*

*Gond art has become so prominent that the Government of India has stepped in to preserve their art form for future generations to enjoy. Through her paintings, Mahima is actively trying to create awareness amongst as many people as possible about both the style and the culture.*

***More about the artist***

*Mahima has held several exhibitions in Russia, Mexico, Libya, Nepal, Thailand, Bangladesh, America, Ecuador, Turkey, India, Norway, Panama, Korea, and the Philippines.*

*Dr. Mahima Gupta topped her university and has a doctorate in Drawing & Painting. She is an alumna of Rajasthan School of Arts, Jaipur.*

*Her husband, Priyank, son, Akshay, and daughter, Anika, are the mainstays of her encouragement and unfailing support, along with her whole family.*

***Find her on:***

***Facebook @mahima.m.gupta***

***Instagram @mahimamodigupta***



***MC Designs***

*is a 36-year-old married woman living in the mountains of Northern Nevada! Her family farms herbs and vegetables, love animals, and, currently, runs a sharpening business together, as well.*

*“Hello Fellow Art Appreciative:*

*I journeyed and found a renewed love for art as an adult due to several personal experiences. I started painting as a young adult and, like typical, I walked away from it for years. The frustrations of life that tore me away from my art actually became the catalyst for my return to it.*

*I expressed my first adult painting in 2016 and have never looked back. It was a painting of white birds over a gray sky with hints of blues peeking through the clouds. I painted ferociously to quench the demon of alcoholism. I threw paint around when my emotions took me over. I used art as a new way to express myself. In particular, this can be seen in my largest piece: Lyfe: An Abstract Impression.*

*I hope my art can help you mediate into a new beginning or solution. This is what I call my accidental art: an emotional production.”*

***Find her on:***

***Facebook @mcdesignsforsale***

***Instagram @mcdesignsforsale***

***mcdesignsforsale@gmail.com***

*“Small Town Art with Big Time Passion”*



### **Melanie Randolph**

*is a Seraphim Blueprint Teacher and Holy Fire III Reiki Master. These are amazing tools that can help you in so many ways: spiritually, physically, mentally, and emotionally. I personally have found more peace, serenity, and the ability to give healings to others. In our hectic modern world and especially with our new normal, working with these energies is a great way to reconnect to our true self, higher self, nature, or Source.*

*When I was working in the fashion industry traveling and getting to be creative as a makeup artist, I studied, read books and took classes in metaphysics. Over the years, I have learned meditation, crystals, aromatherapy, Reiki, and Seraphim Angelic energy work. I like to help people by transmitting these positive energies to them and/or teaching them how to do it for themselves. I am a certified Holy Fire III Reiki Master and a Seraphim Blueprint Teacher and can therefore teach you Reiki or Seraphim Blueprint. Another energy that I am very passionate about is Divine Panchakarma. This system helps put the body back in balance.*

*With our lifestyles and outside influences as they are (media, cell phones, electronics, rushing around in our cars, etc.) these amazing energies can transform your life.*

**Find her at [www.melanierandolph.com](http://www.melanierandolph.com)**



### **Meryl Ochoa (she/her)**

*is an emerging Filipina artist who immigrated to Canada with her family in 2012. She is a multi-disciplinary performer, using theatre, music, movement, and poetry to create work, hoping to give people more questions to ask than answers to take. As an artist, and as a co-founder of Tethered The Ghost Theatre Collective, she is devoted to developing work that tells untold truths and empowers those that are un-/under-represented. She is excited to be back with Equal Voices in Separate Spaces with some new music.*

**Find her on:**

**Instagram @meryldianne**

**Twitter @meryldianne**

**Theatre collective's Instagram is @tetheredtheghost**

*Can also be found on SoundCloud, Spotify, YouTube, and Apple Music under Meryl Ochoa.*



### **mo Santiago (she/they)**

*is a poet and photographer homegrown in the city of Chicago living as a Spoken Word Teaching Artist. Her writing centers on the conversations around sexual assault, the body, sex, intimacy, and sexuality. She believes it's ok to be uncomfortable and hopes her work brings that out in people, so we may further these conversations and normalize them! As a self-studied photographer who is still learning, her love is in portraiture and the body. Self-proclaimed Midwest Witch, Heartbroke Bitch with an affinity for caffeine and toast.*

**Find her on:**

**Instagram @motuesday**



### **Sam the Sentient**

*As a kid diagnosed with Asperger's syndrome, I wrote rhymes to escape. I was so disconnected from my own reality, that I delved into a world of my own creation. But when I ran the risk of not being able to graduate high school, I used the same determination that fueled my passion, to propel and excel. After college, I re-assessed my path. Through a journey of self-exploration, spirituality, and well-being, I started connecting with my true self and purpose: to be an artist that utilizes his knowledge and experience to connect with himself and other people.*

**Find him on:**

**Facebook @Samthesentient**

**Instagram @samthesentient**

**Twitter @samthesentient**

**samthesentient@gmail.com**

*"Look inside of your soul, and you can find gold!" - Kendrick Lamar*





**Savannah Morgan (she/her)**

*Vibe Tribe Notions cultivates customizable Spiritual Boxes with the highest vibrational energy, intention, and love for every life they touch. These boxes can help assist you through the highs and lows of life, allowing more ebb and flow into our everyday lives, including self-awareness and empowerment, self-love, cleansing your energy field, protection of lower vibe energy, and SO much more. In addition to the Spiritual Boxes and Individually sold spiritual tools, I also offer Reiki Medicine and Spiritual Life Coaching Support. Vibe Tribe's Desire (Passion) and Purest Intention is to help guide you to the highest energy of YOU and holding a safe space for us to work together to reach the Best YOU that you ARE! Each service can be provided In Home or Remotely, providing Peace, Balance, and Alignment within to radiate that Joy into your external experience. Getting you back into your CENTER, your Heart Space, your most AUTHENTIC and REALEST You.*

**Find her on:**

**Facebook @Vibe Tribe Notions**

**Instagram @vibetribenotions**



**Seddik Jelouane**

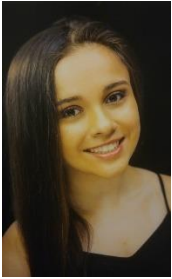
*is a Moroccan poet & self-published author, he holds a BA in English literature, and he's the founder of Moroccan Poets community, as well as the host of "Poetry Club" at an American cultural space in Casablanca city.*

**Find him on:**

**Instagram @jspoe95**

## **Nicholas Senn Arts High School**

*The Senn Arts Senior Dancers created an original piece based on the insurrection that had transpired at the US Capitol, transcending the limits of remote learning while choreographing and composing an entire 6-minute dance piece. Their essential purpose was to channel in their emotions and convey the racial disparities and social justice issues that this country continuously faces. They come together as a collective to highlight the meaning and essence of being a true activist and to amplify their voices through self-expression and visual representation.*



### **Antoaneda Antchev**

*is a Senior and has been a part of the Senn Arts Dance company for the past 4 years. At a young age, she began taking dance classes and joined CircEsteem, where she performed in many different circus acts. At around the same time, she's been in many musical productions with Emerald City, including All City Arts with a final performance at the Harris Theater. In the past, Antoaneda has explored visual arts and taken part in an exhibition at Marwen Art Gallery. In addition, she's had a competitive sports background over the years. A memorable experience for her was participating in an international Summer Camp in Europe.*

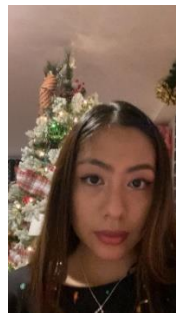
*Currently, she takes a wide variety of dance genre classes at various studios, like Joel Hall, Hubbard Street, Gus Giordano, and the Visceral Dance Center. After a 7-week summer intensive with the Joffrey Ballet, she became a member of the Joffrey Community Engagement and joined the Youth Dance Company "Deeply Rooted". Last year, she was offered a scholarship to the Gamma Phi Circus at Illinois State University. Antoaneda has so far choreographed 3 dance pieces for the Senn Dance Concerts and video/audio edited a Senior special Activist Piece. She hopes to continue developing her skills and expand her abilities in various dance genres. Antoaneda definitely has a passion for the Arts and hopes to pursue her dreams of becoming a professional dancer.*



### **Giovanni "Gio" Bolton**

*is a senior who was born and raised in Chicago, IL. He's been dancing since the age of 3 and joined the Senn Arts Dance program freshmen year. During his time at Senn, he has improved technique in many genres of dance, including ballet, modern, and jazz.*

*Gio dances on a separate team outside of school named "Dance Force Elite," where he competes nationally and dances in genres such as hip-hop and majorette. Gio is a very optimistic person who loves to learn new things daily. After high school, he has plans of attending a 4-year university, majoring in a medicine, while also minoring in business.*



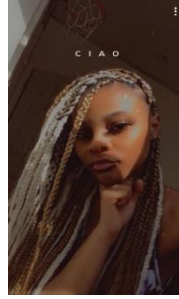
### **Tania Chamorro**

*Her favorite hobbies are to paint, read, and dance. She is a senior at Senn High School, values friendships strongly, loves her two pets, cherishes and cares for her mother, listens to music, and occasionally does yoga.*



### **Kayla Hansen**

was born and raised on the Northside of Chicago. She began dancing at the age of 4 at Southport Performing Arts Conservatory (also known as S.P.A.C.E.), under the direction of Altin Naska and Fusun Alpakin. When she was 12, Kayla was asked to join the company at S.P.A.C.E. After 4 seasons, Kayla left and joined the company at Rhoads Academy of Dance, under the direction of Lyndsey Rhoads. She has been there for almost 2 years now. Last summer she choreographed 2 solos for the Rhoads Academy of Dance Concert, as well as co-choreographed a group piece. Kayla has danced with other companies, including Moscow Ballet, Elements Contemporary Ballet, and many others. In the summer of 2019, she was given a full scholarship to the University of Illinois Fine Arts intensive, where she took dance and acting with instructors from around the world. In November of 2019, her choreography was accepted into Still Inspired's Future Artists program, where she showcased her choreography on a professional stage in February of 2020. Kayla is a senior in the Senn Arts Dance Program. While at Senn, she has danced under the direction of Kelly Hume-Geremia and Amy Jesionowski. Kayla has choreographed 5 pieces for the Senn Arts Dance Concerts, and she is in the process of creating 3 more. Currently, Kayla is working on multiple pieces for Rhoads Academy of Dance. Although she has not committed to a college yet, Kayla will be studying dance/choreography and business in the fall. In the future, she would like to become a professional dancer/choreographer.

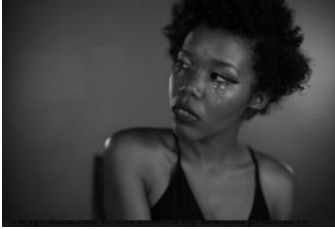


### **Tay**



### **Brenda Shorter**

also known as Bre, is one of the youngest seniors in the Senn Arts Dance program. This is her fourth year at Senn. She has been dancing since the age of 5 years old at Logan Square, where she was first introduced to ballet. Throughout 1st grade - 6th grade, she danced at CMDC, which was partnered with her school at the time, Village Leadership Academy. She did mainly modern, contemporary, and ballet there. While dancing every Friday at CMDC, she was also a part of a dance team called DDOD at Columbus Park. Things changed, and it was time for her to be placed somewhere that she could grow. She transferred to Dance Force Elite in 2017, where she became the captain of the Westside location. They mainly did hip hop and majorette, but still to this day they are branching out to more diverse dance styles. She came to Senn her freshman year, where she was introduced even more to ballet, modern, contemporary, etc. Finally, she is now a senior almost finished with high school and is the overall captain of all three locations at Dance Force Elite.



### **Sunshine Lombre (she/her)**

*is a Southside Chicago poet and dancer who utilizes creative writing and spoken word to heighten both a sense of self-awareness as well as empowerment amongst the communities that she serves or performs in. She believes in maintaining a tradition of using the arts not only to tell our story but also to educate and encourage communities to take charge of their households and neighborhoods and ornate their surroundings with love. Sunshine specializes in capturing the beauty, grit, integrity, and other captivating aspects of a single moment in her work.*

*Inspired by the work of James Weldon Johnson and Maya Angelou, Sunshine began writing at 10 years-old and began competing in the local "Louder than a Bomb" competitions during her time in high school. While at Lindblom's poetry team, she also regularly attended writing workshops at the Harold Washington's Library's YouMedia center, where she was coached by mentors who were active performers also, including some nationally known guest instructors who've performed on Def Poetry Jam like Shannon Matesky. While studying at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Sunshine continued to take poetry classes and attended performance workshops by "W.O.R.D.," the campus' spoken word club.*

*Now Sunshine performs poetry and choreographs various shows throughout the Midwest Area while also curating seasonal artist showcases based around Black heritage. The most recent artist showcases that she's curated include: "Celebrating All Things Chocolate" at the Frontline Distribution Bookstore during Black History Month 2019 and "The Griot" at Some Like It Black Creative Arts Bar during Juneteenth 2019. Some of the past venues she's performed at have included Bantu Fest, The Promontory, Untitled Supper Club, The Argyle Night Market, The Refuge, Hairpin Art Center, The Woodlawn, KaLab, Tangent Art Gallery, and many more. Sunshine strives to share her passion for Spoken Word and choreography while uplifting Black communities worldwide through teaching creative writing classes through the Chicago Public Library system.*

*She had a poetry EP coming soon!*

**Find her on:**

**Instagram @ladylombre**

**soundcloud.com/sunshinelombre**

**www.sunshinelombre.com**



**Younes Aomari (he/his/him)**

better known by his stage name, **Otakuflow**, is a 20-year-old Moroccan spoken word poet and public speaker. Currently pursuing his bachelor's degree in Mechanical Design in Zhejiang Normal University (China) where he's the organizer of **I-Talk29**, previously known as **Speech Night**. He also just started **@moroccanpoets**, an Instagram page, with the help of the Moroccan poet, Seddik Jelouane, a space that welcomes poetry by Moroccan youth in 4 languages (Arabic, French, English, Tamazight) where he hosts an IG live open-mic every Saturday. He has an obsession with chocolate, coffee, street art, anime...!

**Find him on:**

**Instagram @otakuflow**

**Twitter @otakuflow1**

[Picture credit goes to my friend, Sifeddine Bakoussi (IG: @Sifeddinebak)]

**PROJECT DESTINY OF I AM**

**THE TEAM:**

**Julie Pacheco**

**Bessie Crum**

**Susan Wright Green**

**Katherine Roth**

**David Darrko**

