

TACEY M. ATSITTY, DINÉ, is Tsénahabíłnii (Sleep Rock People) and born for Ta’neezahnii (Tangle People). She is a recipient of the Truman Capote Creative Writing Fellowship, the Corson-Browning Poetry Prize, Morning Star Creative Writing Award, and the Philip Freund Prize. She holds bachelor’s degrees from Brigham Young University and the Institute of American Indian Arts, and an MFA in Creative Writing from Cornell University. Her work has appeared or is forthcoming in *POETRY Magazine*, *Kenyon Review Online*, *Prairie Schooner*, *Crazyhorse*, *Literary Hub*, *New Poets of Native Nations*, and other publications.

JERRY RAPIER is in his 21st season as artistic director of Plan-B Theatre, the only professional theatre in the United States producing full seasons of new works by local playwrights. He has directed more than 40 Plan-B productions, including several that have had extended lives in New York. In addition to his work with Plan-B, he has worked on new plays at Utah Shakespeare Festival, Salt Lake Acting Company, and Pioneer Theatre Company. Jerry received Salt Lake City’s Mayor’s Artist Award in the Performing Arts.

WILLY PALOMO is the son of two immigrants from El Salvador. In 2017, he received the City of Bloomington Latino Leadership Award and the MLK Building Bridges Graduate Student Award for his work serving undocumented communities in Indiana. He has taught literature, creative writing, and the poetics of rap in universities, juvenile detention centers, community centers, and high schools. He has performed his poetry nationally and internationally.

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VICTORIA PANELLA BOURNS is the director of the Utah
Division of Arts & Museums. She is on the board of the
Western States Arts Federation (WESTAF), a member of the
Utah Women’s Forum, and on the Finance Committee for
the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies. A founding
member of Dance Theater Coalition, she produced,
directed, choreographed, and performed in numerous
original dance and theatre works.

LUMINERVA STRING TRIO was started in 2011 when its
members realized how much fun non-classical music can
be when played on classical string instruments. Luminerva’s
preferred genres have grown to include styles from pop
to metal, folk to soundtrack, and everything in between.
Kjerstin Gardner (violin and lead) has been playing for 19
years, Owen Kennington (viola) has been playing for 15,
and Sarah Killpack (cello) has been playing for 15 years as
well.

SAMUEL JAKE was born and raised in Sandy. He is Native
American from the Navajo tribe and runs a photography
and production company. His art focuses mostly on
landscape, action, and cultural photographs. He loves
the outdoors and connecting with nature and doing fun
activities.

VIDEOGRAPHER Maria Villaseñor and Phase II students,
Spy Hop

ROBIN WILKS-DUNN (COACH) is the Community Engagement
Manager for UtahPresents. Robin is a theatre director,
writer, and producer whose work has been seen recently
at Salt Lake Acting Company. She specializes in new scripts
and works with playwrights to develop plays. Previously,
she served on the Kennedy Center Partners in Education
Advisory Committee, Pygmalion Productions Advisory
Board, U of U MLK Committee, and in capacities for
Sundance Institute.

HOLLADAY ARTS COUNCIL Sheryl Gillilan

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT
POETRY RECITATION COMPETITION

7 PM | MAR 9, 2022
HOLLADAY CITY HALL



SCHEDULE

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION:	Victoria Panella Bourns Director Utah Arts & Museums
HOST REMARKS:	Amir A.H. Jackson Founder/Director Nurture the Creative Mind
SLAM POET:	Claire De’Lune Batterman Lamentation of Lemonade
ROUND ONE:	Contestants recite first poem
ROUND TWO:	Contestants recite second poem
ROUND THREE:	Contestants recite third poem
PRESENTATION OF AWARDS:	Amir Jackson Jill Remington Love Victoria Panella Bourns

CONTESTANTS & POEMS

ROUND 1	SAVANNAH TURNBOW — Springville High School “A Barred Owl” by Richard Wilbur
	AEVA DYE — Dixie High School “Hanging Fire” by Audre Lorde
	ARAXAN OLIVARES — Judge Memorial Catholic High School “Spanglish” by Tato Laviera
	SHAN ROBINSON — Box Elder High School “The Coming Woman” by Mary Weston Fordham
	JACKSON SHEMWELL — Juan Diego Catholic School “Self-Portrait as So Much Potential” by Chen Chen
ROUND 2	SAVANNAH TURNBOW — Springville High School “An Invitation to Love” by Paul Laurence Dunbar
	AEVA DYE — Dixie High School “No, I wasn’t meant to love and be loved” by Mirza Asadullah Khan Ghalib

ARAXAN OLIVARES — Judge Memorial Catholic High School
“Sonnet 18 Shall I compare thee to a summer’s day?”
by William Shakespeare

SHAN ROBINSON — Box Elder High School
“Falling: The Code” by Li-Young Lee

JACKSON SHEMWELL — Juan Diego Catholic School
“No, I wasn’t meant to love and be loved” by Mirza Asadullah Khan Ghalib

ROUND 3 SAVANNAH TURNBOW — Springville High School
“Another Antipastoral” by Vievee Francis

AEVA DYE — Dixie High School
“Summer” by Chen Chen

ARAXAN OLIVARES — Judge Memorial Catholic High School
“The Bloody Sire” by Robinson Jeffers

SHAN ROBINSON — Box Elder High School
“kitchenette building” by Gwendolyn Brooks

JACKSON SHEMWELL — Juan Diego Catholic School
“Where the Wild Things Go” by D. Gilson

TONIGHT’S JUDGES

MIKE DORRELL is originally from Swansea, Wales, and has lived in Utah for many years. He is the author of over a dozen produced plays for stage, radio, and television. He was dramaturg for Salt Lake Acting Company for ten years, developing new work by Julie Jensen, David Kranes, Jeff Metcalf, and others. He is currently responsible for new play development with Utah Contemporary Theatre, which has produced four of his *Talking Wales* series of monologues.

CHELSEA POTUPCHIK GUEVARA is a poet and spoken word artist from West Jordan. As a Salvadoran-Caucasian American, her work focuses on examination of overlapping cultures, mixed identity, and Latinx and immigrant struggles. She has performed at multiple venues across the Salt Lake Valley, captaining the State Champion 2019 Copper Hills Poetry Slam Team in her senior year of high school and also taking individual honors at both the Utah Arts Festival, where she was crowned Youth Indie Slam Champion, and Sugar Slam.

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Rebecca Akec (2018)



Jill Love Smiles



Jawar (2019)



Box Elder (2022)



State Final (2019)



Olivia Slaughter (2020)