SFA - Stone Fort Museum
Esperanza's Night Out - Poetry Slam
5 – 8 p.m. Saturday, October 16

In collaboration with the Nacogdoches Public Library's NEA Big Read

What is a Poetry Slam?
A slam as a live competition for poets to perform spoken word poetry before a one or more judges. Watch performances and learn more on the [YouTube Channel for Poetry Slam, Inc.,](#) a non-profit organization that organizes the National Poetry Slam, the Individual World Poetry Slam, and the Women of the World Poetry Slam.

How to Enter
1. Contestant will sign up on-site beginning at 5 p.m. as a high school student or adults (18+) contestant. Performers may only compete in one category.
2. Sign up will be first-come, first-serve, with a maximum of 20 competitors.
3. Minors must complete a signed Parent Consent & Release form available on-site to participate.

General Rules
1. All works performed must be self-authored and performed alone.
2. The poet may not use props, costumes, pre-recorded/taped music, or musical instruments while performing. It's just you and your poem on stage, but you are allowed to sing or beat box or make any other sounds with your body in your performance.
3. Memorization is not required.
4. The poem may not include sexist, racist, homophobic, or transphobic comments. Basically, use your common sense and leave your hate at the gate.
5. For any poet with a disability who may be unable to read for themselves, you can nominate a friend to register and read on your behalf. Just let us know who the original author is, and who is your chosen reader.
6. A microphone will be provided.

Timing
Maximum time limit per poem is 3 minutes; point deductions will be applied every 5 seconds starting at 3:05 (there is a 5-second buffer). There is no minimum length. A timer will be on display for a countdown.

Scoring
The poet receives a score from 0 to 10, with 10 being the highest or "perfect" score.

Prizes
Adult (18+ years) category: one $150 prize
High School student category: one $50 prize