



Let It Be Known...

Verse Finds a Home!

Revitalizing Poetry and the North Omaha North 24th Street Corridor, Verse, Inc will be moving into a collective artist space. Thanks to the hard work of Manuel Cook, Jr. of the City of Omaha Planning Department, artist and poet, Aaryon Williams, journalist and artist Dewaune Hayes, negotiations have gone well with Omaha Economic Development Corporation for the acquisition of 2 separate building spaces. Verse, Inc will occupy the former Salem Pantry Building at 2205 N. 24th Street and the old Union Building located on Burdette Street just across from the Bryant Center. Verse will soon have an office space, adequate facilities for rehearsals, small performances, workshops and meetings.

Those artists on the Verse, Inc. Poet/Artist Roster will be able to schedule time to conduct their business within the space. It is so exciting to also be along side other artists in the community. Sharing our space will be, Manuel



"An Evening With Paula Bell"

Tickets: \$10 in advance!

"An Ode to Burlesque: A Tribute to Josephine Baker"

June 15th @ 8pm

Love's Jazz & Arts Center

DONATE!

Verseinc.org



Your dollars go to support poets and spoken word artists in craft improvement and income generating activities.

1

POET/ARTIST ROSTER

Submit after Jan. 1st at verseinc.org

2

SUBMIT A VERSE PLAY

Deadlines Dec. 31st & July 31st

3

TAPESTRIES

Open Mic - Every 1st Sunday @ Omaha Lounge 1505 Farnham 7:30-11pm

Cook, Jr., Aaryon Williams of FLIYE Arts, Co., Dewaune Hayes of NOISE and the Omaha Star, muralist and visual artist Gerard Pefung, and visual artist Alajia McKizia.

"An Evening With..." The Incomparable

Ms. Paula Bell!

March is Women's History Month! And, on **March 24th**, Verse, Inc brings an extraordinary talent to the stage. **Paula Bell will be gracing the stage at B-Side Theater** for the 3rd installment of "An Evening With...!" For those of you who don't know her, Ms. Bell is a Poet, Spoken Word Artist, Storyteller and Songstress with a voice from the southern-most of Baptist churches. She has been a member of the Wordsmiths, a traveling Spoken Word troop performing poetic showcases in the African American Oral Tradition since 2010. Since then, she has been a staple of open mic's such as VerBal GumBo, participated in theatrical productions, and featured in showcases all over Omaha. Currently, she is a Teaching Artist with the Nebraska Writers Collective's program Louder Than a Bomb.

Paula was one of the first to join Verse, Inc.'s Poet/Artist Roster. Join us as we celebrate the importance of the voices of women. "I consummate words with rhythms, sew seeds into fertile hearts; birth masterpieces; breathe life into consciences" says Ms. Bell. Through strength of spirit and the power of her voice through the rawness of her words, Paula embodies the struggles, the dreams and triumphs women all over the world, share. "My emotions overflow between lines and verses, love and pain, anger and forgiveness. I thank God for a gracious gift that will never stop giving."



Accompanying Paula is the amazing Michelle Eva Becker. Michelle is a musician and blues vocalist who has dazzled the Omaha art and music scene with her original songs and covers played only as she can. The two of them met by happenstance on a radio show on Mind and Soul 101.3fm and did an improv piece together. It was absolute magic. You don't want to miss magic perfected! (Photo credit: Vi Washington)

TAPESTRIES: Celebrates All Things Poetry!

IT'S NATIONAL POETRY MONTH!!!

Join the Ladies of Tapestries Easter Sunday, when you're sick of the family, all churched out and ready to peel out of your Sunday shoes. Come as you are and enjoy the hilarious shenanigans of Josiah Jah Lion!! This storyteller/poet/comedian will have you in stitches all while holding your nose in the muck.

Josiah is an Omaha native, but spent many years creating his one-of-a-kind prose poetic style in Denver, Colorado. He was a featured artist at Poetry in Motion at Love's Jazz and Arts Center; was a frequent guest of VerBal GumBo and a former Tapestries feature at the Apollon. You will find his poetry refreshing, his style compelling and his stories amazing.

Special thanks to last month's featured guests, The Door with Johnna Dortch. Aaryon Williams and Dereck Higgins were absolutely mesmerizing. They performed all original music from their newly released CD, "Virgo". Tickets to a performance such as this usually go for more than FREE. Our patrons were definitely treated to a top-notch show!

Tapestries takes place EVERY 1st Sunday at the Omaha Lounge at 1505 Farnam St. Join Michelle Troxclair, Anissa Lennox and Michelle Eva Becker--- your hosts for the evening. And remember, there is NO COVER!!

For early sign up, go to:

<https://www.verseinc.org/tapestries-sign-up.html>

