



NEWS RELEASE

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San Antonio Poetry Archive at Palo Alto College hosts local poets for National Poetry Month event

Alamo Colleges District–Palo Alto College will host its Third Annual National Poetry Month Celebration titled “Pen to Paper to Performance”, celebrating San Antonio’s literary community, on Thursday, April 12, from 6 – 8:30 p.m. at the San Antonio Poetry Archive at Palo Alto College. This year’s event will expand upon the written word to entertain guests with slam poetry and spoken word performances by Anthony the Poet, Andrea “Vocab” Sanderson, and Jason “Shaggy” Gossard, followed by light refreshments. This event is free and open to the public.

Anthony “The Poet” Flores is a three-time San Antonio Grand Slam Poetry Champion and has represented San Antonio in competition on six different occasions at the National Poetry Slam. He has performed his work all over the United States, from local schools and community centers to H.B.O.’s Def Poetry Jam to the famous Lincoln Center in New York City.

Andrea “Vocab” Sanderson is a poet, singer, and hip-hop artist who has featured at DePauw University, Moorehouse College, Cameron University, Rice University, and Trinity University. In December of 2016 she was a guest teacher for the groundbreaking course: *Black Women Beyonce & Popular Culture* at University of Texas at San Antonio this course gained international attention and is featured in various publications worldwide.

Jason “Shaggy” Gossard has been running San Antonio’s PuroSlam since the early 1990s and appeared on the National Poetry Finals stage in 2000 where he and his San Antonio teammates took second place, losing by a tenth of a point. In 2016, he won two San Antonio Alamo Theatre Arts Council Awards for his work on an original slam inspired production titled “American Pride.”

The San Antonio Poetry Archive at Palo Alto College opened in 2016 and began as a project by Laurie Ann Guerrero, Poet Laureate of San Antonio (2014-2016) and Poet Laureate of Texas (2016), to capture and preserve San Antonio’s literary voice. The Ozuna Library at Palo Alto College serves as the repository for these special collections and is committed to preserving the records of local poets and poetry organizations in their original formats, including manuscripts, artifacts, and other media.

Palo Alto College, part of the Alamo Colleges District, is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges and a recipient of the 2015 Texas Award for Performance Excellence and a finalist for the 2016 Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award. With over 10,000 students, Palo Alto College is accredited to offer associate degrees and short-term certificates. The campus is located on the south side of San Antonio at 1400 W. Villaret Blvd. at I-410 and Texas Hwy 16 and online at alamo.edu/pac.

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