Words To Power
Showing Youth the Power of Their Words

Spoken Word Poetry 101 Workshop

“I learned that I have the power within me and to not be afraid to express it.”
-Emily (12th grade)

Overview:
- among the most sought-after for elementary, middle, and high schools
- supports the following subject areas from 4th through 12th grades: Language Arts, Social Studies, Character Development, Public Speaking, and Leadership
- designed and presented by Ara Cruz, a former teacher and award-winning poet with more than a decade of facilitation experience making poetry come alive
- 60-75 minute one-time workshop features powerful spoken word poetry, an application of metacognition to poetry, an easy-to-understand graphic organizer, scaffolded writing prompts, open mic style sharing, and inspirational give-aways
- unique, culturally relevant, and engaging framework to inspire youth to find their voice and speak their truth
- $150 per workshop session (discounts given if sessions are provided for an entire grade level, in multiple classes, on an annual basis, and/or with printed packets)

“Ara Cruz planted a seed into the minds of our students, who now truly understand the power of their own VOICE and stories. Thank you for empowering, supporting, and helping my students realize they have the tools to write and the capabilities to share their knowledge.”
–Guadalupe Loredo- Rangel (5th Grade Teacher, McElwain Elementary)

“I liked when we had to write our own poems. I’ll use poems to express my feelings. Keep saying your poems to other people so they could be inspired too.”
–Maria (7th grade)

Results from post-workshop surveys (5 point scale):
Overall Rating: 4.97
The workshop… showed me the power of my words: 4.89
made me feel more confident in expressing myself: 4.81
helped me feel more proud of myself and my culture: 4.92
inspired me to be more of a leader: 4.85

“I really liked how you told us to always say our story...I also like that you let us express ourselves by saying our poems out loud.”
–Dario (5th grade)

“The kids were really moved and inspired, as was I. You are starting ripples and influencing kids in ways you cannot possibly imagine.”
–Mary Hernandez (ELL teacher, Carbondale Middle School)