

Using **Concepts** in Performance Poetry

For the Fall FBISD Secondary Poetry Slam, we would like the participants to focus on one of the featured concepts:

- I know..*
- Can you hear me?*
- One more thing...*
- Thank or Honor Someone*
- Truth Poem*

These concepts are not to be considered as mandatory themes; rather, they are suggestions to help *challenge* the poets with their creativity, while encouraging them to *step outside of the box*.

Although the Secondary Poetry Slam guidelines have not changed, an addition to the scoring rubric reflects the poet's use of one of the suggested concepts listed above.

In order for the judges to know what concept has been selected, the poet must include it in their introduction.

Ex. My name is The title of my poem is.... and the concept that I chose to use is...

Expectations of each concept:

The following concepts must be heard *within* the poem. The words and/or phrases are stated and provides depth to the poem:

- I know...
- Can you hear me?
- One more thing...

The following concepts are not stated, but represented and provides depth to the poem. The audience can clearly determine the poet's purpose based on how the concept is implied within the poem:

- **Thank or Honor Someone**-Names should be omitted. The audience should not be able to identify the person or their gender.
- **Truth Poem**- Poem should convey the poet's truth, avoiding any ridicule, and or questioning from others. For example, the poet must be careful with the usage of sensitive subjects such as rape, suicide, abuse, and other serious issues. The poet must adhere to the guidelines of the Slam.