



To Whom It May Concern:

The School of Poetry Africa is Senegal's first interschool poetry slam initiative established to provide youth ages 13 – 17 a platform to express themselves creatively and speak their truth about the reality of their worlds, while providing a safe space for their visions to be heard within the Senegalese communities.

***“Poetry Slam would open up spaces for youth to bring their insights into classroom spaces historically marginalized youth have long felt silenced within – Patrick Camangian”***

Prior research has found that many youth globally find spoken word poetry a viable outlet for articulating the obstacles presented by their social realities. Even more, it serves as a powerful means of self-representation for youth that are traditionally portrayed as threatening, menaces to society that “do not know how to productively manage their temperaments”.

This interschool initiative will be a 2-day workshop taught by local spoken word artist-educators solely focused on the process to bring out the philosopher in each child involved to reflect on and articulate the histories of their identities, African (diasporic) heritage, and social issues from their own perspectives. Initially, we will target 10 schools. There will be 5 students selected from each school to participate in an International Youth Slam in which all will be winners with their work recorded on an album and a book produced to share with the world. The journey will continue with each student inducted into the African Slam League. A league dedicated to continued education, support, growth and opportunities to participate in other competitions throughout Africa.

We are reaching out to you to seek financial and educational sponsorship, serving as our Premier partner in this initiative. The question from most sponsors is, “What’s In It For Me?”

- You will have an amazing opportunity to be a part of a program that will truly impact the Senegalese community as the country espouses to develop a new narrative in which the youth are respected, supported, uplifted and their voices are heard.
- Your name and logo will be placed on the advertisement for all marketing materials and you will have a representative participate as a teacher, judge, or host in our workshops and competitions.
- Depending on your business, you will have an opportunity to develop your pipeline of future clients to engage or at the least have a sense of awareness of your service or product.

To learn more about The School of Poetry Africa, please [watch our video](#) on YOUTUBE. Attached, we have provided a one-pager which provides a program overview and budget request and the guidelines of the actual Slam Contest.

We are strong supporters of your organization and believe that our partnership will prove to be the perfect complement to the program.

We look forward to discussing this initiative in greater detail and welcome the opportunity to set up a meeting with you.

Thank you in advance for the consideration.

Sincerely,

Elhadji Cheikh Amath Niang, Founder

Illya Sumanto, Co-Founder