

NEWS RELEASE
North Olympic Library System
2210 South Peabody Street
Port Angeles, WA 98362

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: May 7, 2021
Contact: Jennifer Knight, Youth Services Librarian
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Subject: Spoken Word Workshop with Naa Akua
Attached: NaaAkua.jpg, JFFA1.png

The North Olympic Library System (NOLS), in partnership with the Juan de Fuca Foundation for the Arts (JFFA), invite you start your Memorial Day Weekend “write” with a spoken word workshop presented by writer and performer Naa Akua. Exercise your creative muscles through writing prompts to get you started and learn tips on the art of spoken word. This interactive, free workshop is designed for teens and adults ages 12 and over, and will be held on Saturday, May 29, 1pm, via Zoom. Registration is required.

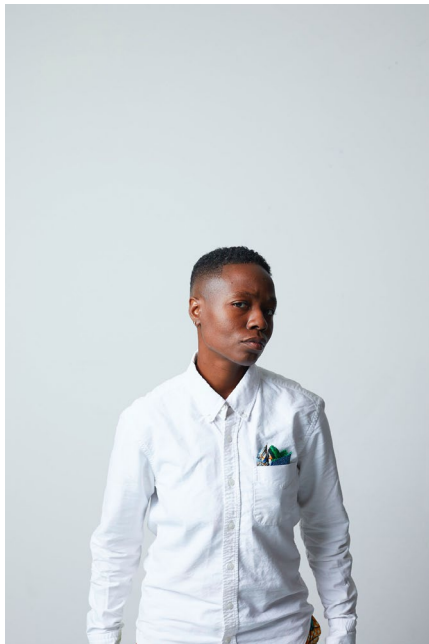
Naa Akua is a Ghanaian and Bajan queer poet, actor, educator and sound and word practitioner. Naa was a 2019 Citizen University Poet-in-Residence, they are a WITS writer-in-residence at Franklin High School, a co-facilitator and teaching artist for Young Women Empowered and is a teacher at the Hugo House. Naa Akua was a cast member of Book-it Repertory Theater’s adaptation of T. Geronimo Johnson’s “Welcome to Braggsville”, a cast member for Theater Schmeater’s production of “Welcome to Arroyo’s”, a participant of an original boilesque ballet Earth Pearl Production called “Tailfeathers”. Akua’s one person show, Akwaaba: Healing of A Queer Black Soul ran as part of Gay City’s Mosaic program and recently Earth Pearl Collectives, Sovereign Queer Black Womyn Festival. Naa Akua has also been a cast member of the groundbreaking play “Queer. Mama, Crossroads” written by Anastacia-Reneé and directed by Anastacia-Reneé and Aviona-Rodriguez Brown, Akua has also been a part of Sound Theater’s Gregory Award winning production of “Citizen, An American Lyric” written

by Claudia Rankine and produced by Jay 'O Leary. When Akua is not writing and performing they are facilitating Sound Healing sessions which focus on breathing, being in the body, and meditation.

About the Juan de Fuca Festival

The Juan de Fuca Foundation for the Arts is a 501(c)(3) organization committed to the development and promotion of the Arts for the cultural, economic and educational benefit of Washington's North Olympic Peninsula. The organization's annual Juan de Fuca Festival takes place over Memorial Day weekend. In addition to the festival, the organization offers arts programming throughout the year. For more information on the Juan de Fuca Foundation and Festival, visit jffa.org.

Offered at no cost to participants in conjunction with the Juan de Fuca for the Arts Festival, the workshop is financially supported by local Friends of the Library groups and the Juan de Fuca Foundation for the Arts. For more information about this and other events and services at your library, visit www.nols.org, call 360.417.8500, or email Discover@nols.org.



Join NOLS and JFFA for a free Spoken Word Workshop

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