



HOST A *POETIC ADDRESS TO THE NATION* VIEWING PARTY

EVERY YEAR, THE USDAC SPONSORS THE PEOPLE'S STATE OF THE UNION, inviting us all to host a national conversation in our own homes, schools, houses of worship, and community organizations, sharing stories that reveal the state of our union. Then, inspired by hundreds of stories submitted from across the country, an amazing group of poets collaboratively composes the Poetic Address to the Nation, broadcast live. On Saturday, March 11, 2016, at 8:00 pm EST/7:00 CST/6:00 MST/5:00 PST, please invite your friends to share this remarkable show live!

CELEBRATE CULTURAL DEMOCRACY!

The *Poetic Address* is a great opportunity to introduce your friends and neighbors to the power of art in the service of community and democracy.

Emceed by Chinaka Hodge. Performers include: Sarah Kay, Bob Holman, Luis Rodriguez, Marvin K. White, Tongo Eisen-Martin, Guillermo Gómez-Peña, Dennis Kim aka Denizen Kane, Michelle Lee (Mush), Marc Bamuthi Joseph, Cam Awkward, Terisa Siagotonu, and Geoff and Emily Kagan-Trenchard, performing new work inspired by stories from the [People's State of the Union Story Portal](#).

WATCH LIVE!

The Poetic Address will be live-streamed on Facebook Live. Tune in on the [USDAC's Facebook page](#).

HAVE A PARTY!

Invite folks to your home or a community space with a start-time half an hour before the live-cast. Ask them to bring nibble and drinks and make an evening of it. Attach a copy of this PDF to your email so they have all the information.

- To share some basic information about the USDAC before the Poetic Address, feel free to screen any of our short videos found at the [USDAC YouTube channel](#) or read from our [Statement of Values](#). You'll be able to download

and print out the text of the full *Poetic Address* for people to read along and take home. Just scroll down [here](#).

- Please be sure to **add people to the USDAC mail list** so they can learn of future events and actions. It's fast and free to sign up [here](#).
- After the live-cast, **invite people to share their responses**.

What touched them? What disturbed them? What made them think? What was added to their own sense of our union? What made them want to take action? If you'd like to use a Story Circle format for that discussion, you can download complete instructions [here](#).

- If the Poetic Address inspires you to try your own poetry in the public interest, here's [a free lesson-plan](#) on writing your own #PSOTU2017-based poems. (It was created for the classroom but can be used anywhere.)

CONTACT US!

Ask for more help or information anytime.

And please send us a picture of your viewing party and/or a note about how it went: hello@usdac.us.

THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND CULTURE is a people-powered department—a grassroots action network inciting creativity and social imagination to shape a culture of empathy, equity, and belonging.



TOGETHER, WE CREATE.

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