WHEN URBAN WORD NYC SPEAKS ABOUT LITERACY, WE ARE NOT ONLY TALKING ABOUT READING AND WRITING, BUT ALSO ABOUT THE KNOWLEDGE OF SELF, COMMUNITY, AND SOCIETY THAT AFFECT A YOUNG PERSON’S LIFE. The students who work with Urban Word have the rare and profound opportunity to explore the ways that they see themselves and present their stories through writing, poetry and spoken word. This reflection and response—focused on critical engagement, then creative self-expression—is key to the positive development of our next generation of leaders, artists, scholars and activists.

Urban Word NYC believes that free self-expression — matured in an enhanced critical literacy environment — improves self-confidence and strengthens educational achievement for NYC’s inner city youth. We promote active literacy, critical thought, and positive social dialogue across boundaries of age, race, class, gender, culture, and sexuality. Our many workshops are designed to enhance critical thinking skills, leadership, and to ignite a personal commitment to growth and learning which leads to heightened in-school performance, and greater interest in pursuing higher education.
Urban Word NYC offers a wide range of dynamic creative writing workshops — each series, facilitated by trained professional poets and teaching artists, is specifically tailored to the interests and needs of the site and student populations. All standards-based workshops engage literacy, critical thinking and creative writing, as well as fulfill New York State Blueprint for the Arts requirements. Urban Word programs are designed and tailored for both High School and Middle School students, and we also have trained professionals for special populations, alternative-to-incarceration programs, foster care and hospital environments.

**SPOKEN WORD POETRY**
*Creative Writing Workshops: The Basics*

**Spoken Word 101**
Student-centered, critical literacy, artistic self-expression & performance workshops that inspire youth voice and self expression.

**Hip-Hop Language Arts**
Common Core aligned literary arts workshops that engage informational text and literature through powerful hip-hop instruction.

**Word Trips**
Bring your students to Urban Word’s vibrant youth center to take a workshop and be inspired by top youth poets and mentors.

**UDUB Poetry Club**
Bring in an Urban Word mentor to facilitate your afterschool writing program, organize school-wide poetry slams, and cultivate a culture of youth voice at your school.

**IDENTITY & SOCIAL JUSTICE**
*Creative Writing Workshops Targeting Issues of Identity, Culture and Social Justice*

**Write the Power**
Students develop active community-centered critical thinking skills, establishing a safe-space where poetry is a vehicle for social justice and healing.

**Critical Identity Breakdown with the Dialogue Arts Project**
Students examine their own social identities through the development of individual and cultural narratives, and engage in critical discourse with one another around difficult issues of race, gender, sexual orientation, social class, and more.

**Book List: Next Level Lit**
These workshops use poetry and fiction collections to inspire writing and critical thinking, as well as using the NYC Youth Poet Laureate’s poetry collection for writing and performance.

**CREATIVELY COLLEGE BOUND**
*Urban Word NYC’s Award-Winning College-Prep Program*

Using the power of spoken word poetry and hip-hop as inspiration and springboard, Urban Word NYC’s award-winning college prep program is geared towards high school juniors & seniors to help create polished, professional, and creative college portfolios to gain admission and win scholarships.

- All Creatively College Bound workshop series have direct access to over $450,000 in scholarship opportunities through various partnerships with college and universities
- 12-week course addresses the college application, student essays, financial aid and scholarship opportunities
- Tailored programs (from 4-12 week series) work directly with the college essay process and unique scholarship opportunities offered by Urban Word NYC
- All spoken word/creative writing workshop series can integrate 3-5 sessions of Creatively College Bound workshops to enable students to apply for our various scholarships

**BRING URBAN WORD NYC TO YOUR COMMUNITY!**
RESIDENCY MODELS
Comprehensive On-Site Residences for Urban Word Artists

Master Poet in Residence
One of NYC’s top poets is paired with an individual school or learning communities through a comprehensive residency model approach, lasting anywhere from a single week to an entire year. In addition to teaching workshops, establishing a peer-mentor model for students, and organizing community-wide performances, resident artist holds office hours in school spaces and facilitates professional development opportunities for teachers and staff.

Youth Poet Laureate Residency
This 18-36 week program utilizes the NYC Youth Poet Laureate model to generate excitement around youth voice and civic engagement. This residency model includes a CV/resume development workshop and culminates in the naming of your school’s Youth Poet Laureate, who will be automatically enrolled in the city-wide laureate contest.

Why Spoken Word & Hip-Hop?
This seminar articulates the urgency for literary education, and explores the roles of powerful media and movements to create student-centered spaces for critical literacy.

Critical Identity Exploration with the Dialogue Arts Project
This workshop helps teachers and staff examine their own social identities through the development of individual and cultural narratives, and engage in critical discourse with one another around difficult issues of race, gender, sexual orientation, social class, and more.

Why Spoken Word & Hip-Hop?
This session or series of sessions helps teachers learn to develop slam poetry and performances in their space, and uses the Words & Verbs curriculum designed to engage writing and performance.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
Workshops for School and Community Leaders

Hip-Hop Transformation
This professional development addresses the history and culture of these movements for teachers to find an authentic and accountable space to utilize hip-hop and spoken word in the classroom.

Spoken Word & Hip-Hop in the Classroom
This offering engages standards-based, culturally relevant methods to inspire students through hip-hop and spoken word to create a safe space for creative writing and critical thinking.

URBAN WORD PERFORMANCES
Events to Excite and Engage!

Flip Mode
Recent alumni and emerging Urban Word Mentors “take over” school programming through an assembly-style performance to transform, inspire and excite.

NYC Youth Poet Laureate
The Youth Poet Laureate of New York City performs and speaks about the importance of youth leadership and civic engagement.

Assembly Performances
Events that inspire students to express themselves through the written and spoken word, feature Urban Word youth poets, a DJ and more.

Open Mics & Slams
Performance opportunities that provide a space for students to share their work. Hosted and coordinated by Urban Word mentors and featuring top teen poets and DJ.

Slam Team
The nationally acclaimed New York City youth slam team showcases their work to inspire students, teachers and community members.

To bring Urban Word NYC to you, please contact Sofia Snow, Program Associate at 212-352-3495 or sofia@urbanwordnyc.org. We are happy to tailor each workshop series or performance to fit your specific needs and budget.
Urban Word NYC hosts a number of inspiring and enriching events for teens and their supporters each year. We host two monthly open mics for teens in Harlem and Brooklyn, open to all. Visit our website to see what's happening now: www.urbanwordnyc.org

Founded on the belief that teenagers can and must speak for themselves, Urban Word NYC™ (UW) has been at the forefront of the youth spoken word, poetry and hip-hop movements in New York City since 1999. Urban Word NYC presents literary arts education and youth development programs in the areas of creative writing, journalism, college prep, literature and hip-hop. UW also hosts the Annual NYC Teen Poetry Slam, an annual College Fair, the NY Knicks Poetry Slam, local and national youth slams, festivals, reading series, open mics, and more. UW works directly with 25,000 teens per year in New York City alone, and as a steering committee member of the National Youth Spoken Word Coalition, has partner programs in 45 cities. UW also has a vigorous community educator and teacher training series which links inquiry-based classroom practices with the most progressive academic trends in student-centered pedagogy.