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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**Seventh Annual Poetry Slam, 'The Anthem,' comes to Cal Poly on May 8**

SAN LUIS OBISPO -- Cal Poly's seventh annual poetry slam, "The Anthem – Words Will Change the World," is set for 7 to 10 p.m. Wednesday, May 8, in Chumash Auditorium on campus.

The event seeks to inspire attendees to use the power of their voice and their words to make a difference.

The event, sponsored by the Cal Poly English Department and College of Liberal Arts, is a slam-style competition involving five poets who will explore, through the power of poetry, the uniqueness of individuals and the cultures from which they come. They will speak on issues such as race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, identity, class, life and love while being judged by audience members chosen at random on the day of the event.

Prentice Powell, winner of the 2004 California Independent Book Critics' Award, will be the master of ceremonies. Five of the nation's top spoken-word poets will compete this year. Returning to the stage will be Rudy Francisco, winner of The Anthem poetry slam of 2012, and Kat "Simply Kat" Magill, who performed at Anthem 2011. First-time participants include Adriel Luis, Danee "Queen D" Black, and Brian Ellis.

For additional details about the event, contact Ariana Chini at [510-386-4408](tel:510-386-4408) or [anthemcalpoly@gmail.com](mailto:anthemcalpoly@gmail.com).

For more information on the Cal Poly English Department, call [805-756-2596](tel:805-756-2596) or log on to [cla.calpoly.edu/engl](http://cla.calpoly.edu/engl).

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