

# Program Guide

## The RapOet

Khaiim Kelly

Poetry Through Musical Comprehension



### ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The aptly named RapOet, Kahiim Kelly, is a spoken word artist who, despite having grown up in Manhattan, now lives in Hartford where he began performing, teaching, and demonstrating his unique artistic style in Connecticut schools. He teaches students the importance of poetry, and enlightens them in regards to the unique, complex skills required to create good poetry, and good rap, before combining the two in Kahiim's unique method of spoken word. His programs not only build, reinforce, and enhance student confidence, they introduce students to whole new worlds combining music with the language arts. Kahiim engages students with the power of his work, and inspires them, ultimately, to create their own works of art.

### VOCABULARY AND CONCEPTS

Rhyme  
Rhythm  
Caesura  
Narrative  
Simile  
Consonance

Meter  
Alliteration  
Free Verse  
Metaphor  
Assonance  
Imagery



### OBJECTIVES

- To specifically demonstrate the complexities surrounding Hip Hop and Rap.
- To create a deeper appreciation for, and understanding of, poetry.
- To demonstrate how poetry is used in both Hip Hop and Rap, and its importance in contemporary music.
- To explore students' poetic voices and build confidence in students' writing.



### Curriculum Links

#### **Connecticut State Department of Education**

#### **Source: The CT Framework – The Arts, Music**

- ✚ *Content Standard 4. Composition. Students will compose short pieces within specified guidelines..*
- ✚ *Content Standard 6. Analysis. Students will analyze the uses of elements of music in aural examples representing diverse genres and cultures*
- ✚ *Content Standard 7. Evaluation. Students will develop criteria for evaluating the quality and effectiveness of music performances and compositions.*

#### **Source: National Core Curriculum Standards for English**

**Language Arts:** Reading: Craft and Structure #4; Knowledge of Language #3;

### PRE PROGRAM

- Listen to examples of popular contemporary Rap music and discuss any poetic influences you may hear.
- Discuss the poetic devices popularly used in music and how your students would use them were they creating their own music.
- Have your students read selections of poetry that best exemplify rhyme, meter, rhythm, and alliteration. Next, have them read lyrics from Rap music that exemplify the same things.
- Ask your students to read examples of their favorite poetry, and to pair that poetry with examples of their favorite music.

### POST PROGRAM

- Ask your students to read the work they created with Kahiim's guidance aloud, and challenge the class to pick out specific poetic devices present in the work.
- Discuss the tools Kahiim has given to your students, and how they can be used in poetry, rap, and other areas.
- Ask your students what lyrical features stick out in music now more so than before, and have them discuss those features.

### ABOUT THE ARTIST

The RapOet performs in schools, colleges and universities, café's, traditional venues, and everywhere in between. He hosted the Hartford Hip Hop Festival with Rock Steady's Crazy Legs, and has performed at the International Hip Hop Festival with KRS ONE. His album, *Manhattan Night*, has received critical acclaim and features artists such as Mez (of J Cole's Dreamville) and Young Cee (who produced for Little Brother and 50 Cent). His musical influences include Jazz, Reggae, and other contemporary Hip Hop artists. He holds a degree from Trinity College in Hartford.

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