

Price Sheet for David A. Romero

All prices exclude travel expenses, lodging, and food, if applicable. These costs can be added to the honorarium or handled separately by the host organization(s). davidaromero@gmail.com

PERFORMANCES



Spoken word poetry performance of 30 minutes to 2 hours:
\$600

In-person performances over 30 minutes require the use of a projector, projection screen, and computer connection.

Romero may choose to be booked for performances under 30 minutes for special circumstances: personal events, showcases with other performers, fundraisers, etc.

Performance Description:

As seen on **All Def Digital**, Mexican-American spoken word artist David A. Romero travels (or Zooms-in) from Southern California to perform poetry and share his stories about food, family, social justice issues, and Latinx culture. In a show that combines performance poetry, personal testimony, and politically-charged commentary with a slideshow featuring images from history, current events, and Romero's own life experiences, Romero moves crowds to laugh hysterically, think critically, feel hungry, cry tears of joy or sorrow, and raise their fists in protest. Romero relates what it's like to be a "pocho," or, a Mexican-American who identifies more with mainstream American culture than what is often expected by society from his racial identity. His status as an outsider among his own people makes for an insightful, and often humorous, exploration of Latinx culture and identity politics. Romero's passion for social justice, coupled with his experience as a political activist, expresses itself in fiery poems that touch upon issues of racism, immigration, war, and economic injustice.

El Martillo Press Group Reading/Performance

As the co-founder and editor-in-chief of El Martillo Press, David A. Romero can organize virtual and in-person readings/performances with himself and El Martillo Press co-founder Matt Sedillo, as well as with El Martillo authors, including, but not limited to: HBO Def Poet Paul S. Flores, Slam champion Matthew 'Cuban' Hernandez, Tomás Rivera Award Winner Sonia Gutiérrez and Pomona Poet Laureate Ceasar K. Avelar. To learn more about El Martillo Press authors, visit:

<https://www.elmartillopress.com/authors> **\$2000+ (depending on lineup)**

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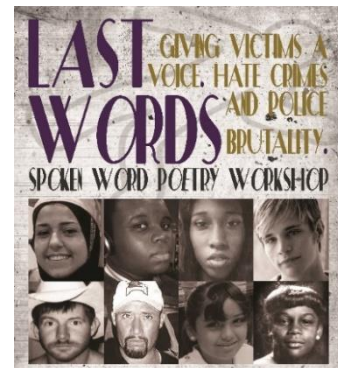
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WORKSHOPS

Solo interactive workshops include a short performance and then a presentation by Romero, followed by time for students to write and/or engage in group activities. After time to prepare, students will present their poems or projects to the full group. In-person workshops require the use of a projector, projection screen, and computer connection. Workshops can be expanded from one session to multiple, with sessions focused on writing, memorization, performance, slam, and/or artist development. Student work compiled over the course of a workshop, or series of them, can be compiled into a book, with copies made available printed on demand. More solo workshops can be found here:

<http://www.davidaromero.com/workshops>

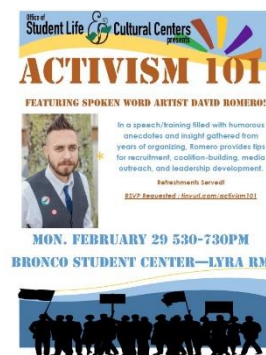
Last Words: Giving Victims a Voice (2 hours) - Tamir Rice, Philando Castile, Razan Mohammed Abu-Salha, Tommy Le, Brisenia Flores, Matthew Shepard, and Islan Nettles. Their names are familiar to lovers of social justice everywhere. Their stories have been carried on long after their tragic ends. Let's give these victims of hate crimes and police brutality a voice! Participants receive a card with the name and information of a victim. Each story is read aloud. After observing a moment of silence, participants write poems from the perspective of these individuals; often painfully capturing their last moments. This workshop helps participants learn more about people of different races, genders, sexual preferences and economic backgrounds. *Presentation



is often updated to include most recent victims of hate crimes and police brutality. **\$600**

CATEGORIES: POLITICS, CURRENT EVENTS, WRITING, DISCUSSION

Activism 101 (1-2 hours) - Learn how to organize to bring the change you want to see on your campus! In a presentation filled with humorous anecdotes and insight gathered from years of organizing, Romero provides tips for recruitment, coalition-building, media outreach, and leadership development. As a leader with a variety of student groups: MEChA and USAS (United Students Against Sweatshops), and as a professional organizer: CALPIRG (California Public Interest Research Group), Environment California, and the Los Angeles Homeless Services Coalition, David A. Romero is equipped with the knowledge and experience to help others consolidate and expand their organizations and grassroots political campaigns. Activism 101 culminates in a breakout session where students are divided into groups and tasked with creating mock campaigns (based on real situations at college campuses across the country) that will incorporate the skills presented.



\$600

CATEGORIES: POLITICS, CAMPUS CLIMATE, GROUP ACTIVITY

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The 4 Quadrants of Success (1-2 hours) - BY POPULAR DEMAND, a workshop on how to plan for success as an entrepreneur! What do you need to do to succeed? Plan for work. How do you plan? Map out these 4 things: branding, products, marketing, and sales, for everything you do! As a successful spoken word artist and independent contractor/entrepreneur, Romero inspires audiences with his journey from college activist to professional spoken word artist, relating how he learned to transform the principles of grassroots activism into the principles of DIY independent artist business. **\$600**

CATEGORIES: SKILLS, MOTIVATIONAL, GROUP ACTIVITY



Cultural Appropriation (1-2 hours) - In this presentation and/or poetry workshop, students learn about various forms of cultural appropriation: from indigenous wear found in Halloween costumes and "race parties," to the appropriation of black music by white musicians in American music and the appropriation of local cuisines and fashions by international food and fashion conglomerates. As the students learn how to spot appropriation with the help of bell hooks' essay, "Eating the Other," they are tasked with finding examples of cultural appropriation from various magazines supplied by Romero. **\$600**

CATEGORIES: POLITICS, CURRENT EVENTS, GROUP ACTIVITY



Stereotyping Latinxs (1-2 hours) - Stereotype: a widely held but fixed and oversimplified image or idea of a particular type of person or thing. What are the stereotypes surrounding Latinx Americans? Is there any truth to them? Are there positive, as well as, negative, stereotypes? If so, how can a positive stereotype have a negative effect? How are these stereotypes created? What effect do stereotypes have on how Latinxs are perceived by others and how they perceive themselves? Stereotyping Latinxs encourages students to understand and deconstruct harmful stereotypes; examining the role stereotypes play in their personal lives and society at large. **\$600**

CATEGORIES: CULTURAL, POLITICAL, DISCUSSION



Banned Books (1-2 hours) - Participants view a copy of the 100 most banned books in America and total the number of books they've read from the list. Romero presents a short history of banned books, up to the present: with parents, educators, and officials banning books to restrict student knowledge of race, class, and gender, under the guise of protecting them from "obscenity." Romero asks students to speak about the banned books they've read that have had an impact on them. He asks them to imagine an open library, one where all ideas could be exchanged, and no books would be banned. **\$600**

CATEGORIES: POLITICS, LITERATURE, GROUP ACTIVITY, WRITING

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Microphone Control (1-2 hours) – In this performance-based workshop incorporating lessons of Hip Hop along with traditional theatre techniques into the performance of spoken word, participants learn an integrated system of performance called microphone control. What are the three elements of microphone control? Control of your equipment, control of your audience, and control of yourself. Participants learn how to master the forces, both internal and external that will help them improve as spoken word artists, compete in slams, and apply those lessons to any performance discipline they choose. **\$600**



CATEGORIES: SKILLS, PERFORMANCE, TECHNICAL

My Name Is... (1-2 hours) - Students write about what their names mean and what they mean to them! Students can choose to assert pride in their racial and/or familial identities by writing about their last names or can choose to write about the positive or negative feelings their first names or nicknames inspire. This workshop is based on David A. Romero's "My Name is Romero," a poem inspired by Corky Gonzalez's "I am Joaquin." **\$600**



CATEGORIES: FAMILY, PERSONAL, LITERATURE, WRITING

Remixing the Classics (1-2 hours) - William Shakespeare, Maya Angelou, Edgar Allan Poe, Corky Gonzalez, and Emily Dickinson. They are some of the greatest poets of all time. Listen as Romero details how some of their seminal works have inspired his poetry. Romero breaks down poems by these legends, explaining not only the meanings of the poems, but also giving insight into how the poems were constructed, so that they might be reverse-engineered. Romero challenges students to write their own versions of classic poems. **\$600**



CATEGORIES: LITERATURE, ENGLISH, ACADEMIC, CULTURAL STUDIES,

PERSONAL, WRITING

Self-love and Beauty (1-2 hours) - Students are given a handout with an outline of a person. On the outside of the drawing they are asked to write down negative adjectives that other people would use to describe them. On the inside of the outline, they write down positive adjectives they would use to describe themselves. Students write poems where they contrast these negative and positive feelings. Students examine parts of their body that they might feel uncomfortable with. They learn how to transform these parts that others would make them feel insecure about into features of pride and self-love. **\$600**



CATEGORIES: PERSONAL, BODY-IMAGE, SELF-ESTEEM, WRITING

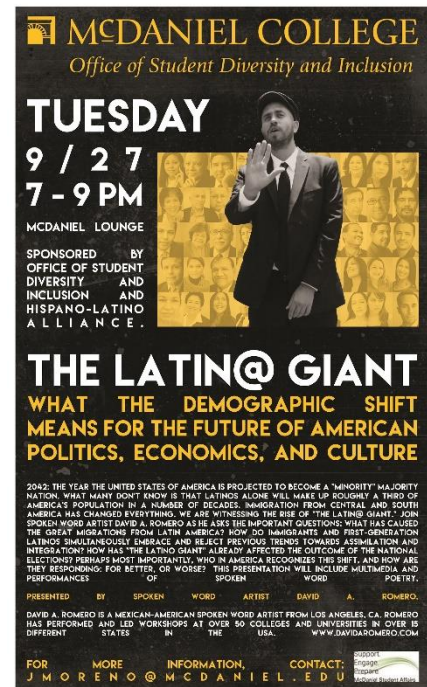
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PRESENTATIONS

Looking for a unique speaker who will present social justice issues in a way that is both challenging for the expert and immediately engaging for the novice? For audiences who would like to explore certain issues in greater depth than would be addressed in a performance, and would prefer to forego the interactivity of a workshop, Romero's presentations will educate, entertain, and inspire. All presentations require the use of a projector, projection screen, and computer connection.

The Latinx Giant: What the Demographic Shift Means for the Future of American Politics, Economics, and Culture (2 hours) -

2044: The year the United States of America is projected to become a "minority" majority nation. Birth rates of people of color already exceed those of Caucasians. What many don't know, is that Latinxs alone will make up roughly a third of America's population in a number of decades. Immigration from Central and South America has changed everything. We are witnessing the rise of "the Latinx Giant." Join spoken word artist David A. Romero as he asks the important questions: what has caused the great migrations from Latin America? How do immigrants and first-generation Latinxs simultaneously embrace and reject previous trends towards assimilation and integration? How has "the Latinx Giant" already affected the outcome of the national elections? Perhaps most importantly, who in America recognizes this shift, and how are they responding: for better, or worse? This presentation will include multimedia and performances of spoken word poetry. **\$600**



A Future without Jobs? Automation and Late Capitalism (1-2 hours) - In this presentation, Romero speaks to a changing economy and a crisis in capitalism; one motivated by a global "race to the bottom" and increased automation of labor. Romero provides a brief summary of agrarian and industrial-based economies, bringing us into the current moment; where advanced robotics and artificial intelligence drives workers out of both "blue collar" and "white collar" jobs. Are we looking at a future without jobs? What are the potential advantages and pitfalls of restructuring society around increased automation? **\$600**

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HOSTING

Looking for a host for your slam (poetry competition), open mic, showcase, or other kind of performance? As the former host of an open mic, the host of numerous poetry and music showcases, and the organizer of a number of slams, Romero's experience with dealing with equipment and schedules, with performers and venues, along with his charismatic stage presence, will ensure your event is a success.

SLAM (POETRY COMPETITION)

Looking for a special event that will have students, administrators, and community members still talking about it months or even years after its held? Look no further than a slam hosted by Romero! Often confused with an open mic or showcase, a poetry slam is a competitive event in which poets perform their work and are judged by members of the audience. Typically, the host or another organizer, selects the judges, who are instructed to give numerical scores (on a zero to 10 or one to 10 scale) based on the poets' content and performance. Poems can be memorized or read off of the page. Poets must read and/or perform their own work. Gift cards or cash prizes given to the top 3 performers! Romero has hosted poetry slams at Skagit Valley College in Mt. Vernon, WA and at California Lutheran University.

\$1,000

OPEN MIC, SHOWCASE, OR FESTIVAL

Romero has hosted dozens of events at colleges and universities, bars and clubs, art galleries, and more! Pictured here hosting an open mic at Drexel University in Philadelphia, PA, Romero knows how to entertain the audience (and how to stall for time between performers) by engaging the audience with call and response, or by calling members up from the audience and having them participate in improv games. **\$1,000**



Romero hosting an open mic at Drexel University in Philadelphia, PA

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ARTIST RIDER

Tech Rider

Microphone (cordless microphone preferred), microphone stand, sound system for performance with computer connection (Romero will provide music via computer to precede and follow performance), projector, and projection screen for slideshow presentation to pair with performance or PowerPoint presentation.

Hospitality Rider

Driver to pick up Romero from his hotel and direct him to the venue where services will be conducted (if applicable), a driver to return him to the same hotel upon completion of the services (if applicable), a flyer and/or poster featuring Romero to distributed through campus to promote the event (with copies made available to him after the event), photography and/or video of the event, advance promotion of the event with an interview published on a website and/or student-run publication, a table for Romero to sell his merchandise on after the event, a large or extra-large college or university logo t-shirt (not at all necessary, but well-appreciated), and coffee and water provided for the event.



David A. Romero as keynote performer for Inspiring 'R Leaders Conference at UC Riverside