



Resilience Breaking the Silence Café

Thursday, April 22, 2021 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Performers

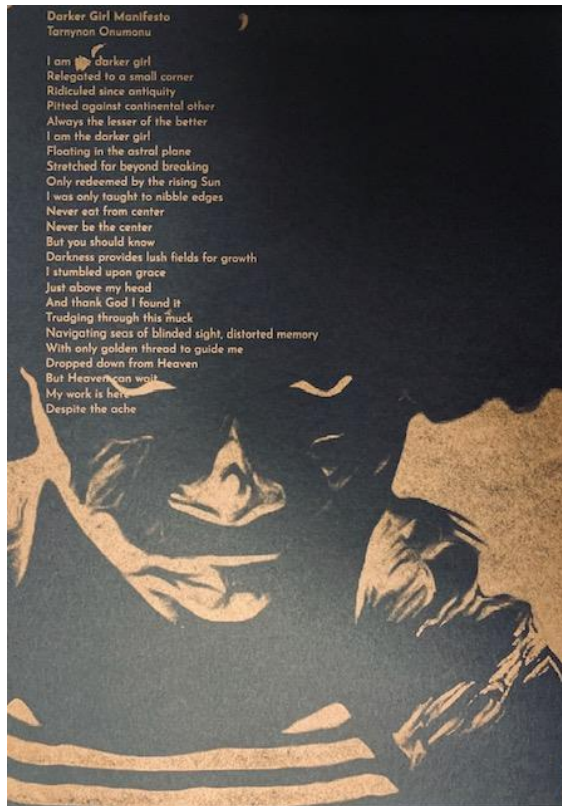
Kayla Martinez



I am a first-generation Mexican American queer person. My pronouns are she/her/hers. I am an artist, poet, singer, rock climber, social justice advocate, and dog whisperer. I have worked in the non-profit sector with youth for 6 years and I feel honored to have made so many strong connections with young people.



Tarnynon Onumonu (Ty-yuh-nuh On-ew-mon-ew)



Tarnynon Onumonu is a Liberian-Biafran American born and raised in the Jeffery Manor neighborhood on the southeast side of Chicago. Above all, she is most concerned with freedom and the ability to be self determined.

Nikki Patin



Featured in The Guardian, Chicago Tribune, HBO's Def Poetry Jam and on international television and radio, writer, producer, designer and survivor Nikki Patin has been advocating, performing and educating for 20 years. She has performed at the National Black Theater in Harlem, Brooklyn Museum, the Goodman Theater, EXPO Chicago and many other spaces throughout the U.S., New Zealand and Australia. In 2014, she made history when she addressed the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland on behalf of Black women survivors of sexual violence in the U.S. Nikki Patin holds an MFA in Creative Non-Fiction from the University of Southern Maine. Patin is the Community Engagement Director for the Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation and the founder and Executive Producer of Surviving the Mic, a survivor-led organization that crafts brave and affirming space for survivors of sexual trauma. Her work can be found at nikkipatin.com

Annalise Castro



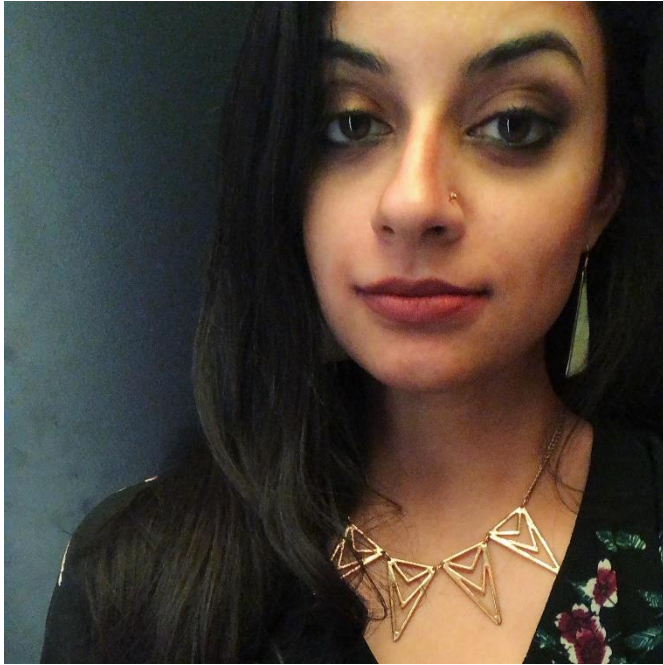
Annalise is a visual artist working in painting, ceramics, fibers, and mixed media to explore expressive modalities of storytelling. She creates text-based artwork, vessels, and assemblages that explore themes of memory, lived experience, disclosure, gaze, protection, caretaking, holding, and containment.

The collaborative art project “Pieces of Y(our) Story” intends to bring awareness to the experience of sexual assault survivors by showcasing y(our) words and statements using visual art pieces. An anonymous online response form was utilized to collect input from survivors of sexual violence and the responses were used to

create text-based mixed media artworks. These pieces can be embraced by larger communities where survivors may lean on other people for processing and collective acknowledgement. The title “Y(our)” is intended to represent individual and collective storytelling, combining both you and our. This project will allow viewers of the exhibited artworks to live with the survivor’s words for a short while and honor their resilience. “Pieces of Y(our) Story” created pathways to formal and informal support which resulted in a platform for survivors to share their survival story and request how they would like to be supported by their community. The current project has implications for future expanded endeavors, with the potential to be a continued art series to parallel the series of survivals that victims of sexual violence overcome.

Annalise has fieldwork experience from a variety of art-based, advocacy, clinical, and trauma therapy internship sites including ArtWorks Chicago, Jesse Brown VA Medical Center, and Resilience Chicago.

Vidya Ranganathan



Vidya has worked in healthcare strategy for nearly 10 years, specializing in community health advocacy and rare disease awareness. She serves on the Associate Board for The Network Advocating Against Domestic Violence, which works to elevate DV survivor voices and nurture strong allies.



RESILIENCE
EMPOWERING
SURVIVORS
ENDING SEXUAL
VIOLENCE

Sunshine Lombre



Southside Chicago native Sunshine Lombre is a freelance dancer & poet who specializes in expressing sensuality and emotional authenticity through her words & movements. Sunshine performs poetry and choreography various shows throughout the country while also curating seasonal artist showcases based around Black heritage. Sunshine strives to share her passion for Spoken Word and choreography while uplifting Black communities worldwide through teaching creative writing classes through the Chicago Public Library system.



Other Performers:

Isabella Anderson

Caroline Watson