

RASHAD WRIGHT

PROTO MIC COORDINATOR / EVERYONE'S PERSONAL HYPE MAN

Rashad Wright is the former poet laureate of Jersey City, New Jersey. He graduated from New Jersey City University, receiving his BA in English: Creative Writing. He is the author of *Romeo's Whiskey*, published via Rebel Ink. Rashad's poetry has been heard from both local and national stages via slam poetry. He is the only person to be titled the "Grandslam Champion of Jersey City Slam" twice. He has competed in Slams in the Tristate area, Oakland, San Diego, Spokane, and Denver, once ranking 25th in the country at the 2019 Individual World Poetry Slam. He has coached Jersey City Slam, the UACHS Poetry Club and 6th Borough Slam whom placed 10th in the world at Brave New Voices 2019. Rashad has also been awarded First Place at the Walter Glospe American Academy of Poets Prize, being inducted into the Academy of American Poets.

Outside of poetry, Rashad's work expands into memoir, fiction, short story, performance art, music, film, and theatre with the completion of two one-man plays. His work can be found in multiple online journals and magazines. Rashad has performed alongside Amiri Baraka, Rudy Francisco, Tyehimba Jess, Emi Mahmoud, and many others. He currently is working on his sophomore book entitled, *Papa's Tango*.