

# Christina NaMee Eriksen

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**EDUCATION:** **Hamline University College of Liberal Arts:** St. Paul, Minnesota  
*Bachelor of Arts in Social Justice, Summa Cum Laude, 2007*  
*Certificate in Conflict Studies, 2007*

**Juneau-Douglas High School:** Juneau, Alaska  
*Graduate of 2003, GPA 3.8*

**Juneau Teaching Artist Training Academy:** Partners in Education  
*Highly Qualified Teaching Artist certification, 2010*

**RECOGNITIONS:** Recognized in “Bright Moments of 2010,” *Juneau Empire*, December 2010

News Article Feature, “Haiku tsuNAMEE: Juneau poet offers up the word on the street,” *Capital City Weekly*, September 2010. This story was picked up by the Associated Press, Times Union (Albany, NY), Charlotte Observer (Charlotte, NC), Fairbanks Daily Newsminer, About.com, GotPoetry.com, and others

General Writing Contest Winner, *L’attitude*, August 2010

Recognized in “A Decade of Asian Am Spoken Word - A Personal History...,” by two-time Minnesota Grand Slam champion and National Poetry Slam finalist, Bao Phi. *Star Tribune*, January 2010

Three performances for the *Equilibrium* Spoken Word Series, “acclaimed as one of the Nation’s top spoken word venues,” and the 2010 Minnesota Nonprofit Award Winner for Anti-Racism Initiative

Featured Artist on “¿Nation of Immigrants?” CD, produced by The Loft Literary Center, which won the 2009 Minnesota Spoken Word Album of the Year Award

Nominated for 2009 Minnesota Spoken Word Artist of the Year (Female)

2007 Barbara Simmons’ Eagle Award Recipient for excellence in academics, service, and leadership

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:**

### **Published Poet**

Poems published in Alaska Women Speak, The Fulcrum, Tidal Echoes, L’attitude, Race-Talk.org. Won writing contests. Featured artist on “¿Nation of Immigrants?” CD, produced by The Loft Literary Center, and won the 2009 Minnesota Spoken Word Album of the Year Award.

### **Spoken Word Artist (Poet Performer)**

Headline and special guest performances at an array of venues, including Patrick’s Cabaret, Intermedia Arts, Hamline University, The Loft Literary Center, Pilsbury House Theatre, TV and radio stations. Has shared the stage with state and national Poetry Slam Champions and Def Poets such as Ishle Park, Bao Phi, Kyle Myhre, Mada del Valle, and more.

## **Organizer**

*Program Assistant at The Canvas Community Art Studio: October 2010 - present*

Plan and coordinate arts-related programs, events, and school visits. Collaborate with community organizations and members to provide art education and opportunities that are accessible to all.

*Organizer, Writers of Color Collective: April 2010 - present*

Recognizing the importance of shared experiences and the need for safe and supportive spaces where artists of color could write and share together.

*Co-Founder and Co-Host of Woosh Kinaadeiyí Poetry Slam Series: Oct 2010 - present*

Juneau's first monthly Poetry Slam series. Consistently drawing crowds of 80-100 people each event, the Open Mic and Poetry Slam has provided the opportunity for poets of all backgrounds and skill levels to present their work in a supportive environment.

*State Poetry Out Loud Organizing Committee Member*

Wrote and recorded a Public Service Announcement and designed a youth outreach flier to be distributed statewide as youth outreach. Also served as a Regional Judge.

*Service-Learning Reflection Curriculum Development Assistant at The Office of Service-Learning and Volunteerism (St. Paul, MN) – January 2004-June 2006*

Organized and coordinated events, including a first-ever Arts Alive community fair and a Spoken Word show at Homeless on the Hill advocacy event. Developed and facilitated trainings which oriented students to service-learning and intersections of class, race, identity, and volunteerism.

*Equilibrium Community Program Intern at The Loft Literary Center, Spring 2005*

Assisted Program Coordinator at urban literary center in a poetry/spoken word series that seeks to showcase artists of color and provide accessible, relevant art to communities of color. Assisted in event management.

## **Teaching Experience**

*Program Assistant at The Canvas (Oct 2010-present):*

- Taught poetry and spoken word workshops, including a collaborative teaching series with the JSD CARES program, a 6-week community spoken word class, a series with home-schooled students, and a healing arts workshop for survivors of abuse.
- Teach various art mediums weekly in our day habilitation program for artists who experience developmental disabilities.
- Teach various art mediums to youth, student groups, visiting groups, etc.

*Past Teaching Experience:*

- Spoken Word workshop for Transracial Adoptees at The Loft Literary Center (Sept 2010)
- Early Childhood and Family Literacy Instructor (Oct 2008-July 2009)
- Facilitated parent group as a Parent-Child Advocate at Head Start (Aug 2007 – Sept 2008)
- Facilitated trainings and workshops for university students on various topics, including race, class, and service (Jan 2004-May 2007)
- Teacher Apprentice for Role of Conflict in Social Change course (Jan 2007)
- Teacher Apprentice for The Asian American Experience course in Social Justice (Spring 2005)