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Dariusz Jakubowski
Illinois Wesleyan University

Rebecca Gearhart, Faculty Advisor
Illinois Wesleyan University

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Poster Presentation P16

COME ON UP: THE CULTURE OF IWU SLAM AND PERFORMANCE POETRY

Dariusz Jakubowski and Rebecca Gearhart*

Sociology and Anthropology Department, Illinois Wesleyan University

This poster presentation provides an intimate look at the Illinois Wesleyan University Slam and performance poetry community through the use of images and collaborative ethnographic methods. By analyzing the photographs taken during the creative process of composing poems and of the Slam event itself, the core values of openness, importance of the individual, and the vital role mentors play become apparent. The research sheds light on lesser-known aspects of performance poetry generally and on the community of Slam poets at IWU in particular.