

HANNAH L. DRAKE

AUTHOR...POET...SPOKEN WORD ARTIST...ACTIVIST...STORYTELLER



“No one is in control of your art, your gift, or your narrative except you. Tell your story.”

Recently selected as a 2017 Hadley Creatives, Hannah Drake offers a powerful, inspirational message that has been heard in various arenas around the world. Hannah has had the distinguished privilege of opening for political and social justice activist, Angela Davis, National Book Award Winner and poet, Nikky Finney, author and motivational speaker, Iyanla Vanzant, honorable judge and TV personality, Judge Gregory Mathis, and rapper and music producer, BIG K.R.I.T. Hannah's writing on social justice issues has been featured in [Onyx Magazine](#) and serves as a catalyst to ignite conversation. Hannah has served as a presenter at Ideas Festival at WKU and in Louisville, KY as a panelist with CNN chief national correspondent, John King. As a rising voice in the social media world, Hannah was chosen as a [micro influencer](#) with her online presence being echoed in the Huffington Post, Blavity, Hot 96.3, BBC.com and various media outlets and blogs around the country. In April 2017, Hannah had the

honor of curating an evening of performance artists for the Festival of Faiths entitled Compassion Rising which reflected how arts could have an impact on the compassion. In November 2017, Hannah's poem Spaces was selected by the National Academy of Medicine to be featured in a national art exhibit that speaks to visualizing health equity. Hannah is honored to be selected as 2017 Hadley Creatives, a partnership between the Community Foundation of Louisville and Creative Capital to help local artists build their professional practice, cultivate an expanded peer network and dedicate time for reflection and planning. In December 2017 Hannah was honored for her work by the Kentucky Alliance of Against Racist and Political Repression.

In 2014, Hannah joined Roots and Wings, a dynamic group of artists that seek to bring social change to their community. In 2015 and 2016, Hannah Drake, along with the members of Roots and Wings were able to perform their written plays, The West End Poetry Opera and The Blood Always Returns, at the Kentucky Center for the Performing Arts.

“Always leave crumbs & footprints detailing your greatness for those that are coming behind you.”

In 2016, Hannah's poem Formation poem went viral being shared over 20,000 times around the world. A lover of writing and social justice, Hannah's new blog www.writesomeshit.com offers commentary on current events and has been viewed around the world. Hannah's work is filled with passion and truth, believing that communication is indeed the beginning of change. Hannah is the author of several works of poetry, Hannah's Plea-Poetry for the Soul, Anticipation, Life Lived In Color, In Spite of My Chains, For Such A Time As This and So Many Things I Want to Tell You-Life Lessons for the Journey. Her debut novel Views from the Back Pew was received with stellar reviews and was performed on stage to a sold-out audience. Her follow-up novel, Fragile Destiny has been hailed as life-changing. Currently, Hannah is working on a new collection of poetry and life lessons, entitled Love, Revolution, and Lemonade. Her powerful, honest delivery has garnered her the nickname, "Brimstone." More information about Hannah can be found at her website www.hannahdrake.com.

