



NEWS RELEASE

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Marcel "Fable" Price Appointed Poet Laureate of Grand Rapids

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GRAND RAPIDS (April 11, 2017) Marcel "Fable" Price has been named the Poet Laureate of the greater Grand Rapids area for a three-year term starting in April 2017.

The Poet Laureate is an ambassador for poetry, creating programs and projects to foster the writing and reading of poetry by the public. Selected by the Grand Rapids Poet Laureate Selection Committee, past Poet Laureates include L.S. Klatt, Linda Nemec Foster, Patricia Clark, Rodney Torreson, and David Cope.

Price, also known as Fable the Poet, is a writer, teaching artist, performer, and motivational speaker. He is the author of *Adrift in a Sea of M&M's*, a collection of poems that navigates through mixed race issues and mental disorders. Fable the Poet tours nationally and works extensively with youth. He is an official partner of Mental Health America and is an advocate for the importance of mental health awareness among children and teens.

Fable the Poet is known for his interactive readings and performances that leave audiences enlightened and empowered. He is a member of The Diatribe, a group of wordsmiths, rappers, hip-hop artists, poets and storytellers, that perform in Grand Rapids. Members include Azizi Jasper, Mitch Burns, Stephen Gren, Venson Dix, G. Foster, and Duke Greene.

Price remarked, "I am a poet for the people, *all* people. I am using many of our city's flagship events, organizations, and most premier artists to bring poetry to the masses. In my role as Poet Laureate, I will continue to do so, but aiming higher, and further than before."

The new Poet Laureate will begin his three-year term at an event on Monday, April 24 at 5:30 pm at the Main Library. The event will honor the outgoing Poet Laureate L.S. Klatt and welcome the new Poet Laureate Marcel "Fable" Price. The event will include a poetry reading featuring KFG, Rachel Gleason, G Foster II a.k.a AutoPilot, and Kyd Kane. Music will be provided by DJ Dean Martian.

The Grand Rapids Poet Laureate is a program of the Grand Rapids Public Library and is funded through a grant from the Grand Rapids Public Library Foundation, Dyer-Ives Foundation

Poetry Fund.

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