

For more information contact  
Veronica L. Banks  
Uhuru Lifestyles at (314) 583-7716  
uhurulifestyles@gmail.com

## Pacia Elaine Anderson Named 4th St. Louis Poet Laureate

Pacia Elaine Anderson was officially appointed the fourth Poet Laureate for the City of St. Louis. at 12 noon on Friday, April 21, 2025. The St. Louis Poet Laureate will promote the art of poetry and encourage literacy and learning throughout the St. Louis region. Pacia collaborates as a poet, visual and teaching artist, creative consultant, arts administrator, and community caregiver with numerous groups and individuals, from large institutions to small organizations, both locally and nationally.

**A gathering to recognize Pacia Anderson as the new St. Louis Poet Laureate will be held on Monday, June 2, 2025 from 6 - 8 pm in the City Hall Rotunda, 1200 Market Street, 1st floor vestibule near the Tucker Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63103**

A graduate of the Community Arts Training (CAT) Institute, of which she is the current Program Lead, Pacia is also an Urban Bush Women SLI and a New Leaders Council-St. Louis alumnus, and a founding member of the youth-based art camp Cherokee Street Reach. Pacia serves as a Missouri Regional Coordinator for the NEA-sponsored Poetry Out Loud youth recitation competition. In 2020, Pacia was named Community Impact Artist by the St. Louis Visionary Awards.

During his full tenure, Pacia Elaine served as Curation Assistant to inaugural St. Louis Poet Laureate Dr. Michael Castro. She has been a commissioned poet and for innumerable events, reading series, festivals, and conferences, and more. Additionally, Pacia is a master teaching artist, having worked with several thousand youth in the St. Louis region, and was a founding professional development facilitator for teaching artists for the St. Louis Teaching Artists' Institute.

“Being named the fourth Poet Laureate of the city of St. Louis is a tremendous honor,” Anderson said. “I look forward to continuing the work of our poetic and cultural forbearers while amplifying new ideas and ways of engaging with the artform and using poetry as a method of gathering us together in the spirit of collectivism that provides the loving connection that moves humanity forward.”