



Bobby Gordon & Nayeli Adorador



Bobby Gordon is a Los Angeles based poet, participatory arts practitioner, lecturer, and performance artist with an M.A. from the Applied Theater Art program at USC (2012) and a B.A. from the UCLA Department of World Arts and Cultures (WAC) (2008). Gordon currently teaches three classes in WAC, including Performing Sexual Health; Freire, Boal, and Theatre of the Oppressed; and Spoken Word and Community Partnerships.

In 2013-14 Gordon guest lectured at Kennesaw State University, UNC-Chapel Hill, and Duke University on how to use humor and theater in health education and reproductive justice activism. He has presented workshops at the 2013 International Pedagogy and Theater of the Oppressed Conference and the 2013 Imagining America Conference on the same topic. Gordon has led various other writing and performance workshops around the U.S., in Mexico, India, and South Africa about everything from image theater techniques to performance poetry strategies.

Gordon has been involved in, coordinated, and directed multiple arts-based programs that have intervened on various health issues. He is the director of the UCLA Sex Squad, an undergraduate theater troupe that uses humor, theater, and personal narrative to open up transformative dialogues about sexual health with local teens. Through this role, Gordon directed two films *Bringing Safe Sexy Back* (2013) and *When the Situation Gets Slippery* (2011) both of which are currently being used by the Los Angeles Unified School District as part of their health education strategy. He also is a co-producer of *Through Positive Eyes*, an international photography project to combat HIV stigma. (www.throughpositiveeyes.org)

His original one-man show *Debbie Does My Dad* tells the humorous and poignant true story of growing up as the son of a former adult film star. *Debbie* was featured for a 23-night run at the Bedlam Theater at the 2011 Edinburgh Fringe Festival and also had runs at Highways Performance Space in Santa Monica and the Drama For Life Festival in Johannesburg, South Africa. Fringe Review gave *Debbie* four stars and called it a “Highly Recommended Show.”



Nayeli Adorador is a Los Angeles based poet and educator with an M.Ed in Educational Leadership & Policy Studies from the University of Washington (2013). Through her studies, Nayeli published a study entitled, *“Poetic License”: Constructing Literary Performing Arts Curriculum Within a High-Stakes Educational Environment*, which focused on the presence of spoken word poetry in urban high school classrooms.

Nayeli has appeared on Season 5 of HBO’s *Def Poetry Jam*, NPR, & KPFA broadcasts. Additionally, she has been featured alongside such notable artists/writers as Bonnie Raitt, Taj Mahal, and Lawrence Ferlinghetti. In 2007, Nayeli became a member of the Brave New Voices

College Tour where her work was featured at various colleges throughout the country.

Nayeli played the title role in the critically acclaimed film *Opal* (2011) – winner of the Directors Circle Award at Cannes Film Festival and the Robin Eickman Screenwriting Award. She was additionally featured in the Magic Mirror Theater’s Production of *Marry, F***, or Kill* (2012) in which she received acclaim from critics as one of the “best performances to hit the Los Angeles theater scene in 2012”.

From 2002 to 2006 Nayeli was involved with the Youth Speaks Poetry organization in San Francisco, CA where she participated as a slam poet, a writing coach, a slam team coach, and conducted and coordinated numerous writing workshops in schools throughout the San Francisco Bay Area.

Nayeli has also played a critical role behind the scenes as a freelance writing workshop facilitator throughout Seattle, Bay Area, and Los Angeles school sites. Her work with adolescents has played an integral role in the development of youth voice and continues to be the impetus behind her work as not only an educator but an artist as well.