

For Immediate Release

PALABRAS LUMINOSAS Luminous Words

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**Friday, January 1st, 2016
2 PM to Midnight**

**150 Performers
Poetry / Performance / Music / Dance
Plus Open Mic – Sign Up Early!**

FREE ADMISSION!

The 22nd Alternative New Year's Day Spoken Word / Performance Extravaganza

One of New York City's biggest literary events, featuring more than 150-scheduled performers, returns to the historic Nuyorican Poets Cafe on New Year's Day. The 22nd annual Alternative New Year's Day Spoken Word/Performance Extravaganza takes place from 2 p.m. to midnight on January 1, 2016. As always, the event is free to the public. We ask people attending to please bring paperbacks for Books through Bars, which supports U.S. prison-population education and the expansion of their universe through reading. Since the event's beginning, we have encouraged audience and participants to donate to our charity of choice. This year's theme is "Palabras Luminosas (Luminous Words)" - the light of words connects us - illuminates the human experience - and will light up our world in the New Year.

The annual event, which has taken place every New Year's Day since 1995, was founded by poet and art historian Bruce Weber and quickly became one of the most popular events on the city's poetry scene. Mr. Weber returns to oversee this year's production after a one-year hiatus, ably assisted by a staff of poets, writers and designers. "This is an amazing contingent of performers rocking all day and into the night from all sides of the city and beyond — lots of fresh voices and new discoveries," Mr. Weber said.

The Alternative draws an overflow crowd every year and this year's event will be no different. The Nuyorican Poets Café is located at 236 East Third Street, between Avenues B and C, on Manhattan's Lower East Side. The Nuyorican is easily accessible via mass transit. By subway, take the F to First Avenue, B or D to Broadway/Lafayette, J to Delancey Street or 6 to Bleecker Street. By bus, take the M9, M14D or M21 lines.

The NUYORICAN POETS CAFÉ
236 East 3rd Street (bet. Avenue B & C)
New York, NY 10009
(212) 780-9386
<http://www.nuyorican.org>

The Alternative New Year's Day Spoken Word/Performance Extravaganza features poets, monologists, musicians, dancers and other performers in a 10-hour showcase of some of New York's most talented writers and artists. The lineup that evolves each year to keep the event as fresh and democratic as possible. There will also be intervals within the day's program for an open. Audience members who are not on the featured list can come up to perform for three minutes in keeping with the spirit of the event.

Among the poets scheduled to perform on January 1st are Miguel Algarin, Joe Allegretti, Maria Aponte, Jennifer Blowdryer, Michele Carlo, Tina Chan, Steve Dalachinsky, Luis H. Francla, hattie gossett, Aimee Herman, Diana Hernandez, Bob Holman, Richard Kostelanetz, Jane LeCroy, Jesus Papoleto Melendez, Nancy Mercado, Ngoma, Jane Ormerod, Renato Rosaldo, Anne Waldman & Fast Speaking Music, Jeff Wright and Bill Zavatsky.

***Bring paperbacks for the Books Through Bars project (<http://booksthroughbarsnyc.org/>)**

***And don't forget to get a copy of our yearly ANYDSWPE Anthology, on sale at the event and online.**