

COLLABORATIONS and CONNECTIONS

urban / suburban
music word dance

A celebration of poetry, music and dance presented by The Williamsville School District, The Buffalo School District and Just Buffalo Literary Center through a grant from the Baird Foundation.

Buffalo / Williamsville

poetry music dance celebration

featuring student poets, composers and dancers

with
Poet Eamon Grennan

Award-winning Irish poet.
Author of six collections including
As If It Matters
So Goes It
The Quick of It



Thursday, April 6, 2006

Kleinhan's Music Hall

7:00 p.m.

free

JPMorgan Chase Foundation



For information contact Just Buffalo Literary Center 832-5400 www.justbuffalo.org

Summer Business Institute @ Simon



Do you know a current college student or newly minted graduate?
Help them to discover exciting opportunities in business this summer!

- ▶ Increase the employability of your graduating son or daughter
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JUST BUFFALO LITERARY CENTER PRESENTS

IN THE MARGINS

POETRY

Silence=Death

i will scream 4 U.
i will scream 4 U.
i will make a joyful noise unto The Lord.
But you must remember we are dead silent universes,
like guest passengers inside hearses.
i speak in womb verses.
You can't rehearse this pain.
Can you stand the rain?
5-0 hurricanes
storm to terrorize my family again and again.
Generation after generation,
we live in silence to survive as a nation.
It's time to be loud and claim it.
Stop begging to be allowed to name it.
Black boys and Black girls,
please holler and say
to child protective services,
"Don't foster our families away.
We just want to go out and play."
But they lynch our children with media nooses,
cotton gins,
and hypnotic juices.
Ghetto life is not nice.
Silence is golden,
but sound is like platinum and ice.
Hear my prefixes and suffixes,
no remixes.
Stop pidgeonizing my vocabulary.
Hip-hop is Black native tongue.
A shot gun,
i used to be,
and begged Harriett to carry me across the night.
Cuz i am Original Womyn,
don't just hear me roar,
hear me fight!
Shout with a feminine voice,
"Pro-life is making a Pro-choice!"
It's the silence, the silence, the silence,
silence equals death,
and i will scream this freedom song
with all the time i have left...

Vonetta Rhodes

YOU

You think of who you are by the color or your skin.

You think of who you are by depiction.

You think of who you are by a vision.

Hopefully you won't think of yourself as a deception.

So, think of who you are, as a ray of light.

Think of who you are as a dove in the sky.

Shantelle D. Johnson