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# Press Release

## Poet's Lounge Celebrates 10 Years

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Release

Long Beach, CA – Poetry reflects our lives and drives our creativity. Thanks to Poet's Lounge at California State University, Long Beach, true expression of poetry has been thriving on campus for years. As it celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Poet's Lounge reflects on its past and looks to the future for more years of inspiration.

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"For our 10-year celebration, guests will be transported through time and space. They will see the original band from opening night, the original hosts and as many poets from the past 10 years we could find," said University Student Union Marketing Coordinator Aaron Elimelech. The celebration will be Feb. 21 in the Soroptimist House from 8 to 10 p.m.

The Poet's Lounge beginnings are rooted in the goal of expression and to act as an outlet for all CSULB Students. This tradition started in late fall 1997 by Elimelech, then USU Program Council student assistant, and Curtis Storey Jr., a music student.

"Whether creative writing, art, political science, rapping or singing, everyone's perspective is welcome," said Elimelech.

As the poetry and spoken word movement gained popularity, so did the event. Since its conception, it has seen a wide variety of bands, hosts, participants and poetry styles.

"The student artists range from Makell, a radiation therapy major, to Jackie, an art major that would read without music," Elimelech said.

In keeping with tradition, USU Program Council appoints one of its student members to coordinate the event. And this is the tradition that will keep this going for years to come.

"All we need is the will of at least one student on USU Program Council to carry the torch," Elimelech said. "It has always amazed me to see how this event has ranged in style year in and year out."

For more information on media for this event, contact ASI Communications Coordinator Christina L. Esparza at 562.985.4353, Program Coordinator Keya Allen-Littleton at 562.985-5342, or visit [www.csulb.edu/asi](http://www.csulb.edu/asi).

ASI is owned and operated by students under the advisement of professional staff. ASI has followed its mission to improve the quality of campus life for students since 1956. ASI proudly dedicates its resources to providing essential activities that enhance the students' educational experience and aid in their overall development. Services provided by ASI to the Cal State Long Beach community include, but are not limited to, the University Student Union, the Isabel Patterson Child Development Center and the Recycling Center. The organization is an auxiliary under the Division of Student Services at California State University, Long Beach. For more information about our unique organization and the services we provide, please visit the ASI website at <http://www.csulb.edu/divisions/students2/ASI/>.

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