



Photo by Amanda Cline - Staff Photographer

Marc Bamuthi Joseph recited spoken-word poems and used tap dancing to convey his views on different social and environmental issues last Thursday night in Lipinsky Auditorium.

## Spoken-word artist defines hate, promotes consciousness

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**Poet, activist and environmentalist Marc Bamuthi Joseph** entertained an audience with spoken-word poems concerning several different social and environmental issues in Lipinsky Auditorium last Thursday night.

"We brought him to UNCA because of his community organization, his nontraditional connections and his talent as a spoken-word artist really stood out," said **Cori Anderson, cultural events program coordinator at UNC Asheville.**

Joseph, currently one of America's Top Young Innovators in the arts and science, program director of Youth

Speaks and co-founder of Life is Living, began his performance with a blank word document on the projector screen and asked his audience to define the word "hate."

"Hate: an emotional disapproval," he said.

"Unacceptance," "greed," "shame," "hungry" and "instant gratification," were some of the words he defined.

Others included neglect, self hate, racism and capitalism.

"My ancestral line starts with hate," Joseph said. He began poetically and rhythmically speaking about the words he just defined.

He said hate leads to ignorance, which leads to racism, which is where slavery begins.

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