

# KELLY TSAI

award-winning  
spoken word poet  
& filmmaker



Many college presenters  
enjoy the following package:

\*45-60 Min. Spoken Word  
Keynote Performance with  
Post-Show Q & A

\*60-90 Min. Spoken Word Arts &  
Activism Interactive Workshop

Inquire re: custom half to full  
week residencies or other special  
requests.

**For more info, contact booking  
agent May Takahashi at  
[booking@kellytsai.com](mailto:booking@kellytsai.com).**

Kelly Tsai has performed at over **700 venues worldwide** including the White House, Lincoln Center, Kennedy Center, Apollo Theater in Harlem, MTV Iggy, HBO's "East of Main Street: Asians Aloud," and three seasons of HBO's "Russell Simmons Presents Def Poetry."

She has featured at events with notable thought leaders like Bill Clinton, Gloria Steinem, and Donna Brazile as well as leading entertainers like Harry Belafonte, Tyra Banks, and Drake. Her work has been profiled on HBO, NPR, Huffington Post, Gothamist, and more.

Throughout her artistic evolutions, Kelly has a strong commitment to the arts as a form of social change. Kelly has been honored as a 2016 Woman of Distinction by the American Association of University Women and an Americorps Alums National Leader Award Winner, for her commitment to public service through the arts.

Kelly has performed at over **150 colleges** in 25 states, bringing her passionate brand of spoken word poetry to inspire creativity, compassion, and thoughtful dialogue.

Kelly feels strongly that the value of spoken word is in its authenticity and ability to bring reflection to our lives.



Programming Issue Areas: Race, Culture, Identity, Gender, Sexuality, Feminism, Asian American & Pacific Islander Issues, Immigration, Creativity, Spoken Word, Digital Culture, Challenging Culturally Defined Standards of Beauty, Colorism, Activism, Ending Sexual Violence, Healthy Relationships, Combating Exoticization, Interlocking Oppressions, Arts as Social Change, Community Development

**[KELLYTSAI.COM](http://KELLYTSAI.COM) | [@KELLYTSAI\\_NYC](https://twitter.com/KELLYTSAI_NYC) | [YOUTUBE.COM/KZTSAI](https://www.youtube.com/KZTSAI)**

# KELLY TSAI

presenter quotes  
and testimonials

*Raw, evocative, insightful - Kelly is a contemporary visionary changing the world, one poem at a time.*

- Celeste Hamilton, Idealist.org

*Kelly was completely mind-blowing!!! The students really responded to her message of identity intersectionality.*

- Kaliq Simms, Baltimore Student Diversity Conference

*We absolutely loved having Kelly – as did the many many people who made sure to tell me how amazing she was.*

- Michael Corrente, Ms. Foundation Gloria Awards

*Kelly is an incredible artist that has a huge impact to any audience brought to her.*

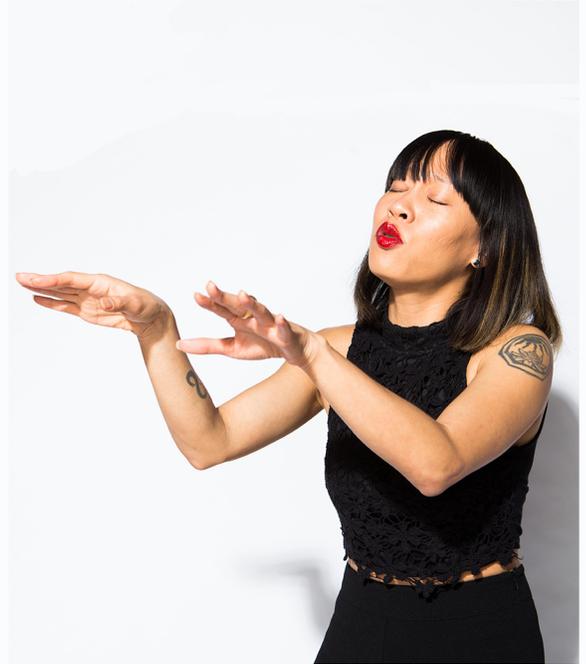
-Julie Chi, KAFSC Gala Chair

*Kelly is a dynamic speaker, performer, and spoken word poet whose poetry and stories engaged both our upper school students and faculty. Her voice as an Asian American woman greatly added to the broader conversation on diversity at our school.*

- Meng Lusardi, Riverdale Country School

*Kelly's performances were humorous, touching and real. She was so friendly, easy to work with, and gracious in spending time with students.*

- Adriane Bang, Boise State University



*Kelly's performance really opened up people's eyes to how art (poetry, short films, etc.) can be a medium for activism and acts of social good. It was inspiring to see someone so passionate about so many different topics, and expressing this passion with an emphasis on love. Overall, this was a great experience for everyone who came, as it helped us all understand that activism and acts of social good start at the individual level.*

-Casey Mendoza, Knox College

*Kelly was extremely thoughtful, interactive, and energetic in her presentations, workshops, and performance for our students. Her artistry in both her poetry and her ability to engage with students was remarkable. Don't miss out on a chance to collaborate with her!*

- Rachel Lauren Storm, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign