Terisa Siagatonu is an award-winning touring poet, speaker, educator and community organizer born and rooted in the Bay Area. Her voice in the poetry world as a queer Samoan woman has granted her opportunities to perform in places such as the White House (Obama administration), the UN Conference on Climate Change in Paris, the Asia Pacific Triennial in Brisbane, Australia, and the 2019 SF Women’s March. One of the most memorable moments in her career was receiving President Obama’s Champion of Change Award for her activism as a poet/organizer in her Pacific Islander community. With numerous viral poetry videos garnering over millions of views collectively, Terisa’s writing/teaching blends the personal, cultural, and political in a way that calls for healing, courage, justice, and truth. A 2019 Yerba Buena Center for the Arts 100 List Honoree, Terisa’s work has been published in Poetry Magazine and has been featured on Button Poetry, CNN, NBCNews, NPR, KQED, Huffington Post, Everyday Feminism, The Guardian, and Buzzfeed.

Please contact Cindy.Huynh@sjcc.edu if you require sign language as interpretation or closed captioning as accommodation.

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