

Men's Story Project Founder and Visionary: Dr. Jocelyn Lehrer  
Directed and Produced by: James Meinert  
Audio/DJ provided by Darian Wigfall of FarFetched  
Videography by: Luxstar Studios  
Photography:  
Shirts: Nick Humphrey and Anointed Ink

Special Thanks to all community partners and volunteers  
that came out and made this event possible!

Co-Sponsored by:

SGA Wellness Committee, SLU Wellness, UNA, Rainbow  
Alliance, Resident Hall Association, Student Athlete Advisory  
Committee, SLU Campus Ministry, Cross Cultural Center,  
Women's and Gender Studies Department, and  
Safe Connections Young Professionals

All donations from the event are going to Safe Connections.  
Safe Connections' mission is to work towards ending relationship vio-  
lence and sexual assault. They do this through their 24 hour crisis help  
line (314.531.2003), through their counseling and therapy services, and  
through their prevention education with in the community.  
[www.safeconnections.org](http://www.safeconnections.org)

The Men's Story Project is a replicable movement  
building project for positive masculinities. If you're  
interested in creating a new MSP production in your  
community, contact [jlehrer@mensstoryproject.org](mailto:jlehrer@mensstoryproject.org).

The Men's Story Project LIVE in St Louis will be an annual event.  
If you would like to be a part of the planning and production of  
future events, please contact [meinertj@gmail.com](mailto:meinertj@gmail.com)



**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20**  
**THURSDAY, MARCH 21**

**AB AUDITORIUM IN THE CHAIFETZ BUSINESS SCHOOL**

A storytelling and community dialogue project  
that seeks to shift the narrative about masculinity - inviting  
both courage and vulnerability to support health and equity

All contributions will go to Safe Connections  
to support their work ending relationship violence

**THE MEN'S STORY PROJECT**  
building strength, creating peace



# THE MEN'S STORY PROJECT

building strength, creating peace

Tweet about this event using #mensstoryproject; tag us on IG @mensstoryproj  
Go to [www.mensstoryproject.com](http://www.mensstoryproject.com) for more information on the MSP

Please no **flash** photography

## TONIGHT'S PROGRAM WILL FEATURE STORIES FROM THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:

Gregory Maurice is a poet, actor and creative. Born and raised in Saint Louis, MO, he dove into poetry in 2008, has been on 5 Saint Louis Poetry Slam Teams. He is working on his first one-man stage play soon to be debuting later this year titled "Black Man Come Back STL". About his story *Homeless*, Gregory says: "the Men's Story Project allowed me to express this story to a diverse group of men and to become inspired by the stories I heard from them."



Max Rigano, excited to be a part of the Men's Story Project this year, shares his story *Wish*, about his unconventional journey to boy and manhood. Max is originally from Dayton, OH. After moving to Saint Louis nearly 7 years ago, he has settled in with his wife and cats in their home in Tower Grove East. Max is the Saint Louis Community Manager for Yelp.



James Cooper is just a regular guy looking to do extraordinary things. He was born and raised in Nashville, TN, but since attending Washington University, he has called St. Louis his home. Between work and exercising he is trying to learn piano, catch up on Netflix, study for the GRE, and best of all, spending time with my amazing newlywed wife of nine months. James' Story *Every Man's Battle*, engages with one of James' struggles with masculinity.



Nate Buchholz is a sophomore at SLU studying Accounting and IT Management with a minor in Servant Leadership. His favorite hobbies include being a nerd about sports, deep diving into music (shout out to Frank Ocean), and spending time with his cats and dogs. Nate would like to thank all of his friends and family who empower him to share his story, *Breathing In Reality*. Thank you all so much for all that you've done for me in my life's journey, I wouldn't be here without you.



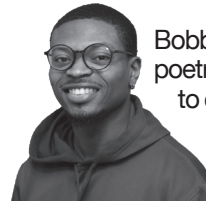
Joel Antony is a St Louis native, actor, and aspiring writer and model. One of the primary things that Joel loves about acting is that in many ways it's therapeutic for both the audience and himself. Joel is eternally grateful to be a part of the Men's Story Project where there is no set, no script, and no characters -- just his personal story. Joel shares his story *Different*.



John Carroll is a twin, and is originally from Omaha, NE. He moved to Saint Louis to attend SLU, and was part of the Micah House program. He's worked for political and educational non-profits in the past, and currently works at U.S. Bank. He (very occasionally) performs improv comedy. He really enjoyed the Men's Story Project in 2018, and is delighted (read: terrified) to be a part of it this year and share his story *How (Not) to Fit In*.

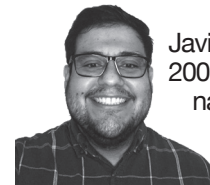
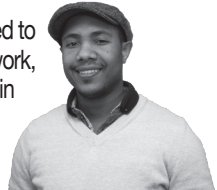


## A REPRESENTATIVE FROM SAFE CONNECTIONS SHARES ABOUT THEIR WORK AND MISSION WHICH THE MEN'S STORY PROJECT IS SUPPORTING TONIGHT.



Bobby "Phree" Williams Jr is from Alton, IL. During his free he enjoys writing poetry, painting, drawing and graphic design. He joined the Men's Story Project to connect with other Men to discuss and wrestle with what masculinity looks like today. Through his story, *Hide and Seek*, he hopes to encourage others to recognize that vulnerability is a strength not a weakness.

Tiger Rahman was born in El Paso, Texas and has lived all around the country. Determined to find ways to engage directly and more meaningfully in urban farming and food justice work, Tiger and his partner moved down to St. Louis in 2017. Tiger serves with City Year and in his remaining time is completing a Master's in Education. Tiger hopes that his story, *Tiger's Tale*, will add to the diversity of voices that break existing stereotypes about race and masculinity.



Javier Trejo was born and raised in Chicago and moved to St. Louis in 2007 to attend Saint Louis University. He's been here ever since taking names and kicking ass. His story *Good Guy?* is about past problematic/toxic behavior in a relationship and the healing he encounters through accountability.

Martell Stepney is a b-boy, comedian, poet, pod-caster and all around creative artist. He grew up on the south side of St. Louis. Marty teaches hip hop workshops around the St. Louis area and also organizes events such as Rock n Groove, S.L.U.M FEST, Floral Fresh, and Issa chat to name a few. His story *She's My Homie* is a quick reveal of words men often only speak behind closed doors.



Haydon Peterson is a college junior at Saint Louis university studying Philosophy and urban poverty studies. He is from the City of Chicago and is passionate about urban justice and renewal. Through his story, *Hiding Shame*, Haydon wants to share about the many ways he has hidden his truth and the growth and change that comes from speaking it.



Jermar Pery is a Philadelphia native who has lived in St. Louis for close to three years now. He will be graduating with an MSW from SLU this May. He mentors students at a North County High School. Jermar says "The MSP has opened me up to a newfound joy of writing and peeling back the layers of my own toxic masculinity. Jermar's story, *No Emotions From a King* is about defining his black male identity.



A group piece in which each of the storytellers makes a commitment will be the final "story".

**THERE IS A COMMUNITY DIALOGUE AFTER THE PRODUCTION. PLEASE STICK AROUND AFTER THE FINAL GROUP PIECE TO ASK PRESENTERS ANY QUESTIONS OR SHARE YOUR COMMENTS OR THOUGHTS.**

## ENJOY THE PRODUCTION!

## BRIEF INTERMISSION