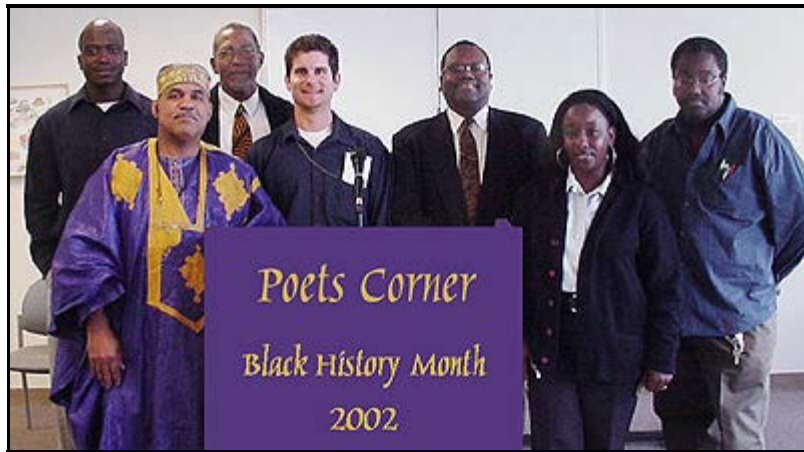


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Poets and others are, from left, Tai Alimi, DonCosta Seawell, Bill Satterfield, Andre Villasenor, Nery Watson, Vicky Lindsey and Winford Dennis. The noontime poetry event was held in honor of Black History Month. PHOTOS by AMY HOWELL

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### Poet's Corner Showcases Employees' Talent, Emotions

*In the Poet's Corner*

[Tomorrow](#) by Tai Alimi

[Butterfly](#) by Orleatha Craig

By AMY HOWELL

(March 1, 2002) Some 20 MTA employees gathered at noon, Wednesday, not for food, but for poetry, prose and motivational speeches.

Organized by the African American Employees Association (AAEA), the Poets Corner was one of the events held to celebrate Black History Month.

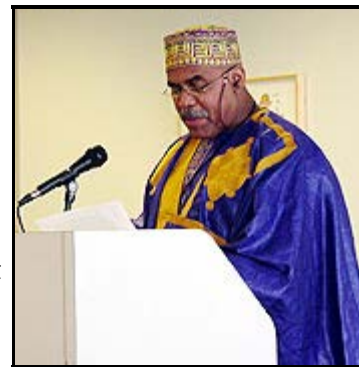
Tai Alimi was the first to brave the microphone, reciting "Tomorrow" from his collection, *Reflections*. Orleatha Craig followed, with a poem called "Butterfly" that she said "grew out of a great pain."

Thomas Traylor delivered an introspective prose piece and Andre Villasenor recited a poem called "Color is Empty."

Vicky Lindsey, who shared two poems, said she wrote the first, an introspective piece, "on the bus the other day." Her second poem, called "Love, Margaret," was in honor of a deceased homeless woman.

Winford Dennis delivered two pieces he described as "fantasies." DonCosta Seawell's piece was inspired by a television documentary he had seen about the Middle Passage, the slave ship voyage from Africa to parts of the Western Hemisphere.

After an invitation from AAEA Chief Financial Officer Nery Watson



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DonCosta Seawell recites an original piece, inspired by a television documentary about the Middle Passage.

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welcoming impromptu performances, Bill Satterfield recited Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech.

Alimi, Traylor and Dennis also gave 'encore' performances, which included Dennis' a cappella version of a piece he originally created as a poem.

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