

FEMME GAZE

SHE SPEAKS JAZZ



BLACK &
BROWN
FEMME
FILMS



April 25, 2026

Logan Center for the Arts

Screening Room 201

Presented by

BBFF (Black & Brown Femme Films)

All poets are accompanied by The Raven Trio

OUR POETS



Mayda del Valle

Chicago Poet Laureate Mayda del Valle is a multidisciplinary artist whose work, rooted in the Puerto Rican diaspora, blends poetry and performance to turn personal history into shared experience..

LEGACY



Ayana Melodia

Chicago-based poet and singer-songwriter Ayana Melodia explores memory, transformation, and femaledom through intimate performance and writing.

THE MISSING



Erika W/a K

Erika "W/ a K" is a Latine queer spoken word artist from Chicago's South Side whose work centers decolonization, self-liberation, and the celebration of our humanity.

INSPIRATION



Trinity Sapphire

Trinity Sapphire is a Chicago-born spoken word artist and poet from the West Side, blending art and activism.

IDENTITY

Themes of the Night
Legacy • Erasure • Joy • Identity

**F E M M E
S H E
S P E A K S
J A Z Z
G A Z E**

Introduction - Tenae Blackwin

**Welcome & Opening Remarks -
Vici Howard**

**Karen Flamenco - A short film by David
Cooper**

Narrator - Erika w/a K

Ayanna Melodia

THE MISSING

**CONTENT NOTE:
STRONG EMOTIONAL OUTBURST**

***Jazz Vocal Interlude*
Mira Raven**

Trinity Sapphire
IDENTITY

***Jazz Vocal Interlude*
Mira Raven**

Erika w/a K
INSPIRATION

***Jazz Vocal Interlude*
Mira Raven**

Mayda del Valle
LEGACY

Q&A with Mayda del Valle

All poets are accompanied by The Raven Trio

Femme Gaze is a multidisciplinary experience centering Black and Brown femme voices through poetry, music, and film.

This space holds stories often pushed to the margins.

Tonight's work moves through identity, legacy, joy, and resilience, while holding space for beauty, pleasure, desire, and the full spectrum of Black and Brown femme experience.

Through live performance and immersive visuals, Femme Gaze invites you to witness, reflect, and feel. This is more than a show; it's a space for presence, expression, and connection.

At BBFF,

S I N C E R E
T H A N K S T O O U R
S P O N S O R S

Angela Boyd

Gregory Bragg

Marta Collazo

Antonio Dickey

Carmen Edwards

M. Gothic

Gloria Guaderrama

Rabbi Malemba

Tiffany Taylor

Willie Tiggs

Linear Vining

Shirley Wallace

Jasmine Walls

Darryl Williams

Illinois Arts Council

Cookies & Conversations

The Esteem Awards

PrideIndex

Refreshments by Costco