

“**How** we have arrived to strengthen our cohesiveness as a team took resilience, perseverance... and copious amounts of sleepless nights. Those who discourage our ability to build movements and spark conversations are fearful of its impact. At the end of the day, we are invincible. We choose to stay unexpected, and no matter what, we cultivate a path that no one else has ever carved. Every year that I have been on this team, I am rebuilt to withstand even more difficult hardships.”

“**The** time I have been a part of *WordSpeak* has been a learning and influential time spent. I have always wanted to stitch the hearts of my audience with a story to embody them and see teardrops linger from their ecstatic eyes on what a young black man can do. I wasn't the best there is... Hell, I was leaning under the cliff of average, but I have gained essentials and tools from these amazing team poets near my side.”

“**This** year is so bittersweet. It's my last year on the team but it feels like my first was yesterday. If not for the tremendous growth I have gained, I would not be so willing to put myself out there. But because of the safety and love I have experienced throughout the last four years, I have decided to make of every situation, a new stage, and I will step up to every mic and speak my truth.”

“**Being** on Tigertail *WordSpeak* has been a privilege, an artistic obligation, and overall an experience. From *WordSpeak* I now measure my life as before and after.”

“**Journeys** don't happen overnight they happen over Arepas!”

“**This** year is providing me with a new dynamic. I am growing in all different directions and I am grateful for the person I will become at the end of this year.”



From team
members/