

Edwin Santana/Micaela Rufus  
Performing Hartford

**Poetry is...**

You like the rhythm?  
Or the wordplay?  
It's a simple algorithm  
So what do you say?

Personally, I can't complain  
Poetry is stumbling in the dark...  
Trying to find the words that make me sound sane  
Hoping to find my spark

Poetry is ME.  
Except my words are not valued in society  
But maybe  
If I put them together in a stanza I will gain your propriety

If our leaders were poets  
We'd live in a utopia  
AMERICA, there'd be nothing below it

Poetry is alive.  
It lives in our actions  
Every single time, it will thrive  
Steering us clear of any distractions

Poetry is change.  
Starting with one small thought in one brain  
Leading to a burst of new ideas within our range  
In Frog Hollow or in your lane

Poetry is hope.  
Hope that is never meant to be lost  
It gives us a way to cope

At no cost

I am only your guide  
I can't tell you how to feel  
For I can only provide  
My goodwill

Once again, poetry is change  
Yet it is also constant, living, and breathing,  
I know this sounds strange  
But try to dissect the meaning

Poetry is ME  
Yet you are poetry too  
This is the way things should be  
In the local, national, and global community for me and you

## Dance is...

We're all just dancing through life  
At times feeling stressed  
Continuing to dance will free us from our strife  
And we'll pass this test, no longer compressed

Arms outstretched, toes pointed  
Throughout this dance  
To end my disappointment  
I'm thankful for this chance

Dance is poetry in motion  
You heard words from the poet  
Now you will feel my movements like waves from the ocean  
If you didn't know it before, now you know it

Dance lives in my community  
And yours too  
Dance is unity  
Bridging the gaps between the two

Dance is our universal language  
No matter your background  
It can free you from anguish  
And bring everyone around

Whether stomping or prancing  
It doesn't matter  
As long as you're dancing  
Flexed foot or pointed, I prefer the latter

What do you prefer?  
There's ballet, contemporary, liturgical and hip-hop  
What do you prefer?  
Right there.. It doesn't even stop

Because there's also african, jazz, tap  
And more!  
People dancing all over the map  
You must explore!

Let's start with Hartford alone  
In this one place dance takes many forms  
Sageseeker productions is infamously known  
You must see them perform

Dance is on our side  
It is never wrong  
You're a dancer without a guide  
I wish you knew this all along

So tell me, would you like to dance?