

Erika Wade

# Spoken Word

Erika says that writing is her “homegirl.” Without it, she simply wouldn’t be herself. She’s particularly drawn to the emotive, theatrical and rhythmic nature of Spoken Word. As a ninth grader, she transferred to the Alabama School of Fine Arts to be able to have “intensive care for [her] art.”

When performing, she knows she’s hitting the mark when the audience sways along with her. This February, she won the city-wide Word Up! poetry contest for the second consecutive year. Following in the footsteps of other ASFA grads, Erika hopes to go on and “do big things.”

**“If you’re not confident as a writer— Spoken Word aside—no one else is going to believe in your work if you don’t.”**



Photo by Stephen DeVries