VIDEO PIANO SLAM

In the Spring of 2009 "PIANO SLAM The Music Speaks" will be performed by three 2008 Dranoff winning teams - Silivanova & Purzyhinsky, Susan & Sarah Wang and Piano Duo Humburger. The Dranoff International Two Piano Competition gives the world's top prize in duo pianism for young professional artists. These artists are internationally renowned and at the peak of their careers. The poets are referred by Mitchell Kaplan, President of the American Book Sellers Association and Founder of the Miami Book Fair.

"PIANO SLAM The Music Speaks" will present 5 contemporary, classical, and jazz concerts in Liberty City Schools: students will each receive a CD with a Dranoff work - "Lilliburlero Variations" by Sir Richard Rodney Bennett. Poetry writing workshops will be held in the schools. The cross inspiration, structure, and function of music and poetry and how to compose a poem based on music will be taught. Dranoff will hold a competition for students' poems based on "Lilliburlero Variations." Awards will be given for the best poems in each school at a community concert for students and their families. Concerts by Dranoff will be performed at Brownsville, Edison, Drew, and Mann Middle Schools March 24th – April 3rd, 2009. Poetry workshops in English classes will be during the week of April 13th thru the 24th. Student poetry competition entries are due May 6th and "PIANO SLAM The Music Speaks" community concert and awards ceremony will be at the Knight Concert Hall at the Adrienne Arsht Performing Arts Center on May 1st, 2009. General assemblies will be held for concerts at each school and poetry workshops will be held in the school's English classes.

The poetry competition will be open to all of the 5 schools' students. "PIANO SLAM The Music Speaks" community concert will be free to the children and their families from each school. The children from these 4 Liberty City Middle Schools will attend live in-school concerts by Dranoff artists where each student will receive a CD of the "Lilliburlero Variations." School administrators will select 400 or more students in each school whose English classes will receive a visiting poet. Nationally renowned poets will teach poetry writing workshops in their English classes.

Students will be invited to enter a poetry competition by composing a poem based on the Dranoff work which they will have heard live in the concerts: competing for a $100 and $50 prize in each school and a $500 "Best of" contest prize. Students and their family will be invited to attend a free community concert where students will read their prizes and receive their cash prizes.