Hakim Bellamy was named Albuquerque’s first poet laureate on April 15. Bellamy says the distinction is one of the highest honors he could receive.

**VIVID DREAMS**

New poet laureate Hakim Bellamy has a clear focus on where he’s headed.

By Anthony Gerace

**ARTS**

THE SUNDAY JOURNAL

Hakim Bellamy grew up in a small town in the Midwest. He learned to write poetry in middle school. His parents encouraged him to write, and he began experimenting with different forms of poetry. He attended college and received a degree in English. He has published several books of poetry and is known for his unique style and themes.

Bellamy’s poetry often deals with themes of identity, race, and social justice. He has performed his work in various venues, including schools, universities, and community centers.

His poetry has been featured in several anthologies, and he has won numerous awards. Bellamy is a member of the National Association of Black Poets and is a mentor to aspiring poets.

Bellamy believes that poetry is a powerful tool for change. He uses his poetry to raise awareness about social issues and to inspire others to take action.

**Albuquerque Journal**

Albuquerque, May 6, 2012

Poet laureate a ‘dream capitalist’

By PAUL FE

Albuquerque’s new poet laureate, Hakim Bellamy, says after the rigorous application process, there were still unexpected surprises. The criteria for the position included a commitment to sharing poetry with underserved communities and serving as an ambassador for poetry in Albuquerque.

Bellamy says he was inspired by the city’s diversity and the rich cultural heritage.

“Albuquerque is a city with a rich history and a diverse population,” Bellamy said. “I was drawn to the city’s energy and the opportunity to work with such a diverse community.

“Being a poet has always been a dream of mine,” Bellamy said. “I’m honored to be named the city’s first poet laureate.”

Bellamy plans to use his position to promote poetry and encourage young people to explore the art form.

“I want to inspire young people to see poetry as a way to express themselves,” Bellamy said. “I hope to create opportunities for them to explore their creativity through poetry.”

Bellamy will work with local schools and community organizations to promote poetry and encourage young writers.

“I want to create a poetry slam for the city,” Bellamy said. “I want to help young people discover the power of poetry.”

Bellamy is currently working on a collection of poems that will be published later this year.

“I’m excited to start working on my new collection,” Bellamy said. “I want to share my love of poetry with as many people as possible.”

Bellamy was born and raised in Albuquerque and is a graduate of the University of New Mexico. He has taught poetry workshops and has been published in various anthologies.

Bellamy is also a member of the Albuquerque Poetry Slam, which is the city’s monthly poetry slam event.

“I am honored to be named the poet laureate of Albuquerque,” Bellamy said. “I am excited to work with the city and its residents to promote poetry and celebrate the city’s diverse cultural heritage.”

Bellamy’s appointment as poet laureate is a testament to the city’s commitment to the arts and culture.

“I am thrilled to have Hakim Bellamy join our ranks of esteemed poet laureates,” said Mayor Tim Keller. “He is a gifted writer and a passionate advocate for poetry. His appointment is a testament to the city’s commitment to the arts and culture.”