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SAB brings Ace Boogie's hip-hop to campus

[Jeff Jones](#), Staff Writer



Photo by: [Jeremy Ward](#)

On behalf of an event put on by the Student Activities Board (SAB), Cleveland street poet Ace Boogie performed on Sunday, Sept. 7, in Anderson Auditorium. The small, but lively crowd welcomed Ace to the stage where he, DJ Drummer and singer Egypt entertained the crowd filled with people who followed their performances and those who had never seen their performances before.

Ace Boogie, whose real name is Aaron Epps, has preformed all over the country in places like New York and Cleveland and has appeared on such television shows like HBO's "Def Jam Poetry" and BET's "Sound Stage." Ace Boogie also works at The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame as a member of the Hip-Hop Committee, and where he also holds poetry sessions.

Ace, who met up with DJ Drummer in a New York club, and Egypt, who he met at a convention in Ohio, form what gives Ace extra emphasis to his poetry. DJ Drummer mixes the beats for Ace's lyrics, while Egypt adds the female voice to hold pitches with a strong, rich sound.

Ace is looking to create "a new definition of hip-hop" with his quote of "Rap is Poetry." Ace reads his poems to make the stage appear as if one is sitting in a

coffee shop environment and also incorporates his poetry in the form of rap with mixed hip-hop beats.

"Some people know what they are getting into when they are reading poetry, which makes some people shy away from me, but I want to perform my poetry my way. So if you just wanted to hear hip-hop you would get that, but you will also here me just read some poems. People say that I can't do what I do, but I've been doing it," Ace said.

Before the performance, people were asked to come and sit on stage and watch a personal and up-close performance. The energy from the performance was transported from Ace to the crowd. People in the crowd were clapping and moving to the beats of the music.

"I get my energy from the people and I don't care if there are 500 people or five people in front of me. If I can see one person really into what I am doing, then I go to them and get my energy."

"Rap is Poetry" is the quote of the night and was shown throughout the show. Ace not only rapped, but he also did some reading of poems and Ace was not afraid to change the show from one art form to the other.

"I thought the show was great. It was something different on campus, and hopefully we will have more of this type of music," said sophomore Daniel Padilla.

With a new album coming out on Oct. 7, entitled, "anewdefinitionoflove," he gave a sneak peak at what would be on the album. Ace was not afraid to use different music styles from people he idolizes, such as Jim Morrison from The Doors, to incorporate into his music and poetry.

"I thought the campus here was very nice and friendly, and they said they would come to the show and they did. I hope that we can have the chance to come back and perform again so that maybe we could get more people to come," Ace said.

Shows like this are events that SAB wants to bring in more often to give students a more diverse option for entertainment.

"SAB is continually working to reach a diverse crowd by bringing different types of events to campus," said SAB President Gina Graber.

Ace Boogie has released five albums, to find out more about his merchandise or more general information about Ace Boogie, go to his website at <http://www.aceboogie.com>.

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