



**Tweet it!**

.@FirstPersonArts' wildly popular anti-Valentine's Day Ex-Files #StorySlam returns for its 7th year on 2/14!

<https://www.universe.com/events/7th-annual-ex-files-storyslam-tickets-N1Y6R9?ref=Twitter>

**For Immediate Release**

**January 6, 2017**

Contact: Becca Jennings, Marketing and Communications Manager  
[bjennings@firstpersonarts.org](mailto:bjennings@firstpersonarts.org), 267.402.2055

**The Anti-Valentine's Day StorySlam Returns for its Seventh Year**  
*Philadelphia tells its true tales of love lost at one of the biggest, most popular, and outrageously funny storytelling competitions of the year*

**Event Details**

First Person Arts "Ex-Files" StorySlam  
Hosted by Chris Lundy  
Punch Line Philly (1004 Canal St., Philadelphia) *NEW VENUE!*  
Tuesday, February 14, 2017 | Doors at 6PM, Show at 7PM

**Tickets**

**On Sale Friday, January 6**

Before Feb. 1: \$10 (\$7 for FPA members)

Starting Feb. 1: \$14 (\$10 for FPA members)

[www.universe.com/events/exfileslam](http://www.universe.com/events/exfileslam)

PHILADELPHIA— **First Person Arts (FPA)** presents an alternative to Valentine's Day at its seventh annual "Ex-Files" StorySlam at Punch Line Philly.

Hundreds of friends, couples, and first dates come out to celebrate the most romantic day of the year with an evening of real life stories about breakups and heartbreak. Audience contestants take to the stage with their best tales on the theme ranging from the sweet to the sad, the hilarious to the ridiculous. The winning storyteller walks away with a \$100 prize and a slot in the Grand Slam lineup at the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual First Person Arts Festival (November 2017). One lucky audience member will leave with a naughty raffle basket donated by **The Pleasure Chest**.

"This is by far one of my favorite StorySlams of the year," says host **Chris Lundy**. "We all love hearing about when love goes *right*. But what people love hearing about even more than that is when love goes *wrong*! Still, if audience members bring me flowers and chocolates, I will accept shamelessly."

"Not all love stories have a happy ending despite what the fairy tales tell us," says FPA Executive Director **Jamie J. Brunson**. "But that doesn't mean they can't be fun! No matter where we come from, we can all relate to the tale of the awful blind date, the

relationship your friends will never let you live down, or the one who got away. Our audiences relate too, and I believe that's why this show always sells out."

StorySlams are popular storytelling competitions where audience members share true tales from their lives that relate to the night's theme. Gutsy audience members sign up at the door to tell true stories on the theme of the night. Of those who sign up, ten storytellers are randomly selected to take to the stage with their most outrageous, heartfelt, and hilarious tales. Judges, also selected from the audience, determine the StorySlam winner, who is awarded a \$100 prize, and a chance to compete in the season finale Grand Slam.

### **ABOUT THE HOST**

**Chris Lundy** is a published writer, and was voted Audience Favorite at every FPA StorySlam he ever attended as a contestant, including the Season 15 FPA Grand Slam. Chris has performed alongside celebrity storytellers including Grammy Award-winning recording artist Bilal, and hip-hop artist Freeway in BEyond Expectations: Engaging Males of Color as part of the 14th Annual First Person Arts Festival Presented by PNC Arts Alive. Chris is one of the two principal hosts of First Person Arts StorySlams along with comedian Chip Chantry.

### **First Person Arts StorySlams Dec. '16 – May '17 New Dates, Venues, and Themes:**

**Jan. 17 @ FringeArts: Caught!**  
**Feb. 14 @ Punch Line Philly: Ex Files**  
**Mar. 14 @ Punch Line Philly: Aliens**  
**April 4 @ FringeArts: I Dare You**  
**May 23 @ FringeArts: Battle Scars**

*May-Oct. Schedule to be announced in April.*

*First Person Arts StorySlams are presented by Harmelin Media.*

### **ABOUT FIRST PERSON ARTS**

First Person Arts is Philadelphia's premiere storytelling organization and the producers of Philadelphia's premiere StorySlams, the Annual First Person Arts Festival, and community engagement Applied Storytelling Programs. FPA believes that everyone has a story to tell, and that sharing our stories connects us with each other and the world. From such artistic luminaries as novelist Toni Morrison, activist Angela Davis, Janeane Garofalo, to everyday people, FPA presents a diverse array of storytellers in order to transform the drama of real life into memoir and documentary art.

firstpersonarts.org | @firstpersonarts | #StorySlams | #ExFilesSlam

##