

SABRIN NUR

Community Scholar • Creative Catalyst • Actor • Writer • Poet • Singer-Songwriter • Rapper

✉ sabrinnur1010@gmail.com

Education

Concordia University-Saint Paul – Individually Designed Major in Political Science and Sociology

August 2017 - April 2021

- Study Abroad in Zhuhai, China (2019)
- Ignite Leadership Program Graduate
- Student Senator in Student Government (2017 – 2020)
- Service Trip attendee to Robin's Nest Children's Home, Montego Bay, Jamaica.
- Service Trip attendee to Houston, Hurricane Harvey Relief

Washburn High School – Diploma

August 2015 – June 2017

- Black Box Theatre
 - actor, writer, performer

Continued Education

- Writing & Storytelling Workshops, The Loft (2023–2024)
- Pottery Wheel-throwing MPS Community Ed (2024-2025)
- Music Production, Slam Academy (2025)

Major Works & Select Performances

- *Dayax Iyo Diri Markay Kulmaan (Where the Moon Meets Spica: Star Wisdom)* – November 2025
 - Collaborating with the University of Minnesota - Bell Museum (2024 - Present)
 - Lead researcher, writer, presenter and co-producer of live planetarium show based on Somali astronomy.
- *Your Hello to My Goodbye* – Play, MN Fringe Festival (Aug 1-10, 2025)
 - Writer, Sound Designer and Producer
- *Weaving Abundance* – Headlining Performer, by Ifrah Mansour (August 2025)
- *A Cappella & Traditional Somali Music Performances* – Performer
 - Spearwave Vol. 4 Opening, Soomaal House of Art
 - Aragti Wadaag Exhibition Talk, Soomaal House of Art
 - The Cedar Cultural Centre (May 2025)
 - Somali Summer Festival (June 2025)
- *Poetry Readings & Musical Performances* – Performer.

- Wilder Buffalo (2021)
- The Buffalo Show, Bryant Lake Bowl Theatre (2023)
- Images of Africa, Minneapolis Institute of Art (2024)
- Frogtown Community Forum (2025)
- *Slam Academy Rhythm Showcase* – Performer (May 2024)
- *QUDDUS MASKAX Debut & Live Shows* – Performer (2022–2024)

Works In Progress

- Reviving Somali Star Songs (*community-based music project*)
 - A multidisciplinary music project engaging elders, museums, and community spaces to revive Somali astronomical knowledge through song, workshops, and live performances, culminating in a free album and integration into a planetarium score. Supported by the Creative Individuals Grant (FY 2026).
- Nafta Nafis (*Unburdening the Spirit*) | Quarter Gallery, Minneapolis, MN
 - Upcoming Inshallah exhibit - May 2026
- Untitled Poetry Manuscript: Themes of grief, roots & renewal (2020–Present)
 - Finalised writing in Oct, 2025.
 - Currently editing the manuscript myself and preparing submissions to publishers.

Professional and Leadership Experience

AmeriCorps: College Possible, Twin Cities, MN — College Access Coach

August 2024 - July 2026

- Supported college access and success for high school juniors and seniors through mentorship, academic guidance, and postsecondary preparation.
- Year 1 (2024-2025): Served at Southwest High School with a caseload of 30 students, providing individualised support for ACT prep, college applications, and financial aid.
- Year 2 (2025-2026): Serving in College Possible's hybrid program, mentoring 60 students across rural Minnesota and non-metro schools through a blended in-person and virtual model.

The Dial Group, North Minneapolis — Hip Hop Program Manager & Instructor

October 2023 - March 2024

- Build an after-school curriculum for middle and high school students to learn beat-making and lyric writing
- Hold classroom sessions and facilitate learning after school on weekdays
- Engage students in community-building activities
- Assist students in developing musical projects and guide them to completion.

Oyate Hotanin, Saint Paul — Artist, Marketing Coordinator, and Collective Leadership Assistant

August 2021 - September 2023

- Organising an event called 'Flower Power'. A collective art piece made by the community comprised of flowers to honour those impacted by systems of punishment.
- Organising team communication and scheduling
- Participation in Transforming System Together meetings in Ramsey County, which focus on reform.
- Received training in circle keeping. Participant and member of an independent, multicultural community group called Repair Circle that has worked intensely for the past two years to surface a human-based response to social struggles through restorative practices, which are re-infused with Dakota and Indigenous methods.
- Writing the monthly newsletter and keeping our community informed about Oyate Hotanin
- Updating the blog on the website with interviews, informational, and opinion articles. Created and curated a monthly series, 'Poet of the Month'

The Somali Museum of Minnesota, Minneapolis — Education Program Coordinator & Gallery Guide

May 2022 - April 2023

- Be well-versed in East African ancient & contemporary history
- Help community members and students looking for resources on Somali history & culture
- Give guided tours of the museum for private scheduled & walk-ins.
- Organise, schedule, and run programs/events with community partners
- Lead in creating, curating, and planning exhibits
- Research and write educational and informative historical & cultural essays
- Creating Marketing plans to increase audience engagement
- Prepare or assist in preparing grant requests and funding continuation from outside sponsors

Pathways to Community, Bloomington — Direct Support Professional

October 2020 - May 2022

- Support individuals with daily needs, goals, and activities
- Administer medications
- Cook meals and help with cleaning
- Transportation to appointments and community events using my vehicle

International Institute of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN — Immigration Services Intern

May - Sept 2020

- Supported caseworkers serving immigrant and refugee clients through intake, translation support, and resource navigation.
- Assisted clients with housing, employment, education, and immigration applications.
- Maintained communication with clients and prepared documentation, case notes, and research to support legal processes.

Public Art

- *Flower Power, Co-Creator.* Public art installation at Indian Mounds Park in Saint Paul, MN (2021-2024)

- *Collaborative Flower Power Installation*, Artist. Wakpa Triennial, Saint Paul, Minnesota. (August 2023)
 - Collaborative installation focusing on themes of ecological healing and community resilience.

Hosting & Curation

- Poetry Night - Soomaal House of Art (November 2022)
 - Curated and hosted as part of a larger conversation around Oral tradition.
- Poet of the Month - Oyate Hotanin (2021-2023)
 - Founded, curated and promoted monthly online poet features, interviews, and readings.
- Poetry in Nature - Somali Museum (July 2023-2025)
 - Founder & facilitator of seasonal outdoor poetry series exploring climate grief, cultural memory, and ecological connection.
- Dhaxal Suge - The Cedar Cultural Centre (June 2025)
 - Master of Ceremonies for the Somali Dance Troupe at their Spring Showcase.
- Artist Talk - Soomaal House of Art (July 2025)
 - Led a closing-residency Artist Talk for the Aragti Wadaag exhibition, facilitating community conversations about process, themes, and impact.
- Artists Weathering Together —Neighbourhood BBQ and Poetry Gathering (August 2025)
 - Funded by Springboard for the Arts (Aug - Dec, 2025)
 - Climate justice-based project centring the North Minneapolis Lovell Square Park
 - Organised, curated, hosted.

Publications (links provided where available)

- Nur, S. *A Conversation with Laura LaBlanc: The Birth of IN Equality*. Oyate Hotanin, July 11, 2022. <https://oyatehotanin.org/2022/07/11/a-conversation-with-laura-lablanc-the-birth-of-in-equality/>
- Nur, S. *p.o.v...of Sabrina: Flower Power*. Oyate Hotanin, September 3, 2022. <https://oyatehotanin.org/2022/09/03/p-o-v-of-sabrina-flower-power/>
- Nur, S. *The Significance of Oral Tradition*. Somali Museum, November 11, 2022.
- Nur, S. *A.M. Autumn Reflections*. Oyate Hotanin, November 4, 2022. <https://oyatehotanin.org/2022/11/04/a-m-autumn-reflections/>
- Nur, S. *p.o.v...of Sabrina: '37 ° (WHY?!)*. Oyate Hotanin, January 1, 2023. <https://oyatehotanin.org/2023/01/01/p-o-v-of-sabrina-37-why/>
- Nur, S. & Pomeroy, C. *A Conversation with Russel Balenger: Founder of Circle of Peace*. Oyate Hotanin, February 3, 2023. <https://oyatehotanin.org/2023/02/03/a-conversation-with-russel-balenger-the-founder-of-the-circle-of-peace-movement/>
- Nur, S. *Reflections on Art as Liberation: A Journey Towards Collective Healing*. Somali Museum, June 16, 2024.

Apprenticeship & Collaborations

- Soul Speak Expressions with Tamiko French, Sound Healer—CTAA certified (Aug – Dec 2023)
- QUDDUS MASKAX: six performances, curation & production (2022–2024)

- Founder, Writer, Producer, Musician
- *New Seeds*: short spoken-word film (March - December 2024)
 - Writer, Director, Producer and Performer

Residencies

- RHYTHM: Artist-in-Residence, Face2Face SafeZone (Jan–May 2024)
- The Saint Paul Get Down (Summer 2024)
- Public Functionary Music Incubator Residency Program (Jul–Dec 2025)
 - Studio Arisaema
- The Qalanjo Project: Cinema Bridge Fellowship (July 2025)
- Soomaal House of Art: Aragti Wadaag Residency (August 2025-June 2026)
 - In partnership with the University of Minnesota Art Department

Awards

- Creative Individuals Grant FY 2026
 - Grantee
- Your Hello To My Goodbye - August 2025
 - Audience Pick (most popular), Venue Pick (sold the most tickets), and Spirit of Fringe Awards
- Dean’s List - 6 semesters
- Ignite Leadership Award - 2021
- Political Science Student of the Year - 2019, 2020

Languages

- Fluent in Somali, Swahili, and English
- Elementary Arabic & Mandarin

Press Highlights

- *TPT - MN Original* (2016): Washburn Bl
- ack Box Acting Program
- *Racial Reckoning* (2021): Collective honours victims of the criminal justice system with flowers.
- *Sahan Journal* (2023): Somali artists celebrate a rich oral tradition
- *MPR News* (2024): 21 Minnesotans share their climate solutions on a national stage
- *Sahan Journal* (2025): Play exploring Somali identity, family ties debuts at Minnesota Fringe Festival.
- *Pioneer Press* (2025): “Your Hello To My Goodbye” Is a Tender, Poetic Family Story.
- *Star Tribune* (2025): Your Hello To My Goodbye – Twin Cities Things To Do.
- *Star Tribune* (2025): 9 shows not to miss at Minnesota Fringe Festival.