Timaj Garad (she/her) is an Ethiopian Toronto-based Creative Consultant, Arts-Educator, Community Organizer, and multi-disciplinary storyteller, using poetry, theatre, and music to bring her stories to life. Her art is autobiographical, working at the intersections of a black Muslim woman challenging injustice, unearthing truths, and healing. As an award-winning Artist & Educator, Timaj has graced over 300 stages and facilitated several arts-based workshops.

Timaj is known for creating and leading community arts programs such as Stellar (R)evolution: a poetry & theatre series for Black Muslimahs, Project Heartwork a multi-arts wellness retreat series for Muslimah change-makers, and LUMINOUS Fest - Canada's first Black Muslim Arts Festival, to name a few. She was recently honored as a finalist for 2018 Artist of the Year at the Muslim Awards for Excellence (MAX), and named as one 8 Muslim Youth Making an Impact by CBC in 2018. In 2012, Timaj was named the City of Waterloo’s Top 40 under 40 for her community leadership. In 2018, Timaj designed, implemented, and hosted a national storytellers’ retreat for Canadian Muslim Storytellers called Beyond the Single Story for the National Council of Canadian Muslims (NCCM). Most recently, she co-founded an arts-based wellness retreat series for Muslim Women called The Sisters' Retreat where she facilitates 'Tales & Tapestries' - a reflective writing workshop - as part of the organizations’ flagship Panama retreat.

Timaj is currently living in Toronto, sharing her poetry on stages across the province, continuing to organize arts events and showcases, and working on new music. Her new single and music video “Black Gold” was released this month and she will be releasing her debut EP ‘Blooming at the Mouth’ on March 5th. Timaj believes in the transformative power of the arts to build capacity and strengthen communities. You can follow her work at timajgarad.com

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