

NATIONAL POETRY MONTH



Ken Lamberton

Tuesday, April 4th - 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Reading and Q&A

Copper Queen Library

6 Main St, Bisbee, AZ 85603 - (520) 432-4232



Sacred Journeys: A Mobile Poetry Workshop with Jaclyn Roessel

Saturday, April 8th - 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Community Workshop and Performance along the Valley Metro Light Rail

***First & Last Stop - Arizona Humanities**

1242 N. Central Avenue Phoenix, AZ 85004 - (602) 257-0335



"Poetry is dead. Long live poetry" Workshop at the Wickenburg Literary Festival with Jake Friedman

Saturday, April 8th - 1:15 - 2:45 p.m.

Wickenburg Public Library

164 E Apache St - Wickenburg, AZ 85390 - (928) 684-2665

Supported by Arizona Humanities



Poets Logan Phillips & Roanna Shebala

Thursday, April 13th - 5:30-9:30 p.m.

Community Writing Workshop + Open Mic with Poets on the Rez

Gila Community College-San Carlos Campus

Tonto Street and Mesa Drive - San Carlos, AZ 85550

(928) 475-5981



Annual Spoken Futures Showcase with Tucson Youth Poetry Slam

Saturday, April 15th - 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Tucson Youth Poetry Slam Championships and public performances including Denver Youth Poet Laureate Toluwanimi Oluwafunmilayo Obiwole

University of Arizona - Student Union Gallagher Theater

1303 E University Blvd, Tucson, AZ 85719

Supported in part by Arizona Humanities



Hop, Skip and Jump into Poetry

Thursday, April 27th - 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Interactive poetry activities for families and children

Mountain View Elementary School

801 W. Peoria, AZ - Phoenix, AZ 85029



Learn more about National Poetry Month programs at www.azhumanities.org or 602-257-0335.

#NPM17



During National Poetry Month (#npm17) engagement activities, you will notice that a lot of the prompts or tips we received from our #npm17 poets all involve focusing on our senses. The programming staff here at Arizona Humanities asks you during this month to find time to slow down and do that very thing - focus on our senses. In a world where we are pulled, literally, in a million directions, finding time to slow down and develop "trail eyes", to experience the moment is almost impossible if not fleeting. We cannot be our better selves if we don't find time to reflect in what is around us now...at this very moment.

In most parts of the country, spring has heightened our senses and made us start to "feel some kind of way". Here in Arizona, we encourage you to take a moment to write about spring. Visit your local library and check out the nature section, maybe grabbing the National Audubon's Field Guide to the Southwestern States as ways to identify the unknown, maybe even finding new descriptive words to describe the everyday things. We actually just want you to take this time to slow down, write a poem about the times, and tuck it away to be read in 2018. See how far we have come in those months and examine what mattered to us then, and then begin again.

Share your poems with @AZhumanities on twitter, facebook, and Instagram. Tag your poems with #azhumanities #npm17 to be featured on Arizona Humanities social media.

Ken Lamberton Writing Prompts: April 1 - 6

April 1st

Write a poem about April. What does April look, feel, smell like? What memories do you associate with the month?

April 2nd

Write a poem using the following words: crepuscular, mockingbird, lampshade, ordinary, and unconvinced.

April 3rd

Choose a line from a favorite poem and use it as the first line in a new poem. When you finish the poem, remove the first line.

April 4th

Write a poem from the perspective of a family pet or an animal you admire. Try to use all the senses. Invent a new sense. For example: a kingsnake in the garden that sees in ultraviolet light or can taste the color orange.

April 5th

Write a poem in the form of a letter from your future self.

April 6th

Find an ordinary object like a brick. Take a few minutes and write down every word you can think of that describes the object. Use all your senses. Now write a poem about the object without using those words.

National Poetry Month Writing Prompts

Jaclyn Roessel Writing Prompts: April 7 – 9

April 7th

Each of us has a relative (or close family friend) in our lives whose story of perseverance, overcoming tragedy or trial has helped us to move forward. What if you could send them a letter to thank them? What would you share with them?

April 8th

Make a list of three favorite items which give you pleasure. Take 5 minutes to write a love letter to this item never disclosing what the item is, only descriptions of it.

April 9th

Carry your practice outside...practice 2 minutes of deep listening - close your eyes and observe the sounds around you. Open your eyes and write about the sensation of these sounds, what you heard and how you felt listening to the space, world around you.

Roanna Shebala Writing Prompts: April 10 - 15

April 10th

What is your mother's Maiden name? What does it mean? What is the origin of her name? What does it mean to you?

April 11th

What is your father's last name? What does it mean? What is the origin of his name? What does it mean to you?

April 12th

What do you call your Maternal Grandfather (papa, Granddaddy, grandpa,)? What does it mean? How did you come to call him that name? What does he mean to you?

April 13th

What do you call your Paternal Grandfather (papa, grandda, grandfather)? What does it mean? How did you come to call him that name? What does he mean to you?

April 14th

What smells remind you of your parents? What makes you like them?

April 15th

What smells remind you of you? What makes you?

Tucson Youth Poetry Slam Writing Prompts: April 16 - 21

April 16th

Using the "Starter Pack" meme, create an "I Am" poem.

April 17th

Write an ode about your favorite desert plant.

National Poetry Month Writing Prompts

April 18th

Envision what a world without borders looks like it & write it down.

April 19th

Using the letters of your first name, write a poem describing your city.

April 20th

Write a list poem about the things/people that bring you joy.

April 21st

Describe things your family tree is made of. From that list, write a poem.

Jake Friedman Writing Prompts: April 22 -25

April 22nd

Follow the sounds. Poetry is essentially matching content to form, semantics to phonetics, meanings to sound. Writing poetry is about working with the material quality of language—the affordances of an object, its texture, shape and weight. Feel the way words fit in your mouth—how they move across the tongue, the lips, the teeth, the throat, the jaw, the eyes, the cheeks—how they all fit together. It's a very physical process, a terrain or a landscape. Allow pronunciation to serve as the path through which you can navigate it.

April 23rd

Find something you've been thinking about for a really long time. It could be something that bothers you, something you're obsessed with, something that gives you weird, unexplainable pleasure. Lean into the unknown and the uncomfortable. Interrogate it. Think about what you desire. What you're ashamed of. Something that makes you angry. Our thoughts and emotions are not pure subjective experiences. We think and feel things through a lens of culture—the way we were raised, maybe, what we see on TV. Be honest with yourself. Don't be afraid. Poetry is a way to reveal structures of thought. And once you've identified the structure, you can build on to it or tear it down.

April 24th

Think about the line. Be intentional in your line breaks. Think about what kinds of subversive or alternative meanings might be hidden in your language, that you can bring out with a line break. In an ideal poem, each line should be able to be read independently of the sentence of which it's actually a part, to be meaningful on its own—to refer, somehow to some larger meaning in the text. Think about grammatical structures, sentence trees—you can snip cleanly at the new branches, you can break something in half, but be deliberate in where you decide to cut. You're shaping something. You're working with a living thing.

April 25th

Try to avoid abstract experiences or universal statements. This is not to say that you shouldn't try to write something universal, that people can connect with—this is what we're all trying to do—only that you can't do it with generalizations. Poetry is like looking at the world through a pinhole. You have a very small space in which to work. Focus on one particular instance—one emotion, one story—and follow it though. Be truthful.

Arizona Humanities Writing Prompts: April 26 - 30

April 26th

Think about your most personal memento. If an archaeologist were to find that memento, what would it be? What does that object say about you or what does the object mean to you? Is it connected to a loved one or a favorite memory? What story could this object tell the archaeologist about the person who used to own it? Write a poem that describes this object and its history behind it.

April 27th

Think of a place that you have never been to before and write a poem about it. What would that place look like? Would it be hot or cold? Secluded or crowded? Is this a place you would go to to escape, relax, have fun or reminisce? Who or what would you take with you to this place if you could never go back to where you came from? Describe what you see, hear and smell. How does this place make you feel (comforted, excited, emotional, sad)? Does this place already exist or is it somewhere completely new?

April 28th

For the last three days of #npm17 wake up at sunrise and capture what the waking of the morning feels like by writing a 16-line poem that does not rhyme. Focus on how long it takes for the sun to expose itself in full to you. What does it remind you of, how does it make you feel, give us at least 2 metaphors/similes that aren't cliché. Next, focus on the sounds around you. Does the traffic hide the songs of the many birds? Is there a certain type of bird that sings louder than the others? What kind of bird is it? Finally, focus on how the morning air feels on your skin and inside your nose. Contrast those feelings to a moment in your past, whether it was just lying in your bed or if it was when you were a child and it was the first time you didn't have to wear a jacket outside and share with us how that felt.

April 29th

Although we might be biased, Arizona truly has the most beautiful springs because of the diversity throughout the state. Today's prompts will ask that you grab some postcards from a local store and write poems on them to send to a friend, a local politician, or even send one to us here at Arizona Humanities. Write a poem on a postcard that describes the pinks, reds, and purples during the best sunsets in the country. Take another post card and tell us about the smells of blossoming palo verdes and document the movement of their blooms along the streets and sidewalks. What metaphor or simile correctly captures the sounds of road and new buildings construction, write a poem about it? Write a recipe poem that describes the taste of the special dishes that focus on recent cactus blooms? Finally, share with us the feelings behind it already being 90 degrees in most parts of the state.

April 30th

Write a 24-line poem with just questions only.

RE-Envisioning Justice - Spring 2017

"The vision [of justice] should be the result of a group of committed persons whose love for freedom is deep and broad enough to embrace and consider many viewpoints"

- James Cone

Film + Talk: *The Return*

Thursday, February 2nd
6:00-8:00 p.m.
Florence Community Library
778 N. Main Street - Florence, AZ 85132

Author + Talk: *Butch Queens Up in Pumps with Marlon M. Bailey*

Wednesday, February 15th
5:30-6:30 p.m. (small group discussion)
6:45-8:30 p.m. (Presentation, Q&A)
Arizona Humanities
1242 N. Central Ave. - Phoenix, AZ 85004

Miranda v. Arizona Part III with Heather Hamel

Tuesday, February 21st
6:30-8:30 p.m.
Arizona Humanities
1242 N. Central Ave. - Phoenix, AZ 85004

Film + Talk: *Prison in 12 Landscapes with Grace Gamez*

Tuesday, March 7th - 6:30 -8:30 p.m.
The Loft Cinema
3233 E Speedway Blvd, Tucson, AZ 85716

Film + Talk: *Prison in 12 Landscapes with Grace Gamez*

Thursday, March 9th
6:00-8:00 p.m.
Burton Barr Library Phoenix
1221 N. Central Ave.- Phoenix, AZ 85004

Film + Talk: *Prejudice and Pride from the PBS Series Latino Americans 500 Years of History with Angela Giron*

Wednesday, March 15th
6:00-8:00 p.m.
Paramount Theatre
420 N. Florence St. #4 - Casa Grande, AZ 85122

Racial Literacy and Social Media Community Conversation with Kathy Nakagawa

Thursday, March 30th
3:30-5:00 p.m.
Vista Grande Public Library
1556 N Arizola Rd - Casa Grande, AZ 85122

Author + Talk with Alan Gomez: *We are the Crisis: Between Freedom Dreams and the Re-Birth of a Nation*

Thursday, April 6th
5:30-6:30 p.m. (small group discussion)
6:45-8:30 p.m. (Presentation, Q&A)
Arizona Humanities
1242 N. Central Ave. - Phoenix, AZ 85004

Beyond the Underground Railroad: Visually Relocating American History and Culture from a Black Perspective with Stephen Marc

Wednesday, May 10th
1:30-3:30 p.m.
Sedona Public Library
3250 White Bear Road , Sedona, AZ 86351

Author + Talk : *Prisoners Without Chains: The Forced Relocation of Japanese Mexicans, 1942-1945 with Dr. Jerry Garcia*

Tuesday, May 16th
5:30-6:30 p.m. (small group discussion)
6:45-8:30 p.m. (Presentation, Q&A)
Arizona Humanities
1242 N. Central Ave. - Phoenix, AZ 85004

Rescued Lives, Transformed Communities: Refugee Resettlement in Arizona with Lori Robinson and Emily Taylor

Saturday, May 20th
1:00-3:00 p.m.
Yuma County Library
2951 W. 21st Lane - Yuma, AZ 85364

"The humanities offer multiple avenues for the clarification and articulation of both our shared and conflicting values and principles; and the humanities demonstrate the power of stories to help us know ourselves in deeper ways and to reimagine our relationships."

-NEH Chairman Dr. William D. Adams

For more info, visit www.azhumanities.org or call 602-257-0335.

First Intergenerational Hopi Pottery Festival



Featuring the Potters of First Mesa

- 1) The Social Life of Hopi Pottery: elder Hopi potters share their knowledge.
- 2) Tracing Hopi History through Pottery: by the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office
- 3) Living Hopi Language through Pottery activities by Mesa Media.

Saturday, April 29, 2017

10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

**Hopi Veterans' Memorial Center – Wellness Center
Kykotsmovi, AZ**

For information on the Pottery Festival, call 928-737-2255 OR email apoleahla@aol.com

This festival is funded in part by The Arizona Commission on the Arts, Mesa Media, Hopi Cultural Preservation Office, & the Smithsonian Institution's Recovering Voices.

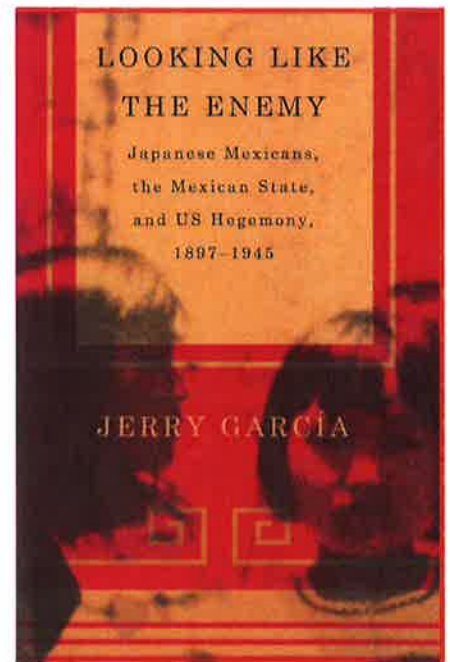
Author + Talk

Dr. Jerry Garcia

Discuss
Learn
Reflect

Prisoners Without Chains: The Forced Relocation of Japanese Mexicans, 1942-1945

Explore the Japanese Mexican experience during World War II and learn how it was markedly different than the Japanese American experience in the United States. Dr. Jerry Garcia from Northern Arizona University shares how the Japanese negotiated a distinct space within Mexican culture where Japanese identity and ethnicity was maintained and rarely challenged due to a perception that the Japanese displayed markers of whiteness that were associated with western imperialism and power. Examine how the Japanese adjusted during turbulent and transformative periods in Mexican history and the over-arching policies of the U.S. regarding Japanese immigration throughout the Americas. Dr. Garcia currently teaches with the Ethnic Studies Program at Northern Arizona University.



Tuesday, May 16, 2017

5:30 - 6:30 p.m. - Small Group Discussion (limited to 12 RSVPs)

6:45 - 8:30 p.m. - Reading and Q&A

Arizona Humanities (1242 N. Central Ave. Phoenix, AZ 85004)

Central Ave. & Culver, just south of McDowell, across from Burton Barr Library

FREE Event! Light refreshments included!

RSVP at <https://authortalkjerrygarcia.eventbrite.com>

Questions? Contact: ehutchison@azhumanities.org or 602-257-0335

This program is made possible by the National Endowment for the Humanities and is part of the Humanities and the Legacy of Race and Ethnicity in the United States Initiative

Author + Talk

Dr. Jana Rivers Norton

Discuss
Learn
Reflect

Edith Wharton: When Words First Spoke

Explore the life of renowned Pulitzer Prize-winning American novelist Edith Wharton. Dr. Rivers-Norton will discuss excerpts from "Edith Wharton: When Words First Spoke," the fourth chapter of her latest book *The Demeter-Persephone Myth as Writing Ritual in the Lives of Literary Women*. The talk will focus on the novelist Edith Wharton, who experiences loss, illness and confusion as a child and is mystified by the aloofness of her mother. Consequently, she feels insecure and inferior. Although destined to be a writer, Wharton is profoundly shaped by family discord and a war-torn world, and often courts humiliation and consequent exile by voicing what others in her family do not want to acknowledge. Despite these restrictions, Wharton continuously recasts painful experience as fodder for the imagination to forge a lasting literary career. Dr. Jana Rivers Norton is a fulltime faculty of English at Cochise College, Santa Cruz Center, Nogales, Arizona.



Photograph of writer Edith Wharton, taken by E. F. Cooper, at Newport, Rhode Island. Cabinet photograph. Courtesy of the Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Yale University.

Thursday, June 8, 2017

6:00 - 8:00 p.m. - Presentation and Q&A

Location: Arizona Humanities

1242 N. Central Ave. Phoenix, AZ 85004

Central Ave. & Culver, just south of McDowell, across from Burton Barr Library

FREE Event! Light refreshments included!

RSVP at <https://authortalkjanariversnorton.eventbrite.com>

Questions? Contact: ehutchison@azhumanities.org or 602-257-0335



Dr. Jana Rivers Norton