NEWS FROM THE LCP

New Council, Committees and Jurors at the League
One of the main tasks at the annual LCP Poetry Festival and Conference was to elect the people who will serve on the League’s National Council, Committees and Award Juries for the upcoming year. Here are the new council and committee members as voted in at the AGM members meeting in Saskatoon. Welcome to all the new and returning council members.

Executive Committee:
President: Mary Ellen Csamer
Vice President: Dymphny Dronyk
Treasurer: Ray Mitchell
Past President: Susan McMaster
Secretary: Jenna Butler

Regional Reps:
Atlantic rep: Vanessa Moeller
Quebec-Nunavut rep: Ian Ferrier
Ontario rep: T. Anders Carson
Toronto rep: Allan Briesmaster
Manitoba rep: Victor Enns
Saskatchewan rep: Bruce Rice
Alberta/NWT rep: Tyler Perry
BC/Yukon: Janet Vickers
Associate rep: Sherrene D. Kevan

Membership Committee:
Membership Chair: TBD
Print: Roger Bell
Print: Brian Campbell
Spoken Word: Ian Ferrier
Spoken Word: One the Haitian Sensation

Nominating Committee:
Dymphny Dronyk (Chair)
Lynda Monahan
Kathy Mac
TBD

Education:
Wendy Morton (Chair)
Terry Ann Carter
Sheri-D Wilson

Feminist Caucus: Anne Burke (Chair)

Award Juries:
Pat Lowther Memorial Award:
Kate Braid, Gay Allison, Marsha Barber

Gerald Lampert Memorial Award:
Kathy Mac, Marguerite Pigeon, Heather Cadsby

Raymond Souster Award:
David Day, Louise Bernice Half, Barry Dempster

F.R. Scott Voice of the Land Award:
Alice Major, George Amabile, Lillian Allen

Congratulations to the Winners of the Pat Lowther & Gerald Lampert Memorial Awards
The winners of the 2012 Pat Lowther and Gerald Lampert Memorial Awards were announced on Saturday, June 16, at a special event at the LCP Poetry Festival and Conference in Saskatoon, SK. Yi-Mei Tsiang was the winner of the Gerald Lampert Memorial Award for her book Sweet Devilry (Oolichan Books), and Sue Goyette was the winner of the Pat Lowther Memorial Award for outskirts (Brick Books).

Sweet Devilry by Yi-Mei Tsiang (Oolichan Books)
Judges’ Comments:
This book of fine and graceful poems sweeps the reader toward birth and death with equal grace. “My daughter, on a bed/ of leaves, as if she had fallen/from the sky.” In Visit, she writes of her dead father:

He smelled of apples, an autumn of leaves for skin. I remember you like this, I said, a harvest—an orchard of a man.

He opened his shirt, plucked a plum From his lungs and held it out to me. Everything, he said, is a way of remembering.

And so Yi-Mei Tsiang helps us remember: her joy, her daughter, her grief, her father.

Bio: Yi-Mei Tsiang is the author of Flock of Shoes (Annick Press, 2010) and The Mermaid and Other Fairy Tales (Leaf Press, 2010). She has two forthcoming books for children and her work has been sold and translated internationally. She has published poetry extensively in Canadian journals, and has appeared in several anthologies. She is currently completing UBC’s MFA program, and works as a mentor to aspiring writers through UBC’s Booming Ground and Queen’s University’s Enrichment Studies Department. Yi-Mei lives in Kingston with her husband and young daughter. She drew from her own experiences as a mother in the creation of the poems in Sweet Devilry.

outskirts by Sue Goyette (Brick Books)

Judges Comments:
Sue Goyette’s poems are immediately inviting. She brings to her work a confident voice, fresh conversational language, energetic narrative style and a sure rhythms. Her unflinching attention to both the fraught territory of family life and the wider realm of the natural world garners material rich in tension and vitality. The resulting poems do not harangue, but speak with conviction, intelligence and a compassion so genuine the reader feels awed and implicated. Soaring above the details of description, narrative and imagery, these poems consistently demonstrate the clarity and wisdom of the poet’s vision and her mature craftsmanship.

Bio: Sue Goyette has published two books of poems, The True Names of Birds (Brick Books) and Undone (Brick Books), and has been nominated for the Governor General’s award, the Pat Lowther Award, the Plantos/Acron Award for Poetry and the Dartmouth Book Award. Her novel, Lures (HarperCollins), was short-listed for the Thomas Head Raddall Atlantic Fiction Award. She teaches creative writing at Dalhousie University. She also participates in the Writers’ Federation of Nova Scotia’s Mentorship and Writers in Schools programs and has taught at Sage Hill, the Banff Centre Wired Writing Studio and the Blue Heron Workshop.

Congratulations to all the authors, and many thanks to the jurors for their hard work on this year’s awards!

Wendy Morton First Recipient of the Colleen Thibaudeau Outstanding Contribution Award

Poet Wendy Morton has been named the first recipient of the League of Canadian Poets’ Colleen Thibaudeau Outstanding Contribution Award. Established in memory of the late poet and honorary member Colleen Thibaudeau (1925-2012), this award has been created by the League of Canadian Poets and the poet’s family to honour and recognize a substantial volunteer project or series of projects that significantly nurture and support poets and poetry across Canada. The award carries a $350 prize.

Morton was honoured at the League of Canadian Poets’ annual Poetry Festival and Conference in June at the Park Town Hotel in Saskatoon.
Wendy Morton lives in Sooke, B.C., and has published five books of poetry, and a memoir, Six Impossible Things Before Breakfast, in which her adventures as a corporate sponsored poet are revealed. She has been WestJet’s Poet of the Skies, Chrysler’s Poet of the Road, and is currently sponsored by Fairmont Hotels, AbeBooks and Prairie Naturals Vitamins. She is the founder of Random Acts of Poetry, which for 7 years involved hundreds of Canadian poets, who went into their cities and read poems to strangers, to ESL classes, to students in First Nations Schools. She is the recipient of the 2010 Spirit Bear Award and The Golden Beret Award, and was made an Honorary Citizen of Victoria in 2011. She is currently involved in The Elder Project, described briefly below in an excerpt from a recent article from The Tyee: http://m.thetyee.ca/News/2011/12/09/Elder-Project/

Life and Honourary Awards
The League of Canadian Poets is pleased to announce the 2012 recipients of the Life and Honourary Member Awards.

- Life Membership Award goes to Penn Kemp, London, ON
- Honourary Membership Award goes to Oscar Malan of Novel Idea Books, Kingston, ON

The League of Canadian Poets is Pleased to Announce a New Poetry Award for Members
The Raymond Souster Award is given for a book of poetry by a League of Canadian Poets member (all levels, dues paid) published in the preceding year. The award honours Raymond Souster, an early founder of the League of Canadian Poets. The award carries a $1,000 prize. It is presented each year at the LCP Annual Poetry Festival and Conference in June, with the shortlist announced in April.

- Author must be a fully paid member of the League of Canadian Poets.
- The title must conform to the UNESCO definition of a book, that is, at least 48 pages in length, excluding front and back material. (Chapbooks are not eligible.)
- The title must be accompanied by a completed Raymond Souster Award Submission Form.
- The book must have been published in 2012.
- If the book is “selected” or “collected” work, it must contain at least 50 per cent new material, measured in pages of text. This percentage must be identified by the nominator upon submission of the book.
- A book may be submitted in any language, but submissions in a language other than English must be accompanied by a translation.
- Four (4) copies of the book must be submitted by the publisher, author, or other nominator. We regret that books cannot be returned.
- A brief biography and bibliography of the author should be included.
- All submissions must be post-marked no later than November 1, 2012 and should be sent to The League of Canadian Poets, 192 Spadina Ave., Suite 312, Toronto ON M5T 2C2, Attention: Raymond Souster Award.
- Please note: Books which are in the process of being published and which will be released in November and December of 2012 (after the Nov. 1 deadline) can be submitted late up to December 15th; however, please contact the LCP’s office as soon as possible to inform us of your situation. After December 15th at 5:00pm, no further entries will be accepted.
- The judges retain the right not to award the prize if, in their opinion, no entry is of sufficient merit.
- There is a $25 handling fee per title for the Raymond Souster Award.
- Please make all cheques payable to the League of Canadian Poets. The League does not accept handling fees in cash.
- If you would like to apply for membership to the League of Canadian Poets to be eligible for this award, your membership application must be received in the office no later then September 1, 2012. NO EXCEPTIONS. Do not send in submissions for the award until after you have received notification of your membership status from the Membership Committee Chair.
- For more info: http://poets.ca/wordpress/contests-awards/raymond-souster
July 31 Deadline- Canada Poetry Tours
A reminder to all the poets and hosts that would like to apply for Canada Poetry Tours funding for readings taking place between October 1, 2012 and March 31, 2013. The deadline is July 31, 2012. For the complete guidelines, application forms and more info:  [http://poets.ca/wordpress/programs-2/reading-programs](http://poets.ca/wordpress/programs-2/reading-programs)

News from the Feminist Caucus, by Anne Burke, Chair
This month, Kathy Mac's lyric scholarship and Catherine Owen’s Catalysts: Confrontations with the Muse, as well as Gay Allison, Marsha Barber, and Kate Braid, jurors for the 2013 Pat Lowther Award. For full report:  [http://poets.ca/wordpress/programs-2/feminist-caucus](http://poets.ca/wordpress/programs-2/feminist-caucus)

PEN Canada (pencanada.ca)
PEN members, please consider extending your concern to our fellow writers around the world by joining PEN Canada, making a donation, or signing up for their 8/yr newsletter at  [queries@pencanada.ca](mailto:queries@pencanada.ca) (please include your first and last name).

POETRY AND LITERARY NEWS

David Harsent’s Night and Ken Babstock’s Methodist Hatchet Win the 2012 Griffin Poetry Prize
David Harsent’s Night and Ken Babstock’s Methodist Hatchet are the International and Canadian winners of the 2012 annual Griffin Poetry Prize. They each received C$65,000 in prize money. The Griffin Poetry Prize was founded in 2000 to serve and encourage excellence in poetry. The prize is for first edition books of poetry written in, or translated into, English and submitted from anywhere in the world.

The awards ceremony, attended by some 400 invited guests, was held in the Fermenting Cellar at the Stone Distillery and hosted by Scott Griffin, founder of the prize, and Trustees Margaret Atwood, Robert Hass, Michael Ondaatje, Robin Robertson and David Young.

The Judges for the 2012 Griffin Poetry Prize are Heather McHugh (USA), David O’Meara (Canada) and Fiona Sampson (UK). These distinguished writers and poets each read 481 books of poetry, received from 37 countries around the globe, including 19 translations. The Judges are selected annually by the Trustees of The Griffin Trust For Excellence In Poetry.

The 2012 Griffin Poetry Prize shortlist features collections by three Canadian poets and four international poets:
Ken Babstock’s Methodist Hatchet, published by House of Anansi Press
Phil Hall’s Killdeer, published by BookThug
Jan Zwicky’s Forge, published by Gaspereau Press
David Harsent’s Night, published by Faber and Faber
Yusef Komunyakaa’s The Chameleon Couch, published by Farrar Straus and Giroux
Sean O’Brien’s November, published by Picador
Joanna Trzeciak’s translation of Sobbing Superpower: Selected Poems of Tadeusz Różewicz by Tadeusz Różewicz, published by W.W. Norton & Company

Trustee Margaret Atwood presented each poet with a leather-bound edition of their book and a $10,000 honorarium.

The Griffin Poetry Prize Anthology: A Selection of the 2012 Shortlist, edited by David O’Meara and published by House of Anansi Press, is now available at most retail bookstores. Royalties generated from the anthologies, published annually, are donated to UNESCO’s World Poetry Day.
**Winners are announced at the 2012 Alberta Book Awards Gala**

The Writers Guild of Alberta (WGA) and the Book Publishers Association of Alberta (BPAA) announced the winners of the 2012 Alberta Book Publishing Awards, the Alberta Literary Awards, and the highly anticipated Alberta Readers’ Choice Award tonight. About 225 people attended the 2012 Alberta Book Awards Gala, a joint celebration that celebrated excellence and innovation in Alberta writing and book publishing.

Founder and former Publisher and Editor of Alberta Views Magazine, Jackie Flanagan, gave an entertaining and passionate keynote address, and many authors and publishers were celebrated for their achievements during the past year.

The third annual $10,000.00 Alberta Readers’ Choice Award was presented to Wayne Arthurson for his novel, Fall From Grace, published by Forge Books.

**Recipients of the 2012 Alberta Book Publishing Awards**

**Lifetime Achievement Award:** This award is presented in recognition of an individual’s contribution to Alberta’s book publishing community. We are pleased to announce this award went to Diane Bessai, for her outstanding work and service within Alberta’s book publishing industry.

**Alberta Book Design Awards**

**Book Cover/Jacket:** NeWest Press (Edmonton)—House of Spells by Robert Pepper-Smith, cover design by Natalie Olsen, Kisscut Design.

Jury comments: The design of House of Spells communicates a sense of playfulness and joy. The uncluttered jacket is both simple and spare, but still evocative and effective. It suggests a hint of mystery, enticing the reader to sneak a peek through the windows of the House of Spells. This theme is carried through the book. Type is treated with reverence, as art. The small size of the book makes it feel precious and personal. Together, all of these elements help to communicate the magic of a House of Spells.

**Book Design:** CAHS Press (Red Deer)—Three-Persons and the Chokitapix by Allen Ronaghan, book design by Marvin Harder.

Jury comments: From its full-bleed cover with French flaps that evokes a rustic map, to its gorgeous typography and classic interior composition, Three Persons and The Chokitapix evokes the historical era in which it is set. It successfully blends contemporary and traditional book design in a way that perfectly suits the historical subject of its tri-lingual text. The typography, layout and illustrations elicit comparisons to the elegance of letterpress. While the book’s overall design is unified and representative of the content, the lively composition of the layout adds visual interest to what could have been viewed as dry historical subject matter. The designer effectively balances illustrations with text. The playfulness of the illustrations on the pages facing the start of each chapter punctuate the book like secret previews on what is next to come.

**Children’s & Young Adult Book Award:** Summerthought Publishing (Banff)—Canadian Rockies Wildlife for Kids by Wayne Lynch

Jury comments: In choosing the award for the 2012 Children & Young Adult Book of the Year award, the jury looked at content, the quality of the editing, excellence in design and illustration. This year’s recipient has produced a book that will appeal to its intended audience, as well as parents and teachers. Lynch’s trademark “in your furry face” photography combined with engaging commentary effectively illustrates the good, the bad and the fun of life in the wild. For the 2012 Alberta Book Publishing Award for the best Children & Young Adult Book of the Year, what could be more “Alberta” than Wayne Lynch’s Canadian Rockies Wildlife for Kids?
Jury comments: This important work examines the place of Aboriginal women in the early days of First Nations – European contact, a subject that is only recently being discussed. Although it is a scholarly work, it is easy to read, accessible and has illustrations, including some in colour, which clearly enhance the book’s focus and helps the narrative.

Trade Fiction Book Award: Freehand Books (imprint of Broadview Press (Calgary)—And Me Among Them by Kristen den Hartog
Jury comments: At the heart of this finely rendered tale, an outcast giant of a girl, drawn by her simple need for friendship crashes headlong into the complex world of deception and cruel betrayal. With perfect emotional pitch, the author lifts her characters to extraordinary heights, despite their ordinary and all too human flaws.

Trade Non-Fiction Book Award: The University of Alberta Press (Edmonton)—The Grads Are Playing Tonight! by M. Ann Hall
Jury comments: Almost like a fairytale, this hard- to -believe story about an almost-invincible female basketball team and their committed coach, J. Percy Page (later Lieutenant-Governor of Alberta), comes alive in the pages of The Grads are Playing Tonight. Well- written and engaging throughout its ten chapters, the book focuses on not only the adventurous tales of the Grads, but also of Edmonton coming into its own as an important city in Western Canada.In this feel-good book there is something for everyone – sports fans, history buffs, feminists, educators, scholars, politicians, and readers who dare to dream the impossible. A story within many stories, The Grads are Playing Tonight reaffirms a city is more than a place on the map --- it is the people who live there and make it home. The Grads are Playing Tonight, will continue to play itself out in readers’ heads long after they shut its covers.

Lois Hole Award for Editorial Excellence: The University of Alberta Press (Edmonton)—The Man in Blue Pyjamas by Jalal Barzanji, edited by Peter Midgley
Jury comments: Peter Midgley’s edit of Jalal Barzanji’s The Man in the Blue Pajamas has helped create a book that tells an important and accessible story. In his work, Peter considered both the author’s and the reader’s needs. His consultative approach with the author sought to clarify and elaborate a work complicated by the fragility of memory and translation. The edit resolved complex language issues and delivered compelling detail, aware of the “challenge not simply to rewrite, but to...allow the author to do the work.” The result is an excellent read, with a glossary and timeline that provide valuable guides and context for readers. In addition, the documents submitted to track the editing process were highly organized, thorough, and a joy to explore.

Robert Kroetsch Poetry Book Award: The University of Alberta Press (Edmonton)—Demeter Goes Skydiving by Susan McCaslin
Jury comments: Demeter Goes Skydiving is the best-produced book of the entries in this award category. The cover and page designs are clean and elegant. The text is well edited and readable. The poems torque a common mythological figure into a smart, well-crafted sequence that thrusts the venerable tradition of the Canadian long poem into the 21st century.

Publisher of the Year: University of Calgary Press (Calgary)
Jury comments: This year’s Publisher of the Year, The University of Calgary Press, exhibited exceptional innovation and creativity in identifying and reaching their target audience. They also showed exemplary efforts in marketing and promotion over the past year and demonstrated an active leadership and commitment in the area of open access publishing. The jury would also like to commend NeWest Press on a year of publishing excellence.
The Walrus Foundation and the Hal Jackman Foundation Launch a New National Poetry Prize

The Walrus Foundation and the Hal Jackman Foundation are proud to announce the launch of the Walrus Poetry Prize. The contest, open to all Canadian residents, will be judged by award-winning poet Karen Solie and The Walrusmagazine’s poetry editor, Michael Lista. The winner, to be selected blindly by a jury, will receive $5,000, and his or her poem will be published in the December 2012 issue of The Walrus. On September 1, 2012, the five finalists’ poems will be posted online at walrusmagazine.com/poetryprize, where readers can vote for the $1,000 Readers’ Choice Award. Winners will be announced at the Stephen Bulger Gallery + CAMERA venue on Thursday, October 18, 2012.

“We’re thrilled to be partnering with the Walrus Foundation on this exciting new opportunity for Canadian poets and poetry readers alike,” said Victoria Jackman, executive director of the Hal Jackman Foundation. “Canadian poetry deserves the position of prominence it enjoys in the pages of The Walrus, and the Hal Jackman Foundation is proud to find it new voices and admirers.”

The Walrus Poetry Prize is now open and accepting submissions:

- Submission period closes on July 31, 2012
- Five finalists announced and voting for Readers’ Choice Award begins on September 1, 2012
- Voting closes on September 30, 2012
- Winners announced on October 18, 2012
- For full details, including contest rules and regulations, and to submit your poem, please visit walrusmagazine.com/poetryprize.

OPPORTUNITIES

Please note: The opportunities, contests or markets listed in this electronic newsletter are only an informational resource. We encourage all poets to thoroughly investigate all contests or markets before submitting their work.

Contest: This Magazine's 16th annual Great Canadian Literary Hunt

Submissions are now being accepted for This Magazine's 16th annual Great Canadian Literary Hunt. All submissions can be sent to hunt@thismagazine.ca. Contest rules and guideline can be found at http://this.org/contribute/great-canadian-literary-hunt/. Please feel free to share this information with everyone. Deadline for entries is July 31st 5pm EST.

Writer in Residence: Saskatoon Public Library

Applications are invited from creative writers for the term position of Saskatoon Public Library/Canada Council for the Arts Writer in Residence from September 1, 2013 to May 31, 2014. Remuneration: up to $30,000 for a nine-month term. Criteria are based on Canada Council guidelines; position subject to Canada Council funding. Applications must be received by 5 p.m., November 1, 2012. For more details visit: http://www.saskatoonlibrary.ca/node/676

Call for Submissions: Leaf Press

Leaf Press is gathering poems for an anthology about the newly born, the almost born, the journey in-between. We are interested in thresholds and liminal states; in moments that transcend global cultures. We welcome poems from all the continents, asking only that they be accompanied by a translation to English. We may be able to help, in some instances, with translations. Please send your poem to: poems@leafpress.ca, subject line: Newborns or to: Leaf Press, Box 416, Lantzville, B.C. V0R 2H0.

We will accept poems that have been previously published. Poets must provide this information (publication, publishing house and date) as well as permission for us to reprint. Leaf plans to publish the anthology in Spring 2014. Deadline: January 30, 2013. Anthology Editors: Ann Graham Walker and Ursula Vaira. Selected poets will be paid a fee of $50.00 CAD plus a copy of the book.
WORKSHOPS: With John Oughton in Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic
Long-time League member John Oughton is offering a unique workshop which will also give you a break from Canadian winter. The five-day workshop, scheduled Dec. 16-21, 2012, offers a mix of poetry, short fiction and creative nonfiction writing, sharing and critiquing. Location is the comfortable Tubagua Eco Village, 20 km up a mountain road from Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic. The fee includes the workshop plus a week’s accommodation and meals and trips to the beach, shopping, and local sites of interest. $1000 for the first seven to register, $1400 for the remainder (up to five more people). Contact John at joughton1@gmail.com or go to http://www.tubagua.com/oughton-workshop/ for more information.

Festival: SLAMtario Festival Unveils All-Star Cast of Special Guests, Toronto, ON
Cytopoetics and Open Minds Respect Events (OMRE) are pleased to present SLAMtario 2012: The Ontario Slam Poetry Championships on July 13-14 at the 918 Bathurst Centre for Culture, Arts, Media & Education. Ten teams will compete over two days to be the first to claim the title of Ontario Slam Champions, along with a $1,000 top prize, in the province’s first-ever slam championship.

The cast of special performers and event hosts has been confirmed, and it includes some of the best Ontario-based spoken word artists in Canada. Friday evening’s host is 2009 Canadian Champion and 2010 World Champion Ian Keteku. Saturday afternoon’s events are hosted by one of Canada’s most innovative spoken word artists, Toronto poet Electric Jon. Elyse Maltin, National Director for Spoken Word Canada and founder of the London Poetry Slam, will host the Finals. Two champions give special performances on Saturday – 2012 London Poetry Slam Champion Holly Painter in the afternoon and 2012 Toronto Poetry Slam Champion The P.O.E. at Finals in the evening.

SLAMtario shows an international flavour when the Soles of Australia tour brings Joel McKerrow and Michelle Dabrowski to 918 Bathurst to perform on Friday evening. Lia Tarachansky shares poetry Saturday, written while directing a documentary in Tel Aviv.

Preliminary competitions, called bouts, take place on the evening of Friday, July 13 and the afternoon of Saturday, July 14. Doors open Friday evening at 6pm and Saturday afternoon at 12pm. The top four teams from the preliminaries qualify for the Finals on Saturday night. The doors open at 7pm with the show featuring Dominique Ashaheed, the 2012 Women of the World Poetry Slam Champion from Denver, Colorado.

After the national team championships at the annual Canadian Festival of Spoken Word and the Quebec Grand Slam French-language championships, SLAMtario is the third-largest community-based slam tournament in the country. Unlike CFSW and the Grand Slam du Quebec, however, youth teams will compete on an equal footing with the senior teams and all four teams in the Finals will receive cash prizes.

Early bird festival passes are now available for $25 each via email money transfer to events@cytopoetics.ca or for purchase in person at local spoken word events run by the Burlington Slam Project, Cytopoetics, Mississauga Poetry Slam, Up From The Roots Entertainment, and the Toronto Poetry Project. Individual festival tickets will be $10 for the preliminary events Friday evening, $10 for Saturday afternoon preliminaries and $20 for Saturday night Finals. Visit the SLAMtario Facebook group for more information.
Talk and Reading: Reviving Acorn
To commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Allan Garden’s Free Speech Movement in July 1962, Mosaic Press and the Parliament Street Public Library are sponsoring an evening celebrating that important cultural and political event in Toronto’s history on Thursday, July 12, from 6:30 pm to 8:00pm

The library will host the launch of Mosaic Press’s new selected poems of Milton Acorn: In A Springtime Instant. Acorn, who later read with his people’s poetry colleagues at the Parliament Street Library, spearheaded the free speech struggle in Allan Gardens in the summer of 1962, when along with other Toronto poets and cultural figures, such as Joe Rosenblatt, he was able to change Toronto bylaws to allow poets to read their works in Toronto parks without penalty by courageously reading his politically and socially critical poetry to large crowds in front of Robbie Burns’ statue in the Gardens. In this, he anticipated the current OCCUPY movement by half century.

The program will feature a talk on Acorn’s literary contribution by long-time Acorn friend and editor of the new book James Deahl, a background to the Allan Gardens issue by Humber College teacher Terry Barker, poetry about Acorn by Purdyfest coordinator Chris Faiers and Poet Anna Yin, music by Toronto Artist Honey Novick, and readings of Acorn’s poetry and current political poets. Special guests will be include Acorn biographer Chris Gudgeon, and Acorn friend, scholar Joyce Wayne. There will be light refreshments, and those interested are invited to join Acorn friends for an informal tour of the nearby Allan Gardens site and OPEN MIC from 4:00 to 5:00 pm.

Parliament Street Public Library is located at 269 Gerrard Street East at the corner of Parliament Street. Phone: 416-393-7663. The Acorn event will be held in the upstairs meeting room from 6:30pm to 8:00pm. For further information please contact Terry Barker at 416-491-8676 or Chris Faiers at zenriver@sympatico.ca.

Poetry Walk: The Boreal Poetry Garden - 3 thematic walks in 2012, Portugal Cove, Newfoundland
Join Marlene Creates as she leads a walk with readings of site-specific poems in The Boreal Poetry Garden — six acres of boreal forest where she lives in Portugal Cove — with additional commentary by an invited natural historian. After the walk, we will gather around a bonfire with some refreshments while we enjoy a reading by an invited guest poet.

Saturday 7 July at 7:30 pm

Wednesday 18 July at 7:30 pm
Birds and Beasts and Other Creatures with seabird biologist and environmental scientist Bill Montvecchi and guest poet Monica Kidd

Saturday 18 August at 7:30 pm
Tuff Love: Ancient Volcanic Ash on the Northeast Avalon with geologist Paul Dean and guest poet Don McKay

Limited to 25 people. Advance registration required. For directions and to register: marlene.creates@nf.sympatico.ca or phone 709.895.1020. $20 general; $15 for students, seniors, unwaged (includes refreshments)

Festival: Poetry Gabriola Day of Haiku, Tank and Renga
All lovers of Japanese poetry forms, you are invited to a day of haiku, tanka and renga with some of North America’s finest writers.
11th Annual Gabriola Gathering: 2012 program and schedule – a great chance to hear some of North America’s finest poets in the haiku/tanka form.

SUNDAY, July 22
9:30 am: Arrive at The Commons (located opposite Gabriola Elementary School on North Road) for book sale. Note: A $5 donation would be welcomed
9:55 am: Welcome: Naomi Beth Wakan for Poetry Gabriola; Vicki McCullough for pacifi-kana
10:00 am: Haiku Canada 35th Anniversary Anthology – Michael Dylan Welch: A speed history of Haiku Canada and readings from the anthology
10:20 am: Reading: Carole MacRury – tanka from The Tang of Nasturtiums, winner of a Snapshot Press eChapbook Award
10:30 am: Reading: Susan Constable – a selection of haiku and tanka
10:40 am: Reading: Winona Baker – introduction by Michael Dylan Welch
10:50 am: 10-minute break for book sales
11:00 am: Terry Ann Carter: “Haiku Techniques and the Doo Wop Factor”
11:50 am: Wrap up, book sales

Please let naomi@naomiwakan.com know whether you will be attending this morning session.

LUNCH BREAK (bring own or go to restaurant). Please take time to check out the display of haiku + photographs which will be open to the public from midday to 4 pm, upstairs at The Commons.

1:15 pm: Renku/renga workshop [Sonja Arntzen, Michael Dylan Welch, Vicki McCullough] The specific renku form to be focused on in this year’s workshop is yet to be decided. Note: There is a nominal fee of $10 for this workshop, which will take place in the Poetry Gabriola yurt on The Commons grounds. This is a rare chance to write renku together – a creative group poetry writing workshop. It has space for about 15 people. Pre-registration with Naomi is required. naomi@naomiwakan.com
4:30 pm: Wrap-up and disperse

There will be an exhibit of haiku illustrated by photographs on display during the day. This exciting venture combines haiku from some of the leading North American writers with photographs supplied by the Gabriola Photography Club.

Slam: Toronto Poetry Slam Team, Toronto, ON
The poet known for igniting the Vancouver Olympics opening ceremonies is coming back to Toronto! Shane Koyczan is a dynamic poet and storyteller and he’s bringing his talents and his band to Toronto’s Drake Hotel! On Tuesday July 10 Shane Koyczan & the Short Story Long, with an opening set by the Toronto Poetry Slam Team, will be at the Drake Hotel Underground, 1150 Queen St. W. 8pm. $15. For info, call 416 312 3865. Tix only available at door.

Slam: Toronto Poetry Slam Opens its Season, July 15, Toronto, ON
Toronto Poetry Slam opens its season with a special guest feature, two poets from Australia Michelle Dabrowski and Joel McKerrow. Drake Hotel, 1150 Queen St. W. 8 p.m. $5. 416-312-3865.

Workshop: Join Dr. Jenna Butler in Monte Subasio Regional Park, Assisi, Italy
Join Dr. Jenna Butler from MacEwan University in Edmonton for a one-week writing workshop at Arte Studio Ginestrelle in Monte Subasio Regional Park, Assisi, Italy. Explore a variety of poetic forms and participate in a series of exciting workshops designed to teach your how to edit and market your creative work. Get inspired by the fantastic landscape of Monte Subasio Regional Park and spend your afternoons exploring this beautiful area of Italy! Earn a publication credit in a poetry anthology published through the residency and launched at the Art Gallery La Loggia in Assisi in December 2012. Residency and course fee (one week): 500 Euros ($670 Canadian). For information on application and residency housing, please contact Jenna Butler (ButlerJ2@macewan.ca).
Workshops: Wintergreen Studios, Westport, ON
Wintergreen Studios, near Westport, Ontario (www.wintergreenstudios.com) is pleased to offer four workshops for writers in 2012. Helen Humphreys (July 9–13), Patrick Lane (August 23–26), and Lawrence Hill (Sept. 14–17) are this year’s instructors. Enjoy writing, eating and swimming at our off-grid educational retreat facility.

For the third year running, Helen Humphreys, acclaimed author and teacher, will spend a week exploring both prose and poetry with workshop participants. For more information and to register click: http://www.wintergreenstudios.com/writers-workshop-with-helen-humphreys/

Patrick Lane, Governor General’s Award winner, will conduct a four-day poetry retreat for attendees to create new work. Fresh approaches to the poem will be explored. Patrick considers holding writing retreats an important aspect of his life’s work. For more information and to register click: http://www.wintergreenstudios.com/poetry-with-patrick-lane/.

You are invited to spend a long weekend with Lawrence Hill (author of The Book of Negroes) taking part in a creative writing workshop for the novel, short story or non-fiction writing. For more information and to register please click: http://www.wintergreenstudios.com/put-personality-in-your-writing/

If you can’t attend the workshops please come for a meal and a public reading. Details for the readings with our authors appear on the website under the “events” tab. To register for a dinner and reading, please e-mail info@wintergreenstudios.com.

Readings: Brick Books Authors, Canada-Wide
Stephanie Bolster reads from her new collection A Page from the Wonders of Life on Earth.
- Toronto - Tuesday, July 10 at 8 p.m. - Reading at the Art Bar poetry series at Paupers Pub (2nd floor), 539 Bloor Street West
- Toronto - Wednesday, July 11 at 8 p.m. - Reading with Susan Glickman and Darren Bifford - Pivot reading series at the Press Club, 850 Dundas Street West

Nora Gould reads from her brand new collection I see my love more clearly from a distance.
- Victoria - Friday, July 20 at 7:30 p.m. Reading with Emily McGiffin at the Planet Earth reading series at The Moka House, #103-1633 Hillside Avenue

Emily McGiffin reads from her new collection Between Dusk and Night.
- Victoria - Friday, July 20 at 7:30 p.m. Reading with Nora Gould at the Planet Earth reading series at The Moka House, #103-1633 Hillside Avenue

Retreat: The Poetry of Place: Salt Spring Island, BC
During this three-day retreat we’ll have the opportunity to visit some of Salt Spring’s magical places, including forests of ancient cedars and firs, mountains with magnificent views, secret glens, and remote shorelines. We’ll explore, write, and share first drafts, keeping attuned to voice, imagery, word precision, rhythm, cohesiveness, and other elements to complete poems. Throughout the retreat, we’ll engage in practices to heighten sensory perception for greater depth of expression. Lunch is included in the fee ($333 by July 17; $349 afterward); accommodation at a lakeside resort or B&B is extra. Aug. 17, 18, 19.

Lorraine Gane, author of several collections of poetry, among them Beauty and Beyond: Songs of Small Mercies, a chapbook recently published by Leaf Press. She mentors writers worldwide through online courses, coaching, workshops, and manuscript editing. For more information: info@lorrainelege.com; www.lorraingegane.com.

Workshop: Poetry Workshop with Allan Briesmaster and Ellen Jaffe, Toronto, ON
Workshop leaders Allan Briesmaster and Ellen Jaffe have been invited to share their knowledge during a one day workshop offered by The Ontario Poetry Society, Sunday, July 29 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the
Garden Room, 65 Spring Garden Avenue in Toronto. The workshop which will include poetry tips, exercises, and the sharing of work written by workshop participants, is open to the public. Please feel free to share this note with your friends or anyone else who may be interested in poetry. For more info: http://www.theontariopoetrysociety.ca/Workshop_2012.htm

**Workshop: An Introduction to Personal Creativity, Toronto, ON**
Instructor: k.g. Sambrano. Poets, story writers, novelists please join us for this fun and interactive workshop designed to stimulate your imagination & unleash your personal creativity! Saturday, July 28th, 1 - 4 p.m. at Swansea Town Hall, 95 Lavinia Avenue (Bloor and Runnymede). Information and registration: 416-835-6099. Early bird discount deadline: July 14.

**NEW MEMBERS**

**Natalie Onuška**
Natalie Onuška is a Toronto-based poet, fiction writer, and photographer. Her work has been published in *Descant, Prairie Fire, Prism International, and Room of One’s Own*. She holds a Masters degree in English from the University of Guelph where she served as part of the editorial team for the online academic journal *Critical Studies in Improvisation/ Études critiques en improvisation*. Email: natalie.onuska@gmail.com and http://natalieonuska.blogspot.ca/

**MEMBERS NEWS**

**Kate Braid**
Kate Braid will be reading at the Dead Poets Reading Series on Sunday, July 8 from 3-5 PM at Project Space (222 East Georgia, Vancouver, BC). This is a wonderful series where you get a short "hit" of a variety of different dead poets, from living ones.

She will also be reading August 12 with Tom Wayman and others, at the Hazelwood Herb Farm, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. at 13576 Adshed Road, Ladysmith, Vancouver Island. For further info contact Mark Warrior at mcwar52@telus.net or 1.250.245.7885 or see her website, www.katebraid.com

**Rosemary Clewes**
Associate member Rosemary Clewes’ launched her first book of poetry titled "Once Houses Could Fly, Kayaking North of 79 Degrees", Signature Editions, on May 6th.

**Steve McCabe**
Steven McCabe’s most recent blog post @ poemimage (a visual response to poetry) features poetry by Penn Kemp. Visit: http://www.poemimage.wordpress.com

**K.V. Skene**
The Whitening of the Ox, K.V. Skene’s poetry sequence, which appeared in Descant in 1996 and was premiered in Toronto (Harbourfront) January 2012 courtesy of Canadian composer Jeffry Ryan, will have its West Coast premiere in Vancouver as part of MusicFest (Vancouver's Summer Festival). The performance will be on August 12 at the Vancouver Playhouse. Baritone Tyler Duncan will once again be vocalist and this time The Turning Point Ensemble, conducted by Owen Underhill, instrumentalists. Details can be found at http://www.musicfestvancouver.ca

To subscribe, unsubscribe, or post a notice, send an e-mail to readings@poets.ca. If members don’t have e-mail access, we’ll be happy to send printed copies by Canada Post. Please send a note to the League office requesting us to do so. Address: 192 Spadina Ave, Suite 312, Toronto, Ontario, MST 2C2. Send news to readings@poets.ca.

The League of Canadian Poets receives operating funding from the Canada Council for the Arts, the Ontario Arts Council and the Toronto Arts Council.