Poets & Students in the Classroom

I learned a lot from our guest poet like stanzas and different ways to write poetry.
– Drew, 4th grade

Well, I liked it, and I wouldn’t mind to do the poetry thing again.
– Wylie, 4th grade

She took things from her life and worked them into poems. These things would just be there for normal people but she took it into another context.
– Andei, 8th grade

Making us think about what was in our backpacks as a metaphor for life was fun.
– Chantal, 8th grade

I learned a lot from our guest poet like stanzas and different ways to write poetry.
– Drew, 4th grade

Poetry makes me look at everything in the world from a different perspective. It lets my brain open and lets my imagination grow. It is fun to play around with words and try and feel what your topic would feel like. Working with a published poet was a great experience and I really enjoyed it.
– Ben, 4th grade

Joseph Green

Sam Green

Andei

Ben

Drew

Joseph Green

Sam Green

Elizabeth Austin

Tim McNulty

Gloria Burgess

Lorraine Ferra
WELCOME
to the fourth biennial
Skagit River Poetry Festival

OUR MISSION
The Skagit River Poetry Project brings students and poets together working to promote literacy, appreciation of language and participation in a culturally diverse community.

This May’s festival is the Huzzah! of our two-year poetry process in Skagit County schools. This year alone, with the help of funding from our benefactors, seven of our poets led week-long residencies in fifty-six county K-12 classrooms and twenty college classrooms. We are delighted you are here to celebrate the making of poetry with us.

DEDICATION
This year’s festival is dedicated to our classroom poets who lead our students in the joy of discovering and making poetry. We give our thanks to these extraordinary word artists who make magic and meaning through their art and make poetry lovers and future poets through their mentorship.

COVER: Richard Gilkey, 1977
PERFORMANCE LOCATIONS

1. La Conner Middle School Gym
2. Janet Huston Gallery
3. Museum of Northwest Art
4. Methodist Church
5. Oddfellow’s Hall
6. Garden Club
7. The Next Chapter Bookstore and Coffeehouse
8. Maple Hall / Maple Center

For your consideration…

• There is a hill to climb to reach the Methodist Church, Oddfellow’s Hall, and the Garden Club. The shortest way to get up the hill is to take the steps from South First Street (see map). You’ll find a sturdy bench midway for you to catch your breath, as there are 67 steps. The longer, more gradual ascent would be to use South Second Street on either side of town.

• Will-call tickets and onsite sales will be located:
  Friday La Conner Middle School – 3:30 - 9:30 pm
  Saturday Maple Center – 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
  La Conner Middle School – 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

• Please see accompanying map for site performance locations and parking spaces. Wheelchair accessible sites and handicapped parking areas are marked with a star on the map.

• Please do not use flash photography during the sessions.

• All events start on time. Capacities of the sites vary. We encourage you to have a second choice should you find your first selection full. With the exception of the lunch hour, there are only 15 minutes between sessions. Allow enough time to get to the next event.

• As a consideration to others, please silence all cell phones, pagers, and other electronic devices.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Start Time</th>
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<th>Location</th>
<th>Capacity</th>
<th>La Conner Middle School Gym</th>
<th>Maple Hall</th>
<th>Maple Center Upper Level</th>
<th>Museum of Northwest Art</th>
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<td>276</td>
<td>Sampler A</td>
<td>Tess Gallagher Sekou Sundiata Billy Collins Nance Van Winckel</td>
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<td>Kurtis Lamkin Sekou Sundiata</td>
<td>Poetry as Medicine Ekiwah Adler Beléndez Pat Mora Peter Pereira</td>
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<td>Sampler B</td>
<td>Pat Mora Linda Hogan Ekiwah Adler Beléndez Gerald Stern</td>
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<td>Songwriters Words &amp; Music</td>
<td>Robert Blake Kristin Allen-Zito Two songwriters on the literate edge of acoustic music</td>
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**OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC**

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<td>Next Chapter Mezzanine</td>
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| Session 1 | 10:00-11:00 | La Conner Middle School Gym | Workshop: “Petals on a wet, black bough”  
Tod Marshall  
Letting your images blossom |
|         |            | Maple Hall             | Sample Poem:  
Michael Daley  
Joseph Green  
Linda Hogan  
Tod Marshall  
Four poets reading their poetry |
|         |            | Maple Center Upper Level | Sample Poem:  
Ekiwah Adler Beléndez  
Kurtis Lamkin  
Pat Mora  
Carolyne Wright  
Four poets reading their poetry |
|         |            | Museum of Northwest Art | Sample Poem:  
Kes Woodward  
A collaboration by a poet and a painter |
| Session 2 | 11:15-12:15 | La Conner Middle School Gym | Sample Poem:  
Ekiwah Adler Beléndez  
Kurtis Lamkin  
Pat Mora  
Carolyne Wright  
Four poets reading their poetry |
|         |            | Maple Hall             | Poets of the Past  
Allen Braden  
Tess Gallagher  
Anne Marie Macari  
What makes poetry memorable? |
|         |            | Maple Center Upper Level | Sample Poem:  
Kes Woodward  
A collaboration by a poet and a painter |
|         |            | Museum of Northwest Art | Sample Poem:  
Peggy Shumaker  
Kes Woodward  
Letting your images blossom |
| Session 3 | 12:30-1:30 | La Conner Middle School Gym | Senserity:  
Alice Derry  
Tess Gallagher  
Joseph Green  
Messages from the natural world |
|         |            | Maple Hall             | Sample Poem:  
Kes Woodward  
A collaboration by a poet and a painter |
|         |            | Maple Center Upper Level | Sample Poem:  
Peggy Shumaker  
Kes Woodward  
Letting your images blossom |
|         |            | Museum of Northwest Art | Sample Poem:  
Tod Marshall  
Letting your images blossom |
| Session 4 | 1:45-2:45  | La Conner Middle School Gym | Sample Poem:  
Eco Poetry  
Alice Derry  
Tess Gallagher  
Joseph Green  
Messages from the natural world |
|         |            | Maple Hall             | Sample Poem:  
Eco Poetry  
Alice Derry  
Tess Gallagher  
Joseph Green  
Messages from the natural world |
|         |            | Maple Center Upper Level | Sample Poem:  
Eco Poetry  
Alice Derry  
Tess Gallagher  
Joseph Green  
Messages from the natural world |
|         |            | Museum of Northwest Art | Sample Poem:  
Eco Poetry  
Alice Derry  
Tess Gallagher  
Joseph Green  
Messages from the natural world |
| Session 5 | 3:00-4:00  | La Conner Middle School Gym | Sample Poem:  
Kurtis Lamkin  
Sekou Sundiata  
Music and poetry |
|         |            | Maple Hall             | Sample Poem:  
Sekou Sundiata  
Music and poetry |
|         |            | Maple Center Upper Level | Sample Poem:  
Sekou Sundiata  
Music and poetry |
|         |            | Museum of Northwest Art | Sample Poem:  
Sekou Sundiata  
Music and poetry |
| Session 6 | 4:15-5:15  | La Conner Middle School Gym | Sample Poem:  
Lorraine Ferra  
Jeannine Hall Gailey  
Tim McNulty  
Gerald Stern  
Four poets reading their poetry |
|         |            | Maple Hall             | Sample Poem:  
Lorraine Ferra  
Jeannine Hall Gailey  
Tim McNulty  
Gerald Stern  
Four poets reading their poetry |
|         |            | Maple Center Upper Level | Sample Poem:  
Lorraine Ferra  
Jeannine Hall Gailey  
Tim McNulty  
Gerald Stern  
Four poets reading their poetry |
|         |            | Museum of Northwest Art | Sample Poem:  
Lorraine Ferra  
Jeannine Hall Gailey  
Tim McNulty  
Gerald Stern  
Four poets reading their poetry |
| Session 7 | 7:00-7:25  | La Conner Middle School Gym | Sample Poem:  
Pat Mora  
Reading |
|         |            | Maple Hall             | Sample Poem:  
Pat Mora  
Reading |
|         |            | Maple Center Upper Level | Sample Poem:  
Pat Mora  
Reading |
|         |            | Museum of Northwest Art | Sample Poem:  
Pat Mora  
Reading |
| Session 8 | 7:30-7:55  | La Conner Middle School Gym | Sample Poem:  
Gerald Stern  
Reading |
|         |            | Maple Hall             | Sample Poem:  
Gerald Stern  
Reading |
|         |            | Maple Center Upper Level | Sample Poem:  
Gerald Stern  
Reading |
|         |            | Museum of Northwest Art | Sample Poem:  
Gerald Stern  
Reading |
| Session 9 | 8:00-8:45  | La Conner Middle School Gym | Sample Poem:  
Samuel Green  
Writing a Poem  
How do you start? |
|         |            | Maple Hall             | Sample Poem:  
Samuel Green  
Writing a Poem  
How do you start? |
|         |            | Maple Center Upper Level | Sample Poem:  
Samuel Green  
Writing a Poem  
How do you start? |
|         |            | Museum of Northwest Art | Sample Poem:  
Samuel Green  
Writing a Poem  
How do you start? |
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<tr>
<td><strong>Morning Music</strong></td>
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<td>Kurtis Lamkin</td>
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<td><em>Greet the morning with Kurtis Lamkin's poetry and music</em></td>
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<td><strong>Come Play For A While</strong></td>
<td>Carlos Martinez</td>
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<td>Using words to make poems is like playing with Legos. All poets try to make some new thing that is interesting and pleasing</td>
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<td><strong>Music</strong></td>
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<td>Sara Marreiros</td>
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<td><em>Fado music from Portugal</em></td>
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<td><strong>Breaking the Rules</strong></td>
<td>Gloria Burgess</td>
<td>J.W. Marshall</td>
<td>Nance Van Winckel</td>
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<td><em>Art has to play; wildness is essential to freedom</em></td>
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<td>Ekiwah Adler Beléndez</td>
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<td><em>A healing art</em></td>
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<td>Susan Pascal</td>
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<td><em>Jazz quartet with Seattle's best vibes</em></td>
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<td><strong>From Family Legend to Public Poem</strong></td>
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<td>Strategies for creating poems from personal history</td>
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<td><strong>The Critic</strong></td>
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<td>Michael Daley</td>
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<td><em>A blessing and a scourge</em></td>
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<td>J.W. Marshall</td>
<td>Rachel Rose</td>
<td>Maxine Scates</td>
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<td><em>Celebrating kinship</em></td>
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<td>Jim Haba</td>
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<td><em>Founder of the Geraldine R. Dodge Poetry Festival reads his poetry.</em></td>
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<td>Glenn Hughes</td>
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<td><em>Jazz quartet with Seattle's best vibes</em></td>
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<td><strong>Workshop:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Slaunchwise Poetry Strategies</strong></td>
<td>Laura Gamache</td>
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<td>Text melds, opposite poems, and other tricks to get you writing poetry</td>
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<td><strong>Reading / Performance</strong></td>
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<td><em>Music and words in the Bardic tradition</em></td>
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**Reading / Performance**

Michael Daley  
Brad Killion  
*Music and words in the Bardic tradition*
FESTIVAL POETS

Kelli Russell Agodon has published two books of poems, Small Knots (2004), and Geography (2003), which won the Floating Bridge Press Chapbook Award. She is the recipient of two Artist Trust GAP grants, The James Hearst Poetry Prize, and the Carlin Aden Award for formal verse. Her poems have appeared in Prairie Schooner, The North American Review, Crab Orchard Review, and on NPR's The Writer's Almanac with Garrison Keillor. She's also included in Keillor’s second anthology, Good Poems for Hard Times, published by Viking Press. Agodon was born and raised in Seattle and educated at the University of Washington and Pacific Lutheran University. She is the editor and founder of the poetry broadside series, “The Making of Peace.”

Elizabeth Austen's author interviews and commentaries on Pacific Northwest literary readings can be heard every Monday on “The Beat” on KUOW-FM public radio. Her poems have appeared in journals, including the Bellingham Review, and in the anthologies Poets Against the War, Pontoon, and Weathered Pages. She has performed at Bumbershoot, the Seattle Poetry Festival, the Skagit River Poetry Festival and the Austin, Texas, Artspark Festival. She teaches a course she calls “Reading to Sustain Your Writing Life” privately in the Seattle area.

Ekiwah Adler Beléndez began writing poems and stories at the age of 10. Now 18, his first volume of poetry, Soy (I am), was released when he was 12. Palabras Inagotables (Never-ending Words) followed when he was 14, and Weaver (2003), his first in English, when he was 16. A bilingual collection of New and Selected Poems is in the works. Born of a North American mother and Mexican father, Adler Beléndez has dual citizenship and is completely bilingual.

Allen Braden, a native of Washington state, received a National Endowm ent for the Arts fellowship, an Artist Trust fellowship, an Artist Trust grant, the Emerging Writers Prize from Witness magazine, the Grolier Poetry Prize, and other honors. He has been published nationally and his poetry is included in Best New Poets 2005, Spreading the Word: Editors on Poetry, and Family Matters: Poems of Our Families. Founder of The Gallery Reading Series and advisor for The Living Poets’ Society, he teaches creative writing and interdisciplinary composition at Tacoma Community College.

Gloria Burgess’s most recent book of poetry, The Open Door, celebrates her deep connection to her African-American and Native American heritage, integrating oral traditions and the rhythmic, evocative power of language. Her CD Journey of the Rose features selected poems performed by Burgess and original music written and performed by her husband, John. A Poetry Fellow with Cave Canem, her poetry is included in Gathering Ground, Cave Canem’s recently released 10th anniversary anthology. Burgess’s poetry has been featured on NPR’s All Things Considered and in a PBS film on social activism and the arts. She is an affiliate professor at the University of Washington. In her latest book, Legacy Living: The Six Covenants for Personal & Professional Excellence, the Mississippi-born Burgess draws on poetry, images, and stories, recalling her father’s gift of legacy and his life-changing relationship with writer William Faulkner.
Marc Cary has emerged as one of the most exciting and innovative keyboardists on the scene today. The Washington, DC, native moved to New York after graduating from the Duke Ellington School at the promising age of 21. Soon thereafter, Cary found himself in demand for his agile playing, both in stylistic mastery and personal expression. As a solo artist as well as through sideman work with Abbey Lincoln, Arthur Taylor and Betty Carter, Cary has consistently impressed critics and jazz listeners alike. His discography includes Evolution, Native GoGo Rhythms Please, Trillium, Rhodes Ahead, and The Antidote. Cary is winner of the First Annual 2000 Billboard/BET “Best New Jazz Artist Award” and was nominated for a Grammy for his work with both Betty Carter & Abbey Lincoln.

Billy Collins has published eight collections of poetry, including Questions About Angels; The Art of Drowning; Picnic, Lightning; Taking Off Emily Dickinson's Clothes; Sailing Alone Around the Room: New and Selected Poems; Nine Horses; and The Trouble with Poetry and Other Poems. He also edited two anthologies of contemporary poetry: Poetry 180: A Turning Back to Poetry, and 180 More: Extraordinary Poems for Everyday. Among his many honors are fellowships from the New York Foundation for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Guggenheim Foundation. He has also been awarded the Oscar Blumenthal Prize, the Bess Hokin Prize, the Frederick Bock Prize, and the Levinson Prize – all awarded by Poetry magazine. In October 2004, Collins was selected as the inaugural recipient of the Poetry Foundation’s Mark Twain Award for humorous poetry. Billy Collins was appointed United States Poet Laureate from 2001-2003, and New York State Laureate from 2004-2006. He is a professor of English at Lehman College of the City University of New York.

Michael Daley’s poems and essays have appeared in American Poetry Review, The Hudson Review, Ploughshares, Manoa, Alaskan Quarterly, Nebraska Review, Prairie Schooner, Poetry East, Raven Chronicles, Seattle Review, and Garrison Keillor’s Writer’s Almanac. He is the author of The Straits, a collection of poetry, and a book, Way Out There, Lyrical Essays, to be published in fall 2006 by Pleasure Boat Studios. He published several chapbooks. Daley holds degrees from the University of Massachusetts and the University of Washington, and has received awards from Bumbershoot, Fessenden, Seattle Arts Commission, National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Fulbright Program. He teaches at Mount Vernon High School. Brad Killion will perform with Michael at his Saturday reading.

Alice Derrry teaches at Peninsula College in Port Angeles on Washington's Olympic Peninsula, where she has co-directed the Foothills Writers' Series since 1980. Derrry has three collections of poetry: Stages of Twilight (Breitenbush, 1986), which won the King County Publication Award, chosen by Raymond Carver; Clearwater (Blue Begonia Press, 1997); and Strangers to Their Courage, (Louisiana State University Press, 2001), a finalist for the 2002 Washington Book Award. Derrry also has three chapbooks: Getting Used to the Body (Sagittarius Press, 1989), Not As You Once Imagined (Trask House, 1993), and translations from the German poet Rainer Rilke (Pleasure Boat Studio, 2002). A native of Oregon, she grew up in Washington and Montana.

Lorraine Ferra is founder and director of Wordtracks, a poetry-writing project for educators and students. She is the author of Eating Bread, and A Crow Doesn't Need a Shadow: A Guide to Writing Poetry from Nature. Her poems, prose, critical reviews, and translations of Portuguese poetry have appeared in CutBank, Florida Review, Free Lunch, Mickle Street Review, Quarterly West, and The Seattle Review, among many others. A chapbook of new poems is forthcoming in late spring from One Crow Dancing Press. She lives in Port Townsend, Washington.
Kathleen Flenniken's collection, *Famous*, is due in fall 2006 from the University of Nebraska Press. A Seattle resident, she has received the Prairie Schooner Prize in Poetry, and fellowships from the NEA and Artist Trust.


Tess Gallagher is a poet, fiction writer, essayist, screenplay writer, and translator. Her most recent work, *Dear Ghosts*, (Graywolf Press, 2006), is a collection of elegies following the death of her husband Raymond Carver. Her previous poetry collections include *Moon Crossing Bridge*, and *Amplitude: New and Selected Poems*. She lives in Port Angeles, Washington.

Laura Gamache is a poet, educator and essayist who received her M.F.A. in fiction from the University of Washington in 1993. Her poetry has appeared in journals, including *Crab Creek Review* and *Pontoon 7*, and her essays have appeared in publications including the anthologies *In My Life: Encounters with the Beatles* from Fromm International Press and *Classics in the Classroom* from Teachers & Writers Collaborative Press. Her poetry chapbook, *nothing to hold onto*, was published in 2005 by Finishing Line Press. She lives in Seattle, where she teaches creative writing workshops, primarily through the Seattle Arts & Lectures’ Writers in the Schools Program.

Joseph Green’s poems have been appearing in magazines since 1975 and have been collected in *His Inadequate Vocabulary* (1986), *Deluxe Motel* (1991), *Greatest Hits: 1975–2000*, and *The End of Forgiveness*, which won the Floating Bridge Press Poetry Chapbook Award for 2001. He was PEN Northwest’s Margery Davis Boyden Wilderness Writer for 2000, in residence at the Dutch Henry Homestead in Oregon’s Rogue River Canyon; and in 2002 he held a residency at Fundación Valparaiso, in Mojacar, Spain. He lives in Longview, Washington, where he has taught English at Lower Columbia College for the last 20 years.

Samuel Green is co-publisher with his wife, Sally, of the award-winning Brooding Heron Press, which issues fine, letterpress editions of poetry. Green is the author of nine poetry collections, including *Vertebrae: Poems 1978-1994* (Eastern Washington University, 1994) and *The Only Time We Have* (Gray Spider Press, 2002). A new collection, *The Grace of Necessity*, is forthcoming from Carnegie-Mellon University Press. His poems have appeared in *Poetry, Poetry Northwest, Poetry East, Prairie Schooner, Yellow Silk, and Southern Poetry Review*, among hundreds of others. A veteran of the PITS program, he has taught in schools throughout Washington state since the mid-‘70s, as well as in colleges in Wyoming and Utah. He is currently Distinguished Visiting Northwest Writer at Seattle University winter quarters. He lives the rest of the year on a small island in the San Juans.
Jim Haba grew up in rural Washington, both east and west of the Cascades, most recently on Camano Island. He earned a B.A. from Reed College and a Ph.D. from Cornell University before teaching for three decades in New Jersey universities, retiring from Rowan University in 2003. Since 1986 he has designed and produced all ten biennial Geraldine R. Dodge Poetry Festivals and directed the Dodge Poetry-in-the-Schools Program, which sends poets into New Jersey high schools and provides a variety of poetry-related experiences for teachers at every classroom level. He studied drawing and sculpture in New York City before beginning to write poems more than thirty years ago. He continues to work as a visual artist constructing painted-paper collages and with his wife, Erica Barton Haba, designing and producing ceramic tile murals.

Linda Hogan was born in 1947, in Denver, Colorado and grew up in Oklahoma. She obtained a M.A. degree from the University of Colorado at Boulder in 1978. She is a poet, short story writer, novelist, playwright, and essayist and has played a prominent role in the development of contemporary Native American poetry, particularly in its relationship to environmental and anti-nuclear issues. She often incorporates a feminist perspective in her verse through description of women's lives and feelings. She taught at the University of Minnesota, and has been an associate professor at the University of Colorado at Boulder since 1989. Her list of publications includes novels Mean Spirit, Solar Storms and Power. Books of poetry include Savings and The Book of Medicines. Hogan's awards include the Five Civilized Tribes Playwriting Award, the Guggenheim Award, and the Wordcraft Circle Writer of the Year Award.

Glenn Hughes' poems have appeared in Prairie Schooner, Poetry East, Poetry Northwest, Poets West, and other journals. A recently published chapbook is Sleeping at the Open Window (2005). Together with Tim McNulty he edited Poems from Ish River Country: Collected Poems and Translations of Robert Sund (2004), and has just finished editing a posthumous book of Robert Sund's poetry, Taos Mountain. He is also the author or editor of four books of philosophy. Born and raised in Seattle, he later made his home in the Skagit Valley before moving to Boston for doctoral studies. Since 1990 he has lived in San Antonio, where he is a professor of philosophy at St. Mary’s University.

Kurtis Lamkin is a poet from Philadelphia who plays the kora, a 21-string West African harp/lute. He has performed his poems internationally, most recently at the Gullah Festival in South Carolina, the Geraldine R. Dodge Poetry Festival in Waterloo, New Jersey, the Guggenheim Museum in New York City, the New Jersey Performing Arts Center, Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Oregon, and at the Skagit River Poetry Festival and Bumbershoot Festival in Washington state. *Queen of Carolina* is his latest recording featuring kora poems that focus upon work and growth primarily in the South. His animated poem, *The Foxes Manifesto*, based upon the 1976 Soweto Rebellion, was aired for two years on PBS. He has performed on numerous television and radio shows, including National Public Radio. He is one of the featured poets on the Bill Moyers PBS special on poetry, *Fooling with Words*. Lamkin’s poetry has been published in numerous anthologies and magazines including, *I Feel A Little Jumpy around You* (Simon & Schuster), *Fooling with Words* (William Morrow & Company), *Code Magazine*, and *Crazy Horse*. He is currently working on a new kora-poem entitled *The Yam Seller*, and a handbook for oral poetry called: *Live Poem: Composition, Performance and Improvisation*.


J.W. Marshall, along with his wife Christine Deavel, owns and operates Open Books: A Poem Emporium, a poetry-only bookstore they started in 1995 in Seattle. Wood Works has published two chapbooks of his poems, *Taken With* (2005) and *Blue Mouth* (2001), a finalist for the 2001 Washington State Book Award. He has published poems in several magazines, including *Cranky*, *Field*, *Ploughshares*, *Poetry*, *Raven Chronicles*, and web-del-sol. Marshall has a Master’s Degree in rehabilitation counseling from Seattle University, and a M.F.A. in poetry from the Iowa Writer’s Workshop.

Tod Marshall was born in Buffalo, NY, and earned a M.F.A. from Eastern Washington University, and a doctorate from the University of Kansas. His first collection of poetry, *Dare Say*, was the 2002 winner of the University of Georgia’s Contemporary Poetry Series. He also has published a collection of his interviews with contemporary poets, *Range of the Possible* (EWU Press, 2002). In 2005, Eastern Washington University Press published *Range of Voices*, edited by Marshall, an anthology of five poems by the poets with whom Marshall conducted interviews. In 2003, he was selected as the Wilson Visiting Poet at Albion College in Albion, Michigan, a distinction previously given to poets Gwendolyn Brooks, Gary Snyder, Stephen Spender, and Galway Kinnell. His work is widely published. He lives in Spokane, Washington, and teaches at Gonzaga University.

Carlos Martinez is a native New Yorker and a long-time resident of Washington state. He currently teaches creative writing and literature at Western Washington University. He has published locally and nationally in a variety of literary journals and anthologies, and was selected as a 2005 Jack Straw Foundation Writing Fellow. His second chapbook, *The Cold Music of the Ocean*, was published in 2004 by Finishing Line Press.
Tim McNulty is a poet, essayist, and nature writer. He is the author of two collections of poetry, *In Blue Mountain Dusk* (Pleasure Boat Studio) and *Pawtracks* (Copper Canyon Press), and seven chapbooks, including *Last Year’s Poverty* (Brooding Heron Press), *Reflected Light* (Tangram Press), and most recently, *Through High Still Air* (Pleasure Boat Studio). His award-winning books on nature include *The Art of Nature; Washington’s Wild Rivers; Olympic National Park: A Natural History; Washington’s Mount Rainier National Park;* and *Grand Canyon: Window on the River of Time*. McNulty received the Washington Governor’s Writers Award and the National Outdoor Book Award.

Pat Mora’s new collection, *Adobe Odes*, will be published by The University of Arizona Press in fall 2006. Her poems, characterized as “proudly bilingual” by *The New York Times*, include *Aunt Carmen’s Book of Practical Saints*. An award-winning author of poetry, nonfiction, and children's books, Pat is completing *Dear Teacher: Seven Practices for Creative Educators*. *Confeti: Poem as Para Niños*, the Spanish version of her popular children's poetry collection, is available this spring. The University of Texas at El Paso’s Distinguished Alumna for 2004, Pat received a Civitella Ranieri Fellowship to write in Umbria, Italy in 2003 and has been a judge and recipient of the Poetry Fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, advisor and recipient of the Kellogg National Leadership Fellowship, and Carruthers Chair in Honors, Distinguished Visiting Professor at the University of New Mexico. The mother of three adult children, she lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Paul Everett Nelson, co-founder of the Northwest SPokenword LAB, is author of an epic poem re-enacting Auburn history, entitled *A Time Before Slaughter*. A professional broadcaster since 1980, he has interviewed Allen Ginsberg, Michael McClure, Anne Waldman, Wanda Coleman, Diane di Prima, Jerome Rothenberg, Eileen Myles and Victor Hernandez Cruz. He has facilitated more than 200 poetry workshops. Nelson is doing graduate work through Lesley University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, on “Open Form in North American Poetry: A Path to Liberation.”

Peter Pereira is a family physician in Seattle, and a founding editor of Floating Bridge Press. His poems have appeared in *Poetry, Prairie Schooner, New England Review, The Virginia Quarterly Review, Journal of the American Medical Association*, and are forthcoming in *Second Opinions* (University of Iowa Press) and *Behavior & Medicine, 4th Edition* (Hogrefe & Huber). His books include *The Lost Twin* (Grey Spider 2000), and *Saying the World* (Copper Canyon 2003), which won the Hayden Carruth Award, and was a finalist for the PEN USA Award in Poetry. His next book, *What’s Written on the Body*, is forthcoming from Copper Canyon Press.

Bill Ransom is a native of Puyallup, Wash., and a graduate of the University of Washington and Utah State University. He began a pilot project with the Poetry in the Schools program in Washington state and founded and directed the popular Port Townsend Writers’ Conference for Centrum. Ransom has received two National Endowment for the Arts fellowships in poetry and has published six novels, six poetry collections, numerous short stories and articles, and poetry in dozens of journals in the U.S. and abroad. *Finding True North & Critter*, from Copper Canyon Press, was nominated for both the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award. He serves on the editorial board of *Weber Studies* magazine. During the academic year he is a member of the faculty of The Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington.
Rachel Rose is a dual Canadian-American citizen whose work has been published in both countries in various journals, including Poetry, Verse, The Journal of the American Medical Association, The Malahat Review, and The Best American Poetry. Her work has been read on the CBC and published in several anthologies, including Uncharted Lines: Poems from the Journal of the American Medical Association and In Fine Form: The Canadian Book of Form Poetry. Her first book, Giving My Body to Science, (McGill/Queen’s University Press) was a finalist for the Gerald Lampert Award, the Pat Lowther Award, and the Grand Prix du Livre de Montreal, and won the Quebec Writers’ Federation A.M. Klein Award for the best book of poetry for 2000. Her second book, Notes on Arrival and Departure, was published by McClelland & Stewart in spring 2005.

Maxine Scates is the author of Black Loam (Cherry Grove Collections), which received the Lyre Prize and was a finalist for the 2005 Oregon Book Award, and Toluca Street (University of Pittsburgh Press), which received the Agnes Lynch Starrett Poetry Prize from the University of Pittsburgh Press, and the Oregon Book Award for Poetry. Her poems have appeared widely in such journals as Agni, American Poetry Review, Antioch Review, Crab Orchard Review, Crazyhorse, Ironwood, Luna, Massachusetts Review, Missouri Review, Ninth Letter, North American Review, Poetry East, Prairie Schooner, Quarterly West, The Women’s Review of Books and ZYZZYVA. Her poems have been anthologized and her reviews have appeared in a number of publications. Scates is co-editor, with David Trinidad, of Holding Our Own: The Selected Poems of Ann Stanford, published by Copper Canyon Press. She has received fellowships in poetry from the MacDowell Colony, Caldera, Oregon Literary Arts and the Oregon Arts Commission, and in non-fiction from Literary Arts, and has taught poetry and writing throughout Oregon.

Peggy Shumaker’s most recent book is Blaze, a collaboration with the painter Kesler Woodward. Her nonfiction book, Just Breathe Normally will be published in 2007 by University of Nebraska Press. Professor Emeritus at the University of Alaska in Fairbanks, she teaches now in the low-residency Rainier Writing Workshop. Shumaker grew up in Tucson and has lived the last two decades in Fairbanks, Alaska. Her work is deeply rooted in two deserts—the Sonoran and the subarctic.

Gerald Stern, the first Poet Laureate of New Jersey and newly-elected Chancellor of the Academy of American Poets, began to publish extensively in his middle and late forties. He taught at Temple University in Philadelphia, New York University, and the University of Iowa’s Writers’ Workshop. He is the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship, three National Endowment for the Arts Fellowships, the Governor’s Award for Excellence in the Arts for the state of Pennsylvania, the Lamont Poetry Prize, the Melville Caine Award, the Bernard F. Connor’s Award, the Jerome J. Shestack Poetry Prize, the Bess Hoskin Award, a PEN Award, the Patterson Poetry Prize, the Fellowship of the Academy of American Poets, the Ruth Lilly Prize and most recently, the 2005 Wallace Stevens Award, given by the Academy of American Poets as a lifetime achievement award in poetry. Stern is the author of 14 books of poetry including This Time: New and Selected Poems, which won the National Book Award in 1998, and most recently Everything is Burning (2005) and American Sonnets (2002), all published by W.W. Norton. His book of personal essays, What I Can’t Bear Losing: Notes from a Life, was released by Norton in November of 2003. Not God After All, a book of aphorisms or petite narratives, was published in October 2004 by Autumn House Press.
Sekou Sundiata is a poet who writes for print and performance as well as music and theater. He has recorded and performed with a wide variety of artists, including Craig Harris, David Murray, Nona Hendryx and Vernon Reid. Sundiata wrote and performed in the highly acclaimed performance theater work, *The Circle Unbroken Is a Hard Bop*, and his music theater work, *The Mystery of Love*, was presented by New Voices/New Visions at Aaron Davis Hall and later produced by the American Music Theater Festival. He has been a Sundance Institute Screenwriting Fellow, a Columbia University Revson Fellow, and the first Writer-in-Residence at the New School University. He teaches writing and poetry at Eugene Lang College. Sundiata was featured in the Bill Moyers PBS series on poetry, *The Language of Life*. As a recording artist, Sundiata released his first CD, the Grammy-nominated *The Blue Oneness of Dreams*, to critical acclaim on the Mouth Almighty/Mercury record label. His second release, *longstoryshort*, was released on Righteous Babe Records in 2000. Sundiata and his band completed a national tour with Ani DiFranco in the summer of 2001. Sundiata’s one-person performance work, *blessing the boats*, opened at Aaron Davis Hall in New York in 2002.

Nance Van Winckel’s fourth collection of poetry is *Beside Ourselves* (Miami University Press, 2003), and a new collection of poems is forthcoming from the University of Washington Press. She received a Pushcart Prize, *Poetry* Magazine’s Friends of Literature Award, and two National Endowment for the Arts Fellowships. Recent poems appear in *APR, Ploughshares, Poetry, New Letters*, and *The Massachusetts Review*. She also published three books of short fiction, most recently *Curtain Creek Farm* (Persea Books, 2000), and is the recipient of a 2005 Christopher Isherwood Fiction Fellowship and the Patterson Fiction Award. New short stories appear in *The Georgia Review* and *Agni*. Van Winckel teaches in the M.F.A. programs at Eastern Washington University and Vermont College.

Carolyne Wright has been a visiting professor at colleges, universities, high schools, and writers’ conferences throughout the U.S. She recently moved back to her native Seattle, where she is on the faculty of the Whidbey Writers Workshop M.F.A. program. She teaches community workshops in poetry for Seattle’s Richard Hugo House, and serves on the Board of the Association of Writers and Writing Programs. She has published eight books and chapbooks of poetry, a collection of essays, and three volumes of poetry in translation from Spanish and Bengali, which have won awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York State Arts Council, and the Witter Bynner Foundation. Her previous book, *Seasons of Mangoes and Brainfire* (Eastern Washington UP/Lynx House Books, second edition 2005), won the Blue Lynx Prize and the American Book Award. Her new collection is *A Change of Maps* (Lost Horse Press, 2006), finalist for the Idaho Prize and the Alice Fay di Castagnola Award of the Poetry Society of America.
FESTIVAL MUSICIANS

FRIDAY
Seattle songwriter **Kristin Allen-Zito** creates music that is harmonically and rhythmically complex. Both as a solo act and in the company of her band The Trucks, she has crisscrossed the country, playing in coffeehouses and notable venues such as New York's Knitting Factory. Live or on her three albums, Kristin's lyrics make an immediate and lasting impression on her audiences with razor-sharp wit and powerful emotions and insights. Her voice has been described as “able to sound both sweet and innocent and yet somehow completely sophisticated at the same time.”

Singing, writing, and strumming songs of lost loves, bicycles, old hotels, politics, and long hot drives, **Robert Blake** has rambled coast to coast singing in basements, bars, backyards, and holding cells. His musical and spiritual roots are in being a folksinger. What sets Blake apart from other songwriters is his ability to approach familiar strains with his speed-strumming guitar style, wry humor, and superior narrative sense and sensibility. Robert Blake splits time between writing songs in Bellingham and singing his songs everywhere else.

Fado singer **Sara Marreiros** hails from Victoria, B.C., but grew up spending time in her father's village in Portugal. There she heard the sounds of fado (fate) music, which is Portugal’s equivalent of deep soul or blues music, a folk music mixed with both African rhythms and urban sophistication. She has performed at the Vancouver Folk Festival and its international jazz festival and across Canada on CBC live. Fado often sets the words of Portuguese poets to music, and Sara will offer up translations of the *saudade* (yearning) of fado's rich, lyrical soul.

SATURDAY
**Vibraphonist Susan Pascal** is a popular performer on the Pacific Northwest jazz scene. Her music strikes a fine balance between spontaneity and imaginative arrangements, originals and great jazz and American Songbook standards. Susan is featured on recordings by Greta Matassa, Connie Evingson, Orville Johnson and The Jazz Police, and soundtracks for the films *Eulogy, The Wedding Planner and Office Space*. For this performance, the quartet includes Susan Pascal, vibraphone; Dave Peterson, guitar; Doug Miller, bass; and Mark Ivester, drums.
Special Events

Glenn Hughes
The Robert Sund Poets' House Trust has sponsored poet Glenn Hughes for a Sund Memorial Reading at the Garden Club on Saturday, Session 5, 3:00-4:00.

La Conner Quilt Museum in the Historic Gaches Mansion
“Visual Verse” May 17-July 16
The result of an intensive year-long collaborative effort between textile artists and poets, this Contemporary Quilt Art Association sponsored event is a juried exhibition featuring innovative works of over two dozen artist/poet partnerships.
Open: Wednesday - Saturday 11:00am - 4:00pm and Sunday: noon-4:00pm
General Admission: $5.00
Children under 12 free when accompanied by an adult.

Wine and Words
The extraordinary words and music of Kurtis Lamkin, tantalizing local wines, all in the inviting, comfy setting of The Next Chapter Bookstore. Bliss! Friday 4:00-5:00. Limited seating.

Museum of Northwest Art
Wordless Stories Evocative works in several media, inviting exploration of their underlying personal narratives.
Poetic Intentions Jeff Crandall began his career as a poet, and became actively involved in glass art while working at the Pilchuck Glass School. He works in Seattle as a nationally recognized and accomplished glass artist.

Small Press Publishers
Selling their books and broadsides Saturday 8:00 am to 5:30 pm at Maple Center, Lower Level:
Bellingham Review .................................................................Trina Burke, Bellingham
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Brooding Heron Press .......................................................Sam and Sally Green, Waldron Island
Copper Canyon Press .........................................................Joseph Bednarik, Port Townsend
Floating Bridge Press ................................................................Peter Pereira, Seattle
Wood Works ..............................................................................Paul Hunter, Seattle

The Next Chapter Bookstore
John & Sharon Connell will be selling books by participating poets at Maple Hall and La Conner Middle School as well at their bookstore, The Next Chapter, across from Maple Hall. Also available: Limited Edition Festival Posters and Student Anthology!
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A special thank you to our mentor, Jim Haba, director of the Geraldine R. Dodge Poetry Festival in New Jersey.

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And Especially to:
the generous host families for housing the regional poets
all the enthusiastic project teachers and our many priceless volunteers

We Remember:
This year the project lost Jo Linnell, a Burlington-Edison school employee who loved poetry and what it offered teachers and students. As in past years, Jo assisted with the 2005 fall teacher orientation meetings to make sure all were warmly welcomed; we all miss her quick smile and willingness to help in any work which would positively impact students.
THE SKAGIT RIVER POETRY FESTIVAL
is made possible by generous grants from:

BENEFACTORS

The Anacortes, Burlington-Edison, Concrete, Conway, La Conner, Mount Vernon and Sedro-Woolley School Districts of Skagit County

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The Skagit Community Foundation
Whereas Governor Christine O. Gregoire has proclaimed the week of May 14-20, 2006 to be ARTS IN EDUCATION WEEK, and

Whereas, the Governor honors the “efforts and dedication of arts educators around the state” for their work in “broadening and strengthening the arts education focus in order to meet the goal of ‘Arts for Every Student’”

The Skagit River Poetry Project is pleased to join in this celebration!