

The Oklahoma Rose

Volume VI Issue III

PSO ~ ESTABLISHED IN 1934

May 2021

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Summer is Just Around the Corner!



Gosh, it is difficult to know what we should expect to happen next! People are just beginning to get out a little bit more and cautiously spend time with one another. Hopefully, this will be a great summer for poetry and all of us!

Poetry Society of Oklahoma is hoping to be able to have a Summer Workshop in July. We are checking around Oklahoma city for various venues. Nothing is definite as of yet, but...

As **PSO** celebrated April as National Poetry Month, once again our Mayor of Oklahoma City, David Holt signed a Proclamation proclaiming April as National Poetry Month for Oklahoma City! (*tenth year*)

Also, my Oklahoma State representative, Tammy West presented a Resolution stating April as National Poetry month for the State of Oklahoma (*again, for the tenth year in a row!*).

Yes, **PSO** does indeed like to celebrate National Poetry month in Oklahoma! But, **PSO** just like to celebrate poetry!

Our **PSO** "Did You Know" continues with the youth of today and why poetry is important to them.

Everyone should have their 2020 **PSO** Yearbook/Directory. Thank you Billy and Mikki for getting them and the contest results out to all our members.

On April 6, Together We Stand, the coalition co-founded by President Fram Virjee presented a special virtual program, featuring the current Poet Laureate of the United States, [Joy Harjo](#), a member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, who spoke about the healing power of poetry and story-telling. Joy Harjo read her poem, "[The World Begins at the Kitchen Table.](#)" (*from Oklahoma*)

Please remember to check our **PSO** website <http://www.angelfire.com/poetry/ps/> for information and our **PSO** Facebook page.

Until next time ~ Keep writing those poems! And...

"Come and Grow at PSO!"

Patti Koch, PSO President

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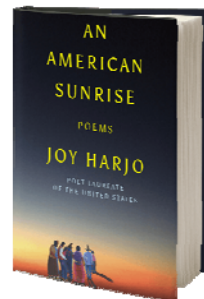
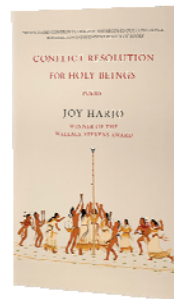
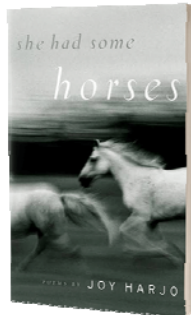
that this is part three of the importance of teaching and exposing children to poetry? It is, and we continue... Poetry often contains words that rhyme for effect. Children can learn about phonics and letter sounds by listening for and locating rhyming words.

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April was National Poetry Month!

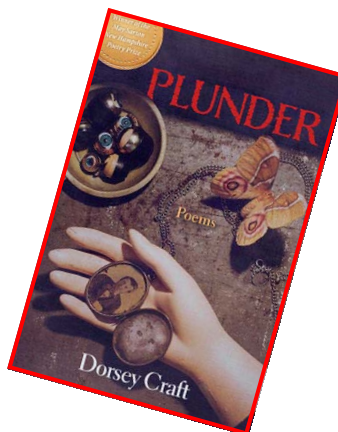
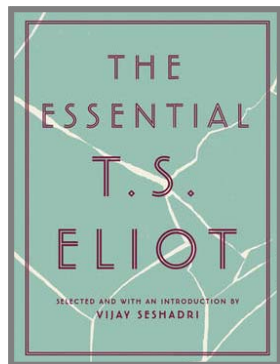
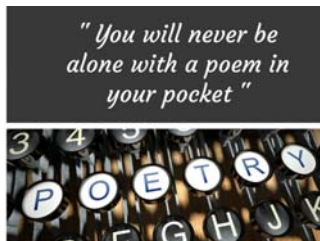
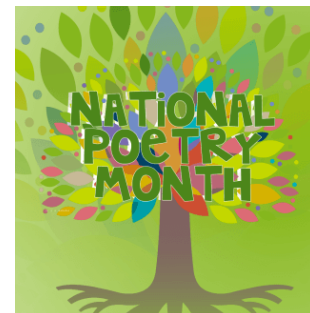
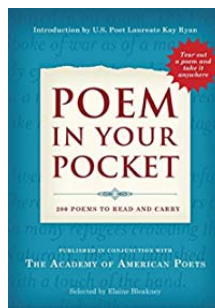
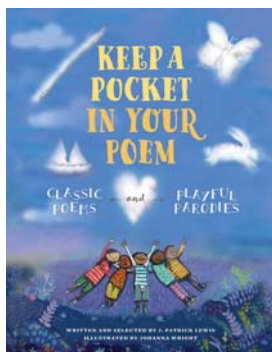
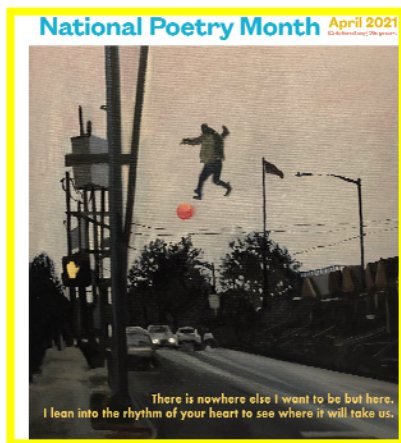


Celebrating National Poetry Month with Joy Harjo



Poem in your Pocket Day

29 April 2021



POETRY SOCIETY OF OKLAHOMA CELEBRATES NATIONAL POETRY MONTH



PSO Member News

Oh my, what a month! Get Well cards were sent to Sharon Burris, recovering from Knee replacement surgery ~ Sandy Soli, just home from the hospital ~ Mikki Pennington, also just home from a stay in the hospital. Let's keep these members in our thoughts and prayers.

Our annual contest results are in - check the PSO website for the results:

PSO Poet Laureate 2021:

2nd Runner-up – John Coppock
1st Runner-up – Lavern Spencer McCarthy
2021 PSO Poet Laureate – Patti Koch

Carol Snow recently had two poems accepted by *The Lyric*: "A Seal upon my Heart" and "Historical Art."

LaVern Spencer McCarthy had two poems published in Rio Grande Valley International Poetry Festival Anthology.

Poetry Readings

The **Second Sunday** Poetry Readings Norman (The Depot) **Closed at this time** There will be upcoming online poetry readings on-line and are booking Thursdays to live stream www.facebook.com/normandepot

Last Sunday Reading (Feature & Open Mic)

[Full Circle Bookstore](#), 2 p.m.
50 Penn Place, Oklahoma City
Open at this time

Word Pulp - First Thursday Monthly, 7:30 p.m.
Open at this time

Coffy's Café Open Mic - Every Friday, 8 p.m.
Open at this time

oklahomapoetryevents@gmail.com

Sandy Soli's poem "Meadowlark." previously appeared in Oklahoma Today magazine and is being reprinted in Oklahoma Humanities, April issue.

Send member news to: pattikoch0@gmail.com

May's Poetry Form ~ Free Verse <https://www.yourdictionary.com/examples-of-free-verse-poems.html>
<https://www.thereader.org.uk/featured-poem>

Free verse poems will have no set meter, which is the rhythm of the words, no rhyme scheme, or any particular structure. Some poets would find this liberating, being able to whimsically change your mind, while others feel like they could not do a good job in that manner. Robert Frost commented that writing free verse was like "playing tennis without a net."

Free verse poems do not follow the rules, and have no rhyme or rhythm; but they are still an artistic expression. They are sometimes thought to be a modern form of poetry; but, the free verse types of poem have been around for hundreds of years.

"After the Sea-Ship" by Walt Whitman

After the sea-ship, after the whistling winds,
After the white-gray sails taut to their spars and ropes,
Below, a myriad myriad waves hastening, lifting up their necks,
Tending in ceaseless flow toward the track of the ship,
Waves of the ocean bubbling and gurgling, blithely prying,
Waves, undulating waves, liquid, uneven, emulous waves,
Toward that whirling current, laughing and buoyant, with curves,
Where the great vessel sailing and tacking displaced the surface,
Larger and smaller waves in the spread of the ocean yearningly flowing;
The wake of the sea-ship after she passes, flashing and frolicsome under the sun,
A motley procession with many a fleck of foam and many fragments,
Following the stately and rapid ship, in the wake following.

After the Sea-Ship is taken from Whitman's *Leaves of Grass* collection 1874

Continued from page 1...

A poem can be used to teach sentence structure, parts of speech, and many grammar skills. Teaching grammar in engaging ways can be a struggle. Poetry can help!

Poetry builds vocabulary. Children get exposed to words they have not heard before, and they listen to them in context. Not only do children hear new words, but they are also learning how words are chosen for effect and to create imagery. The opportunities to learn through poetry are endless! Different types of poems have various components. In poetry, students learn how to put words together to form meaning and context. They learn how to choose the right words to create imagery and effect. When poems are broken down into their parts, students learn a lot about how writing comes together. They learn how to follow a pattern and put words in a particular order. The simple patterns found in some poems are fun to follow, and great places for children to start learning to write. Writing poetry is a transferable skill that will help children write in other ways and styles.

Poetry encourages creative thinking. It is a form of expression. Writing it, lets students get out their feelings and thoughts on a subject while reading it encourages them to connect and find meaning in their experiences.

(the conclusion about the importance of poetry for children next issue)

<https://proudtobeprimary.com/reasons-teach-poetry-classroom/>

From— <https://www.edutopia.org/> & <https://www.theatlantic.com/>



PSO ~ The Year Ahead *** 2021

May	15th	Deadline for Contests for July Workshop*
July	TBA	July Workshop and Contests (<i>Deadline May 15th</i>)*
August	15th	Deadline for Contests for Annual Meeting & National Poetry Day **
October	TBA	PSO Annual Meeting & National Poetry Day (<i>Deadline August 15th</i>)**
November	7th	Daylight Savings Time ends—turn back your clocks
November	25th	HAPPY THANKSGIVING
December	15th	Deadline for Annual Spring Contest (celebrate next March 2022)
December	25th	MERRY CHRISTMAS
December	31st	PSO Annual Membership dues are payable before the end of the calendar year ~

Poetry Society of Oklahoma Website: <http://www.angelfire.com/poetry/ps/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Poetry-Society-of-Oklahoma>