The Oklahoma Rose

Volume V Issue II

PSO ~ ESTABLISHED IN 1934

March 2020

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The Year ahead 2020

"PSO ~ In like a lion!"

our Annual Spring Awards Banquet summer. In July, PSO will host a work-March 14th at Twin Hills Country Club shop (again at Twin Hills Country Club in Oklahoma City. We like to say this is in Oklahoma City); this will be an in-"THE BANQUET OF THE YEAR!" It house (morning and afternoon) workis always quite an event! Winning po- shop presented by PSO members and a ems will be read, poets recognized, keynote speaker. At that time we will awards given and our Poet Laureate for also be presenting awards for the July 2020 will be announced. Our theme this contest winners. As always, our workyear is the observance of St. Patrick's shop will include a delicious noontime Day and the wearing of the green! We luncheon. will also enjoy a delicious luncheon.

ing forward to the OKC City Council poets. presenting a Proclamation proclaiming April as National Poetry Month in Oklahoma City (for the ninth year in a row!). And, our Oklahoma State Legislators will present a Resolution stating April Please remember to check our PSO as National Poetry month for the State of Oklahoma (again, for the ninth year in a row!). Yes, **PSO** certainly does like to celebrate National Poetry month in Oklahoma!

L "Poem In Your Pocket Day" is April 30th. Let's celebrate with some poems 2 in our pocket to share with friends.

Poetry Society of Oklahoma will hold PSO is looking ahead to an exciting

We are very fortunate in Oklahoma and With April being National Poetry month Oklahoma City proper both have many and people all over the world celebrat- poetry venues. I would encourage you ing, PSO will also be joining in that cel- to take advantage of these to enjoy, parebration. Again this year, **PSO** is look- ticipate and to learn while meeting other

> Just a reminder that the 15th of March is the deadline for submitting any poems to NFSPS for their annual contest.

website http://www.angelfire.com/ poetry/pso/ for information and our PSO Facebook page.

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

"Come and Grow at PSO!

-- Patti Koch. PSO President



⁴ The Greeks bequeathed to the western world the notion of state recognition of poetic achievement through the awarding of a lau-₄ rel wreath, the recipient thus known as a poet laureate. In the

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PSO Member News

There will be a *Poetry at Rose* event ---March 28th at six o' clock in the Atkinson Theater, the small theater on the main campus.

At 5:30 " Pegasus" will be presented.

Rose State College 6420 SE 15th St, Midwest City, OK 73110

www.rose.edu

For the 4th year Ed Roberts has had a poem included in the Poetic Prism Global Anthology

This year it showcases 1111 poems (including translations) in 107 languages by over 630 poets from 76 countries!

Every year this project has grown, the first in 2015 had poetry in 19 languages, in 2016 had 53 languages, and in 2017 had 85 languages.

There has never been a global effort to show that poetry can truly bring this planet together.

Congratulations, Ed!

Poetry Readings

The **Second Sunday** Poetry Readings program provides a monthly venue for selected regional poets to share their work. Former Oklahoma Poet Laureate and Oklahoma Book Award winner Carl Sennhenn hosts. The Depot, 200 S. Jones—Norman

Last Sunday Reading (Feature & Open Mic) Full Circle Bookstore, 2 p.m. 50 Penn Place, Oklahoma City

Individual Artists of Oklahoma - IAO Gallery 706 W Sheridan Ave, Oklahoma City **FIRST Sunday** of the month

Word Pulp **First Thursday Monthly**, 7:30 p.m. Slam and Feature, Psi Certified Queen of Sheba Restaurant, OKC 2308 N Macarthur Blvd

Coffy's Café Open Mic **Every Friday,** 8 p.m. Spoken Word & Singer/Songwriter 1739 N.W. 16th Street, OKC

A gigantic **THANK YOU** to Mikki & Billy Pennington for ALL their help and assistance on the 2020 Directory and Contests!

Send member news to: pattikoch0@gmail.com

March's Poetry Form ~ Ekphrastic from https://www.thoughtco.com/ekphrastic-poetry

Ekphrastic poetry explores art. Using a rhetorical device known as *ekphrasis*, the poet engages with a painting, drawing, sculpture, or other form of visual art. Poetry about music and dance might also be considered a type of ekphrastic writing.

The term *ekphrastic* (also spelled *ecphrastic*) originates from a Greek expression for *description*. The earliest ekphrastic poems were vivid accounts of real or imagined scenes. Through effusive use of details, writers in ancient Greece aspired to transform the visual into the verbal. Later poets moved beyond description to reflect on deeper meanings. Today, the word *ekphrastic* can refer to any literary response to a non-literary work.

Poet Anne Sexton (1928–1974) and artist Vincent van Gogh (1853–1890) both battled private demons. Anne Sexton's poem about van Gogh's "The Starry Night" presents an ominous scene: The night is a "rushing beast" and a "great dragon" that "boils with eleven stars." Identifying with the artist, Sexton expresses a death wish and a desire to merge with the sky:

"Oh starry night! This is how I want to die."

The short free verse poem mentions details from the painting, but the focus is on the poet's emotional response. Rather than dispassionately describing van Gogh's work, Anne Sexton engages with the painting in a highly personal way.

Continued from page 1...

early twentieth century American states began to designate their native poets as laureates, and Oklahoma was the seventh to do so when Gov. John C. Walton appointed Violet McDougal as the state's first laureate in 1923. Clearly, in the early years residents thought it important for the young, Western state to be known as a civilized, cultured place. Since that time Oklahoma has recognized thirteen poets, and the position has always been honorary, with no explicit or even implicit expectations upon the poets to compose official poems or to recite for state occasions.

The laureates have been fairly representative of the state's population and culture, although the first ten were born before statehood. Although only six were born in Oklahoma (and one in Indian Territory), several had pioneer roots; for example, two of the poets' fathers made land runs, and a covered wagon brought a young Delbert Davis (laureate 1963–65) to Oklahoma in 1889. From the obverse of history, Anne Semple's (laureate 1944–45) paternal great-grandparents died on the Choctaw trail of tears, orphaning her grandfather, and Maggie Culver Fry's (1977–95) mother's family was removed from Georgia with other Cherokees and walked to Oklahoma in 1837.

Since 1994, when state law regularized the process, the governor has appointed poets laureate in odd-numbered years for two-year terms. *The names are drawn from lists pro-vided by the Poetry Society of Oklahoma and other organizations.*

PSO ~ The Year Ahead *** 2020

March	8th	Daylight Savings Time starts –Spring forward!	
March	14th	Annual PSO Spring Banquet	
May	15th	Deadline for Contests for July Workshop*	
July	ТВА	July Workshop and Contests (<i>Deadline May 15th</i>)*	
August	15th	Deadline for Contests for Annual Meeting & National Poetry Day **	
October	10th	PSO Annual Meeting & National Poetry Day (<i>Deadline August 15th</i>)**	
Novembe	r 1st	Daylight Savings Time ends—turn back your clocks	
Novembe	r 26th	HAPPY THANKSGIVING	
December	r 15th	Deadline for Annual Spring Contest (celebrate next March 2020)	
December	r 25th	MERRY CHRISTMAS	
Decembe	r 31st	PSO Annual Membership dues are payable before the end of the calendar year \sim	
Poetry Society of Oklahoma Website: http://www.angelfire.com/poetry/pso/			

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

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