

Arizona State Poetry Society Presents

TAPS Poetry Reading

Saturday, June 27

3:30 pm



TAPS

TUCSON ARTS POETRY SERIES

The Historic Y

Main Floor Conference Room

738 N. 5th Ave. Tucson, AZ 85705



Featured Poets:

Alyssa Spungen
and

Henry (Hank) Childers



No need to register. Just
show up and enjoy!



@arizonastatepoetrysociety



azpoetry.net

“Spiral Staircase is the crucible in which transformative shadow work becomes the true philosopher’s stone. Drawing upon the ancient art of alchemy as an archetype for personal evolution, this collection guides the spirit through the elemental stages of change, mirroring the journey of self-discovery & integration.

Each piece is an incantation, a ritual, or revelation, unraveling the illusions of the ego to reveal the gold hidden within. Through fire & ash, water & air, a path is forged in this journey towards authenticity, acceptance, & the sacred alchemy of becoming.

This is a lyrical pilgrimage for those seeking meaning in metamorphosis & transmutation of pain into wisdom & darkness into light.”

-White Stag Publishing



Alyssa Spungen

Alyssa Spungen is a writer and psychotherapist originally from Northwest Indiana. She began writing fairy tales as birthday cards for friends as a kid, and hasn’t stopped writing since. She writes as a way to process information, attempting to weave something beautiful and meaningful from the vast amount of input. Currently, her interests in dreamwork and therapy inform much of her writing. Her debut poem collection, *Spiral Staircase: A Meditation on Alchemy* (WhiteStag Press, 2025), features these themes and will be available for sale at the reading. She will read from this book, and weave in new poems from a work in progress on the theme of the Archetypal Shadow from a Jungian framework.



Henry (Hank) Childers

Henry Childers began writing poetry at Purdue University, where he obtained a BA in philosophy. William H. Gass was a major influence. Hank was involved in the starting days of the Minneapolis Loft literary community. A move to Tucson in 1998 sparked a deep engagement with music, including the Bright & Childers duo and the Dry River Band. Following retirement from the University of Arizona, he returned to poetry, publishing *Notebook 2019* and *Notebook 2020* and staging a 2024 play, *The Story of Allen Gus*. When his music partner died in 2025, he wrote a poem a day for the 49 days after her death and self-published the collection as *Saying Goodbye to Nancy*.

Saying Goodbye to Nancy

by Henry A. Childers

Parking Instructions

Refer to Image Below for these instructions.



Disability Parking is available in the blue box area accessible off N. Herbert St. The blue arrow indicates the ramp access.



Green boxes indicate parking areas. During the time of our event, the parking restrictions on the signs will not apply.



A single line of parking is available along the wall on N Herbert Ave. Neighborhood parking is available on E 4th Street – please be mindful to park in open areas only.

Disability access is also available at the main entrance, but the parking on the street is not as convenient as in the blue box area.

Parking is challenging at best, but this map will help. Be patient and drive around the block to find parking.

The dark red arrow indicates the main entrance.