

Welcome to the Arizona State Poetry Society's 60th Anniversary Conference

Honoring Our Past; Embracing Our Future

We hope you enjoy our inspiring speakers, educational program, panel discussion, and POETRY!

*This year we are holding poetry events over 2 days and at 2 locations. **Please review the Conference Schedule below for event locale.** Maps and additional information are available at azpoetry.net. Thank you.*

Conference Schedule

Friday, October 23rd		
Event: Welcome/Meet & Greet (No Zoom Participation)		
Location: CVE Clubhouse, 2130 E. Ellis Dr. Tempe, AZ 85282. Hosted by B-Jam (Ben Gardea)		
6:30 pm	Sign-in table opens. Welcome / Meet & Greet Poets' Reception, snacks & non-alcoholic drinks	
7:00 pm	Reading of the ASPS 2026 Annual Poetry Contest 1st Place Winners	

7:30-9:30 pm	Open Mic--Please bring your poems to share & enjoy the poetry of fellow poets. Adjourn.	
Saturday, October 24th Event: ASPS 60th Anniversary Program (No Zoom Participation) Location: SC Lecture Hall, Mesa Community College, Mesa AZ		
8:00 am	Registration Table opens Poets Market Place opens	Enjoy a morning beverage in our outdoor welcome area. Remember, Coffee and Food are not allowed in SC Bldg. Bottled water and prepackaged snacks are acceptable
9:00 am	<i>Introduction:</i> Dr. Laura Tohe, the State of Arizona Poet Laureate. Professor Emerita from Arizona State University, and former Navajo Nation Poet Laureate	<i>Welcome, Poets!</i>
9:20 am	Announcements	

9:30 - 10:20 am	Professor Paul K. Tunis of Adams State University, Author, Illustrator, and Comics Artist from Globe, Arizona. Co-founder and editor of literary comics press <i>Ink Brick</i>	<i>“Head in the Gutter: Making Poetry in Comics”</i>
10:20 – 10:40 am	Break	
10:40 - 11:30 am	Ms. Penny Peyser, Poet/Author/Actor/ Documentary Filmmaker. She is a 2018 winner of the <i>Maria Faust Sonnet Contest</i> and her work has been published in <i>Chantwood Magazine</i>, <i>White Ash Literary Magazine</i>, among many others. She is best known to television and film audiences for <i>All the President's Men</i>, <i>The In-Laws</i>, <i>The Frisco Kid</i>, <i>Rich Man</i>, <i>Poor Man</i>, <i>The Tony Randall Show</i>, and more. Her <i>Sonnets From Suburbia</i> books and her one-woman show <i>Lady Penelope in Quarantine</i> have received international acclaim.	<i>"Out Loud!: The Joy of Performing Your Poetry"</i>
11:30 am – 11:45 am	Door Prize Drawing	
11:45 - 1:30 pm	Lunch Break, Area restaurant list available	

1:30 – 2:20 pm	Dr. Rosemarie Dombrowski, Inaugural Phoenix Poet Laureate, professor at Arizona State University, and founder of Revisionary Arts	<i>“Poetic Medicine: An Exploratory Workshop”</i>
2:20 - 2:40 pm	Break & Door Prize Drawing	
2:40 - 4:10 pm	Panel Discussion: with Penny Peyser, Rosemarie Dombrowski, Paul K. Tunis, Belinda Acosta*, and moderator Christy White, ASPS President	<i>"The Future of Poetry, AI, etc."</i> Audience Participation Included
4:10 - 4:30 pm	ASPS Winning Poems/Closing Comments	
4:30 pm	Adjournment	
5:00 pm	Poets Marketplace closes	
*Belinda Acosta, Ph.D.	Program Director, CantoMundo Virginia G. Piper Center for Creative Writing, Arizona State University	

**Saturday,
October 24th**

**Event: Farewell/Poetry Evening
(No Zoom Participation)**

**Location: CVE Clubhouse, 2130
E. Ellis Dr. Tempe, AZ 85282.
Hosted by Trevor Ruth**

6:30 pm

**Sign-in table opens. Poets' Get-together / Mixer
with snacks & non-alcoholic drinks**

7:00 pm

**Reading of additional ASPS 2026 Annual Poetry
Contest 1st Place Winners**

7:30-9:30 pm

**Open Mic--Please bring your poems to share &
enjoy the poetry of fellow poets.**

The *Arizona State Poetry Society* gratefully acknowledges the assistance & the support of:

