November 2026
ASPS Poetry Missive

Happy November, ASPS Poets!
To those who were able to attend and/or contributed to the gift bags at the conference, thank you so much. To those who couldn't make it, I missed you! We had wonderful workshops and a lively afternoon discussion about the future of poetry and what will impact us as poets and writers. Mesa Community College was a great location, too! Our volunteers at the open mics on Friday and Saturday evening did a great job. Special shout out to Jim Platt of East Valley Poets who secured MCC and our open mic spaces….as well as so much more! Now for November's events! (It just doesn't end!)

Along with the Thanksgiving festivities, there are some fun poetry events….readings, slams, writing together, hanging out with totally cool poets! I am sure I have missed some of the scheduled events because that's what happens around the high holidays of the year. But, watch for the mid-month update! In the meantime, write some poetry, share some poetry, read some poetry! And if you go to someplace that's NOT doing poetry because of my list…puh-leeeze let me know. Peeps don't announce that they *aren't* doing something.

The next **ASPS Zoom poetry workshop** is Saturday, November 14, 1-3 pm with Julie Cummings, president of Columbine Poets of Colorado and past president of NFSPS. Theme is POEMS OF PLACE. $20 ASPS members, $25 non-members. Register and learn more here: https://azpoetry.net/a-upcoming-events/#Workshops

A shout out to all of the people who support poets and their poetry! Last month exhausted me, but in a very good way. I had some amazing support and got to meet some amazing poets. Let the good times continue and bring your notebook in whatever form (paper or electronic) and be inspired to create!

A note about my sources….I search through Instagram, Facebook, my emails and more. BUT…**Let me know of any Arizona poetry event missed or changed**, any kind of poetry, or an event with a relationship to poetry, and share on the Arizona State Poetry Society's Facebook page, or copy to me! There's more poetry going on than I can capture here, there's always **more**!

Be joyful, be creative! BE GRATEFUL!
Metaphors be with you!
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Arizona State Poetry Society on Facebook and https://azpoetry.net/



November



Arizona State Poetry Society Events, Workshops & Notices – azpoetry.net

ZOOM: Saturday, November 14, 1-3 pm *Zoom* with Julie Cummings, president of Columbine Poets of Colorado and past president of NFSPS. **Theme is POEMS OF PLACE**. $20 ASPS members, $25 non-members. Register and learn more here: https://azpoetry.net/a-upcoming-events/#Workshops

Still looking for volunteers! If you have an interest in helping ASPS reach more poets, as well as helping to plan the future of ASPS in the next year. Please contact me. We have room for you and thoughts you might have for the future of ASPS. Your current board and supporting teams do what we do *for you*. The next 60 years could shape the world (Yes, I think big and I just might be here, too!).

ASPS Member ONLY Contest for CATEGORIES:
Category I: Traditional (identify form)
Category II: Free Verse
Category III: The Monthly Subject (see below); any subject, any form
Category IV: Same Year Winners (any subject, any form)
Next contest: JANUARY 2027 – For guidelines and topics for 2027, visit https://azpoetry.net/contests/#MemberContest and click on the submissions guidelines!

Primary Poets UPDATE: The second group of The Primary Poets will be meeting soon in the Phoenix West Valley. To learn more about Primary Poets, email ASPS member Karen Morales at thekrayonkids@gmail.com

Phoenix: Open Jam by B-Jam @ Meraki Kava Bar, NEW LOCATION! 15414 N. 19th Ave., doors 6:30p, show 7:30p, Friday, November 20. Focus is on poetry, connection, elevated energy, expression, culture. Special guest music & live original art! Sign up by email phxpoetryslam@gmail.com. For location visit - https://merakiaztogo.com/ Every 3rd Friday of the month!

Green Valley: Writing Group for Poets, Green Valley Library, 601 N. La Cañada Dr., 3-5pm, Tuesday, November 3. Critique circle and opportunity to exchange work & processes. For more information, email Eileen Flaxman: evflax@gmail.com A 1st Tuesday of the month event.

Tempe: East Valley Poets @ Pyle Center, 9:30 am - 12 pm, Saturday, November 21. Their theme is "No pressure, just poetry"! Join them in a discussion and mini-workshop to share poetry, community and maybe snacks. This may be a hybrid in-person and zoom event, email evpoets@yahoo.com for Zoom instructions. A branch of ASPS. A 3rd Saturday event – email evpoets@yahoo.com for details

Tucson: Tucson Poetry Society @ ZOOM, 10 am, Saturday, November 28. Share a poem you want critiqued so it can be a better poem! To receive details, send an email elainepowers.tps@azpoetry.net A branch of ASPS. 4th Saturday of the month event. They do have an additional Thursday evening depending on number of participants.

Scottsdale: Mustang Poets @ Mustang Library, 10101 N. 90th St., 1 - 3 pm, Saturday, November 28. Bring your poems or your favorite poet's poems. We discuss poetry, give gentle critiques and encouragement to write. Open to the public, this is a branch of the Arizona State Poetry Society and is co-sponsored by the Scottsdale Public Library. For more information, email mustangpoets@gmail.com A branch of ASPS. A 4th Saturday of the month event.

Tucson: Tucson Arts Poetry Series (TAPS) @ The Historic Y, 738 N. 5th Ave., Main Floor Conference Room, 3:30-5:30pm, Saturday, December 28, donations accepted. Features this month are TBD. Visit https://azpoetry.net for more information.

BLOGS ABOUT POETRY ON ASPS WEBSITE. This feature on the website is still NEW! Members and visiting writers talk about poetry. **https://azpoetry.net/blog/** Send your Blog to christywhite.smp@azpoetry.net if you would like to be considered for publication.

ASPS POETS FEEDBACK SERVICE – Are you wondering why your poem is not being accepted for publication or is not winning contests? Maybe you have a poem that just doesn't cut it but it's still one of your favorites. For ASPS member only you can submit up to 2 poems per year to be reviewed. You will be paired with one of our qualified volunteers. Visit azpoetry.net/programs to learn more about our member service.

There's more 

Always check to see that a listing has not changed

because, well, *things* change, venues cancel, etc., etc.
Most times are Arizona times, differences will be noted.

WEEKLY (please let me know if there are changes)

Sundays:
Litchfield Park: Tap Savvy Open Mic @ Tap Savvy, 13000 W. Indian School Rd., Ste. A-6, 6:30 pm sign up, 7pm Show. Hosted by Eric Sparks. Enjoy a refreshing drink while the poetry flows!

Tuesdays:
Flagstaff: Poet Brews Writers Open Mic @ Flagstaff Brewing Company, 16 E. Route 66, 7pm. A writers' open mic, 21+, read anything up to 10 minutes. For more info, visit https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100093122109417

Wednesdays:
Flagstaff: Flagstaff Poetry Slam Writers' Circle @ Flagslam Community Member Homes 5:30-7p Bring writing you would like to workshop or create something new! This will be *every other Wednesday*. Contact to request location: https://www.facebook.com/flagslam

Phoenix: Meraki Moments Open Mic @ 15414 N. 19th Ave. (new location), 8-10pm, donations go to One Family Community Outreach. With host Kid Parrish. Poets, singers, hip-hop…all are welcome!

Phoenix: Margin & Mic @ Downside Up, 12820 N. 19th Ave., 7-11:30p. Connect with new writerly friends at a club for written and spoken word. Prompts provided, you write while sipping your mocktails. There will be time to share your new piece, rough stuff and all! Every Wednesday.

Tempe: Walk-in Wednesdays Open Mic @ Tempe Center for the Arts, 700 W. Rio Salado Parkway, 5-10pm. Acoustic musicians and poets with no more than 10 minutes total (includes set-up & take down). Every Wednesday night unless there are scheduling conflicts, check the website! For more info: https://www.tempecenterforthearts.com/Home/Components/Calendar/Event/85526/5071

Thursdays:
Phoenix: Poetic Soul @ Club Dwntwn, 702 N. Central Ave., 6-11pm, $15. A 21+ open mic event for poets, singers, writers, musicians and more! A collaborative arts & culture experience every Thursday night. Advance tickets strongly recommended and you can get them here: https://qosmicqadence.com/poeticsoul/

Phoenix: Acoustic Open Stage @ Fiddler's Dream Coffeehouse, 1702 E. Glendale Ave., doors open 5:30 pm, show 6:30-9p, $10. Music, poetry, spoken word, story and more! COVID-19 guidelines are in place here, so N95/KN95 masks are require attire while inside and are available at the venue. For more info, visit https://www.facebook.com/fiddlersdream/events

Tempe: Open Mic Night @ The Lighthouse Kava Lounge, 1250 E. Apache Blvd., #105, 8p. Poets, musicians, comedians, storytellers and more are welcome! You got it, flaunt it!

Tucson: Tucson Open Mic @ Solar Culture, 31 E. Toole Ave., 8 pm. Sing, speak or share! Open Mic every Thursday night at Solar Culture Gallery! Doors open at 8pm, don't come early! Need more poets and musicians! https://solarculture.org/

Saturdays:
Glendale: Stories, Poems & Performing Club @ Glendale Community Center, 5401 W. Ocotillo Rd., 3:45-4:30pm, for ages 6-14. WHAM in partnership with the City of Glendale brings a fun space to area youth to share creativity, explore voice and performance (if you choose). *An every other Thursday event*. For more information, visit https://www.wham-art.org/off-site-classes

There's more – by DATE

Sunday, November 1:
Glendale: Victory Comes Late: Emily Dickinson's Quiet Patriotism @ Glendale Library-Foothills, 19055 N. 57th Ave., 2-4pm w/Rosemarie Dombrowski. Funded by the NEA Big Read program, participants will learn about Emily Dickinson's poems during the Civil War.

Monday, November 2:
Glendale: Writer in Residence: One-on-One Consultations w/Patti Blanco @ Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St., 12:30-5p, 2 hour sessions. Bring work in progress to consult with poet & writer, Patti Blanco. Registrations being accepted now:
https://glendaleaz.librarycalendar.com/events/month/2026/11?keywords=poetry
Workshop: Leaping Poetry – Recovering Magic in Our Poetry 6:30-7:45pm.

Phoenix: Ghost Poetry Show Slam! @ The Rebel Lounge, 2303 E. Indian School Rd., Doors 7p, Show 7:30p, $10 advance, $12 door. Classic slam with 15 poets, three rounds, 5 judges and an audience of many! For more info and tickets - https://ghostpoetryshow.com/pages/events

Tuesday, November 3:
Flagstaff: Poet Brews @ Flagstaff Brewing Company, 16 Historic Rte 66, 7p. An open mic for all poets!

Cottonwood: Lost Verse: A Salon @ The Eureka Room After Dark, 1012 N. Main St., 6-8p. Sign up 6, readings 6:30. Just poetry, 21+, an open mic! A 1st Tuesday event.

Green Valley: Writing Group for Poets, Green Valley Library, 601 N. La Cañada Dr., 3-5pm,. Critique circle and opportunity to exchange work & processes. For more information, email Eileen Flaxman: evflax@gmail.com A 1st Tuesday event. Check with Eileen to confirm, please!

Phoenix: Poetry Open Mic @ Meraki Kava Bar, 15414 N. 19th Ave. (new location!), 8-10pm. With host Jessica Swarner. Poets, singers, hip-hop…all are welcome! NOW MONTHLY, 1st Tuesday of the month.

Wednesday, November 4:
Flagstaff: FlagSlam @ Firecreek Coffee, 22 E. Rt. 66, 6:30pm doors, 7pm show, PWYC $0-$5. Regular slam, regular rules. Sign up in advance at flagstaffpoetryslam@gmail.com, or at the door (if there is room, of course!). For more information, visit them on Facebook or Insta.

Superior: Regenerating Sonora's Open Mic @ Leo's Community Development Center, 52 N. Pinal Ave., 5:30p sign up, 6p show. Open mic for poets, singers, storytellers, and more. Monthly features! Food & libations will be available. 1st Wednesday of the month.

Tucson: Open Mic in Support of Tucson Poetry Festival @ Fini's Landing, 5689 N. Swan Rd., 6-9pm. Come support the Tucson Poetry Festival fundraiser happening all day and closing with an open mic in the evening. Each reader gets 3 minutes! Mention TPS when you order food & drinks! https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1446052070961547&set=gm.2656035518182400&idorvanity=409877149464926

Thursday, November 5:
Phoenix: Fiddler's Dream Open Mic, 1702 E. Glendale Ave., 6:30-9:30 pm, Kn95 mask required, $10 cover. An intimate, welcoming venue for poets, storytellers, musicians and more. Masks are available at the venue. Seriously strong brewed coffee, cocoa, soft drinks, teas, water for $1!

Tucson: Ofelia Zepeda Reading for Indigenous Poets & Sun Tracks 100th Publication Celebration @ UA Poetry Center, 1508 E. Helen St., 7pm. Featured poets will be Luci Tapahonso, Danielle P. Williams & Sherwin Bitsui. For more information and to access live-stream: https://poetry.arizona.edu/calendar/sun-tracks-100th-celebration

Friday, November 6:
Tempe: First Friday Poetry Open Mic @ Changing Hands-Tempe, 6428 S. McClintock Dr., 6p. Attendees are invited to read up to **ONE** page (double spaced) of poetry. https://changinghands.com/event/2026-11-06/first-friday-poetry

Tucson: First Friday Poetry @ Revolutionary Grounds Books & Coffee, 4675 E. Speedway Blvd., 5-7pm, get there early to sign up! Share your poetry at this bilingual poetry open mic! A 1st Friday event.

Phoenix: First Friday Open Mic Poetry Night @ House of Naajee Rasta Gear & Accessories, 4802 N. 7th Ave., 7pm. Reading to be held outside. Bring poetry that is real cool! https://www.facebook.com/events/1683984896054908/?acontext=%7B%22event_action_history%22%3A[%7B%22mechanism%22%3A%22search_results%22%2C%22surface%22%3A%22bookmark_search%22%7D]%2C%22ref_notif_type%22%3Anull%7D

Phoenix: First Fridays @ Chic Artistry Studio, 222 E. McDowell Rd., 7:30p. Art, music, poetry, vendors and more! Tickets @ www.iamrootco.com

Saturday, November 7:
Tucson: Poetry in the Park @ La Madera Park, 2700 E. La Madera Dr., 8:30-10:30am. Write poems, discuss writing styles, & be in fellowship with other poets hosted by D'erotik Poet. Bring a blanket or folding chair. Water and light snacks provided.

Tucson: Annual In Memoriam Reading @ UA Poetry Center, 1508 E. Helen St., 1-2:30p. Community volunteers will read poems from poets we've recently lost. This will be an in-person event. https://poetry.arizona.edu/calendar/memoriam-2026

Sunday, November 8:
Tucson: Writing Workshop & Cypher @ The Coalition, 311 E. 7th St., 4-6p. Write N Tell workshop, all ages welcome. Hosted by Tucson Slam Poetry & Lourdes Leiner.

Monday, November 9:
Phoenix: BodySlam Poetry Pride Night @ Phoenix Quaker House, 1702 E. Glendale Ave., $, doors 7p, show 7:30p. A night of poetic showdowns! Winner takes home the belt and cash! Monthly event hosted by Skyelyn Riggs-Davis, 2026 AZ BlackBerry Peach Winner.

Wednesday, November 11:
Ajo: Ajo's Poetry Circle @ Curley School Library, 201 W. Esperanza Ave., 2nd Floor, 6pm. They meet once a month on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. For more information: https://www.facebook.com/groups/1295103098231702

Phoenix: Ghost Writing Prompt Night @ Changing Hands Bookstore, 300 W. Camelback, 6:30 pm. Using submitted prompts, write for 7 minutes each prompt, then share if you wish. Any writing form is welcome! Or you can do some art!

Thursday, November 12:
Green Valley: Poet's Corner @ Joyner-Green Valley Library, 601 N. La Cañada Dr., 3-4:30pm. Come, read, listen, share and meet other poets. All are welcome! A 2nd Thursday of the month event. May be back, check with the library.

Phoenix: Open Mic Night @ Downside Up, 12820 N. 18th Ave., doors 7pm, open mic 8pm. Performances of poetry, music, comedy and more are live streamed. Come to shine your talent or support the artists. Every 2nd & 4th Thursday

Phoenix: Poetry Open Mic @ Turquoise Wine Bar Roosevelt, 504 E. Roosevelt St., 6-8p. Hosted by Jessica Swarner, no early sign ups, beginners encouraged! Wine, poetry, and friends! What could be better!

Sierra Vista: Open Mic Night @ The Onyx Grounds, 4711 S. Highway 92, 5-8p. A monthly community event for all the local talent – poets, singers, short stories and more hosted by Beth Orozco from Cochise College. 2nd Thursday night??

Glendale: Open Mic Night @ Zero Proof Lounge, 5150 W. Olive Ave., 8-10p. Hosted by Frequency450 – music, comedy, poetry, and more. One drink minimum!

Phoenix: Poetry Night @ Turquoise Wine Bar, 504 E. Roosevelt St., 6-8pm with Jessica Swarner. Come to share or come to listen and enjoy a glass of wine. Everyone is welcome! (1 drink minimum) https://www.instagram.com/turquoise_roosevelt/

Friday, November 13:
Flagstaff: Off the Rails Poetry Series @ Late For the Train, 19a E. Aspen Ave., 6-7:30 pm. Host Micaela Merryman brings an all ages poetry reading to town with musical accompaniment. Every 2nd Friday of the month.

Tucson: Poetry Open Mic Afternoon @ Ley Amber Collective, 4664 E. Speedway Blvd., 3-5p. Poetry, short stories, and more are welcome to share original work. Come be supportive of Tucson creative writers or be supported in a celebration of words. For more info and to RSVP: https://www.facebook.com/events/977080165378697/977080172045363/?acontext=%7B%22event_action_history%22%3A[%7B%22mechanism%22%3A%22search_results%22%2C%22surface%22%3A%22bookmark_search%22%7D]%2C%22ref_notif_type%22%3Anull%7D A 2nd Friday of the month event

Tucson: Rhythm & Poetry w/ feature @ BrandyLion Bar, 200 N. Court Ave. 8-10pm. Poetry, spoken word, music and more to create lots of good energy! Host is Dezzy. For more info (or just show up!), https://www.instagram.com/coy.connects/

Saturday, November 14:
Glendale: Writer in Residence Workshop – Poetry & Revision, Strategies for Sifting the Gold w/Patti Blanco @ Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St., 10:30-11:45a. Afternoon One-on-One Consultations w/Patti Blanco 12:30-5p, 2 hour sessions. Bring work in progress to consult with poet & writer. Registrations being accepted now: https://glendaleaz.librarycalendar.com/event/draft-writer-residence-workshop-40312

Tucson: Poetry Workshop/Creative Space w/TC Tolbert @ Bookman's River, 3-5pm, FREE! Hosted by Tucson's former Poet Laureate, this workshop is a trans, non-binary, queer+ poetry & creative space. You don't have to be a poet or have ever written poetry, and sharing is optional.

Prescott: Peregrine 14-Year Anniversary Celebration @ Peregrine Book Co., 219A N. Cortez St., All Day! Help celebrate this independent bookstore by stopping by, finding a book, wishing them well!

Sunday, November 15:
Phoenix: Launch Party & Poetry Reading by Poptab Press @ Afternoons Studio, 2811 N. 7th Ave., 5pm. Come celebrate local artists at the launch of the Autumn 2026 edition of Hydration! For more info: https://www.instagram.com/poptabpress/

Prescott: Prescott Poetry Slam @ The Cove Café, 1446 W. Gurley St., sign up 6:30pm, show @ 7pm; $ pay as you may. Special poet features and a regular slam. Email prescottpoetry@gmail.com to sign up sooner than at the doors. Every 3rd Sunday.

Tucson: Arizona Authors Association Open Mic @ The Historic Y, Main Lobby, 738 N. 5th Ave., 2-4:30 pm. Hosted by Ken Weene, author & poet, all arts and artists are welcome for poetry, prose, music, dance, comedy, and performance. 5 minute slots unless arranged beforehand. If you have books (no more than two titles) or art for sale, please contact Ken at kweene1941@gmail.com for details. This is a 3rd Sunday ongoing event.

Wednesday, November 18:
NEW! Phoenix: Strip Mall Poetry Series w/Shawnte Orion @ Strip Mall Coffee, 3508 N. 7th St., 6pm. A new poetry series with features. Coffee or wine and poetry. What could be better?!?

Thursday, November 19:
Reading w/Margaret Randall @ UA Poetry Center, 1508 E. Helen St., 7pm. In partnership with UA Department of Gender & Women's Studies, Margaret Randall will read from her work. For more information and to access the live-stream: https://poetry.arizona.edu/calendar/reading-margaret-randall

Sierra Vista: Write Out Loud Poetry Open Mic @ Chill Factor Hookah & Cigar Lounge, 833D E. Fry Blvd, 7-8:30p. Share your poetry with welcoming poets! Hosted by Deja Reve. A 3rd Thursday of the month event.

Friday, November 20:
Glendale: Writer in Residence One-on-One Consultations w/Patti Blanco, 12:30-5p, 2 hour sessions @ Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St. Bring work in progress to consult with poet & writer. Register: https://glendaleaz.librarycalendar.com/event/draft-writer-residence-workshop-40312

Phoenix: Open Jam by B-Jam @ House of MK, 15414 N. 19th Ave. (new location!), 7:30p. Focus is on poetry, connection, elevated energy, expression, culture. Special guest music & live original art! Poets sign up by email phxpoetryslam@gmail.com. A 3rd Friday of the month event.

Phoenix: Writing Workshop – Growth Garden @ Dos Chicas Coffee, 4105 S. Central Ave., 6-7pm. Hosted by Angel Armenta. Building a South Phoenix space for writers! For more information and to sign up, visit https://www.facebook.com/angel.armenta.42017

Surprise: Open Mic Night @ WHAM Art Center, 16560 N. Dysart Rd., 6:30-8pm, $5. Poetry, spoken word, storytelling, music and more are welcome. MC – Maggie Gautier and music by Kenny Ingram. Part of the Literary Arts Program at WHAM. Beverages, snacks and *chocolate* will make an appearance! A 3rd Friday of the month event. https://www.wham-art.org/poetry

Tucson: Light the Mic @ Splinter Collective, 901 N. 13th Ave. , 6-9pm. Join host Dezzy and share your best writing, music, whatever you have!

Yuma: Poetry Circle @ Foothills Library, 13226 E. South Frontage Rd., 1-2p. Share a poem you wrote or one you love. A welcoming environment for poets of all ages. Space is limited, so come early!

Saturday, November 21:
Tempe: East Valley Poets @ Pyle Center, 9:30 am - 12 pm. Their theme is "No pressure, just poetry"! Join them in a discussion and mini-workshop to share poetry, community and maybe some snacks. This is a hybrid in-person and zoom event, email evpoets@yahoo.com for Zoom instructions. A branch of ASPS, USUALLY 3rd Saturday.

Phoenix: Phoenix Writers Club @ Devonshire Senior Center, 2802 E. Devonshire Ave., 10am-12:30pm, $10 members, $15 guests. Always interesting and great to connect with area writers. Reserve your seat by emailing phoenixwriters1926@gmail.com

Online: Revisionary Arts Monthly Therapeutic Poetry/Writing Workshop, Zoom @ 1 pm AZ. This open-to-the-community online workshop involves the reading and discussion of poetry, as well as introspective writing and optional sharing. Themes, modalities, and facilitators rotate monthly. Please respect the vulnerability and humanity of participants, as well as the sanctuary of the space created. The link can be found on their website, Revisionary Arts – self-exploration through poetry or Workshops – Revisionary Arts. A 3rd Saturday event.

Scottsdale: Blue Buddha After Dark @ Blue Buddha Collective, 423 N. Scottsdale Rd., 7pm sign up. Hosted by Karin, open for original poetry, spoken word, personal stories, acoustic music. Bring a blanket/pillow, something soft to sit on. Every 3rd Saturday of the month. For more info: https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1361447879460183&set=g.173333166033770

Sunday, November 22:
Glendale: Writer in Residence One-on-One Consultations w/Patti Blanco, 1-5p @ Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St. Bring work in progress to consult with poet & writer. Register: https://glendaleaz.librarycalendar.com/event/writer-residence-one-one-consultation-patti-blanco-41507

Wednesday, November 25 (*maybe?*):
Flagstaff: FlagSlam @ Firecreek Coffee, 22 E. Rt. 66, 6:30pm doors, 7pm show, PWYC $0-$5. Regular slam, regular rules. Sign up in advance at flagstaffpoetryslam@gmail.com, or at the door (if there is room, of course!). For more information, visit them on Facebook or Insta.

Flagstaff: SUN Open Mic @ NAU, Union Point, upstairs, 7-9pm. Poets, singers, musicians, comedy, magicians, dancers, any kind of performer is welcome. Takes place every last Wednesday of the month. Check on holidays and breaks! *Probably not this month?*

Surprise: Authors Circle Meeting @ WHAM, 16560 N. Dysart Rd., 2-4pm. Any skill level and any genre welcome to share your work and receive gentle feedback. For more information and to sign up, visit https://www.wham-art.org/writer-s-circle

Thursday, November 26:
Phoenix: Open Mic Night @ Downside Up, 12820 N. 18th Ave., doors 7pm, open mic 8pm. Performances of poetry, music, comedy and more are live streamed. Come to shine your talent or support the artists. Every 2nd & 4th Thursday *(Possibly NOT Thanksgiving!)*

Saturday, November 28:
Scottsdale: Mustang Poets @ Mustang Library, 10101 N. 90th St., 1 - 3 pm. Bring your poems or your favorite poet's poems. We discuss poetry, give gentle critiques and encouragement to write. Open to the public, this is a branch of the Arizona State Poetry Society and is co-sponsored by the Scottsdale Public Library. For more information, email mustangpoets@gmail.com A 4th Saturday of the month event. FIND US IN NOVEMBER!

Tucson: Poetry in the Park @ La Madera Park, 2700 E. La Madera Dr., 8:30-10:30am. Write poems, discuss writing styles, & be in fellowship with other poets hosted by D'erotik Poet. Bring a blanket or folding chair. Water and light snacks provided.

Tucson: Tucson Poetry Society @ ZOOM, 10 am. Share a poem you want critiqued! To receive details, send an email to iginspired@gmail.com A branch of ASPS. 4th Saturday of the month event. They also have a critique session on the 4th Thursday *(probably not Thanksgiving)*, but email to confirm and join.

Tucson: Tucson Arts Poetry Series (TAPS) @ The Historic Y, 738 N. 5th Ave., Main Floor Conference Room, 3:30-5:30pm, donations accepted. Features this month are TBD. TAPS is sponsored by the Arizona State Poetry Society. Visit https://azpoetry.net for more information.
Buckeye: Open Mic Night (16+) @ Buckeye Library, Coyote Branch, 21699 W. Yuma Rd., #116, 6-7pm. Poet, singer, dancer, rapper, comedian or musician, come share your talent! Phone: 623-349-6300 Every 4th Wednesday. Please check!

Flagstaff: Open Mic Night @ 1899 Bar & Grill Patio, 307 W. Dupont Ave., 6:30-8:30p. Music, poetry, comedy…it's the beginning of the semester! For more info and to sign up: https://www.instagram.com/p/DbdsA15xNB7/

Sunday, November 29:
Tucson: Tucson Slam Poetry w/ feature @meghqann @ The Coalition Space, 311 E. 7th St., 6:30-9p, $1-$10 - $$what you can. The Coalition Space is supported by the 4th Avenue Association and the Made in Tucson Market. To learn more and to follow on IG: @tucsonslampoetry To sign up: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf9X_kZqZnT7KpAOFrUj_KAA_jOEAw-OqT_7ROPV-4vQb0ulw/viewform

Sierra Vista: Poetry Church @ Boot Hill Books, 1502 E. Fry Blvd., 3-5p. Bring your poems, your vision and your voice! For more information: https://www.facebook.com/events/957793637317986/?acontext=%7B%22event_action_history%22%3A[%7B%22mechanism%22%3A%22search_results%22%2C%22surface%22%3A%22bookmark_search%22%7D]%2C%22ref_notif_type%22%3Anull%7D

Monday, November 30:
Bisbee: Poetry Critique Society @ Copper Queen Library, 6 Main St., 5-6:45pm. The first 20 minutes will be a member-led writing prompt! Please bring multiple copies of a working poem to read and share with the group, and a notebook. Facilitated by Alison Williams. A last Monday of the month event.

There's more 👇

RESOURCES: CONTESTS & JOURNALS, WORKSHOPS, CRITIQUE GROUPS, PODCASTS, BLOGS

NOTE: Always visit websites to confirm submission deadlines and guidelines!

Horizon Review 2, https://www.horizonreview.org/ is an annually magazine based in Albuquerque, NM, and is in partnership with the University of New Mexico. They publish literature (poems, stories, essays), fine arts, and open media from writers and artists in the Southwest. THEY ARE ACCEPTING SUBMISSIONS NOW THROUGH **11.2.2026** FOR FICTION, POETRY, NON-FICTION, ART AND MORE!

Writing It Real in the Desert, January 15-17, 2027, in Tucson at Lodge on the Desert with Meg Files, Sheila Bender, & Jack Heffron - $550. Email megfiles@earthlink.net for more information and to register.

Write 31 poems in December! Visit Two Sylvias Press for all the details and the prompts for every day using their Poetry Prompt Advent Calendar, $25! And you can give the advent poetry prompt calendar to your poetry besty! **https://twosylviaspress.com/advent-calendar-prompts.html?utm_source=substack&utm_medium=email**

REMINDER! Tempe: Breath: Between Word & Image @ Tempe Center for the Arts, 700 W. Rio Salado Parkway, 6-9pm. A collaboration between visual art and poetry, *this exhibition runs through 1.3.27*. To learn more about it, visit https://www.tempecenterforthearts.com/Home/Components/Calendar/Event/85870/5071

Tupelo Press - visit tupelopress.org for current information.
Palette Poetry To learn more and to submit up to 10 pages of poetry, visit https://www.palettepoetry.com/the-2026-nature-poetry-prize/?fbclid=IwY2xjawROO6RleHRuA2FlbQIxMABicmlkETEzS2x0emFtNjE1WmNmNnVuc3J0YwZhcHBfaWQQMjIyMDM5MTc4ODIwMDg5MgABHsiA-33Q7_yE6LgW1JvydRZIJfFvVO17T-2gHnFmU2JoduvgnLJhSkWNyHJ0_aem_-zuaXtV3le6WfBW2AQa0Xw

Gen Society, an emerging small press focuses on poetry and visual art. They sponsor a Quarterly Poet Residency & opportunity for poets to submit work. The interdisciplinary aspect of the project pairs poetry with contemporary artwork. To learn more or submit: https://gensociety.com/submissions/ Overview: https://gensociety.com/about/

PopTab Press is a small press that has begun to publish poetry BOOKS! Link to their website with submission form and more details: www.PopTab.Press

American Poetry Journal – Call for submissions: Submissions closed for Spring 2026, but visit apjpoetry.org to see the journal at www.apjpoetry.org.

Winter in America(Still – Call for submissions: The editors of *Winter in America(Again* invite poets and artists to contribute to the sequel anthology. We seek reflective poetry, prose, and artwork exploring the consequences of the 2024 Presidential Election. All aesthetics, voices, and perspectives are welcome. For additional information and submission guidelines, visit: https://www.winterinamerica.org/wia-still **To learn more about the Winter in America(Again anthology and to purchase the book, visit: https://www.winterinamerica.org/winter-in-america-again**

Anthology is an Arizona non-profit organization that supports the writing arts. They have published poetry, fiction, non-fiction, fantasy and more. To learn more about them, visit **https://www.anthology.org/**

Chax YouTube channel: Includes recent readings as well as many previous readings, and podcasts! https://www.youtube.com/@CHAXpoetryfinepress/videos

https://www.meetup.com/redsands/events/ For in person and online reading/writing/critiquing groups in the Phoenix/Mesa/Scottsdale/Tempe and more areas.

RockPaperPoem Poetry Prize is always looking for submissions. ISSUE 14 IS UP! https://rockpaperpoem.com/

Frontier Poetry: For more information and guidelines for submissions, visit https://www.frontierpoetry.com

This might still be happening and worth taking a trip to Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum: https://www.desertmuseum.org/poetry/ Woven Words is an exciting new collaboration that pairs two Tucson Cultural institutions! The project will feature 30 poetry installations throughout the Museum grounds!

CutThroat, A Journal of the Arts accepts poetry, nonfiction and short story. **Submissions re-open in August.** A joint project with The Black Earth Institute. For more information, http://www.cutthroatmag.com/

Did you know? Some of the editors you send your works to will record you reading your poem and post it to their YouTube channel. Here's Alan Perry, ASPS member, reading his poem, *The Heart of It* on the *Third Wednesday* YouTube channel. https://thirdwednesdaymagazine.org/2025/10/05/the-heart-of-it-alan-perry/

Glossy Planet is an online mag for poets and prose writers. They issue a writing challenge every month. NOTE – Follow the guidelines and submit by the submission dates! https://www.glossyplanetmag.com/challenge/a-house-divided/

Running Wild Press is looking for edgy, imaginative, great writing that doesn't fit in anybody's box. Take a look: https://runningwildpublishing.com/

Poet Lore is America's oldest poetry journal, founded in January 1889, and is a biannual print journal of poetry of verse, voices, and visions. To learn more about this long-running journal and to subscribe or submit your poetry, visit https://www.poetlore.com/about-us/

Academy of American Poets is a great place to sample the poets on their website before buying the book! Sounds great for a quiet evening at home! Visit https://poets.org/

Persimmon Tree: An online magazine of the arts by women over sixty is accepting submissions of art, photography, short stories, prose, poetry. You might have to send a copy of your driver's license (just kidding), but there are a lot of women who don't even start to write until later in life. This is for YOU! https://persimmontree.org/

Sequestrum Lit Mag: Visit them at https://www.sequestrum.org/about and join the mailing list for updates!

Sub Club is a writer's resource center for your writing career. View jobs, read interviews, learn more about being a better writer with their app. You can have free emails with interesting articles and lots of teasers, or you can subscribe for more! https://substack.com/app?utm_campaign=email-read-in-app&utm_source=email

Grid Books: Off the Grid Prize honors one poet over sixty with an award of $1,000, publication of the winning collection in print and audiobook formats, and support in publicity and distribution. https://grid-books.submittable.com/submit for rules/guidelines and to submit your entry.

Publishing ... and Other Forms of Insanity: (publishedtodeath.blogspot.com) A great blog to find contests for poetry and other genres especially if you are hot to be published!

National Federation of State Poetry Societies' website is a great place to learn about other state poetry societies, contests, and conferences. Here's the link to learn more: www.nfsps.com Read rules and guidelines carefully, some contests are members only. Their annual contest is coming up!

Phoenix Oasis Press: Offers low and no-cost programs and service to help Arizona writers: Generate, Improve, Actionable, Network! They have in-person and virtual events, too! For more information and to connect with them, visit https://www.phoenixoasispress.com

Autumn Voices out of the UK has competitions and accepts poetry and other writing from older writers. To read more about this interesting opportunity and to read some of the pieces of older, talented writers, visit their website: https://autumnvoices.co.uk/

Submishmash Weekly a newsletter with humor, contests for writers of all genres, art opportunities and interesting reads. A weekly human-curated newsletter bringing news and opportunities in publishing and other creative industries to artists, filmmakers, and writers. To sign up, go to: https://submittable.us14.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=29faa4e2bc171e46123a4867e&id=3cc7ac8d8a

A Room of Her Own Foundation is the sponsor of some interesting writing projects and contests. To learn more, go here: http://aroomofherownfoundation.org/about/

Beatlick Press for writers who have something to say and where poets and poetry hit the road! http://www.beatlick.com/

"City of Literature" is a PBS program about the Iowa Writers Workshop and how it got started. https://www.iowapbs.org/shows/cityliterature/documentary/5260/city-literature

UA Poetry Center has livestreamed & in person events through most of the year, except for summer breaks. Visit them on Facebook (20+) University of Arizona Poetry Center | Facebook for some interesting highlights, or their website to find out about current offerings: http://poetry.arizona.edu/

read poetry is an online community of poets that celebrate poetry from around the world. They highlight and feature new and not so new poets, hold events and blog about everything poetry. Currently based in Kansas City, MO, (and who knows where else they might go), they bring poetry to wherever they can. Visit their website and learn more: https://www.readpoetry.com/

Poetry Foundation has online workshops and discussions ALL month long! Visit their website to find to read more about what's on the menu: https://www.poetryfoundation.org/events They also provide a place to listen to poetry read by the poet or an admirer, and there are interviews and conversations about poetry. https://www.poetryfoundation.org/podcasts

The Writer's Center is based in the DC Metro Area and holds workshops, readings, talks, and good conversation. To learn more and to register for any of their events, visit: https://www.writer.org/

"Poets On Poetry: 25 Quotes" - Memorable Quotes On The Art & Craft Of Poetry- A YouTube Video By Frank Iosue. A little something to watch and perhaps inspire!

Looking for an online workshop? Visit this website and see what is being offered, some of them are even free! https://digitaldefynd.com/best-poetry-courses/ University courses from California to Pennsylvania are being offered for all levels of poets.

Poetry Prompts and other interesting things: https://readingandwritingthroughlife.com

The New Yorker Magazine has a podcast with poetry editor, Kevin Young. Featured are conversations with poets about their work, and poetry readings. https://www.newyorker.com/podcast/poetry

Phoenix Poetry Events Facebook Page...there are open mics, contests, slams, readings, and so much more! https://www.facebook.com/groups/phoenixpoetryslam/

Wilkes University has a really great, low residency MA/MFA creative writing program. You can talk to me about it, or look it up and see if it just might be a fit for you. They focus on producing WORKING writers and if that's something that interests you, take a look! http://www.wilkes.edu They are on the East Coast in Pennsylvania and this is my alma mater.

Phoenix College on East Thomas in Phoenix has a creative writing program and offers AA and AAFA degrees. If you are looking to refine your writing or to start writing, this might be the place. To learn more visit: http://www.phoenixcollege.edu/

Canyon Voices, the lit magazine published by the New College of Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences-ASU is accepting submissions from undergraduates, graduates, faculty and the community to submit for the next publication. For more information and submission guidelines, visit https://newcollege.asu.edu/canyonvoices
Scottsdale Community College offers AA and AAFA degrees in creative writing. To learn more, visit https://www.scottsdalecc.edu/degrees-certificates/culture-and-society/associate-arts-emphasis-english-creative-writing-8118-aa
Paradise Valley Community College also has a creative writing program that offers AA and AAFA degrees. To learn more, visit https://www.paradisevalley.edu/degrees-certificates/culture-and-society/associate-arts-emphasis-english-creative-writing-8118-aa

Tupelo Press supports poets and poetry events. Writing conferences are coming up! Take a look at what they do here: http://tupelopress.wordpress.com

Words Dance Publishing has free stuff, poetry, art and they might even publish one of your poems. Check it out online.

Poetry Out Loud fosters the next gen poets and literati. For more information (teachers are you paying attention?), visit http://www.azarts.gov/arts-learning/poetry-out-loud/

Poets & Writers Magazine for great info about writing, interviews, contests, workshops and so very much more! http://www.pw.org/magazine

Remember to visit https://www.newpages.com/independent-bookstores/arizona-bookstores
to find independent bookstores around Arizona. If you don't see your favorite bookstore listed, let them know! Support and buy locally.

Looking for more places to submit your poetry? Of course you are! Here's an interesting website from 2024: https://www.everywritersresource.com/50-literary-magazines-accepting-poetry-submissions/ And another: https://blog.reedsy.com/guide/poetry/submissions/ As always, always, always carefully read what the publication is requesting, then follow their rules! It's their party, er, uhm, publication and they get final say. You have a much better chance to see your poem published if you know what they are looking for, too, so read an issue or two if you can get it. Then submit, submit, submit!

David Whyte, poet/philosopher, has a number of inspiring options for anybody, not just writers. His poetry is an entry into a new way of thinking and being. If you are interested, visit his website: https://davidwhyte.com/

Visit POG: Poetry in Action! on Facebook, Tucson's premier presenter of avant & experimental poetry. Directed by Charles Alexander, POG is a collective of poets, literary critics, and other artists who offer public programming to promote active appreciation of avant-garde poetry and multi-disciplinary art.

A community college in your neck of the deserts (high and low) may offer creative writing courses or AA/AAFA degrees or certificates. Below the Arizona community colleges:

Arizona Western
Central Arizona College
Cochise College
Coconino Community College
Eastern Arizona College
Maricopa Community College
Mohave Community College
Northland Pioneer College
Pima Community College
Yavapai College

crisp brown leaves hold tight
before cool winter breath swirls
dancer breaks away



Fall Haiku 2026 – CChristy White