



**PRESENTED BY THE KELLOGG-HUBBARD LIBRARY**

135 Main Street\* Montpelier, VT 05602 \* 802.223.3338 \* [www.poem-city.org](http://www.poem-city.org)

Programs are open to the public and free *unless otherwise noted*.

**April 1 | Morning Devotional Reading with Vermont Poet Laureate Chard deNiord**

**Vermont State House Chambers, 115 State St 9:30 AM**

Before the legislative sessions at the State House commence, a daily poem or homily is offered to open the proceedings. Vermont's Poet Laureate Chard deNiord will offer today's invocation. In 1990, Chard deNiord published his first poetry collection, *Asleep in the Fire*, while teaching comparative religions and philosophy at the Putney School in Vermont. In 2002, deNiord cofounded the New England College MFA program in poetry, which he directed until 2007. He is currently a professor of English at Providence College. DeNiord's other poetry collections are *Interstate*, *Speaking in Turn*, a collaboration with Tony Sanders, *The Double Truth*, *Night Mowing*, and *Sharp Golden Thorn*.

**April 1 | PoemCity Kickoff Celebration with Vermont Poet Laureate Chard deNiord**

**Alumni Hall, Vermont College of Fine Arts, 36 College St 7:00 PM**

Vermont Poet Laureate Chard deNiord, will appear to usher in Montpelier's annual celebration of poetry. The seventh State Poet/Poet Laureate of Vermont, deNiord began his 4-year term in 2015. Please join us in the beautifully renovated Alumni Hall! Reception to follow.

**April 2 | Memorization Workshop with Ginger Lambert**

**Kellogg-Hubbard Library, 135 Main St 1:00 PM**

This workshop is designed for anyone who is interested in improving their memory and concentration. It is suitable for all ages, from students to seniors. Memorization can help to foster a sense of pride by increasing self-confidence, focus, language skills, and vocabulary. When one can comfortably recite a poem from memory, a sense of poise and ease develops. This makes public speaking or giving oral presentations less daunting. Ginger Lambert conducts workshops called Poetic Methods of Memorization and is back this year by popular demand.

**April 4 | Poet Daniel Lusk - *The Vermeer Suite***

**Kellogg-Hubbard Library, 135 Main St 7:00 PM**

A special presentation of poetry and art featuring Daniel Lusk and his new collection of original work, *The Vermeer Suite*, inspired by the timeless masterpieces of 17th century Dutch painter Johannes Vermeer. Daniel Lusk's imaginative and lyrical poetry offers admirers of Vermeer a unique literary bridge between the insights of art historians and our own experience of these elegant and provocative paintings, which are projected on screen during the reading. Winner of a 2016 Pushcart Prize and recipient of a Pablo Neruda Prize for Poetry from Nimrod International Journal and other awards, Daniel Lusk is a Senior Lecturer of English Emeritus at the University of Vermont.

**April 5 | You Come Too: The Poetry of Robert Frost, with Peter Gilbert**

**Vermont Humanities Council, 11 Loomis St 5:30 PM**

Join Vermont Humanities Council executive director Peter Gilbert for a discussion of five great, short, accessible poems by Robert Frost—poems that take us from the joy of spring to summer sunny days and rural socializing: “A Prayer in Spring,” “Hyla Brook,” “The Tuft of Flowers,” “The Silken Tent,” and “A Time to Talk.” Peter Gilbert is a frequent commentator on Vermont Public Radio and an executor of the Robert Frost estate.

**April 6 | Reading & Discussion with Poet David Huddle**

**Kellogg-Hubbard Library, 135 Main St 7:00 PM**

Real poems versus made-up poems—is one better than the other, and do we always know the difference? David Huddle taught at the University of Vermont for thirty-eight years and his fiction, poetry, and essays have appeared in *The American Scholar*, *Esquire*, *The New Yorker*, *Harper's*, and *Green Mountains Review*. In 2012 his novel *Nothing Can Make Me Do This* won the Library of Virginia Award for Fiction, and his collection *Black Snake at the Family Reunion* won the 2013 Pen New England Award for Poetry. His most recent book, *Dream Sender*, is a collection of poems and was published in September 2015 by LSU Press.

**April 7 | Kids' Card Catalog Poetry & Collage**

**Kellogg-Hubbard Library, 135 Main St 3:00–5:00 PM**

Join us in the Children's Library to create poems out of cards from the library's old card catalog. Poems and artwork will be displayed in the Children's Library and can be read aloud at Popcorn & Poetry on April 28.

**April 7 | Reading with Janet Sylvester & F. Brett Cox**

**Kellogg-Hubbard Library, 135 Main St 7:00 PM**

Enjoy an evening of poetry with two local poets and professors, Janet Sylvester and F. Brett Cox.

**Janet Sylvester** has published three books of poetry: *That Mulberry Wine*, *The Mark of Flesh*, and recently *After-Hours at the Museum of Tolerance*, a finalist at Paris Press. Her poems have appeared in *Pushcart Prize XXVIII*, *Best American Poetry*, *TriQuarterly*, *Boulevard*, *Harvard Review*, *Virginia Quarterly Review*, *Georgia Review*, *Poetry Daily*, and many others. She directs the low-residency BFA Program in Creative Writing at Goddard College. **F. Brett Cox's** recent publications include fiction in *Eclipse Online*, *Shadows and Tall Trees 2014*, and *War Stories*, poetry in *IthacaLit*, *The Lake*, and *Exit 13*, and a monologue in *Geek Theater*. Cox is Professor of English at Norwich University.

**April 8 | Poetry of Art & Memoir with George Longenecker**

**T.W. Wood Gallery & Arts Center, 46 Barre St 7:00 PM**

***This venue is not accessible***

Poet George Longenecker will look at issues of race and racism in ekphrastic poetry, the poetry of art. With illustrations of paintings, he'll read works by former United States Poet Laureate Natasha Trethewey and Nobel Laureate Derek Walcott. He'll also read his own poems of art and memoir. Reception and refreshments to follow. **George Longenecker** has published his poems in many journals, including *Memoir*, *Vermont Literary Review*, and *Atlanta Review* and has recently retired as a professor at Vermont Tech.

**April 9 | Educators' Workshop: Poetry with the State Poet Laureate**

**Bear Pond Books, 77 Main St 11:00 AM–12:00 PM**

Vermont's new Poet Laureate Chard deNiord has a goal of getting schools across Vermont engaged in poetry. He's been involved in many poetry organizations, including the Next Stage Speaks initiative that he founded. He'll speak about his experiences with Vermont students, in Vermont schools, and what opportunities there are for local teachers and librarians to bring poetry into their students' learning lives. This event is part of Bear Pond's Author-Educator workshop

series. All events take place in the Children's Room, and are free and open to the public. Certificates of attendance are available for educators who can use these workshops towards continuing education credits.

**April 9 | Reading with Poets Ralph Culver & Sydney Lea**

**Kellogg-Hubbard Library, 135 Main St 2:00 PM**

Ralph Culver, author of the Anabiosis Press prize-winning chapbook *Both Distances*, and Sydney Lea, one-time Poet Laureate of Vermont, join together to offer a fantastic evening of poetry followed by an audience Q&A. Books and chapbooks will be available for purchase and signing by the authors. **Ralph Culver** of Burlington has published poetry in dozens of journals, as well as fiction, criticism, and essays. **Sydney Lea** of Newbury is an outstanding essayist and fiction writer as well as a poet, a beloved professor and lecturer who has taught at many colleges and universities, founder of the New England Review and editor of the journal for its first twelve years. His collections of poems include *I Was Thinking of Beauty*, *Six Sundays toward a Seventh*, *Young of the Year*, *Ghost Pain*, and *Pursuit of a Wound*, which was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in 2001.

**April 10 | PoetryPlus+ Music & Readings with Danny Dover, Dorothy Robson & Aaron Marcus**

**Unitarian Church of Montpelier, 130 Main St 2:00 PM**

Poet Danny Dover performs his poetry with musical accompaniment by accomplished pianist Dorothy Robson and Aaron Marcus. **Danny Dover's** first full-length book of poetry, *Tasting Precious Metal*, was recently published by Antrim House Books and his poems have appeared in several journals including *Blueline*, *Bloodroot*, and *Oberon*. **Dorothy Robson** is a composer, arranger, pianist, music educator, and co-founder of the well-regarded White River Valley Players. As a multi-instrumentalist, **Aaron Marcus** is well-known to traditional dancers for his performances with various groups throughout central Vermont and his recent CD, *Midwinter Spring* with Frost and Fire, has received much critical acclaim and showcases a number of his original compositions.

**April 11 | The Poetry of Parenthood, with Samantha Kolber & Michelle Singer**

**Kellogg-Hubbard Library, 135 Main St 6:30 PM**

Join poets Samantha Kolber and Michelle Singer in a celebration of the poetry of parenthood. They will read original and selected poems that capture the sacred and profane aspects of parenthood, as well as lead participants in writing prompts to generate new work. All welcome, no prior writing experience needed. **Samantha Kolber**, MFA, is a mother of one teenage boy, with a baby on the way this summer. Her poems have appeared in *The Mountain Troubadour*, *Hummingbird: The Magazine of the Short Poem*, *Red Silk*, *Hunger Mountain*, *Minerva Rising*, and others. **Michelle Singer** is a mother of three, co-coordinator of PoemCity, writer and poet whose work has been published in *We'Moon*, *PoemCity*, and *Red Silk*, among others.

**April 12 | Reading with Poets Francette Cerulli & Jamie Gage**

**Kellogg-Hubbard Library, 135 Main St 7:00 PM**

Join poets Jamie Gage and Francette Cerulli at the Library for an evening of poetry. **Francette Cerulli**, whose poetry has appeared on Garrison Keillor's "The Writer's Almanac," is the author of *The Spirits Need to Eat*. **Jamie Gage's** poetry has been published in numerous journals, including *Main Street Rag*, *Inkwell*, *Out of Line*, and *Mountain Gazette*. His new book, *True if Destroyed*, was published by Finishing Line Press in February.

**April 13 | Reading with Poet Leland Kinsey**

**Kellogg-Hubbard Library, 135 Main St 7:00 PM**

Leland Kinsey, Pushcart Prize nominee, will be reading from his new book *Galvanized: New and Selected Poems* published by Green Writers Press in March 2016. Kinsey is also author of *Winter Ready* and six other books of poetry. He

writes of the hard, dark life of the countryside in a haunting, spellbinding manner. Join Kinsey for an evening of poetry at the Library.

**April 14 | Sprung: A Poetry Reading with Poets Sherry Olson & Carol Henrikson**

**Montpelier Senior Activity Center, 58 Barre St 1:00 PM**

Carol Henrikson and Sherry Olson have been friends and poetry buddies for more than twenty-five years. They have both taught in the popular “Write A Poem” class at the Montpelier Senior Activity Center. They will read from their work at the Senior Center. All ages are welcome at this welcoming of spring into Vermont. **Sherry Olson** is the author of two collections of poems, *Four-Way Stop* and *Breakfast at The Wayside*. **Carol Henrikson** is an award-winning poet and painter. She is author of *The Well*, published by the Vermont Arts Council, and has illustrated the children's book *What in the World?: A Romy Adventure*.

**April 14 | Poets Pulling Prints with Mary Elder Jacobsen & Reuben Jackson**

**May Day Studio, 190 River St 7:00 PM–9:00 PM**

Poets Pulling Prints celebrates poetry aloud and in print! Come hear the fabulous Mary Elder Jacobsen and Reuben Jackson read their verses, and stay to pull a print of poetry on one of May Day Studio's antique printing presses. The open-edition broadside is designed by **Kelly McMahan** and handset in metal type in advance. When you arrive, your broadside will be waiting for you—just turn the crank! **Free, but with a suggested donation of \$5 for the print.**

**April 15 | Nobody Cares That Your Dog Died: A Memoir in Poetry Workshop**

**Kellogg-Hubbard Library, 135 Main St 1:00–4:00 PM**

*Limit:* 12 participants

George Longenecker will lead this generative workshop featuring several poems of personal memoir as well as techniques for creating well-crafted poems. Participants will leave the workshop with the beginnings of poems. **George Longenecker** has published his poems in many journals, including *Memoir*, *Vermont Literary Review*, and *Atlanta Review* and has recently retired as a professor at Vermont Tech. **Registration is required.** Please call the Kellogg-Hubbard Library at 223-3338 or send an email to [rysenechal@kellogghubbard.org](mailto:rysenechal@kellogghubbard.org).

**April 15 | Vermont Contemporary Music Ensemble: what I mean by rooted is web**

**Unitarian Church of Montpelier, 130 Main St 7:30 PM**

All new, never published visual poems featuring Jody Gladding's bold experiments with the written word are paired with four composers' music in response to the readings.

**Tickets (at the door): \$25 regular; \$12 students & seniors; donation from the financially challenged**

**April 16 | Irish Pipers & A Poet**

**Bagitos Bagel & Burrito Cafe, 28 Main St 2:00 PM**

***This venue is not accessible***

Irish poet Angela Patten, Vermont College alumna, former Vermont Arts grantee, and author of four books, recites. Enjoy her poetry together with the Irish Traditional Session hosted by Sarah Blair, Hilari Farrington, Benedict Koehler, Rob Ryan and regulars at Bagitos' Irish Saturdays!

**Angela Patten** is author of two poetry collections, *Reliquaries* and *Still Listening*, both published by Salmon Poetry, Ireland. A prose memoir, *High Tea at a Low Table*, was published by Wind Ridge Books of Vermont in 2013. Her work has appeared in several anthologies.

**April 16 | Kids' Card Catalog Poetry & Collage**

**Kellogg-Hubbard Library, 135 Main St 3:00–5:00 PM**

Join us in the Children's Library to create poems out of cards from the library's old card catalog. Poems and artwork will be displayed in the Children's Library and can be read aloud at Popcorn & Poetry on April 28.

**April 18 | Voices in English Poetry with Tom Ragle**

**Kellogg-Hubbard Library, 135 Main St 6:30 PM**

A reading of English poetry from the late 16th to the early 20th century, from Shakespeare and Donne to Robinson and Frost, illustrating various poetic voices and various poetic styles. Tom Ragle is a retired professor of English literature with a bias toward poetry. Although known locally for his readings of major English and American poets from the 16th into the 20th century, he is also a poet himself, writing under the pen name Lee Bramble. Educated at Harvard and Oxford, he was president of Marlboro College for twenty-three years.

**April 19 | Reading with Poet Neil Shepard**

**Bear Pond Books, 77 Main St 7:00 PM**

Neil Shepard, a founder and former director of the Writing Program at the Vermont Studio Center and co-founder of the *Green Mountains Review* will read from his work. His works of poetry include the books *Scavenging the Country for a Heartbeat*, *I'm Here Because I Lost My Way*, *This Far from the Source*, *(T)ravel/Un(t)ravel*, and most recently, *Hominid Up*.

**April 20 | Vermont Studio Center Poets Read**

**VCFA, Noble Lounge, 36 College St 7:00 PM**

**Ryan Walsh**, director of the VSC, hosts an evening of some of Vermont's finest voices—**Major Jackson**, **Kerrin McCadden**, **Baron Wormser**, **Julia Shipley**, **Kristin Fogdall**, **Diana Whitney** and **Laurie Macfee**.

Each poet is an alum of VSC's residency or Visiting Writer program. The reading will feature writers at every career level, from emerging to nationally celebrated. Poets will each share their work for 10 minutes, followed by an opportunity for conversation. **Major Jackson** is a poet, professor, and the author of three collections of poetry: *Holding Company*, *Hoops*, and *Leaving Saturn*. **Kerrin McCadden** teaches at Montpelier High School and is the author of Vermont Book Award-winning collection of poetry *Landscape with Plywood Silhouettes*. **Baron Wormser** is the former Poet Laureate of Maine and author and co-author of numerous books, most recently in poetry *Impenitent Notes*, and in prose *Teach Us That Peace*. **Julia Shipley** is the co-founder of Chickadee Chaps & Broads and the author of poetry chapbook *First Do No Harm* and prose book *Adam's Mark*. **Diana Whitney**, the poetry columnist for the *San Francisco Chronicle* and author of the prizewinning poetry *WANTING IT* and **Kristin Fogdall's** work has appeared in *Poetry*, *The New Republic*, *Slate.com*, *New England Review*, and other journals; she is currently finishing a book-length collection. **Laurie Macfee** is a poet and Writing Coordinator at VSC.

**April 21 | Poem in Your Pocket Day**

**Various locations – all day**

Every year during National Poetry Month, the Academy of American Poets ([www.poets.org](http://www.poets.org)) leads the nation in celebrating Poem in Your Pocket Day. One more way to enjoy and interact with poetry, on this day people are encouraged to carry a poem in their pocket. With a poem in your pocket, you have a poem to give, trade, leave someplace anonymously, read out loud at your meeting, or read to yourself at lunch (among many other possibilities). PoemCity participates by offering free poems at the Kellogg-Hubbard Library, the Welcome Center downtown, Bear Pond Books, and North Branch Cafe.

**April 22 | Earth Day – Kids & Poetry**

**Hunger Mountain Coop Earth Day Celebration, 623 Stone Cutters Way 10:00 AM–4:00 PM**

Join Kellogg-Hubbard Librarian Nicole Westbom to write poems, listen to great stories, and take part in other hands-on activities in the kids' tent. Write poems about nature!

#### **April 22 | An Evening with Reuben Jackson**

**Hunger Mountain Coop Earth Day Celebration, 623 Stone Cutters Way 5:00 PM–7:00 PM**

You've listened to VPR's *Friday Night Jazz* with Reuben Jackson, now you can listen to poetry by Reuben Jackson along with musical intervals at this community celebration in the Coop Café. The Coop will have wine and cheese tastings, too! **Reuben Jackson** was curator of the Duke Ellington Collection at the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C., for more than 20 years. His music reviews have been published in *The Washington Post*, *Washington City Paper*, *All About Jazz*, *Jazz Times*, *Jazziz*, and on National Public Radio's *All Things Considered*. Reuben is a poet, mentor with The Young Writers Project, and educator.

#### **April 23 | Generative Poetry Workshop with Chloe Viner**

**Kellogg-Hubbard Library, 135 Main St 1:30 PM**

Poet Chloe Viner will guide this creative workshop. She will use several prompts to highlight different lessons and spur creativity. She will guide a discussion on the difference between concrete and abstract writing in poetry and examine how to create vivid and original images through metaphor. Chloe Viner is the author of several books of poetry including *Naked Under an Umbrella*, *What the Rain Said Last Night*, and the forthcoming *27 Apples*.

#### **April 25 | Poetry on Tap: Beer, Bread, and Soup**

**Down Home Kitchen, 100 Main St Supper begins at 6:00 PM; reading begins at 7:00 PM**

Food for the soul, the mind, and the body! Enjoy a delicious light supper made with local ingredients while listening to local poets **Mary Elder Jacobsen**, **Kerrin McCadden**, **Emilie Stigliani**, **Alison Prine**, and **Kristin Fogdall**. **Emilie Stigliani**, currently an editor at the *Burlington Free Press*, has won several awards for her work, including a prize for environmental reporting from the Missouri Press Association and a fellowship from the Missouri School of Journalism. **Alison Prine's** poems have appeared in *The Virginia Quarterly Review*, *Shenandoah*, *Harvard Review*, *Michigan Quarterly Review*, and *Prairie Schooner* among others. **Mary Elder Jacobsen's** poetry has appeared in *GMR Online*, *The Cincinnati Review*, *The Antioch Review*, *The Greensboro Review*, and other venues.

#### **April 26 | Annual Open Mic Reading**

**Bear Pond Books, 77 Main Street 7:00 PM**

Bear Pond Books is proud to host their 19th annual open poetry event, which never fails to draw a lively crowd of local poets. Readers will be chosen by a lottery. Put your name in a hat at the door and they will pull out names for twenty readers. Please prepare five minutes (or less) of material. There will be a brief intermission for refreshments halfway through the event.

#### **April 27 | Book Discussion: *The Prince of Los Cocuyos: A Miami Childhood* by Richard Blanco**

**Kellogg-Hubbard Library, 135 Main St 6:30 PM**

A poignant, hilarious, and inspiring memoir from the first Latino and openly gay inaugural poet, which explores his coming-of-age as the child of Cuban immigrants and his attempts to understand his place in America while grappling with his burgeoning artistic and sexual identities. **Discussion led by UVM Professor John Waldron. Latino Americans "Fleeing Dictatorship" Book Series sponsored by the Vermont Humanities Council. Copies of the book are available at the Kellogg-Hubbard Library.**

#### **April 28 | Popcorn & Poetry (Kids)**

**Kellogg-Hubbard Library, 135 Main St 3:15–4:15 PM**

Join us after school for popcorn and poetry in the Hayes Room. Bring a piece of original poetry to read and get a prize!

**April 28 | Reading with Poets Kate Farrell & Baron Wormser**

**Kellogg-Hubbard Library, 135 Main St 7:00 PM**

Come to the Library for an evening of exceptional poetry. **Baron Wormser**, past Poet Laureate of Maine, is the author and co-author of numerous books, most recently in poetry *Impenitent Notes*, and in prose *Teach Us That Peace*. Writer and actress **Kate Farrell** has been working in poetry, art, and theater in New York for over three decades; her most recent book is *Visiting Night at the Academy of Longing*, a dreamlike, metaphysical wonder.

**April 30 | Poetry, Meet Art: Letterpress Broadsides**

**May Day Studio, 190 River St 10:30 AM–4:00 PM**

Broadsides are, in today's parlance, posters. Incorporate meaningful texts (and perhaps a bit of decoration) and watch the words take on new meaning and new life. In this workshop, we'll use handset type and decorative elements to create large-format prints of poems that inspire us.

**Cost is \$110, and includes 100% cotton paper for 5 11x17 prints, plus a sandwich lunch.**

**Please pre-register. For more info contact Kelly MacMahon at [maydaystudio@gmail.com](mailto:maydaystudio@gmail.com) or 229-0639.**

**April 30 | Nature Poems, Favorite Poems**

**Kellogg-Hubbard Library, 135 Main St 1:30 PM**

What poems have influenced and inspired you in your life? Join **Diana Whitney**, the poetry columnist for the *San Francisco Chronicle* and author of the prizewinning poetry debut *WANTING IT*, and **Dede Cummings**, publisher and editor at *Green Writers Press*, for a lively discussion of some of their favorite nature poetry. We'll read classics like Wordsworth, Yeats, and Frost, as well as contemporary poets like Jane Kenyon and Cleopatra Mathis, and then talk openly about why and how their voices speak to us. Bring a copy of your favorite poem if you wish.

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