

Northfield Poet Laureate's Report March 2017

Events

Youth Poetry Night at Content (March 2), featuring Arcadia Charter School Poetry Out Loud winners Anna Kochevar and Bella Callery, TORCH Poetry Slam winner Alondra Pérez, and high school student Hannah Pahs. Attendance: 15. The following week, Anna and Bella advanced to the state Poetry Out Loud Finals, and Anna was chosen as Minnesota's State Poetry Out Loud Champion.

Poetry Workshops with Guante (March 28). The Poet Laureate provided funding from the SEMAC grant to host a series of poetry workshops at Northfield High School with two-time National Poetry Slam champion Guante. The workshops were organized by Jennifer Lompart, ELL teacher at Northfield High School. Attendance: 60 high school students.

Publicity

Poet Laureate LibGuide. The Poet Laureate created a LibGuide (website) as part of the Northfield Public Library site (URL: guides.mynpl.org/PoetLaureate). The site includes information about the Poet Laureate position, a calendar of poetry events, monthly reports, a list of local poets, a blog, and copies of poems written by the Poet Laureate for public occasions. The Poet Laureate published two blog posts and updated the events calendar.

ARTZANY! On March 31, the Poet Laureate was a guest on Paula Granquist's radio program on KYMN, *ArtZany! Radio for the Imagination*, along with Anna Kochevar, Bella Callery, and Scott Grave (Arcadia Charter School). The Poet Laureate presented a list of upcoming poetry events, talked about Poetry Out Loud, and read a poem from his new book.

Other

Sidewalk Poetry Judging. On March 28, the Poet Laureate served as a judge for the 2017 Northfield Sidewalk Poetry Competition. Other judges were Diane LeBlanc (St. Olaf College Department of English), Ben Martig (Northfield City Administrator), Dr. Matt Hillmann (Superintendent of the Northfield Public Schools) and Anne Running Sovik (local poet).

Writers Night. The Poet Laureate received submissions for the second Writers Night (scheduled for April 27) throughout the month of March, and prepared them to be sent to the jury for anonymous judging.

Upcoming Events (April 2017)

April 2: Poet Laureate (PL) poetry reading at St. John's Lutheran Church

April 3: PL participating in interview for summer intern to update sidewalk poetry map

April 4: PL leading Poetry Club at Greenvale Park Community School

April 6: PL reading and signing his new poetry book at Content

April 7: PL discussing poetry with students in AP Spanish Lit. at Northfield High School

April 8: PL reading poetry and participating in concert at Northfield Arts Guild

April 11: PL leading Poetry Club at Greenvale Park Community School

April 13: PL hosting Poetry Night at Content
April 14: PL judging Northfield High School Poetry Slam
April 18: PL leading Poetry Club at Greenvale Park Community School
April 25: PL reading poetry for annual Carleton staff luncheon
April 25: PL leading Poetry Club at Greenvale Park Community School
April 26: PL reading poetry for City of Northfield Boards and Commissions program
April 27: PL participating in Poem in Your Pocket Day
April 27: PL hosting Writers Night at Northfield Public Library