

Northfield Poet Laureate's Report August 2017

In August, I wrote a short poem for the 2017 Northfield Sidewalk Poetry Capstone Celebration, a poem for display in the Northfield Public Library, and a poem that I read at the 3rd annual Art & Ale fundraiser at the Northfield Arts Guild. I commissioned Doug Bratland to design and produce a poster for the Northfield Poet Laureate capstone event in September, and continued to make plans for that day-long event. I also continued to make arrangements for the visit to Northfield by poet Leila Chatti, who is the 2017-2018 Ron Wallace Poetry Fellow at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Leila will be in town on October 4 and 5, giving an “open class” at St. Olaf, a poetry workshop for high school students, and a reading at the Northfield Public Library.

On the first day of August, I drove to Winona, Minnesota, to give a poetry reading at the Blue Heron Coffeeshop as part of the Winona Poet Laureate's First Tuesday Laureate Reading Series. My next reading will be a joint reading in Middlebury, Vermont, on October 16 as part of the *NER Vermont* series sponsored by the *New England Review*. I'll be sharing the stage with essayist Jericho Parms, the assistant director of the MFA writing program at the Vermont College of Fine Arts.



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