

Northfield Poet Laureate Report May 2019

I was honored, as a School Board member, to hand ACC Youth Representative Ann Beimers her diploma at the Northfield High School commencement on Sunday, July 2. Congratulations to Ann and Hannah, best wishes for the future, and thanks for your service on the Arts and Culture Commission.

Events

Thursday, May 2: Daniel Dietrich (Northfield Public Library). Attendance: 13

Thursday, May 8: Leslie Schultz & Jake Bastyr (Hot Spot Music). Attendance: 30

Monday, May 20: Great Lakes Poets Laureate on Social Justice (Content). Attendance: 25

Thursday, May 30: Great Lakes Poets Laureate on Social Justice (Winona Public Library).
Attendance: 20.

Tuesday, June 4: Steven Schild's poetry reading was cancelled due to severe weather. He was coming from Winona, and was forced to turn back at Pine Island because of the intensity of the storm.

Other

The next scheduled poetry reading is Madison (Wisconsin) Poet Laureate Oscar Mireles, as part of the National Hispanic Heritage Month festivities at the Northfield Public Library on Saturday, September 14.

I received four submissions for the Poetry Post design, which have been forwarded to Teresa for PARC review and approval. Two of the submissions were from Northfield, one was from Minneapolis, and one was from LaCrosse, Wisconsin.

There were no applications for the position of Northfield Poet Laureate.

I have been researching Grace Fallow Norton (1876-1962), who to my knowledge is the first notable poet to have been born in Northfield. I've conducted research at the Northfield Historical Society, and have been in correspondence with one of the poet's living relatives, who has shared unpublished family histories with me. I will be writing a short (45-60 minutes) theater piece for the Northfield Arts Guild LAB Theater Series based on this research.

Because of my summer travel schedule, I will be unable to attend the June, July, and August ACC meetings, or to submit reports for June and July. I will not request a stipend in June and July while I am absent from Northfield.