!THIS IS NOT THE FULL SCHEDULE!

OREGON POETRY ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

Sample Schedule Packet

Please note this sample packet does not include active links. To receive the full schedule with active links you must register for the conference.

Conference Date: Saturday, October 8th, 2022.

Conference Time: 9:00am-5:00pm, links open at 8:30am.

Members Registration Fee: $45.00

Nonmembers Registration Fee: $55.00

Lunch Break 12:15 pm - 1:15 pm

Afternoon Workshops

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Afternoon Workshops

Welcome

Welcome to the OPA 2022 Conference!

We are delighted to have you join us for our virtual conference. Enclosed in this packet is everything you will need to attend the conference. Please keep the link to the full schedule saved on your device for easy access. Our theme this year is ***Poetry in Troubled Times***.

OPA 2021-2022 Board

PRESIDENT
Sue Fagalde Lick

VICE-PRESIDENT & ADULT CONTEST CHAIR
Nancy Christopherson

SECRETARY
Dan Liberthson

TREASURER & WEBMASTER
Rana Tahir

CASCADIA YOUTH CONTEST CHAIR
Lauren Mallett

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR
Dave Mehler

SOCIAL MEDIA & OUTREACH
Lorna Rose-Hahn

HISTORIAN
Priscilla Hunter

MEMBER AT LARGE
Efraín Diaz Horna

Lunch Break 12:15 pm - 1:15 pm

Afternoon Workshops

Conference Schedule

Opening Ceremonies

Room 1 Link	
8:30 AM	Virtual Doors Open: Come in and get comfortable!
9:00 AM	Opening Welcome by OPA President Sue Fagalde Lick
9:05 AM	Meet the 2021-22 Board
9:10 AM	Banta Awards: Honoring the Contributions of the 2022 Banta Award Winners
9:25 AM	Keynote Speaker Jessica Mehta
9:50 AM	Overview of the Day: How to Access the Bookroom, Where to Go If You Have Trouble

Morning Workshops

	Room 1 Link	**Room 2 Link**
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	**How Do We Write About Social Justice?** Jade Rosina McCutcheon Access workshop handout here.	**Crossing the Threshold** Andrea Hollander Access workshop handout here.
15 Minute Break		
11:15 AM - 12:15 PM	**Dreaming toward Transformation: A Generative Workshop** Stephanie Niu	**Learning Self-Acceptance Amongst Cut-Throat Literary Magazines** Dalton Sikes

Lunch Break 12:15 pm - 1:15 pm

Afternoon Workshops

	Access workshop handout here.	Access workshop handout here.

	Room 1 Link	**Room 2 Link**
1:15 PM - 2:15 PM	**Future of the Glass Half Full: Writing in the Times of Hopelessness** Sujash Purna	**Making Poetry out of Traumatic Loss: Why and How** Eleanor Berry Access workshop handout here.
15 Minute Break		
2:30 PM - 3:30 PM	**Creating from Wounds: A Generative Workshop** Meg Eden Kuyatt Access workshop handout here.	**Visibility and Book Sales: Marketing Your Small Press Book** John Sibley Williams Access workshop handout here.
15 Minute Break		

Closing Ceremonies

Room 1 Link	
3:45 PM	Poetry Reading featuring Winning Poets: Nykole Jackson, Mia Vance, & Amelia Hamerlynck
3:50 PM	Expressions of Gratitude
3:55 PM	Announcement of New Board Members
4:10 PM	Annual Report: The Year in Review by OPA President Sue Fagalde Lick

Lunch Break 12:15 pm - 1:15 pm

Afternoon Workshops

4:15 PM	Financial Report by OPA Treasurer Rana Tahir
4:45 PM	Adjournment of the Annual Meeting

Workshop Descriptions

Morning Sessions:

How Do We Write About Social Justice? | Jade Rosina McCutcheon

How do we write about justice in our society? What is social justice? This workshop explores these questions and asks the writer to reflect on what their own sense of justice is. What do we really care about? This workshop will lead writers to think about their own lives and the events that troubled them most around fairness and justice. Through discussion, sharing, and writing we will begin a rich journey around this weighty topic. 'Social justice is fairness as it manifests in society. That includes fairness in healthcare, employment, housing, and more. In a socially-just society, human rights are respected and discrimination is not allowed to flourish.'

Crossing the Threshold | Andrea Hollander

A title is not a label, and a good title should at least invite readers to open a poem's door, but it's often the title in combination with the opening line(s) that welcomes readers into its house. I call the work the title and first lines perform together the poem's threshold. During this craft talk, I will offer a variety of ways of creating titles that will compel readers to cross this threshold into the body of the poem, and I will provide examples of poems that accomplish this.

Dreaming toward Transformation: A Generative Workshop on the Power of Dreams, Images, and the Subconscious | Stephanie Niu

What can a dream do? In a space unbounded by the logic of the waking world, how might dreams push us to imagine reality differently and even transform it? In this 60-minute generative workshop, we will dive into the imagery and language of dreams, prompted by selected work from Dana Levin and Brendan Constantine, and discuss the role of dreams in transforming a world filled with the realities of war and gun violence. Participants will emerge with a poem or reflection of their own and a deeper consideration of the dream's sister question: what can a poem do?

Lunch Break 12:15 pm - 1:15 pm

Afternoon Workshops

Learning Self-Acceptance Amongst Cut-Throat Literary Magazines | Dalton Sikes

Have you ever wondered what happens once you send poetry to a literary magazine? Do the poems evaporate into thin air or undergo grueling scrutiny from a circle of close-minded academics? In this workshop, I'll use my inside knowledge working on two literary magazines to walk poets through the behind-the-scenes process of assessing, rating, and selecting poems for literary magazines. Additionally, I'll provide insider tips and tricks to elevate one's chances of publishing poetry while learning to value one's own work despite inevitable rejection letters from an increasingly competitive industry.

Afternoon Sessions:

Future of the Glass Half Full: Writing in the Times of Hopelessness | Sujash Purna

How do we navigate a world we have been disillusioned by? What is there for us skeptics and indomitable optimists in the present time and the upcoming future that is threatened by climate change, growing wage gap, and attacks on rights to privacy? We would address these questions in our individual and collective lives while looking at poems by Ocean Vuong and Ada Limón to discuss themes that relate to these questions. While also sharing poems by me, I would give participants time to reflect and generate writing and writing prompts throughout the discussion.

Making Poetry Out of Traumatic Loss: Why and How | Eleanor Berry

In this workshop we will consider the value of poems of traumatic loss, looking at several examples and noting their various modes and forms. We will consider reasons for writing such poems and explore strategies for doing so. I will share my own experience as a reader and a writer of poems of traumatic loss, and I will invite participants to begin a draft, plumbing a loss of their own, using approaches we've discussed. At the end of the workshop, I will invite them to share a passage of their drafts and/or to comment on the experience of writing them.

Creating from Wounds: A Generative Workshop | Meg Eden Kuyatt

In these difficult times, it can be so easy for us to drown in the relentless awful in our news cycle and world. How do we find the glimmers of beauty in so much pain? The power of poems is that they allow us to create from disaster, making something out of the brokenness to process and cope. In this workshop, we'll explore some interact prompts such as the natural object, form, and personification that allow us as poets to re-envision the world around us and discover new realizations. Participants will also receive resources to continue writing on their own.

Lunch Break 12:15 pm - 1:15 pm

Afternoon Workshops

Visibility and Book Sales: Marketing Your Small Press Book | John Sibley Williams

With over 800 books per day published in the US alone, publicity for small press books has never been more necessary…and more difficult. The goal of “Visibility and Book Sales: Marketing Your Small Press Book” is to provide writers of all genres with the necessary tools, money saving techniques, and networking skills to market their books with maximum effectiveness. Topics include creating a cohesive business strategy, utilizing traditional and digital media, giving readings and other methods of selling books, balancing your marketing budget, and thinking outside the box to find your fans.

Lunch Break 12:15 pm - 1:15 pm

Afternoon Workshops

Presenter Bios

Keynote Speaker: Jessica Mehta



Dr. Mehta is an Aniyunwiya (citizen of the Cherokee Nation) poet, artist, and scholar. Currently, she is a Fulbright Senior Scholar based in Bengaluru, India where she is a Visiting Professor curating an anthology of contemporary Indian poetry written in the colonizer's tongue. Her doctoral work addressed the intersection of poetry and eating disorders while her recent Forecast Change Lab fellowship analyzed the language used in public art calls for Native American artists. She is looking forward to returning to Turtle Island in 2023 to undertake a residency at Kala Art Institute. Mehta is the author of 15 books. Her forthcoming collection from Red Planet Books, [sp]RED, de-colonizes and Indigenizes the tarot deck. Learn more at www.thischerokeerose.com.

Eleanor Berry's latest poetry collection, *Works of Wildfire*, won the 2022 Grayson Books Chapbook Award. Previous publications include two books, *Green November* (Traprock Books, 2007) and *No Constant Hues* (Turnstone Books of Oregon, 2015), and a chapbook, *Only So Far* (Main Street Rag, 2019). A past president of OPA and NFSPS, Berry co-founded and chairs the Mid-Valley Poetry Society. She holds a Ph.D. from the University of Toronto and has taught literature and writing at several Wisconsin colleges and universities, as well as Willamette University, and led poetry workshops for literary and arts organizations.

Meg Eden Kuyatt is a 2020 Pitch Wars mentee, and teaches creative writing at colleges and writing centers. She is the author of the 2021 Towson Prize for Literature winning poetry collection “Drowning in the Floating World” (Press 53, 2020) and children’s novels, most recently “Good Different” (Scholastic, 2023). Find her online at

Lunch Break 12:15 pm - 1:15 pm

Afternoon Workshops

www.megedenbooks.com or on Twitter at @ConfusedNarwhal and Instagram at @meden_author.

Andrea Hollander is the author of five full-length poetry collections, winner of two National Endowment for the Arts Fellowships, two Pushcart Prizes, and many other honors and awards. Her work is widely published, including a feature in The New York Times Magazine. After moving to Portland in 2011, she taught for both Mountain Writers and The Attic, but after suffering a back injury in 2016, she established The Ambassador Writing Seminars, which she taught in her home until COVID, when she switched to Zoom. Her website is www.andreahollander.net.

Jade Rosina McCutcheon holds a Doctor of Creative Arts from the University of Technology, Sydney, and a Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Melbourne. Her publications include books, *Awakening the Performing Body*, *Embodied Consciousness Performance Technologies*, and *Narrative in Performance*. A Kay Snow Award recipient, Jade's poetry can be found in anthologies and journals such as *Terra Incognita*, (Bob Hill publishing 2019, Oregon), */pãn| dé| mïk/ 2020: An Anthology of Pandemic Poems*, *Beyond Words*, and in *The Silent World in her Vase*. Her first chapbook, *'SMALL FEATHER'* was published by Finishing Line Press, October 2020, and her second chapbook, *'the tossing dream'* in March 2023.

Stephanie Niu is a poet from Marietta, Georgia and the author of *She Has Dreamt Again of Water* (Diode Editions, 2022). Her poems have appeared or are forthcoming in *Copper Nickel*, *Waxwing*, *Ecotone*, *The Georgia Review*, and *Southeast Review*, as well as scientific collaborations including the 11th Annual St. Louis River Summit. She lives in New York City. Find her online at https://stephanieniu.com/poetry or on Twitter as @niusteph.

Sujash Purna is a Bangladeshi poet and photographer based in Madison, Wisconsin. A first-year PhD fellow at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, he is the author of "Biriyani" (Poet's Haven) and "Epidemic of Nostalgia'' (Finishing Line Press). "Azans for the Infidel," his hybrid chapbook of essays and poems, will come out from Mouthfeel Press in 2023. A 2022 Anaphora Residency Fellow, he has just won the Moon City Review Creative Nonfiction Award for his essay "A Colonized Essay with a Swollen-Leg Girl from Arambagh Intersection." His photography piece "Enamored with the Unknown" is forthcoming in the Ilanot Review. Sujash and his photography can be found on Instagram @poeticnomadic

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John Sibley Williams is the author of nine poetry collections, including *Scale Model of a Country at Dawn* (Cider Press Review Poetry Award), *The Drowning House* (Elixir Press Poetry Award), *As One Fire Consumes Another* (Orison Poetry Prize), and *Skin Memory* (Backwaters Prize, University of Nebraska Press). His book *Sky Burial: New & Selected Poems* is forthcoming in translation from by the Portuguese press do lado esquerdo. A twenty-seven-time Pushcart nominee, John is the winner of numerous awards. He serves as editor of *The Inflectionist Review* and founder of the Caesura Poetry Workshop series.

Dalton Sikes is a writer who was born in Southern California, but raised in the Pacific Northwest. He currently is a Managing Editor for the internationally-distributed Silk Road Review. Dalton's work has appeared in Audeamus and Wingless Dreamer. Additionally, he has presented literary scholarship and creative writing at the Northwest Undergraduate Conference on Literature and the Northwest Undergraduate Conference in the Humanities. Dalton's work ranges from dark to delightful through poetry and prose.

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Afternoon Workshops

Winning Poets Reading



Nykole Jackson

Slamlandia winner and OPA rep to the first annual NFSPS Blackberry Peach slam competition in Florida in October

Nykole Jackson is an 18 year old recent high school graduate from McDaniel High School. Nykole first fell in love with sports, then music but always loved writing and would get excited when it came time to read or write poetry and short stories in her classes. Nykole first performed in a small coffee shop a poem she wrote during a freshman English class. She went on to win first place with the same poem three years later in both the Verselandia and Slamlandia 2022 competitions. It has always been a dream of Nykole's to share her story with people, whether it's through music, sports, fashion or art. Poetry is one way that she loves expressing herself.



Mia Vance

Winner of the 2022 Library Undergraduate Poetry Prize

Mia Vance is an emerging poet, literary scholar, and recent graduate of the University of Oregon, where she was named Valedictorian and Poet Laureate of the English Department and graduated Summa Cum Laude with a BA in English and Creative Writing minor. Mia came to poetry as a venue for self-expression as a child, and while her creative interests have commingled over the years in the forms of fiction, theatre arts, and dance, poetry has found its way again and again into her life and work. One of the founding members of the Eugene-based poets' collective The Dead Parrots Society, Mia has performed her poetry solo, in collaboration with local dance performance groups, and alongside her husband, the incredible composer/musician Cullen Vance. This year, Mia is honored to continue her studies in the Writing Masters program in 'the land of saints and scholars' at the National University of Ireland Galway! When not studying, writing, or performing, Mia can be found wandering the woods, bay-gazing, or tucked away with a skein of yarn or a good book in the comfiest chair in the house. In lieu of popping by for tea, visit her at www.facebook.com/mia.v.poetry."

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Afternoon Workshops

Amelia Hamerlynck

Winner of the 2022 Library Undergraduate Poetry Prize



Amelia Hamerlynck is a third-year cultural anthropology student with minors in creative writing and German. She grew up in Arizona and Eastern Oregon. She says, “I have written poetry for as long as I can remember but didn't seriously plan on studying it until participating in the Kidd workshop my sophomore year. Now, I am writing a poetry book for my Honors College senior thesis in which I retell stories from the Ancient Greek and Roman Canon with renewed focus on gender. Anthropology has a huge influence on my work’s subject matter. I am most interested in the stories we tell ourselves to make sense of the world and how those stories influence our identities. As such, I often weave elaborate allusions to myth, folklore, and pop culture with confessional writing, which reflects my general artistic attitude that everything is a remix of something else.” After graduation, she is interested in pursuing museum-adjacent jobs because of her interest in bridging the gap between academia and the public. Her long-term poetry goals are to develop a strong writing habit, submit for publication regularly, and get involved in poetic communities.

Lunch Break 12:15 pm - 1:15 pm

Afternoon Workshops

FAQs

How do I register for the conference?

Please go to our online registration website opa1.wildapricot.org/Events to register for the conference and any other upcoming events. Registration is $45.00 for members, and $55.00 for nonmembers.

How do I access the events?

If you have registered for the conference, you should receive a link to the full schedule complete with active Zoom links. Please note that the rooms will be open starting at 8:30 am on Saturday, October 8th.

Can I access the events via phone?

You may use the zoom links on your phone to access the events for the conference, keep in mind that using your phone may not allow you to see shared screens from presenters.

I am having difficulty using the conference packet, what should I do?

If you have any difficulty using the conference packet or need assistance during the conference, please contact OPA at oregonpoets.conference@gmail.com.

Lunch Break 12:15 pm - 1:15 pm

Afternoon Workshops

Contact

OPA Website: www.oregonpoets.org

For questions or additional assistance for the conference, please contact OPA at oregonpoets.conference@gmail.com.

For questions or additional assistance for billing, please contact the OPA Treasurer, Rana Tahir, at opa.treasurer.contact@gmail.com.

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Afternoon Workshops

Book Room

As we did last year, we have compiled a list of links to member books for a virtual book room. Please use these links to see the excellent work of our members!

For members: to submit your books to the list, please use this link (submissions close on September 30th).

Author	Title	Link

Lunch Break 12:15 pm - 1:15 pm

Afternoon Workshops
