

Poets & Writers Groups Helps Writers Build Community

Earlier this year, Poets & Writers launched a new peer-to-peer networking tool to help writers connect, communicate, and collaborate with fellow writers. Supported in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, **Poets & Writers Groups** grows out of a decades-long commitment to helping writers build community.



Writers can get started in Poets & Writers Groups by creating simple profiles that describe what they are looking for in groups and share information about their writing experience and publishing credits. Then they can search the index to join an existing group, or create

a new group and invite others to join. Once a group is formed, members have access to a communications hub where they can coordinate meetings, chat, share files, and videoconference. Whether writers are seeking encouragement or critique, an ongoing workshop or an occasional submission party, Poets & Writers Groups offers the flexibility to accommodate a variety of literary gatherings, in person or online.

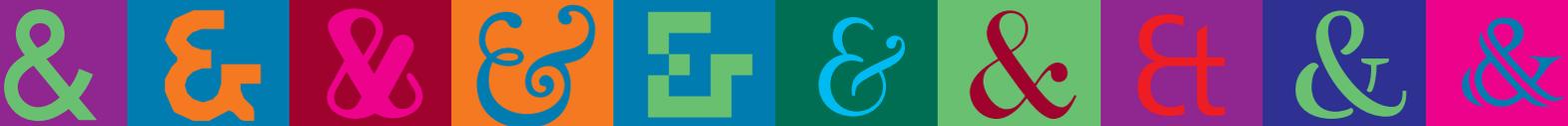
Creative nonfiction writer Michelle Cutler wrote to tell us: "I was able to start my own group for short-form flash nonfiction, and I was invited into another longer standing group for essayists. So far, it's been great for me. I think having the Poets & Writers name attached

set a certain standard, which I wanted in searching for other writers."

Since its launch in March, Poets & Writers Groups has drawn over 900 users who have formed more than 90 writers groups. These groups are composed of new and established writers working across a variety of genres and subgenres including poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction, micro-poetry, autobiography and memoir, flash fiction, and lyric essays. Groups are gathering for workshops, reading clubs, critiques, and accountability circles, and are made up of writers focused around a variety of interests and goals, such as those supporting one another in seeking publication, students attending the same MFA program, and individuals exploring health conditions through writing, to name just a few examples.

Poets & Writers Groups is designed to accommodate anyone in the literary community who wants to connect and collaborate, including readers, writers, editors, and translators. We are continually collecting feedback from users to help us refine and improve this platform, which is currently in beta.

Visit pw.org/groups to explore Poets & Writers Groups, find a group to join, or form your own—free of charge.



NEW BOOKS BY FRIENDS

CREATIVE NONFICTION

LORENZO CARCATERRA

Three Dreamers:
A Memoir of Family
Ballantine Books: April 2021

DEBORAH COPAKEN

Ladyparts: A Memoir
Random House: August 2021

PATRICIA DALY-LIPE

Miami's Yester'Years:
Its Forgotten Founder
Locke Tiffin Highleyman
Legacy Book Publishing:
July 2020

MARK DOTY

What Is the Grass:
Walt Whitman in My Life
W. W. Norton & Company:
April 2020

JOAN FOOR

My Heart's Journey
Foor Publishing: October 2020

JOY HARJO

Poet Warrior: A Memoir
W. W. Norton & Company:
September 2021

KATIE MAHON, Coauthor

The Miracle Collectors:
Uncovering Stories of
Wonder, Joy, and Mystery
Worthy Books: March 2021

ALIZA MCCrackEN

The Art of Kindness
Aliza McCracken & Associates:
July 2020

KIRSTEN MICKELWAIT

The Ghost Marriage
She Writes Press: June 2021

ROXANA ROBINSON

Georgia O'Keeffe: A Life
Brandeis University Press:
October 2020 (reissue)

ROGER ROSENBLATT

Cold Moon: On Life, Love,
and Responsibility
Turtle Point Press: October 2020

The Story I Am:

Mad About the Writing Life
Turtle Point Press: April 2020

LINDA SEIDEL

The Belinda Chronicles
Golden Antelope Press:
December 2020

KATHRYN WILDER

Desert Chrome: Water,
a Woman, and Wild Horses
in the West
Torrey House Press: May 2021

FICTION

NAWAAZ AHMED

Radiant Fugitives
Counterpoint Press:
August 2021

DAVID BACHNER

Kirinski's Life & Times: A Novel
Woodland Arts Editions:
June 2021

JULIA BALLERINI

The Unforgotten: A Novella
and Other Stories
Gatekeeper Press: April 2021

KAREN BENNETT

Beautiful Horseflesh
Apprentice House Press:
June 2021

LORENZO CARCATERRA

Payback
Ballantine Books: March 2020

MARJOLIJN DE JAGER, Translator

The Bridgetower Sonata:
Sonata Mulattica by
Emmanuel Dongala
Schaffner Press: April 2021

The Mediterranean Wall: A Novel
by Louis-Philippe Dalembert
Schaffner Press: June 2021

DON DELILLO

The Silence
Scribner: October 2020

CLIFFORD GARSTANG

House of the Ancients
and Other Stories
Press 53: May 2020

Oliver's Travels

Regal House Publishing:
May 2021

PATRICIA GILKERSON

Dollars to Doughnuts
Fire and Ice Young Adult Books:
April 2020

URSULA HEGI

The Patron Saint of Pregnant Girls
Flatiron Books: August 2020

JEFFERY HESS

Roughhouse
Down & Out Books: May 2021

JEN KNOX

Resolutions: A Family in Stories
AUXmedia: March 2020

MILREE LATIMER

Out of Place
Luminare Press: February 2021

MIRIAM MALACH

All or Nothing
Atmosphere Press: May 2021

PAULA MARTINAC

Testimony
Bywater Books: January 2021

FRED MISURELLA

A Pontiac in the Woods
Blue Triangle Press:
October 2020

LESLIE MOORE

The Blind Detective
Self-published: April 2021

FRANCINE PASCAL

Little Crew of Butchers
Blackstone Publishing:
May 2020

JAMES RICHARDSON

For Now
Copper Canyon Press:
June 2020

CLAUDIA RIESS

Knight Light
Level Best Books: February 2021

JOANN SMITH

A Heaven of Their Choosing
7.13 Books: September 2021

ROBERT STOLTE

Murder in London, England
Self-published: April 2021

STANLEY B. TRICE

High School Rocket Science (For
Extraterrestrial Use Only)
Every Word Rise: May 2020

LILY TUCK

Heathcliff Redux: A Novella
and Stories
Atlantic Monthly Press:
February 2020

HILMA WOLITZER

Today a Woman Went Mad
in the Supermarket: Stories
Bloomsbury: August 2021

JAIMEE WRISTON

How Not to Drown
Alcove Press/Crooked Lane
Books: May 2021

POETRY

DAVID BACHNER

Capital Ironies
Woodland Arts Editions:
October 2020

MARY JO BANG, Translator

Purgatorio
Graywolf Press: July 2021

ELLEN BASS

Indigo
Copper Canyon Press:
April 2020

LAUREL BLOSSOM

Un-
Finishing Line Press:
March 2020

SUSI BOCKS

The Sound of Brilliance
Self-published: April 2021

NANCY BREWKA-CLARK

Beautiful Corpus
Kelsay Books: March 2020

ROBERT DICKERSON

Like Haiku
Xlibris: June 2019

ROBERT EASTWOOD

Cantata Angeleno
Broadstone Books: May 2021

JOY HARJO, Editor

Living Nations, Living
Words: An Anthology of
First Peoples Poetry
W. W. Norton & Company:
May 2021

When the Light of the World
Was Subdued, Our Songs Came
Through: A Norton Anthology of
Native Nations Poetry
W. W. Norton & Company:
August 2020

KAREN HENRY

All Will Fall Away
Finishing Line Press:
December 2020

LINDA HILLRINGHOUSE

*The Things I Didn't Know
to Wish For*
New York Quarterly Books:
May 2020

EDISON JENNINGS

Intentional Fallacies
Broadstone Books: June 2021

JERRY T. JOHNSON

*Poets Should Not Write
About Politics*
Evening Street Press:
June 2021

ALICE JONES

Vault
Apogee Press: July 2020

JEN KARETNICK

*The Burning Where Breath
Used to Be*
David Robert Books:
August 2020

ELLEN KAUFMAN

Double-Parked, with Tosca
Able Muse Press: May 2021

LYNNE KEMEN

More Than a Handful
Woodland Arts Editions:
October 2020

MICHAEL LANE

Love & Sensuality
Cyberwit: March 2021

KATHLEEN CASSEN

MICKELSON
*How We Learned to
Shut Our Own Mouths*
Gyroscope Press:
March 2021

SYLVIA POLLACK

Risking It
Red Mountain Press:
April 2021

JUDITH R. ROBINSON,

Editor
Speak, Speak
Cyberwit: July 2020

RHONDA ROSENHECK

Sin No More!
A Biblical Sea Shanty
Self-published: February 2021

RUTH SABATH-ROSENTHAL

Of My Labor
Paragon Poetry Press, Inc.:
October 2021

JAN SCHREIBER, Translator

The Poems of Paul Valéry
Cambridge Scholars:
June 2021

L.B. SEDLACEK

I'm No Robot
Cyberwit: March 2021

The Blue Eyed Side

Cyberwit: November 2020

VIJAY SESHADRI

*That Was Now,
This Is Then: Poems*
Graywolf Press: October 2020

The Essential T.S. Eliot

Ecco: April 2020

S.J. STEPHENS

*Where All the Birds
Are Dancing*
Finishing Line Press:
October 2020

BEVERLY STOCK

*The Prayerful Poet: Found
Poems in Hymns of the Past*
Elm Hill: May 2020

ARTHUR SZE

*The Glass Constellation:
New and Collected Poems*
Copper Canyon Press:
April 2021

GAYL TELLER

*Corona: An Anthology
of Poems*
Walt Whitman Birthplace
Association: December 2020

KIRK WILSON

SONGBOX
Trio House Press: July 2021

L. M. WYANDOTTE

Crown Confessions Vol. 1
Crown Poetry Press:
December 2020

JOHN YAU

*Foreign Sounds
or Sounds Foreign*
Madhat, Inc.: May 2020

Genghis Chan

on Drums: Poems
Omnidawn: October 2021

**UNITED STATES OF WRITING:
PROJECT GRANTS
FOR BIPOC WRITERS
IN DETROIT, HOUSTON,
AND NEW ORLEANS**

IN THE FALL OF 2020, POETS & WRITERS CREATED A NEW GRANT OPPORTUNITY TO HELP WRITERS IN DETROIT, HOUSTON, AND NEW ORLEANS WHO IDENTIFY AS BLACK, INDIGENOUS, OR PEOPLE OF COLOR (BIPOC), OFFERING PROJECT GRANTS OF UP TO \$750 TO CREATE AND PRODUCE ONLINE LITERARY PROJECTS TO ENGAGE LOCAL COMMUNITIES DURING THE PANDEMIC LOCKDOWN.

To date, we've distributed two rounds of grants to support a total of thirty-six special projects addressing a wide range of themes, with compelling titles like "Home Is Where a House Was," "Resistances & Reclamation: A Workshop & Reading Series in Celebration of Caribbean/American Voices," and "Loneliness: A Collaboration."

After learning he'd received a special project grant, Houston-based writer and educator Reyes Ramirez commented: "I was elated to know that I was going to be able to not only organize a virtual reading series and pay poets for their work, but I was also going to be able to afford captioning services to make the reading as accessible as possible." New Orleans-based writer and performer Linett Luna Tovar, who received a project grant to facilitate a series of poetry and creative nonfiction workshops with undocumented youth in New Orleans, told us that the project affirmed that their voices are important, adding, "As an undocumented creative myself, that's exactly the message that I need to hear."

These project grants were offered as part of United States of Writing, an initiative supported in part by the Hearst Foundations and the Amazon Literary Partnership that aims to expand our core programs to better serve writers coast-to-coast, especially writers of color and those from other historically marginalized groups.

CARL PHILLIPS WINS JACKSON POETRY PRIZE

IN MAY, **CARL PHILLIPS** WAS SELECTED AS THE FIFTEENTH RECIPIENT OF THE JACKSON POETRY PRIZE.

The prize is awarded annually by Poets & Writers to an American poet of exceptional talent. Thanks to a generous endowment from the **John and Susan Jackson** family, the monetary award has grown over time, reaching \$75,000 this year. The prize aims to provide what all poets need: time and encouragement to write.

Jericho Brown, Carolyn Forché, and Juan Felipe Herrera judged this year's contest. In their citation the judges noted: "Carl Phillips is one of the most influential poets of our time because he builds—line by unrelenting line—poems that sustain our contemplation, disrupt our complacencies, and leave us changed."

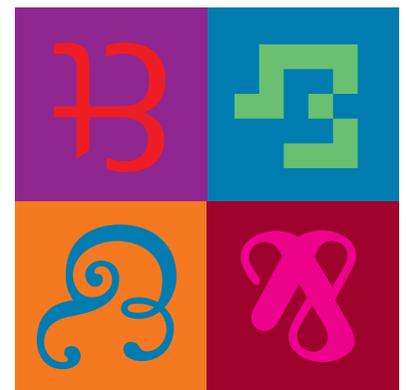
In June, Poets & Writers hosted an online celebration to honor Carl Phillips alongside 2020 Jackson Poetry Prize recipient **Ed Roberson**. The event featured poetry readings by Phillips and Roberson and a conversation moderated by **Carolyn Forché**. Poets **Jericho Brown, Nikky Finney, Juan Felipe Herrera, Anne Waldman, and Robert Wrigley**—all of whom served as recent prize judges—also made appearances.



Carl Phillips
Credit: Reston Allen

THANK YOU TO OUR FRIENDS
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To learn more about the
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