

Pittsburg State University

## Pittsburg State University Digital Commons

---

Poet Laureate Papers

Caryn Mirriam-Goldberg Collection, ca.  
1975-2022

---

March 2023

### Press Release: Poet Laureate of Kansas Announces National Poetry Month Activities in Kansas

Caryn Mirriam-Goldberg

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.pittstate.edu/cm\\_g\\_poet\\_laureate](https://digitalcommons.pittstate.edu/cm_g_poet_laureate)

---

#### Recommended Citation

Mirriam-Goldberg, Caryn, "Press Release: Poet Laureate of Kansas Announces National Poetry Month Activities in Kansas" (2023). *Poet Laureate Papers*. 37.

[https://digitalcommons.pittstate.edu/cm\\_g\\_poet\\_laureate/37](https://digitalcommons.pittstate.edu/cm_g_poet_laureate/37)

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Caryn Mirriam-Goldberg Collection, ca. 1975-2022 at Pittsburg State University Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Poet Laureate Papers by an authorized administrator of Pittsburg State University Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [lfthompson@pittstate.edu](mailto:lfthompson@pittstate.edu).

**POET LAUREATE OF KANSAS ANNOUNCES  
NATIONAL POETRY MONTH ACTIVITIES IN KANSAS**

Topeka, Kan. – Dr. Caryn Mirriam-Goldberg, Lawrence, Poet Laureate of Kansas, announces special activities for April, which is National Poetry Month, including a poetry writing contest, poetry pen-pal project, and poetry writing podcasts.

“Reading, writing and sharing poetry is a way we can ignite our lives with greater insight and inspiration, and both the “To to Stars” writing contest and Poetry Pen-pal Project will help people interested in poetry throughout Kansas express themselves more vividly and connect with a larger community of Kansas writers,” Mirriam-Goldberg said.

The “To the Stars” poetry contest, building on the 2009 poetry month writing contest started by past poet laureate of Kansas Denise Low, invites writers of all ages and backgrounds to enter poems each week of April. Each week's contest will focus on the work of a Kansas poet, drawing from the new anthology *To the Stars: The Ad Astra Poetry Project*, edited by Low, and writing on such topics as the Rivers of Our Lives, Mythic Kansas, Flight and Night, and Gardens of Our days. There will be two categories for each week's contest, one for professional writers (those who have published one or more books of poetry with an establish press, excluding self-published books), and others. Winners will receive copies of *To the Stars*, and their poems will be published on the Kansas Arts Commission and Mirriam-Goldberg's websites. Weekly deadlines for the contests are April 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2010.

The Poetry Pen-pal Project will match up writers of diverse backgrounds and regions so they can benefit from one another's perspectives. Pen pals will share their poetry as well as support and ideas for revision, writing and publishing with each other, and all participants will receive a detailed packet of information on how to effectively work together. Participants must be 18 or older, and fill out a form found at <http://arts.ks.gov> so that they may be matched up. The deadline for the spring pen-pal match-ups is April 30, 2010.

Additionally, Mirriam-Goldberg offers “Write From Your Life” monthly columns and podcasts offering writing inspiration and exercises to readers and listeners, which can be found on the Kansas Arts Commission website and on her blog, <http://CarynMirriamGoldberg.wordpress.com>. She also has

National Poetry Month tips, links and writing exercises available at her blog.

Through her other poet laureate project, *Writing Across Kansas: Reading and Writing Our Way Home*, she works to strengthen the presence of poetry in Kansas, build literary communities statewide and enhance Kansans' sense of place through poetry. The project brings together communities and emerging poets through writing workshops and ongoing poetry circles. *Writing Across Kansas* is available through the Kansas Arts On Tour Roster. Community, school and university presenters may apply for 40% of the fees roster artists charge. For questions about the Poet Laureate of Kansas program or the Kansas Arts on Tour Roster, please contact Christine Dotterweich Bial, program manager of community and artist partnerships, at 785/368-6544 or [christine@arts.ks.gov](mailto:christine@arts.ks.gov).

The Kansas Arts Commission is the state agency dedicated to promoting and supporting the arts in Kansas. Its mission is to provide opportunities for the people of Kansas to experience, celebrate and value the arts throughout their lives. For more information on the Kansas Arts Commission, please visit the KAC website at <http://arts.ks.gov>.

###