

West End Poets News Letter



www.westendpoetsweekend.com



September/October 2009

CREATED AND ISSUED BY:
CARRBORO RECREATION AND
PARKS DEPARTMENT

Issue No. 19 (since June 2006)

ARTICLES

Piedmont Poet Laureate & Keynote Poet, Jaki Shelton Green	2
Children, Youth & Family Events	2-3
Special Thanks and a Call for Sponsors	4
New to the West End Poetry Festival NC Poet Spotlights	5
Mark Your Calendar for some new Events Round About NC	6

West End Poetry Festival Preview Edition

Now in its 3rd year, with more than 35 participating NC writers, the West End Poetry Festival has become one of the Southeast Regions most unique and largest Poetry Events! This one day event offers something for all ages! Sessions include readings, writing workshops and performances.

The festival will be held for one day only on October 17, 2009. Our theme is "Celebrating Diversity in

Poetry." The festival's mission is to promote established and aspiring writers and performers from across the state and representing all poetic forms. The festival's location will be at the beautiful Carrboro Century Hall. This issue of the newsletter will spotlight some of the many talented poets, workshops, and performances you have to look forward to. For more information visit www.westendpoetsweekend.com

Poetry with Featured Performance Poet Josephus III

Josephus III

Performance Begins at 10:00pm
Carrboro Century Center Hall
Expect Standing Room Only!

At the West End Poetry Festival 2009, Josephus poetry will be accompanied by a dancer, vocalist, and musician. His many accomplishments include his words featured on a quilted piece by Jacqueline Hughes Mooney for President Bill Clinton in 2005 and being selected to perform with an ensemble of poets for Oprah Winfrey at

Bennett College in 2006, where he was referred to as the "Langston Hughes of his generation".

To experience some of Josephus' performances visit. <http://www.josephusiii.com/media.htm>



Among the many projects Josephus is currently part of is Reasons 2 Rhyme, a variety of events celebrating the Art of Poetry while connect-

ing to the community. This series offers gatherings in a variety of venues throughout the year that are FREE and OPEN to the public and expand the opportunity for poetry to be seen heard and experienced. For more information visit his website: <http://www.JosephusIII.com> and check out the events page.



Keynote Speaker, Jaki Shelton Green



Jaki Shelton Green
Reading and Discussion Begins at 9:00pm
Carrboro Century Center Hall

Her poetry has appeared in publications such as *Solo Press*, *The Crucible*, *The African-American Review*, *Obsidian*, *Ms. Magazine*, *Essence Magazine*, *KAKALAK*, *Emigration*, *Immigration*, and *Diversity*, *Callaloo*, *Black Poets Lean South Anthology* published by *Cave Canem*, the *PEDESTAL Poetry Journal* and *Poets for Peace*.

In 2005, *breath of the song*, was cited as one of two **BEST POETRY BOOKS OF THE YEAR**.

“There are poets who live in North Carolina and then there are poets that personify North Carolina. Jaki Shelton Green is one of those poets whose words embody the land, the culture and the people....”
 - *Glenis Redmond, Poet-Educator*

Jaki Shelton Green was selected as the first **NC Piedmont Poet Laureate** in 2008 and received the North Carolina Award for Literature in 2003. She is the 2007 recipient of the **Sam Ragan Award** and a member of the prestigious North Carolinian Society.

Her publications include *Dead on Arrival*, *Dead on Arrival and New Poems*, *Masks*, *Conjure Blues*, *singing a tree into dance*, *breath of the song*, and *Blue Opal*, a play.

Children’s Featured Poet, Allan Wolf

Allan Wolf is an author, poet, performer and educator who lives in Asheville, North Carolina with his wife and three kids. After three years teaching at Virginia Tech, Wolf became the Educational Director for Poetry Alive!, a national touring company that presents theatrical poetry shows for all ages. Wolf is also a member of The Dead Poets, a musical trio who transform classic poetry into toe-tapping tunes.

An active organizer in the early days of the poetry slam competitions, Wolf’s mission has always been to take poetry to the people. His home town made history in 1995 as the smallest city to ever win the coveted National Poetry Slam Championship title.

Wolf now writes and presents full time. His books include *The Blood-Hungry Spleen and Other Poems About Our Parts* (Candlewick Press), and *New Found Land: Lewis and Clark’s Voyage of Discovery* (Candlewick Press), a novel in verse chosen as a School Library Journal Best Book, an ALA Best Book for Young Adults, and an IRA Children’s Book Award Notable. He is the author of a book about writing poems titled, *Immersed In Verse: An Informative, Slightly Irreverent & Totally Tremendous Guide to Living the Poet’s Life* (Lark Books) and a new YA novel in verse titled *Zane’s Trace* (Candlewick Press).

Conducting more than one hundred presentations every year, Allan Wolf is a veteran traveler through all the diverse worlds of verse from poetry slams to public schools, salons to saloons. And with literally

hundreds of poems committed to memory, Wolf is always ready to spin out a stanza or two. Got rhyme?

To read these and other fun facts on Allan and watch video of his performances visit www.allanwolf.com/visits.htm.

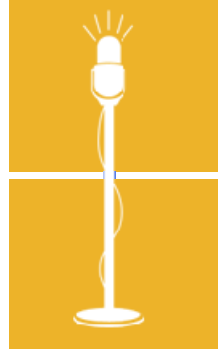
Allan Wolf

Readings & Performance

11:00am-12:00pm

Light Refreshments will follow.





Readings by
 Carrboro Youth
 Poetry Contest Winners
 and Local Youth Featured Poet,
 Alexandra Slydel

Beginning at 12:30pm

Poetry Out Loud
 NC Finalists
 Samara Clark and
 Alex Caprara
 with an introduction by
 Mimi Herman

Performance Starts at 1:00pm

The National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation have partnered with State Arts Agencies of the United States to support the expansion of *Poetry Out Loud*, which encourages the nation's youth to learn about great poetry through memorization and performance. Come meet and experience 2009 NC Finalists, Samara Clark and Alex Caprara reciting famous works of poetry and learn about what makes this program so special.

For a video preview of Samara:

http://www.ncarts.org/freeform_scrn_template.cfm?ffscrn_id=504

To see Alex in action:

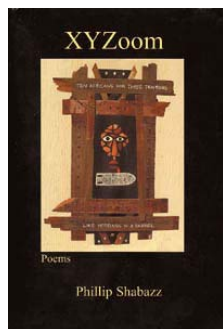
http://www.ncarts.org/freeform_scrn_template.cfm?ffscrn_id=516

The entire collection can be found at: http://www.ncarts.org/freeform_scrn_template.cfm

A Youth Poetry Workshop with Phillip Shabazz

Best known for his creative writing workshops and poetry presentations, Phillip has also published one novel: *When the Grass Was Blue*, and two volumes of poetry: *Freestyle & Visitation*, and *XYZoom*.

Enjoy this workshop with Phillip Shabazz, who is recognized as “One of the most inspiring individuals in the arts” by Duke Young Writers’ Camp.



This is a free event with limited seating. To reserve your space please email Kim Andrews

kandrews@townofcarrboro.org.

Ages 7 & up.

“Shabazz's poems reach us like raindrops on the skin, some warm, some stinging, but all reminders of how we are connected to each other within one big human spirit.”

- Joe Cole, Professor of ethics and philosophy at Guilford College, columnist for the Raleigh News & Observer.

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to our individual and corporate sponsors including:



Individual Donor: Elizabeth Fosso

A Call for the West End Poetry Festival!

We appreciate all our supporters - individuals and businesses alike. We depend on contributions to maintain the high quality event which is affordable to all community members. Many of the blocks are free to the public or tickets prices for special performances are kept to a minimum. An individual or business can help by sponsoring a Poetry Block or by making a direct contribution. Blocks include: Youth, Tarheel Poets, NC Poets, Poet Performer, and Featured Poet.

Please make checks payable to Town of Carrboro/WEPF and mail to:
Carrboro Recreation and Parks c/o Kim Andrews 100 North Greensboro Street Carrboro NC 27510.

We thank you for your interest and participation in this very unique arts event.

If you have questions please email kandrews@townofcarrboro.org

Sponsorship Levels

[Calliope \(Muse of Epic Poetry\) Level:](#) \$250 and above

- Large Logo with link on webpage
- Introductions and Announcements will include your individual, group or sponsorship name.
- Logo will be included on program
- WEPF T-shirt

[Polymnia \(Muse of Sacred Poetry\) Level:](#) \$100- \$250

- Small Logo with link on webpage
- Introductions and Announcements will include your individual, group or sponsorship name.
- Logo will be included on program
- WEPF T-shirt

[Thaleia \(Muse of Comic and Idyllic Poetry\) Level:](#) \$50- \$100

- Text listing with link on webpage
- Text listing on program
- WEPF T-shirt

[Euterpe \(Muse of Lyric Poetry\) Level:](#) \$25-50

- Text listing on program
- WEPF T-shirt

North Carolina Poet Spotlights



Katie Bowler was born and raised near New Orleans, LA. In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, she returned to the city to salvage photographs, art, and pieces of New Orleans' cultural history. In *State Street*, she explores loss of home and homeland, experiences the panic and awe of the familiar becoming unfamiliar, and finds among the wreckage humanity, humor and hope. -Bull City Press



Photo courtesy of Donn Young.



Reading at Malaprops Bookstore
Photo by Ted Pope

For a complete listing of scheduled participants visit www.westendpoetsweekend.com

Poet, photographer, editor, and critic Jeffery Beam is the author of numerous award-winning works including *Visions of Dame Kind* (The Jargon Society), *An Elizabethan Bestiary: Retold* (Horse and Buggy), *The Beautiful Tendons: Uncollected Queer Poems 1969 – 2007* (White Crane Wisdom Series), *The Fountain* (NC Wesleyan College Press), the online book, *Gospel Earth* (Longhouse), and the forthcoming expanded *Gospel Earth* (Skysill Press, England). His spoken word CD with multimedia, *What We Have Lost: New and Selected Poems 1977-2001*, was a 2003 Audio Publishers Award finalist. The Carnegie Hall premiered song cycle, *Life of the Bee*, with composer Lee Hoiby, continues to be performed on the international stage and can be heard on Albany Record's *New Growth*. Beam, poetry editor of the print and online literary journal *Oyster Boy Review*, will be reading a selection of his poems.



Alex Grant's chapbook *Chains & Mirrors*(NCWN/Harperprints) won the 2006 Randall Jarrell Poetry Prize and the 2007 Oscar Arnold Young Award(Best North Carolina poetry collection). His second chapbook, *The White Book*, was released in 2008 by Main St. Rag Publishing. His full-length collection, *Fear of Moving Water*, will be released in late 2009 by Wind Publications. His poems have appeared in *The Missouri Review*, *Best New Poets 2007*, *Arts & Letters*, *The Connecticut Review*, *Nimrod* and elsewhere.

Look for these postcards around town to pick up and share with your friends!
Design by former WEPF feature poet and Spoken Word Artist, Church da'Poet.



Poetry Round About NC

Poetry Revealed! Poets Open Mic Open Eye Café, Carrboro

Back from summer hiatus, this event is held every 1st Tuesday monthly.

Tuesday, September 1st & October 6th. 7-9pm
www.openeyecafe.com

Free.



Words of Wisdom Open Mic

Mansion 462,
462 Franklin St.,
Chapel Hill

Mondays, hosted by Church da'Poet. **Ages 18 & up.** Some explicit content. Sign up between 8-8:30pm. Show starts promptly at 8:30. \$5 Entry Fee. First 10 open mic sign ups FREE.

<http://www.reverbNation.com/>

Triangulations: Readings in & Around the Triangle

For information on Poetry Readings for the remainder of 2009 and into 2010, please visit

<http://triangulationsreadings.blogspot.com/>

Poets include Tim Early, Helen Losse, Kate Greenstreet, Thomas Meyer, & more.

McIntyre's Books NC Poetry Society Readings

Ferrington Village,
Pittsboro, 919-542-3030

Thursday, September 24th at 7pm. Free.

This event features poets Scott Owens and Terri Kirby Erickson. Visit

[http://](http://www.ferrington.com/village/calendar.asp)

www.ferrington.com/village/calendar.asp

McIntyre's Author Event: Ruth Moose Ferrington Village, Pittsboro, 919-542-3030

Saturday, September 19th at 11am.

A Stanly County native & UNC-CH writing instructor, Ruth Moose will be reading from her newly-released poetry collection "The Librarian and Other Poems".

Open Mic Royal Bean Coffee House 3801 Hillsborough St, Raleigh, 27607

919-834-BEAN

First Thursday monthly. 7-8pm. Hosted by Maureen Sherbondy and co-sponsored by Main Street Rag. Email Maureen to sign up to read: msherbondy@nc.rr.com

Friday Noon Poets Amity United Methodist Church, Chapel Hill

On the corner of Estes and Martin Luther King Jr. Rd. (aka Airport Rd.).

Contact David Manning for information call 919-462-3695, or visit dbtm@mindspring.com

Open Mic Looking Glass Café 601 W. Main St. Carrboro, 919-967-9398

All Tuesdays EXCEPT for the 1st Tuesday of the month. 7pm. Free.

Open Mic and discussion in a relaxed group where participants can read their own or others works.

Created and Issued by the
Carrboro Recreation and Parks Department

CARRBORO
Recreation and Parks Department

For the newsletter, we welcome:

- Poetry News
- Upcoming Poetry Events
- Articles
- Contest Information
- Festival and Event Recaps

Please email your information to Allie Hansen at programdivision@townofcarrboro.org.

100 North Greensboro Street
Carrboro, NC 27514
919-918-7364

www.townofcarrboro.org
www.westendpoetsweekend.com

West End Poets Festival Coordinator:
Kim Andrews
Phone: (919) 918-7367
kandrews@townofcarrboro.org
Fax: 919-918-4475