

September 2021

LOMP *lighter*

ABOUT US

League of Minnesota Poets (LOMP), organized in 1934, holds biannual meetings, supports regional chapters in Minnesota, and publishes *The Moccasin* poem anthology.

www.mnpoets.com

MEMBERSHIP

Annual membership fee:
\$25 (\$10 for K-12 students)

Membership includes the quarterly newsletter, *LOMPLighter*, National Federation of State Poetry Societies membership, and the NFSPS annual publication, *Strophes*.

Mail fees to
LOMP Treasurer
PO Box 17344
Minneapolis, MN 55417

CHAPTERS

Heartland Poets ... Brainerd Lakes
Mississippi Valley Poets & Writers Twin Cities
Southeastern Minnesota Poets Rochester
Southern Minnesota Poets Society Mankato
Grand View Poets St. Cloud/Sartell
Cracked Walnut Twin Cities
Story Portage Poets Ely
Duluth Poets Duluth

FALL LOMP CONFERENCE - FUTUREVERSE

The League of Minnesota Poets Fall Conference will be held Friday, October 22 through Sunday, October 24, at the Minneapolis Marriott Southwest, 5801 Opus Parkway, Minnetonka.

Join us for poetry workshops, guest speakers, and the official announcement of the 2021 LOMP Poetry Contest winners. On Saturday, Donna Isaac will give a "Post-Pandemic Pep Talk" to bolster creativity as many of us work to recover from a current-events induced slump. A teacher and a poet, Donna has worked with Cracked Walnut since its founding, and has published two chapbooks, *Tommy* (Red Dragonfly Press) and *Holy Comforter* (Red Bird Chapbooks).

Saturday night's keynote speaker, Kyle "Guante" Tran Myhre, is a poet, educator, and activist based in Minneapolis. His work explores the relationships between identity, power, and resistance, and he's performed everywhere from the United Nations, to music festivals, to countless colleges, universities, and conferences. A two-time National Poetry Slam champion, Tran Myhre has also given a TEDx Talk, published a book (available now via Button Poetry), and can currently be heard as the co-host of "What's Good, Man?" a podcast on healthy masculinity. An educator as well as a performing artist, Tran Myhre completed his Masters studies at the University of Minnesota with a focus on spoken word, critical pedagogy, and social justice education; in that spirit, his performances use poems as jumping-off points for authentic dialogue, critical thinking, and community-building.



KEY DATES

Friday, October 1, 2021

Deadline to reserve a hotel room for the Fall Conference

October 22-24, 2021

LOMP Fall Conference

LeadershipREPORT

As the summer set in, so did the activity of poetry heat up. The Woodtick poetry retreat brought about new connections as well as a reunion of poets. Poets & Pints returned as well to the welcoming atmosphere of Sisyphus Brewing. Open mics and readings have popped up again as well for poets to share their voices personally. The Mississippi Valley Poets & Writers organized a Richfield Nature Poetry Walk, which put up signs of poetry around the Richfield Lake Park. The opening event was well received, and the City of Richfield was thrilled that the MVP&W could make it happen. If you are in the area, we hope you stop by to be inspired by the poems and the project itself.



I personally am looking forward to the Fall Conference which will go as planned. While we are continuing this in person, we will be keeping an eye on the ups and downs the waves brought us. For the conference, we are taking the precautions and requirements dictated by the hotel which follows state guidelines. Currently they are requiring masks for unvaccinated individuals and strongly recommending masks for those who are vaccinated. We want to see all your shining poetic faces this fall so we encourage you to take all precautions in your daily lives as well, not just for your own personal health, but for the health and safety of those around you, as well as to curb the spike in cases so that these events may continue as planned. I also recommend getting tested prior to attending the conference as a precaution regardless of vaccination status as the spread relies on asymptomatic cases. This is just another way we can take steps to ensure the health and safety of those around us. While we cannot eliminate all risks, we can all take steps to greatly reduce them. We want to share our wealth of poetry with one another. We hope to see you there.

Sincerely,

Peter Stein, President of the League of Minnesota Poets

LOMP CHAPTER NOTES

Mississippi Valley Poets & Writers
Facebook group:

[www.facebook.com/
groups/356196838817845](https://www.facebook.com/groups/356196838817845)

The Duluth Poetry Chapter meets
every Sunday at 1:00pm via Zoom:

[www.facebook.com/
duluthpoetrychapter/](https://www.facebook.com/duluthpoetrychapter/)

The Southern Minnesota Poets'
Facebook page:

[www.facebook.com/
southernmnpoets/](https://www.facebook.com/southernmnpoets/)

Poets & Pints YouTube channel:

[www.youtube.com/channel/
UCrqqVoVHBtqE87WFoOaRqjA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrqqVoVHBtqE87WFoOaRqjA)

Please visit our members' websites to give them support.

LOMP MEMBER

WEBSITE

Micki Blenkush

mickiblenkush.com/

Jan Chronister

janchronisterpoetry.wordpress.com/

Nancy Cook

www.nancylcook.com

Annette Gagliardi

annette-gagliardi.com/

Patrick Cabello Hansel

www.artecabellohansel.com/

Margaret Hasse

www.MargaretHasse.com

Donna Isaac

www.donnaisaacpoet.com

Evelyn Klein

evelynkleinauthor.com/wordpress

Laura Kozy Lanik

booksnob-booksnoob.blogspot.com/

Alan Perry

alanperrypoetry.com

Toni Plocido

www.mentalvalley.com

Bill Quist

www.billquistpoet.com

Peter Stein

www.steinography.com

Linda White

www.bookmaniaonline.com

MEMBER *Achievements*

Alan Perry's poem *Flying Lesson* was published in The Summer 2021 issue of *The Ocotillo Review*. www.kallistogaiapress.org/the-ocotillo-review/

Susan Coultrap-McQuin's chapbook *What We Bring Home* will be released October 15 by The Poetry Box.

thepoetrybox.com/bookstore/what-we-bring-home

NFSPS POETRY AWARDS TO MINNESOTANS

Congratulations to the following Minnesotans who received recognition in the 2021 NFSPS Poetry Contest.

Micki Blenkush, St Cloud—Al Laster Memorial Award (1st *Unweaving*); Wyopoets Award (2nd *Hindsight*); Stone Gathering Award (3rd *Island of Wilderness*); Poetry Society of Texas Award (3rd *Latitudes*); Margo Award (HM); Land of Enchantment Award (HM); Louisiana State Poetry Society Award (HM); Main Poets Society Award (HM)

Susan Chambers, Mankato—Robbie Award (1st *Gretchen's Hymn*); Missouri State Poetry Society Award (1st *The Forgotten Inhabitants*); Main Poets Society Award (3rd *California Green Dream*); Stone Gathering Award (HM)

Meredith R Cook, Blue Earth—Al Laster Memorial Award (HM), Poet's Work Award (HM)

Charmaine Pappas Donovan, Brainerd—Nevada Poetry Society Award (HM)

Matthew Feeney, Moose Lake—Donald Stodghill Memorial Award (HM); Utah State Poetry Award (HM); Poetry Society of Tennessee (HM)

Christina Flaughter, Rochester—Arizona State Poetry Society (2nd *Midnight Vigil for Grandfather*); New York Poetry Forum Award (3rd *Blood Tithe*); Barbara Stevens Memorial Award (HM); Massachusetts State Poetry Society Award (HM)

Deborah Goschy, Eagle Lake—Louisiana State Poetry Society Award (1st *Stream of My Consciousness*); Naomi Stroud Simmons Award (2nd *Understory*); Nevada Poetry Society Award (HM)

Donna Isaac, Inver Grove Heights—Margo Award (1st *Avoidance*); William Stafford Memorial Award (1st *Markings*); Winners' Circle Award (2nd *Distant Lightning*); Jim Barton Memorial Award (HM); Poet's Work Award (HM)

Angela Kom, Rochester—Poet's Work Award (HM)

Robert La Fleur, Ponsford—Jim Barton Memorial Award (HM), Morton D Prouty & Elsie S Prouty Memorial Award (HM); Louisiana State Poetry Society Award (HM); Main Poets Society Award (HM)

Henry Panowitsch, Mankato—Robbie Award (HM)



ABOUT LOMP

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:
Peter Stein

VICE PRESIDENT
Amanda Bailey

SECRETARY:
Jana Bouma

MEMBERSHIP/TREASURER:
Mary Schmidt

PAST PRESIDENT:
Dennis Herschbach

APPOINTMENTS

LOMP Poet Laureate:
Doris Stengel

MOCCASIN EDITOR:
Meredith R. Cook

HISTORIAN:
Amanda Bailey

LOMPLIGHTER EDITOR:
Joe Anderson

PUBLICITY CHAIR:
open

YOUTH CHAIR:
Brendan Brophy

CONTACT US

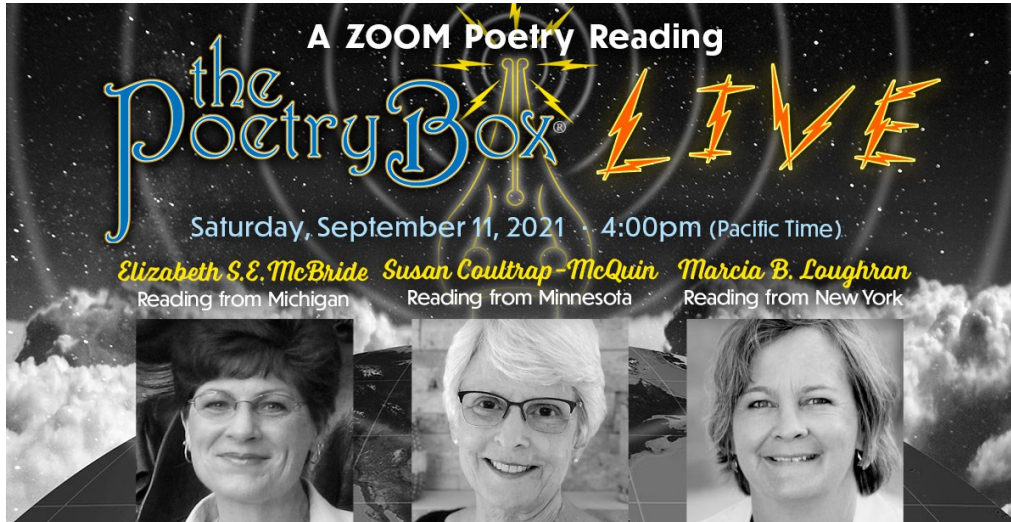
Leagueofmnpoets@gmail.com

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from [Pixabay](#)

POETRY BOX LIVE MONTHLY SERIES SEPTEMBER 11

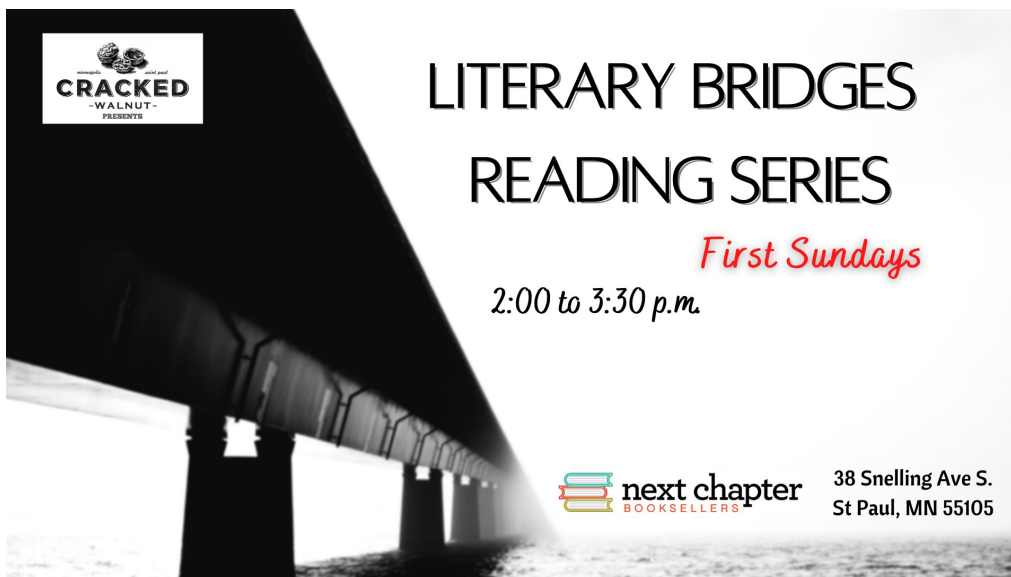
The Poetry Box LIVE, hosted by Portland poet and publisher, Shawn Aveningo-Sanders, is a monthly Zoom poetry reading series on the second Saturday of each month, at 6:00pm (Central).

www.facebook.com/events/551809669581931/



LITERARY BRIDGES LAUNCHES SEPTEMBER 12

Literary Bridges, a merger between Stan Kusunoki's reading series, Bridges, with Literary Lights hosted by fellow Twin Cities writer, Donna Isaac, will have its inaugural session Sunday, September 12 at 2:00pm at Next Chapter Booksellers, 38 Snelling Ave S, St. Paul. The series is sponsored by Cracked Walnut. Featured readers include: David Mura, Isadora Gruye, Mary Jo Thompson, Janna Knittel, Michael Kleber-Diggs, Jeanne Lutz, Margaret Hasse, Carolyn Holbrook, Lia Rivamonte, Michael Dean, Rosie Peters, Carol Masters, Hawona Sullivan Janzen, Anthony Ceballos, and Ardie Medina.



GOOD THUNDER READING SERIES NOVEMBER 11

Su Hwang will be in conversation with Robyn Katona at the Good Thunder Reading Series on Thursday, November 11, 7:30pm in MSU-Mankato's Centennial Student Union Room 245.

Su Hwang is a poet, activist, stargazer, and the author of *Bodega*, which received the 2020 Minnesota Book Award in poetry and was named a finalist for the 2021 Kate Tufts Discovery Award. Born in Seoul, Korea, she was raised in New York then called the Bay Area home before transplanting to the Midwest, where she received her MFA from the University of Minnesota. A teaching artist with the Minnesota Prison Writing Workshop, Su Hwang currently lives in Minneapolis.

BOOK CLUB FOR WRITERS

Lake Superior Writers is presenting a book discussion (via Zoom) with Minnesota author Danielle Sosin on November 16, 6:30pm. Register by emailing writers@lakesuperiorwriters.org

MIDSTREAM READINGS

Thursday, September 9, 7:30–8:30pm, Midstream Reading Series will present poetry readings via Zoom, featuring Marion Gómez, Chavonn Williams Shen, John Schenk and Bryan Thao Worra. Host: Don Brunnquell. Recordings of previous readings are available. midstreamreadingseries.wordpress.com

SUPERIOR SHARES OPEN MIC

Wednesday, September 8, 6:00pm, and Wednesday, October 13, 6:00pm, Lake Superior Writers will host *Superior Shares*, a virtual open mic for local writers to share their work in progress.

There will be 10 five-minute slots available on a first come first served basis, with priority given to Lake Superior Writer members. A Zoom link will be sent out the day of the event.

This event is free and membership is not required. Participants will be notified ahead of time if they have been selected to read.

To register and/or request a time, email writers@lakesuperiorwriters.org.

LOMP AT DULUTH PRIDE

Stop at the League's booth at Duluth Superior Pride, Saturday, September 4 at Bayfront Festival Park on Harbor Dr, Duluth.

POETRY CONTESTS BY NFSPS CHAPTERS

Entries for the **California State Poetry Society's** monthly contest must be postmarked during the month of the contest in which they are entered.

October entries should be humorous or satire, and November entries should describe family, friendship, or relationships.

www.californiastatepoetrysociety.org/our-contests

The **Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas** sponsors monthly contests (only open to PRA members). Poems must be postmarked by the second Saturday of the month. poetsroundtableofarkansas.org/contests/

The **Illinois State Poetry Society** is holding their 28th annual poetry contest. Submissions must be postmarked by October 31.

www.illinoispoets.org/contest.htm

South Dakota State Poetry Society entries will be accepted until December 1. The contest features two categories: Portrait poems, which must be about someone from South Dakota; and Landscape poems, which must feature the natural environment of South Dakota. Electronic entries only. sdpoetry.org/annual-contest/

WyoPoets will accept entries for the Eugene V. Shea National Poetry Contest from October 1 until December 31. The contest is open to all poets who reside in the US. www.wyopoets.org/contests.html

MINNESOTA BOOK AWARDS SEEKING ENTRIES

The Minnesota Book Awards, a program of The Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library, is seeking submissions of books written by Minnesota residents and published in 2021. Guidelines available at thefriends.org/minnesota-book-awards. Deadline: Friday, November 12

TWIN CITIES (HYBRID) BOOK FESTIVAL OCTOBER 16

Rain Taxi's 2021 Twin Cities Book Festival will take place in-person at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds, and through virtual events in the weeks leading up to the live portion. The revamped live experience, on Saturday, October 16, will still offer in-person browsing, meeting writers and publishers, activities for readers age 1 to 101, and LOMP will be among the exhibitors. Health guidelines will shape occupancies, crowd flow, and more. The virtual experience will bring even more author conversations and happenings into the mix. Starting in September, audiences everywhere will be able to tune in to Crowdcast for exciting virtual events leading up to the big day, engaging with amazing writers in every genre imaginable. twincitiesbookfestival.com/



POETRY WALK OPENS IN RICHFIELD

Launched August 14, the Mississippi Valley Nature Poetry Walk features ten poems mounted on the walking trail around Richfield Lake in the city park at 6400 Dupont Ave S, Richfield. Each poem can also be found on the LOMP website, where you can read it in English or Spanish (translations by into Spanish by Maria Lander Cabrere and Eileen LaFontaine) or listen to the poem read by Maggie Gagliardi and Alejandra Camacho.

www.mnpoets.org/richfield-poetry-walk/

Initiated by the Mississippi Valley Poets and Writers organization, a chapter of the League of Minnesota Poets, and modeled after the Mankato Poetry Walk & Ride, the walk was also sponsored by the Richfield Arts Commission, and The Cornerstone Group.



LOMP 2021 FALL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

FutureVerse

- Register and pay online at www.mnpoets.org or
- Complete this form, write out a check (payable to LOMP), and mail to League of MN Poets, PO Box 17344, Minneapolis, MN 55417

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail address _____

Chapter Affiliation _____ Phone _____

Membership Bundle—Save \$5 when you register for the conference and pay your LOMP Membership dues for 2022

Conference Registration fee for LOMP Members

Conference Registration fee for non-members

Total attendees and fees

OF ATTENDEES

FEES

\$70.00 x _____ = \$ _____

\$50.00 x _____ = \$ _____

\$60.00 x _____ = \$ _____

	\$
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LODGING FOR THE CONFERENCE

Reserve your room at the Minneapolis Marriott Southwest online (using this QR code) or by calling (952) 935-5500. Book by Friday, October 1 to receive the discounted rate.

