

POETS IN CONVERSATION, FALL 2018 SCHEDULE

Join us this fall for Poets in Conversation at the Norwalk Public Library. Each evening features two poets, who will read from their work and discuss the writing life with the audience. We have an amazing line-up this fall and hope you can join us for all four events! Questions? Contact Laurel Peterson at laurelpeterson@att.net. Hope to see you there.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2018: 7 – 8:15 PM:



Charles Rafferty's most recent poetry collections are *The Smoke of Horses* (BOA Editions, 2017) and *Something an Atheist Might Bring Up at a Cocktail Party* (Mayapple Press, 2018). His poems have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *O, Oprah Magazine*, and *Ploughshares*, and his stories have appeared in *The Southern Review* and *New World Writing*. His story collection is *Saturday Night at Magellan's* (Fomite Press, 2013). Currently, he directs the MFA program at Albertus Magnus College and teaches at Westport Writers' Workshop.



Jonas Zdanys, a bilingual poet and translator, is the author of forty-nine published books. They include 23 collections of poetry, written in English or in Lithuanian; 21 volumes of translations of Lithuanian poetry and fiction into English; and 5 anthologies for which he served as editor. He has received a number of prizes, book awards, writing and travel grants, and public recognitions for his own poetry and for his translations. He has taught at the State University of New York and at Yale University, where he also held a number of administrative positions and was a Scholar-in-Residence in the Yale Center for Russian and East European Studies. He served for more than a decade as the state of Connecticut's Chief Academic Officer and is currently Professor of English and Poet-in-Residence at Sacred Heart University, where he teaches seminars on modern poetry and directs the program in creative writing. <http://jonaszdanys.org/>

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2018, 7 – 8:15 PM:



Amy Nawrocki is the author of five poetry collections, most recently *Reconnaissance*, published by Homebound Publications. Her work has appeared in such venues as *The Connecticut River Review*, *New Millennium Writings*, *Phi Kappa Phi Forum*, *The Poet's Billow*, and *Lay Bare the Canvas: New England Poets on Art*. She is also the co-author, with her husband Eric D. Lehman, of three Connecticut history books, including *Literary Connecticut*. Amy's latest book *The Comet's Tail: A Memoir of No Memory* is available from Little Bound Books. She is an associate professor of English at the University of Bridgeport and lives in Hamden, CT.



Brian Clements is author or editor of over a dozen print and digital collections of poetry, most recently the anthology *Bullets into Bells: Poets & Citizens Respond to Gun Violence* (Beacon Press) and a book of prose poems, *A Book of Common Rituals* (Quale Press). He is Professor of Writing, Linguistics, and Creative Process at Western Connecticut State University.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2018, 7 – 8:15 PM:



Jean P. Moore was born in Brooklyn, New York, and grew up in Miami, Florida. Her novel *Water on the Moon*, published in June 2014, won the 2015 Independent Publisher Book Award for contemporary fiction. Her work has appeared in journals and newspapers such as *upstreet*, *SN Review*, *The Timberline Review*, *Angels Flight Literary West*, *Fiction Southeast*, *Distillery*, *Skirt*, *Slow Trains*, the *Hartford Courant*, *Greenwich Time*, and the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. A memoir piece, “Finding Charles,” appears in *Persimmon Tree*. Several of her poems are found in *Women’s Voices of the 21st Century*, 2014. Her chapbook, *Time’s Tyranny*, was published in the fall of 2017. She, her husband, and their black Lab, Sly, divide their time between Greenwich, Connecticut and the Berkshires in Massachusetts.



Katherine Flannery Dering is a poet, novelist and memoirist who holds an MFA from Manhattanville College. In 2014 she published *Shot in the Head, a Sister’s Memoir a Brother’s Struggle* (Bridgeross). A mixed genre book of poetry, prose, photos and emails, it deals with caring for her schizophrenic brother, and she is an advocate for better care for the mentally ill. Her poetry chapbook, *Aftermath*, to be published in 2018, began during a period of introspection following the death of her nephew from a drug overdose. Her poetry and essays have also been featured in numerous small journals, newspapers and anthologies. Ms Dering lives in Bedford, NY and currently serves on the executive committee of the Katonah Poetry Series. She blogs at www.deringkatherine.wordpress.com.

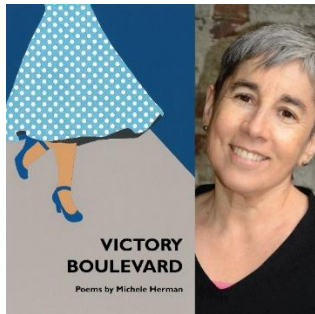
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2018, 7 – 8:15 PM:



Jack Powers teaches special education. English and math at Joel Barlow High School in Redding, Connecticut, and directs the

school's Writing Center. He looks remarkably young for someone who has taught at JBHS for over 35 years.

Mr. Powers collects degrees in low-paying fields including a BFA in Painting from Syracuse University, an MS in Special Education from Southern Connecticut State University, and an MFA in Fiction and an MFA in Poetry from Sarah Lawrence College. He won the 2015 and 2012 *Connecticut River Review* Poetry Contests and was a finalist for the 2013 and 2014 *Rattle* Poetry Prizes. His poems have appeared in *The Southern Review*, *The Southern Poetry Review*, *Barrow Street*, *Poet Lore*, *Cortland Review* and elsewhere. His collection, *Everybody's Vaguely Familiar*, is scheduled for publication in November 2018 by Golden Antelope Press.



Michele Herman's stories, poems, essays and articles have appeared in dozens of publications including *The New York Times*, *The Sun*, *Lilith* and *Diagram*, and her first poetry chapbook, *Victory Boulevard*, was published in 2018 by Finishing Line Press. She teaches at The Writers Studio, and as a developmental editor and private writing coach she has helped many writers bring their manuscripts to fruition. She won the 2018 New York Press Association Better Newspaper Award for best column, is a two-time winner of the Willis Barnstone Translation Prize for her translations of Jacques Brel songs, and was a semifinalist for the 2016 Raymond Carver Short Story Contest. One of her short stories appears in the anthology *The Writers Studio at 30* (Epiphany Editions, 2017). She is also a long-time columnist for *The Villager*, the Greenwich Village weekly paper, and often performs her own prose and poetry in cabaret and theatrical settings around New York City. She is a Norwalk native, the mother of two grown sons, and lives with her husband in Greenwich Village.