

## Workshops

**Blake More The Anti-Ode.** Rife with exuberance, sarcasm and common language, the anti-ode degrades the ode one step further—into the realm of the humorous and profane. Using the ode form to make a social statement, against nametags, TV, deforestation, war or to something more personal, such as poison oak or a broken arm. Calling upon humor, comparisons, and the five senses, we will use the ode form to rail against any peeve that is close to your heart. Youth love this exercise! Mendocino County AC and poet teacher, Blake More has many creative voices and expressions, including poetry, performance, radio, costume design and painting. For more, visit [www.snakelyone.com](http://www.snakelyone.com).

**Shadab Zeest Hashmi The Challenge of the Modern Ghazal.** The ghazal is a form whose aesthetics allow it to make a grand gesture in merely two lines. How does a successful ghazal string these “independent, epigrammatic” couplets without sounding archaic or sentimental? In this workshop, we’ll take a brief look at the rich tradition of the ghazal in Urdu and explore some well-crafted ghazals by contemporary American poets. Shadab has an MFA from Warren Wilson and is the author of *Baker of Tarifa*. Originally from Pakistan, she now lives in San Diego.

**Joan Gelfand Building Your Writer’s Resume.** How do writers find their way into the top literary magazines and publications? One way is by submitting an eye-catching ‘resume’ along with your well-crafted works. Learn strategies for winning a coveted list of publication credits that are an editor’s dream – and win sought after acceptances. Joan Gelfand’s letters, essays, reviews, poems and stories have appeared in the *Huffington Post*, *Vanity Fair*, *The New York Times Magazine* and over a hundred magazines and anthologies. She is a San Francisco based poet-teacher.

**Seretta Martin Invent a New Form.** Have you written a **Sonic Sonnet** or **Haiphrastric**? Probably not, they were invented this Spring. Maybe **Terminal** or **Flarf**? These were invented late 20th & early 21st century. Originate a new form? Let’s do it! We’ll consider new & traditional forms as we create new. Seretta Martin is a San Diego artist, translator and poet-teacher and coordinates the Border Voices Poetry Project.

**Melinda Palacio Folsom Lockdown Poetry Project.** This workshop will focus on how to turn painful memories into powerful poems. Her poetry chapbook, *Folsom Lockdown* will serve as a springboard to craft your stories into poems. Discover the human and humorous aspects of painful and

taboo subjects, such as domestic violence and visiting a father in prison. Melinda Palacio is a Santa Barbara poet teacher and the author of *Folsom Lockdown*, *Ocotillo Dreams* and *How Fire is a Storm Waiting*.

**Karen Lewis and Phyllis Meshulam Panel: Digging for Treasure—Where to Find Funding.** The money is out there, but how do we get started? This panel will explore methods of funding and offer basic tools for grant writing, including examples, handouts, and resources for you to bump up your grant-getting and planning skills, no matter where in California you live & work. Karen has received foundation grants, local Rotary grants, and County Office of Education grants, and a 4-time recipient of CAC - AIS (Artists in Schools) awards. Phyllis has been Area Coordinator of Sonoma County since 2004. She’s written successful grants from the Community Foundation of Sonoma County, Starbucks Foundation and the Rotary Club.

**minerva Scripts into Sonnets.** Leave your metaphors at the door and work with pieces of a television script to turn into poems! The saying *Show Don’t Tell* applies here as well. minerva is a long time member of CPITS, former editor of two CPITS anthologies and studies screenwriting in Los Angeles.

**Claudia Poquoc and Gwynn O’Gara Poetry Performance Made Easier.** Learn how to transform dead words on the page into living language that captures and enraptures the audience. By expanding your vocal abilities and tonal expressions, and flexing your memory and musicality, you’ll deliver your poems with greater heart, soul and clarity. You can also apply these skills to your Poetry Out Loud students’ recitations. Discover how words on the page are just the beginning of communication, instead of the end. Gwynn O’Gara, Sonoma County Poet Laureate 2010-2011, has been with CPITS over twenty years. Claudia Poquoc is a poet, drummer, singer-songwriter who has had extensive experience in public speaking as well as certified in *Speaking Presence*.

**Daryl Chinn Bookmaking.** We’ll explore beginning bookmaking techniques that beginners can use to make more complex and advanced books. Along the way, we’ll explore ways to use bookmaking in the classroom or to produce your own books, with or without words and graphics. Limited to twelve people. Tools and materials included. Daryl Ngee Chinn serves as president of the Board of Directors of CPITS and writes and makes books about tango, food, relationships, love, and death.

**Fernando D. Castro Writings from the Queer Heart/an LGBT Youth-Oriented Workshop.** I will share my experience conducting LGBT youth workshops, present engaging literary excerpts, writing exercises, breaking taboos and creating a safe writing community environment. Fernando D. Castro is a Colombian-American residing in Los Angeles. He is

the author of *Fernando’s Café*, *The Nightlife of Saints*, and *Redeemable Air Mileage*. He is the winner of the 2010 City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs COLA Fellowship in Literature.

**Phyllis Meshulam From Abstraction to Image and Music.** How can we bring these strands – what Pound would call “image magic” and “music magic” – together in our poems? Can we find ways to help our students integrate them in theirs? I have learned and discovered a few techniques and would be pleased to share them with you. Phyllis Meshulam is the Area Coordinator for Sonoma County. Also a peacenik and flash-mobster, she is the author of three chapbooks of poetry.

**Tobey Kaplan and Nan Busse Poetry as Dance/ Language Improvisation.** Let’s see what language can do—how can it shape body images? We will explore the process as writers, collaborating with a dancer and improvisational artist. Can words serve the function of music? Inspire a creative, rhythm improvisational exploration with a body of ideas and images? Nan Busse has been creating dance-based art works using text, live music and visual art, since receiving her MFA in studio art from UC Irvine. Tobey Kaplan has been teaching creative writing in the East Bay to adults and children for over 30 years. She has served on the CPITS board and is former Area Coordinator of Alameda.

**Jill Moses In the Frame of Light and Shadow.** Many writers have been compelled to write about photographs, whether from a family photograph or a photograph from a well-known photographer such as Ansel Adams, Edward Weston, Duane Michaels, and Diane Arbus or from a postcard or magazine. We will explore this magical realm where time seems to stop in a frame of light and shadow. Jill Moses is the CPITS Area Coordinator of San Diego, a Board Member and poet teacher.

**Shelley Savren Demystifying the CPITS Program.** This workshop will provide new poet teachers with information they need to become a poet-teacher. It will include training, selling the program, filling out paperwork, information on Poetry Out Loud and an overview of the organization. Each poet will receive some sample lesson plans for different grade levels. Shelley Savren has taught with CPITS over 30 years. She is a full time English Professor with Oxnard College and her book *Common Fire* was published in 2004 by Red Hen Press.

# California Poets in the Schools



## Writing Ourselves True A Poetry and Writing Symposium

September 9-11, 2011  
La Casa de Maria  
Santa Barbara, California

California Poets in the Schools is a statewide writers-in-residence program, one of the oldest and largest in the country. Since 1964, CPITS has been bringing professional poet-teachers into classrooms to bring the joy of poetry and the excitement of creative writing to K-12 students in schools, community centers, afterschool programs, and programs for students at risk. In recent years, CPITS has also proudly served as the poet recruitment arm and the fiscal agent of the California Poetry Out Loud program, coaching high school students in recitation. A hallmark of the CPITS program is an annual anthology of student and poet-teacher poems, essays, and lesson plans.

## Registration

Deadline to register is August 12, 2011.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

### COST

**Includes Friday dinner and reading; Saturday breakfast, lunch, dinner, workshops, and reading; Sunday breakfast, workshops, and closing.**

Single room \$410. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Double room\* (per person) \$275. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Triple room\* (per person) \$245. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### Saturday day only

(no room, includes lunch) \$150. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

No room (entire symposium including meals) \$200. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Writing Intensive with Steve Kowitz (includes lunch) \$75. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### CREDITS & CHARGES

Please circle & add or subtract to above costs.

Area Coordinator - \$75. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Presenter - \$75. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

New Poet Work Scholarship (limited: call office to apply) - \$50. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CPITS Membership (if not current) +\$45. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Non-member fee \*\* +\$30. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(\*\*this payment is required for all non-members to attend, but allows a one time discounted membership for 1 year)

**TOTAL ENCLOSED** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

checks payable to CPITS / credit card below

----- exp: \_\_\_ / \_\_\_

VISA or MC (please circle)

\* I would like to room with \_\_\_\_\_

## Schedule

### September 9-11, 2011

#### Friday, September 9 (pre-symposium)

Writing Intensive with Steve Kowitz. Includes lunch at La Casa de Maria at 12:00, followed by the writing intensive from 1:00 to 5:00 pm.

#### Friday-Sunday, September 9-11

Check in time at La Casa de Maria begins at 4 pm on Friday. The symposium begins with a 6 pm dinner on Friday, followed by an 8 pm reading by our writing intensive teacher and featured reader Steve Kowitz and our honoree Perie Longo. Saturday begins at 8 am with breakfast, and workshops will run all day from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. A general meeting will be held after lunch on Saturday from 1 to 2 pm. Saturday evening will include an open poet reading and celebration at 7:30 pm. Sunday workshops will begin at 9:30 am and the symposium will end by noon. There will be time throughout the weekend for swimming and relaxation.

#### Meal Requests

If you have any special dietary needs or meal requests, or if you are vegetarian or vegan please inform the CPITS office so they can order meals appropriately from La Casa de Maria.

For registration questions or concerns please contact CPITS at (415)221-4201 or [tina@cpits.org](mailto:tina@cpits.org). 1333 Balboa St. #3, San Francisco, CA 94118



#### Steve Kowitz Writing Intensive Teacher and Featured Reader

Steve Kowitz's handbook for writing poetry, *In the Palm of Your Hand*, is the best-selling book of its type at amazon.com. He is the editor of the anthology *The Maverick Poets* and his most recent poetry collection, *The Dumbbell Nebula*, was published in January 2000. Kowitz received a MA from San Francisco State College, and an MFA from Warren Wilson College. He teaches at Southwestern College in Chula Vista and lives in San Diego Back Country.



#### Perie Longo Featured Reader and Honoree

Perie Longo was Santa Barbara Poet Laureate from 2007-09 and president of the National Association for Poetry Therapy 2005-07. In addition to three books of published poetry, her work has appeared in several journals

and anthologies including Atlanta Review, Connecticut Review, Nimrod, Paterson Literary Review, and Prairie Schooner. She has been teaching with CPITS since 1985, on the staff of the Santa Barbara Writer's Conference for as long, and leads her own summer workshop. She is poetry chair for the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation and has been featured on the Charles Osgood radio show, and in the Huntington Post.

**La Casa de Maria, Santa Barbara** can be found at the end of a winding lane canopied in dense foliage leading from the Upper Village in Montecito. Set in a secret garden, guarded by woodlands and the tumbling waters of the San Ysidro Creek, its ambience is that of a much-loved country house through which many generations have passed and left their mark. La Casa de Maria was named "one of the best U.S. retreats" by U.S. News and World Report, 2006. The center boasts rooms with private baths. Amenities include walking and hiking trails, a pool, volleyball, tennis courts, ping-pong, and trained massage therapists on site. This is truly a lovely and special setting, a romantic get away.

**La Casa de Maria**  
800 El Bosque Road  
Santa Barbara, CA 93108  
805-969-5031  
[www.lcdm.org](http://www.lcdm.org)

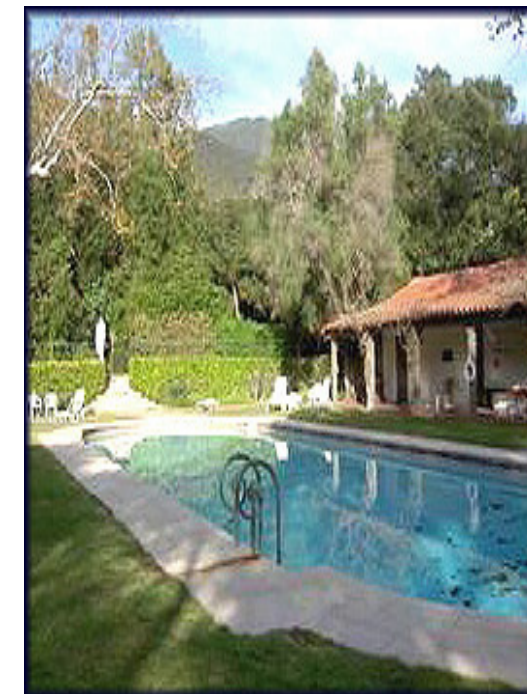


Photo: [travelblog.org](http://travelblog.org)