Now We Belong

Here are the voices of every creature,
Here are the calls of every heart;
Here is the place of strangers’ welcome,
   We who once walked in strangers’ shoes.
Once we were strangers,
We were welcomed,
Now we belong and believe in this land.

Here are the rivers of many echoes,
Here are the leaves of every tree;
Within us live
   the long horizons,
Winds that stir the sacred stones.
Once we were strangers,
We were welcomed,
Now we belong and believe in this land.

Keep faith, keep watch,
Take heart, take courage,
Guard mind, guard spirit.
Feed love, feed longing.

Here are the cities where we have gathered,
Here are the barns where hope is stored;
We are the gleams of every being,
   Filled with the dreams that build the day.
Once we were strangers,
We were welcomed,
Now we belong and believe in this land.

Keep faith,
Guard mind,
Take heart,
Guard spirit,
Take courage,
Keep watch.
Feed longing,
Feed love.

for music by John Wykoff
Missouri State University Chorale
inauguration 2017

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2017-2018 NAPT Board

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Welcome

The National Association for Poetry Therapy, Inc. (NAPT) is a nonprofit, international and interdisciplinary organization promoting growth and healing through written language, symbol and story. Members represent a wide range of professional experience, schools of therapy, educational affiliations, artistic disciplines and other fields of training in both mental and physical health.

In addition to its professional membership, NAPT welcomes all people who are interested in the power of the healing word. We hope you will be able to learn from the many workshops, lectures, and informal networking opportunities available. We hope you will be inspired to absorb, reflect and write. Please visit us on Facebook or www.poetrytherapy.org to contact the NAPT Board and for more information about NAPT.

Thank You!

I wish to personally thank the Proposal Review Committee, which consisted of Nicholas Mazza, Karen vanMeenen and Connie Banta who helped select the dynamic workshops offered at this year’s conference. I am pleased and grateful to have Subtext of Minneapolis sell our books at the conference this year. I also wish to thank Michael Dennis Browne for generously agreeing to have NAPT place his poem “Now We Belong” on the conference program cover. He has been a supporter of NAPT for many years. I want to thank our Keynote Poet Deborah Alma for being so willing to fly across the ocean to be with us all the way from Wales! I wish to thank Nick Mazza and Beth Jacobs for their support and dedication and love for this organization. I also wish to again thank Connie Banta for her tremendous assistance in helping to prepare the registration packets and materials, oversee the Registration Table and all of the other Registration Table volunteers. Much kudos goes to Alison Johnson for her tireless and outstanding efforts as Public Relations Chair. Thank you to our Pre Conference presenters Ingrid Tegner and Sherry Reiter and our Morning Triple workshop presenters Nancy Scherlong and Elaine Brooks. We are grateful for our experienced workshop presenters as well as our new workshop presenters for their generous offerings to the conference program. I would like to thank the NAPT Board (see above) who once again have proven themselves to be exceptional individuals, with an abundance of skills and talents that help shape our organization. I also wish to give a special thanks to Karen vanMeenan and Diane Allerdycce, who have agreed to oversee the conference in case I am unable to attend the conference due to the birth of a new granddaughter that may or may not interfere with my attendance. Lastly, I would like to offer much gratitude to our wonderfully gifted President, Geri Chavis, for her leadership and dedication to NAPT.

Barbara Kreisberg, MS, CPT
NAPT Vice President & Conference Chair
### Conference at a Glance & Workshop Locations

**Wednesday, April 25**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:50-12:40 pm</td>
<td>Lunch (Season’s Restaurant)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:45-1:00 pm</td>
<td>Registration for Pre-Conference I only <em>(Hotel Lobby – please be prompt)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00-5:00 pm</td>
<td>Pre Conference I Day Trip – Geri Chavis &amp; Alison Johnson <em>(Meet in Hotel Lobby, leaving together promptly at 1:00 pm)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Day Trip: Pathways in a Changing World: Walking and Poetic Expression at the Arboretum and Oak Ridge</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>Dinner on your own</td>
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**Thursday, April 26**

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<tr>
<td>8:00-9:00 am</td>
<td>Breakfast <em>(Seasons Restaurant)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00-9:30 am</td>
<td>Registration for Pre-Conference II with Ingrid Tegner only <em>(Hotel Lobby)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 am-4:00 pm</td>
<td>NAPT Board Meeting <em>(Room 306)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 am-12:00 Noon</td>
<td>Pre Conference II – Ingrid Tegner <em>(301)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 Noon-1:00 pm</td>
<td>Lunch on your own <em>(Restaurant)</em></td>
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<td>2:45-3:00 pm</td>
<td>Registration for Pre-Conference III with Sherry Reiter only <em>(Hotel Lobby)</em></td>
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<td>3:00-5:30 pm</td>
<td>Pre Conference III – Sherri Reiter <em>(307)</em></td>
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<td>3:45-5:15 pm</td>
<td>Registration Set up <em>(Hotel Lobby)</em></td>
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<td>4:00-5:00 pm</td>
<td>Silent Auction drop off <em>(Room 308 -Rear)</em></td>
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<td>4:00-5:45 pm</td>
<td>Book Sale Set up <em>(Room 310)</em></td>
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<td>5:30-6:00 pm</td>
<td>Registration <em>(Hotel Lobby)</em></td>
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<td>6:00-7:00 pm</td>
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<td>Breakfast <em>(Season’s Restaurant)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00-9:15 am</td>
<td>Welcome &amp; Overview – Geri Chavis, President <em>(Room 308)</em></td>
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<td>9:15-10:00 am</td>
<td>Keynote Speaker, Nicholas Mazza, Ph.D., PTR <em>(Room 308)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00-10:20 am</td>
<td>Book Signing with Nick Mazza and Book Sale <em>(Room 310)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30-12:00 Noon</td>
<td>Workshop Series A</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00-1:00 pm</td>
<td>Luncheon <em>(Season’s Restaurant)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00-1:30 pm</td>
<td>Open Forum – Meet and Greet the Board <em>(Room 308)</em></td>
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<tr>
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<td>Book Sale <em>(Room 310)</em></td>
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<td>2:00-2:45 pm</td>
<td>NFPBF Credentialing Information Workshop: Your Life Could Be Poetry Harriet Kohen &amp; Elaine Brooks <em>(Room 307)</em></td>
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<td>3:00-4:30 pm</td>
<td>Workshop Series B</td>
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4:30-6:00 pm Mentor/Supervisor Round Table Discussion (301)
4:45-5:45 pm Book Sale (Room 310)
4:45-5:30 pm Afternoon Yoga with Diane Allerdyce, Ph.D, CAPF
6:00-7:00 pm Dinner on your own
7:00-7:30 pm Book Sale (Room 310)
7:30-8:30 pm Panel Discussion: Hosted by Geri Chavis, NAPT President, Panelists: Lora Hyler, Ralph Nazareth and Marianella Medrano, Rebecca Roepke, and Merle R. Saferstein
8:30-10:00 pm Open Mic Poetry Reading & Anthology Sign-Up (Room 308)

Saturday, April 28
7:00-8:00 am Morning Triple Workshop: Experience a Poetry Therapy Group
(Second Session – 2 Groups)
Nancy Scherlong & Elaine Brooks (Rooms 306 and 307)
7:30-8:30 am Registration (Hotel Lobby)
7:45-8:45 am Breakfast (Season’s Restaurant)
8:00-9:00 am Book Sale (Room 310)
8:45-9:45 am Honorary Awards Presentation (Room 308)
9:00-10:30 am Workshop Series C
10:45-11:00 am Keynote Poet: Deborah Alma, MA (all the way from Wales!) (Room 308)
“Poetry on Prescription: Intimate encounters in an ambulance”
11:00-11:45 am Book Signing with Deborah Alma & Book Sale (Room 310)
11:45 am-12:15 pm Luncheon (Season’s Restaurant)
12:15-1:15 pm Certification & Awards Event – International Federation for Bibliotherapy/Poetry Therapy (Room 308)
2:15-2:45 pm Book Sale (Room 310)
3:00-4:30 pm Workshop Series D
5:00-5:15 pm Closing Remarks – President Geri Chavis (Room 308)
5:15-6:00 pm Celebratory Closing Event with One Voice Ovation (Room 308)
6:00 pm Dinner on your own

Sunday, April 29
8:00-9:00 am Breakfast (Season’s Restaurant)
9:00-11:30 am Morning Triple Workshop: Experience a Poetry Therapy Group (Third Session)
Nancy Scherlong & Elaine Brooks (Rooms 306 and 307)
12:00-1:00 pm Lunch on your own

**** Major room locations are noted above. For specific workshop locations, see detailed program below.
Wednesday, April 25, 2018

8:30-9:30 am Breakfast for hotel guests in Season’s Restaurant
11:50-12:40 pm Lunch in Season’s Restaurant for Day Trip attendees
12:45-1:00 pm Registration for Pre-Conference I only (Meet in hotel lobby for check-in)
1:00-5:30 pm Pathways in a Changing World: Walking and Poetic Expression at the Arboretum and Oak Ridge

Alison Johnson, RN, DNP and Geri Chavis M.A, L.P., Ph.D.

Participants will be led through the art and natural wonders at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, one of the foremost Botanical Gardens. We will continue our poetic walking experience by enjoying the McKnight Lake nature trail at Oak Ridge. On our pathways, we will read a few selected poems by well-known Minnesota authors, write in response to inviting prompts, and share our poetic expressions.

6:00 pm Dinner on your own

Thursday, April 26, 2018

8:00-9:00 am Breakfast in Season’s Restaurant
9:00-9:30 am Registration for Pre-Conference II & III only (Meet in hotel lobby for check in)
9:00 am-4:00 pm NAPT Board Meeting (Room 303)
9:30 am-12:00 noon Pre-Conference II: Finding a Pathway with Poetry
Ingrid Tegner, MSW, CAPF, M/S (Room 301)

Using the poetry therapy peer group model we will share a poem and create a small book. The poetry therapy peer group model includes: warm up activity, introduction of the poem, discussion, an activity to integrate the poem, closing activity and evaluation of the group experience using a five step process. You will get to enjoy a poetry group and learn about the process as well. You will also learn to craft a small book to fill as you please. Join us! (75% Experiential/25% Didactic)

Tracks: Clinical/Health Care, Educational

12:00 noon-1:00 pm Lunch in Season’s Restaurant
3:00 pm -5:30 pm Pre-Conference III: Restore me, Re-Story Me: Narrative Approaches to Personal Transformation
Sherry Reiter, Ph.D., LCSW, PTR-M/S (Room 307)

In her workshop, “Restore Me, Re-Story Me: Narrative Approaches to Personal Transformation,” Reiter will share her thoughts on how most clinicians can integrate discoveries from storytelling, narrative therapy, bibliotherapy, and neuroscience to maximize the transformational process. She will draw on her own work as well as that of Joseph Campbell, Bruno Bettelheim, Viktor Frankl, Epston & White, and Rita Charon as well as offer a cornucopia of stories and case illustrations. (40% Experiential/60% Didactic) Clinical/Health Care, Educational

3:45-5:15 pm Registration - Volunteer Set Up (Hotel Lobby)
4:30-5:45 pm Book Sale Set Up (Room 310)
4:00-5:30 pm Silent Auction Set up (Rear Room 308)
Karen (“Ren”) vanMeenen, Ph.D., MA

5:30-6:00 pm Registration (Hotel Lobby)
6:00-7:00 pm Dinner on your own
7:00-7:30 pm Registration (Hotel Lobby) & Book Sale (Room 310)
7:30-8:30 pm Welcome and Mix and Mingle: Conference Warm Up Poetic Style
Perie Longo and Alma Rolfs

Come join us to welcome new and longstanding connections and enjoy a creative poetry experience starring you. In this introduction to the conference, attendees will be given the opportunity to meet and get to know one another, serving as an introduction to the conference.
8:45-9:45 pm  Opening Event:  The Mischief of Poetry  
*Michael Dennis Browne, Distinguished Poet, Professor Emeritus at the University of MN  (Room 308)*

Poetry is a gleam in the eye of language. It invites us into the kind of improvisational responsiveness we may have forgotten about on our march to maturity. We need its freedoms, the resistance of its inventive mischief, more than ever.

9:45-10:15 pm  Book Signing with Michael Dennis Browne (Room 310)

**Friday, April 27, 2017**

7:00-8:00 am  Morning Triple workshop:  Experience a Poetry Therapy Group  
(First Session – participants will be divided into 2 small groups)  
*Nancy Scherlong, LcSW, PTR, M/S & Elaine Brooks RN-BC, MA, PTR, M/S  (Rooms 306 & 307)*  
(4.5 peer hours)

For newcomer or dedicated trainee, this three-part workshop is your opportunity to welcome each day of the conference with poetry therapy experiences. Take part in small group sessions you might facilitate if you were a poetry therapist, or attend if you wish to experience this healing modality for creative expression and well-being.

7:45-8:45 am  Registration

8:00-8:45 am  Breakfast in Season’s Restaurant

9:00-9:15 am  President’s Welcome  
*Geri Chavis, PhD, LP, CPT, M/S (Room 308)*

9:15-10:00 am  Keynote Speaker *Nicholas Mazza, Ph.D., PTR* (Room 308)  
“No Place for Indifference:  Poetry Therapy and Empowerment in Clinical, Educational, and Community Practice”

10:00-10:20 am  Book Signing with Nicholas Mazza & Book Sale (Room 310)

10:30-12 noon  Workshop Series A

**A1  Harnessing Fear in a Tumultuous World Through Poetry Therapy in a Mental Health Setting**  
*Perie Longo Ph.D, LMFT, M/S and Cynthia Kelvin, Psy.D, RDT (Room 304)*

Though “we have nothing to fear but fear itself”, in the current world turmoil, dangers can be paralyzing, triggering and cause for increase of symptoms with the vulnerable. Poems and quotes will be presented for discussion and writing that address fear as a place of change, courage, growth and hopefully, calm. *(50% Experiential/50% Didactic) Clinical/Health*

**A2  Exploring the Uses of Clarity and Ambiguity in Poetry**  
*Ben Shank, MA (Room 306)*

What poems work best in clinical and educational settings? One criterion is clarity, their ability to convey a core message. We will discuss our experiences with poetry regarding this criterion. Then we will try out three short poems and discuss the value and uses of both their clarity and ambiguities. *(50% Experiential/50% Didactic) Clinical/Heath, Education*

**A3  Scribbling Maenads: Creative Writing and Recovery**  
*Sheryl St. Germain, Ph.D, MA and Sarah Shotland, MFA (Room 307)*

Two writers will discuss the role of creative writing in recovery, referencing their own recently published books of poetry and fiction, and will discuss their latest project with the Words Without Walls organization, the Maenad Fellowship program, which serves women who are in recovery who wish to pursue creative writing. *(20% Experiential/80% Didactic) Social Justice, Spirituality*
A4  Why do poets always got to be so dramatic? The importance of integrating multi-modal expressive arts and poetry therapy within the slam and performance poetry communities.
Jenna Robinson, BA and Joanna Gordon (Room 303)
This workshop showcases the work of slam poets and educators utilizing EXA and Poetry Therapy techniques. It will show how to integrate engaging multimodal art expression (i.e. visual art, drama and music) within poetry therapy in order to be inclusive of developmental abilities and communication styles across all ages and backgrounds. (80% Experiential/20% Didactic) Clinical/Health, Educational, Social Justice

A5  Phoenix Rising: Audacious African-American Poets, Twentieth Century to Today
Lora Hyler, BA in Mass Communications (Room 308)
African-American poets and songwriters follow the tradition of Griots, oral storytellers dating back to Africa. Amidst each line of sorrow and hardship, lies joy, beauty and love. Not a word is accidental. Through the written word and snippets of songs played on a phonograph, these works will be brought to life, providing sustenance for the soul. (30% Experiential/70% Didactic) Social Justice

12:00-1:00 pm  Lunch in Season’s Restaurant

1:00-1:30 pm  Open Forum-Meet and Greet the Board (Room 308)
This is an opportunity to meet the current NAPT Board and find out about current happenings in our organization and in our field. We look forward to meeting all our members and new friends and hope that you decide to become more of an active part of NAPT by joining as a member if you have not already done so. We encourage attendees to have more communication with our board members and to join one of the various committees.

1:30-2:00 pm  Book Sale (Room 310)

2:00-2:45 pm  International Federation for Biblio/Poetry Therapy Credentialing Information Workshop: “Your Life Could Be Poetry”
Harriet Kohen, MSW, CPT & Elaine Brooks RN-BC, MA, PTR, M/S (Room 301)
Is the idea of poetry therapy training a thread that is “gently, / invisibly, silently / pulling” at you? If so, join this open discussion of credentialing opportunities in biblio/poetry therapy. Training in biblio/poetry therapy provides more than letters after your name; IFBPT approved training will inspire you, enhance skills, and build confidence while ensuring best practices for your profession. Come away knowing what to expect and how to take your next step!

3:00-4:30 pm  Workshop Series B

B1  Suicide, Despair, and Poetry Therapy
Alison Johnson, RN, DNP (Room 304)
Death by suicide, and suicide attempts are on the rise. Acknowledging, discussing, comforting and instilling hope after suicidal action is a difficult situation for health care professionals, family and friends. This session will briefly review information about suicide, and then focus on specific poems to help open and direct conversations about suicidal thoughts and actions. (30% Experiential/70% Didactic) Clinical/Health

B2  Life Review Through Journal Review
Beth Jacobs, Ph.D., & Merle R. Saferstein (Room 306)
Two journal writers will share their experiences of reviewing their vast collections of journals, which for both, became a life review of the years included in their volumes of writing. They will provide the participants with tools and suggestions to prepare them for their own journeys through their journals. (40% Experiential/60% Didactic) Spirituality
B3  Still on the Buddhist Path: Writing, Moving and Breathing in Mindfulness and Meditation  
Nancy Scherlong, LCSW, PTR, M/S (Room 301)
This experiential and didactic workshop covers basic mindfulness practices and allows for experiential participation through the use of meditative writing and movement. A compendium of prompts and poems will be supplied to all participants as well as evidence based practice information regarding meditation and Buddhist practice. Suitable for educators and clinicians alike. Application to client cases will be discussed. (75% Experiential/25% Didactic) Educational, Spirituality

B4  Breaking Barriers: Using Poetry as a Tool to Enhance Diversity Understanding  
Norma Thomas, DSW & Raina J. Leon MA (Room 303)
Diversity is a word that invokes a broad spectrum of reactions, often focused on race. The use of poetry can enable individuals to communicate in non-threatening ways, opening themselves up to other worldviews. Poetry will enhance the ability of participants to embrace both the differences and similarities that everyone brings to the human encounter. (70% Educational/30% Didactic) Social Justice

B5  Befriending the Aging Body  
Marianela Medrano, Ph.D. and Karen “Ren” vanMeenen, MA (Room 308)
So many venues are trying to sell us products that promise to magically remove the signs of aging as if it were a disease. Rather than striving to drink from the fountain of youth, we invite participants to drink from the fountain of wisdom. Through reading of poems, writing, and mindfulness-based exercises, we’ll delve into this issue and rescue ourselves from the tyranny of the mind and our consumer culture. (60%Experiential/40% Didactic) Educational

4:30-6:00 pm  Mentor/Supervisor Round Table  
Conducted by Nancy Scherlong (Room 301)
This is for mentor/supervisors and mentor/supervisors in training only.

4:45-5:30 pm  Yoga Stretch with Diane Allerdyce, Ph.D., CAPF (Room 304)

4:45-5:45 pm  Book Sale (Room 310) & Silent Auction Sign Up (Room 308)

6:00-7:00 pm  Dinner on your own

7:00-7:30 pm  Book Sale (Room 310) & Anthology Sign Up (Room 308) (Beth Jacobs)

7:30-10 pm  Evening Reception (Room 308)

7:30-8:30 pm  Social Justice Panel Discussion (Room 308)  
Hosted by Geri Chavis, President of NAPT, Panelists: Lora Hyler, Marianella Medrano, Ralph Nazareth, Rebecca Koepke, and Merle R. Saferstein (Room 308)
Join us for this plenary panel discussion, made up of a diverse group that presents and invites a fruitful discussion on the nexus between poetry therapy and social justice. In a brief overview of their work, panelists will highlight how poetic/literary expressions act as powerful tools to foster empathy, raise consciousness regarding bias, and help bring about positive social change.

8:30-10:00 pm  Open Mic  
Hosted by Rob Merritt (Room 308)
Sign up for Poetry Anthology with Beth Jacobs
We welcome any poems, short stories, songs and any other spoken word entries of no more than 2 minutes total length to read at this open reading. Here is your chance to share your own writing and creativity with our group! Participants will be asked to sign up in advance for this event.

Saturday, April 28, 2017

7:00-8:00 am  Morning Triple workshop: Experience a Poetry Therapy Group  
(Second Session – participants will be divided into 2 small groups)  
Nancy Scherlong, LCSW, PTR, M/S and Elaine Brooks, CAPT®/CPT, CJF, M/S (Rooms 306 and 307)

7:30-8:30 am  Registration (Hotel Lobby)
7:45-8:45 am  |  Book Sale  (Room 310)
8:00-9:00 am  |  Breakfast
9:00-10:30 am |  Workshop Series C

C1  
**A Story You Need to Tell – The Hero Journey**
*Sandra Marinella, MA, M.Ed. and Karen Newcomb, MS, LMFT (Room 304)*
The hero journey is challenging but can foster resilience and renewal. Join us for a workshop that will tap into how poetry and expressive writing can help us explore our own personal hero stories. We will review Joseph Campbell’s definition of the hero journey and what neuroscience teaches us about the importance of this journey to our identity. Participants will create a model of a hero story to support their personal and/or professional use of this therapeutic writing strategy. *(70% Experiential/30% Didactic) Clinical/Health, Educational*

C2  
**You May Contribute a Verse: Poetry as Gift-Giving**
*Jeremy Schraffenberger, Ph.D. & Rachel Elizabeth Morgan, MFA (Room 301)*
Approaching poetry in the spirit of sympathy and the giving of sacred gifts can heal both self and other, writer and reader, individual and society. In this workshop, you’ll read and discuss poems from Whitman, Levertov, and Espada before beginning a hands-on exploration of what gifts you have to offer. *(50% Experiential/50% Didactic) Educational, Spiritual*

C3  
**Birthing and Honoring Women’s Creative Spirit**
*Laurie Anderson Sathe, Ed.D. (Room 307)*
Participants will explore and honor the healing power of women’s creative spirit in the images, language, and symbols of feminist artist Judy Chicago’s *The Birth Project* depicting the birthing process and women’s creative spirit. Through their own creative expression participants will reflect on nurturing their creative spirit to facilitate healing, compassion and resilience. *(90% Experiential/10%Didactic) Educational, Social Justice, Spiritual*

C4  
**Living With Uncertainty (Personal and Public): Words and Stories as Resources**
*Ted Bowman, M.Div, Family and Grief Educator (Room 306)*
Humans routinely story and re-story their lives. Disruptive changes, perceived as positive or negative, alter stories, routines, and relationships. When changes are cumulative and contain ambiguity or uncertainty, distress is common. Finding words or stories can aid one’s coping, resiliency and hope. In this experiential workshop, participants will explore writing and literary resources for uncertain times. *(70 %Experiential/30% Didactic) Social Justice*

C5  
**Therapeutic Benefits of Digital Storytelling for Immigrant/Refugee Students**
*Susan Bosher, Ph.D., & Amy Mars, Amy Mars, MLIS (Room 308)*
Participants will learn about a digital storytelling project, which combined identity-based instruction for immigrant/refugee students with multimodal literacies. Participants will view immigrant stories, hear from students about what they learned, reflect on the therapeutic value of identity work, and consider ways to incorporate digital storytelling into their own work. *(50% Experiential/50%Didactic) Education, Social Justice*

10:45-11:00 am  |  Honorary Awards Presentation  (Room 308)
11:00-11:45 am  |  Keynote Poet: Deborah Alma, MA (all the way from Wales!)  (Room 308)
                  |  “Poetry on Prescription: Intimate Encounters in an Ambulance”
11:45 am-12:10 pm |  Book Signing with Deborah Alma & Book Sale  (Room 310)
12:15-1:15 pm   Lunch in Season’s Restaurant
1:30-2:15 pm   International Federation for Biblio/Poetry Therapy Credentialing and Awards Ceremony
               Harriet Kohen, MSW, CPT & Elaine Brooks RN-BC, MA, PTR, M/S (Room 308)
All are invited to attend this ceremony of recognition and presentation of Credentials to PTRs, CPTs or CAPFs who have successfully completed their training, and Endorsements of those who have completed Certification as Journal Facilitators or Therapists through the Center for Journal Therapy. Meet current mentor/supervisors and current trainees and congratulate your peers.

2:15-2:45 pm   Book Sale (Room 310)

3:00-4:30 pm   Workshop Series D

D1      Poetry Therapy as a Path to Dialogue
        Shlomit Bresler, Ph.D. (Room 304)
Writing a poem is considered an intimate and reflective activity, encouraging inner dialogue with the self. In therapy, patients face relationship challenges which involve communication difficulties with others. Can a poem written within the therapeutic setting help the writer transform the inner dialogue into a spoken one, which may lead to communication with significant others in "reality"? (90% Experiential/10% Didactic) Clinical/Health

D2      Poetry as Pedagogy in Social Work Education: Form, Function, and Outcomes
        Mary E. Tinucci, MSW, DSW, LICSW (Room 301)
In this presentation, I will discuss and demonstrate how I use poetry as a pedagogical tool in my teaching practice in graduate social work education. I will highlight specific poems and activities I incorporate into my courses and discuss their specific uses, purposes, and impact on students in my courses. (50% Experiential/50% Didactic) Educational

D3      Querencia Embodied
        Caroline Merritt, BA and Rob Merritt, Ph.D. (307)
This workshop provides ways of embodying Georgia Heard’s concept of querencia (“place from which one’s strength of character is drawn…where one feels at home) within diverse community settings. By combining movement and poetry, we demonstrate ways to attune individual identity and cultivate community through the solace and expression of cultural landscape. (100% Experiential/0% Didactic) Social Justice

D4      Slowing Up: How offering ourselves the luxury of languor can coax our poetry and inner lives to profoundly new places
        Brittani Sonnenberg, MFA (Room 306)
Drawing on the insights of Brenda Ueland and Louise DeSalvo, this workshop will help participants learn how to “slow up” their writing. Paradoxically, this gentle approach allows for a more inspired, efficient, and joyful output, as we learn to write what our soul longs to sing, rather than bullying ourselves into silence. (70% Experiential/30% Didactic) Educational, Spiritual

D5      Poetry, Photos, and Phones
        Sue Reuling Furness, M.Ed., LCPC, LMFT M.Ed., (Room 308)
Digital phones and tablets offer unique possibility for healing and transformation. Learn to foster in the moment awareness, improved introspection, and broader perspectives using the camera on your phone and poetry. Working within principles of creative healing and contemplative photography, you will discover how thoughtful snapshots open doors to confidence and optimism. Please bring a fully charged digital tablet to the workshop. (70% Experiential/30% Didactic) Clinical/Health

5:00-5:15 pm   Closing Remarks
               Geri Chavis, Ph.D., LP, CPT Outgoing President
               Nick Mazza, Ph.D., PTR Incoming President (Room 308)
Celebratory Closing Event with One Voice Ovation *(Room 308)*

Ovation is the portable version of One Voice, One of North America's largest - LGBT and straight people chorus allies community chorus, building community and creating social change by raising our voices in song!

6:15 pm  
Dinner on your own

**Sunday, April 29, 2017**

8:00-9:00 am  
Breakfast in Season’s Restaurant

9:00-11:30 am  
Morning Triple workshop: Experience a Poetry Therapy Group  
(Third Session – participants will meet in two groups and then combine to meet as one group)  
*Nancy Scherlong & Elaine Brooks (Rooms 306 and 307)*

12:00 noon -1:00 pm  
Lunch on your own

**Speakers and Workshop Leaders**

**Diane Allerdyce, Ph.D., CAPF**, is the Co-Founder & CAO of Toussaint L’Ouverture High School for Arts & Social Justice in Delray Beach, Florida. She is also the Chair of Humanities & Culture in the Ph.D program at Union Institute & University. Diane is a past-President of NAPT. She received the NAPT Distinguished Service Award (2007), the NAPT Outstanding Achievement Award (2009) and the Jennifer Bosveld Award for Poetry & Social Justice in 2015.

**Deborah Alma, MA** is a UK poet, with a Master of Arts in Creative Writing. She is an Honorary Research Fellow at Keele University. She has taught Writing Poetry at Worcester University and works with people with dementia and in hospice care. She is also Emergency Poet prescribing poetry from her vintage ambulance. She is editor of *Emergency Poet-an anti-stress poetry anthology, The Everyday Poet- Poems to live by* (both published by Michael O’Mara), and her *True Tales of the Countryside* is published by The Emma Press. She is the editor of #Me Too – rallying against sexual assault & harassment- a women's poetry anthology (Fair Acre Press, March 2018). Her first full collection *Dirty Laundry* is published by Nine Arches Press (May 2018). She lives with her partner, the poet James Sheard on a hillside in Powys, Wales.

**Susan Bosher** is Professor and Director of ESL at St. Catherine University in St. Paul, Minnesota. She has taught immigrant/refugee students in higher education for more than 25 years. She is especially interested in curriculum and instruction that engages students in identity work in the classroom.

**Ted Bowman, M.Div, Family and Grief Educator**, specializes in change and transition, whether it occurs in families, an organization, or the community. He also teaches grief and loss courses at the University of Saint Thomas School of Social Work. For over 40 years, Ted has provided training for organizations.

**Shlomit Bresler, Ph.D.** is 61 years old and lives in Israel. She is a mother of three and a grandmother of two. Ten years ago, she established a Bibliotherapy M.A. program in a College in Tel-Aviv. She uses writing as a therapeutic tool within her practice with groups and individuals. One of her main areas is working with families who have lost a child during military service. She writes and paints. She is interested and involved in peace making activities in Israel.

**Elaine Brooks, RN-BC, MA, PTR, M/S** is a board certified psychiatric and mental health nurse, board certified integrative nurse coach and registered poetry therapist and mentor/-supervisor. She has been a member of the board of the International Federation for Bibliotherapy/Poetry Therapy for many years and is a past chair of the credentials committee. In 2006 she received the Morris Morrison education award from NAPT.
Michael Dennis Browne was born in England, of mostly Irish ancestry, in 1940, and has lived in the United States since 1965. Two of his collections have won the Minnesota Book Award for poetry. His most recent collection of poetry is Chimes (Nodin Press, 2017). As a librettist and lyricist he has written many texts for music, working for almost four decades with composer Stephen Paulus; To Be Certain of the Dawn, a post-Holocaust oratorio, was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize in music by the Minnesota Orchestra. He has recently worked with Craig Hella Johnson on the fusion oratorio Considering Matthew Shepard. Browne taught at Iowa, Bennington, Columbia, and, for thirty-nine years, the University of Minnesota, where he is a professor emeritus and a member of the Academy of Distinguished Teachers.

Geri Chavis, Ph.D., LP, CPT, the current president of NAPT, is a professor of literature, women studies and creative arts therapy at St. Catherine University in St. Paul, Minnesota. She is also a licensed psychologist and a poetry therapy mentor-supervisor who has won numerous awards from NAPT. Over the years, Geri has published widely in the area of biblio/poetry therapy and has facilitated workshops and supervision groups in the U.S., Ireland and the U.K. Her latest book is entitled Poetry and Story Therapy: The Healing Power of Creative Expression (Jessica Kingsley, 2011) and she co-edited and contributed a chapter to The Healing Fountain: Poetry Therapy for Life’s Journey.

Susan Reuling Furness, M.Ed., LCPC, LMFT, PTR, is a Registered Poetry Therapist who lives and works in beautiful Boise, Idaho. Practicing poetry therapy with groups for the past 15 years, Susan works with people of all ages as well as cancer and Parkinson Disease populations. A graduate of the University of Illinois and The College of Idaho, she is licensed as both a clinical counselor and a Marriage and Family Therapist. As a Mentor-Supervisor with the International Federation of Biblio/Poetry Therapy, Susan trains and oversees those learning this creative form of healing. She has served as adjunct faculty for regional counseling graduate programs and has served on the faculty of the Expressive Therapy Summit in New York for the past six years.

Joanna Gordon, MFA, is a spoken word poet from Hawaii. She received an English Degree from UH Manoa and is pursuing her MFA in poetry at Western Washington University. Joanna performed at BNV 2014 and in the poetry production “Her Bodies of Stories.” Her writing addresses white privilege, mental illness, and feminism.

Lora Hyler is a communications expert, owner of a 16-year-old public relations and marketing company, and author of poetry, screenplays and a children’s novel. She is a member of the largest international children’s organization for children book writers and illustrators. She expresses herself creatively, traveling around the world finding inspirations and writing her stories.

Beth Jacobs, Ph.d., is a lifetime journaler, writer, and columnist for The Museletter. She is the author of Writing for Emotional Balance, Paper Sky: What Happened After Anne Frank’s Diary Ended, The Original Buddhist Psychology: What the Abhidharma Tells Us About How We Think, Feel, and Experience Life, and A Buddhist Journal (Spring 2018 release date).

Alison Johnson, RN, DNP is a psychiatric nurse practitioner working in the homeless shelters of Minneapolis, MN. She is a Registered Poetry Therapist, leading a weekly poetry and writing group for homeless persons.

Cynthia Kelvin, Psy.D. is a registered drama therapist and a certified poetry therapist in training working at the non-profit San Fernando Valley Community Mental Health Center with adults who deal with persistent symptoms of mental illness. She works to evoke the power of creativity to help clients find hope and motivation to create a fulfilling, productive and inspired life.

Harriet Kohen, MSW, CPT, is the current Chair of the IFBPT Credentialing Committee, the “go-to” person for information on how to apply and train for professional recognition by IFBPT.
Barbara Kreisberg, MS, CPT, is currently serving on the NAPT Board as Vice President and Conference Chair. In April 2014 she received the NAPT Outstanding Service Award. She is a contributing author of *The Healing Fountain*. She has worked for over 25 years in both Boston and Miami with a variety of inpatient, day treatment, substance abuse, geriatric and outpatient populations in the area of mental health using reflective writing and poetry therapy to promote personal growth and wellness. She has presented workshops at national NAPT conferences, local universities, hospitals, and other community settings on the healing power of writing reflectively. She currently facilitates ongoing community writing groups in Miami, FL.

Raina J. Leon, Ph.D., MFA, MA is the Director of the Single Subject Credential Progam at St. Mary’s College, Moraga, California where she is an associate professor. She is the Founding Editor-in-Chief of *The Acentos Review*, and has published *Profeta Without Refuge*. Oakland, CA: Nomadic Press (Chapbook), 2016; *Sombra: dis(locate)*, Ireland: Salmon Poetry, February 2016; *Boogeyman Dawn*, Ireland: Salmon Poetry, October 2013 and; *Canticle of Idols*, Cincinnati, OH: Wordech Communications, Inc., 2008.

Perie Longo, Ph.D., LMFT, Registered Poetry Therapist and M/S was NAPT’s President (2005-07), recipient of the Outstanding Achievement Award (1998) and the Distinguished Service Award (2004). A frequent conference presenter, she is Poet Laureate Emerita of Santa Barbara, and facilitates poetry therapy groups for Hospice and Sanctuary Centers of Santa Barbara.

Sandra Marinella, MA and MEd, is an award-winning writing teacher and author from Phoenix. Her new book, *The Story You Need to Tell: Writing to Heal from Trauma, Illness, or Loss* is based on her pioneering work with veterans, cancer patients, and writers. She teaches transformational storytelling workshops in hospitals, schools, and community settings.

Amy Mars, MLIS is the Humanities Librarian at St. Catherine University Library. In addition to providing research assistance and instruction to students, staff, & faculty in the humanities departments, she advises and collaborates with faculty on digital humanities projects in the classroom, including assignments centered around multimodal literacies.

Nicholas Mazza, Ph.D., PTR, is the Dean and the Professor Emeritus at the Florida State University College of Social Work. He holds Florida licenses in clinical social work, marriage and family therapy, and psychology. Dr. Mazza is the founding and current editor of the *Journal of Poetry Therapy* and author of *Poetry therapy: Theory and Practice, 2nd Ed* (2017, Routledge).

Dr. Marianela Medrano, Ph.D., LPC, CPT, is a Dominican writer, psychotherapist and certified poetry therapist. Her literary work has appeared in numerous anthologies and magazines in Latin America, Europe and the United States. She is the author of five books and a regular blogger for the American Counseling Association (ACA).

Caroline Merritt, currently pursuing her Master of Arts in Expressive Arts Therapy and Mental Heath Counseling, at Lesley University, specializes in the cultivation of safe and creative space for populations including individuals with developmental disabilities, school-age youth, and most recently with Sasha Bruce Youthwork, a non-profit for youth homelessness in the Greater Washington area.

Rob Merritt, Ph.D. is Professor of English at Bluefield College, in Virginia, and former Vice-President for Conferences for NAPT. He has published several books, including *The Language of Longing*, a volume of poetry. His research and workshop interests include creating personal mythologies, celebrating the Appalachian landscape, and borrowing Chinese influences for writing (Appalachian) poetry.

Rachel Morgan, MFA is the author of the chapbook, *Honey & Blood, Blood & Honey* (Final Thursday Press 2017). Her work recently appears in *The Laurel Review, Prairie Schooner, DIAGRAM*, and *Barrow Street*. She teaches at the University of Northern Iowa and is the Poetry Editor for the *North American Review*.

Karen Newcomb, MS, is a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist in the San Francisco Bay Area. In addition to being in private practice, she facilitates writing groups for cancer patients. After years of working with survivors of trauma, grief and loss, her own cancer diagnosis led her to the field of expressive writing.

Ovation is the portable version of One Voice Mixed Chorus - a small ensemble of 12-15 singers that brings One Voice's music and our message almost anywhere. *One Voice Mixed Chorus*, Minnesota's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender, and straight allies (LGBT) community chorus, was formed in 1988—one of the first choruses in the country to bring together men and women from the GLBT and allied communities. The intent was to unite for a common goal of creating social change through music; the gay and lesbian communities had already begun working together to address the AIDS crisis, which had reached astronomical proportions, and it was clear that further social change was needed.

Sherry Reiter, Ph.D., LCSW, PTR-M/S, is Director of The Creative Righting Center. She is creator of Poets-Behind Bars, and has been a pioneer in biblio/poetry therapy. She is co-author and editor of *Writing away the Demons: Stories of Creative Coping in Transformative Writing* is a primer in poetry therapy.

Jenna Robinson, MA, is a poet and musician from California and is currently an Expressive Arts Therapy graduate student at CIIS. Jenna is a national slam poetry champion, holding titles in Hawaii, California and the National Poetry Slam. She runs multi-modal writing workshops with court involved youth and intergenerational family workshops.

Rebecca Roepke, MSW, is a poet, social worker, and activist (all really the same thing) who firmly believes in the power of the arts to create change. Her passion in therapy is helping the people who consult with her discover inspiration in their own stories and find the voice to author the lives they wish to lead. As an Indigenous (Kanien'keh:ka/ Cayuga/ Cree) therapist and social work field instructor at the Minnesota Indian Women’s Resource Center and a public speaker on historical trauma and decolonized practice, Rebecca is committed to challenging “traditional” (i.e., Western medical model) mental health practices and encouraging people to understand the healing traditions of their clients’ cultures. She often infuses spoken word, written stories, and metaphor into therapy, and these arts also find their way into her teaching as a way to engage audiences and help them empathize with those in situations they may have never considered.

Alma Maria Rolfs, LICSW, PTR is a clinical social worker, registered poetry therapist, poet, mentor/supervisor, NAPT Board member, and past NAPT president. She uses literature and creative writing in her private practice to foster healing and growth and to support clients through difficult life transitions.

Merle R. Saferstein, Bachelor of Education, has been in the field of education for her entire career. She facilitates legacy classes and workshops as well as a writing class for women who have/had cancer. Merle is an extensive journal writer with a collection of over 359 journals and is the author of *Room 732*.

Laurie Anderson Sathe, D.Ed., is Associate Professor and Program Director for the Master of Arts in Holistic Health Studies at St Catherine University. She is interested in exploring the ways that narratives and creative expression can facilitate healing of mind, body and spirit.

Nancy S. Scherlong, LCSW, PTR, M/S is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in the states of NY and CT. She is also a Registered Poetry/Biblio Therapist and a Mentor Supervisor and co-president of the International Federation of Biblio-Poetry Therapy (IFBPT). She has studied and used the action methods of Psychodrama since 1992 and has worked in the field of therapeutic writing for over 20 years using both journal and poetry techniques. She has followed Buddhist teachings for the past 15 years and studied with Pema Chodron. She provides workshops as well as distance coaching, consultation and training services. She serves on the faculty of Columbia and Adelphi University and the Therapeutic Writing Institute. For more about her work please visit www.wellnessmetaphors.com.
Jeremy Schraffenberger, Ph.D., is Editor of the North American Review and an associate professor of English at the University of Northern Iowa. He is the author of two books of poems, Saint Joe’s Passion and The Waxen Poor, and editor of the collections The Great Sympathetic and Manifold Nature.

Ben Shank, M.A. former L.P. has taught writing in many settings for many years, including corporate, academic, and non-profit. He has been a therapist and counselor for about 20 years. He is always dedicated to creating safe, easy-going learning environments, even on challenging subjects.

Sarah Shotland, MFA, is the author of the novel Junkette, and a playwright whose work has been produced in theaters nationally and internationally. She is a 2017 Writing Fellow with the Santa Fe Art Institute’s Equal Justice Initiative, and an assistant professor of English at Chatham University.

Brittani Sonnenberg, MFA, is a poet, fiction writer, journalist, and a creative writing instructor. Her work has appeared in The O’Henry Prize Stories, Ploughshares, NPR, and Time. Her novel, Home Leave, was a New York Times Editor’s Choice selection. She has taught creative writing at the University of Michigan, Carleton, the Texas Writers’ League and Hong Kong University.

Sheryl St. Germain, Ph.D., has published six poetry books and two collections of essays, and has co-edited two anthologies. The Small Door of Your Death, a collection of poems about the death of her son from a heroin overdose, will appear in 2018. She directs the MFA program in Creative Writing at Chatham University.

Ingrid Tegner, MSW, CAPF, M/S, is a certified applied poetry facilitator and mentor/supervisor. Her work with others is inspirational and creative. Her training incorporates other expressive arts and personal development. She is currently pursuing a BFA while training others in poetry therapy. She directs the Southwest Institute of Poetry Therapy.

Norma D. Thomas, DSW, is a retired professor and MSW Program Director from California University of Pennsylvania. She currently authors a blog on retirement, is a published poet, and serves as Secretary of the East End United Community Center Board, is on the Board of the Southwest Area Agency on Aging, and is on the Advisory Board for Pennsylvania State University, Eberly Campus-Fayette County, PA.

Mary Tinucci, MSW, DSW, LICSW, is a Visiting Assistant Professor in the School of Social Work: St. Catherine University/University of St. Thomas. She employs poetry as pedagogy in the classroom and integrates therapeutic use of poetry in clinical practice with: urban youth, educators, women in sobriety, youth in foster care, and LGBTQ youth.

Karen (“Ren”) vanMeenen, Ph.D., MA, is a Lecturer in the English Department at Rochester Institute of Technology. She has served as Editor of Afterimage, the international journal of media arts and cultural criticism, for more than twenty years and has edited and/or copyedited several anthologies and books of poetry, as well as written for several journals and gallery catalogs. She is the longtime Editor of NAPT’s The Museletter and has served on the NAPT Executive Board for sixteen years.