



“EKPHRASIS POETRY FROM ORIGINAL ART”

PROSPECTUS: POET INFORMATION

SUNDAY • SEPT. 13, 2026 • DOORS OPEN: 1:30 PROGRAM 2:00 – 4:00 PM

FUNDED BY THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF LAFAYETTE

CO-CHAIRS: ELANA O’LOSKEY + LINDA HARTMANN

YOUTH AMBASSADORS PROGRAM LEADERS: CHARLIE RIVERA-GU + SHARANYA ROY

Location:

Town Hall Theatre Main Stage

3535 School St.

Lafayette CA 94549

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

Setup Begins: 1:00 pm Volunteers Arrive

Collect Name Tag + Program at Entry

ADA Lift to Second Floor Main Stage

Doors Open 1:30 – Program 2 to 4:00p

No Host Snacks + Drinks in Lobby Bar

Ekphrasis is: A written work that interprets a visual work of art.

There is no theme for this program, but for the purposes of

Ekphrasis, we have requested art that tells a story.

Rules of Entry:

- **August 17, 2026** Deadline – Poets submit an email request to receive 2D original art images of local artists from LAC Co-Chairs on a first come, first served basis. Please email elanao@mac.com with your request and list “Ekphrasis Poet” in the Subject line.
- **August 19, 2026** Deadline - Poets receive art images from LAC Co-Chairs. Rank your first three art images and return your list to elanao@mac.com. Please list “Ekphrasis Poet” in the Subject line.
- **August 21, 2026** Deadline - LAC Co-Chairs email one art image to pair with each Poet.
- **September 6, 2026** Deadline – Poets submit one poem paired with the art image they were sent in a Word document using the guidelines below. Email it to elanao@mac.com on or before Sept. 6; see page 3 for submission information.
- **September 6, 2026** – LAC Co-Chairs acknowledge receipt of poetry in response to original art on or before this date. You will receive more Program information.

Poetry Writing Requirements:

- ✓ Send in your Submission Form as early as possible and LAC Co-Chairs will email you art images to review. Choose up to 3 art images that speak to you, rank them and send them to elanao@mac.com.
- ✓ LAC Co-Chairs email you one art image; next, write a poem about whatever this paired image inspires you to say.
- ✓ Send us your poem in a Word document (.docx) formatted in Arial bold 16 point type, 1 inch margins all sides. For line spacing, choose “multiple line spacing 1.25” -- maximum is 2 pages, 8.5” x 11” each page.

- ✓ Poetry maximum line limit is a total of 56 lines including blank spaces, title and name for two pages.
- ✓ If two pages are used, they will be combined in portrait orientation to create an 11" x 17" Word document printed and mounted on foam board, which you will take home.
- ✓ If one page is used it will be presented in portrait orientation to create an 8.5" x 11" Word document printed and mounted on foam board, which you will take home.
- ✓ Each printed 8.5" x 11" or 11" x 17" poem mounted on foam board will be attached to the easel holding artwork that inspired your poem on the Main Stage.
- ✓ Poetry Types: We encourage diverse voices and innovative approaches to poetic expression. Here is a list of suggested types of poetry: free verse, rhymed poetry, sonnets, haiku, tanka, limericks, narrative poetry, spoken word, prose poetry, experimental / hybrid poetry, lyric poetry, slam poetry, epic poetry (excerpts accepted) elegies, odes and ballads.

Program:

- ✓ Poets and Artists remain blinded to who they are paired with until they receive a Program showing the order of presenters at the event on September 13.
- ✓ Poets must agree to attend the event and read their spoken word poem.
- ✓ LAC Co-Chair / Emcee Linda Hartmann of the California Writers Club, Mt. Diablo Branch or Youth Ambassadors Program leaders will introduce each Poet **after** the Artist speaks about the art image paired with their poetry.
- ✓ Each Artist and Poet has 3 - 5 minutes to speak about their artwork or read their poem.
- ✓ A short audience Q&A led by Co-Chair / Emcee Linda Hartmann follows each presentation.
- ✓ Once all Artists and Poets have presented their work a group photo will be taken on the Main Stage. Next everyone moves to the No Host Snacks + Drinks Bar in the Lobby.

GUIDELINES FOR THE WRITTEN AND/OR SPOKEN WORD

When making a recommendation regarding the written or spoken word for possible inclusion in its exhibits and programs, the Lamorinda Arts Council shall consider whether the writing:

- Provokes thought, ignites creativity, and reflects the diverse social, cultural, or historic values of the Lamorinda community.
- Furthers the principles of equity, inclusiveness, and freedom of expression.
- Augments and enhances the distinguished contributions of local and regional writers to the Lamorinda Arts Council and the cities of Lafayette, Moraga, and Orinda.
- Does not contain religious references intended to be perceived as government endorsement of religion in violation of the Establishment Clause of the Federal and State Constitutions.
- Would not, when spoken or viewed, create a hostile environment for audience or employees.
- Does not describe graphic violence or overt sexual activity.

Questions? Text or call 925-984-1751, email elanao@mac.com, or visit <https://LamorindaArts.org/art-embraces-poetry> or call 925.359.9940

POET EMAIL SUBMISSION FORM - FREE

“EKPHRASIS POETRY FROM ORIGINAL ART”

Sunday • September 13, 2026 2:00 – 4:00p

Copy the text in this form, fill it in and send to: elanao@mac.com by Sept. 6.

Please list “Ekphrasis Poet” in the Subject line.

WELCOME!!!

Poet Name:

Email address:

Mobile Phone:

Website/Social Media if applicable:

City of Residence:

One Sentence Introduction Sample:

Poet Mary Oliver of Pleasant Hill reads poems reflecting on moments of realization and the path of life.

Title of Poem:

PLEASE ATTACH YOUR WORD DOCUMENT WITH YOUR POEM AND EMAIL IT WITH THE INFORMATION ABOVE ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 6 AT THE LATEST.

THANK YOU FOR KEEPING THE ARTS ALIVE!



SAMPLE ARTWORK AND POETRY FROM “EKPHRASIS EXHIBITION 2024”



Sample original digital artwork by Mark Coffey of Lamorinda Arts Alliance.

“Sailing Through a Field of Dreams”

Featured at the LAC Ekphrasis Exhibition 2024 in the Art Gallery at the Orinda Library.

Song of the Wind by Bill Carmel

Waves of tall wild oats and barley. Ripples of sweet wildflowers –
mustards, paintbrushes, goldenrods, poppies, and lupines.
Waves of wind in the tall oak trees whispering sweet songs to the
resident foxes, squirrels, owls, wasps, and crows.
They respond with song.

Captain Munchausen hears the songs and plots his voyage to the Moon.
He dreams of atmospheric rivers and roiling clouds of early spring
that shape green Chaparral hills into sweet curves.
He dreams he hears the sweet melody of cool breezes sculpting
waves of deep green grasses under deep blue skies
and cumulus spume.

Captain Munchausen and his crew dream of armada-shaped
clouds as they train for their voyage to the Moon.
Captain Munchausen and his crew of fifteen sail the sloop
on sculpted Chaparral waves.

Fifteen sailors in Munchausen’s crew and no one at the wheel.
They dream their way through the Chaparral hills
under the watch of the shrouded Moon.

Through skies capped with cumulus spume
sails a ship of fools intent on the Moon
with no one at the wheel.

In the midday light they dream of the Moon
as the sloop slips into the spume.

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Sample original prose poem in response to Mark Coffey’s original digital artwork by Bill Carmel.

“Song of the Wind”

Featured at the LAC Ekphrasis Exhibition 2024 in the Art Gallery at the Orinda Library.