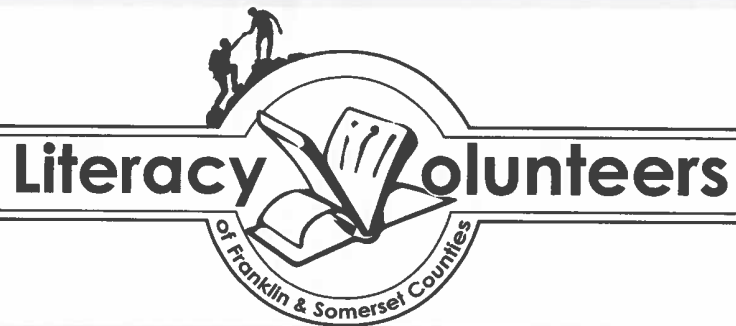


2025  
Poetry  
Celebration



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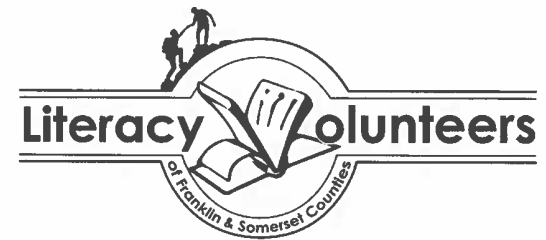
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2025

# Poetry Celebration



## 2025 Poetry Celebration

Ada Limon is the current Poet Laureate of the United States. Her signature project is called "You Are Here". "You Are Here" includes a poetry anthology, poetry installations in National Parks, and an invitation to the public:

**"We encourage everyone, everywhere — poets and non-poets to join us in our efforts to celebrate poetry & the natural world. We hope many will feel moved to write their own responses to the You Are Here prompt. It's simple: What would you write in response to the landscape around you?"**

For the month of March our learning community will be using prompts inspired by Ada Limon's "You Are Here" project in weekly writing workshops.

All are welcome to join us in celebrating poetry!

We hope you will submit a poem for publication in our 2025 anthology and join us for a community poetry reading on May 7th.

for more information:  
[westernmaineliteracy.org/poetry](https://westernmaineliteracy.org/poetry)  
call or text 207-500-3131  
[literacyvolunteersfs@gmail.com](mailto:literacyvolunteersfs@gmail.com)

scan here



## 2025 Poetry Celebration

**"What would you write  
in response to the landscape  
around you?"**

### Weekly Prompts

#### Week 1: You Are Here

"Here" can mean a lot of things, where is "here" for you right now? Create a poem to share your response.

#### Week 2: Physical Landscapes

Observe a landscape. Observe your response to the landscape. Create a poem to share your response.

#### Week 3: Situational Landscapes

Imagine a situation as a landscape. What are the important features of the situation? How do the features interact with and affect each other? Create a poem to share your response.

#### Week 4: Multimodal Landscape Poetry

Think about what "here" means to you. Make a drawing or collage that holds your ideas about the meaning of "here". Create a poem to share your response to the meaning of "here".

## Contributing Poets:

### Youth 11 and under

Avery Beaudoin  
Ryder Lavalley  
Duane Marcelino  
Landon Rodzen  
Preston Wotton

### Adult 18+

Katie Lipoma- Katie Lipoma is from Natick, Massachusetts and studies creative writing and psychology at the University of Maine at Farmington. She's a writer of poetry and fiction, often exploring themes of childhood and familial relationships to process lived experiences. She hopes to inspire others through her work.

Alexandra Lockwood  
Aishah Wolfstone  
Greg Zemlansky

### Students of Literacy Volunteers

Jaimi Buck  
Lorrie Chicoine  
Anna Crockett  
Lacey Elder  
Matilda Holt  
Karen Russell

Franklin Tilton- Franklin Tilton, age 53. I am in Adult Ed getting my diploma. I love the outdoors, love to fish and swim, take walks in nature.

## 2025 Poems

**When Spring Comes** by Karen Russell

**Lightning** by Landon Rodzen

**Is It You** by Anna Crockett

**SPRING IS A BEAUTIFUL TIME OF year** by Franklin Tilton

**Skating** by Duane Marcelino

**Riding Ruby** by Lacey Elder

**Mom's Quilts** by Matilda Holt

**Eye Disease** by Aishah Wolfstone

**The Ice Storm** by Lorrie Chicoine

**Feeding Animals** by Jaimi Buck

**Seasons** by Preston Wotton

**YOUR TONGUE** by Greg Zemlansky

**Ballet** by Katie Lipoma

**Imagination** by Ryder Lavalley

**Artic Ice** by Alexandra Lockwood

**Bright** by Avery Beaudoin

## When Spring Comes

When Spring comes  
And the grass is green  
Snow's all gone...  
I look in the field  
Across from Work First  
Waiting for the cows to return.  
White, brown, black  
They make me happy  
As they eat the grass.  
Sometimes they lay down  
And I look to the sky for  
rain.

By Karen Russell

## Lightning

On a dark night's sky  
Lightning splits through the darkness  
All of a sudden  
A crackle breaks the silence  
And then the sun starts to rise

## Is It You

Tear come down  
One by One  
In the corner  
Shadow following me  
Shapes of black  
Sun around you  
All kind of colors  
Flying by me  
Beautiful butterfly on you  
Need some reminder  
Who could you be  
Fly all around  
See in you  
Come down to me  
Land on me  
Show me Shape  
Tear fallowow  
Butterfly fly  
Shadow around  
Is it you

By Anna Crockett

## SPRING IS A BEAUTIFUL TIME OF year

The birds are chirping laying there eggs and the sun shining on the mountains  
The. Snow melting into streams running into lakes and rivers and the fish are spawning.  
The animals are having babies in meadows and fields  
The colors of flowers are blooming in the meadows and the trees are blooming.

## Skating

Skating is so fun  
I like to go downhill fast  
I like doing tricks  
I am scared to lose balance  
That is why I love skating

## Riding Ruby

I learned to ride at Martin Woods  
I was pretty scared  
But Sheila, the horse trainer,  
And Brittany too  
Helped with a mounting block  
And up I went!  
Onto soft, comfortable Ruby.  
After practicing a lot,  
It's one of my favorite activities.  
I've learned to do figure eights around cones.  
Combing Ruby's brown hair  
Calms her down  
A friend says, I've become  
"A Super Rider"!

By Lacey Elder

## Mom's Quilts

Mom made quilts  
All different colors  
To sell to folks near and far.  
Quilting was her therapy  
Relief from cancer  
For fourteen years.  
That's a lot of quilts.  
I have one I keep protected  
Just like my memories of Mom.

By Matilda Holt

## Eye Disease

As the wind blows  
There is a flash  
Red, white, and yellow  
Seeds scatter to the ground  
Birds navigate the current  
Landing safely on perches  
A Blue Jay, on the deck, turns his head  
Exposing eyes gunky and closed.  
Blindly, he tries to scoop up seeds.  
Giving up, he rubs his eyes along the rail for relief.  
All feeders; red, white, yellow,  
Suet too, are taken down  
Emptied, soaked in bleach.  
Binoculars are stationed by each door  
To spy closely for spreading eye disease.  
He returns the next day,  
Although there are no seeds.  
How he can fly, I don't know.  
I want to help, but how?

by Aishah Wolfstone



### The Ice Storm

Wintery mix

Make The Ice storm

Was in 1997

My step mother broke her Arm.

My was Nephew was Born in the ice storm

It makes the Power go out

By lorrie chicoine

### Feeding Animals

Twice a day I go to the garage to get hay

Crossing an icy driveway.

Afraid of falling and getting hurt.

Grippers need sharpening - not  
working. Using both hands holding onto  
rope and sled with 6 piles of hay  
take feed to the horses and goats.

By Jaimi Buck

## Seasons

It's the start of spring  
I'm jumping excitedly  
Everyone is too  
Playing with my dogs for days  
Summer is the best

## YOUR TONGUE

Your tongue has great powers for  
the good and evil.  
The bad things it can say...  
like putting others down, swearing  
words, and lying like the devil.  
Gossiping, complaining, not  
happy grumbling.  
Your tongue can do great damage  
like bullying.  
Your tongue can say...nice and  
wonderful words of encouragement,  
and pray for blessings.  
To make someone happy and with  
words of kindness.  
Speak of honesty, never falsehood,  
and words of Godly.  
You must decide how to use your  
tongue wisely.  
Let the words out of your mouth  
from your tongue be acceptable  
to God.  
Let your tongue speak the truth,  
never lie, and blabbermouth  
God.

Greg Zemplansky

Ballet  
by Katie Lipoma

The tall, thin woman exuding elegance and experience says “we’re all here to have fun”  
like it is time for recess and we’re just kids being kids about to jump into one big mud  
puddle but my hair is tight and itchy and I am told that baby pink gets dirty fast  
and in that room—vast and empty—  
generations of dust cling to aged cedar floorboards  
awoken with each little sweep and kick  
and there’s bows and bows,  
pliés and applause and “let’s watch the older girls now,”  
with their movements so effortless, joy so transparent  
until the music fades and there are critiques and tears  
and the tall, thin woman says “we’re all here to have fun”  
but her pointy feet do not agree  
and I am born into ballet  
complete with cashmere wraps and permanent goose bumps  
and angry French terminology  
like *chassé pas de bourrée*  
and *grand jeté*  
repeated over and over  
*grand jeté*  
*grand jeté*  
*grand jeté*  
and again  
we spin across the floor one by one, two by two,  
blinded by our own dizziness  
and the disappointment from the tall, thin woman  
making comments about our bodies  
and at thirteen, my stomach was too pronounced and nothing I did was right  
and the girls in class are complaining about their legs  
and arms and waists and the next year we all look sickly,  
skin and bones, skeletons of our former selves,  
and perfect  
ballerinas  
and the tall, thin, cruel woman says it’s tough love  
when she digs her heel  
hard into my back during our splits,  
driving me closer to the ground and further away from  
the thing I used to love  
and there’s tears concealed by long sleeves  
and the lowering of heads  
and I know that I want to turn around  
and hit her  
hard or tell her that she “better know what she’s doing next time”  
and call her fat and ugly  
but I’m tired and my body aches  
for who I was  
before ballet  
and so, when the final curtain closes  
so does a decade of experience,  
memories that settle into a heavy dust and cling to shadows beneath the barre  
like apparitions of a past life,  
keeping me forever chained to what birthed and destroyed me.

## Imagination

Is anything you want to think  
Maybe it’s not true  
Actually very easy too  
Great to do during your free time  
In any place in this world  
Never a bore  
Amazing ideas could come by  
Today, tomorrow, any time  
If you imagine you could come by  
Only you can believe your thoughts if you want  
Never have even the greatest people imagine

Arctic Ice

Melting, Shrinking, Disappearing  
Visualized in layers of white marble  
by Maya Lin in 2013.

The shadow of what used to be . . .  
I stare at it and wonder:  
How much more ice has gone since this was made?  
Will polar bears become extinct?

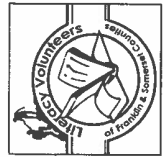
The sculpture balances precariously  
on its pedestal like our natural world.

By Alexandra Lockwood

Note: The sculpture "Disappearing Bodies of Water: Arctic Ice" (2013) by  
Maya Lin can be seen in the permanent collection at Colby College Art  
Museum in Waterville, Maine.

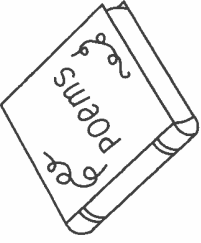
Bright

So bright in the light  
Sitting there in the air so  
Nice through the clouds so  
Hot in the air but so quiet  
There in the light is the sun



# Poetry Celebration Bingo

Complete a horizontal, vertical, or diagonal row of activities.  
Bring your completed card to the Community Reading on May 7th for  
a chance to win a prize.



|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| Make a poem on<br><a href="https://play.magneticpoetry.com/">https://play.magneticpoetry.com/</a><br>Date: _____ | Carry a poem in your<br>pocket for a day<br>Date: _____          | Sign up for poets.org<br>Poem A Day emails<br>Date: _____    | Find the poetry section<br>at your local library<br>Date: _____          |
| Mail a poem to a friend<br>or family member<br>Date: _____   | Memorize a poem<br>Date: _____                                   | Leave a poem in public<br>for someone to find<br>Date: _____ | Make a black out poem<br>Date: _____                                     |
| Make a book spine poem<br>Date: _____  | Illustrate a poem<br>Date: _____                                 | Read a poem out loud to<br>a pet<br>Date: _____              | Try to have a<br>conversation in rhyme<br>Date: _____                    |
| Read a poet's biography<br>on poetryfoundation.org<br>Date: _____  | Try to have a conversation<br>using alliterations<br>Date: _____ | Create a poem using an<br>ai poetry generator<br>Date: _____ | Make an acrostic poem for a<br>loved one using their name<br>Date: _____ |

**Literacy Volunteers**

2025

**Poetry Celebration  
&  
Community Reading**

Wednesday May 7th  
6:00-7:30  
Mt. Blue High School Forum

**Bring your own work or a  
favorite poem to share!**

for more information:  
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weekly, discussion  
based classes  
in person or on Zoom



**Genius Hour**  
supportive structure for  
self designed,  
self directed learning  
weekly classes

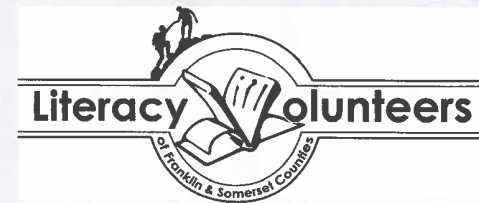


**Traveling Libraries**  
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promoting literacy in the community

**Community Collaborations**  
working with community organizations  
to better meet the needs of  
adult literacy learners



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## FREE BOOK SATURDAYS

Last Saturday of every month  
10-1



## JOIN US at BOOK CENTRAL

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**MANY THANKS!**



**The Literacy Volunteers  
Learning Community**