

The People's Poetry Festival August 17 – 19, 2012

Various locations in Kensington and downtown Calgary

CALGARY, Alberta --- July 17, 2012 --- The People's Poetry Festival Society announces that it will be returning to Calgary streets for a second year. The 2012 People's Poetry Festival (PPF), taking place Friday, August 17 to Sunday, August 19, 2012, will celebrate poetry and spoken word in Calgary through a variety of poets, poetics and performances. Featuring workshops, readings and performances, <u>DIY poetry stations</u>, poetic graffiti and other random acts of poetry, the PPF will be occupying streets, cafes, shops and pubs in the Kensington area—and beyond—to help celebrate and share poetry in Calgary.

Headlining this year's festival performance schedule as the 2012 PPF Poet of Honour is Calgary scene veteran and local favorite, <u>Jen Kunlire</u>. With her psalms to soulful vocals and social conscience, Kunlire promises to set the summer showcase afire. A host of other artists join Jen this year in a series of free and by donation events and performances, including 2012 Golden Beret Winner, <u>Kirk Miles</u>; 2011 PPF Poet of Honour and Calgary Poet Laureate nominee, <u>Wakefield Brewster</u>; <u>Weyman Chan</u>, <u>Dave Eso</u>, <u>Andre Prefontaine</u>, <u>Bob Stallworthy</u>, <u>Richard Harrison</u> and many others. Highlights of the 2012 festival include:

- 2012 festival kick-off event, Friday, August 17, 6:30pm, Pages Books on Kensington
- Found Poetry workshop, Saturday, August 18, 11:30am, The Central Library
- Just For Kids showcase, Sunday, August 19, 12:00pm, in front of Pages Books on Kensington

With a variety of family-friendly and 18+ events throughout the weekend, there's bound to be something for everyone. Join The People's Poetry Festival August 17-19 to learn more about everything Calgary's vibrant and growing poetry scene has to offer. While you're at it, try your hand at one of many interactive DIY poetry stations, take in an exhibit of poetic graffiti—works that combine written poetry and visual art—or share the outdoor open mic with local favorites and poetry newcomers alike. For full schedule of events, visit peoplespoetryfestival.com.

About The People's Poetry Festival

The People's Poetry Festival is a three-day event held in the Kensington area of Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Founded in 2011, the festival combines poetry, spoken word and visual art to celebrate Calgary's thriving and prolific poetry scene. Featuring do-it-yourself poetry stations, open mic, an art installation of poetic graffiti, poetry writing workshops and other interactive events, the festival aims to connect the community with the poets in their midst, and to make poetry fun and accessible for all. For more information, please visit peoplespoetryfestival.com.

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