

Pizarro: Santa Clara County poets laureate collaborate on poem, anthology

By Sal Pizarro spizarro@mercurynews.com San Jose Mercury News

Posted:

MercuryNews.com

If you had 100 words to share in a poem, what would they be? We'll find out the answer for the five people who have served as poets laureate in Santa Clara County on Saturday.

The quintet -- Nils Peterson and Sally Ashton from Santa Clara County, Parthenia Hicks and Erica Goss from Los Gatos and David Denny from Cupertino -- have been blindly collaborating on a poem called "Local Habitations." Each is providing exactly 100 words in any form they choose, but none has any idea what the others have written.

The premiere reading will be the finale of a 3 p.m. event Saturday to introduce a collaboration of a different sort. Peterson, Santa Clara County's first poet laureate from 2009 to 2011, has compiled a book of poems written by himself and his fellow laureates also titled "Local Habitations" (the phrase comes from a line in "A Midsummer Night's Dream").

The free event at the Cupertino Community Hall at 10350 Torre Ave. will include refreshments and music provided by harpist Kathleen Peters. Prepare to be inspired.

ART ON THE GO: San Jose's Institute of Contemporary Art continues to make its mark outside the boundaries of its downtown SoFA gallery.

The ICA has partnered with Montalvo Arts Center to present Chuck Ginnever's "Rashomon" sculpture series on the Great Lawn at the Saratoga villa through September. And its latest collaboration is with Liquid Agency, the downtown branding company that has an eye for the artistic.

The ICA has installed Napa artist Sabine Reckewell's eye-popping, "Double Catenary" at the firm's headquarters at 451 S. First St. The piece is viewable from the street through August in a window gallery that's being called "Liquid Space."

ART AND WINE: Speaking of inspiration, Linda Roxanne Bryer is following the belief that good art flows from good wine with her Matisse and Merlot Painting Parties. Think of it as a two-hour, instructor-led art class that has a no-host bar. Bryer provides the canvases, brushes and other art supplies, and you're on your own for the wine or other inspirational refreshment you like.

Bryer, who has her own advertising and PR firm, started the events in Santa Cruz, but the next party is at the Los Gatos Lodge on June 20. The cost is \$45, and reservations are required. Get information and see a video of the last party held in Los Gatos at www.matisseandmerlot.com.

Contact Sal Pizarro at spizarro@mercurynews.com. Follow him at [Twitter.com/spizarro](https://twitter.com/spizarro).