

1-2001

New Writing Series Spring 2001

English Department

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THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS/DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES COMMITTEE GRANT APPLICATION

PROVIDE 10 (TEN) COPIES, INCLUDING THE ORIGINAL.
PLEASE PLACE A COPY OF THIS COVER SHEET ON TOP OF EACH COPY

I.	Applicant/Organization: ENGLISH DEPARTMENT / NATIONAL POETRY FOUNDATION		
II. a.	Responsible Organization Officer: STEVEN R. EVANS		
b.	Title: ASST. PROFESSOR	Steven - Evans@umit.maine.edu	
c.	Campus Address (include EMail and Telephone): 215 NEVILLE, 581-3809,		
III. Summary	NEW WRITING SERIES SPRING 2001		date (s):
	08FEB KRISTIN PREVALLET & DANIEL BOUCHARD		
	20FEB LEE ANN BROWN		
	01MAR ROBERT CREELEY [LITTLE HALL 120]		
	29MAR BERNADETTE MAYER		
	06MAR SYLVESTER POLLET & ROBERT FITTERMAN		
	10APR EILEEN MYLES		
	19APR CONSTANCE HUNTING & JENNIFER MOXLEY		
	26APR KEVIN DAVIES		
	27/8APR MAINE POETRY & STORY EXCHANGE		
	01MAY DICK LOURIE		
	03MAY MAINE REVIEW READING		
	10MAY LAURA MORIARTY		
Expand in full is contingent!	RESIDENCY I: Brown Feb 19-26	RESIDENCY II: Creeley, Feb 25-March 10; Apr 15-21	r current application ars' grants.
IV. a.	Total funding required for program:		> 15 172
b.	Amount committed by applicant organization:		> 0 172
c.	Amount committed by/requested of (please indicate which) other funding sources:		> 0
d.	Amount requested of Cultural Affairs/DLS Committee:		> 7 000
Signature of responsible organization officer/date: 			3-30-01 DATE

SPACE BELOW FOR COMMITTEE USE:

\$16,000

SEND COMPLETED APPLICATION TO: CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
C/O PRESIDENT'S OFFICE
200 ALUMNI HALL

To: Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series Committee

From: Steven Evans, Asst. Professor of English

Re: UMaine New Writing Series

I am writing on behalf of the English Department and the National Poetry Foundation to request the Committee's assistance in continuing the New Writing Series established in the Spring of 2000. The \$7000 I am requesting for Spring 2001 represents a little less than one half of the Series's operating budget (not including social events); the other half of the funding will be provided by the English Department's Lloyd H. Elliott fund.

The primary objective of the New Writing Series is to make contemporary poetry a regular part of the cultural life at the University of Maine and in the past year, we have come a long way towards achieving that goal. In the Fall of 2000, more than 500 people attended the eight poetry readings we offered, and at least that many again were reached through the numerous activities linked to the Series such as class visits, open "conversations with the poets," High School visits, and special workshops such as Lorenzo Thomas offered to area High School teachers. Among the many curricular uses to which the Series has been put, Asst. Professor Benjamin Friedlander's LAS first-year seminar on "The Vital Word"—visited by all readers in the Fall series—is perhaps the most exciting.

At present we are four events into our Spring 2001 Series, which will feature thirteen poets in eleven readings as well as a major festival of Maine Writing (for which separate funding is being sought), with average attendance standing at approximately 85 people and 200 attending Robert Creeley's March 1 reading alone. The Series has begun to establish its identity both within the University community (as witness the feature in the *Maine Perspective* Feb. 19th issue) and within the regional and national contexts. The poets who have visited UMaine in the past three semesters have all responded very positively to the work we've undertaken and have in many cases served as "traveling ambassadors" not only for the English Department but for the UMaine in general as they pursue their poetry-related travels throughout the country.

Our programming for Spring 2001 brings to campus a diverse group of poets, from emerging writers like Kristin Prevallet and Robert Fitterman to Bollingen-prize winner Robert Creeley, and from locally-based writers like Sylvester Pollet and Constance Hunting to nationally recognized writers like Eileen Myles. In combination with the Maine Poetry and Story Exchange (featuring Maine writers of all kinds) and the Maine Review Reading (representing the work of UMaine undergraduate writers), the Series is designed to provide maximum exposure to the widest range of possibilities in the art of poetry.

The Series line-up is as follows:

NEW WRITING SERIES SPRING 2001

08FEB	Kristin Prevallet & Daniel Bouchard
20FEB	Lee Ann Brown
01MAR	Robert Creeley
29MAR	Bernadette Mayer
03APR	Sylvester Pollet & Robert Fitterman
10APR	Eileen Myles
19APR	Constance Hunting and Jennifer Moxley
26APR	Kevin Davies
27/8APR	Maine Poetry and Story Exchange
01MAY	Dick Lourie
03MAY	Maine Review Reading
10MAY	Laura Moriarty

All events are free and open to the public.

I have provided in the following pages a break-down of estimated expenses and biobibliographical sketches of the poets we'll be featuring in the Series.

Estimated Expenses

Overview:

- Total Expenses for Spring 2001: \$15,172**
- **Series Event Expenses: \$12,750**
 - **Series Support Expenses: \$2422**

Breakdown of Series Event Expenses

Kristin Prevallet \$755
Honorarium: \$500
Accommodations: \$70 Two nights University Motor Inn
Travel: \$185 Roundtrip Airfare LaGuardia-Bangor

Dan Bouchard \$830
Honorarium: \$500
Accommodations: No charge (lodged with faculty)
Travel: \$330 Rental Car Boston-Bangor

Lee Ann Brown \$1426
Honorarium: \$1000
Accommodations: No charge (lodged with faculty)
Travel: \$426 Roundtrip Airfare LaGuardia-Bangor

Robert Creeley \$2109
Honorarium: Funded Separately by English Department
Accommodations: \$480 Three weeks at University Motor Inn
Travel: \$1062 Two Roundtrip Airfares Buffalo-Bangor
Other: \$567 Three weeks Rental Car

Bernadette Mayer \$1510
Honorarium: \$1250
Accommodations: \$160 Four nights at University Motor Inn
Travel: \$100 Reimbursed Car travel from East Nassau NY

Rob Fitterman \$1110
Honorarium: \$500
Accommodations: \$120 Three nights at University Motor Inn
Travel: \$490 Roundtrip Airfare LaGuardia-Bangor

Sylvester Pollet \$500
Honorarium: \$500
Accommodations: n/a
Travel: n/a

Jennifer Moxley \$250
Honorarium: \$250
Accommodations: n/a
Travel: n/a

Eileen Myles \$1280
Honorarium: \$750
Accommodations: \$40 One night at University Motor Inn
Travel: \$490 Roundtrip Airfare LaGuardia-Bangor

Dick Lourie \$890
Honorarium: \$750
Accommodations: \$40 One night at University Motor Inn
Travel: \$100 Automobile expenses from Boston

Kevin Davies: \$720
Honorarium: \$500
Accommodations: \$120 Three nights at University Motor Inn
Travel: \$100 Roundtrip bus fare from New York City

Laura Moriarty \$1370
Honorarium: \$750
Accommodations: \$120 Three nights at University Motor Inn
Travel: \$500 Roundtrip Airfare San Francisco-Bangor

Breakdown of Series Support Expenses: \$2422

Soderberg Auditorium Room Rental: 10 events @ \$50 = \$500

Audio-Visual Service (microphones): 10 events @ \$25 = \$250

Department of Marketing (digital video-recordings): 10 events @ 25 = \$250

Series Poster Design by MaJo Keleshian: \$250

Series Poster Printing Costs: \$422

Group meal after events: 10 events @ \$75 = \$750

III. Bio-bibliographies of Featured Readers

Kristin Prevallet is the author of four books of poetry, including *Perturbation*, *My Sister* (1994), *28 for the Road* (1996), and *Lead, Glass, and Poppy* (1996). Her most recent chapbook is *Selections from the Parasite Poems* (1999). From 1994 to 1997, Prevallet was a co-editor of *Apex of the M*, a magazine which featured both emerging and more established writers, and attempted to provide a context for alternative poetry. Prevallet has taught poetry in the local New York school system, specifically in Brooklyn and Queens. One of her major projects is the research done on the life and work of Helen Adam; Prevallet has spent the last three years cataloguing the archive of Helen Adam's work at The Poetry/Rare Books Collection at SUNY - Buffalo.

Daniel Bouchard lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts where he works as a tenant organizer for the Cambridge Eviction Free Zone and as a production coordinator for the MIT Press Journals. His first book, *Diminutive Revolutions*, was published in 1999. Bouchard's other works include an essay, "Packing My Library: A Note on Book Accumulation," which was published on-line as Notes to Poetry 51. In 1999, Bouchard co-edited a special Boston Artists edition of *The East Village*. Bouchard is also currently the co-editor of *Pressed Wafer* in Boston.

Lee Ann Brown was born in Japan. She has authored 8 chapbooks from 1991 to 1999, including *Cultivate* (1991), *Crush* (1993), and *Sustain Petal* (1999). Her book *Polyverse* was the winner of the New American Poetry Series Competition in 1996. Brown is known as a filmmaker, performer, and writer; she has lived all over the United States. Brown was a member of the faculty at the Naropa Institute's Writing and Poetics Program in Boulder, Colorado. She is also founder and editor of Tender Buttons Press, and currently teaches at St. Johns in Staten Island.

Robert Creeley was born in Arlington, Massachusetts in 1926. In his lifetime, Creeley has published over 72 books, including *Le Fou* (1952), *Life and Death* (1993), and *So There: Poems 1976 - 83* (1998). He became nationally recognized after the publication of *For Love: Poems 1950 - 1960* in 1962. Since then he has become known not only as a poet, but as an influential editor, with substantial contributions in essays, letters, autobiography, collaborations with artists, and interviews. He has edited the works of

Charles Olson and was the founder and editor of a landmark literary journal, *The Black Mountain Review* (1954 - 1957). Creeley taught at Black Mountain College, at the invitation of Charles Olson, from spring 1954 to autumn 1955. He has also taught in Guatemala, at the University of New Mexico, the University of British Columbia, and the State University of New York at Buffalo. A chancellor of the Academy of American Poetry, Creeley also received the prestigious Bollingen Prize in 1999.

Bernadette Mayer was born in Brooklyn in 1945. She received her BA in 1965 from the New School of Social Research in New York. Between 1964 and 1994, she published 18 books of poetry, including *Studying Hunger* (1976) and *Utopia* (1984). Her most recent work, *Two Haloed Mourners: Poems*, was published in 1998. Mayer is known as a writer but also as a teacher, editor, and publisher; she was founding co-editor of *0-9* in the late 1960s, and with Lewis Warsh edited *United Artists* magazine in the late 1970s before founding United Artists Press. From 1980 to 1984, Mayer was the director of Saint Mark's Poetry Project in Greenwich Village. She is most often associated with the New York School and uses compositional methods such as chance operations, collage, and cut-up in her work.

Sylvester Pollet is the author of *Entering the Walking-Stick Business*, editor of the Backwoods Broadside Series, Associate Editor at the National Poetry Foundation, and a long-time instructor in Creative Writing at the University of Maine. His poems have appeared in numerous journals and anthologies, including *The Place of Poetry* and *Maine Speaks: An Anthology of Maine Literature*.

Robert Fitterman is the author of five books of poetry, including *Ameresque* and the epic poem, *Metropolis*, which was the winner of the New American Poetry Series Competition in 1997. Fitterman is co-author, with Rodrigo Rey Rosa, of the film-script *What Sebastian Dreamt*. A member of the General Studies faculty at New York University, Fitterman is also the editor and publisher of *Object* magazine and organizer of the "Printonomy" reading series at NYU's Fales Library.

Eileen Myles was born in Cambridge, Massachusetts in 1949. She has authored ten books of poetry from 1978 and 1997, including *Fresh Young Voice From the Plains* (1981), *Chelsea Girls* (1994), and *School of Fish* (1997). Her most recent work, *Cool for You*, was published to wide critical acclaim in 2000. Myles is recognized for having brought lesbian content and political activism to the New York School poem, and also for her postmodern view of identity in 20th-century American Poetry. Myles was extremely active as the artistic director of Saint Mark's Poetry project from 1984 to 1986. Since 1982, she has taught at the New School of Social Research, NYU, California Institute of the Arts, Memphis College of Art, and The Naropa Institute. Myles was also involved in the production of six plays between 1979 and 1994. She has also recorded and toured with Sister Spit, a lesbian spoken-word group from San Francisco.

Constance Hunting teaches Creative Writing at the University of Maine and is the editor of *Puckerbrush Review* and publisher of Puckerbrush Press. Her most recent collection is *Natural Things: Collected Poems 1969-1998*.

Jennifer Moxley was born in 1964 and grew up in San Diego. She has an MFA from Brown University's Creative Writing program and is the author of *The First Division of Labor*, *Imagination Verses*, *Enlightenment Evidence*, and, most recently, *Wrong Life*. In 1996, her translation of Jacqueline Risset's *The Translation Begins* was published by Burning Deck. Editor of *The Impercipient* from 1992-1995 and co-editor the Impercipient Lecture Series in 1998, she has also served since 1997 as poetry editor for the *Baffler*, a nationally-recognized journal of cultural critique published in Chicago. The French translation of *Enlightenment Evidence* was published earlier this year by Creaphis.

Since 1968, **Dick Lourie** has appeared in such publications as *Verse*, *Exquisite Corpse*, *The Massachusetts Review*, and *ACM*. His book *Ghost Radio* (1998), now in its fourth printing, was turned into the compact disc *Ghost Radio Blues*, which features Lourie reading his work in collaboration with a number of blues artists. His poem "Forgiving our Fathers" is the climax to the acclaimed film *Smoke Signals* which is based on a book by Sherman Alexie. Lourie co-edited *Smart Like Me* and *Bullseye*, two anthologies of high school writing from Hanging Loose Press. He is considered an experienced poetry workshop consultant and has worked extensively with students and teachers in school poetry programs. Lourie is also an experienced musician who plays the tenor saxophone and the trumpet. He lives in Somerville, Massachusetts and has been an editor at UMass Boston since 1985.

Kevin Davies was born in Nanaimo, British Columbia and has lived in Vancouver and Toronto. He is the author of two books, *Pause Button* (1992) and *Comp.* (2000). He was a key member of The Kootenay School of Writing Collective in Vancouver in the 1980s and 1990s and currently lives in New York.

Laura Moriarty was born in Minnesota and is the author of *Two Cross Seizings* (1980), *Persia* (1983), *Duse* (1986), *like roads* (1990), *Rondeaux* (1990), and *L'Archiviste* (1991). *Persia* was co-winner of the Poetry Center Book Award from San Francisco State University. Her most recent work is *Nude Memoir* (2000). Moriarty was the Director of the American Poetry Archives at The Poetry Center at San Francisco State University until last year, when she took up her new job as managing director of Small Press Distribution in Berkeley.

Cultural Affairs Committee
including the
Distinguished Lecture Series
200 Alumni Hall
University of Maine

April 12, 2001

To: Steven Evans

From: Kathleen March & François Amar, Co-Chairs

On behalf of the Cultural Affairs Committee, including the Distinguished Lecture Series, it gives me great pleasure to inform you that your proposal, **Spring 2001 Writing Series**, has been awarded \$6,000.00. **Please contact Wanda Legere at 1-1516 before your event takes place to arrange for disbursement of award funds.** Note: Reception and University of Maine System payroll expenses are not reimbursable through this award.

Please note that acknowledgment of the *Cultural Affairs Committee* is required on all promotional materials. **A budget report must be submitted at the conclusion of your event and will be considered for future funding requests.** It is assumed that projects are completed within 12 months, therefore, any remaining balance will be returned to the Committee account for further distribution unless otherwise notified.

The Committee notes that it does not fund more than 50% of the amount for any given program. It also asks applicants to consider the most reasonable honoraria possible, as there may not be funding for the higher amounts.

We, the members of the Cultural Affairs Committee, congratulate you and wish you much success on this project.