

APRIL IS POETRY MONTH

April is National Poetry Month and the San Juan Island Library is celebrating it in grand style!

We've moved the (Dewey Decimal) 811 section--American and English poetry--to a place all by itself on the other side from Graphic Novels (near the adult computers). It's just a few short steps away from the Display Table, which features a world-wide selection of poetry--from very local (San Juan Island) to local (San Juan Islands) to regional (Pacific Northwest) to national to global. There's a nice selection of poems in translation: for example, try Spanish (Pablo Neruda) or Polish (Czeslaw Milosz), or Japanese haiku (Basho, Issa, and company).

And speaking of haiku, have you heard that our sister Library Media Specialist at the San Juan Island School District, Lisa Salisbury, won the Washington State Ferries Haiku Contest? Her winning haiku—

*On deep blue waters
Gliding through the Salish Sea
Summer light shimmers*

--will be featured on the Summer Ferry schedule, and she will kick-off a reading by Washington State Poet Laureate Claudia Castro Luna. Yes, that's right, we have our Poet Laureate visiting, and do we have her busy! In addition to the reading on Friday, April 27th (7 pm), with co-poets Jennifer Boyden, Gary Thompson, and Jill McCabe Johnson, Ms. Castro Luna will also be leading at Poetry Walk at American Camp (meet at the Visitor's Center) at 10 am on Saturday, April 28th, and then conducting a Poetry Workshop at the Library Meeting Room that (April 28th) afternoon at 1 pm (please sign up for this at the Library).

And remember, Poetry is the theme of this month's Reading Revels, the Library's Reading Challenge. So help us celebrate the poetry in our lives! Read a verse or two or three; sharpen that pencil or tune up that computer and practice your feet and meters; and do join us for one of our poetry events--after all, the spoken word, in all of its glory, is what poetry is all about.