



CALL FOR READERS:

BRIGHT LIGHT POETRY NIGHT

A Reading Series Hosted by Southeastern Minnesota Poets

Southeastern Minnesota Poets is seeking local poets to participate in bi-monthly public readings at the Historic Chateau Theater in downtown Rochester. Up to 8 poets will be selected for each event. All will be held on the second Thursday of the month, begin at 6:30 p.m., and run approximately one hour. Dates and reading themes can be seen below.

May 11, 2023—Where I Come From: poems of family, fellowship, and tradition

July 13, 2023—Rise: poems of empowerment and freedom

September 14, 2023—Corny Poems: old-fashioned fun, sweet sentiments, and ear-popping entertainment

November 9, 2023—Frights and Terrors: a vexing phantasmagoria of dread and illusion

Poets will be asked to share a favorite poem by another poet they admire that speaks to the event theme, along with several poems of their own writing, with no poet having more than 7 minutes reading time in total. All work must be family-friendly, with no charged language, explicit imagery, or overly adult themes.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Friday, April 14, 2023

If you wish to participate in this reading in either of the summer reading dates (May 11 or July 13), send the following information to: poets.semn@gmail.com:

1. Name
2. Contact Information (Email/Phone)
3. Preferred reading date(s), in order of preference (do not list dates you cannot attend)

Due to space limitations and a high level of interest by poets who wish to participate in these readings, organizers will attempt to not have the same readers at back-to-back event dates unless space is available.

Poets who express their interest in reading will be contacted in late April about the lineup for May and July readings. Several weeks in advance of each reading, the selected readers will be asked to share the titles and texts of the poems they intend to read (favorite poem by another poet and their individual poems), along with a brief 100-word or less bio, so organizers can create the event program. A separate call for fall reading dates will occur in late July or early August, with poets who do not read in May and July receiving priority.

Organizers reserve the right to not include readers whose submitted poems do not match the event's theme or whose selected poems are deemed not family-friendly.