

A Celebration of Poetry!

Thursday, May 21, 2015 6:30pm

Friends Membership Month Gala Event

Please join the Friends as we celebrate 2015's membership month with readings of both original and Shakespearean poetry presented by local poets and scholars.

Mingle and enjoy refreshments before and after the poetry readings. And new this year, we encourage audience members to bring their own works of poetry to read during the question and comment period.

This will be the APL's first (and hopefully not last) poetry open mic night!

6:30 Doors open, refreshments, music provided by the AHS Rhythmics

7:00 Welcome address

7:05 Poetry program begins:

Kevin Petersen, Ph.D., Professor of English, UMass Lowell, presents a sonnet

Poet Alfred Nicol of Newbury reads from and discusses his body of work

Poet Kirun Kapur of Amesbury shares selections from her debut volume of poems

8:05 Audience questions and poetry readings, book signings, mingling and refreshments



Kirun Kapur's debut volume of poems, *Visiting Indira Gandhi's Palmist ricochets from Partition-era India to Biblical pastorals, from American bars to the battlefield of the Bhagavad-Gita. The collection examines the harrowing collision of love and violence in families and nations. Winner of the Arts & Letters Rumi Prize in Poetry as well as the Antivenom Poetry Award, Kapur introduces an astonishing range of characters—mothers and fathers, princes and soldiers, daughters and lovers—as she sets out to explore our most fundamental myths and bonds. Her work has appeared in AGNI, Poetry International, FIELD, Massachusetts Review, The Christian Science Monitor and many other journals. She lives in Amesbury.*



Alfred Nicol's book of poetry, *Elegy for Everyone*, published in 2009, was chosen for the first Anita Dorn Memorial Prize as "a work of complex vision and stylistic mastery." He received the 2004 Richard Wilbur Award for an earlier volume, *Winter Light*, of which Jay Parini, biographer of Robert Frost, said, "This is certainly among the finest new volumes of poetry I have read in years." A member of the Powow River Poets since 1999, Nicol edited *The Powow River Anthology*, published in 2006. His poems have appeared in *Poetry*, *The New England Review*, *Dark Horse*, *First Things*, *Atlanta Review*, *Commonweal*, and other literary journals. Once a resident of Amesbury, Nicol currently lives in Newbury.

This event is part of Friends Membership Month!

The Friends fund all of the programs and museum passes here at the Amesbury Public Library, join today and be part of a fantastic group of people who love their library!

www.amesburylibrary.org



Amesbury Public Library, 149 Main Street,
Amesbury, MA 01913