

## World Poetry Day Writing Competition

First Prize(\$300): Katarzyna Kozanecka for  
“on the outskirts”

Teacher: Eric Grossman, Stuyvesant High School

2nd Prize (\$200): Mohammed Abbasi for “War Season”

Teacher: Dr. Sylvia Weinberger, Brooklyn Technical HS

### *Honorable Mentions*

Alice Chan for “may you forgive me”

Teacher: Eric Grossman, Stuyvesant High School

Arianna C. Freyre for “Oppression”

Teacher: Myron Moskowitz, Townsend Harris High School

Melissa Kimiadi for “Sunday’s Best”

Teacher: Dr.Sylvia Weinberger, Brooklyn Technical HS

Marianne Lebedinskaya for “After the War: Land at Last”

Teacher: Maria Buccellato, John Dewey High School

### on the outskirts

a khaki convoy nearing  
and farthering away  
stirring crows to wing,  
kicking up mud in flecks  
against the house-wall  
on which hangs a poster  
for a film; the house-wall  
around whose corner a dog  
hangs by the throat.  
its snowed coast thawing,  
its snowed coast thawing,  
the film is *przed-wiosna*,  
before-spring.  
maybe in the west in west west.  
i've no eyes for it.  
my winter's longer than that world's  
by an arm of rope.

### War Season

The harvest season has arrived  
A struggle begins  
The women are restless  
The workingmen are gone  
The people impoverished

They come to gather fruits  
Which are overripe  
The aroma of rotting melons  
And the tainted grapes  
They smell of sour juice

The one full-grown fruits  
That nourished thousands  
All through the bleak winters  
Have become bitter and vicious

The beautiful colors of  
Red, sweet apples  
Purple, juicy grapes  
Green, immense watermelons  
Have transformed

The lush, moist and newly picked fruits  
Sit on the cold floor  
Black, hard and ugly  
The scene is dark  
The grapple has overcome the grain

Theme: a topic that reflects the concerns of the United Nations and world cultures.

The winners will appear in *Rattapallax* magazine (Fall/2003) and all the poets mentioned above will appear in *Poetry In Performance 31* (late Fall/2003). This was a free competition open to High Schools. This event is sponsored by *Rattapallax* magazine, Baruch College Performing Arts Center, and CCNY Poetry Outreach Center. Mural courtesy of The Community~Word Project.

<http://www.dialoguepoetry.org>

**AMIRI BARAKA**'s wrote the play the *Dutchman*, which won an Obie Award for "best off-Broadway play" and was made into a film. In 1983, he and **AMINA BARAKA** edited *Confirmation: An Anthology of African-American Women*, which won an American Book Award and in 1987 they published *The Music: Reflections on Jazz and Blues*. Amiri Baraka's literary prizes and honors include fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts, the PEN/Faulkner Award, the Rockefeller Foundation Award for Drama, and the Langston Hughes Award. **ROBERT CREELEY** has published more than sixty books of poetry in the United States and abroad, including *Just in Time: Poems 1984-1994*. His honors include the Lannan Lifetime Achievement Award, the Frost Medal, the Shelley Memorial Award, a National Endowment for the Arts grant, a Rockefeller Foundation grant, and fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation. **PAT DUFFY**'s works for the United Nations and is a member of the United Nations Society of Writers. Her articles have appeared in such publications as *New York Newsday*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, the *Boston Globe*, the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, and the *Village Voice*. Her most recent book about synesthesia and creativity is titled *Blue Cats*, published by Henry Holt and Company. **MARILYN HACKER** is the author of nine books, including *Presentation Piece*, which received the National Book Award in 1975. Her *Selected Poems* was awarded the Poets' Prize in 1996. She now lives in New York and Paris, and is director of the M.A. program in English literature and creative writing at the City College of New York. **J. KYAZZE** joined UNESCO in 1972 and has served as Chief of the Section for Science and Technology Education in the Education Sector and Director of the Division of Relations with African Member States. Since 2001, he has served as UNESCO Representative to the United Nations and its Funds, Programmes and Funding Institutions based in New York and in Washington. **GRACE SCHULMAN**'s latest poetry collection is *Days of Wonder: New and Selected Poems* (Houghton Mifflin, February, 2002), which was a Finalist in the Phi Beta Kappa Award for Best Poems of 2002. She is the recipient of the Aiken Taylor Award for Modern Poetry 2002 and the Delmore Schwartz Award for Poetry. Schulman is Distinguished Professor at Baruch College. **VIJAY SESHADRI** was born in India and lives in Brooklyn, NY. Graywolf Press published his poetry book, *Wild Kingdom*. He is Chair, Writing Program in Non-Fiction at Sarah Lawrence College.

**"ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN"**

A poetry reading featuring prominent women poets Veronica Golos, Haale, Maria Terrone, D.H. Melhem, Flávia Rocha, Elaine Schwager, Daniela Gioseffi, Ruth Nolan, and many others. Special guest Swami Ramananda. March 20, 2003 at 8:00 PM at the Open Center, 83 Spring Street, NYC.

Many thanks to City College's Poetry Outreach Center and its director, Barry Wallenstein & Bob Burr who helps administer the program -- which includes the Annual Spring Poetry Festival which will take place at City on May 13th where the high school winners of the World Poetry Day competition will again be honored. The judges: Barry Wallenstein, Bob Burr, Tanya Therman, John Pearson, Gregory Nixon, Sukuntary Savy, Flávia Rocha, Sofia Van Leeuwen, Cassandra Allard, Patrice Fyffe, and Ram Devineni. Special thanks to Pat Duffy and the readers, Shashi Tharoor, Giandomenico Picco, Bhikshuni Weisbrot, Catherine Claxton, Larry Jaffe, Eric Krebs, Ariadne Condos, Baruch College Staff, Baruch College Performing Arts Center, Michele Kotler, Prof. Roz Bernstein, Sidney Harman Writer-In-Residence Series, Rattapallax Press, and the many coordinators around the world who believe in this program. Also, this event was co-organized by the John Houseman Theater and Eric Krebs Theatrical Management, Inc.



## DIALOGUE THROUGH POETRY & UNESCO'S WORLD POETRY DAY

Introduction by Ram Devineni

Opening Remarks by Pat Duffy

Remarks by J. Kyazze,

*UNESCO Representative to the UN*

Grace Schulman

Vijay Seshadri

Barry Wallenstein and

*World Poetry Day Writing Contest Winners*

Robert Creeley

Marilyn Hacker

Amiri and Amini Baraka

Wednesday, March 19, 2003 at 8:00 PM at

Mason Hall, Baruch College,

17 Lexington Ave. at 23rd St. in New York City.

Sponsored by the Baruch College Performing Arts Center.