



2023 Workshop Program & Schedule

Keynote/Icebreaker Reading: Fri, 10/6 @ 6 – 9PM

Workshop: Sat – Sun, 10/7 – 10/8 10AM – 4PM

Participant Reading: Sun, 10/8 @ 6 – 8PM

Friday 10/6/2023 (Keynote/Icebreaker)

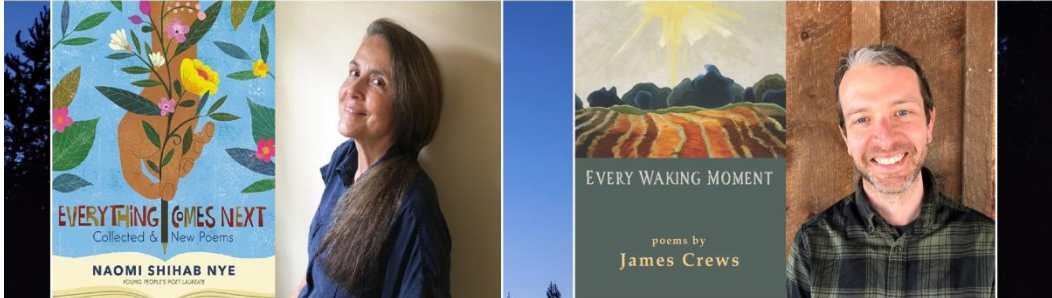
Venue: The Ethical Society of St. Louis

St. Louis County Library Foundation's **Favorite Author Series** presents

A Poetry in the Woods Reading & Conversation with



Naomi Shihab Nye & James Crews



Friday, October 6, 7:00 p.m. (Doors Open @ 6:00 p.m.)

Ethical Society of St. Louis

Register Online @ <https://www.poetryinthewoods.com/events>



Time: 6:00PM (Doors Open) – 9:15PM (Book Signing Concludes)

Address: 9001 Clayton Rd, St. Louis, MO 63117

Limited Parking in Front of Building: Take main entrance in front of building.

Parking in Rear of Building: Take lower entrance in rear of building and take stairs or elevator up to the main foyer and auditorium entrance. Early arrival recommended as seating will be first come first served.

Event Registration: <https://poetryinthewoods.com/events#event-register-october>

Note on Event: Keynote Event is strongly recommended for Workshop Participants. Opportunity to meet the visiting faculty before the workshop and have access to purchase faculty books for sale by the Novel Neighbor and get faculty signatures during book signing portion.

6:00PM: Doors Open (Books for Sale in Foyer)

7:00PM: Reading Begins

7:10PM: James Crews Reading

7:35PM: Naomi Shihab Nye Reading

8:00PM: Onstage conversation with Naomi, James & Moderator Travis Mossotti

8:15PM: Audience Q&A

8:30PM: Book Signing in Foyer

9:15PM: Event Conclusion

EVENT REGISTRATION QR CODE:



Saturday 10/7/2023 (Workshop Day 1)

Venue: Washington University Tyson Research Center

**Poetry in the
WOODS**

Workshop 2023
October 7 - 8, 10AM - 4PM
@ Washington University's
Tyson Research Center
& The St. Louis Zoo

FACULTY
Naomi Shihab Nye
James Crews
Devin Johnston
Andrea Scarpino
Travis Mossotti



PITW WORKSHOP DAY 1:

Washington University Tyson Research Center

Address: 6750 Tyson Valley Rd, Eureka, MO 63025

Note on Arrival/Check-in: Plan to arrive at entrance gate to Washington University Tyson Research Center b/w 9:00AM – 9:15AM.

Note on Directions: Heading from St. Louis City, take **Hwy 44 West to Exit 269 Beaumont Antire**, proceed straight through stop sign at top of off ramp; take first right towards the gate entrance to Tyson Research Center (follow signs for **Endangered Wolf Center**).



Poetry in the Woods Check-in at Gate: A representative from PITW will check you in at the gate and provide directions to the Living Learning Center.

NOTE: Once through the gate, stay on main road until you see sign/representative directing you to turn right for parking lot and Living Learning Center entrance. **DO NOT LEAVE MAIN ROAD.**

Saturday 10/7/2023 (Workshop Day 1)

Venue: Washington University Tyson Research Center

SCHEDULE:

9:00AM – 10:00AM: Arrival/Workshop Icebreaker/Light breakfast available

10:00AM: Travis Mossotti to deliver Opening Remarks

10:05AM: Andrea Scarpino (Poetry Discussion):

TOPIC: What does Wilderness/Nature Mean?

DESCRIPTION: What does wilderness/nature mean in a world that is increasingly losing it, paved with asphalt and razed for business? How can poets write about nature (and nature's loss) when we have so little wilderness left with which to interact? In this talk, we'll explore contemporary poetry that grapples with nature and wilderness even as it disappears.

10:25AM: James Crews (Poetry Discussion):

TOPIC: The Wonder of Small Things

DESCRIPTION: Poets have always understood the renewing power of small moments of close attention, especially to the natural world. Yet in this time of turbulence and upheaval, it is essential to name how wonder and awe can transform seemingly ordinary encounters with nature (and each other) into lasting moments of peace and connection. We'll talk about the ways that contemporary poets help us access the awe that not only offers us deep relief, but also brings our whole world alive.

10:45AM: Light snack/restroom break

10:55AM: Travis Mossotti (Poetry Hike)

TOPIC: Poetry for Things that Disappear:

DESCRIPTION: It's easy when the subject of the poem is right in front of you or at least part of the mortal plane. But when the thing goes missing or is in the process of disappearing, how do we reel it back into this world and breathe life into it? How do we as poets call across the great beyond and get a response?

HIKE: Travis Mossotti will guide Attendees/Faculty on a Hike through Tyson Research Center Property. Hike will last approximately 1hr. This is a moderate hike, but does have elevation gain and participants are expected to dress appropriately for weather and trail conditions (hiking boots or sneakers STRONGLY recommended). Trail is mostly gravel. Approximately 2miles.

READING/COMPOSITION TIME: Those who choose not to hike are invited to partake in independent reading/composition time in the beautiful surroundings of Living Learning Classroom. HOWEVER: Because we are guests, participants who remain at Tyson Living Learning Classroom area cannot explore beyond the immediate surroundings of the building complex. We are guests on the property and we have limited access.

12:15PM: Lunch will be provided by PITW

1:00PM: Naomi Shihab Nye Poetry Reading/Commentary

1:25PM: Devin Johnston Poetry Reading/Commentary

1:50PM: Light snack/restroom break

2:00PM: Workshop Begins:

Workshop Format:

- 1) Workshop is OPTIONAL. Participants who opt out will not be included in lineup
- 2) Poets will be asked to Read the Poem they Submitted for Workshop
 - a. (Optional: Travis Mossotti will read the poem if participant prefers)
- 3) Workshop Faculty & Participants will provide reactions to poem (Verbally)
- 4) Each poem will be given 5-7 minutes for Reading/Feedback
 - a. (Participants should write down verbal comments to capture reactions)

3:55PM: Travis Mossotti to deliver Concluding Remarks

4:00PM: Exit Tyson Using Main Road (Gate Will Automatically Open for Exit)

Sunday 10/8/2023 (Workshop Day 2)

Venue: St. Louis Zoo (River Camp)

Poetry in the WOODS



Workshop 2023

October 7 - 8, 10AM - 4PM

@ Washington University's
Tyson Research Center
& The St. Louis Zoo

FACULTY

Naomi Shihab Nye
James Crews
Devin Johnston
Andrea Scarpino
Travis Mossotti

PITW WORKSHOP DAY 2: St. Louis Zoo (River Camp)

Address: Saint Louis Zoo, 1 Government Dr, St. Louis, MO 63110

Note on Arrival/Check-in: Plan to arrive at the Zoo Living World Building b/w **9:00AM – 9:15AM**.

Note on Parking: Make sure to park in the **North Parking Lot** (let them know you're with Poetry in the Woods Workshop Event for FREE Parking); if lot is full, you'll need to use street parking. **Enter the Living World**. Participants will exit through the rear of the Living World building and follow the map below to River Camp building situated near River Camp Café near the entrance to River's Edge.



Poetry in the Woods Check-in: A representative from PITW will check you in at either the Living World Entrance or River Camp Building Entrance. Please arrive on time.

Sunday 10/8/2023 (Workshop Day 2)

Venue: St. Louis Zoo (River Camp)

SCHEDULE:

9:00AM – 10:00AM: Arrival/Workshop Icebreaker/Light breakfast available

10:00AM: Travis Mossotti to deliver Opening Remarks

10:05AM: Devin Johnston (Poetry Discussion):

TOPIC: Smell!

DESCRIPTION: In this session, we will explore techniques for registering sensory experience in poetry, with a focus on the most challenging of the senses to bring into language: smell. Through a series of small experiments, we will test the resources of diction, metaphor, and sound to conjure the elusive qualities of scents. Hopefully, the techniques we develop will apply more broadly, in bringing poems to life.

10:25AM: James Crews Poetry Reading/Commentary:

10:45AM: Light snack/restroom break

10:55AM: Workshop Begins:

Workshop Format:

- 1) Workshop is OPTIONAL. Participants who opt out will not be included in lineup
- 2) Poets will be asked to Read the Poem they Submitted for Workshop
 - a. (Optional: Travis Mossotti will read the poem if participant prefers)
- 3) Workshop Faculty & Participants will provide reactions to poem (Verbally)
- 4) Each poem will be given 5-7 minutes for Reading/Feedback
 - a. (Participants should write down verbal comments to capture reactions)

12:15PM: Lunch will be provided by PITW

1:00PM: Naomi Shihab Nye (Poetry Discussion)

TOPIC: Makers and Menders:

DESCRIPTION: Our sources, original wellsprings of poetic material, stay with us always. But do they keep changing? As makers we continually explore this on the page. And as menders - people who try to stitch together disparate scraps of language, thought, experience, ragged first drafts, into coherent little bodies of poems—we must keep threading the needles which help us do that. How do we tend to our own mending?

1:25PM: Andrea Scarpino Poetry Reading/Commentary

1:50PM: Light snack/restroom break

2:00PM: Workshop Begins:

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- 3) Workshop Faculty & Participants will provide reactions to poem (Verbally)
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2:55PM: Travis Mossotti to deliver Concluding Remarks

3:00PM: Workshop Conclude with Optional Guided Tour of River's Edge by St. Louis Zoo

4:00PM: Tour of River's Edge Complete

4 :00PM – 6:00PM (Dinner Break): Participants have a 2 hour break to grab an early dinner before the event at the Anheuser-Busch Theater in the Living World.

Sunday 10/8/2023 (Capstone Event)

Venue: St. Louis Zoo (in the Living World)

NOTE: Food and beverage are not permitted in the AB Theater. There will be water bottles available for poets giving readings.

What to bring?

Each participant is expected to invite guests and promote the event! So bring friends and family. Also, make sure to bring a poem to read (2 Minutes Max—anything over 1 page may exceed the time limit). We ask that poets respect this limit as it will allow all poets to read at the event.

When to Show Up?

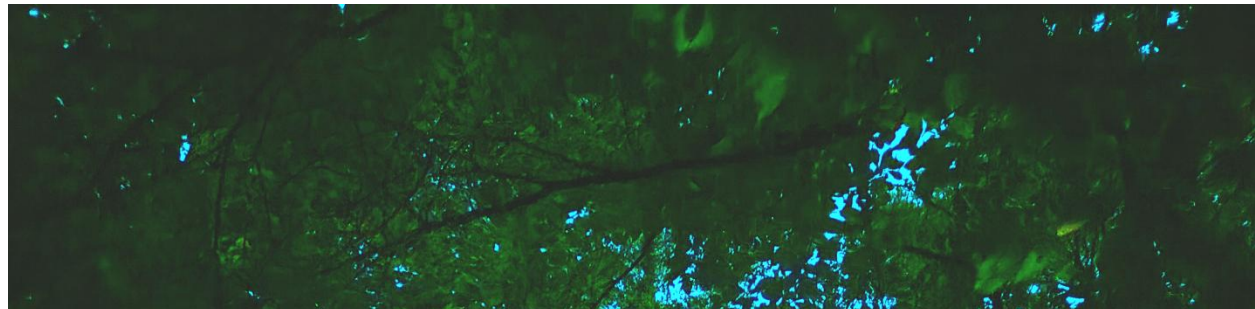
Doors open at 6:00PM. It's recommended that poets arrive at least 10minutes before doors open. Parking is free in the Zoo's North Lot and street parking is always free.

Time: 6:00PM (Doors Open) – 8:00PM (Reading Concludes)

6:05PM: Opening Remarks Travis Mossotti

6:10PM – 8:00PM – Participant Readings (Formal Schedule/Order of Readers Forthcoming)

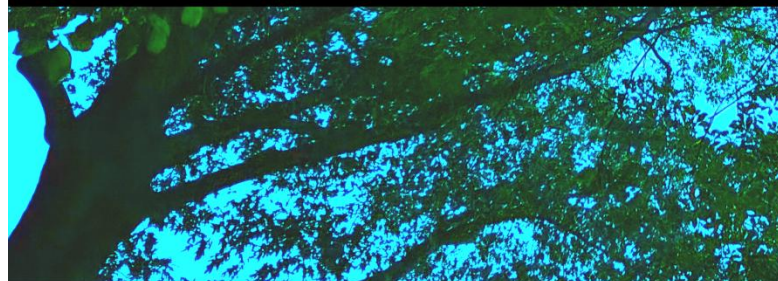
8:00PM: Closing Remarks Travis Mossotti



Poetry in the Woods 2023

WORKSHOP READING EVENT

Sunday, 10/8/2023 @ 6PM @ St. Louis Zoo's Living World
(Anheuser-Busch Theater)



Join PITW Workshop participants as they share poems on the big stage at the St. Louis Zoo's Living World AB Theater. Doors open at 6PM and reading goes till 8PM. Free and open to the public.

Registration encouraged:

<https://poetryinthewoods.com/events>
[#ab-theater-event-register](#)

