

San Francisco, California Poet Laureate and CCA diversity studies faculty Kim Shuck receives Academy of American Poets Fellowship



Kim Shuck, Poet Laureate of San Francisco, CA and CCA diversity studies faculty. Photo credit: Doug Salin Photography.

New York, NY—April 24, 2019—The Academy of American Poets is pleased to announce that **Kim Shuck, the Poet Laureate of San Francisco, California**, has been named an **Academy of American Poets Laureate Fellow** and will receive a **\$75,000 award** in recognition of their literary merit and to support civic programs. Kim Shuck is one of thirteen state or local Poets Laureate nationwide to be honored.

This new award, **made possible by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation** and [announced by the *New York Times*](#), is in keeping with this spring's **national poetry programming theme of Poetry & Democracy** offered by the Poetry Coalition, an alliance of more than 20 organizations working together to promote the value poets bring to our culture and the important contribution poetry makes in the lives of people of all ages and backgrounds.

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“Poets have an important role in our culture and in communities all across the country. By supporting Poets Laureate at the state and local level, we hope to ensure that more people become acquainted with poets and poetry where they live and have an opportunity to benefit from innovative and groundbreaking programming close to home,” said **Michael Jacobs**, Chairman of the Academy of American Poets.

“Kim Shuck is a poet whose work exemplifies how poetry can spark conversation and can help us learn about one another’s lives and unique experiences, which promotes greater understanding. We’re honored to help underwrite Shuck and the other twelve Academy of American Poets Laureate Fellows, all of whom are exceptional leaders,” said **Jennifer Benka**, Executive Director of the Academy of American Poets.

Kim Shuck was born in San Francisco, California, and is a member of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma. She received a BA in Art and an MFA in Textiles from San Francisco State University. Shuck is the author of *Deer Trails* (City Lights Books, forthcoming October 2019), *Clouds Running In* (Taurean Horn Press, 2014), *Rabbit Stories* (Poetic Matrix Press, 2013), and *Smuggling Cherokee* (Greenfield Review Press, 2005), as well as of the chapbook collection *Sidewalk Ndn* (FootHills Press, 2018). She currently works at the California College of Art in the Diversity Department. **Shuck, who will receive \$75,000, plans to launch “Seeds: Creating Poetic Activism,” a seed program for poets to grow writing and reading series/audiences in their own communities across the city.**

The full list of fellows to receive the first ever Academy of American Poets Laureate Fellow awards of \$50,000 to \$100,000 each include Grace Cavalieri, Poet Laureate of Maryland, Molly Fisk, Poet Laureate of Nevada County, California, Jaki Shelton Green, Poet Laureate of North Carolina, Fred L. Joiner, Poet Laureate of Carrboro, North Carolina, Robin Coste Lewis, Poet Laureate of Los Angeles, California, Claudia Castro Luna, Poet Laureate of Washington State, Ed Madden, Poet Laureate of Columbia, South Carolina, Adrian Matejka, Poet Laureate of Indiana, Jeanetta Calhoun Mish, Poet Laureate of Oklahoma, Paisley Rekdal, Poet Laureate of Utah, Raquel Salas

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Rivera, Poet Laureate of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Kim Shuck, Poet Laureate of San Francisco, California, and TC Tolbert, Poet Laureate of Tucson, Arizona.

The Academy of American Poets **Laureate Fellowships panel** **included** past U.S. Poets Laureate Juan Felipe Herrera, Robert Pinsky, and Natasha Trethewey; National Student Poets Program founder and member of President Obama’s Committee on the Arts and Humanities Olivia Morgan; MacArthur Fellow Natalie Diaz and Guggenheim Fellow Mark Nowak. The panel was co-chaired by Eunice “Nicie” Panetta, executive producer and co-host of “Fresh,” a podcast series in development about the freshman class of the 116th Congress, and former board chair of the Academy of American Poets; and Jennifer Benka, president and executive director of the Academy of American Poets. Final award decisions, informed by the panel and the scope of the projects, were made by the Academy of American Poets.

About the Academy of American Poets

The Academy of American Poets is our nation’s leading champion of poets, poetry, and the work of poetry organizations. Founded in 1934 in New York City, the organization produces Poets.org, the world’s largest publicly-funded website for poets and poetry; National Poetry Month; the popular Poem-a-Day series; *American Poets* magazine; Teach This Poem and other resources for K-12 educators; an annual series of poetry readings and special events; and awards the American Poets Prizes. The organization also coordinates the work of a national Poetry Coalition working to promote the value poets bring to our culture and the important contribution poetry makes in the lives of people of all ages and backgrounds.

For additional information about the Academy of American Poets and the Poets Laureate Fellowships, visit: poets.org/academy-american-poets/2019-academy-american-poets-laureate-fellows

For more information about Kim Shuck, visit: <https://www.kimshuck.com>

About California College of the Arts

Founded in 1907, California College of the Arts (CCA) educates students to shape culture and society through the practice and critical study of art, architecture, design, and writing. Benefitting from its San Francisco Bay Area

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location, the college prepares students for lifelong creative work by cultivating innovation, community engagement, and social and environmental responsibility.

CCA offers a rich curriculum of 22 undergraduate and 11 graduate programs in art, design, architecture, and writing taught by a faculty of expert practitioners. Attracting promising students from across the nation and around the world, CCA is [one of the 10 most diverse colleges in the U.S.](#)

Graduates are highly sought-after by companies such as Pixar/Disney, Apple, Intel, Facebook, Gensler, Google, IDEO, Autodesk, Mattel, and Nike, and many have launched their own successful businesses. Alumni and faculty are often recognized with the highest honors in their fields, including Academy Awards, AIGA Medals, Fulbright Scholarships, Guggenheim Fellowships, MacArthur Fellowships, National Medal of Arts, and Rome Prize, among others.

CCA is creating a new, expanded college campus at its current site in San Francisco spearheaded by the architectural firm Studio Gang. The new campus design will be a model of [sustainable construction and practice](#); will unite the college's programs in art, crafts, design, architecture, and writing in one location to create new adjacencies and interactions; and will provide [more student housing](#) than ever before.

For more information, visit cca.edu.

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