

New Mexico State Poetry Society  
NMSPS Report :

New Mexico State Poetry Society over the past year. Has done so much: We have added many members, partnered with libraries and other community organizations to promote poetry and literacy, expanded the Children's Poetry Project into three elementary schools, taken poetry on the road, created (and taken advantage of) publishing opportunities, supported the NM/AZ book awards prize for poetry, met regularly as chapters for workshops and open mics, and organized many events across the state.

Red or Green?

Like our home-grown red and green chile, poetry hot in our state. New Mexico poets are active organizers of slams, open mics, readings at a variety of venues (from brew pubs and wineries to orchards, art galleries, botanic gardens, and even the Rattlesnake Museum!), writing workshops, and children's poetry events. We are also a prolific bunch, publishing chap books, anthologies, individual collections with small presses; hosting book launches at independent bookstores; and forming small groups of performance poets who take poetry on the road (and on the train). We are constantly trying new things, and NMSPS is happy to co-sponsor and promote the activities of its members.

Poet Laureate

NMSPS has formed a coalition with other poetry groups across the state to initiate a conversation with the New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs to advocate for legislative action to create a State Poet Laureate position. We are one of only six states without such a position. State Senator Bill O'Neill, who is himself a poet, had been advocating tirelessly for a poet laureate in New Mexico. Though we were not successful in the 2015 legislative session, we will continue our efforts.

Our membership count is presently at one hundred and thirty-five and still growing.

Join NMSPS today!  
Membership in NMSPS is open to anyone interested in poetry.  
Membership applications are available on our website.

website [www.nmsps.org](http://www.nmsps.org)

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