

## Linda Nemeč Foster Bio Note

Linda Nemeč Foster has published nine collections of poetry including *Amber Necklace from Gdansk* (finalist for the Ohio Book Award in Poetry) and *Listen to the Landscape* (short-listed for the Michigan Notable Book Award). *Talking Diamonds*, her latest book, was selected as a finalist for *ForeWord Magazine's* Book of the Year Award in Poetry. Her chapbook, *Contemplating the Heavens*, was the inspiration for jazz pianist Steve Talaga's original composition which was nominated for the 2007 Pulitzer Prize in Music. Her latest project, *Cry of Freedom*, is a collaboration with Hungarian musician Laszlo Slomovits and was released as a CD in 2013. Foster's work has appeared in over 300 literary journals including *The*



*Georgia Review*, *Connecticut Review*, *New American Writing*, *The North American Review*, *Nimrod*, and *Verse Daily*. Her poetry has also been published in anthologies in the United States and Great Britain, translated in Europe, and produced for the stage. She has received nominations for the Pushcart Prize and awards from the Arts Foundation of Michigan, ArtServe Michigan, the National Writer's Voice, and the Academy of American Poets. In 2008, Foster received the International Creative Arts Award in a ceremony at the Polish Embassy in Washington, D.C. She was selected to serve as Grand Rapids' first Poet Laureate from 2003-05. Foster founded the Contemporary Writers Series at Aquinas College in 1997 and currently is a member of the Series' programming committee.

Linda Nemec Foster  
List of Works

Books:

*Living in the Fire Nest*, Ridgeway Press, Detroit, 1996.  
*Amber Necklace from Gdansk*, Louisiana State University Press, Baton Rouge, 2001.  
*Listen to the Landscape*, Eerdmans Publishing, Grand Rapids, MI/Cambridge, UK, 2006.  
*Talking Diamonds*, New Issues Press, Kalamazoo, MI, 2009.

Chapbooks:

*A History of the Body*, Coffee House Press, Minneapolis, 1987.  
*A Modern Fairy Tale: The Baba Yaga Poems*, Ridgeway Press, Detroit, 1992.  
*Trying to Balance the Heart*, Sun Dog Press, Northville, MI, 1993.  
*Contemplating the Heavens*, Ridgeway Press, Detroit, 2001.  
*Ten Songs from Bulgaria*, Cervena Barva Press, W. Somerville, MA, 2008.

CD's:

*Contemplating the Heavens*, with original music by Steve Talaga, Talaga Music, 2006.  
*Cry of Freedom*, music by Laszlo Slomovits, lyrics by Linda Nemec Foster, Moringa Records, 2013.

Essays:

"Transformation of the World: The Metaphor of Fairy Tale in the Poetry of Lisel Mueller," *Mid America*, 33, The Center for the Study of Midwestern Literature and Culture, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI, 2006, 111-120.  
"Against All Odds," *Fast Break to Line Break: Poets on the Art of Basketball*, (ed. Todd Davis), Michigan State University Press, East Lansing, MI, 2012.

Poems published in anthologies:

"History of the Toenails," "Birthday Poem," *Concert at Chopin's House* (ed. John Minczeski), New Rivers Press, St. Paul, MN, 1987.  
"Zambia: Women Drying Fish," "The Third Secret of Fatima," "Lost," "What the Magician Tells His Wife," "A Horse under a Sky," *Contemporary Michigan Poetry* (ed. Michael Delp, Conrad Hilberry, and Herbert Scott), Wayne State University Press, Detroit, 1988.  
"My Son Expounds on His Theory of Creation," *Passages North Anthology* (ed. Elinor Benedict), Milkweed Editions, Minneapolis, 1990.

- "Learning about Sin: The French Kiss," *Catholic Girls* (ed. Amber Sumrall and Patrice Vecchione), Penguin Books, New York City, 1992.
- "The Pregnant Woman Dreams of Herself," "Family Pose," "The Man Dreams of His Pregnant Wife," *The Virago Book of Birth Poetry* (ed. Charlotte Otten), Virago Press, London, 1993.
- "The Martyrdom of St. Agatha," *Bless Me, Father* (ed. Amber Sumrall and Patrice Vecchione), Penguin Books, New York City, 1994.
- "Sitting in America at the End of the Century," *And What Rough Beast: Poems at the End of the Century* (ed. Robert McGovern and Stephen Haven), Ashland Poetry Press, Ashland, OH, 1999.
- "Amber Necklace from Gdansk," "Dancing with My Sister," "Our Last Day in Krakow," "Portrait of My Father, Learning to Count," *New Poems from the Third Coast* (ed. Michael Delp, Conrad Hilberry, and Josie Kearns), Wayne State University Press, Detroit, 2000.
- "The Vision," *Place of Passage: Contemporary Catholic Poetry* (ed. David Craig and Janet McCann), Story Line Press, Ashland, OR, 2000.
- "Detroit," *Peninsula* (ed. Michael Steinberg), Michigan State University Press, East Lansing, MI, 2000.
- "Detroit," *Abandon Automobile: Detroit City Poetry* (ed. Melba Joyce Boyd and M.L. Liebler), Wayne State University Press, Detroit, 2001.
- "Immigrant Children at Union School," *I Have My Own Song for It: Modern Poems of Ohio* (ed. Elton Glaser and William Greenway), The University of Akron Press, Akron, OH, 2002.
- "Lake Erie as the Color of Hazel Eyes," *Fresh Water: Women Writing on the Great Lakes* (ed. Alison Swan), Michigan State University Press, East Lansing, MI, 2006.
- "The Theory of Everything," *Riffing on Strings: Creative Writing Inspired by String Theory* (ed. Sean Miller and Shveta Verma), Scribner Press, New York City, 2008.
- "9-11-01," *Bridging the Cultural Divide: Remembering September 11th* (ed. Gabrielle David), Intercultural Alliance of Artists & Scholars, New York City, 2011.

"Contour of Absence," "Chinese Acrobats," "A Sign from God," "Parasailing Above the Pacific," "Nativity Scene Encased in Saran Wrap," "'Bella Elena' in Venice," "The Field Behind the Dying Father's House," "Sleeping in a Room Filled with the Past," "Vision," "Village of the Mermaids: After Delvaux," *Song of the Owashtanong: Grand Rapids Poetry in the 21st Century* (ed. David Cope), Ridgeway Press, Roseville, MI, 2013.

"Copper Harbor: Early October," *Poetry in Michigan/Michigan in Poetry* (ed. William Olsen and Jack Ridl), New Issues Press, Kalamazoo, MI, 2013.

Partial listing of poems published in magazines and journals:

"Sestina: Grandma," in *The Chowder Review*, Number 13, Fall-Winter, 1979.

"The Wife of the Fireman," "Old Lover," "The First Death," "The Devil at Chartres Cathedral," "Poem for Four Children Dead in a Fire in Detroit," "Michele in Japan," "On a Picture of Rilke," "Detroit," in *Midwest Poetry Review*, Volume 1, No. 1, Summer, 1980.

"To the Younger Sister in Love," in *The University of Windsor Review*, Volume XVI, No. 1, Fall-Winter, 1981.

"Spring," in *Poetry Now*, Volume VII, No. 1 (Issue 37), 1982.

"Lullaby," "Heat Wave," "Dracula," in *Green River Review*, Volume XIII, Nos. 1&2, 1982.

"History of the Skin Nodule," "History of the Bowels," "History of the Cold Sore," in *Wayne Review*, January, 1982.

"Love Poem," in *The Bellingham Review*, Volume 5, No. 2, Fall, 1982.

"The Unending Vigil," "Baba Yaga," "The Flight," "The Abandoned Children," "The Peasant Woman Tells How Baba Yaga Took Her Grandmother," "The Chant of the Three Sisters," "Baba Yaga Tells the Story of the Hanged Man," "The Reader Speaks to Baba Yaga," "The Night Songs," in *Nimrod: Awards IV*, Volume 26, No. 1, Fall-Winter, 1982.

"The Fear of Vacuum Cleaners," in *Laurel Review*, Volume 16, No. 1, Winter, 1982.

"History of the Lungs," "History of the Bones," in *The Menomonie Review*, 1983.

"Texas Tells of Ant Plague," "Characters," in *Croton Review*, No. 7, 1984.

"The Long Ride Home," in *The Sierra Madre Review*, Volume 1, No. 1, Fall, 1984.

"The Last Week in Lent," in *Another Chicago Magazine*, No. 11, 1984.

"In the Belly," in *The Worcester Review*, Volume VIII, No. 2, Fall, 1985.

"A Horse under a Sky," in *Croton Review*, No. 8, Spring, 1985.

"Pale Skin," in *The MacGuffin*, Volume II, No. 2, Fall, 1985.

"History of the Back," "History of the Tongue," "History of the Heart," in *Milkweed Chronicle*, Volume 6, No. 3, Fall, 1985.

"History of the Feet," in *Permafrost*, Volume 9, No. 1, Winter, 1986-87.

"Staring at the Brick Wall," in *The Pennsylvania Review*, Volume 3, No. 1, Spring-Summer, 1987.

"The Third Secret of Fatima," in *Negative Capability*, Volume VII, Nos. 1 & 2, 1987.

"Absurdity of the Sweet Life," in *The MacGuffin*, Volume IV, No. 3, Fall, 1987.

"Milk," in *Oxford Magazine*, Volume IV, No. 1, Spring-Summer, 1988.

"Untitled," in *Blue Buildings*, Issue # 11, 1989.

"Nature of the Beast," in *The Bridge*, Volume 1, No. 1, Fall, 1990.

"Groping in the Semi-Darkness at the Metropolitan Museum of Art," in *The Bridge*, Volume 1, No. 2, Spring-Summer, 1991.

"Climbing Harney Peak, Black Hills, South Dakota," in *Mid-American Review*, Volume XI, No. 2, 1991.

"In the Vicinity of Orion's Arm," in *The Hiram Poetry Review*, Nos. 51-52, 1992.

"At 68, My Mother Sees Her First Foreign Film," in *Puerto del Sol*, Volume 28, No. 1, 1992.

"Housework," in *ONTHEBUS*, Volume IV, No. 2 & Volume V, No.1, 1992.

"Chinese Acrobats," in *The South Florida Poetry Review*, Volume 9, No. 3, Spring, 1992.

"Nightmare," in *The Georgia Review*, Volume XLVI, No. 1, Spring, 1992.

"Ars Poetica," in *Aethlon: The Journal of Sport Literature*, Volume X, No. 1, Fall, 1992.

"The Town That Voted the Earth Flat," "Forgiving the Dead," "Colors from the City of White: Photographs from Bielsko-Biala," in *Artful Dodge*, Issue # 24/25, 1993.

"Her Obsession with Older Men," "The Retarded and the Blind Swim at the 'Y'," "Late Winter," in *The MacGuffin*, Volume X, No. 2, 1993.

"The Awkward Young Girl Approaching You," "Men as Fathers," in *Indiana Review*, Volume 16, No. 1, Spring, 1993.

"Fragments of Athena," in *The Wayne Literary Review*, Spring-Summer, 1993.

"The Therapist: After Magritte," in *Passages North*, Volume 14, No. 1, Summer, 1993.

"The Secret House," in *The Sow's Ear Poetry Review*, Volume IV, No. 3, October, 1993.

"Drought in Suburbia," in *The Bridge*, Volume 3, No. 1, Winter, 1993.

"Bad Art at the Clarkston Motor Inn," in *Rosebud*, Volume 1, Issue 2, Summer, 1994.

"Village of the Mermaids," in *Quarterly West*, No. 39, Summer-Fall, 1994.

"Dancing with My Sister," in *Witness*, Volume IX, No. 1, 1995.

"Mercury," "Venus," "The Earth from Space," "Mars," "Jupiter and His Moons," "Saturn and His Rings," "Uranus," "Neptune," "Pluto," "Planet X," in *Artful Dodge*, Issue # 28/29, 1995.

"Ritual," in *Mid-American Review*, Volume XV, Nos. 1 & 2, 1995.

"Postcard," in *The MacGuffin*, Volume XII, No. 3, Fall, 1995.

"Disposable Icon," in *River Styx*, Issue # 47, 1996.

"The Vision," "Paranoia for Two Voices," in *Sou'wester*, Volume 25, No. 1, Fall, 1996.

"A Tourist's Lens," in *Passages North*, Volume 17, No. 2, Winter, 1996.

"In My Grandmother's House," in *River Styx*, Issue # 49, 1997.

"Trying to Get It Right," in *Dominion Review*, Volume XV, 1997.

"Mazovian Willows: Chopin's Nocturne Op. 9," in *Mid-American Review*, Volume XVIII, No. 1, 1997.

"The Silent One," in *Calliope*, Volume 21, No. 1, Fall-Winter, 1997-98.

"Gospel Eggs," in *DoubleTake*, Volume 3, No. 1, Winter, 1997.

"The Rain in Bielsko," in *Artful Dodge*, Issue # 32/33, 1998.

"Amber Necklace from Gdansk," "Our Last Day in Krakow," in *Poet Lore*, Volume 93, No. 1, Spring, 1998.

"Letter from the Last Place on Earth," in *Writer to Writer*, Volume IV, No. 1, Spring, 1998.

"After the War: Purple Flowers Spilling from the Windows," in *Pleiades*, Volume 18, No. 2, Spring-Summer, 1998.

"Wedding Gown Bazaar," in *Atlanta Review*, Volume V, No. 1, Fall-Winter, 1998.

"Young Boy in a Tenement House, Holding the Moon," in *The Bridge*, Volume 7, No. 1, Winter, 1998.

"The Visitors from Warsaw," "For My Family in Poland," "On Winning the Nobel Prize," in *The MacGuffin*, Volume XVII, No. 1, Spring, 2000.

"Moj Dziki Wlos," "The Tree that Almost Died," in *The MacGuffin*, Volume XVII, No. 2, 2000.

"Mengele's Butterflies," in *Nimrod: Awards 22*, Volume 44, No. 1, Fall-Winter, 2000.

"Mother Embracing Her Daughter in a Garden of Sunflowers: Tarnow, Poland," in *International Poetry Review*, Volume XXVII, No. 1, Spring, 2001.

"Eliminating the Horizon," in *The MacGuffin*, Volume XIX, Nos. 1 & 2, 2002.

"The Contour of Absence," in *The MacGuffin*, Volume XX, No. 3, Fall, 2003.

"Nativity Scene Encased in Saran Wrap," in *New American Writing*, Issue #22, 2004.

"Guides for the Uninitiated," in *The MacGuffin*, Volume XXI, Nos. 1 & 2, Spring-Summer, 2004.

"The Skin, The Blood: The Artists' Dialogue," in *North American Review*, Volume 289, No. 5, September-October, 2004.

"Souvenir," in *Eclipse*, Volume 15, Fall, 2004.

"The Field Behind the Dying Father's House," in *The National Poetry Review*, Issue # 6, Summer-Fall, 2006.

"Parasailing Above the Pacific," in *The MacGuffin*, Volume XXII, No. 2, Winter, 2006.

"A Man Praying in a Field," "The Waterfall in the Mountains," "In the Old Town--Warsaw, 2003," in *Witness*, Volume XXI, 2007.

"Contrapuntal: Random Culture," "Bella Elena in Venice," in *The MacGuffin*, Volume XXIV, No. 1, Fall, 2007.

"History of the Toenails," "The Awkward Young Girl Approaching You," "Dancing with My Sister," "Sestina: Grandma," "Portrait of My Father, Learning to Count," "The Peasant Woman Tells How Baba Yaga Took Her Grandmother," "After the War: Purple Flowers Spilling from the Windows," "Doppelganger," all reprinted in an essay in *Polish American Studies*, Volume LXIV, No. 2, Autumn, 2007.

"Young Shepherd in Front of Old Church," "Brothers, Stoian and Christo," "The Dance of Zlatio Zlatev, Ex-Pilot," "A Man is a Man When a Man is on the Road," in *Salamander*, Volume 13, No. 1, Winter, 2007/2008.

"Contrapuntal: Negative Space," in *New Millennium Writings*, Issue # 17, 2007-08.

"Playground," "The Dream of Trees," in *Rattle*, Volume 14, No. 1, Summer, 2008.

"Fashion Accessories for the Seven Deadly Sins," in *North American Review*, Volume 293, No. 5, September-October, 2008.

"The Frustrated Viewer Speaks," in *The MacGuffin*, Volume XXV, No. 1, Fall, 2008.

"The Key of the Fields," "6-74," "The American Insomniac Buys Lipstick in Warsaw, 1950," in *Two Review*, 2009.

"A Sign from God," in *Connecticut River Review*, 2009.

"The Muted Breath of Early Spring," in *Driftwood*, Spring, 2010.

"Fire and Ice," in *Driftwood*, Fall, 2010.

"Drawing: In the Evening, 1991," "Waiting for the Annunciation," in *The MacGuffin*, Volume XXVI, No. 2, Winter, 2010.

"For the Survivor," in *Connecticut River Review*, 2010.

"This Boy, This Light, This Water," "Luck Leaps Out of the Water," "The Crazy Old Woman Next Door," "Disappearing Act," "A Daughter Dreams of Her Mother's Death," in *Big Scream*, Issue # 50, Winter, 2011.

"The Immaculate Conception," in *America*, Volume 205, No. 17, November 28-December 5, 2011.

"Beginnings," in *The MacGuffin*, Volume XXVII, No. 1, Fall, 2011.

"The White Birch," in *Connecticut Review*, Fall, 2011.

"The Counterfeit in the Midst of Winter," in *Artful Dodge*, Fall, 2011.

"The Immigrants in Slavic Village: Cleveland, 1955," in *The Cleveland Review*, Volume 2, Issue 1, Winter, 2012.

"St. Teresa," in *Windhover*, Volume 16, Spring, 2012.

"Baby's Breath," in *i-70 Review*, Sixth Edition, Summer/Fall, 2012.

"The Unanswered Question," "Love in the Midst of War," in *Presa*, Number 17, Fall, 2012.

"Scar," in *basalt*, Volume 7, Number 1, 2012.

"The Atheist," in *The MacGuffin*, Volume XXIX, No. 2, Winter, 2013.

"NYC to Poughkeepsie: The Man on the Train," "Thirst," "Inside the Crater," in *Passages North*, Issue 34, Winter, 2013.

"Conspiracies of Three," in *Presa*, Number 18, Spring, 2013.

"Gravity and God," "The Cypress Trees in Croatia," in *i-70 Review* (forthcoming).

"The Far Country," "The Mirror of the Child," "Soul," in *Presa* (forthcoming).

"Report from Bosnia: 'Hair' Performed in Sarajevo," in *New Millennium Writings* (forthcoming).



## Linda Nemec Foster Website and Links

For more information about my poetry, writings, and projects please visit these sites:

[www.lindanemecfoster.com](http://www.lindanemecfoster.com)

<http://archive.org/details/PoetLaureateDebutAt2003GrLibraryRenovation>

<http://www.michiganradio.org/post/bulgarian-photography-and-michigan-poetry-inspirealbum>

[http://www.pw.org/content/linda\\_nemec\\_foster\\_1](http://www.pw.org/content/linda_nemec_foster_1)

<http://www.versedaily.org/2009/aboutlindanemecfostertd.shtml>

<http://www.throughthe3rdeye.com/node/265>

<http://archive.org/details/ElectricPoetry-LindaNemecFoster>

<http://westmichiganwoman.com/profile/item/219-poet-laureate-contributes-to-westmichigans-literary-scene>

<http://writingpolishdiaspora.blogspot.com/2011/03/poems-of-beauty-and-wisdom-bylinda.Html>

[http://www.amazon.com/Linda-Nemec-Foster/e/B001JSAFE8/ref=ntt\\_athr\\_dp\\_pel\\_1](http://www.amazon.com/Linda-Nemec-Foster/e/B001JSAFE8/ref=ntt_athr_dp_pel_1)

<http://www.aquinas.edu/cw/index.html>

## Linda Nemec Foster

### Awards, Prizes, and Honors

Finalist, *ForeWord Magazine's* Book of the Year Award (2010)

Finalist, *New Letters* Poetry Prize (2010, 2013)

Winner, Springfed Arts Poetry Contest (2008, 2010)

Creative Arts Award, Polish American Historical Association (2008)

Finalist, Michigan Governor's Arts Award (2007)

Selected to be first Poet Laureate of Grand Rapids, Michigan (2003-2005)

Finalist, Ohio Book Award for Poetry (2003)

Nominee, Laughlin Award from the Academy of American Poets (2002)

Creative Artist Grant, ArtServe Michigan (2001)

Fellowship, National Writers' Voice (1999)

Finalist, Poet's Prize from the Nicholas Roerich Museum (1997)

Creative Artist Grant, Arts Foundation of Michigan (1996)

Creative Artist Grants for Poetry, Michigan Council for the Arts (1984, 1990)

Over 20 poems nominated for the Pushcart Prize by editors and poets (1982-2013)

## Poet Laureate Projects Linda Nemec Foster, 2003-05

My duties as Poet Laureate consisted of several important facets which included the writing of three poems commissioned by various organizations to highlight major events in Grand Rapids' civic life. These poems were:

1. "Beginnings" written for the Grand Rapids Public Library's celebration of its grand reopening after major renovations, April 21, 2003. A video of this reading is included in my weblinks page.
2. "The Movement of Grace" written for the first inauguration ceremony of Mayor George Heartwell, Grand Rapids City Hall, December 30, 2003.
3. "La Grande Vitesse" written for the 35th anniversary of the installation of the Calder sculpture in Grand Rapids, June 14, 2004.

I was also involved in over 25 events--readings, workshops, presentations, panel discussions, and seminars--in the Grand Rapids area and beyond (e.g. Detroit, Ann Arbor, East Lansing, and Bielsko-Biala, Poland--Grand Rapids' Sister City). A general listing of these events are included but these are some examples:

1. Creative Arts Project for the Grandville Avenue Academy for the Arts.
2. Poetry competition (judging and presentation) for the Grand Rapids Public Library's Writing Competition.
3. Reading at the Grand Rapids Women's City Club.
4. Presentation at the Kent District Library--Cascade Branch.
5. Program for Peninsula Writers 20th Anniversary Celebration.
6. "In a Word" reading at the Grand Rapids Public Library with other area poets.
7. Presentation and reading at the Grand Rapids Rotary Club.
8. Honorary Committee Member for The Power of Poetry program with Nikki Giovanni in Detroit.
9. "We Sing the City Electric: Poetry from the Neighborhoods" at the GRPL.
10. Poet Laureate workshop and reading, UICA.
11. Poetry reading and presentation at the GR Writers' Conference, UICA.

Poetry Events--Readings, Workshops, Presentations, and Cultural Liaison  
Duties--Performed by Linda Nemeč Foster as Grand Rapids' First Poet Laureate  
2003-2005

**2005**

**June 2005**

**Linda Nemeč Foster in Poland**

In June, 2005 Linda Nemeč Foster was the cultural representative for the city of Grand Rapids, Michigan in an official Sister City delegation that visited Bielsko-Biala, Poland.



Grand Rapids City Commissioner Robert Dean and Grand Rapids Poet Laureate Linda Nemeč Foster at Town Hall in Bielsko-Biala, Poland participating in the Sister City Delegation in June 2005

The city in southern Poland is one of four places that has developed close ties with Grand Rapids in the Sister Cities International Organization. (The other three are in Japan, Italy, and the Ga District in Africa).

More than twenty people comprised the delegation that included Grand Rapids mayor George Heartwell and his wife Susan, City Commissioner Robert Dean, Aquinas College President Harry Knopke and his wife Sheila, and various professors, scholars, and translators. As the first poet laureate of Grand Rapids, Foster had specific duties during the trip that included meeting with university professors to develop a college exchange program and talks with secondary school educators to discuss the possibilities of a high school exchange program.



Barbara Rylko-Bauer, Grand Rapids Poet Laureate Linda Nemeč Foster and Urszula Kassel at Mayor's Reception in Bielsko-Biala, Poland in June 2005

Her main goal was to develop relationships with prominent Polish poets and writers to explore the creation of a program in which these authors would be writers-in-residence at Aquinas College's Contemporary Writers Series. With that goal in mind, she had a personal meeting with Adam Zagajewski, one of Poland's most significant poets and writers. He was very interested in the Contemporary Writers Series and the residency program that would be connected with it. Foster is hoping that this cultural connection with Poland and Grand Rapids will be a reality in five years. In the meantime, she feels this trip was instrumental in starting the process

**Friday, May 7-14, 2005**

Grand Rapids , Michigan , poet Linda Nemeč Foster will appear on the nationwide broadcast of the public radio literary program *New Letters on the Air*. Foster, the first Poet Laureate of Grand Rapids, Michigan, talks about her books of poetry, including her most recent, *Amber Necklace from Gdansk*. The program will be available on the public radio satellite on April 27, 2005, and can also be heard on the program's website [www.newletters.org](http://www.newletters.org). May 4-17.

**[Click here to read full press release](#)**

**Friday, February 4, 2005 from 6:00 PM**

Grand Rapids Poet Laureate Linda Nemeč Foster is doing a poetry reading and presentation at the Grand Rapids Art Museum on Friday, February 4 from 6:00 PM to 6:30 PM in the Museum's Cook Auditorium (second floor). The reading is from work that was specifically inspired by the visual arts and will include a slide presentation of those pieces. A question and answer period and book signing will follow. This event is free and open to the public.

## **2004**

### **Thursday, November 4 at 1:00 PM,**

Linda Nemeč Foster gives a reading from her new work at University of Michigan-Dearborn.

### **Thursday, October 28 at 1:00 PM**

Linda Nemeč Foster presents her poetry at Thornapple Evangelical Covenant Church, 6595 Cascade Road, Ada, Michigan. Her work will be presented in the context of Woman as Immigrant.

### **Friday, October 22 at 7:00 PM**

Linda Nemeč Foster is the featured poet at the Writers Place in Kansas City, Missouri.

### **Friday and Saturday, October 15 and 16**

Linda Nemeč Foster critiques poetry manuscripts and conducts a poetry session at the Detroit Working Writers Conference at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia, Michigan 48152.

### **Saturday, October 9 at 4:00 PM**

Linda Nemeč Foster reads from her critically acclaimed book, *Amber Necklace From Gdansk*, at the Hamtramck Public Library in celebration of Polish Heritage Month.

### **Wednesday, September 29 at 7:00 PM**

Linda Nemeč Foster will be reading poems inspired by visual art for a special exhibit at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, 1516 South Cranbrook Road, Birmingham, Michigan 48009.

### **Monday, June 14, 2004 at 6-8 PM.**

at the Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts

Linda Nemeč Foster will read a new poem especially written to celebrate the 35th anniversary of La Grande Vitesse, Alexander Calder's magnificent public sculpture that has graced the Grand Rapids' City Hall Plaza since 1969. The sculpture was the first public arts project to be funded by the National Endowment for the Arts.

### **Thursday, June 10 at 7:00 PM**

Linda Nemeč Foster reads her poetry in celebration of Grand Rapids' neighborhoods. The program, "We Sing the City Electric: Poetry from the Neighborhoods," is sponsored by the Grand Rapids Humanities Council. The reading takes place at the Grand Rapids Public Library, 111 Library Street, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

### **Saturday, May 22 at 7:00 PM**

Linda Nemeč Foster is the featured poet at the 7th Annual Theodore Roethke Poetry Festival. Reading takes place at the Anderson Enrichment Center, 120 Ezra Rust Drive, Saginaw, Michigan.

### **Wednesday, April 14 at 4:00 PM**

Linda Nemeč Foster will present a talk entitled "Publish or Perish: How Poems are Created, Written, and Published." Vandenberg Center for the Book Arts, Grand Rapids Public Library, Main Branch, 111 Library St NE, Grand Rapids, MI.

**Friday, March 26 at 4:30 PM**

Linda Nemec Foster will moderate and participate in a panel discussion celebrating the poetry of Lisel Mueller, Pulitzer Prize Winner. Associated Writing Programs Annual Conference, Palmer House Hilton Hotel, Chicago, IL.

**Thursday, March 18 at 7:00 PM**

Linda Nemec Foster presents a poetry reading and discussion of all six of her published books. Peninsula Writers March event. Schuler Books and Music, 2660 28th Street, Grand Rapids, MI.

**Friday, January 23, 2004 at 7:30 PM.**

Poetry reading and book signing for *Amber Necklace from Gdansk*.  
Michigan State University,  
Main Library, North Conference Room

**Tuesday, December 30, 2003 at 2:00 PM**

Poet Laureate Linda Nemec Foster reads a poem specifically written for the inauguration of the new mayor, George Heartwell.  
Grand Rapids City Hall, 9th floor, City Commissioners Conference Room.

**2003**

**October 23, 2003**

Poetry reading and book signing for *Amber Necklace from Gdansk*  
Shaman Drum Bookstore, Ann Arbor, MI, 8:00 PM.

**Sunday, March 30 at 2:00 PM**

Poetry reading in celebration of Women's History Month - Fenton Public Library.  
Fenton, Michigan.

**July 28, 2003**

Poetry workshop based on visual art, Franciscan Center, Lowell, MI, 7:00 PM.

**May 18, 2003**

Poetry reading at Grand Rapids Public Library, 2:30 PM

**May 8, 2003**

Celebration of poetry and contest winners in Grand Rapids Writing Competition, Grand Rapids Public Library, 7:00 PM.

**April 25, 2003**

Poetry Workshops for area high school students, Calvin College,  
9:00 AM to 11:00 AM.

**April 24, 2003**

Poetry reading at the Women's City Club, Grand Rapids, Michigan,  
11:00 AM.

**April 21, 2003**

Poetry reading in celebration of the opening of the new Grand Rapids Public Library, 10:00 AM.

**April 16, 2003**

Creative Writing Seminars at East Grand Rapids Middle School, all day sessions.

**March 27, 2003**

Creative Writing Workshops at East Grand Rapids High School, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

**Tuesday, March 18, 2003 at 7:00 PM**

Poetry reading on the subject of Woman as Immigrant, Aquinas College, Wege Student Center, Loutit Room. Grand Rapids, Michigan