

### 3rd Annual Frost Place YOUNG POETS CONFERENCE

April 27–29, 2007

A chance to be immersed in poetry for a weekend in a historic New Hampshire inn, with time for writing, revision, workshops, readings, and games, and with a field trip to the nearby Frost Place, featuring faculty poets Eloise Bruce, Geof Hewitt and Elizabeth Powell.

*Tuition: \$275 for students or teachers, includes meals and lodging. \$75 day-rate for teachers attending just Saturday (includes lunch). Applications accepted from December 1, 2007.*

**The Young Poets Conference** brings together eighth graders and high school students from across New England to write, read, hear, and talk about poetry, with plenty of time to work on your own poems.

Featuring workshops and writing prompts with a team of nationally recognized poets who love working with younger writers, the Young Poets Conference — or “YPC,” as it’s often called — offers you a chance to explore your poetic voice while getting to know other writers in a unique and beautiful setting. We’ll be staying together at the historic Homestead Inn, which has been hosted by one family since 1802, and we’ll take a field trip to the nearby house and farm where poet Robert Frost and his family lived between 1915 and 1938.

Teacher chaperones are also invited to participate in special workshops focusing on techniques for teaching poetry. Space is limited to 20 student participants and 5 teachers.

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**Application:** To apply, send a brief letter describing your interest in poetry and noting your current year in school, mailing address, phone number, and e-mail address. Also enclose three of your own poems and a letter of recommendation from a teacher. *Applications will be accepted from December 1, 2006, and should be postmarked no later than March 30, 2007.*

**Tuition/Costs:** Tuition for the conference is \$275 for students or teachers, which includes all meals, snacks, and lodging. \$75 day-rate for teachers attending just Saturday (includes lunch).

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In April 2006, we hosted our second annual Young Poets Conference. An energetic group of talented high school students from New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont, Massachusetts, and New Jersey spent an exhilarating weekend together at the Homestead Inn and Frost Place with faculty poets BJ Ward and Meg Kearney. As one student described the experience,

*“I realized many other kids my age care about words and how they can be put*

*together. In high school, my friends are interested in my other hobbies — but never that one. I'll hold on to the concepts 'write to discover something about yourself you didn't know when you started' and 'include your audience.' I've learned that when you're surprised, the reader is, too."*

## **2007 Faculty:**

Born in Opelika, Alabama, **Eloise Bruce** has worked intensively in production and performance roles in the theater and as a teaching artist for New Jersey Writer's Project, with frequent residencies at the Middlesex County Arts Middle School and Arts High School. Some of her school visits have been supported by the Playwrights' Theatre of New Jersey. She is a member of the Cool Women group, which publishes anthologies and gives readings together, and her first collection of poetry is *Rattle* (CavanKerry, 2004). She has been awarded a Fellowship in poetry from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, and her poems have appeared in numerous journals, including *American Letters and Commentary*, *Blue Moon Review*, and *The Paterson Literary Review*. For many years Eloise has helped run the annual summer conferences at the Frost Place in Franconia, New Hampshire. She lives with her husband, the poet David Keller, in Lawrenceville, New Jersey.

Eloise is now working on a new collection of poems written from the point of view of her dog, Chance.

On the web, see more about Eloise

at: <http://www.cavankerrypress.org/reading/queenmaeve.html#> ]

**Geof Hewitt** started writing poems as a teenager. Ten years later, he was teaching teenagers and publishing their poems, while publishing and performing his own work in venues as diverse as *Harper's*, *The Paris Review*, and *Exquisite Corpse*. Geof has degrees from Cornell, Johns Hopkins, and the University of Iowa. He is author of three books of poems — most recently *Only What's Imagined* (Kumquat, 2000) — and three books for teachers, including *A Portfolio Primer: Teaching, Collecting, and Assessing Student Writing* (Heinemann, 1995). He is a consultant for the Vermont Department of Education and has served as an adjunct faculty member at the University of Vermont and the Adult Degree Program at Vermont College. He frequently gives presentations on topics such as "Teaching Slam Poetry in Grades 6–12" and "Who Was Robert Frost and Who Are We?"

Geof brings his quirky view of poetry to his workshops with junior high and high school students, as he emphasizes liveliness and intensity in writing and performing. Some of his favorite writing exercises are featured in his book, *Today You are My Favorite Poet: Writing Poems with Teenagers* by Geof Hewitt (Heinemann, 1998). His newest book, *Hewitt's Guide to Slam Poetry and Poetry Slam* (a book and DVD combo) is now available

at: [http://midmall.com/Merchant2/merchant.mv?Screen=PROD&Store\\_Code=BS&Product\\_Code=DB001&Category\\_Code=NEW](http://midmall.com/Merchant2/merchant.mv?Screen=PROD&Store_Code=BS&Product_Code=DB001&Category_Code=NEW)

**Elizabeth (Liz) Powell** was born in New York City, and she has a BA from the University of Wisconsin and an MFA in Fiction Writing from Vermont College. She has taught at Goddard College and St. Michael's College, and currently teaches literature and

creative writing at the University of Vermont. She has also worked as a journalist and congressional aide. In 1999 she received a Vermont Council on the Arts Grant in poetry, and she is the author of *The Republic of Self*, winner of the 2000 New Issues First Book of Poetry Prize, chosen by C.K. Williams. Her poems have appeared or are forthcoming in *Harvard Review*, *Missouri Review*, *Post Road*, *Green Mountains Review*, *North American Review*, *Alaska Quarterly Review*, *Sonora Review*, and *Poet Lore*, and her short fiction has appeared in *The Black Warrior Review*. She is the recipient of fellowships from Yaddo, the Vermont Council on the Arts (in poetry and in fiction), and the Arts Vermont Endowment. On the Web, you can see work from Liz at: <http://www.poets.org/viewmedia.php/prmMID/15961>