

Lower Manhattan Cultural Council

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

POEMS & PINTS SERIES FEATURES EXHILARATING READINGS WITH PREMIER AMERICAN POETS AT THE HISTORIC DOWNTOWN FRAUNCES TAVERN

**KATY LEDERER AND D. NURKSE, TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2009
FRAUNCES TAVERN, NICHOLS ROOM, 6:30-7:30PM, FREE
54 PEARL STREET (AT BROAD STREET)**

Presented in partnership with Poetry Society of America and Fraunces Tavern



New York, NY, February 1, 2009 – **Lower Manhattan Cultural Council** and **Poetry Society of America** present the fifth installment of **Poems & Pints**, a series of six monthly evenings with premier American poets at the historic **Fraunces Tavern** in downtown New York City. On Tuesday, March 3, poets **Katy Lederer** and **D. Nurkse** will read their own works and favorite poems by other writers. The series' selection of highly distinguished participating poets include current and past U.S. Poet Laureates as well as winners of the Pulitzer, Bollingen, and T.S. Elliot Prize and National Book Critics Circle Award, and recipients of Guggenheim, National Endowment for the Arts, and MacArthur "genius" grants. The poetry readings will take place in the venerable surroundings of the Nichols Room at Fraunces Tavern, a well-known meeting place since 1762 as well as the site of Washington's farewell address and the first State and War Departments. Admission to all readings is free.

For information, directions, and a complete schedule of the participating poets contact LMCC at 212.219.9401 x 118 or www.lmcc.net/poemsandpints.

ABOUT THE POETS:

Katy Lederer is the author of *Winter Sex* and *Poker Face: A Girlhood Among Gamblers*, and *The Heaven-Sent Leaf*. Her honors and awards include an Academy of American Poets Prize, fellowships from Yaddo, MacDowell, and the New York Foundation for the Arts, and a Discover Great New Writers citation from Barnes & Noble's Discover Great New Writers Program. She currently serves as a Poetry Editor for *Fence Magazine*.

D. Nurkse has written nine collections of poetry, including *The Border Kingdom*, *Burnt Island*, and *The Fall*. Nurkse has written extensively on human rights and has been involved with several organizations, including UNICEF. His awards include fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation and from the National Endowment for the Arts. Nurkse has taught graduate level courses at Brooklyn College and Stonecoast, and is currently at Sarah Lawrence College. He also taught for many years at Rikers Island Correctional Facility.

ABOUT THE PRESENTING PARTNERS:

Lower Manhattan Cultural Council (LMCC), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, has been a leading voice for arts and culture downtown and throughout Manhattan for 35 years, producing cultural events and promoting the arts through grants, services, advocacy, and cultural development programs. www.lmcc.net.

The Poetry Society of America, the nation's oldest poetry organization, was founded in 1910 for the purpose of creating a public forum for the advancement, enjoyment, and understanding of poetry. Through a diverse array of programs, initiatives, contests, and awards, the PSA works to build a larger audience for poetry, to encourage a deeper appreciation of the art, and to place poetry at the crossroads of American life. www.poetrysociety.org.

Fraunces Tavern is New York City's oldest building, founded in 1762. The Tavern's motto is "Continue the Celebration of Freedom" and it was where George Washington gave his farewell address to his officers as well as the site of the nation's first State Department and first War Department. www.frauncestavern.com.



POETRY SOCIETY OF AMERICA
www.poetrysociety.org

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