WASHINGTON COLLEGE

literary events calendar 2014-2015

SOPHIE KERR PROGRAM & ROSE O’NEILL LITERARY HOUSE
The Sophie Kerr Legacy

Sophie Kerr, a prolific and popular American writer of the early 20th century, has left an indelible literary mark on Washington College. The gift that Kerr bequeathed more than 40 years ago has enabled the College to bring to campus a succession of the nation’s top writers, editors, and scholars. Edward Albee, Joseph Brodsky, Gwendolyn Brooks, Lucille Clifton, Eamon Grennan, Toni Morrison, Joyce Carol Oates, Robert Pinsky, Charles Simic, Mary Karr, Jonathan Franzen, Jane Smiley, Junot Díaz, Daniel Handler (Lemony Snicket), Colum McCann, Lauren Groff, Natasha Trethewey, Jacqueline Woodson, and Ted Kooser are just a few of the literary heavyweights who have inspired and instructed the next generation of American writers at Washington College.

In addition to the Sophie Kerr Speaker Series, the Sophie Kerr Gift provides scholarships for students who show literary promise, pays for library books, and supports various student literary activities. The result is a vibrant intellectual culture where the literary arts thrive.

The Kerr endowment also funds the Sophie Kerr Prize, awarded each year to the graduating senior who demonstrates the best ability and promise for future fulfillment in the field of literary endeavor. To be valued at $62,900 in 2015, it is the nation’s largest literary prize awarded solely to undergraduate students.

The Rose O’Neill Literary House

The Creative Writing culture so much in evidence at the Rose O’Neill Literary House is grounded in Washington College’s historic commitment to foster writing across all disciplines and to connect our students and faculty to the wider culture of literature and the creative arts. In collaboration with the English Department and the Sophie Kerr Committee, the Lit House hosts literary seasons of programming built around themes such as “Chicano/a & Latino/a Voices,” “Writing for (and about) Young Adults,” “Poets Writing the Lyrical Essay,” and “What’s Found in Translation.”

Fiction writers, poets, essayists, playwrights, critics, editors, singer-songwriters, and studio artists routinely join us from around the world for readings, craft talks, and residencies. Recent guests include Neil Gaiman, Hannah Tinti, Laura van den Berg, Joy Castro, Eduardo C. Corral, Emily Danforth, Philip Gourevitch, Anthony Swofford, and Idra Novey.
Fall 2014

Literary House Orientation Open House and Print Shop Demo

AUGUST 22, 8:30 P.M., ROSE O’NEILL LITERARY HOUSE

The Lit House welcomes the Class of 2018. Learn about the campus publications as well as art, music, and writing groups, try your hand at letterpress printing, and connect early with like-minded upper-class students and arts faculty.

Print Shop Workshops

Our free, non-credit Print Shop workshops are open to students, faculty, and staff at Washington College, and our Chestertown neighbors. Come learn the history of the book and experience letterpress printing and bookbinding. Master Printer Mike Kaylor instructs. The course lasts 7 weeks. To sign up, email lit_house@washcoll.edu.

Beginners’ Workshop: Introduction to Letterpress

TUESDAYS 6:30-8:30 P.M. BEGINS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9. PRINT SHOP, ROSE O’NEILL LITERARY HOUSE

Advanced Workshop: Book Arts

THURSDAYS 6:30-8:30 P.M. BEGINS THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11. PRINT SHOP, ROSE O’NEILL LITERARY HOUSE

Patrick Henry Writing Fellow: An Introductory Talk by James Rice

SEPTEMBER 4, 5:30 P.M., HYNSON LOUNGE, HODSON HALL

James Rice holds a Ph.D from the University of Maryland and is a Professor of history at SUNY Plattsburgh. He is the author of Nature and History in the Potomac Country: From Hunter-Gatherers to the Age of Jefferson (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2009) and Tales from a Revolution: Bacon’s Rebellion and the Transformation of Early America (Oxford University Press, 2012), as well as fourteen articles and book chapters. He is currently working on two books: Native North America: An Environmental History, and a narrative account of the Powhatan Uprising of 1622 (to be written during his year at the Starr Center). His work aims to gain new insights into “how things worked”—why things such as the transition to racial slavery happened, for instance. He gains these new insights by bridging time periods that are usually assumed to be separate entities (such as prehistory and colonial America), by seeing local events in much larger
geographical frameworks, and by fully integrating the histories of Native Americans, Europeans, and Africans in early America. Rice was the 2012 Guy Goodfellow speaker at Washington College.

*This Fellowship is sponsored by the C.V. Starr Center for the Study of the American Experience and the Rose O’Neill Literary House.*

Sophie Kerr Lecture Series:
Building a Digital Gazetteer for Shakespeare’s London with Janelle Jenstad

**SEPTEMBER 10, 4:30 P.M., LITRENTA LECTURE HALL, TOLL SCIENCE CENTER**

What is a gazetteer and why do we need one for Shakespeare’s London? A gazetteer lists placenames alphabetically along with their authority names, place categories, and geospatial locations. Placenames are the first geographical information system, recording the transformation of spaces into places meaningful to humans. When placenames, also known as toponyms, appear in literary and dramatic texts, they map out an imaginative landscape that calls upon history, culture practices, local knowledge, and prior invocations. Given the many variants for early modern placenames, a gazetteer is an essential tool for reconstructing the geography of a text via its toponyms. *The Map of Early Modern London (MoEML)*, a digital geohumanities project, generates its gazetteer dynamically from its encyclopedia and library, both tagged using Text Encoding Initiative (TEI) standards. Following an overview of the MoEML project, with particular focus on the Agas map and on our versioned edition of John Stow’s 1598, 1603, 1618, and 1633 *Survey of London*, Jenstad will explain how TEI and GIS technologies have been adapted to generate an evolving digital gazetteer and authority list of placenames in Shakespeare’s London.

Janelle Jenstad is Associate Professor of English at the University of Victoria. She directs MoEML, a SSHRC-funded project that maps the streets, sites, and significant boundaries of late sixteenth-century and early seventeenth-century London (1560-1640). In December 2011, she was appointed assistant coordinating editor of the *Internet Shakespeare Editions*, for which she is editing *The Merchant of Venice*. Her journal publications include essays in *Elizabethan Theatre*, *The Journal of Medieval and Early Modern Studies*, *Early Modern Literary Studies*, *Shakespeare Bulletin*, and *The Silver Society Journal*. Her book publications include chapters in *Institutional Culture in Early Modern Society* (Brill, 2004); *Shakespeare, Language and the Stage* (Arden
Sophie Kerr Lecture Series: Living Writers Series — A Reading by Mark Doty

SEPTEMBER 16, 4:30 P.M., ROSE O’NEILL LITERARY HOUSE

The author of eight books of poetry, Mark Doty is one of only two Americans ever to have won Britain’s prestigious T.S. Eliot Prize. His first collection, Turtle, Swan (David R. Godine Publishing), appeared in 1987. My Alexandria (University of Illinois Press, 1993) received both The Los Angeles Times Book Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award. Since then he has published Atlantis (Harper, 1995); Sweet Machine (Harper, 1998); Source (Harper, 2001); and the critically acclaimed volume of poems, School of the Arts (Harper, 2005). Fire to Fire: New and Selected Poems (Harper, 2008) won the National Book Award for that year. In their citation, the National Book Award judges wrote, “Elegant, plain-spoken, and unflinching, Mark Doty’s poems in Fire to Fire gently invite us to share their ferocious compassion. With their praise for the world and their fierce accusation, their defiance and applause, they combine grief and glory in a music of crazy excelsis.” His next book of poetry, Deep Lane, is forthcoming from W.W. Norton.

Sophie Kerr Lecture Series: Living Writers Series — A Reading by Julie Marie Wade

OCTOBER 2, 4:30 P.M., ROSE O’NEILL LITERARY HOUSE


This event is sponsored by the Sophie Kerr Committee, the Center for Environment & Society, and the Geographic Information Systems Program.
Night’s Press, 2014). A recipient of the Lambda Literary Award for Lesbian Memoir, an Al Smith Individual Artist Fellowship from the Kentucky Arts Council, and a grant from the Barbara Deming Memorial Fund, she teaches in the creative writing program at Florida International University in Miami.


OCTOBER 7, 4:30 P.M., ROSE O’NEILL LITERARY HOUSE

Join us for a poetry reading and book signing as the Literary House Press releases its first trade paperback, an anthology of brand-new poems from 100 American poets called The Book of Scented Things: 100 Contemporary Poems about Perfume. Contributors Sandra Beasley, Meredith Davies Hadaway, James Allen Hall, Leslie Harrison, and Shara Lessley—as well as co-editors Jehanne Dubrow and Lindsay Lusby—will read their poems from the anthology and their favorite pieces from other poets in the book. The reading will be followed by a book sale and signing, as well delicious refreshments and a raffle drawing for the chance to win one of three specially-chosen designer scents.

Literary House Series: Poets Writing the Lyrical Essay — An Evening with Maggie Nelson

OCTOBER 21, 4:30 P.M., ROSE O’NEILL LITERARY HOUSE

Maggie Nelson is the author of four books of nonfiction, most recently The Art of Cruelty: A Reckoning (WW Norton, 2011) which was named a Notable Book of the Year by The New York Times, and Bluets (Wave Books, 2009), a meditation on the color blue. She is also the author of four books of poetry, including Something Bright, Then Holes (Soft Skull Press, 2007), and Jane: A Murder (SSP, 2005) which was a finalist for the PEN Martha Albrand Award for the Art of the Memoir. Her next book, a work of autobiography and theory provisionally titled The Argonauts, is forthcoming from Graywolf Press in 2015. She has been the recipient of a Guggenheim in Nonfiction, an NEA Fellowship in Poetry, an Arts Writers grant from the Warhol Foundation, and most recently an Innovative Literature grant from Creative Capital. She teaches on the faculty of the School of Critical Studies at CalArts and lives in Los Angeles.
Literary House Series: Poets
Writing the Lyrical Essay — An
Evening with Ander Monson

NOVEMBER 4, 4:30 P.M., ROSE O’NEILL LITERARY HOUSE

Ander Monson is the author of a number of paraphernalia including a website, a decoder wheel, several chapbooks, as well as five books, most recently Vanishing Point: Not a Memoir (Graywolf Press, 2010) and The Available World (Sarabande Books, 2010), and Letter to a Future Lover (Graywolf Press, 2015). His work has appeared in The New York Times and the Best American Essays series twice, as well as in many magazines and journals. A finalist for the New York Public Library’s Young Lions Award in Fiction and a National Book Critics Circle Award in Criticism, and the recipient of a Howard Foundation Fellowship from Brown University, he lives in Tucson where he teaches in the English Department at the University of Arizona. He edits the journal DIAGRAM and the New Michigan Press, and he also curates Essay Daily.

Literary House Series: Poets
Writing the Lyrical Essay — An
Evening with Lia Purpura

NOVEMBER 13, 4:30 P.M., ROSE O’NEILL LITERARY HOUSE

Lia Purpura is the author of seven collections of essays, poems, and translations—most recently, Rough Likeness (Sarabande Books, 2011) and King Baby (Alice James Books, 2008). Her honors include a Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship, National Book Critics Circle Award Finalist, National Endowment for the Arts and Fulbright Fellowships, three Pushcart prizes, the Associated Writing Programs Award in Nonfiction, as well as the Beatrice Hawley, and Ohio State University Press awards in poetry. Recent work appears in AGNI, Field, The Georgia Review, Orion, The New Republic, The New Yorker, The Paris Review, Best American Essays, and elsewhere. She is Writer-in-Residence at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, a member of the core faculty at the Rainier Writing Workshop, and teaches at writing programs around the country, including, most recently, the Breadloaf Writers’ Conference. She lives in Baltimore.
Sophie Kerr Lecture Series: In Bed With Ulysses — A Documentary Film Screening with Alan Adelson and Kate Taverna

NOVEMBER 19, 4:30 P.M., NORMAN JAMES THEATRE, WILLIAM SMITH HALL

In Bed With Ulysses chronicles the making of one of modern fiction’s most brilliant masterpieces—James Joyce’s Ulysses—and the toll it took on the Joyce family.

Alan Adelson works in both print and film. He was a page-one investigative reporter for The Wall Street Journal and has published fiction and nonfiction in many magazines including The New Yorker. He was the European Production Coordinator of the Academy Award-winning HBO documentary, One Survivor Remembers. Adelson is currently producing Deadly Decisions, a documentary examining the use of the dioxin-contaminated herbicide, Agent Orange, in Southeast Asia and its deadly aftermath. He is writing a family history of the Einsteins under contract with the Crown division of Random House.

Kate Taverna has edited dozens of documentary films including Asylum, which was nominated for the Best Short Documentary Academy Award in 2005, and Pray the Devil Back to Hell, which won the 2007 Tribeca Film Festival documentary competition and has received many other awards. The documentary was instrumental in calling the Liberian women’s peace movement to the attention of the Nobel Peace Prize Committee which honored its leaders, including Lehmah Gbowee, one of the documentary’s principal characters, with the 2011 Nobel Peace Prize. Killing In the Name, edited by Taverna, was produced by Moxie Firecracker and was nominated for the Oscar for Best Short Documentary.

First-Year Reading

NOVEMBER 18, 7:00 P.M., ROSE O’NEILL LITERARY HOUSE

Come hear Washington College first-year writers read from their original work!
Literary House Series: What’s Found in Translation — An Evening with Dick Davis

FEBRUARY 3, 4:30 P.M., ROSE O’NEILL LITERARY HOUSE

Dick Davis is Professor Emeritus of Persian at Ohio State University, where he was chair of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures from 2002 to 2012. He has written scholarly works on both English and Persian literature, as well as eight volumes of his own poetry. He is the recipient of numerous academic and literary awards, including the Ingram Merrill and Heinemann awards for poetry, and a Guggenheim Fellowship. His publications include volumes of poetry and verse translation chosen as books of the year by The Sunday Times (UK), The Economist (UK), The Times Literary Supplement (UK), and The Washington Post. He is probably best known for his verse translations from medieval Persian, most recently, Faces of Love: Hafez and the Poets of Shiraz (Mage, 2012). He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, and has been called, by The Times Literary Supplement, “our finest translator from Persian.”

Sophie Kerr Lecture Series: Let the Fire Burn — A Documentary Film Screening with Jason Osder

FEBRUARY 11, 4:30 P.M., NORMAN JAMES THEATRE, WILLIAM SMITH HALL

On May 13, 1985, Philadelphia police dropped two pounds of military explosives onto a city row house occupied by the radical group MOVE. The resulting fire was not fought for over an hour although firefighters were on the scene with water cannons in place. Five children and six adults were killed and sixty-one homes were destroyed by the six-alarm blaze, one of the largest in the city’s history. This dramatic tragedy unfolds through an extraordinary visual record previously withheld from the public.

Jason Osder is the director and producer of the award-winning documentary Let the Fire Burn, is an Assistant Professor at George Washington University’s School of Media and Public Affairs, and is a partner at Amigo Media (a color-correction, postproduction, and training company). He co-authored Final Cut Pro Workflows: The Independent Studio Handbook with Robbie Carman (his partner at Amigo) and he creates online training courses for Lynda.com.
Literary House Series: Slice-of-Life —
The Craft and Business of Webcomics with Danielle Corsetto

FEBRUARY 17, 4:30 P.M., ROSE O’NEILL LITERARY HOUSE

Danielle Corsetto is the creator of the webcomic Girls With Slingshots, a story about twenty-something BFFs Jamie and Hazel, and an expansive cast of their friends, including a talking cactus and a ghost cat (among other oddities). The slice-of-life dramedy revolves around topics of love, booze, sex, relationships, careers, living with your parents, and the worthlessness of an English degree. Corsetto also has written three Adventure Time OGNs published by BOOM! Studios, and created the strip “The New Adventures of Bat Boy” for the Weekly World News. She lives in the charming town of Shepherdstown, West Virginia with two cats and a rotating cast of vagrant friends in a big 18th century house filled with houseplants and containers of loose tea.

Every year, the Literary House Summer Interns are provided with training and a modest budget to organize and run a professional literary event at the Rose O’Neill Literary House. This event was organized entirely by 2014 interns Julie Armstrong ’15 and Ryan Manning ’17.

Literary House Series: What’s Found in Translation — An Evening with Diane Arnson Svarlien

FEBRUARY 24, 4:30 P.M., ROSE O’NEILL LITERARY HOUSE

Diane Arnson Svarlien is a verse translator and classicist living in Lexington, Kentucky. Her translations of poems by Sappho, Semonides, Theocritus, Catullus, Horace, Propertius, Tibullus, and Ovid have appeared in various journals, including Arion and AGNI, and anthologies, including The Greek Poets: Homer to the Present (Norton, 2010) and Latin Lyric and Elegiac Poetry (Garland Publishing, 1995). Her original verse has appeared in Measure and Mezzo Cammin. She has published two collections of translations of the plays of Euripides: Alcestis, Medea, Hippolytus (2007), and Andromache, Hecuba, Trojan Women (2012), both from Hackett Publishing. Her next collection, also with Hackett, will be Ion, Helen, Orestes. Arnson Svarlien studied at the University of Texas at Austin (Ph.D in classics, MA in Greek) and the University of Virginia (BA in English and classics). She was awarded a Literature Fellowship by the National Endowment for the Arts in 2010-11.
Sophie Kerr Lecture Series: A Lecture by Jonathan Hsy

FEBRUARY 26, 4:30 P.M., ROSE O’NEILL LITERARY HOUSE

Jonathan Hsy is Associate Professor of English at George Washington University. He specializes in late medieval literature and culture, and his interests span the fields of translation studies, disability theory, and the digital humanities. His first book, Trading Tongues: Merchants, Multilingualism, and Medieval Literature (Ohio State University Press, 2013) examines the work of polyglot urban writers across the late medieval and early Tudor eras. His current book project, Disability and Life Writing: Transformative Authorship, Then and Now, explores autobiographical writing by medieval authors who identified as blind or deaf.

Sophie Kerr Lecture Series: A Fiction Reading by Alice McDermott

MARCH 5, 4:30 P.M., ROSE O’NEILL LITERARY HOUSE

Alice McDermott’s seventh novel, Someone (Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 2013), was a New York Times bestseller, as well as a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award, the Patterson Prize for Fiction, and the National Book Award. Three of her previous novels, After This (FSG, 2006), At Weddings and Wakes (FSG, 1992), and That Night (FSG, 1987), were finalists for the Pulitzer Prize. Child of My Heart (FSG, 2002) was nominated for the Dublin IMPAC Award. Charming Billy (FSG, 1997) won the National Book Award for fiction in 1998, as well as the American Book Award. It was also a finalist for the Dublin IMPAC Award. That Night was a finalist for the National Book Award, the PEN/Faulkner Award, and The Los Angeles Times Book Prize. Her stories and essays have appeared in The New York Times, The Washington Post, The New Yorker, and elsewhere. She is the Richard A. Macksey Professor of the Humanities at Johns Hopkins University. She lives in Bethesda, Maryland.

Literary House Series: What’s Found in Translation — An Evening with Benjamin Paloff

MARCH 17, 4:30 P.M., ROSE O’NEILL LITERARY HOUSE

poetry editor at Boston Review and a regular contributor to The Nation, he has translated several books from Polish and Czech, including, most recently, Richard Weiner’s The Game for Real (forthcoming 2015), Marek Bienczyk’s Transparency (Dalkey Archive Press, 2012), Krzysztof Michalski’s The Flame of Eternity: An Interpretation of Nietzsche’s Thought (Princeton University Press, 2011), and Andrzej Sosnowski’s Lodgings: Selected Poems (Open Letter, 2011). He has received grants and fellowships from the US Fulbright Programs and the National Endowment for the Arts, among others, and is currently Assistant Professor of Slavic languages and literatures and of comparative literature at the University of Michigan.

Sophie Kerr Lecture Series: A Fiction Reading by Helena María Viramontes

MARCH 26, 4:30 P.M., ROSE O’NEILL LITERARY HOUSE

Helena María Viramontes is the author of the novel Their Dogs Came with Them (Washington Square Press, 2008), and two previous works of fiction, The Moths and Other Stories (Arte Publico Press, 1995) and the novel Under the Feet of Jesus (Plume, 1996). Named a USA Ford Fellow in Literature for 2007 by United States Artists, she has also received the John Dos Passos Prize for Literature, a Sundance Institute Fellowship, a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship, the Luis Leal Award, and a Spirit Award from the California Latino Legislative Caucus. Viramontes is currently Professor of creative writing in the department of English at Cornell University in Ithaca, NY, where she is at work on a new novel.

Literary House Series: Playwright Sheri Wilner, 2015 Douglass Wallop Fellow

MARCH 30 – APRIL 3, EVENTS ARE TBA. PLEASE VISIT LITHOUSE.WASHCOLL.EDU FOR UPDATES.

Sheri Wilner has twice been a co-winner of the prestigious Heideman Award granted by the Actors Theatre of Louisville: in 1998 for Labor Day, which premiered at the 1999 Humana Festival, and in 2001 for Bake Off, which premiered at the 2002 Humana Festival. Bake Off was heralded by The New York Times for being a “barbed, witty, thoughtful, giggle and snort inducing satire on gender roles” that was “the clear apex” of the festival. Her work has been published in over a dozen anthologies,
and Playscripts.com has published twelve of her one-acts, which have received over two hundred productions all over the United States as well as in Australia, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Japan, the United Kingdom, and India. Her playwriting awards include a Howard Foundation Fellowship in Playwriting, a Bush Artist Fellowship, and two Playwrights’ Center Jerome Fellowships. She attended Cornell University and received her MFA in playwriting from Columbia University. At Columbia, she was named assistant to Andrei Serban, under whom she worked for two subsequent years, serving as a dramaturg on his productions of *Cymbeline* in Central Park, *Hamlet* at the New York Shakespeare Festival, and *Merchant of Venice* at American Repertory Theatre, among others.

The Literary House at AWP Conference & Bookfair

APRIL 8 – 11, 9 A.M.-5 P.M. EACH DAY, MINNEAPOLIS CONVENTION CENTER & HILTON MINNEAPOLIS HOTEL, MINNEAPOLIS, MN

Visit the Rose O’Neill Literary House at Bookfair Table 1724 at the 2015 Association of Writers and Writing Programs Conference in Minneapolis. Our students are excited to be there! At the Bookfair, we will be debuting our 2015 AWP Commemorative Broadside (a collaborative project with Minnesota’s *Water~Stone Review*) and the inaugural issue of *Cherry Tree: A National Literary Journal* @ Washington College. Visit awpwriter.org to register.

Literary House Series: “Seven Sapphos” — A Faculty Tea & Talk with Professor Philip Walsh

APRIL 14, 4:30 P.M., ROSE O’NEILL LITERARY HOUSE

Prof. Philip Walsh will discuss various translations of Sappho and the challenges of translating ancient Greek poetry, as a complement to the “What’s Found in Translation” readings at the Literary House given by Dick Davis, Diane Arnson Svarlien, and Benjamin Paloff.

Before joining Washington College faculty in 2008, Prof. Walsh taught at Brown University, where he completed his Ph.D in comparative literature and was awarded the Marie J. Langlois Dissertation Prize. He has studied at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens (ASCSA) and has traveled extensively through Greece, Italy, and Great Britain. Walsh is a broadly trained comparatist whose interests include drama of all periods, ancient Greek and
Roman literature, the classical languages, and the prose fiction of Kazuo Ishiguro. His research focuses on the reception of the classics in various modern contexts (e.g., in translation and in visual illustration). He is currently editing Brill’s Companion to the Reception of Aristophanes (forthcoming in 2016), a collection of over twenty essays that investigates the long and diverse reception history of Aristophanic comedy through time, culture, and space. At Washington College, Walsh is a Visiting Assistant Professor of English, teaching a wide range of literature courses, as well as ancient Greek and Latin. He graduated *summa cum laude* from the College of William and Mary, where he was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa. He currently serves as President of the Theta of Maryland, Washington College’s chapter of PBK.

**Senior Reading**

**APRIL 23, 7:00 P.M., ROSE O’NEILL LITERARY HOUSE**

Come hear graduating senior writers read from their original pieces. The Literary House will also announce the winners of the Literary House Genre Fiction Prize, the William W. Warner Prize for Creative Writing on Nature and the Environment, and the Jude & Miriam Pfister Poetry Prize.

**Sophie Kerr Prize Event**

**WEEK OF MAY 11, DATE AND LOCATION TBA**

This event to announce the winner of the annual Sophie Kerr Prize features a keynote address by a noted author and readings by the student-finalists. Previous speakers have included National Book Award-winner Colum McCann, Pulitzer Prize-winner Michael Dirda, and renowned poet Mary Jo Salter. In 2015, the Prize will be valued at $62,900. This event is free and open to the public.

**Literary House Series: Summer Poetry Salons**

**MAY 26, JUNE 23, AND JULY 28, 4:30 P.M., ROSE O’NEILL LITERARY HOUSE**

Join us for an afternoon of poetry, local music, tasty food and drink, and good conversation about the literary life.
The Literary House at the West Chester University Poetry Conference

JUNE 3 – 7, WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY, WEST CHESTER, PA

Each year the Rose O’Neill Literary House selects four outstanding poetry students to bring to the West Chester University Poetry Conference where they will have the opportunity to attend various craft workshops, panel discussions, and readings.

Cave Canem Fellowship

JUNE 2015, ROSE O’NEILL LITERARY HOUSE

Cave Canem, the nation’s leading organization for African-American poets, teams up with the Rose O’Neill Literary House and Washington College for the Washington College Cave Canem Residency in June 2015. Chosen through a rigorous application process, the Fellow will spend time researching and writing in Chestertown. Additionally, the Fellow will give a public reading as part of the Summer Poetry Salon series. Our 2014 Fellow was poet Jamaal May. Check our website, lithouse.washcoll.edu, for more details.

All events listed in this brochure are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted.

Visit lithouse.washcoll.edu and english.washcoll.edu for updates, more info, and additional events.
“I have learned as the years have passed that I am on a team, Team POETRY, and that all good poems written all over the world add to the team’s accomplishments.

We all win.

The only question to answer about own work is not ‘Am I the best?’ but ‘Did I write today?’”

—poet Mary Jo Salter, in her keynote address for the announcement of the 2014 Sophie Kerr Prize.