

2023 Dr. Lily Peter Spring Celebration

April 15, 2023
Benton, AR

PRA's 2023 Dr. Lily Peter Spring Celebration is scheduled for April 15, 2023, at Parkview United Methodist Church, 514 North Border Street, Benton, AR. Registration will begin at 9:00 am and the conference will begin at 9:30 am. There is no registration fee and a lunch will be available for a fee. Fay Guinn will serve as Spring Celebration Chair.

The featured speaker is Arkansas's eighth poet laureate, Suzanne Underwood Rhodes. Suzanne was appointed Poet Laureate in January 2022, and serves on the board of the Poets' Roundtable of Arkansas. She's the author of *Flying Yellow: New and Selected Poem* and is named a semi-finalist in the 2022 North American Book Award of the Poetry Society of Virginia. Other books are *What a Light Thing, This Stone*; two chapbooks, *Hungry Foxes* and *Weather of the House*, and two books of lyrical prose, *A Welcome Shore* and *Sketches of Home*. Her poems have appeared in many journals, books, and anthologies such as *Mid/South Anthology*, *Slant*, *Shenandoah*, *Image*, *Alaska Quarterly Review*, *Christian Century*, *Words and Quilts*, and others. She is currently finishing work on a chapbook and a third full-length poetry collection. Awards include nominations for the Pushcart prize, first place in the Dr. Lily Peter Memorial Award, first place in the Richard Lewis Haiku contest, first place in the Virginia Highlands Creative Writing Contest, and others. A retired college professor, she lives in Fayetteville and teaches virtual poetry workshops through the Muse Writers Center in Norfolk, Virginia.

Each year this conference honors Dr. Lily Peter in recognition of her efforts to promote poetry in Arkansas. For conference questions contact John McPherson at mmcpherson8391@gmail.com or 501-305-9972.