



POETRY SCHOOL

SUMMER
2021

POETRYSCHOOL.COM

POETRY SCHOOL is a national arts organisation providing inspiring tuition and opportunities for writers, poets, and poetry audiences. We are a registered charity and proud to be one of Arts Council England's National Portfolio Organisations 2018–2022.

We run a large variety of courses and workshops for poets and writers of all levels; from free introductory classes to our advanced masterclasses, taught in our classrooms in London, across the UK, and online all over the world.

Every Poetry School activity comes with a range of concessions.

Prices are listed in the following order: Full Price, Students & Low Income, Under 30, Disabled & Carers (i.e., £109, £87, £76, £55).

All activities are open for all unless stated otherwise.

For more information about our courses, and to book a place with us, please visit poetryschool.com. Term starts on **2 May**; please ensure to book your places by **5 April**.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

If we cancel an activity, you will be refunded in full. If you cancel your booking more than four weeks before the start date, we will refund you. If you cancel your booking less than four weeks before the start date, we will refund you if we can fill your place from the waiting list. There are no refunds on talks, readings, and special events. Travel costs cannot be refunded.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

If you can't afford the full price or concessionary cost of a Poetry School activity, we can arrange a payment instalment plan, or you may apply for a bursary covering up to 100% of your costs. The deadline for Summer 2021 bursaries is **5 April**. Please email us on: administration@poetryschool.com to find out more.

DREAM VENDING MACHINE

I feed it coins and watch the spring coil back,
the clunk of a vacuum-packed, foil-wrapped
dream dropping into the tray. It dispenses
all kinds of dreams – wet dreams, good dreams,
short nightmares to stave off worse ones,
recurring dreams with a marshmallow centre.
Hard-boiled caramel dreams to tuck in your cheek,
a bag of orange dreams with Spanish subtitles.
One neon sachet promises conversational
Cantonese while you sleep. Another is a dream
of the inside of a river, slips down like sardines in oil,
pulls my body long and sleek to chatter about currents
to any otter that would listen. My favourite dream
is always out of stock: effortless Parisian verlan.
In that one I'm nibbling tiny cakes. I'm making smalltalk
about eye creams in a French pharmacy. I'm pressing
my hand to the door buzzer of a top-floor flat
in which there is a fantastic party that's expecting me.
Zero sugar dreams never last long. There's one
pale pink dream I avoid, fizzes like Pepto Bismol
flavoured Pixy Stix. It's processed in a factory
that also handles hope, shame and other allergens.
That dream is like accidentally stepping on a cat,
sudden and awful, heart-wrenching for everyone.
My father says *I'm sorry I never call, I never know what to say,*
and I finally have the words to reply *don't worry and*
I know and hey, we're good. We're good now. We're all good.

Cynthia Miller is a Malaysian-American poet and innovation consultant living in Edinburgh. Her debut collection *HONORIFICS* – an exploration of cultural identity, family, memory, and time – will be published by Nine Arches Press in June 2021. She is the Co-Founder of Verve Poetry Festival and sits on the advisory board for its sister publishing house, Verve Poetry Press. Her poems have appeared in *Ambit*, *the Rialto*, *Butcher's Dog*, *Poetry Birmingham Literary Journal*, and *harana poetry*. This poem was written on the Poetry School course *Language Diaries*, taught by Nina Mingya Powles.

ONLINE COURSES

INTERACTIVE

10 weeks / 5 sessions
£109, £87, £76, £55
Live chats 7–9pm

Wednesday 5 May – 14 July

Ars Poetica: Cold Showers & Restless Sheets

Sam Buchan-Watts

Test the limits of ‘ars poetica’ to ask whether all poems are really about poetry?

Tuesday 11 May – 13 July

Integrated Circuits: Creating Digital Poetry

Maya Chowdhry

Leap from page to screen and create interactive poems fit for our digital age.

Wednesday 12 May – 21 July

Poetry & The Family

Jonathan Edwards

Explore sensitive and truthful ways to represent family relationships in your work.

Thursday 13 May – 22 July

Myth, Body, Belief

Zakia Carpenter-Hall

Start to depict your own multitudes and forge pathways of poetic connection.

INTERNATIONAL

10 weeks / 5 sessions
£109, £87, £76, £55

2 May – 11 July

Poetic Botany

Jade Cuttle

Take inspiration from the botanical world and explore the fruitful grounds between poetry and plants.

3 May – 12 July

Hearing Voices

Kathryn Simmonds

Learn to shape your poetic voice and experiment with new ones in your writing.

5 May – 21 July

‘Concept Books’ & Cumulative Writing

Shazea Quraishi

Explore writing around a unifying idea to create a multi-faceted, cumulative ‘concept book’.

12 May – 21 July

Shifting Landscape: Ecopoetics, The Body & Science of Time

Elena Karina Byrne

Embody the natural world and become the speaking body of nature in your work.

13 May – 22 July

Lyric Poetry & Poetic Lyrics

Lily Blacksell

Read and write poetry, listen to music, take inspiration from lyrics, and consider the connections between them all.

TRANSREADING

10 weeks / 5 sessions
£109, £87, £76, £55

3 May – 12 July

Channel Hopping: A French Exchange

Paul Stephenson

Write exciting new poems inspired by France’s vibrant and diverse poetry scene

4 May – 13 July

‘The most intimate act of reading’: Translating Poetry & the Politics of the Personal

Sophie Collins

Develop your poetry translation practice with exciting poet and translator Sophie Collins.

12 May – 21 July

Transreading Ukrainian Poetry: ‘a crimson bush amidst silence’

Steve Komarnyckyj

Explore one of the world’s greatest neglected literatures in Transreading Ukrainian poetry.

MASTERCLASS

12 weeks / 6 sessions
£179, £143, £125, £90

3 May – 26 July (Advanced)

Echoing Forms

Richard Georges

Using choruses, repetition, and other techniques to create echoes and resonances that amplify.

4 May – 27 July (Advanced)

Poet / Tree

Peter Hughes

Investigate the poetic potential of trees in myths, legends, and scientific sources.

FACE-TO-FACE COURSES

5 May – 28 July (Advanced) The Possibility of Everything: Writing Experimental Poetry

James Davies

An advanced tour through avant-garde writing with the editor of experimental poetry press, if p then q.

STUDIO

4 weeks / 3 sessions

£79, £63, £55, £40

3 May – 31 May Reloads & Reprises: Repetition Studio

Gboyega Odubanjo

Repeat, reiterate, rephrase, return, reload, and reprise with Gboyega Odubanjo.

10 May – 14 June Poetry Dinner Party: The Old & the New Studio+

Phoebe Power

5 weeks / 4 assignments

£100, £80, £70, £50

Bring voices from recent literary history into conversation with present-day poetics to expand your own writing.

26 May – 23 June Libations: Exploring the Inner Spring Studio

Belinda Zhawi

Reconnect with, and celebrate, the world around you through poetry.

23 June – 21 July Site-Specific Writing Studio

Caroline Bergvall

After being cooped up inside for so long, take your writing into the world and get site-specific.

FEEDBACK

11 weeks / 5 sessions

£79, £63, £55, £40

6 May – 22 July Fortnightly Feedback

André Naffis-Sahely

Knock those loose poems into shape with concentrated feedback from expert editor and poet, André Naffis-Sahely.

3 TERM COURSES

10 weekly sessions (Zoom)

£180, £144, £126, £90

6:45–8:45pm (unless stated otherwise)

MONDAYS:

3 May – 5 July (Advanced)

Advanced Poetry Workshop

Anthony Anaxagorou – 2–4pm

Develop your writing through discussion and feedback in this advanced workshop with Anthony Anaxagorou.

3 May – 12 July (Advanced)

Advanced Poetry Workshop

Shazea Quraishi

Develop your writing in one our flagship advanced workshops with Shazea Quraishi.

10 May – 19 July (Advanced)

What Now?

Wayne Holloway-Smith

Take the next steps in your poetry career and explore contemporary poetry's cutting-edge.

TUESDAYS:

4 May – 6 July (Intermediate)

Read & Respond

Tamar Yoseloff

Join MA tutor Tamar Yoseloff for a close examination of many styles and approaches to hone your skills and bring your poetry to new and exciting places!

11 May – 13 July (Intermediate)

What Now?

Wayne Holloway-Smith

Bring your poetry to the next level and explore contemporary poetry's cutting-edge.

WEDNESDAYS:

5 May – 14 July (Intermediate)

Intermediate Poetry Workshop

Tim Dooley – 2–4pm

Tim Dooley's weekly workshop for poets looking to develop their individual voice and technique.

5 May – 7 July (Advanced)

Advanced Poetry Workshop

Mark Waldron

An advanced weekly workshop group with the inimitable Mark Waldron.

5 May – 7 July (Intermediate)

Creative Constraint

Jacqueline Saphra

Mix up your writing and learn new skills and techniques with Jacqueline Saphra.

THURSDAYS:

6 May – 8 July (Beginner)

First Encounters

Meryl Pugh

Take your first steps into the world of poetry with our ever-popular beginners' course!

FRIDAYS:

7 May – 16 July (Advanced)

Advanced Poetry Workshop

Richard Price – 11am–1pm

Join this group for rigorous discussion of your writing with acclaimed poet Richard Price.

SATURDAYS:

8 May; 5 June; 3 July

Saturday Sessions

Ros Barber – 3 sessions,

10:30am–4:30pm

£177, £142, £124, £88

Monthly all-day Saturday workshops with Ros Barber.

SHORT COURSES

5 fortnightly sessions (Zoom)

£95, £76, £67, £48

6:45–8:45pm (unless stated otherwise)

4 May – 29 June

The Dinner Table – a Fortnightly Workshop with Special Guests

Rachel Long

Because who's been to a dinner party for the longest time?

13 May – 8 July

Poetry that Travels

Rebecca Levi

After a year spent in one place, join us for some poetic travel.

20 May – 15 July

Soundscapes

Becky Varley-Winter

Explore poetry as an instrument, to develop your skills with rhythm and musicality.

WORKSHOPS

£75, £60, £52, £37

(unless stated otherwise)

8 & 22 May

Overenthusiastic Translation

Richard Scott & James Womack

10:30am – 1pm (Zoom)

Explore the work of non-English poets from the past, and uncover the clues they can offer your own practice.

5 June & 12 June

Let There be Poems!

Kathryn Simmonds

10.30am – 1pm (Zoom)

Consider how one might write poems of faith in this more secular age.

12 June & 3 July

Caledonia Dreamin':

Exploring Scotland's Poetry

Richard Price

10.30am – 1pm (Zoom)

Take a close look at Scottish poetry under the expert eye of Richard Price.

16 & 30 June

'I Know That is Poetry':

A Reading & Writing Workshop

Eve Grubin

6.30–9pm (Zoom)

Explore the work of Emily Dickinson for inspiration in your own writing.

19 June

'The Owls Are Not What

They Seem': Writing Poems

Inspired by Twin Peaks

Chrissy Williams

10:30am – 4.30pm (Zoom)

Across the room, a giant waves his arms in slow-motion as the music fades – poetry is happening again.

26 June & 10 July

A House of Many Rooms:

The Sonnet Sequence

Jacqueline Saphra

10:30am – 4.30pm (In-person)

£150, £120, £105, £75

Find your 'big idea' and get to work on a propulsive new sonnet sequence.

17 July

Looking at Lichens

Sarah Westcott & Joe Beale

10.30am – 4.30pm (In-Person)

Join us for an inspiring day of reading, writing, and discussion, alongside some practical exploration of lichens!

SURGERIES

1-Hour Feedback Sessions (Zoom)

£95 per session

Various times

8 May

Liz Berry

4 sessions

In-depth 1-2-1 discussion on your poetry with Liz Berry.

10 July

Fiona Benson

4 sessions

In-depth 1-2-1 discussion on your poetry with Fiona Benson.

DARK CANADEE

Calling Poets, Pirates, and Dreamers;
come sail with us to Dark Canadee.

We are pleased to announce a new opportunity with the T.S. Eliot Prize-nominated Glyn Maxwell. This exciting new project is a poetry fantasy set in an alternative Canada Water and tailor-made for these times. The project is a serial literary fiction where 6 poets sail fortnightly into a dark port to shelter from a swirling plague and join clandestine writing workshops. The world is fabricated, but the poems are real, submitted by participants before each voyage, and Glyn's feedback on these is genuine, being skilfully woven into each narrative. Part avant-garde tutorial, part publishing experiment, this promises to be a unique experience.

After booking a spot, all we need from you are the following materials and the next instalment including these will be published one week later:

(a) 150 doubloons (£) in payment
(concessions available).

(b) A poem (one side) that you would like
feedback on.

(c) Seven things about yourself, true or
false, that can be used in the fiction
(100 words max).

We will publish each instalment in an online Poetry School Magazine, featuring innovative writing, reviews, criticism, and new poetry. Alongside being an exciting piece of literary fiction and an experimental poetry workshop, we envision Dark Canadee as an anthology of the poems published within it and a future compendium of sage advice, critique, and direction on what readers can learn about poetry and apply to their own writing and lives, in the vein of Glyn's earlier books *On Poetry* and *Drinks with Dead Poets*.

The next 3 voyages are scheduled for **24 March**, **7 April**, and **21 April** with the submissions being due on those dates and each new instalment being published one week afterwards.

1-2-1 TEACHING

Tutorials in person /
Zoom (1 hour)

£150 – based on 200 lines of poetry.

Tutorials by email
(1,000 word commentary)

£150 – based on 200 lines of poetry.

Manuscript assessment

£400 – based on 1,200 lines of poetry;
feedback can be face-to-face or via email.

Mentoring*

£800

*This includes 6 x one hour face-to-face sessions or 1,000 word email commentaries on 250 lines of poetry at a time, personalised reading and writing tasks, and guidance on next steps towards publication.

Email administration@poetryschool.com
to arrange any of the above.



‘Wonderful, wise,
considered tuition.’

– Autumn 2019 survey response

POETRY
SCHOOL

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