

# Library Poetry Program

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City Council  
City of Pacific Grove



# Background

- Whitney Latham Lechich House (140 18th Street)
  - Bequeathed to City for “Poetic Purposes”
  - Use of the Property for poetry readings and other purposes was problematic due to:
    - Small size of the residence
    - Location in a residential neighborhood
    - Lack of Americans with Disabilities Act compliance
    - Limited parking

# Library Poetry Program: Supporting Poetic Purposes

An alternative way to honor Ms. Whitney Latham Lechich's wishes while extending them beyond her home is to encourage an appreciation of poetry throughout the City of Pacific Grove.

The Library Poetry Program would encourage this appreciation through several events.

# Poetry Readings...



# ...and Poetry Slams



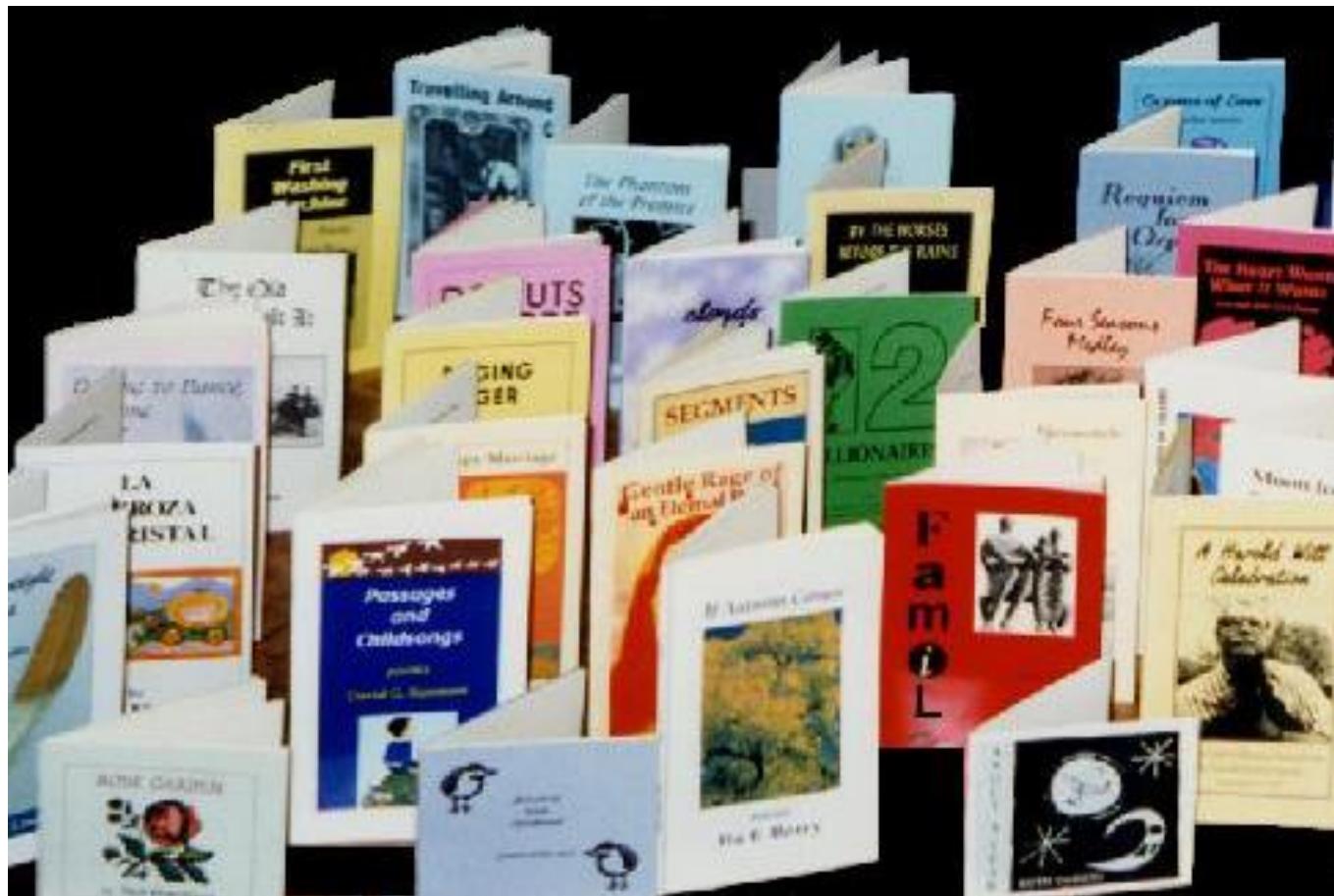
# Contests and Workshops



# Honoring Local Poets

# POET LAUREATE

# Publishing Poetry



# Poetry Festival



# Implementing the Poetry Program

- Library Staff – additional hours for existing staff and on-call librarians for program planning and coordination.
- Funding to pay for readings, prizes, publishing. The size and frequency of program events, the amount of prizes, etc. will depend in part on the amount of funding available.

# One Possible Source of Funds

*City of Pacific Grove v. Whitney Latham-Lechich 1996 Revocable Trust, Case No. 17CV004589*

- City asked the Court to interpret the terms of the Will and determine options available to the City regarding ways the Property could be utilized and fulfill the Decedent's intent.
- Judge Susan J. Matcham determined that the terms of the Will allowed the City to lease the Property at market rate, provided the City dedicates the net rental proceeds to the City's Poetry Promotion Fund and allocates those funds to the City's Public Library Poetry Program.

# Next Steps



## Program Funding

City staff will return with a request for permission to issue an RFQ for property management services with the goal of using proceeds from the lease of the Poet's Perch to fund the Library Poetry Program.

# Next Steps



Once a management company is hired and the property is leased we anticipate the City would be receiving in the range of \$2000 - \$3000 per month.

When those funds become available we will return to Council with additional information fleshing out the Library Poetry Program.

# Questions?



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