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- Free admission and discounts at 250 other gardens around the country
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**FRIENDS OF THE BOTANIC GARDEN**

**SMITH COLLEGE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE**

P.O. Box 340029, Boston, MA 02241-0429

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**From Petals to Paper**

**Poetic Inspiration From Flowers**

A display of contemporary poetry inspired by the beauty of nature, selected by student interns at the Smith College Poetry Center, Janan Scott ‘13 and Liliana Farrel ‘13.

Produced by the Botanic Garden of Smith College in collaboration with the Poetry Center and the Mortimer Rare Book Room.

**The Botanic Garden of Smith College**

[www.smith.edu/garden](http://www.smith.edu/garden)

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**Information on the Poets**

**Adelaide Crapsey** – “Blue Hyacinths” (1878 – 1914)

Born in Brooklyn, NY. From 1911–1913, she was Instructor of Poetics at Smith College. Most of her poetry was published posthumously in 1915 in the book Verses.


Part of the early 20th century avant-garde modernist poets, such as Ezra Pound and William Carlos Williams, her poetry books include: Sea Garden, Red Roses for Bronze, and By Avon River.

**John Dryden** - “Fair Iris I love and Hourly I Die” (1631 – 1700)

Born in Northamptonshire, England. Poet, playwright, satirist, literary critic and translator, Dryden is known for his usage of the heroic couplet. Some of his most famous poems include “Mac Flecknoe,” “Absalom and Achitophel,” and “The Medall.”

**Camille T Dungy** – “What to Eat, What to Drink and What to Leave to Poison” (1972 – Present)

Born in Denver, CO. Her three published poetry books include: Suck on the Marrow, Smith Blue, and What to Eat, What to Drink, What to Leave for Poison.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poet Name</th>
<th>Poet’s Name</th>
<th>Date (if applicable)</th>
<th>Date of Birth</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Profession</th>
<th>Significant Works</th>
<th>Awards and Honors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C.B. Follett</td>
<td>“Untitled”</td>
<td>(1936 – present)</td>
<td>Born in New York City</td>
<td>English major</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alicia Ostriker</td>
<td>“Daffodils”</td>
<td>(1937 – present)</td>
<td>Born in New York City</td>
<td>American poet and critic</td>
<td></td>
<td>A major American poet and critic, her volumes of poetry include The Book of Seventy (Jewish National Book Award), The Crack in Everything (National Book Award finalist), The Volcano Sequence and more. Recurrent themes in her work are family, Jewish identity, and feminism.</td>
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<td>D.H. Lawrence</td>
<td>“Scent of Irises”</td>
<td>(1885 – 1930)</td>
<td>Born in Nottinghamshire, UK.</td>
<td>Known for his novels, D. H. Lawrence published many poetry books including: Bird, Beasts and Flowers; Pansies; and Look! We Have Come Through!</td>
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<td>Li-Young Lee</td>
<td>“Irises” &amp; “Secret Life”</td>
<td>(1957 – present)</td>
<td>Born in Jakarta, Indonesia.</td>
<td>His parents were Chinese political exiles in Indonesia who moved the family to the US in 1964. He wrote many poetry books, including Behind My Eyes, Book of My Nights (2002 William Carlos Williams Award winner), and Rose.</td>
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<td>Amy Lowell</td>
<td>“To an Early Daffodil” &amp; “A Tulip Garden”</td>
<td>(1874 – 1922)</td>
<td>Born in Brookline, MA.</td>
<td>Some of her works of poetry include A Dome of Many-Colored Glass and Sword Blades and Poppy Seeds. She was editor and contributor to Some Imagist Poets: An Anthology, published in 1915, along with two more volumes in subsequent years. In 1926, What’s O’Clock? (published posthumously) received the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry.</td>
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<td>Mary Oliver</td>
<td>“Blue Iris”</td>
<td>(1935 – present)</td>
<td>Born in Maple Heights, OH.</td>
<td>Her first poetry book, No Voyage and Other Poems, was published in 1963. Her other poetry books include Thirst, New and Selected Poems, House of Light and Owls and Other Fantasies: Poems and Essays. Much of her writing focuses on observing nature. She has won numerous awards, including the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award.</td>
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<td>Robert Herrick</td>
<td>“To Daffodils”</td>
<td>(1591 – 1674)</td>
<td>Born in London.</td>
<td>Relatively unknown during his lifetime and into the 18th century, he was “rediscovered” in the 20th century. His only book of poems is Hesperides, which contains 1200 poems.</td>
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<td>Young Lee</td>
<td>“Irises” &amp; “Secret Life”</td>
<td>(1957 – present)</td>
<td>Born in Jakarta, Indonesia.</td>
<td>His poetry includes Amores and Heroïdes, and his most famous work Metamorphoses.</td>
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<td>Sylvia Plath</td>
<td>“Tulips”</td>
<td>(1932 – 1963)</td>
<td>Born in Boston, MA.</td>
<td>Smith College Class of 1955 (English major). A highly admired poet of the 20th century, she already had quite a following at the age of 30, when she committed suicide. Her writing was confessional and controversial. Her poetry books include Colossus and Ariel. She also wrote a semi-autobiography, The Bell Jar.</td>
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<td>David St. John</td>
<td>“Iris”</td>
<td>(1949 – present)</td>
<td>Born in Fresno, CA.</td>
<td>He has a bachelor’s degree from California State University and an MFA from the University of Iowa, and he has received numerous awards and honors. His published poetry books include: The Face: A Novella in Verse, Hush, Terraces of Rain, and The Red Leaves of Night.</td>
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<td>A. E. Stallings</td>
<td>“Tulips”</td>
<td>(1968 – present)</td>
<td>Born in Decatur, GA.</td>
<td>MacArthur Fellow Alicia Stallings is a poet and translator. Her poetry includes Archaic Smile, Hapax, and Olives. She translated De Rerum Natura (The Nature of Things) by Lucretius.</td>
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<td>Louise Glück</td>
<td>“Hyacinth” &amp; “The Wild Iris”</td>
<td>(1943 – present)</td>
<td>Born in New York City.</td>
<td>Considered by many to be one of America’s most talented contemporary poets, her books include: Poems 1962-2012, A Village Life: Poems, Averno, and Vita Nova. The Wild Iris was awarded the Pulitzer Prize.</td>
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<td>James Hearst</td>
<td>“In April”</td>
<td>(1900 – 1983)</td>
<td>Born in Black Hawk County, IA.</td>
<td>Having grown up on a farm, his poetry describes his life as a farmer. During his life, he published 600 poems in 12 poetry books.</td>
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<td>Wendy Videlock</td>
<td>“Flowers”</td>
<td>(1961 – present)</td>
<td>Born in Ohio</td>
<td>Her work appears widely, most regularly in Poetry magazine. Her first book of poetry, Nevertheless, was published in 2011 and The Dark Gnu was released in 2013.</td>
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<td>William Carlos Williams</td>
<td>“The Tulip Bed”</td>
<td>(1883 – 1963)</td>
<td>Born in Rutherford, NJ.</td>
<td>A doctor for over 40 years, he is known as an innovator in American poetry. His work includes: Poems, An Early Martyr and Other Poems, and Paterson.</td>
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