

Local poets show off work at library

By Ashley Smalls
FOR THE COLLEGIAN

Posters of poems from local poets will be displayed from now until Dec. 31 on the fifth floor of the Paterno Library.

The Public Poetry Project is organized by the Pennsylvania Center for the Book, located in the University Libraries.

"The main point of the Public Poetry Project is to make poetry more accessible to the citizens of Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania Center for the Book is very proud to be a part of that mission," Pennsylvania Center for the Book Outreach Coordinator Caroline Wermuth said.

There are currently 26 poems on display in the library that cover a wide range of subjects.

Poems are selected by a panel of judges who have already had their poems displayed in the Public Poetry Project in previous years.

Past poems include "Knocked" by Joseph Bathanti, "Dreaming Door" by Jan Beatty,

"This exhibit celebrates Pennsylvania through the eyes of its poets. Many of the poets seem very pleased with the way their poems are featured on the posters."

Caroline Wermuth

Pennsylvania Center for the Book Outreach Coordinator

and "A Response to Jehuda Halevi" by Philip Terman.

Bathanti, Beatty and Terman will be this year's judges on the poetry selection committee.

"This exhibit celebrates Pennsylvania through the eyes of its poets," Wermuth said. "Many of the poets seem very pleased with the way their poems are featured on the posters."

Catherine Grigor, manager of public relations and marketing for University Libraries, said she hopes students studying for finals in the library will take a study break and view the poems, which could ease their stress.

Some of the poems have also been hung during the libraries' open house and were presented at a poetry reading where the authors read their work, signed books and answered questions.

"I have heard many students comment positively on the art and photography on the posters," Wermuth said.

"The posters are very popular with students on the night of the reading and also when we give them out during the libraries' open house in September."

Grigor said she hopes people will take the time out to interact with the poetry.

"I expected the exhibit to be nice but it looks even nicer than I expected," she said.

If you go

What: Pennsylvania Center for the book presents Public Poetry Project

When: Now until Dec. 31

Where: Fifth floor of Paterno Library

"I hope the project will continue in future years so that more poems will be displayed."

Some students said they're excited for the poetry display and see it as an opportunity rather than a distraction.

"I think the poetry display will actually help students study more in the library because it gives them something fun to do while they're already there," Jessica Crawford (freshman-liberal arts) said.

"This way they can take their mind off studying for a while and then get right back to it."



HOME OF THE MORNING ZOO!

WAKE UP!!!

W/ PJ AND THE CREW WEEKDAYS 6AM-10AM

**FRIEND THE ZOO CREW
ON FACEBOOK TODAY!**

