

You are invited to the FSPA
Young-As-Spring Fling

April 21-22, 2017
hosted by New River Poets and Sunshine Poets

*Poetry is alive and live things grow and throw out
branches.* Peter Meinke, Florida State Poet Laureate.

Our poet laureate's quote reminds us that we must nurture a love for poetry in the young. They are the future "branches" from which our literary form will bloom. The focus of this year's spring fling will be on discovering our own inner child, broadening and rejuvenating our writing skills, and sharing what we know with the generations that follow us. As we teach them, they will teach us.

It has been several years since we had an event on the west coast of Florida, and we are pleased that this one will be held at an easily-accessible location in Tampa. The Clarion Hotel and Conference Center is located near the University of South Florida, Busch Gardens, Adventure Island, and the Museum of Science and Industry, among other attractions. The Clarion will honor our discount rates for three days prior and three days after our event for those who want to extend their stay. A complimentary hot buffet breakfast is included with your room reservation, and there is coffee service all day. All presentations and meals will be in the first-floor Palm Room, for your convenience.

We have scheduled an interesting program of presentations, writing workshops, and open-mic readings. You will have an opportunity to bid on terrific items in a silent auction, and member-authors of poetry books are invited to display them on our book-sale tables.

Book Sale Instructions: Please follow the procedure we have been using recently for keeping track of sales. In each book insert a 3x5 index card formatted as follows: TITLE OF BOOK... AUTHOR'S NAME & ADDRESS... COST OF BOOK... and then, NUMBER EACH BOOK: If, for example, you bring 5 books of a particular title, on each card write: 1 of 5 or 2 of 5, 3 of 5, etc.. Money will be collected by our book table chair, and sales will be tallied after the Fling. Checks will then be mailed to each author by the FSPA treasurer. Please remember to pick up your remaining books before you leave at the end of the Fling.

Please fill out your registration on the next page and plan on joining your FSPA friends for a wonderful springtime experience!

Program for the 2017 FSPA
Young-As-Spring Fling
The Clarion Hotel and Conference Center
2701 E. Fowler Ave., Tampa, FL
(5.4 miles west of I-75, 4.1 miles east of I-275)

Friday, April 21

4pm Registration outside Palm Room

4-6pm Small group readings

6pm Buffet Dinner
"And Speaking of Kids..." – Peter Meinke

7:30pm "Waking Up Our Senses"
Janet Watson and John Foster

8:30pm "Poems of Parent and Child"
Lola Haskins

9:30pm Open Mic Readings

Saturday, April 22

Hot Breakfast Buffet

8am Board Meeting/ Open Mic Readings

9am General Membership Meeting

10:15am "Imagine This" – Al Rocheleau

11:30am "New Voices"
12-Chairs Scholarship Students

12:15am Lunch
"Getting in Touch with Your Inner Child"
Lee Bennett Hopkins

2pm "The Future is Now"
Cheri Herald, Panel Moderator

3pm Open Mic Readings

3:45pm Wrap-up

