#### 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 <u>each</u> 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, Apríl 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

# The Clarion Hotel and Conference Center Busch Gardens

2701 East Fowler Avenue Tampa, Florida (5.4 miles west of I-75, 4.1 miles east of I-275)



### **Hotel Features:**

Handicapped accessible
Comfortable setting near local attractions:
Busch Gardens, USF, MOSI
Beautiful landscaped courtyard
Outdoor pool
Complimentary high speed internet
24-hour self-service business center
24-hour fitness center
Guest laundry services
Hot buffet breakfast

#### For Reservations:

Call (813)971-4710, ask for group rates for the FLORIDA STATE POETS Spring Fling.

Group rates: \$99 + tax - King bed (up to 2 guests)

\$109 + tax - 2 Double beds,

(up to 4 guests)

Current sales & room taxes are 12%, subject to change. Quoted rates will be offered, based on availability, for three days before and three days after our event.

<u>Cut-off date for discounted group rates: 3/21/17</u> Reservations must be guaranteed with a credit card.

SPRING FLING 2017 REGISTRATION FORM NAME	
PHONE	
eMAIL	
CHAPTER	
MEMBER AT LARGE_	GUEST
REGISTRATION FEE:	\$25 - FSPA Member \$35 - Guest \$15 – Student
BUFFET DINNER (Friday) - \$30	
BOX LUNCH (Saturday): - \$20 (please check choice below)	
Beef deli sandwich w/sides & drink	
Turkey croissant w/sides & drink	
Veggie wrap w/sides & drink	

Please send this Registration Form with check or money order for registration fee and meals, made payable to FSPA, with "Spring Fling" on the memo line.

### Send by April 8, 2017 to:

Cheri Herald 18 SJ Kellner Blvd. Beverly Hills, FL 34465