



## Reading Poets, Writing Poems

G26100104

with Anita Skeen

October 4-10, 2026

Dear Ghost Ranch Writers:

I'm here to welcome all of you to "Reading Poets, Writing Poems," our Ghost Ranch writing workshop that will be held October 4-10, 2026. We'll have class every morning from 9:00 until noon with an assignment at the end of each class session. In the evenings, we'll have additional sessions from 7:00 to 8:30 to continue our reading, writing and discussions.

Our morning class format will go something like this: we'll begin each day (except for Monday) with a piece you've written based on the previous day's assignment. I consider all this work to be in the draft stage. You will have had time to only get the basics down and perhaps do a bit of revision. But by no means do I expect you to show up each morning with a publishable poem. The point of the workshop is to have you share your work with your colleagues, to get feedback on the strengths and weaknesses, and then go back to the drawing board (or, in this case, probably the computer). Our class will be small, so there should be lots of time to really talk about



everyone's writing. We'll read poets that I'm sure all of you know, but also poems by poets you probably have never encountered.

In order to facilitate our discussions and writing, I will put together a coursepack of selected readings that will be relevant to our discussions and assignments. Some of the examples are overtly political, some personal, some serious, some funny. We'll use these as models and prompts, but you can always write where the moment takes you. We will not be reading and discussing all the pieces and talking about them. I intend for the coursepack to be a working notebook for us, with some material that we will not cover but which, after the class is over, you can turn to to enrich and follow-up on your learning from the week.

I'm looking forward to our week together and to discovering where poems lie hidden in your experiences and where you may be surprised to find new ones. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Anita

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