The Hugh C. Hyde Living Writers Series, conjointly with the Department of English and Comparative Literature, invite you to celebrate 30 years of SDSU’s MFA in Creative Writing—30 years of elegance and moxie—with events featuring MFA Faculty, Students, Affiliates, and Alumni:

**MFA Faculty Reading:** Wednesday, September 25th at 7 p.m. in Love Library, Room 430.
Current and Guest MFA Faculty including Sandra Alcosser, Blas Falconer, Stephen-Paul Martin, April Wilder, Marco Wilkinson, and Moshe Zonder will share excerpts from their latest work and answer questions during a post-reading panel focused on literary citizenship—the role of the author/artist in the 21st century.

![Image of a microphone]

Literature allows us to be open, to
listen, and to be curious.
--Tracy K. Smith

**Karla Cordero and Jennifer Minniti Shippey:** Wednesday, October 9th at 7 p.m. in Love Library, Room 430. SDSU MFA Program Alumnae, Karla Cordero and Jennifer Minniti-Shippey, will share selections from their latest publications and speak about their experiences of building community in the MFA Program. Karla Cordero is the author of *How To Pull Apart the Earth* (Not a Cult, 2018) and a Macondo and VONA Fellow, a recipient of The Loft Spoken Word Immersion Fellowship, and the SDSU Global Diversity Award. Jennifer Minniti-Shippey is the author of *After the Tour* (Calypso Editions, 2019) and the Managing Editor of *Poetry International*, Director of Poetic Youth programs, and a professor at SDSU.

![Images of Karla Cordero and Jennifer Minniti Shippey]

i remember i was
once the child of broken earth.
-- Karla Cordero

You are a country open to death,
you, the horizon of barking dogs.
--Jennifer Minniti-Shippey

**Chris Baron and Matt de la Peña:** Wednesday, October 16th at 7 p.m. in Love Library, Room 430. SDSU MFA Program Alumni, Chris Baron and Matt de la Peña, will read from their collected works and discuss the impact of young-adult and middle-grade literature. Chris Baron is the author of the poetry collection, *Under the Broom Tree*, which was published in the poetry anthology *Lantern Tree*, winner of the San Diego Book Award. His first novel, *All of Me* (Feiwel and Friends, 2019), has been lauded as “beautifully written, brilliant, and necessary.” Matt de la Peña is the author of six critically acclaimed young-adult novels, as well as three picture books, including *Last Stop on Market Street*, which won the Newbery Medal and was chosen for a Caldecott Honor.
Words spin into webs, filling the apartment
with silken memories of things I said
--Chris Baron

But it won’t be luck you’ll leave with.
Because you’ll have love.
You’ll have love, love, love.
--Matt de la Peña

The Laurie Okuma Memorial Reading presents, Karen An-hwei Lee: Wednesday, October 30th at 7 p.m. in Love Library, Room 430. Each semester, thanks to an endowment created by her family and friends, the Laurie Okuma Memorial Reading honors the memory of SDSU alumna, Laurie Matsueda Okuma. Poet, literary critic, and translator, Karen An-hwei Lee, will read from her latest novel, The Maze of Transparencies, as part of the Laurie Okuma Memorial Series. Lee is the author of three poetry collections, a book of literary criticism, and two novels. She is the recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts Grant and currently serves in the administration at Point Loma Nazarene University.

Nevertheless, this morning of zeroization, we wake
with pixel-dust on our eyelashes—
only a transparent maze, dexterous web of information
moored to clouds
blossoming
with wingless phenomena.

Juan Felipe Herrera: Wednesday, November 6th at 4 p.m. in The Conrad Prebys Aztec Student Union Theater. Former California Poet Laureate (2012-2014) and U.S. Poet Laureate (2015-2017), Juan Felipe Herrera, will read from his collected works. Herrera has published over a dozen collections of poetry and has written short stories, young adult novels, and children’s literature. He is also an activist on behalf of migrant and indigenous communities and at-risk youth. Herrera is a recipient of the Hungry Mind Award of Distinction, the Focal Award, two Latino Hall of Fame Poetry Awards, and a PEN West Poetry Award. This event is presented in collaboration with the Department of History, Department of Spanish, Department of Chicana/o Studies, and the College of Arts and Letters.

Blood in the tin, in the coffee bean, in the maquila oración
Blood in the language, in the wise text of the market sausage
Blood in the border web, the penal colony shed, in the bilingual yard
Carlos Kelly and David Martinez: Wednesday, November 20th at 7 p.m. in Love Library, Room 430. SDSU MFA Program Alumni, Carlos Gabriel Kelly and David Tomas Martinez, will read from their collected works. Carlos Gabriel Kelly is a first-generation Mexican-American PhD student at The Ohio State University. His first book of poetry, *Wounds Fragments Derelict*, was released in May 2019. His work has also appeared in *Pacific Review*, *Barzakh Magazine*, *Studies in 20th and 21st Century Literature*, and *Latinx Cine in the 21st Century*. David Tomas Martinez is a CantoMundo Fellow and recipient of a 2017 NEA Fellowship, a Pushcart Prize, the Inprint Paul Verlaine Prize in Poetry, and the Stanley P. Young Fellowship from Bread Loaf. He is the author of two poetry collections, *Hustle* (Sarabande, 2014), which won the New England Book Festival's Poetry Prize, among other honors, and *Post Traumatic Hood Disorder* (Sarabande, 2018). This event is presented in collaboration with the M.A.L.A.S Program.

Katie Farris and Ilya Kaminsky: Wednesday, December 4th at 7 p.m. in Love Library, Room 430. Award-winning authors, Katie Farris and Ilya Kaminsky, will read from their most recent publications. Katie Farris is the author of *boysgirls*, (Marick Press, 2011) which has been lauded as “truly innovative,” (Prague Post), “a tour de force” (Robert Coover, PEN/Faulkner Award-winner), and “a book with gigantic scope,” (Louisville Courier-Journal), and *Mother Superior in Hell* (Dancing Girl Press, 2018). Recently, her translations in *New Cathay: Contemporary Chinese Poetry, 1990-2012* (Tupelo Press) received Poetry East/West’s International Translation Award. Ilya Kaminsky is the author of *Deaf Republic* (Graywolf Press, 2019) and *Dancing In Odessa* (Tupelo Press, 2004). He has also co-edited and co-translated many other books, including *Ecco Anthology of International Poetry* (Harper Collins) and *Dark Elderberry Branch: Poems of Marina Tsvetaeva* (Alice James Books). His awards include the Guggenheim Fellowship, the Whiting Writer's Award, the American Academy of Arts and Letters' Metcalf Award, Lannan Foundation's Fellowship, and the NEA Fellowship.

---

Carlos Kelly

I know this—
you check the back of boxes you find words expire
find that invisibility is a synonym for healing
--Carlos Kelly

Not from shadow
but into shadow does the animal
of the mind leap, and I have miles to go,
thin walls to hold,
and cages to keep.
We hang from what makes us great.
--David Martinez

Katie Farris

Come giddy yourself atop these sheer drops.
Come shake victorious with delirium tremens
and carpe diem. Come frolic with bared teeth.
--Katie Farris

On earth
a man cannot flip a finger at the sky
because each man is already
a finger flipped at the sky.
--Ilya Kaminsky