KIT: BUILDING A CORE POETRY COLLECTION
811: AMERICAN POETRY

Created for the Library as Incubator Project by Erinn Batykefer
with many thanks to Professor Jesse Lee Kercheval of the UW-Madison Creative Writing Department, whose “Poetry Life List,” was the inspiration for this Kit.

Collecting poetry can be daunting because there are so few mainstream review outlets that cover the genre in any meaningful way. There are ways around this, though, and none require a crash course in every school of American Poetry in living memory—a good thing for time-crunched librarians!

This kit includes a long list of important American Poets that anyone interested in the genre will want to be familiar with, plus some important titles for each—a core collection. It begins by noting some key techniques and resources that will help you to build on this core collection and grow a wonderful 811 section year by year.

CORE MAGAZINES
Two suggestions for craft-based magazines:
• Poets and Writers
• AWP Writer’s Chronicle

If your patrons are interested in poetry journals (also known as little magazines), you might subscribe to a few that represent different regions of the country / schools. Be forewarned: yearly subscriptions to little mags are expensive and folks are very opinionated about which are ‘good’; however, they often review new titles, which is a bonus, and they often have robust webpages and online content (including more reviews). A selection of heavy hitters:
• Poetry Magazine (Chicago) | www.poetryfoundation.org/poetrymagazine
  o If you can only subscribe to one, Poetry is most well known.
• Gulf Coast (Texas) | www.gulfcoastmag.org
• Prairie Schooner (Nebraska) | prairieschooner.unl.edu
• Tin House (Oregon) | www.tinhouse.com
• Paris Review (New York) | www.theparisreview.org
• Subtropics (Florida) | www/english.ufl.edu/subtropics
CORE WEBSITES

Poetry Foundation
- www.poetryfoundation.org Publishes Poetry Magazine. Profiles eminent and emerging American poets, has a poem-a-day resource for both print and audio, etc.

Academy of American Poets
- www.poets.org National Poetry Month hub, with tons of links and resources, poet profiles, and resources for young poets.

Poetry Daily
- poems.com Features a new poem each day, with a bio for the poet and a link to the literary magazine where the poem was first published. This is a great tool that can help get you familiar with magazines, poets, and poems incrementally.

FINDING NEW MATERIAL

The Basics
- Collect the books of Poets Laureate*
- Collect Pulitzer Prize winning titles and authors*
- Collect National Book Award winners *
- Collect National Book Critics Circle Award winners

*Find a list of recent laureates and winners at the end of this document

Important small presses
Knopf and Norton are large the presses to know, and are sometimes reviewed in mainstream outlets like Publisher’s Weekly. Here is a selection of small presses to know:
- Coffee House Press | www.coffeehousepress.org
- Copper Canyon Press | www.coppercanyonpress.org/index.asp
- Graywolf | www.graywolfpress.org
- University of Pittsburgh Press | www.upress.pitt.edu

Benchmark collections
- Poet’s House library | www.poetshouse.org/library | A national archive of 50,000 volumes of poetry.
- The University of Wisconsin-Madison Gaus Collection | www.college.library.wisc.edu/about/collections/gaus.shtml | Includes a quick New Items view and Poetry on the Web with links to sites and poetry search engines.
- If you have a university in your region with an MFA program, the library will have a good collection. Start there, and don’t forget to collect faculty books as local!

Local poets A quick search of www.poets.org or other poetry search engines (check the Gaus Collection above) for your town or state will turn up a few names to add.
THE CORE POETRY COLLECTION

The Mother and Father of American Poetry

- **Walt Whitman (1819-1892)** *Leaves of Grass*. There are many editions, as Whitman revised and re-published eight times during his life. It’s great to collect an earlier and a later version for comparison.
- **Emily Dickinson (1830-1886)** Dickinson’s work was published posthumously, and often heavily edited. Make sure to get the complete, original, collected works.

The Dead: Modern and Contemporary poets

- **Amy Lowell (1874-1925)** Influenced by the Imagists (Like Ezra Pound) and Chinese and Japanese poets. *Amy Lowell: Selected Poems* (American Poets Project) is a great edition of Lowell’s work.
- **Carl Sandburg (1878-1967)** *The Complete Poems of Carl Sandburg.*
- **Wallace Stevens (1879-1955)** Wallace Stevens made his living as an insurance salesman. The *Collected Poems* published a year before he died is definitive.
- **William Carlos Williams (1883–1963)** Williams, who made his living as a doctor, started out an Imagist, *Collected Poems, Volume I: 1909-1939* and *The Collected Poems, Volume II, 1939-1962* or the four volume *Paterson* are important.
- **Ezra Pound (1885–1972)** "Make it new!" was Pound’s motto. His Cantos--Cantos I-XVI and Cantos XVII-XXVII. Pound isn’t easy, but he had a huge influence on modern poetry.
- **H. D. (1886–1961)** Hilda Doolittle is often seen as an early feminist and began writing as an Imagist. *Sea Garden* and *Helen in Egypt.*
- **Marianne Moore (1887–1972)** *Complete Poems*
- **Claude McKay (1890–1948)** Jamaican born, McKay was a model for the later Harlem Renaissance poets. *Complete Poems* (The American Poetry Recovery Series) by Claude McKay.
- **E. E. Cummings (1894–1962)** The most radical experimenter with the basic building blocks of poetry--the alphabet and punctuation. Many of Cummings poems still look shocking on the page. *Tulips and Chimneys* and *Complete Poems.*
- **Jean Toomer (1894–1967)** *The Collected Poems of Jean Toomer* includes many previously unpublished poems.
- **Hart Crane (1899–1932)** *The Complete Poems of Hart Crane.*
- **Langston Hughes (1902–1967)** One of the great writers of the Harlem renaissance (along with Toomer, McKay, Cullen). Hughes wrote novels and plays in addition to his poetry. He was strongly influenced by jazz. *Hughes: Poems* (Everyman’s Library
• **Countee Cullen (1903–1946)** Along with Langston Hughes, Cullen was at the heart of the Harlem Renaissance. *My Soul’s High Song.*

• **Louis Zukofsky (1904–1978)** Zukofsky’s major work is the long poem, *A*, which he began in 1927 and worked on for the rest of his life. He died in 1978 just as the complete *A* was going to print.

• **Robert Penn Warren (1905–1989)** Best known for his novel *All the King’s Men*, which won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 1947. John Burt edited a good *Selected* and *Collected.*


• **Kenneth Rexroth (1905–1982)** *Complete Poems* published by Cooper Canyon Press.

• **George Oppen (1908–1984)** His later work, *Of Being Numerous* won the Pulitzer.

• **Theodore Roethke (1908–1963)** *Collected Poems.*


• **Elizabeth Bishop (1911–1979)** There is a good collected.

• **Delmore Schwartz (1913–1966)** *Selected Poems: Summer Knowledge* from New Directions.


• **William Stafford (1914–1993)** *Travelling Through the Dark* was published when he was forty-eight years old and won the National Book Award the following year in 1963. There is a great new and selected, *The Way It Is.*


• **Gwendolyn Brooks (1917–2000)** In 1950 Gwendolyn Brooks became the first African American to win a Pulitzer Prize. She was later important in the Black Arts movement. *We Real Cool* and *Blacks.* There is also a Selected.

• **Lawrence Ferlinghetti (b. 1919)** *These Are My Rivers: New & Selected Poems, 1955-1993.*

• **Howard Nemerov (1920–1991)** *The Collected Poems of Howard Nemerov* won both the National Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize in 1978. There is a good recent selected that is probably the best place to start.

• **Amy Clampitt (1920–1994)** *The Kingfisher* and *A Silence Opens,* which was published a year before she died. There is also a collected poems.

• **Hayden Carruth (b. 1921)** *Scrambled Eggs and Whiskey* won the National Book Award. *Doctor Jazz: Poems 1996-2000.*


• **Denise Levertov (1923–1997)** Levertov was born in England but is thought of as an American poet. Her last collection *The Great Unknowing* from New Directions is a powerful and moving meditation on impending death.

Richard Hugo, from Norton.

- **Mona Van Duyn (1921–2004)** Van Duyn was the first woman poet laureate and also won the Pulitzer Prize. There is a good selected poems published the year before she died by Knopf.

- **Richard Wilbur (b. 1921)** *Things of This World,* which won both the Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award. There is an excellent collected.

- **Gerald Stern (b. 1925)** *This Time: New and Selected Poems* or the even newer collection *Save the Last Dance,* both from Norton.

- **Donald Justice (1925–2004)** He was offered the Poet Laureate position, but, sadly, was too ill at the end of his life to accept. There is a good, new collected (a readable 304 pages). Also very good is the new and selected published in 1997. Both are Knopf.

- **Maxine Kumin (b. 1925)** *Selected Poems 1960-1990.

- **Kenneth Koch (1925–2002)** *The Collected Poems of Kenneth Koch* (everything but his long poems) and *On the Edge: The Collected Long Poems of Kenneth Koch,* both from Knopf


- **James Merrill (1926–1995)** A final collection, *A Scattering of Salts,* was published posthumously after his death from AIDS in 1995, is a good place to start. There is a collected, edited by J. D. McClatchy, but it excludes *The Changing Light at Sandover* (576 pages on its own), and, at 912 pages, requires commitment.


- **Robert Creeley (1926–2005)** *Collected Poems of Robert Creeley, 1945-1975* from the University of California Press. There is a selected from the press as well.


- **Frank O’Hara (1926–1966)** *Lunch Poems* (another great Pocket Poets book)


- **James Wright (1927–1980)** *Above the River: The Complete Poems* or the excellent new selected poems, edited by Robert Bly. His son, Franz Wright, also a poet, won the Pulitzer Prize in 2004.

- **John Ashbery (b. 1927)** Start with *Self-Portrait in a Convex Mirror* (awarded the Pulitzer Prize, the National Book Award, and the National Book Critics Circle Award). *Notes for the Air: Selected Later Poems* includes selections from later books. Published by Ecco.

- **Galway Kinnell (b. 1927)** *A New Selected Poems.

- **W. S. Merwin (b. 1927)** *Migration,* and *The Shadow of Sirius* which won the Pultizer in 2008, both from Copper Canyon Press.

- **Donald Hall (b. 1928)** *The One Day,* which won the National Book Critics Circle Award. There is also a selected: *Old and New Poems.*

- **Philip Levine (b. 1928)** *What Work Is,* which won the National Book Award, and *New Selected Poems.* He is the current Poet Laureate of the United States.
• Anne Sexton (1928–1974) *The Complete Poems*
• Adrienne Rich (1929-2012) Rich is widely regarded as the most important feminist poet. *Diving into the Wreck: Poems, 1971-1972*
• Audre Lorde (1934–1992) There is a good collected from Norton.

**The Living: Contemporary Poets**

• Sherman Alexie *One Stick Song.*
• Agha Shahid Ali *Call Me Ishmael Tonight: A Book of Ghazals.*
• Rae Armantrout *Veil: New and Selected Poems* or *Versed,* for which she won the Pulitzer Prize, both from Wesleyan.
• Charles Bernstein *Strings*
• Frank Bidart *In the Western Night: Collected Poems 1965-1990.* *Music Like Dirt* was the first chapbook ever to be a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize.
• Eavan Boland (Okay, she’s Irish, but she lives and teaches at Stanford) *An Origin Like Water: Collected Poems 1967-1987.*
• Nick Carbo An important young Asian poet. *Secret Asian Man.*
• Maxine Chernoff *Evolution of the Bridge: Selected Prose Poems*
• Sandra Cisneros An important Hispanic fiction writer and poet. *Loose Woman: Poems.*
• Lucille Clifton *Blessing the Boats: New and Selected Poems 1988-2000* which won the National Book Award.
• Billy Collins A former Poet Laureate. *Sailing Alone Around the Room: New and Selected Poems.*
• Carl Dennis *Practical Gods* won the Pulitzer.
• Toi Derricotte *Tender.*
• Mark Doty *My Alexandria.* There is a new and selected *Fire to Fire.*
• Rita Dove *Thomas and Beulah* won the Pulitzer. For more, there is a selected poems.
• Denise Duhamel *Queen for a Day: Selected and New Poems* from Pitt.
• Stephen Dunn *Different Hours* won the Pulitzer. There is a new and selected as well, both from Norton.
• Russell Edson *The Tunnel: Selected Poems of Russell Edson* and *The Tormented Mirror.*
• Lynn Emanuel *Then, Suddenly*
• Henri Cole *Middle Earth.*
• Carolyn Forché *The Country Between Us*
• Alice Fulton Alice Fulton won a MacArthur (aka “genius award”) and her work. *Cascade Experiment.*
• Albert Goldbarth *The Kitchen Sink.*
• Louise Glück *The Wild Iris* won the Pulitzer.
• Jorie Graham *The Dream of the Unified Field: Selected Poems 1974-1994* won a
Pulitzer.

- **Marilyn Hacker** *Selected Poems: 1965-1990*, and *Love, Death, and the Changing of the Seasons*

- **Joy Harjo** An important Native American poet who also performs her poetry and plays saxophone with her band, *Poetic Justice*. *How We Became Human: New and Selected Poems 1975-2001* and *She Had Some Horses*.


- **Lyn Hejinian** *Happily or her earlier Writing Is an Aid to Memory.*

- **Brenda Hillman** *Death Tractates and Cascadia*

- **Edward Hirsch** National Book Critics Circle Award winner *Wild Gratitude*

- **Brenda Hillman** *Time and Materials*, won the 2007 National Book Award.

- **Lyn Hejinian** *Another important language/experimental poet. Her recent collections of poetry include a Selected Poems from the University of California Press or the newer The Lyrics.*

- **Susan Howe** *Singularities.*

- **Andrew Hudgins** *After the Lost War.*


- **Yusef Komunyakaa** Komunyakaa classifies himself as a Jazz Poet—a genre which includes a diverse group of poets inspired by that musical form, or who try to imitate its rhythms in verse. *Dien Cai Dau* or *Pleasure Dome: New and Collected Poems.*


- **Ann Lauterbach** *If in Time: Selected Poems 1975-2000*

- **Li-Young Lee** An important Asian American poet. *Rose* and *The City in Which I Love You* received wide critical attention.

- **Thomas Lux** *New and Selected Poems, 1975-1995* and the recent *God Particles*

- **William Matthews** *A Happy Childhood*, There is also a new collected, edited by his son, Sebastian.

- **Harryette Mullen** *Sleeping With the Dictionary*. Mullen is African American poet concerned about race who is often included (along with Komunyakaa) in lists of Jazz poets.


- **Sharon Olds** *Satan Says* received enormous critical attention. There is a recent selected *Strike Sparks: Selected Poems, 1980-2002.*

- **Mary Oliver** *American Primitive* won the Pulitzer.

- **Alicia Ostriker** *The Volcano Sequence.*

- **Carl Phillips** *Quiver of Arrows: Selected Poems 1986-2006.*

- **Robert Pinsky** Probably the best known of all the recent Poet Laureates, he set the standard for outreach with his Favorite Poems Project readings and all his

- **Charles Simic** *The World Doesn’t End* won the Pulitzer. *The Voice at 3:00 A. M.: Selected Late and New Poems and Sixty Poems.*
- **Gary Soto** An important Mexican American poet who has affected a generation of younger poets. *Gary Soto: New and Selected Poems*
- **Mark Strand** *Blizzard of One*, won the Pulitzer prize
- **Virgil Suárez** *90 Miles: Selected And New Poems* from Pitt.
- **Cole Swensen** *Goest* or the early *New Math.*
- **James Tate** *Return to the City of White Donkeys* and the earlier *Worshipful Company of Fletchers.*
- **Chase Twichell** *The Snow Watcher or Dog Language.*
- **C. K. Williams** *Repair* won the Pulitzer.
- **C. D. Wright** *Steal Away: Selected and New Poems.*
- **Charles Wright** *Black Zodiac* won the Pulitzer and *Negative Blue: Selected Later Poems* includes that work.
- **Franz Wright** The son of the poet James Wright. *Walking to Martha’s Vineyard* won the Pulitzer in 2004.
- **Wunderlich, Mark** *Voluntary Servitude* and *The Anchorage.*
- **Dean Young** *Elegy On Toy Piano.*
- **Kevin Young** An important younger African American poet whose work has also been inspired by jazz. Read *Jelly Roll: A Blues.*

**90 more books to expand your Core Collection**

- Kim Addonizio--*Tell Me*
- Mary Jo Bang--*Apology for Want*
- Dorothy Baressi--*The Post-Rapture Diner*
- Robin Becker--*The Horse Fair*
- Joshua Beckman--*Something I Expected to Be Different*
- Cal Bedient--*Candy Necklace*
- Robin Behn--*Horizon Note*
- Erin Belieu--*Infanta*
- Wendell Berry--*A Timbered Choir*
- Mei-Mei Berssenbrugge--*Heat Bird*
- David Bottoms--*Shooting Rats at the Bibb County Dump*
- Gabrielle Calvocoressi--*Apocalyptic Swing*
- Joshua Clover--*Madonna anno domini*
- Oliver de la Paz--*Names Above Houses*
- Matthew Dickman--*All American Poem*
- Michael Dickman--*The End of the West*
- Deborah Digges--*Trapeze*
- Stuart Dybek--*Streets in Their Own Ink*
- Cornelius Eady--*Brutal Imagination*
Claudia Emerson--The Late Wife
Martin Espada--A Mayan Astronomer in Hell's Kitchen
B. H. Fairchild--Early Occult Memory Systems of the Lower Midwest
Nick Flynn--Blind Huber
James Galvin--X
Forrest Gander--Torn Awake
Ted Genoways--Bullroarer
Diane Glancy--The Relief of America
Beckian Fritz Goldberg--Never Be the Horse
Rigoberto Gonzales--So Often the Pitcher Goes to Water Until It Breaks
Debora Greger--Desert Fathers, Uranium Daughters
Linda Gregerson--Waterborne
Matthea Harvey--Pity the Bathtub Its Forced Embrace of the Human Form
Terrance Hayes--Hip Logic
Bob Hicok--Animal Soul
Jane Hirshfield--Given Sugar, Given Salt
Major Jackson--Hoops and Leaving Saturn
Paul Hoover--Totem and Shadow
Marie Howe--What the Living Do
Tyehimba Jess--Leadbelly
Denis Johnson--The Throne of the Third Heaven of the Nations Millennium General Assembly
Allison Joseph--Imitation of Life
A. Van Jordan, M-A-C-N-O-L-I-A
Brigit Pegeen Kelly--The Orchard
Dorianne Laux--Facts About the Moon
Brad Leithauser--Hence
Mark Levine--Enola Gay
Larry Levis--The Selected Levis
Timothy Liu--Hard Evidence
Cleopatra Mathis--What to Tip the Boatman?
Maurice Manning--Lawrence Booth's Book of Visions
J. D. McClatchy--Ten Commandments
Campbell McGrath--Road Atlas
Heather McHugh--Hinge & Sign
Joyelle McSweeney--The Red Bird
Jane Miller--A Palace of Pearls
Susan Mitchell--Rapture
Ander Monson--Vacationland
Lisel Mueller--Dependencies
David Mura--The Colors of Desire
Gregory Orr--The Caged Owl
Alan Michael Parker--The Vandals
Linda Pastan--The Last Uncle
Lucia Perillo--The Oldest Map With the Name America
D. A. Powell--Cocktails
Kevin Prufer--Strange Wood
Bin Ramke--Matter
Donald Revell--My Mojave
David Rivard--Wise Poison
Pattiann Rogers--Song of the World Becoming
Mary Jo Salter--Open Shutters
Leslie Scalapino--The Tango
Charlie Smith--Heroin
Patricia Smith--Blood Dazzler
W. D. Snodgrass--Each In His Season
Cathy Song--Land of Bliss
David St. John--In the Pines
Ruth Stone--In the Next Galaxy
Natasha Trethaway--Domestic Work
Ellen Bryant Voight--Shadow of Heaven
Karen Volkman--Spar
David Wagoner--Good Morning and Good Night
Diane Wakoski--Emerald Ice
Anne Waldman--Structure Of the World Compared To A Bubble
Keith and Rosemary Waldrop--Well Well Reality
Charles H. Webb--Hot Popsicles
Miller Williams--The Ways We Touch
David Wojahn--Mystery Train
Rebecca Wolff--Manderle
Robert Wrigley--Lives of Animals

Award-winning titles and lists that may help to expand your collection

Pulitzer Prizes for Poetry
2011 The Best of It: New and Selected Poems, Kay Ryan
2010 Versed, Rae Armantrout
2009 Shadow of Sirius, W. S. Merwin
2008 Time and Materials, Robert Hass
2008 Failure, Philip Schultz
2007 Native Guard, Natasha Trethawey
2006 Late Wife by Claudia Emerson
2005 Delights and Shadows by Ted Kooser
2004 Walking to Martha’s Vineyard by Franz Wright
2003 Moy Sand and Gravel by Paul Muldoon
2002 Practical Gods by Carl Dennis
2001 Different Hours by Stephen Dunn
2000 Repair: Poems by C. K. Williams
1999 Blizzard of One by Mark Strand
1998 Black Zodiac by Charles Wright
1997 *Alive Together: New and Selected Poems* by Lisel Mueller
1996 *The Dream of the Unified Field* by Jorie Graham
1995 *Simple Truth* by Philip Levine
1994 *Neon Vernacular* by Yusef Komunyakaa
1993 *The Wild Iris* by Louise Gluck
1992 *Selected Poems* by James Tate
1991 *Near Changes* by Mona Van Duyn
1990 *The World Doesn't End* by Charles Simic
1989 *New and Collected Poems* by Richard Wilbur
1988 *Partial Accounts: New and Selected Poems* by William Meredith
1987 *Thomas and Beulah* by Rita Dove
1986 *The Flying Change* by Henry Taylor
1985 *Yin* by Carolyn Kizer
1984 *American Primitive* by Mary Oliver
1983 *Selected Poems* by Galway Kinnell
1982 *The Collected Poems* by Sylvia Plath
1981 *The Morning of the Poem* by James Schuyler
1980 *Selected Poems* by Donald Justice
1978 *Collected Poems* by Howard Nemerov
1977 *Divine Comedies* by James Merrill
1976 *Self-Portrait in a Convex Mirror* by John Ashbery
1975 *Turtle Island* by Gary Snyder
1974 *The Dolphin* by Robert Lowell
1973 *Up Country* by Maxine Kumin
1972 *Collected Poems* by James Wright
1971 *The Carrier of Ladders* by William S. Merwin
1970 *Untitled Subjects* by Richard Howard
1969 *Of Being Numerous* by George Oppen
1968 *Hard Hours* by Anthony Hecht
1967 *Live or Die* by Anne Sexton
1966 *Selected Poems* by Richard Eberhart
1965 *77 Dream Songs* by John Berryman
1964 *At the End of the Open Road* by Louis Simpson
1963 *Pictures From Brueghel* by William Carlos Williams
1962 *Poems* by Alan Dugan
1961 *Times Three: Selected Verse From Three Decades* by Phyllis McGinley
1960 *Heart’s Needle* by William Snodgrass
1959 *Selected Poems 1928-1958* by Stanley Kunitz
1957 *Things of This World* by Richard Wilbur
1956 *Poems-North & South* by Elizabeth Bishop
1955 *Collected Poems* by Wallace Stevens
1954 *The Waking* by Theodore Roethke
1953 *Collected Poems 1917-1952* by Archibald MacLeish
1952 *Collected Poems* by Marianne Moore
1951 *Complete Poems* by Carl Sandburg
1950 *Annie Allen* by Gwendolyn Brooks
1949 *Terror and Decorum* by Peter Viereck
1948 *The Age of Anxiety* by W. H. Auden
1947 *Lord Weary's Castle* by Robert Lowell
1946 *V-Letter and Other Poems* by Karl Shapiro

**Recent National Book Award Winners in Poetry**
2011 *Heads Off & Split*, Nikky Finney
2010 *Lighthead*, Terrance Hayes
2009 *Transcendental Studies: A Trilogy*, Keth Waldrop
2008 *Fire to Fire*, Mark Doty
2007 *Time and Materials*, Robert Hass
2006 *Splay Anthem*, Nathanial Mackey
2005 *Migration: New and Selected Poems*, W. S. Merwin
2004 *Door in the Mountain: New and Collected Poems*, Jean Valentine
2003 *The Singing: Poems*, C. K. Williams
2002 *In the Next Galaxy*, Ruth Stone
2001 *Poems Seven: New and Complete Poetry*, Alan Dugan
2000 *Blessing the Boats: New and Selected Poems*, Lucille Clifton
1999 *Vice: New & Selected Poems*, Ai
1998 *This Time*, Gerald Stern
1997 *Effort at Speech*, William Meredith
1996 *Scrambled Eggs & Whiskey*, Hayden Carruth
1995 *Passing Through*, Stanley Kunitz
1994 *A Worshipful Company of Fletchers*, James Tate
1993 *Garbage*, A. R. Ammons
1992 *New and Selected Poems*, Mary Oliver
1991 *What Work Is*, Philip Levine

**Recent Poets Laureate**
Philip Levine
W. S. Merwin
Kay Ryan
Charles Simic
Donald Hall
Ted Kooser
Louise Glück
Billy Collins
Stanley Kunitz
Robert Pinsky
Robert Hass
Rita Dove

**The American Academy of Poets list of 31 ground-breaking books:**
*Leaves of Grass* by Walt Whitman
The Complete Poems by Emily Dickinson
North of Boston by Robert Frost
Tender Buttons by Gertrude Stein
Harmonium by Wallace Stevens
Spring and All by William Carlos Williams
The Cantos by Ezra Pound
The Weary Blues by Langston Hughes
The Bridge by Hart Crane
Selected Poems by Marianne Moore
Collected Sonnets by Edna St. Vincent Millay
Four Quartets by T.S. Eliot
Trilogy 1944-1946 by H.D
The Waking by Theodore Roethke
Howl and Other Poems by Allen Ginsberg
Life Studies by Robert Lowell
The Bean Eaters by Gwendolyn Brooks
The Maximus Poems by Charles Olson
A Ballad of Remembrance by Robert Hayden
For Love by Robert Creeley
The Branch Will Not Break by James Wright
77 Dream Songs by John Berryman
Lunch Poems by Frank O'Hara
Ariel by Sylvia Plath
Live or Die by Anne Sexton
Bending the Bow by Robert Duncan
Of Being Numerous by George Oppen
Diving into the Wreck by Adrienne Rich
The Lady in Kicking Horse Reservoir by Richard Hugo
Self Portrait in a Convex Mirror by John Ashbery
Geography III by Elizabeth Bishop