

Press Release-For Immediate Release

Contact: Beverly Lenihan, CFRE
(m) 408-981-6066
bev@reresults.com



Cupertino Poet Laureate Amanda Williamsen Plans for 2016-2018

January 14 Poetry Party Launches Two-Year Program

December 11, 2015 -- CUPERTINO, CA— In January, Cupertino welcomes its new Poet Laureate, Amanda Williamsen, who will serve our city from 2016 to 2018. In addition to participating in community festivities, she plans to offer workshops and contests, visit schools, and organize readings to bring a diverse array of Bay Area poets to our city. Her first official event will be a Poetry Party on January 14 at 7:00 p.m. in the Cupertino Library's Story Room. These and all other sponsored sessions are open to the public and at no charge.

"January's workshop is the first in a series," said Williamsen. "The Poetry Parties will be about reading and writing poetry, sharing ideas, and trying new things." Inspired by the idea of New Year's resolutions, the January workshop is called Resolute Creativity. "We can resolve to enjoy more creativity in our lives in 2016," she says. "And of course we'll have fun." Adults and teens are welcome. "I look forward to sharing the joys of poetry with writers of all ages in Cupertino."

Amanda has taught writing and literature at elementary schools, high schools, and universities, and her poems have appeared in a number of literary journals. The Poet Laureate program is a community benefit program sponsored by the City of Cupertino, the Library Commission, the Cupertino Library Foundation, and The Friends of the Cupertino Library. Previous Poets Laureate are inaugural Poet Laureate, Dave Denny, and the second Poet Laureate, Jennifer Swanton Brown.

In December 2010, the City Council of Cupertino unanimously adopted a resolution put forth by the Library Commission establishing the office of the Cupertino Poet Laureate. During the two years that the Cupertino Poet Laureate presides there are personal presentations and hosted educational events. The Laureate will introduce adults and youth to the benefits of personal and community expression which, among other qualities, highlight the benefits of living and working in Cupertino.

Visit www.cupertinopoetlaureate.org, or follow the program on Facebook.

#