

Stanley Kunitz
1905-2006

4 Woodford Street



Announcing Season Five of Poet Stanley Kunitz's Boyhood Home Summer Writing Series



Series Mission: to examine poems of Stanley Kunitz in the setting of his boyhood home in Worcester, Massachusetts, with the purpose of generating new writing.

Presenters will lead discussions of Stanley Kunitz's and other poets' work related to specific themes; they will create activities designed to guide writers into new creative territory. Bring pen, paper and a love of language to his boyhood home, designated a Literary Landmark© by the American Library Association (www.ala.org).

Fifth Season - selected Saturdays from 1 - 5 p.m.

Refreshments served. Registration fee: \$20 per workshop. Limited enrollment! Register NOW!

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2017 IS OUR FIFTH SEASON!

June 17th Writing Workshop #1 – Jim Beschta, Leader: Montage – Jim Beschta, teacher and poet, will introduce the montage process sometimes used in film to the practice of writing poetry. Through close readings of “Journal for my Daughter” by Kunitz, “Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Blackbird” by Stevens, and “Six Winter Privacy Poems” by Bly, he will explain the history of the montage style, the evolution and application of this approach and will lead students to create personal montage pieces. Participants will come away with an original venture into a modified version of the form. **Register by June 6th.**

July 15th Writing Workshop #2 – Christian Reifsteck, Leader: Inscribing Blessing: Exploring the Poem as Blessing. – Kunitz famously said, “The poem comes in the form of a blessing.” In this workshop, Christian Reifsteck, teacher and poet, will lead participants in exploration of the poem as blessing. Using several of Kunitz's poems, including *Promise Me*, *Benediction*, and *End of Summer* as points of discussion, we'll consider the way poems bless us, the blessings of our own lives, and be inspired to create poems of blessing. **Register by July 4th.**

August 19th Writing Workshop #3 – Carol Hobbs, Leader: Discovering the Poem. – Where do poems come from? How can we, as poets, discover new images, tap into fresh language, mine the deep resonance in memory and emotion? Carol Hobbs, teacher and poet, will guide participants through freewriting activities using Stanley Kunitz' work and non-fiction texts as she leads us to discover those poems waiting to be written. **Register by August 8th.**

September 16th Writing Workshop #4 – Polly Brown: “For the Sake of the Life”: Memory and Redemption – Stanley Kunitz has affirmed that “poetry is for the sake of the life.” Clearly, though, he doesn't mean abstract pep talks for the embattled self. He talks of receiving a gift, a blessing—which seems to consist, in some poems, of a blaze of memory. Polly Brown, poet, teacher and naturalist, will lead writers through two poems related to Kunitz's boyhood home and his experience there, to ask how those poems work “for the sake of the life”. Participants will examine both betrayal and redemption in their own lives and explore related memories through their writing. **Register by September 5th.**

Susan Roney O'Brien, Writing Series Coordinator; Carol Stockmal, Owner/Curator

Visit <http://kunitzhome.org> for more information.

Co-sponsored by The Stanley Kunitz Boyhood Home & The Worcester County Poetry Association