

THE ERIE COUNTY POETRY COMMITTEE INVITES YOU TO THE

# 2018–2019 Erie County Poet Laureate Finalist Readings



FEATURING

Chuck Joy

Luke Kuzmish

Luchetta Manus

Monday September 24

7pm at the Hirt Auditorium at the Blasco Memorial Library

FREE EVENT

# Press Release

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**To:** News Producers, editors & print reporters  
**Contact:** Douglas Smith, 451-6304  
**From:** Erie County Council  
**Date:** August 31, 2018  
**Re:** Poet Laureate Finalist Reading on Monday September 24 @ 7:00 p.m.

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Three Erie County poets have been selected as finalists in the search for the 2018–2019 Erie County Poet Laureate. Chuck Joy, Luke Kuzmish and Luchetta Manus will read their original works Monday September 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the Hirt Auditorium at the Blasco Library.

The scores accumulated this night will combine with scores the artists already received on their written poems and their community project idea. The Poet Laureate gives back to the community in the form of a project which furthers the art form and brings people together under the umbrella of poetry. The finalist with the highest combined scores will be the County's next Laureate.

The Judges' Panel for the 2018–2019 Laureate competition are Joseph Giles, Helene Grande and Carrie Hohmann from the EC Poetry Committee; Tracey Bowes from Pressed Café and John Vanco, Director Emeritus at the Erie Art Museum. In the initial phase of the competition, the Judges' Panel scored the poems and project ideas without knowing the identity of the applicant. They, like you are just now learning the identity of the Finalists.

This night of poetry will bring to the fore three bright lights in our poetry community. Interviews with the artists and poetry books will be available.

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## Press Release

THE ERIE COUNTY POETRY COMMITTEE includes Dr. Greg Brown, Director of the Writing Center Mercyhurst University, Helene Grande Erie School District (Retired), Mary Jane Koenig Erie School District (Retired), George Looney, Professor of English Penn State Univ. at Behrend, Berwyn Moore Professor of English Gannon University, Carrie Hohmann Instructor of English & Philosophy Edinboro Univ., Tom Ferraro, Executive Director Erie Arts & Culture, Ben Speggen, Program Director, Jefferson Educational Society, Joseph Giles County Council (Retired); Douglas Smith Erie County Clerk

This event is free to the public.