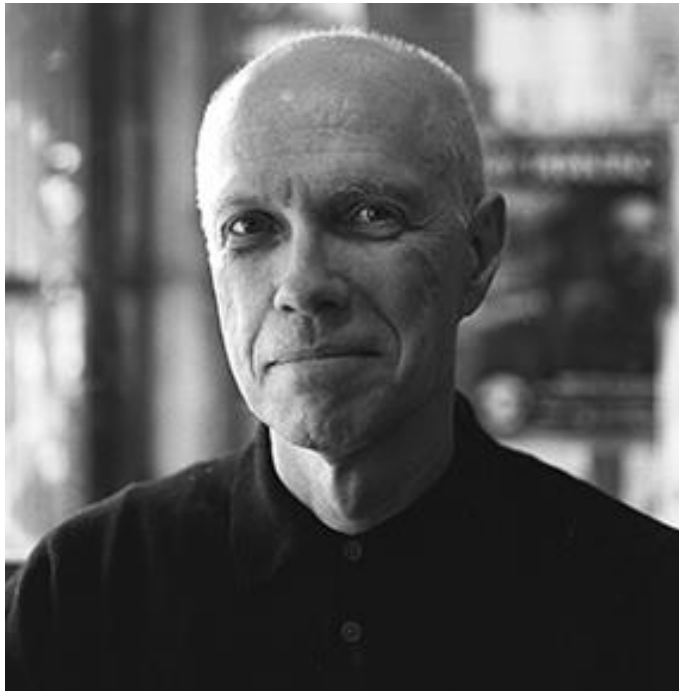


**15<sup>th</sup> Annual Robert  
Creeley Award  
Presenting**

# **Ron Padgett**



**Thursday, March 19, 2015 7:30 p.m.**

**Acton-Boxborough Regional High  
School Auditorium**

## SPEAKERS

<b>Bob Clawson</b>	Introduction and Closing Remarks
<b>Susan Edwards Richmond</b>	Introduction of the Helen Creeley Student Poetry Prize Winners
<b>Nicole Blackwood</b>	2015 Helen Creeley Student Poetry Prize Winner
<b>Sequoia LeBreux</b>	2015 Helen Creeley Student Poetry Prize Winner
<b>Frank Joyner</b>	Broadside Development and Presentation of the 2015 Robert Creeley Award
<b>Ron Padgett</b>	Winner of the 2015 Robert Creeley Award

Following Mr. Padgett's reading, there will be a Question and Answer session followed by a book signing.

**Robert Creeley Award:** Each year the Robert Creeley Award winner selects materials valued at \$500 which have been inspirational or otherwise valuable to him or her to be added to the Acton Memorial Library's collection. Each title contains a bookplate signed by the Award winner.

**Helen Creeley Student Poetry Prize:** High school students from across the state were invited to take part in the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Helen Creeley Prize competition. Based on written work and two auditions, the winners were selected from 71 applicants from 42 towns. Winners receive \$100 for books for their personal libraries.

Tonight's music is provided by the Acton Boxborough Regional High School Flute Choir under the direction of Ms. Elly Ball. Members include Nicole Donahue, Corinne Greene, Sonja Heels, Alissa Ostapenko, Nina Prakash, and Tara Prakash.

**Bob Clawson**, a poet and Acton resident, is one of the founders of this event and a director of the Robert Creeley Foundation.

---

**Susan Edwards Richmond** is the author of four poetry collections, *Increase*, *Birding in Winter*, *Purgatory Chasm*, and *Boto*, and is a poetry editor for the Massachusetts Audubon Society. She lives in Acton with her husband and two daughters, who are recent graduates of Acton-Boxborough Regional High School.

---

**Nicole Blackwood** is a junior at Newburyport High School. She recently received the Arisia Writing Award and is a Writer's Digest Short Story winner. With assistance from her Creative Writing teacher, Deborah Szabo, Nicole has come to appreciate and love the art of poetry and is honored to count this as her first poetry award.

---

**Sequoia LeBreux** is a junior at Mohawk Trail Regional High School in Shelburne Falls. She aspires to expand minds and in turn expand her own through experiencing new art and new ways of being. Sequoia enjoys creating zines, listening to mix tapes, and meeting new writers like herself.

---

**Frank Joyner** is a founder of this event and led the incorporation process for the Robert Creeley Foundation. He currently serves as its vice-president.

---

**Ron Padgett** began writing at the age of thirteen and started a magazine in high school called *The White Dove Review* with friends Dick Gallup and Joe Brainard. In its five issues, the magazine published Allen Ginsberg, Jack Kerouac, Robert Creeley, LeRoi Jones (now Amiri Baraka), Ted Berrigan, and others.

In 1960, he moved to New York City, where he attended Columbia College and studied with Kenneth Koch and Lionel Trilling. Padgett later spent a year in Paris on a Fulbright fellowship where he studied French literature.

His first collection of poems, *Bean Spasms*, written with Ted Berrigan, was published in 1967. Since then he has published many books of poetry, including *Collected Poems*, which received the William Carlos Williams Award from the Poetry Society of America, and the Los Angeles Times Book Prize in poetry. Other titles include: *How Long; How to Be Perfect; You Never Know; Poems I Guess I Wrote; New & Selected Poems; The Big Something; Triangles in the Afternoon; and Great Balls of Fire*.

Padgett was the editor-in-chief of *World Poets*, a three-volume reference work. For twenty years Padgett was the publications director of Teachers & Writers Collaborative. He served as a Chancellor of the Academy of American Poets from 2008 to 2013. He lives in New York City.

## ROBERT CREELEY 1926-2005

Robert Creeley lived in West Acton from ages 4 to 15 and always considered it home. He often said that he "learned to read" at the Acton Memorial Library.

Through the *Black Mountain Review* and his own critical writings, Creeley helped to define a counter-tradition to the literary establishment. He published more than sixty books of poetry in the U. S. and abroad and more than a dozen books of prose, essays and interviews. He also edited Charles Olson's *Selected Poems* (1993), *The Essential Burns* (1989) and *Whitman: Selected Poems* (1973). His many honors included the Lannan Lifetime Achievement Award, the Bollingen Prize, the Frost Medal, the Shelley Memorial Award, a National Endowment for the Arts grant, a Rockefeller Foundation grant, and fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation. He served as New York State Poet Laureate from 1989 to 1991 and spent many years as Samuel P. Capen Professor of Poetry and Humanities at SUNY, Buffalo. Bob was elected a Chancellor of the Academy of American Poets in 1999. At his death in March 2005, he was a Distinguished Professor of English at Brown University.

### ROBERT CREELEY POETRY AWARD WINNERS

2001 Robert Creeley	2008 John Ashbery
2002 Galway Kinnell	2009 Sonia Sanchez
2003 Grace Paley	2010 Gary Snyder
2004 Martín Espada	2011 Bruce Weigl
2005 C. D. Wright	2012 Thomas Lux
2006 Carolyn Forché	2013 Naomi Shihab Nye
2007 Yusef Komunyakaa	2014 Mary Ruefle

### ROBERT CREELEY FOUNDATION MEMBERS

Maria Anthony	Jeremy Blaustein	Michael Bottari
Bob Clawson	Jean D'Amico	Theresa Doolittle
Tom Dunn	Isabella Field	Frank Flowers
Lily He	Terry House	Frank Joyner
Hannah Karp	Sarah Leandro	Anna Meusel
Annika Miller	Cheryl Perreault	Erika Petersen
Leanne Quinn	Jane Reynolds	Marcia Rich
Susan Richmond	Arielle Sabot	Nell Scherfling
	Anna Ward	

**For more information on the Foundation or to make an online donation, please visit its website at [www.robertcreeleyfoundation.org](http://www.robertcreeleyfoundation.org).**