

# Poems of Witness: Speaking the Truth, Going to the Heart

WITH JOHN FOX, CPT

October 6-7, 2017 | Shaker Heights, OH

*Poetry allows one to speak with a power  
that is not granted by our culture.*

~ Linda McCarriston

In these times, we are called to speak up and speak out, and by doing this, strengthen a community of conscience and caring.

Yet, within our country and living on this fragile planet, it is a challenge in the midst of heart-breaking social and political realities to express and give shape to YOUR unique voice; your poetic voice that is

- humane and beautiful
- fierce, courageous and noble
- creative and compassionate

*You see, we cannot  
ignore history.  
History doesn't go  
away. The past  
isn't back there, the  
past is here too.*

~ Lucille Clifton



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Your voice is necessary now and needed more than ever to bear witness to what you care about in this life. What is at risk for you? What do you care about?

Rather than write the polemical, we will explore a voice that leans into the cathartic and generative.

Our retreat will draw upon the poetry of Thomas Merton, William Stafford, Adrienne Rich, Edward Abbey, Naomi Shihab Nye, Lucille Clifton, Joy Harjo, Thich Nhat Hanh, Mary Oliver, Joanna Macy, Jimmy Santiago Baca, Diane di Prima, Ray Young Bear, Maya Angelou, Yusef Komunyakaa and the poetry of children.

My intention and purpose is to encourage a poem-making that speaks truth, treasures beauty and empowers us to recognize our common ground.

Beginning and experienced poets/writers are welcome. It will be valuable and safe for anyone with a desire to express their truth and creativity.

**Enrollment in the Saturday retreat includes the Friday talk. You are also welcome to attend *only* the talk.**

**Public Talk/Mini-Workshop**  
Friday, October 6, 7:00-9:30pm

**Retreat**  
Saturday, October 7, 10:00am-5:00pm  
Limited to 15.

Heights Christian Church  
17300 Van Aken Blvd,  
Shaker Heights, OH 44120

Fee: \$130 (Fri/Sat); \$20 (Fri only)

Click [HERE](#) to register online.

**For more information:**  
Karin Rosegger and Bob Delvalle  
at [krosegger@gmail.com](mailto:krosegger@gmail.com)

Two scholarships available.

We will order from a local deli or you may bring your own brown bag lunch on Saturday. Refreshments will be provided.

THE INSTITUTE  FOR  
**Poetic Medicine**  
*To awaken soulfulness in the human voice*



## REGISTRATION FORM

Reserve your place for *Poems of Witness: Going to the Heart, Speaking the Truth*, with John Fox by mailing this registration form and a deposit check for \$40 payable to The Institute for Poetic Medicine to: Karin Rosegger, 3662 Stoer Road, Shaker Heights, OH 44122. The balance of \$90 will be due at start of retreat. Or you can register for only the Friday evening presentation by sending in a check for \$20. You can also register online at: [http://bit.ly/PoemsofWitness\\_OH](http://bit.ly/PoemsofWitness_OH)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: work ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ home ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

- I will attend the full retreat and have enclosed \$40 deposit.
- I will attend only the Friday evening talk and have enclosed \$20 fee.