



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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See Poetry in Action, Literally!

The Chippewa Valley Book Festival, the Chippewa Valley Writers Guild, and the University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire Department of English proudly present: Text & Image – Poemeo (poetry video) by Heid E. Erdrich. It will be held in Woodland Theater at the University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire Davies Center on Thursday, April 25, 2019, at 7:00 p.m.

This lecture offers a great opportunity to celebrate National Poetry Month and is in conjunction with the Wisconsin Academy of Poets Conference. This is a free event with no ticket required. The book festival will have books available to purchase at the event. Heid will read from her own work and present from her recent anthology. She will show brief poetry videos, called “poemeos,” which she has created in collaboration with an all-indigenous team of visual artists, animators, filmmakers, and composers.

The sounds and images weave in and out in a kind of dance that includes Heid’s Native heritage, her love of nature and a fair amount of social criticism, some of it subtle and ironic, other times straight-forward. Heid’s poetry and other writing has won awards and honors from the Loft Literary Center, Native Arts and Culture Foundation, The First Peoples Fund and other organizations. She teaches writing and is a frequent speaker on Native American literature, visual art, and Indigenous foods, among other subjects. She lives in Minnesota and is Ojibwe, enrolled at Turtle Mountain. Heid enjoys working with students, communities, and librarians.

Still, I knew that I would begin by telling you all something important, said by others before me: There is no such thing as Native American poetry. We are poets who belong to Native Nations. There are more than 573 Native Nations. Their relationship with the US federal government is as nation to nation. We also know who we are and we determine our own membership and citizenship. We write into, out of, even despite this fact.”

– Prose from *Poetry Magazine* by Heid E. Erdrich

Additional information about this event and the Chippewa Valley Book Festival can be found at: <https://www.cvbookfest.org/>.

The Chippewa Valley Book Festival is a part of the literary arm of the Pablo Center at the Confluence, and works collaboratively with the University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire Foundation to provide literary programming for all Chippewa Valley residents.

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