



## The Robert Creeley Foundation

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#### Award Winners

Robert Creeley

Galway Kinnell

Grace Paley

Martín Espada

C. D. Wright

Carolyn Forché

Yusef Komunyakaa

John Ashbery

Sonia Sanchez

Gary Snyder

Bruce Weigl

Thomas Lux

Naomi Shihab Nye

Mary Ruefle

January 29, 2015

Board of Selectmen

Acton Town Hall

Members of the Board:

The Robert Creeley Foundation, Inc. requests the approval of the Board of Selectmen to use \$1000 from the Georgia Whitney Memorial Fund to help finance the 2015 Robert Creeley Award and associated Helen Creeley Student Poetry Prize. The Whitney Fund was established to support events that enrich the high school students and adults of Acton; it has a current expendable balance of \$23,064.

The selection committee of the Foundation has chosen Ron Padgett as the 15<sup>th</sup> winner of the Robert Creeley Award. Ron has received the William Carlos Williams Award from the Poetry Society of America, and the Los Angeles Times Book Prize in poetry. About Padgett's work, the poet James Tate wrote, "Ron Padgett's poems sing with absolutely true pitch. And they are human friendly. Their search for truths, both small and large, can be cause for laughter, or at least a thoughtful sigh."

He was the editor-in-chief of *World Poets*, a three-volume reference book, and for twenty years he was the publications director of Teachers & Writers Collaborative. Ron served as a Chancellor of the Academy of American Poets from 2008 to 2013.

Ron will accept the Creeley Award and read from his work in the ABRHS auditorium the evening of March 19, and visit the school the next day to read to students and field questions about writing and the life of a writer.

The Creeley Award events continue to grow in scope and popularity, with last year's poet, Mary Ruefle, drawing large and enthusiastic audiences in the evening and the following day in ABRHS. The Helen Creeley Student Poetry Prize competition has drawn 71 responses from 37 high schools across the state.

We hope the Board will agree that this program is of great value and approve using \$1000 from the Georgia Whitney Fund.

Sincerely,

Marcia Rich

Treasurer

Attachments: Biography of Ron Padgett; Georgia Whitney Fund Approval Form

Robert Creeley Foundation, Incorporated - a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) corporation  
c/o Acton Memorial Library, 486 Main Street, Acton, MA 01720  
[www.robertcreeleyfoundation.org](http://www.robertcreeleyfoundation.org)

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