

Jackie Huss Hallerberg

*A poem is a very fragile thing. It can be happy
and sad at the same time,
so be gentle with it.* by Cody, grade 3



Jackie Hallerberg has been a poet for most of her life, beginning when she wrote a poem for her father's birthday at age seven. She recalls a few of the lines here – “*I have nothing to give, she cries with a tear, but my love so warm and tender and dear.*” Her father kept a copy in his dresser drawer until his passing in 2014.

Jackie has pursued poetry and the arts through several decades of life-long learning through classes, certification programs, workshops and writing groups. In the past two decades she has expanded her body of work significantly. In 2001, she became certified as a Poet-Teacher with California Poets in the Schools ([CPiTS](#)). In 2016-2017 she will teach poetry to over 700 Sonoma County students during residencies ranging in length from four to twelve sessions. She adopts a multi-disciplinary approach when teaching poetry and holds academic degrees in science, business and education.

Jackie teaches in an experiential manner across disciplines and has worked with students ranging from KG to 12th grade in a variety of settings. She is especially interested in reaching out to at-risk students and others who might be under-served in their communities. She is a master at engaging students and adults alike with over 90% of students writing original poetry during her sessions.

In her own poetry, she explores themes of motherhood (she has two sons), veterans (her father was a WWII POW in Mukden, Manchuria), ancestors (her maternal grandparents were immigrants), and the natural world (she is a daily hiker). Currently, she is working on combining the disciplines of poetry, visual arts and improvisation as she continues to expand her craft.

PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN THE LITERARY ARTS

- Poet Teacher/Artist in Residence – California Poets in the Schools in the Schools since 2001
- Creator/Director of *Giving Tree Poetry Readings* - Apple Blossom School, Sebastopol, CA –1999-2001
- Poet on site for the *Sculpture Jam* - 2000-2002, Sebastopol, CA, culminating in a closing ceremony performance with all her poetry and interpretive dance by Irena Nickels
- Poet for *Invitation to the Journey* – a tribute to Bruce Johnson's Old Growth/New Life Sculpture Grove at Paradise Ridge Winery, Santa Rosa, 2001

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PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN THE LITERARY ARTS (CONTINUED)

- Poet performer in *Death Makes Angels of Us All, The Subject Tonight Is Love and Serpenstance*, Subud Hall, Sebastopol, 2000-2002
- Creator/Designer of *An Exploration of Peace* – an exhibit of student and teacher poetry and art as a response to 911, State Capitol Building, Sacramento
- Winner of three Sebastopol Art Center Poetry Contests:
 - Don Emblem's Bus Poetry Project – *Wild Turkey*
 - On Loss – *Cat Nap*
 - On Weeds – Best of Show – *A Weed Muses on Her Life*
- Designed and manned a hands-on poetry-making booth at Maker Faire, San Mateo, 2014, 2015 – Best of Show in Education Class & Editors Choice
- Squaw Valley Community of Writers of Poetry – 1998, 2016
- Participant in two long-term Sonoma Co. writing groups since 1990
- Participant in Maxine Hong Kingston's writing group - Veterans of Peace/ Veterans of War
- Various online and print poetry publications
- Self-published chapbook and cd – *Poems of Motherhood*

PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS in EDUCATION:

- Introduced hundreds of students across Sonoma County to poetry and performance
- Coached high school students in county-wide Poetry Out Loud Competition
- Exhibited a display of 911 student poetry & paintings at CA State Capitol, May 2002
- Created gr 2nd - 8th poetry curriculum incorporating Common Core standards
- Developed leadership training for coaches and teachers
- Adopted best practices in classrooms and collaborated with colleagues
- Analyzed multiple assessment data and modified curriculum to promote learning
- Defined and planned (as part of a team) Bernard Eldredge's Learning Academy
- Wrote & received several grants, including 2015 Creative Sonoma Arts Youth Program Grant and 06/07 PEF Grant for tutorial programs

EDUCATION

University of Michigan – BS in Medical Technology, MBA

Sonoma State University – Multiple Subject Elementary Education