**Take Your Poetry Muse to**

**MUSEum Day!**

**Sunday, November 11**, **2018**

**2:00pm to 4:00pm**

Cost: FREE! *DMA Collection Galleries are always free!*

**Dallas Museum of Art (DMA)**

1717 N Harwood Street, Dallas, TX

\*\*\*Parking in the DMA’s underground garage costs $12.00. If you choose to take the DART, simply ride the train to the St. Paul Station and walk north to the Museum's Ross Avenue Entrance.

Come explore the DMA’s encyclopedic collection while discovering ways to gather poetic inspiration from visual art!

What to bring: Clipboard/firm surface to support writing, paper, pen, and YOUR POETRY MUSE!

Facilitator: **Ann Marie Newman** is the former Storyteller in Residence for the DMA (2007-2014), summer camp instructor, and two-time Center for the Creative Connections Visiting Artist. ***"I love to awaken people to the imaginative world of art, stories, and poetry while also triggering within them, a desire to explore their own creative potential.”***

**\*\*\*Please RSVP with Ann Marie Newman via** **annstoryart@gmail.com** **or 972-922-5465. We’ll meet promptly in the DMA Atrium (by big glass window featuring Chihuly art glass, street level) at 2pm.**

# ***“Painting is silent poetry, and poetry is painting that speaks.”* ― Plutarch**

**“Take Your Poetry Muse to MUSEum Day –**

**Gather poetic inspiration from visual art!**

* **Leonardo da Vinci said,** *“Painting is poetry that is seen rather than felt, and poetry is painting that is felt rather than seen.”*

**Sorry Leo! I disagree. Totally!** When we intentionally engage our imagination into fully opening our senses (all our senses!), we CAN *feel* visual art. This is turn creates poetry that CAN be felt, and *seen,* through the same engagement of imagination.

Poets are by nature highly observant people. Just like visual artists! We paint using the medium of words. Our most important tools are the five senses: *Vision, Taste, Touch, Smell & Hearing*. Wait! There’s one more, a sixth sense; *Intuition*.

***Intuition*** is our siren call to a particular work of visual art, what sparks and ignites our muse of inspiration! It summons us to create dialogue with certain images while forsaking others.

* *“Eleanor was right. She never looked nice. She looked like art, and art wasn't supposed to look nice; it was supposed to make you feel something.”* ― **Rainbow Rowell, author**
* *“The chief enemy of creativity is good sense.”* ― **Pablo Picasso**

**Tips for catching sparks and igniting the flame of poetic inspiration:**

* Pay attention to works that spark a strong response from you – both good and bad!
* To discourage any outside influences, even by the artist, **delay reading any information (including title!) about the work until after you do the following:**
	+ **Check in with your senses, step by step.**
	+ **Take notes, catching words, phases, observations that flit by. Be messy, be fast, do not judge or weigh the value of anything – just catch it!**
	+ **Take a photo if allowed. DO NOT USE A FLASH!**
* Now read about the work if you choose. Be sure not to allow it to unduly influence your uniquely creative & individual response. This is NOT art history, it’s poetry!
* Start writing. Compose from your notes, let your intuitive “gut response” lead the way.
* *“Practicing an art, no matter how well or badly, is a way to make your soul grow, for heaven's sake. Sing in the shower. Dance to the radio. Tell stories. Write a poem to a friend, even a lousy poem. Do it as well as you possible can. You will get an enormous reward. You will have created something.”*― **Kurt Vonnegut**

**Now go. Write poetry. Even if it’s lousy. Write. YOU WILL CREATE!**