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- **The 2015 Inaugural Latin@ Scholarship Winner: Jennifer Givhan**
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**The 2015 Inaugural Latin@ Scholarship Winner
Jennifer Givhan**

Jennifer Givhan is a Mexican-American poet from the Southwestern desert. She has received an NEA in poetry and a PEN/Rosenthal Emerging Voices fellowship. She won The Pinch Poetry Prize, the DASH Journal Poetry Prize, the Blue Mesa Review Poetry Second Prize, and was an Andrés Montoya Book Prize finalist. She holds



an MFA from Warren Wilson College, and her work has appeared in over ninety journals and anthologies, including *Best New Poets*. You can learn more about Givhan at jennifergivhan.com.

The Frost Place is pleased to announce Jennifer Givhan as the winner of the 2015 Inaugural Latin@ Scholarship. The scholarship fully funds Givhan's attendance at the 2015 Frost Place Conference on Poetry, July 12 – 18.

Javier Zamora, selection committee, said "Jennifer Givhan introduced me to a persona I couldn't let go of and places her in the desert. Her poetic persona are risking their own existence. The work exhibits fearlessness and lyricism. [...] Her work is filled with surprises, like the word zombie, in an abecedarian that I didn't notice was an abecedarian until the third or fourth read, a testament to the crafts-womanship of this work. I'm confident Givhan will also stay true to the community aspect of this scholarship by spreading the word and helping other members of the Latin@ community."

On being selected as the inaugural Latin@ poet at The Frost Place, Jennifer Givhan said, "As a Latin@ poet, I've surrounded myself with role models in a landscape that hasn't always been receptive to our poetics and voices. Lately, I've noticed that Latin@ poetry is making its way into the homes and hearts of the mainstream poetry world (we have Juan Felipe Herrera as our U.S. Poet Laureate!). The existence of this Latin@ Scholarship demonstrates more tangible proof that Latin@ poetry is important to us all. I feel joyful and encouraged by this opportunity for honing my craft surrounded and guided by an incredible faculty at The Frost Place, as I continue to share my voice and the voice of the community behind me. I'm incredibly grateful."

The Latin@ Scholarship recipient was selected by a small panel committed to furthering the Latin@ voice in poetry. Selection of the winning recipient was

based solely on the creative work and submitted answers to application questions by the applicant.

Applications for the 2016 Latin@ Scholarship will be available online at www.frostplace.org Please contact The Frost Place office with any questions: frost@frostplace.org or 603-823-5510

Special Guest Faculty at the Poetry Seminar Cammy Thomas



Cammy Thomas' first book of poems, *Cathedral of Wish*, received the 2006 Norma Farber First Book Award from the Poetry Society of America. Her second book, *Inscriptions*, has just come out. Both are published by Four Way Books. Her poems have recently appeared in *Appalachia*, *Bateau*, *The Classical Outlook*, *The Healing Muse*, and *Spillway*. A fellowship from the Ragdale Foundation helped her complete her new book. Thomas wrote her PhD dissertation at Berkeley on the poetry of Alfred, Lord Tennyson. An MFA in poetry followed, from the MFA Program for Writers at Warren Wilson College. She lives in Lexington, Massachusetts, and teaches literature and creative writing at Concord Academy.

**The Emperor of Oyster Bay
by Cammy Thomas**

He rode to the hunt with trumpets and guns
in November cold, his voice a drum,
his loyal children dressed in green and gold.

His words rang rifle shots, dogs cowering
behind him, stars rotating as years passed—
and blood wove itself into their cloth,
mutated into shapes of horse and hound
running under him on an icy path.

Air froze as they breathed it, icicles
in the lungs. They were pierced
by that which melted and left no trace.

"The Emperor of Oyster Bay" from *Inscriptions* (c) 2014 by Cammy Thomas.
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The Frost Place Poetry Seminar
Apply Now

Poetry Seminar - August 2 - 8, 2015

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