
Erica Gosswww.ericagoss.com**SUMMARY**

- Poet, reviewer, essayist and writing instructor
- Co-curator, Windfall Reading Series, a literary arts reading series in Eugene, OR, beginning in 2023
- Co-curator, River Road Readings, a literary arts reading series in Eugene, OR, from 2017-2023
- Director and Creator of Girls' Voices Matter, an arts-based education program for teen girls (2017-2022)
- Co-creator of Media Poetry Studio, a young women's art education organization (2014-2017)
- Media arts teacher for [Ophelia's Place](#) (2018-2020)
- Poet-teacher for [California Poets in the Schools](#) (2014-2017)
- Development Director, [California Poets in the Schools](#) (2015-2016)
- Host and co-creator of cable-TV show, *Word to Word*, featuring local writers (2014)
- Author of *Landscape with Womb and Paradox*, Broadstone Books, 2026
- Author of [Night Court](#), winner of the 2016 Lyrebird Award from Glass Lyre Press
- Editor of [A Writer's Homestead](#), a newsletter about art, literature, and place
- Editor of [Sticks & Stones](#), a newsletter about art and literature
- Los Gatos Poet Laureate (2013-2016)
- Published author of hundreds of articles, essays and poems
- Author of five published books (2012, 2014, 2017, 2018, 2026)
- Explored avenues for greater access to poetry for people with disabilities; obtained grant to fund a recorded issue of Poetry Center's literary journal, *Caesura*, intended for people with low vision

Poet, Reviewer, Essayist

- Author of multiple published poems since 2003
- Regular reviewer of poetry collections
- Author of personal and nonfiction essays

Writing Instructor

- Poetry instructor with [Wordcrafters](#)
- Work with adults and older teens

Director and Creator, Girls' Voices Matter

2017-2022.

- Oversaw all aspects of **Girls' Voices Matter**, including mission, marketing, curriculum development, hiring, teaching, and business planning, for arts-based education program that taught teen girls written and visual storytelling, including how to make their own short, personal narratives using creative writing and video

Co-Creator and Poetry Instructor, Media Poetry Studio

2014-2017.

- Responsible for marketing, fund-raising, grant-writing, hiring
- Developed poetry-focused curriculum
- Poetry instructor

Instructor

2005-present.

- Instructor, Wordcrafters of Eugene, “Exploring Ekphrasis” (ongoing since 2021)
- Instructor, Wordcrafters of Eugene, poetry classes
- Writing coach for private clients
- Media arts and creative writing teacher for Girls’ Voices Matter from 2017-22
- Media arts instructor for [Ophelia’s Place](#) from 2018-2020
- Poetry and video curriculum creator and teacher for Media Poetry Studio (2014-2017)
- Poet-teacher for [California Poets in the Schools](#) (2014-2017)
- Memoir writing instructor, [Osher Lifelong Learning Institute](#) (2018)
- Creator and instructor for private, on-line writing classes, including “20 Poems in 30 Days,” “Steal This Poem,” and “Organization for Writers” (onging)
- Adjunct professor of English and Humanities at DeVry University (2010-2012)
- Poetry teacher for high-school, poetry-based curriculum at Saratoga High School, Saratoga, CA (2005-2010)
- English teacher for ninth-grade high school class at Waldorf High School of the Peninsula, Cupertino, CA (2008-2009)
- Teaching associate for English 1A at San Jose State University as graduate student (2006-2007)

Poet Laureate, Los Gatos

2013-2016.

- Responsible for community focus on the arts in Los Gatos
- Worked with Los Gatos town council to spotlight literary arts and history of our area
- Organized the first St. Patrick’s Day Poetry Walk in Los Gatos
- Organized Poem in Your Pocket Day in 2013 and 2014
- Promoted poetry through Poems-in-the-Window, where local businesses displayed poems during the month of April (2013, 2015)
- Launched The Poetry Kitchen, a poetry reading series featuring local talent, including an open mike, which ran for three years
- Created the Poetry Podcast, fifty-plus recordings of local people reading poetry in a variety of languages
- Facilitated and judged the first Los Gatos Poetry Contest (2015)
- Created the first Los Gatos Poet Laureate Scholarship, awarded to a Los Gatos High School senior who shows dedication in creative writing

- Working with Los Gatos High School, created a series of readings featuring young writers in our area
- Participated in multiple public events including readings and school visits
- Used social media to publicize poetry events and the arts
- Lead free monthly writing workshops at the Los Gatos Library
- Coordinated a public reading of the epic poem Beowulf, held over four days in Los Gatos
- Featured reader for *American Bohemia: The Cats Estate in Los Gatos* with the Los Gatos History Museum

Books

- Goss, Erica. *Landscape with Womb and Paradox*, Broadstone Books, 2026.
- Goss, Erica. *Stone, Empty Chair, a Haiku Collection*, 2018.
- Goss, Erica. *Night Court*, winner of the 2016 Lyrebird Award. Glenview, IL: Glass Lyre Press, 2017. Poetry collection.
- Goss, Erica. *Vibrant Words: Ideas and Inspirations for Poets*. San Jose, CA: Pushpen Press, 2014. Poetry writing exercises and lessons.
- Goss, Erica. *Wild Place*. Georgetown, KY: Finishing Line Press, 2011. Poetry collection.

A Selection of Poems in Online Literary Journals, 2018-2024

- [“On Taylor Mountain” at SLANT, Fall 2025.](#)
- [“Salt to Salt” at After Happy Hour, July 2025.](#)
- [“Fairly Small Horses” at South Florida Poetry Journal, May 2025.](#)
- [“Big Trees and Rain,” “Landscape with Womb and Paradox,” and “Sand Dunes at Sunset, Atlantic City, 1885,” at Two Hawks Quarterly, Spring 2024.](#)
- [“Nightmare with JFK and Left Ovary” at Trampoline, June 2024.](#)
- [“Ice Storm” at Slant, May 2024.](#)
- [“Un Dia Ordinario” at Eucalyptus Lit, March 2024.](#)
- [“Odysseus” at Eucalyptus Lit, March 2024.](#)
- [“Köln Notebook” at West Trestle Review, November 2023.](#)
- [“Hotel Room” at Eunoia Review, October 2023.](#)
- [“2:00 a.m.” at Eunoia Review, October 2023.](#)
- [“Visiting Hours” at Eunoia Review, October 2023.](#)
- [“Hummingbird” at Eunoia Review, October 2023.](#)
- [“In Front of the Reichstag” and “The Color She Wears” at The Lake, October 2023.](#)
- [“Butterfly Pose” at Eclectica, July 2023.](#)
- [“Geography” at Verse Daily, June 2023.](#)
- [“Mulch” at A-Minor, May 2023.](#)
- [“Dreamstate” at Slant, May 2023.](#)

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- [“Advice and Caution, or How to Be a Tall Woman” at the Journal of Compressed Creative Arts, Spring 2023.](#)
 - [“Unbeliever Abecedarian” at Whale Road Review, Spring 2023.](#)
 - [“Earth Hum” at The Inflectionist Review, 1/14/23.](#)
 - [“Zero Hour” at The Inflectionist Review, 1/14/23.](#)
 - [“Katsura,” “Raw Material,” and “Wildfire.” ONE Art, September 23, 2022.](#)
 - [“Caesura.” The Lake, August 2022.](#)
 - [“Mercy.” South Florida Poetry Journal, May 2022.](#)
 - [“Vanishing Point.” First Literary Review-East, May 2022.](#)
 - [Three Haiku.](#) Wales Haiku Journal, March 4, 2022.
 - [“The Distance Between Us.”](#) The Summerset Review, Spring 2022.
 - [“Choice.”](#) Writers Resist, March 18, 2022.
 - [“Life in the Anthropocene.”](#) A-Minor Magazine, September 30, 2021.
 - [“How to Raise a Poet.”](#) First Literary Review East, September 26, 2021.
 - [“Smoke,” “What to Do With an Empty Nest.”](#) Tab Journal, September 12, 2021.
 - [“Portal.”](#) Verse Daily, August 4, 2021 (first appeared in Redactions, Summer 2021)
 - [“Driving Past Lettuce Fields on Highway 101.”](#) Innisfree, August 20, 2021.
 - [“In a Dream My Mother Knocks at the Door.”](#) Eclectica, July 2021.
 - [“Where She Belongs.”](#) Potomac Review’s 30 for 30, April 22, 2021.
 - [“Drift.”](#) The Scriblerus, December 11, 2020.
 - [“Harvest.”](#) Gyroscope Review, October 7, 2020.
 - [“Mother With Two Children.”](#) The Ekphrastic Review, July 25, 2020.
 - [“Sheltered In Place.”](#) Global Poemic, July 5, 2020.
 - [Four Poems.](#) Escape Into Life, May 13, 2020.
 - [“The Rites of Solitude.”](#) One Sentence Poems, April 11, 2020.
 - [“The Ocean.”](#) Escape Into Life, February 12, 2020.
 - [“The State of Jefferson.”](#) Zocalo Public Square, March 2019.
 - [“Sixteen-Year-Old Unmade Bed Sells for 4.3 Million Dollars”](#) at Poets Reading the News, February 2019.
 - [“Inexact.”](#) Escape Into Life, April 2019.
 - [“Object Lesson.”](#) Rise Up Review, July 2019.
 - [“The Reflection of Visible Wavelengths.”](#) A-Minor, January 2019.
 - “Brooks Avenue Notebook.” San Pedro River Review. Summer 2018.
 - “Daylily.” Spillway. 2018
 - [“Five Photographs by Edward S. Curtis.”](#) The Ekphrastic Review. August 2018.
 - [“Leaving California.”](#) Epigraph. June 2018.
 - [“Hunger.”](#) Whale Road Review, February 2018.
 - [“Rose Quartz.”](#) First Literary Review-East. January 2018.

For Erica’s Essays, Articles and Reviews, click [here](#).

For a complete list please refer to Erica's [website](#), under Writing.

Selected Awards

- Pushcart nominations, 2010, 2013, 2017, 2020, 2021, 2024 (2)
- Best American Essay Notable, 2023
- Best of the Net nominations, 2016, 2017, 2020 (2), 2023
- Creative Nonfiction Prize, First Place, Soul-Making Keats Poetry Contest (2022)
- Winner, Zocalo Public Square Poetry Prize (2019)
- Selected for screening, Motion Pictures International Film Festival, Flight/Mostra International Film Festival, and Midwest Poetry Film Festival (2021)
- Selected for screening, Zebra Poetry Film Festival (2020)
- Official Selection, Ó Bhéal International Poetry-Film Competition (2020)
- Finalist, Parks and Points Essay Contest (2020)
- Honorable Mention, The Sunlight Press (2019)
- Poetry Prize, First Place, and Honorable Mention, Soul-Making Keats Poetry Contest (2018)
- Nonfiction Prize, Third Place, Soul-Making Keats Poetry Contest (2018)
- Official Selection, Cinema Poetica Film Festival, Ashland Literary Festival, Ashland, Oregon (2017)
- Showcase Selection, Rabbit Heart Video Poetry Festival, Worcester, MA (2017)
- National League of American Pen Women: Achievement in Letters Award (2017)
- Lyrebird Award for poetry collection *Night Court* (2016)
- Poetry Prize, 2nd place and Honorable Mention, Soul-Making Keats Poetry Contest (2013)
- Highly Commended, Bare Hands Poetry Postcard Contest (2013)
- Special Merit Recognition, Comstock Review (2012)
- Honorable Mention, Passenger Poetry Contest (2012)
- Winner, Many Mountains Moving Poetry Contest (2011)
- Finalist, White Eagle Coffee Store Press Chapbook Contest (2011)
- Center for Cultural Innovation; \$1000 grant (2009)
- Edwin Markham Poetry Award – Judge, Al Young, Poet Laureate of California (2007)
- James D. Phelan award for poetry (2007)
- Dorritt Sibley award for scholarship in poetry (2007)
- Bonnie Cox Creative Nonfiction Award (2006)

Video and Film (selected short videos; visit my [Vimeo](#) channel to view more):

- [We Have Become Children](#)
 - Selected for screening, Midwest Poetry Film Festival (2021)
 - Selected for screening, Motion Pictures International Film Festival (2021)
- [I've in the Rain \(Ho nella pioggia\)](#)

- Selected for screening at the Zebra Poetry Film Festival, November 19-22, 2020, Berlin, Germany.
- Official Selection, Ó Bhéal International Poetry-Film Competition, November 29, 2020, Cork, Ireland.
- Selected for screening, Motion Pictures International Film Festival, 2021
- Selected for screening, Flight/Mostra International Film Festival, 2021
- [Night Court](#)
 - Official Selection, Cinema Poetica Film Festival, at the Ashland Literary Festival, Ashland, Oregon, 2017
- [Small Things Bind the World](#)
 - Showcase Selection, Rabbit Heart Video Poetry Festival, Worcester, MA, 2017

EDUCATION

San Jose State University: MFA, Poetry Emphasis, 2007
BA, English, cum laude, 2004