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Submission Guidelines

To submit material for publication in *Voices de la Luna*, go to voicesdelaluna.submittable.com.

Voices de la Luna Monthly Literary Evening

Poetry and Arts Presentation

Every Fourth Wednesday, January through June
and September through December

Poetry Workshop at 6:00

Featured Poet at 7:00

Poetry, Music, & Open Mic at 7:30

Barnes & Noble at the Shops at La Cantera

15900 La Cantera Parkway, Bldg. 27

San Antonio, TX 78256

Voices de la Luna is a quarterly publication dedicated to the artistic expression of a wide range of perspectives and topics. In the service of that goal, we welcome diverse, well-written submissions from every quarter.

Poetry Editor's Note

Carol Coffee Reposa

T. S. Eliot opens his monumental poem *The Waste Land* with “April is the cruellest month,” one of the most revered one-liners in literature, but I suspect he made that observation only because he never visited San Antonio in the springtime. If he had, such a thought would have been as likely as water-skiing in January, for here April connotes exuberance and renewal, outreach and transformation. Buds magically sprout on bare branches; flowers magically erupt from those buds, and chrysalids morph into butterflies. Had Eliot given us the pleasure of his company during this month, he would have gazed in wide-eyed wonder at fields of bluebonnets, pink evening primrose, wine cups and poppies stretching for miles under electric blue skies. He might have taken in the parties and pageants of Fiesta Week. Some brave soul even might have broken a *cascarón* over his head.



Our celebrations don't end with Fiesta Flambeau and the King William fair, though. In April we observe National Poetry Month, a four-week verbal feast which in the Alamo City includes activities ranging from slam contests and flash gatherings to exhibits and traditional readings, many held in such vibrant venues as the Mitchell Lake Audubon Center. At this time *Voices de la Luna* also stages its literary gala. This year's event, generously co-sponsored by Haven for Hope, proved an occasion to remember—and savor.

Spring is in addition the season of pilgrimage. Right about now, we begin to think of road trips, of packing our swimsuits and heading out to Padre Island or Canyon Lake. In this sudden desire for travel, we join millions of others over thousands of years who have felt this same impulse, including Geoffrey Chaucer's immortal pilgrims, who walked their long and legendary road to Canterbury during this month. The year as well boasts its share of literary milestones: throughout 2015 we will honor the 750th birthday of Dante Alighieri, whose majestic epic, *The Divine Comedy*, traces one man's journey from The Inferno to Purgatory and finally Paradise, the longest trip of all.

Then, of course, there's the time-honored association of April and the concept of love in all its dimensions. Dante, of course, was well known for his adoration of Beatrice, his guide through Paradise, and in this context Chaucer's pilgrims again come to mind. One of the most intriguing is the Prioress. A study in ambiguity, she professes a dedicated spirituality but has over-dainty table manners, enjoys her meals perhaps too much, fusses continually over her pampered dogs, and wears a pricey habit. From her equally expensive rosary hangs a gold brooch bearing the words *Amor vincit omnia*, “Love conquers all.” At this point, the reader well might ask what kind of love she exalts, but no matter. In Chaucer's vision there is room for every variety, and the same may be said of *Voices*. The poetry and prose contained in the current issue demonstrate as many permutations of this emotion as there are writers to express them.

Poor T.S. Eliot. He undoubtedly missed out, but you need not, since exploration of the aforementioned topics—springtime, National Poetry Month, Fiesta, the Voices de la Luna/Haven for Hope Literary Gala, the works of Dante, and the grand theme of love—all get their due within these pages. Happy reading!