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Submission Guidelines

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

Voices de la Luna Monthly Literary Evening

Poetry and Arts Presentation

Every Second Wednesday

Poetry Workshop at 6:00

Featured Poet at 7:00

Poetry, Music, & Open Mic at 7:30

Lyn Belisle Studio

1824 Nacogdoches Rd

San Antonio, TX 78209

Voices Mission Statement

Voices de la Luna inspires and promotes poetry and arts and serves as a platform for all poets and artists to share their work with others. It further uses poetry and arts for both educational and healing purposes in the community.



Child with a Whip
Pierre-Auguste Renoir

Themes for future issues of *Voices de la Luna*:

November: Fantasy and Gothicism

February: African Independence and Postcolonial Literature

Editor's Note

James R. Adair



As we stand at the midpoint of summer, we can look back to spring, when the year's first flowers began to poke their heads through the soil in search of the sun, or forward to winter, when leaves will drop from the trees and icy cold winds will chill our bones. The prepositions we use to describe time are instructive: we look behind our backs to see the stages of life through which we've already passed, and we face forward to look ahead to the uncertain future. No matter how old we are at this point in time, or any other, we can always imagine ourselves standing at zero on the number line of our own lives, with our past accomplishments, joys, and sorrows lying to the left of zero and our future ambitions and dreams lying to the right.

In this issue of *Voices de la Luna*, we address the theme of "Young and Old" from a variety of perspectives. We hear the perspectives of grandparents and youth, each with his or her own outlook on life, based not only on age but also on experience, background, and worldview. In particular, this issue offers an expanded youth poetry section, featuring for the first time a group of students called the Barrio Writers. Our featured poet, Bryce Milligan, takes us on a car ride through a blizzard toward a final visit with a loved one. Renowned young adult author Rick Riordan discusses his approach to writing for young people, comparing it with writing for an adult audience. Other contributors recall the halcyon days of youth, either their own or their children's. Still others recount memories of parents and grandparents or offer their own thoughts on aging.

As always, select voices from the past join the chorus of contemporary writers (and, in this issue, a few frogs) on the pages of the current issue. We expand our poetry therapy section in this issue, as poetry therapist Cyra Dumitru joins *Voices* co-founder and poetry therapist James Brandenburg in offering her perspective on the role that poetry can play in healing. *Voices* board member Lauren Walthour interviews local artist Donna Dobberfuhl, a sculptor whose work can be found in such diverse locales as Northwest Florida State College and the San Antonio Zoo. The cover art comes to us courtesy of Adam Green, an artist and writer who splits his time between England and Spain. In this issue we also bid adieu to the magazine's longest-running regular feature, the serialization of the novel *The Marchers* by *Voices*' other co-founder Mo Saidi—but not to worry, the entire novel is now available in print and online!

Finally, for those of us who are growing older—that is, everyone reading this—I will close with the words of poet Robert Browning, from his poem "Rabbi ben Ezra":

Grow old along with me!
The best is yet to be,
The last of life, for which the first was made.
Our times are in His hand
Who saith "A whole I planned,
Youth shows but half; trust God: see all, nor be afraid!"

Welcome to the August 2016 edition of *Voices de la Luna*!