



# PROSPERO'S BOOKS

1800 W. 39th Street

816 531-WORD

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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\* \* MEDIA ADVISORY \* \*

## Poetry Filibuster

### 100-plus Poets To Attempt New Record

*National Poetry Month Celebration to feature 120 Hours of Continuous Poetry*

**(Kansas City) TODAY - Prospero's Books** will attempt to break the record for the longest poetry reading as a part of National Poetry Month (April 2010). Prospero's will be joined in the attempt by *Write the Future*, *Spartan Press* and over 100 regional and national poets for 120 hours of continuous poetry performance beginning 10:00 am, Friday April 2<sup>nd</sup> and ending 10:00 am Wednesday April 6<sup>th</sup>.

The original record was established in 1978. As reported by the Associated Press and NPR's *All Things Considered*, 50 Cincinnati, Ohio poets performed 56 hours and 25 minutes of poetry. Prospero's will attempt to more than double that record with 120 hours of continuous poetry performance.

**Prospero's Books:** A Kansas City literary landmark since 1997, Prospero's has sponsored hundreds of readings and performances. In 2007, Prospero's earned international attention by hosting a Book Burning in protest of declining national reading rates. In 2007 and again in 2008, Prospero's was an organizer of the Kansas City Literary Festival which attracted over 20,000 to the Country Club Plaza.

**Spartan Press:** Founded in 2002 as an artistic response to the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, Spartan Press and its imprints have published 36 chapbooks and 12 books of original poetry and nonfiction. Its first publication: *Leavened911* featured essays by Kansas City artists, small business owners and residents of the 39<sup>th</sup> Street West neighborhood. It's webpage took nearly 1,000,000 hits in its first week. Two Spartan titles have earned major literary awards: *Winter Count* by Connie Dover earned the Loft's 2007 Speakeasy Prize for Poetry, and *Five Island Diaries* by Martha McCarty won the 2008 Thorpe Menn Award.

**Write The Future** is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting the identification, development, dissemination, preservation and enjoyment of uniquely Middle-American literary arts.

**What:** Set a new record for the Longest Poetry Reading  
**When:** Friday April 2<sup>nd</sup> to Wed April 6<sup>th</sup> 2010  
**Where:** Prospero's Books  
1800 W. 39<sup>th</sup> Street  
Kansas City, Missouri

### Additional Online References:

Longest Read Poetry Record [www.susanquist.com/events.htm](http://www.susanquist.com/events.htm)  
Prospero's Books [www.prosperosbookstore.com](http://www.prosperosbookstore.com)  
Spartan Press [www.unholydaypress.com](http://www.unholydaypress.com)  
Write the Future [www.WritetheFuture.com](http://www.WritetheFuture.com)  
Leavened911 [www.unleavened911.com](http://www.unleavened911.com)

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