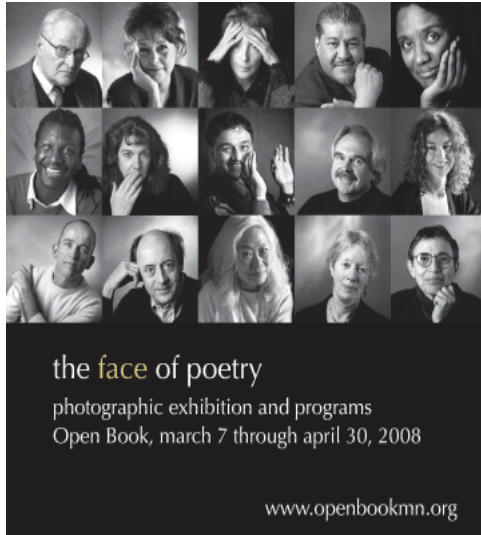




## Open Book PRESS RELEASE

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## Open Book Celebrates The Face of Poetry

Minneapolis, MN—Open Book, Minnesota’s center for reading, writing, and book arts, will sponsor a photographic exhibit and several interactive events in spring 2008 to celebrate National Poetry Month. Open Book will host the exhibition “The Face of Poetry” from March 7 through April 30, 2008.

Featuring black-and-white studio portraits by California photographer Margaretta Mitchell of such notable contemporary poets as Robert Pinsky, Billy Collins, Maxine Hong

Kingston, and many more, “The Face of Poetry” brings viewers literally face to face with the words and images of inspiring writers. Showcasing the exuberance, humor, and directness of poets such as Ntozake Shange and Dionysio D. Martinez, this exhibit and the series of programs that will accompany it counter the intimidation and mystery so often wrongly associated with poetry. Featuring a number of fun and educational events—including docent tours, publishing panels, and favorite poem readings—this open and inviting celebration is for the inner poet in all of us.

The first of its kind in the nation, Open Book was founded in 2000 as a center for literary and book arts. In the years since, countless people have enhanced their appreciation of the importance of writing and reading in our daily lives via the numerous classes, readings, book clubs, workshops, exhibits, publications, and other services offered at Open Book through its founding tenants, The Loft Literary Center, Milkweed Editions, and Minnesota Center for Book Arts. Dedicated to providing the tools, inspiration, and conversation necessary to expand creativity and understanding, Open Book fosters community access to the fundamental needs of literacy and communication in all forms of the written and spoken word.

“The Face of Poetry” is sponsored by Open Book, with the support of its founding tenants, The Loft Literary Center, Milkweed Editions, and the Minnesota Center for Book Arts. Programs are planned with several community partners, including the Friends of the Minneapolis Public Library and the Creative Writing Program of the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities Campus. *The Face of Poetry*, by Margaretta K. Mitchell (University of California Press: 2006), will be available at the exhibition through the Minnesota Center for Book Arts shop.

The Face of Poetry—A photographic exhibition and accompanying public events  
March 7-April 30, 2008  
Open Book  
1011 Washington Avenue South, Minneapolis  
for more information, visit [www.openbookmn.org](http://www.openbookmn.org)