

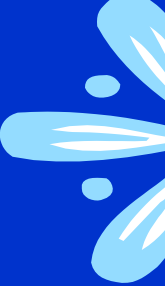


ISLAND COMMUNITY  
MENTAL HEALTH

PRESENTS

## COMMUNITY PARTNERS WORKSHOP SERIES

### PLAYING WITH WORDS: A MORNING WITH POET SUSAN STENSON



Nobody can write your poem except you, because nobody sees the world the way you do. But where do you begin? Writing poetry, Charles Simic says, "is the process of fumbling around." Whether you write daily, or whether you have never written a word, free-writing lets words cartwheel across the page.

In this workshop, using prompts, pictures, exercises and models, the ideas will come easily, then we'll shape them into poems.

Let's write poems big enough for "their own small moons".

**July 29th 10:30-12:30**

**125 Skinner Street in the Art Studio**

**To sign-up please call Ilene @250-389-1211**

*"I have never met anybody who has cared about people more than Susan Stenson does. Her talent to make students believe they are worthy, brilliant and unique is truly indefinable. (...) Ms. Stenson gave us the confidence to turn up our volume without the fear of rejection; she created students who felt their voice was special and deserved to be heard."*

*Former student*

#### Teaching Approach

Ashton Kutcher's friends "got punk'd", but Susan Stenson's students "get poemed". Constantly looking for opportunities to turn her students in to authors or poets, Ms. Stenson inspires her students to participate in events like Victoria's Random Acts of Poetry month, where poets frolic about town reading poetry and exposing people to great writing. Ms. Stenson doesn't just talk the talk, she walks the walk and through her own writing, shows students that she is willing to take the same risks that she asks of them.



Her poems have been short listed several times for the CBC literary prize and are also featured on buses throughout British Columbia in the Poetry in Transit program. Her work has also been commissioned for CBC radio's Out Front Program.

Susan teaches English and creative writing to high school students in Saanich School District, has taught at Kamhlaba United World College in Mbabane, Swaziland and for The Victoria School of Writing. She is a regular on the roster of literary festivals, most recently for Poetry Africa in Durban, South Africa, and Words Aloud 3, in Durham, Ontario.